

# Church of SAINT JOSEPH

12 WEST MINNESOTA STREET • ST. JOSEPH, MN 56374

## *Mission Statement*

*We, the Church of Saint Joseph, are a Catholic, Benedictine faith community. Our liturgy invites and inspires active participation and faith-filled living. Through our ministry of formation in Christ, we continue to build a solid foundation as witnesses who eagerly respond to the needs of the parish and wider community.*



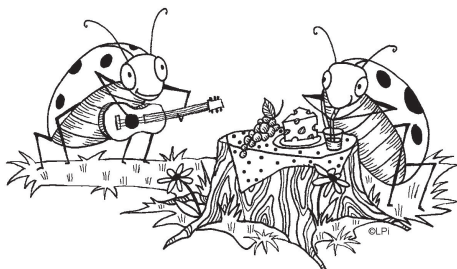
Phone: 320-363-7505  
Parish Fax: 320-363-0710  
School Fax: 320-363-7760

Parish Website:  
[www.churchstjoseph.org](http://www.churchstjoseph.org)  
Diocesan Website:  
[www.stclouddiocese.org](http://www.stclouddiocese.org)  
Email Address:  
[parish@churchstjoseph.org](mailto:parish@churchstjoseph.org)

## Parish Appreciation Picnic Saturday, August 13

5:00 pm Mass  
Picnic dinner follows

Serving Bar-b-que Burger  
“original July 4th Festival recipe”



To all parish members...

In thanksgiving of God's abundant gifts, let us gather together to celebrate the vibrant life in our parish and another successful July 4th Festival. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year.

**New Parishioners** Please stop by the parish office to register or mail your completed registration form found on the New Parishioners page of the parish website.

**Prayer Corner** If you know someone in need of prayers, please call the parish office. You may also call one of the chairpersons of the Prayer Network: Mary at 363-4244 or Joan at 363-4358.

**Infant Baptism** Attendance at a baptism class is required for all baptisms, even for parents who have had other children baptized. Please call the parish office at 363-7505, ext. 100, to register for the baptism class (held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm). The date of baptism will be scheduled upon completion of the class.

**Marriage** Call Fr. Joseph, ext. 122, to set a wedding date and to register for a parish preliminary marriage session. A minimum of six months is needed for preparation.

**Pastoral Care** If any parishioner or family member is in need of a pastoral care visit, please call Fr. Joseph at ext. 122. Today's privacy laws do not permit hospitals to contact churches when a patient is in need of a pastoral visit. We are made aware of it only when the individual or their friends and family contact us.

**Sacrament Of Anointing**  
Please call Fr. Joseph at ext. 122.

AUGUST 7, 2011 • NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## COMMISSION OF PASTORAL MINISTRIES

*Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy within our parish and in the wider community.*

**BeFriender Training** Interested in becoming a trained volunteer to visit a parishioner at a time of special need? Please consider becoming a BeFriender. Area-wide BeFriender training will begin Friday, September 30. Contact Sr. Joyce Iten if interested.

**“Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, ‘Lord save me!’”** Doesn’t this quote from today’s Gospel make you wonder why Peter, a fisherman, didn’t know how to swim? Or maybe he just forgot how once he realized he was walking on water toward Jesus, and then became frightened when the wind grew very strong around him. Walking on water is not something we would normally do unless the water had first turned to ice. What might be the point of this story and why was it recorded in the scriptures to be read by us almost 2,000 years later? Most commentaries suggest that it was Peter’s faith in Jesus that helped him to step out of the boat to begin his water walk, but then Peter took his eyes off Jesus and began concentrating on everything else going on around him, and he became frightened and began to sink. Then Peter called out to Jesus for help, and Jesus took Peter’s hand and saved him. Moral of the story: Don’t take your eyes off Jesus, at least not for very long, and when you find yourself sinking in fear, remember to call out in faith to Jesus for help, for help is only an arm’s length away, Jesus is a “Life Saver!” Can you trust your life with him? Jesus is a “lifeguard” and often throws out a life preserver for extra safety provided we are paying attention and catch it!

*S. Joyce Iten, Pastoral Minister*  
363-7505, ext. 130  
[jiten@churchstjoseph.org](mailto:jiten@churchstjoseph.org)

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Sunday, August 14

The group will be meeting at 1:30 pm in the parish office meeting room. If you have experienced the loss of a loved one over the past year or two, please think about joining us.

