

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME † September 20, 2020



## 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“Are you envious because I am generous?’ Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” - Mt 20:15-16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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# Co-Cathedral of St. John *the* Evangelist

*A Welcoming Catholic Community in the Diocese of Winona-Rochester*

11 4th Ave. SW • Rochester, MN 55902 • [www.sj.org](http://www.sj.org)

*CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST*

Welcome to  
Co-Cathedral of  
St. John the Evangelist

Our parishioners, the parish staff and I, as rector, hope that your visit to our church will be a prayerful time while at the Mayo Clinic or while you are visiting our city for any other reason. We encourage you to consider Co-Cathedral of the St. John the Evangelist as your church away from home. If we may serve you with any of your needs please do not hesitate to contact us at the Parish Center.

The Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Community is committed to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ as we partner with the city and our neighbor, the Mayo Clinic. If you have recently moved to our city and desire to join the parish community, please find a form on our web page and register as a member. Together we pray that the Holy Spirit will lead us in being a welcoming Catholic community.

*Fr. Jerry Mahon*  
*Rector*

Dear Co-Cathedral Parishioners and Friends,

I cannot begin to tell you how difficult it was to end our school year without seeing our students. Distance Learning began for us in March and the last day we saw our students was on Friday, March 13th, 2020. The entire last quarter of school was done online and at a distance. We as educators tried to teach content “virtually” and students struggled with the new format of learning, but we did it. Many prayers were said on behalf of our students and staff as we tried to navigate the final months of school. There were so many wishes of having things the way they “used” to be. No attending of Mass. No end of year field trips and parties. No sporting events. No graduation. No “togetherness” as we had known..... Covid 19 came along and although it made for great Science material in class, it had shut down all of what we knew as normal. But, in truth, we were blessed. Let me share with you the realization of these blessings.

I have the honor and privilege of teaching here at Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Middle School. Our preparation for the upcoming school year was unlike anything we have ever experienced. Finishing out our school year early, like we had, was not as we had planned and none of us really knew what to expect for the fall. Would we continue distance learning? Would we be back in-person at school? Which guidelines were we to follow or look to? It didn’t matter how many years of teaching or expertise each of us had; we all felt like first-year teachers because of all the “unknowns” and rules and regulations and unanswered questions. I found myself worrying about things I wasn’t sure if I was supposed to be worried about!

Slowly, but surely, the blessings came. Actually, they were there all along.

We realized that our smaller-sized classes would be within the capacity mandate from the Governor and became manageable for safe social-distancing of students and staff. Several teachers served on the “School Year Opening Task Force” in the Summer and helped brainstorm answers to many concerns from parents and administrators and started conversations in order to better collaborate and focus on the most important needs to be met. Our staff met several times in the Summer to work through details of how we wanted our school year at St. John to look and how to help the students. We seemed to be moving in such a positive direction with all the planning and preparing.

And then the students came..... They all looked scared to death on the first day of school. I wonder if I did too. Each stairwell was to be a “one-way” direction, hallway traffic needed to be at a minimum, students sat socially-distanced from each other in the lunchroom, only so many in a bathroom at a time, etc. etc. And then there were the masks. And yet, each of them seemed ok with it all. They realized that if they wanted to be in-person and in school together, they were willing to abide by the rules to keep us all safe during this unprecedented time.

Covid 19 may have caused all my students to wear a mask, but I can still see their smiling eyes. Covid may have caused us all to follow rules and

regulations that are impersonal and keep us distant, but I have seen the natural, "God-given" social need that we have to want to be together so strongly in these teenagers. These brave, little social beings actually WANT to be in school!

I had a student tell me how they have noticed that Covid has affected all of us physically (we have to be socially distanced) emotionally (we want to be together) and spiritually (we can't all attend Mass like we used to). I complimented this student on his insightful comment, and then he said something I will never forget. "But you know what, Mrs. Vincent? God knows our hearts. He knows even our deepest wishes and desires to do good and to be better and I believe that things will change." He said that "things will change because we have had to live on faith during this time."

He is right. We, hopefully, have become a little closer to God. Covid has humbled us.

This time is allowing us to realize how much we truly do need Heavenly Father in our lives. I am reminded that "with God, nothing is impossible." Even though all the rules to follow and worry of the unknown has caused us some anxiety..... Even though our school is in-person and offering online lessons as well, which is tough to navigate as a teacher.....Even though we don't have all the answers to the "what-if's" on how to handle sicknesses or changes in the teaching models due to Covid..... I know that a young, faithful student in my classroom has figured it out. God knows our hearts. The masks don't hide what God can see inside of us. And that, is really, all that matters.

Pray for us as we try to do our very best to make sure our students are successful academically and spiritually as they learn to rely on God when the answers can't be found. The changes have been many, but the blessings are slowly coming. Actually, they have been there all along.