**FLU-SHOT CLINIC** Flu shots will be offered at the Lab School on the following Sunday mornings: September 4, October 2, and November 6. Watch for more details.

### Prayer Corner

**Please pray for...** Kevin Bloch, Marian Brisk, Judy Bruemmer, Laken Court, Gracie Jo Dullinger, Audrey Elfering, Jim Elfering, Nancy Evans, Annie Funk, Justin Funk, Cliff Hilsen, Blake Hogenson, Glenn Hommerding, Ethan Johnson, Bob Kempen, Rebecca Klaphake, Darlene Kroll, Stan Kron, Larry & Linda Leither, Alice Lenhardt, Tamara Maslonkowski, military men and women and their families, Tom Nahan, Delores Newcomb, Mike Nierengarten, Jam Nipitkul, people of the Diocese of Vijayapuram, India, Sam Rueckert, Cindy Schmitz, Al & Kathy Seifert, Lori Sprenger, Ann Pfannenstien Stuckart, Lillian Studniski, Zak Whitman, Joan Wiener, workers & volunteers in foreign lands. *(These people will be specially remembered at Mass on the first Sunday of each month. If you would like a name added to, or removed from, the Prayer Corner, simply call the parish office, ext. 100. Names remain on the Prayer Corner for about two months.)*

## COMMISSION OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES

*Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and work to realize the Gospel vision of justice and Catholic Social Teaching.*

**Nurturing Your Spirit...** Wind, earthquake and fire in the first reading are mirrored by modern war, violence, poverty and other forms of injustice. At times, our call to bring peace to the world might leave us weary but we can experience God, grow in our faith and take action. Jesus reminds us of the need to care for our spirits. We need time to nurture our life of solidarity with God and others. Elijah reminds us that we don’t need the spectacular to find God. Real faith involves humble service and solidarity with those in need and even, as in the second reading, feeling “great sorrow and constant anguish in my heart.” Then, we might experience anew, God in the “tiny whispering sound.” Nurture your prayer life by reading *Broken Bread and Broken Bodies* by Joseph A. Grassi. This easy to read book answers the question, “What can one person do about the suffering of more than 15 million people who die of starvation each year?” and explains the Eucharist in the context of extreme poverty.

—Adapted from **Justice Corner** by Rachel Ramjattan

### Reducing Your Environmental Impact...

The media has done a wonderful job of selling us on the attractiveness and benefits of buying “new and improved” products. However, we already collectively own so much that we could all survive for quite a while on the existing products—if we just reused them a few times! Teach your children the value of being thrifty by reusing all paper bags, rubber bands, twisties, boxes, plastic bags and packaging material. For more tips visit [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org!](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org!)

### Partnership with the Diocese of Vijayapuram, India

Fr. Jose (Navez) Puthenparambil, the Vicar General of the Diocese of Vijayapuram, is scheduled to be with us for the morning Masses on Sunday, August 14. Fr. Jose has visited St. Joseph a number of times, the last time in August 2010. After the 10:00 am Mass, Fr. Jose will head to Bloomington for a WE SHARE gathering at the home of Kathy and Dave Rennie. WE SHARE sponsors and others who are interested in spending time with Fr. Jose are welcome to attend. Please see Fr. Joseph for details and directions.

Please keep Bishop Sebastian Thekkethecheril and the people of the Diocese of Vijayapuram in your daily prayers.

## COMMISSION OF WORD

*Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and daily witness to Christ-centered living inspired by God's Word and Catholic Tradition.*

### Faith Formation Important Dates

**Mark your calendars...** In an effort to reinforce faith formation in families and create community in our wider parish community, we will be approaching Faith Formation a bit differently this year. Those children in Faith Formation classes will have classroom instruction two Wednesdays a month. The first of these will usually be the first Wednesday of the month. These nights will be an all-parish gathering in which parents will attend with their child. These gatherings will be referred to as "Community Nights." We hope to strengthen the way we go about being formed in our faith by involving more of the family and also getting to know other parishioners. The Wednesdays in between will be for youth group activities or other parish experiences.