Darlene Vincent  
Science Teacher  
Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Middle School



Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Middle School Science Class  
(Please note: Teacher Darlene Vincent is wearing a face shield.)

11 4th Ave. SW - Rochester, MN 55902  
507-288-7372 Parish Center  
507-288-7373 Fax  
www.sj.org StJohn@sj.org  
Most Reverend John M. Quinn  
Bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester

The Chapel is open for private prayer from 8:00am-5:30pm Monday thru Friday. Please wear a mask and follow the guidelines set by the CDC for social distancing and hand washing. Go to [sj.org/announcement/Co-Cathedral-weekly-updates](http://sj.org/announcement/Co-Cathedral-weekly-updates) for public Mass schedules. (Registration recommended.)

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome and invite all new parishioners. Pick up a registration form from the Parish Center or fill one out our web page [www.sj.org](http://www.sj.org).

PARISH STAFF

- Rector**, Rev. Msgr. Gerald A. Mahon  
Ext. 4504 - Email: [gMahon@sj.org](mailto:gMahon@sj.org)
- Deacons**, Rev. Mr. Gerald Freetly  
Rev. Mr. Randy Horlocker
- Administrator**, Margaret Kelsey  
Ext. 4506 - Email: [mKelsey@sj.org](mailto:mKelsey@sj.org)
- Social Action**, Mary Vlazny  
Ext. 4511 - Email: [mVlazny@sj.org](mailto:mVlazny@sj.org)
- Accounting**, Debbie Thompson  
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- Faith Formation/Confirmation/Baptism**,  
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- Facility Manager**, Mike Gehring  
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- Receptionists**, Susie Foley, Kim Beery  
Ext. 4500 - [sFoley@sj.org](mailto:sFoley@sj.org); [kBeery@sj.org](mailto:kBeery@sj.org)
- Trustees**, George Libera and Mary Kos
- St. John School**. . . . .(507) 282-5248
- Calvary Cemetery**. . . . .(507) 273-0140

## CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Bishop Quinn has suspended the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further notice.

### PUBLIC MASS SCHEDULE

We have public Masses on Saturdays at 4:30pm and on Sundays at 9:30am. We have daily Masses at 12:10pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reservations are recommended for all Masses. **Sign up to attend Mass** at: <https://sj.org/announcement/mass-sign-up/> where you will also find a **tutorial video** with instructions for attending Mass and receiving Communion at Mass. All Masses will be in the Church and all attendees must check in before Mass in the Gathering Space. Masks are required for Mass attendance.

On Fridays, starting September 25, there will be a Word Communion Service at 12:10 pm offered by Deacon Randy Horlocker. Sign-up to register for this service at <https://sj.org/announcement/mass-sign-up/>.

### SUNDAY LIVE STREAMED MASS FROM THE CO-CATHEDRAL

Join us for Sunday Mass at 9:30am through a live facebook stream that can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/cocathedralofstjohn/>. You can also watch the Mass later on YouTube here: <https://tinyurl.com/vl829ym>.

When we are unable to receive Holy Communion physically, the Church urges us to consider a “spiritual communion.” Inviting Jesus into our heart and soul is part of our tradition. We look forward to “seeing” you on Sunday!

[TV Mass from the Diocese of Winona-Rochester can be found on Channel 3 KIMT Sunday at 7:30am and Channel 3.2 MyTV at 9:00am.]

### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.*

### ONLINE PRAYER REQUESTS

On our website you can enter prayer requests and we would be happy to hold you in prayer. Visit [www.sj.org/submit-prayer-requests/](http://www.sj.org/submit-prayer-requests/)

**CHURCH HOURS**—The Chapel will be open for private prayer from 8am-5:30pm Monday through Friday, from Noon-3:30pm on Saturday and from 11am-1:00pm on Sunday. Enter the Chapel directly from 4th Avenue entrances and please wear masks and follow guidelines for social distancing. The Church space will no longer be open for private prayer and reflection to allow for cleaning, sanitization, and set up of the space for Masses. Parish Center hours are 8:00am-4:30pm Monday thru Thursday and 8:00am-2:00pm on Friday.

### WEEKLY E-MAIL UPDATES

Are you getting our weekly e-mail updates that are sent to parishioners every Thursday? Please contact Cindy Paz at [cpaz@sj.org](mailto:cpaz@sj.org) if you are not receiving these weekly e-mails so we can be sure all of your contact information is up to date.

### SPECIAL DISASTER RELIEF COLLECTION

Two natural disasters have recently affected our brothers and sisters in Christ. Hurricane Laura in Louisiana and the California wildfires have created widespread destruction. We are asking you to respond with the Catholic community across the United States to a special emergency collection. Catholic Charities USA is the official domestic relief agency of the U.S. Catholic Church and is already responding to urgent needs for shelter, water, and food of those affected by these two disasters. Checks should be made payable to St. John’s with a note in the memo line – DISASTER RELIEF. Donations may be dropped in the baskets when entering the church for Mass or mailed to or dropped off at the Parish Center. For more information, go to [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) or [www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org).

*CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST***CONFIRMATION NOVENA**

We have another group of Confirmation students preparing to receive the Sacrament on Sunday, September 27th. We will begin a Novena to the Holy Spirit on Friday, September 18th and invite the parish to join us in praying for these young people. The Novena can be found on our website. Thank you for joining us in praying for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on these incredible young people who have patiently been awaiting the Sacrament of Confirmation since last spring.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION YEARS I AND II**

Confirmation preparation at St. John's is a two-year journey that typically begins in 9th grade with students receiving the Sacrament in the spring of their 10th grade year, if they are ready. Preparation is the same for all students regardless of where they attend school. Students need to register for both Year I and Year II and can do so online at <https://sj.org/forms/faith-formation-registration-form/>

Preparation will obviously look different this year but we are really excited for the plans we have prayerfully developed and will be sharing those with registered families soon! There will be opportunities to gather in person, online, for prayer services, for service projects, dedicated time to connect with sponsors, and more. Thank you for your patience and support as we navigate this year. Please reach out to Megan Rodriguez at [mrodriguez@sj.org](mailto:mrodriguez@sj.org) with any questions about registration or Confirmation prep.

**SMALL GROUP LEADERS AND CATECHISTS NEEDED!**

We are always looking for faith-filled, energized parishioners willing to help us with our Faith Formation programs. We still need a few more volunteers for our K-8 Faith Formation Program and are also in need of more Confirmation small group leaders. This year we are creating even smaller groups which means we need more volunteers to help! Please do not feel like you need to be an expert to volunteer; we are here to support you so if you are at all interested please reach out to Megan Rodriguez ([mrodriguez@sj.org](mailto:mrodriguez@sj.org)) and we can share more information about our needs.

***We congratulate ...***

*Lucas and Jenna Timmons on the baptism of their son,  
Liam Michael Timmons;*

*Georgios and Allison Christopoulos on the baptism of their son,  
Lucas William Christopoulos.*

*Readings for the week  
of September 20, 2020***Sunday, September 20**

Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 [18a]/  
Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

**Monday, September 21**

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt  
9:9-13

**Tuesday, September 22**

Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34,  
35, 44 [35]/Lk 8:19-21

**Wednesday, September 23**

Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104,  
163 [105]/Lk 9:1-6

**Thursday, September 24**

Ecc 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14  
and 17bc [1]/Lk 9:7-9

**Friday, September 25**

Ecc 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4 [1]/  
Lk 9:18-22

**Saturday, September 26**

Ecc 11:9—12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13,  
14 and 17 [1]/Lk 9:43b-45

**Next Sunday, September 27**

Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [6a]/  
Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

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*Mass Intentions***Saturday, September 19**

Alisa Becker-Dunn

**Sunday, September 20**

People of the Parish

David Kapp †

**Monday, September 21**

Rick Locke †

**Tuesday, September 22**

Anne Maday †

**Wednesday, September 23**

Marv Miller †

**Thursday, September 24**

Clare Murphy †

Wayne Sorenson †

**Friday, September 25**

Rita Kaiya

## VOTING INFORMATION FOR MINNESOTA

### Voter Registration

Official Minnesota Pages:

Check Your Voter Registration <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>

Find Your Polling Place <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>

Registration Deadline (online): **10/12/2020**

Voter Registration Rules for Minnesota

<https://www.voteamerica.com/absentee-ballot-rules/#minnesota>

Election Day Registration? **Yes, you can register on election day.**

### Vote-by-Mail

Official Minnesota Page:

Request a Vote-by-Mail Ballot <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>

Application Deadline: **11/1/2020**

Vote by Mail Rules for Minnesota <https://www.voteamerica.com/absentee-ballot-rules/#minnesota>

In-Person Early Vote Dates: **09/17/2020 - 11/1/2020**

### EARTHBEAT: LENS ON CREATION

This Season of Creation, award-winning photographer Paul Jeffrey examines the world through the lens of his camera and his faith every Monday, Wednesday and Friday through Oct. 4.

This is a 90-second read, with reflection/action ideas.