**"Sacraments: Signs of God's Love"** is the theme chosen by the Faith Formation Committee for the 2011-2012 Faith Formation year. This is an exciting step that we take, and ANYONE is welcome at these sessions. Here is a schedule of the Wednesday nights and topics to be aware of as we move forward:

**September 7** (Faith Formation Open House)

**October 5** (Church Year)

**November 2** (Anointing and Reconciliation)

**December 7** (with the Parish Mission)

**January 4** (Holy Orders and Matrimony)

**February 1** (Eucharist)

**March 14** (Baptism and Confirmation)

**April 4** (Reflecting on the Triduum)

**May 2** (Putting it All Together: Faith Choices)

**MANY THANKS** to all who helped out in our **2011 Saint Joseph Community Vacation Bible School** program! It was a huge success, with a wonderful week for all who were involved. We are already looking forward to next year!

Blessings on the remainder of your summer...

*Dawn Carrillo, Director of Faith Formation*

363-7505, ext. 152

[faithformation@churchstjoseph.org](mailto:faithformation@churchstjoseph.org)

**Theology on Tap:** Fr. Jerry Mischke (retired) will be speaking on, Tuesday, August 9, at the next gathering for Theology on Tap. His topic, *Reconciliation and the Eucharist: Receiving Grace in a State of Grace*, is sure to be one you won't want to miss! Join us for dinner, drinks, conversation and fun. Come with an appetite for food and theology; bring a friend and expect to enjoy great company! We will begin at 7:00 pm in our **new location** at Old Chicago (4040 2nd Street South). We look forward to seeing you!

**Family Table Talk...** Questions for your family discussion this week (Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33): *When have you doubted the loving care of God for you as the apostles did in the boat? How do you know that Jesus is with you at all times? Discussion starters: Deep down inside I know Jesus is always with me. I feel his presence most when . . . There's a part of my behavior I would like to change when things in my life get stormy. Rather than . . . I'd like to try to . . . I am best at reaching out to others who are having stormy times by . . .*

### Youth Ministry

**Thanks** to all who attended the 7<sup>th</sup> grade picnic. We had a great time and a nice water balloon brawl was enjoyed by all to cap the evening! As you move from 6<sup>th</sup> grade through your junior high and senior high years, our hope is that you will get to know the community here, especially when there are a variety of schools represented in the parish. And it's an important time for parents to establish good relationships too. With that in mind, please think about attending...

**Movie on the Lawn** That's right! We'll set up a theater OUTSIDE and enjoy a movie under the stars. **Popcorn, lemonade and good laughs. Movies TBA.**

**Senior High (9-12): Thursday, August 18, 8:30 pm**

**Junior High (6-8): Thursday, August 25, 8:30 pm**  
(following Music on the Lawn)

Contact Bruce Bechtold at 363-4989 to help with the Senior High event.

### Morning Blast: Food Shelf Collection

Week two had us baking cookies and delivering them to several homes of parishioners. **This week we will be picking up food from neighborhoods in St. Joseph for the St. Joseph Food Shelf. If you'd like to contribute, please bring your food to the Rectory entrance by Tuesday, August 9.** Thanks for your help. Remember, summer is a difficult time at the food shelf because kids are not in school.

**Evening Blast!** Remember there is Open Gym on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:00 pm for graders 7-12. Thanks to Mike Lehn, Jeny Meyer, Matt and Jessica Chouinard and Jim Boettcher who are providing assistance with this activity!

### Place of Hope Meal

Our parish will be serving a meal the second Sunday of the month from August to December. We will meet at church at 3:45 pm and return by 6:45 pm. Please contact Molly if you are interested in reaching out to our community in this way. We will have both youth and adults going each time.

### Small Group Facilitators Needed

We are looking to create some small groups with our Junior High youth from September to May. If you have an interest in serving as a co-facilitator once a month or know someone who would do well serving in this capacity, please contact Molly. If a senior in high school is interested, we could pair you up with an adult. These groups will be separated according to gender. So, men we need you too.

Remember to stop and breathe in the clear, summer air! And be thankful!

God's Peace and Blessings be yours,

*Molly Weyrens, Coordinator of Youth Ministry*  
363-7505, ext. 129

[youthministry@churchstjoseph.org](mailto:youthministry@churchstjoseph.org)

## COMMISSION OF WORSHIP

*Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and honor Benedictine values and the dignity of their role as members of the worshipping assembly.*



### Liturgy Spotlight

*from the desk of David Orzechowski,  
Director of Liturgy and Music*

#### Rolling up our sleeves...part 2

Last weekend we began a listing of the several parts of the Mass that will include significant changes when the new Mass texts are implemented in late November of this year: the **Greeting**, the **Gloria**, the **Creed** (Profession of Faith), the **Memorial Acclamations** and **“Lord, I am not worthy.”** We discussed the Greeting and the Gloria last week. This week, we continue with the Creed.

-The **Creed**: (Profession of Faith) Practice learning to pronounce the word, “consubstantial” and you will be well on your way! Look it up in the dictionary too! Basically it means, “one in being with”—as in, Jesus was—“one in being with” the Father. At Mass, sometimes we have a “concelebrant.” This is another priest who vests and celebrates the Mass “along with” or “the same as” the Presider. In being “consubstantial” with the Father, Jesus “shared substance right along with” God the Father. In simple words, this is the point in the Creed where we remind ourselves and profess that—make no mistake about it—“Jesus was divine too!” He was God and not just a human being. Nor was he something that was created, as if he didn’t always exist. No, he “shared substance with”—was “con-substantial with”—existed with—God the Father from all eternity.

Next week: The Memorial Acclamations

**“The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.”**

### Readings for the Week of August 7

*But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”*  
—Mt 14:30-31

- Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Rom 9:1-5/  
Mt 14:22-33
- Monday: Dt 10:12-22/Mt 17:22-27
- Tuesday: Dt 31:1-8/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
- Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Jn 12:24-26
- Thursday: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/  
Mt 18:21---19:1
- Friday: Jos 24:1-13/Mt 19:3-12
- Saturday: Jos 24:14-29/Mt 19:13-15
- Next Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/  
Mt 15:21-28

**Pray!**  
**Do it every day!**

### Upcoming Weddings

Please keep Jordan Lange & Ashley Fritzlar in your prayers as they prepare for their August 27 wedding.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS	Saturday, August 13 5:00 pm	Sunday, August 14 8:00 am	Sunday, August 14 10:00 am
<b>Sacristans</b>	Mary Jo Lemke	Virginia Meier	Judy Meemken
<b>Greeters</b>	Bernie & Betty Schloemer, Mike Nierengarten	Dale & Barb Wick, Sue Meers	Charlie & Cheri Burg, Paige Cordie
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	The Family of George Molus	The Family of Jan Rassier	Open to volunteers
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Marilyn Court, Harold Brinkman, Marilyn Brinkman, Michael Brixius, Bernadette Ethen, Meg Klecker, Laura Kutzera	Virginia Meier, Othmar Schmitz, Joan Skroch, Joyce Stock, Nancy Walz, Kristin Zimmer, Carol Braun	Jim Boettcher, Peggy Boettcher, Caroline Glatzel, John Herdan, Bernie Imholte, Shirley Miller, Alex Schleper
<b>Ushers</b>	Ken & Mary Stommes, Raymond Rueckert, Thomas Schindler	Lloyd Bruemmer, Bill Elfering, Richard Gallus, Peter Giroux	David Thomas, Sean Thomas, Matthew Schreifels, Mike Thell
<b>Servers</b>	Kateri Fischer & Michael Fischer	Daniel Wieber & Hannah Wieber	Nicole Shimak & Ben Thell
<b>Lectors</b>	Joann Rueckert	Trish Gannon	Mary Kay Hoeschen
<b>Music Ministry</b>	Cantors	Cantors	Cantors

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, August 7

*Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- 8:00 am Mass †Bernie Bechtold
- 10:00 am Mass for our Parish

### Monday, August 8

- 5:00 pm Mass at Saint Benedict's Monastery

### Tuesday, August 9

*Pictorial Directory Photos*

- 10:00 am Summer Blast! Morning Edition
- 2:00 pm Mass of Christian Burial for Stan Kron

### Wednesday, August 10

*Pictorial Directory Photos*

- 8:00 am Mass †Beata Wolak-Chute
- 9:00 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 9:30 am Arlington Place Mass †Duke Hewitt
- 6:30 pm July 4th Wrap-up & General Chair Meeting
- 7:00 pm Summer Blast Open Gym

### Thursday, August 11

*Pictorial Directory Photos*

- 7:45 am Confession
- 8:00 am Mass †Roman Rassier
- 12:00 noon Sr. Citizens Potluck
- 7:00 pm Pastoral Council Meeting
- 7:00 pm Making Room at Our Table Recruiting Committee Orientation