As tragic as it is, the current coronavirus pandemic offers us a chance to reset — to make different decisions about how we use the Earth's resources as a step toward addressing the climate crisis. Choose a key area, such as energy, transportation or food production. What proposals for change exist in your locality? How can you get involved in promoting solutions that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions? <https://www.ncronline.org/feature-series/earthbeat/lens-on-creation-%E2%80%94-enfocando-la-creaci%C3%B3n/stories>

### SACRED PILGRIMAGES FOR 2021

Better times are coming in 2021, so plan to enjoy them on a spiritual pilgrimage. Three trips are offered. First is **"Alpine Europe"** from April 12-22, visiting the breath-taking beauty of Southern Germany, Switzerland and Austria, also known as the land of "The Sound of Music." The second is a pilgrimage to **"Poland & Eastern Europe"** July 26-August 6<sup>th</sup>, visiting the birthplace of Saint John Paul II, the Shrine of Divine Mercy, the Nazi death camp Auschwitz and so much more. The third trip will take us to **"Ireland"**, from November 8-18, 2021. Enjoy hearty Irish laughter with their song and dance, ancient stone walls, flowering hedgerows and thatched-roofed cottages! Mass daily in great Churches and Cathedrals along the way. For a brochure, contact Fr. Dan Guenther, St. Mary's Parish, 311 – 4<sup>th</sup> Street North, Humboldt, Iowa 50548 or call 712-899-6870 or email [frdanguenther@gmail.com](mailto:frdanguenther@gmail.com).

### PARENTING WITH MIND AND SOUL

"Identify your child's temperament and why it matters."

Join us Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm over Zoom! Parishioner Maria Grazia will lead us in a presentation and discussion about children's temperaments. We will also pray together and share in the joys and challenges of parents. All are welcome! Please contact Megan Rodriguez at [mrodriguez@sj.org](mailto:mrodriguez@sj.org) with any questions.

Join Zoom Meeting on 9/25 at 7:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88906640678?pwd=OHZsamIRck9LYTlpVlBVM0Nubk1lQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 0664 0678

Passcode: SJE



## SEPTEMBER 24—A DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING

All people of good will are invited to take part in a day of prayer on fasting on Thursday, September 24, for the intentions of God's mercy on the country and the healing and conversion of our hearts, especially in light of the ongoing pandemic and civil unrest. On this date, we are encouraged to refrain from unnecessary spending, while also reflecting on the impact of our spending choices. Those who are able, especially between 18-60 years of age, are asked to fast until sundown as a sign of repentance. All are invited to spend time with our Lord to beg for God's mercy, to bring healing and conversion, and to join in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in need.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

St. Vincent de Paul Society's Annual Friends of the Poor Walk will be held on Saturday Sept. 26 BUT will be VIRTUAL only (meaning you may do the walk yourself to fit your schedule). The annual walk's goal is to raise money for those in need in our local community. Please visit <https://www.svdp-rochmn.org/fop-walk-2020> to register as a "virtual" walker or to find a team or individual to pledge towards. God willing, we pray that the walk can be held as usual in 2021.

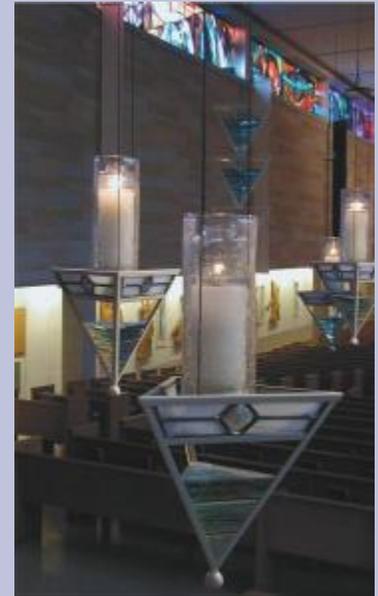


## CATHOLIC CHARITIES CASE MANAGER POSITION

Catholic Charities of Southern Minnesota seeks a full-time Refugee Resettlement Case Manager in its Rochester MN office. The Case Manager is responsible for case management for specifically designated Catholic Charities sponsored refugees and also takes a leadership role in the employment program Match Grant. See position description and how to apply on our website: [www.ccsomn.org/employment](http://www.ccsomn.org/employment)

## FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP -

We have heard that we should "form our consciences" in preparation for making a decision for the elections. But how do we do this? The Diocesan Social Concerns committee and Catholic Charities of Southern MN are sponsoring a virtual event to help us discern. On Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am, join us and presenter Dr. Bernard Evans (Professor Emeritus - St. John's University) for his presentation: *How to Approach Voting Around Issues of the Common Good*. Registration is required – for more information or to register please contact Lisa Kremer at [lkremer@ccsomn.org](mailto:lkremer@ccsomn.org)



## CANOPY CANDLES

*September 19—September 25,  
2020*

*In loving memory of  
Josephine (Fine) Sequera*

*In loving memory of Richard H.  
Plunkett, Sr.*

*In loving memory of Rick Plunkett*

*In memory of Clare Murphy*

*In memory of Margaret Ann McGrory*

Canopy candles are located above the baptismal font and are lit for one week for an offering of \$25. It is a beautiful way to honor a special person or occasion. Visit [www.sj.org](http://www.sj.org) for the candle request forms. Gift cards are available in the Parish Center.

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