### Friday, August 12

*Pictorial Directory Photos*

- 8:00 am Mass †Stanley Kittock
- 12:00 noon Parish office closed
- 3:00 pm Card Workshop

### Saturday, August 13

*Baptism Weekend*

*Pictorial Directory Photos*

- 8:00 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 8:00 am Card Workshop
- 10:00 am Marriage Preparation
- 4:00 pm Confession
- 5:00 pm Mass †George Molus  
—Parish Appreciation Picnic to follow

### Sunday, August 14

*Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Baptism Sunday*

- 8:00 am Mass †Stella Rassier
- 10:00 am Mass for our Parish
- 1:30 pm Grief Support Group
- 4:45 pm Place of Hope—Youth

### Masses

- Monday Sacred Heart Chapel 5:00 pm
- Tuesday 2:00 pm
- Wednesday—Friday 8:00 am
- Saturday 5:00 pm
- Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Thursdays 7:45 am
- Saturdays 4:00-4:40 pm

## Parish/School

363-7505

- PASTOR Fr. Joseph Feders, OSB Office ..... ext. 122  
Residence ..... ext. 126  
Email: ..... pastor@churchstjoseph.org
- DEACON Tom Murray ..... ext. 351  
Email: ..... tandnmurray@gmail.com
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Alayna Christensen ..... ext. 121  
Email: ..... admnasst@churchstjoseph.org
- BUSINESS MANAGER Sandra Scholz ..... ext. 120  
Email: ..... sscholz@churchstjoseph.org
- FAITH FORMATION Dawn Carrillo ..... ext. 152  
Email: ..... faithformation@churchstjoseph.org
- FAITH FORMATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
Alayna Christensen ..... ext. 204  
Email: ..... admnasst@churchstjoseph.org
- LITURGY & MUSIC David Orzechowski ..... ext. 123  
Email: ..... liturgy@churchstjoseph.org
- PARISH CUSTODIAN Andy Loso ..... ext. 306  
Email: ..... custodian@churchstjoseph.org
- PARISH SECRETARY Joann Rueckert ..... ext. 100  
Email: ..... parish@churchstjoseph.org
- PASTORAL MINISTRY Sr. Joyce Iten, OSB ..... ext. 130  
Email: ..... jiten@churchstjoseph.org
- SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Linda Heinen ..... ext. 150  
Email: ..... schooloffice@churchstjoseph.org
- SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Karl Terhaar ..... ext. 151  
Email: ..... principal@churchstjoseph.org
- YOUTH MINISTRY/SOCIAL MINISTRIES Molly Weyrens ..... ext. 129  
Email: ..... youthministry@churchstjoseph.org
- MASS TIME SCHEDULE ..... ext. 200

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

- Andy Brixius ..... 260-6724
- Tammy Johnson ..... 363-8609
- Tasha Johnson ..... 363-8609
- Laura Kutzera ..... 363-8423
- Steve Meyer ..... 363-1956
- Rich Schwegel, Chair ..... 363-4923
- Peter Spaniol ..... 363-0219
- Kathy Wahl ..... 363-7255

### TRUSTEES

- Kevin Kluesner ..... 363-8363
- Gary Renick ..... 363-4422

### FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

- Jill Hoffmann ..... 230-1032

## Stewardship of Treasure

*Treasure received week of July 31, 2011*

Average weekly budget	\$11,844.00
Adult offering	\$8,177.64
Average weekly automated offering	\$2,399.56
Weekly difference	\$-1,266.80
Youth offering received	\$73.20

Budget through July 31	\$59,220.00
Actual through July 31	\$45,871.69
Difference	\$-13,348.31

Have you considered the convenience of Electronic Offering? Call today to sign up! 320-363-7505, ext. 120

## COMMISSION OF COMMUNITY

*Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and demonstrate what it means to be a Catholic faith community.*

### Bar-b-que Burger!

Shirley and Joe Miller chaired what was known as the Bar-b-que Burger Stand and what was a long-time favorite for many people at our July 4 festival for many years. They followed Cecelia Kuebelbeck who introduced the Bar-b-que Burger to the festival and Claudette and Hub Klein. Shirley and Joe had a long list of parishioners who helped them including the St. Joseph Meat Market and Virginia and Al (Junior) Pfannenstein, owners at the time, who ground celery and onion with the beef creating the special blend of flavors. Each year the Bar-b-que Burger got better and better as the recipe was perfected and the fun and enjoyment of the crew working together in the stand grew. Needless to say it was a very sad day for our July 4 festival when Shirley and Joe Miller were out of the country and unable to chair the Bar-b-que Stand and no one stepped forward to fill the empty position. The Bar-b-que Burger, prepared with their perfected recipe and sought by many festival attendees, was no more.

On August 13, the July 4 Festival Bar-b-que Burger will be back in Saint Joseph. Shirley, Joe and many of their crew are preparing the burger using the original recipe and will serve it for our parish enjoyment at the Parish Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, August 13 following the 5:00 pm Mass. Join us and you can have a taste of the renowned Bar-b-que Burger once again. Please make plans to attend the Parish Appreciation Picnic.

Thank you for all the gifts you share with your parish!

*Sandy Scholz, Business Manager*  
363-7505, ext. 120  
[sscholz@churchstjoseph.org](mailto:sscholz@churchstjoseph.org)

**4th Annual KC's Golf Outing** The Knights of Columbus Council #12098 invite you to Boulder Ridge Golf Course for a **Four Person Scramble** on Saturday, August 13, at 4:00 pm. Registration starts at 3:00 pm. This event is \$20 per person and includes 9 holes and a brat dinner (carts extra). For more information or to sign up, call Al Baggenstoss at 252-6949.

### Great News for the Pictorial Directory

We are well on our way to having a complete pictorial directory of parish families! If you don't want to be left out, call Nettie Pfannenstein at 363-7974, ASAP, and she will assist you.

**Making Room at Our Table** As many of you know we are planning an expansion to our church to include a gathering space and fellowship hall. To learn more about *Making Room at Our Table*, check under the Communications tab on our website, [www.churchstjoseph.org](http://www.churchstjoseph.org). To view the architect's schematic designs, click on the PowerPoint presentation titled "Open Forum, 5-22-11." To learn more about the proposed *Parish Storage Facility* to be built in the new parish cemetery this summer, click on "Bulletin Update, 6-5-11." We encourage you to visit other church projects completed by our architect Murray Mack. These include: Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Crosslake, MN (new church, fellowship hall, offices), Saint Boniface in Cold Spring (fellowship hall, offices), Sacred Heart in Sauk Rapids (new church), Saint Francis Xavier in Sartell (gathering space, classrooms, offices), and Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Rockville (fellowship hall and gathering space). Please share your comments with us at [makingroom@churchstjoseph.org](mailto:makingroom@churchstjoseph.org).

### From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

I give thanks to my God always for you...  
(1 Corinthians 1:4a)

Next Saturday, August 13, after the 5:00 pm Mass, we will have our annual Appreciation Picnic. It is very important for us to gather as a community to say "Thank You" to all those who generously give of their time, talent and treasure to support the mission of the Church of Saint Joseph, both parishioners and non-parishioners alike.

Our recent 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival had hundreds of volunteers, as well as generous sponsors and donors, who contributed to the event's success. But there are countless others who give of themselves in various ways throughout the year—liturgical ministers, school lunch workers, church cleaners, catechists, Autumn Thursday volunteers, school study buddies, choir members, BeFriends, funeral lunch cooks and servers, Pastoral and Finance Council members, marriage sponsor couples and wedding coordinators, parish quilters, Building and Maintenance Committee members, Fish Fry and Spring Spectacular volunteers, Place of Hope cooks and servers, the church environment crew, Ministers of Prayer and those helping with the *Making Room at Our Table* process. And this is just the tip of the iceberg. The list goes on and on. So, please join us next Saturday for Mass and the picnic to celebrate the generous sharing of all our gifts.

In case you have been wondering...

The combination of the natural aging process and violent summer storms has been hard on area trees including the two that provided shade behind the church. People have been noticing more sky through the round sanctuary window since the trees were cut down. They also have shared their regrets that they will no longer have the squirrels to entertain them during Mass. Hopefully that wasn't happening during my homilies!

Our local cable station (Channel 10) has converted to a DVD format for input. Until we receive the right equipment (it should arrive soon), we will not be able to broadcast our taped Sunday Masses. I'm sorry for the inconvenience. (And I should also add our Mass videographers to the "thank you" list above.)

Blessings on your week!

*In Christ's peace,  
Fr. Joseph*