St Joseph
ROSEMOUNT

We say Yes to God through Prayer, Worship & Service

DECEMBER 6, 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

13900 BISCAYNE AVE. W
ROSEMOUNT, MN 55068
PHONE: 651-423-4402
www.stjosephcommunity.org

Weekend Mass times:
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7 am, 8:30 am, & 10:30 am

PADRE PAUL'S PONDERINGS

Our Blessed Mother: Helping Us on our Journey to Heaven

On a spring day in 1948, an 11 year old altar boy named John Lesjack stood with a water cruet in his hand, while his dad joined him before Mass as a cantor. His high, sweet, clean tenor voice was captivating. He led the voices of the congregation to new heights, inspired them with joy to reach notes they didn't know they had within them. Nor had they realized when they first followed, how high his dad's voice could go as he sang "*Ave Maria*."

Saint Veronica Church in East Detroit was special that day. The other altar boys, in their black and white outfits, looked at John and smiled. He averted his eyes, but he was secretly proud and pleased that his father was singing on the other side of the sacristy.

His dad had been singing in barbershop quartets with friends at company picnics, in beer gardens and saloons. Never in church. People turned in their pews to see the source of those glorious sounds. His fathers voice had already been recognized by talent scouts who had invited him to sing in the huge cathedral in downtown Detroit. They'd tempted him with promises of heavenly acoustics and large crowds. His dad refused. He felt unworthy. He had been invited to compete on talent shows such as Ted Mack's Amateur Hour and locally produced radio shows during the 30s and 40s. His dad declined all invitations to showcase his talents. He feared that he would lose too many friends.

None of John's five siblings sang with their father, nor did their mother join in. Mom sat between her oldest daughter and dad as he put enough energy into singing for everyone. Another parent might have said, "*you should be singing too, everyone in church is singing*." Not John's dad though. He was singing for his life.

As he sang, his father was lost in his own voice and in the beauty and feeling and release of the lyrics as he celebrated the rapture of his second year of sobriety. His singing came from a deep, loving, spiritual place in his soul.

Late one night, John found his dad on his knees in prayer near a chair in the living room, praying intensely, squeezing his rosary beads desperately. "*Hail Mary, full of grace…*" He changed a bead for each completed prayer. Looking back on this, John believes with all his heart that prayer was what gave his father the strength he needed to avoid alcohol. He attended no meetings. He saw no counselor. He knew no sponsor. Prayer was the only recovery program his father ever used to maintain his sobriety.

As he started praying the rosary, John recalls he remembers his dad wasn't sick in the mornings anymore, which meant he was able to work in the car factory regularly, which resulted in his being offered a promotion. He turned it down, explaining, as usual, that he would lose too many friends. But the regularity of the paychecks improved the family's lifestyle.

As his dad drove the family home from Mass in their black 1941 Hudson that memorable day, John remembers his dad overflowed with the good feelings that come from singing with your heart and soul and he sang his personal favorite, "*You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy, when skies are gray…*"

Three weeks before Christmas that year, in his bed, at home, his father died from stomach cancer. Hundreds of friends attended his wake and funeral.

Though John's father has now been gone for many years, he knows his dad journeys with him every day, and is singing in the heavenly cathedral. And, when his life is less than musical, he prays, "*Lord, help me remember through dad's spirit, that you are my sunshine*."

Life for us all can sometimes be less than musical - especially with this crazy 2020 we've been through. And the question for us is what do we do to get our voice back, or to find happiness and hope again?

As kids, one of the first people we might run to for help was our mom. She didn't have the perfect answer all of the time. But if we were blessed with a loving and compassionate mother, we can remember that she was always there. And whether or not we had a loving mother or not, we have the perfect mother-model in Mary. She is always there. And she always points us in the direction of Jesus, who always has the answer. She also intercedes for us too.

In our first reading from the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, which is this Tuesday, we meet Adam and Eve, and we see the consequences of sin. There is division. The humans have hid from God out of shame; Adam blames Eve; Eve blames the serpent. They are expelled from the garden because of their actions.

Sin does the same thing, because for all of us there is the apple. For John's dad, it was the drink. It took over his life; caused him to take sick days; it impacted his family. But in his living room, he got on his knees, and he asked for help from his Mother. And through that, he was able to find a way out. In our lives sin can just kind of take over at times until like John's dad, we feel like Adam and Eve, expelled not from the garden, but from the happiness that we once had.

Mary though is our bridge. She puts her complete trust in God, saying "*Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, may it be done to me according to your word*." Mary puts aside her desires, her fears, and trusts in God completely - and God sees her through.

As we celebrate this feast, we are invited to do two things.

The first is to trust in God. It sounds easy, but as we all know it can be tough. We can think we can handle things on our own. We may be like Adam, fearful of our sins, so ignore them completely, or despair about them. We might perceive our distance or separation from God as too great to be reconciled. Maybe you think God doesn't look in your direction. Or perhaps life, especially with all we've been through this year, is just overwhelming and you're wondering God, are you there? The answer is yes. No matter what we have done, God's love is there. And it's not contingent on us feeling it. As I said last week, at our confession service, we are the reason for the season - God is in love with us, and seeks us out. Let Him enter into your soul. Look into your own secret room. Listen for the quiet whisper of the Holy Spirit in your life. We are children of the light. All we have to do is ask. God waits. He never tires of forgiving. He always wants to close the distance we may feel and heal us. So pray. Go to confession. Receive Holy Communion. Travel that road to true happiness.

But with that, we must also remember we do not travel it alone. There are many kinds of spirituality in our Catholic faith, so explore them. With respect to our blessed Mother, we believe that she intercedes for us, and helps bring us closer to God. We believe that she is a role model for us. And we believe that she listens to us when we talk. Saying a prayer asking for Mary's help does not magically get rid of a sin or a battle like John's dad faced. But it gives us strength. Just as a long conversation with our earthly mothers about a tough life situation doesn't make it go away and is still something we have to face, because of that time spent and of our mother's love, we are better prepared for it, and the same is true with Mary. We can talk to her about our sins, our problems, our battles, and believe that she never looks at us with judgment, but always with love. She brings us closer to her son. So consider saying the rosary, and think about the words carefully. Think about the mysteries; of the fear but trust Mary and with the annunciation; of the kindness and love of the visitation and of how Mary visits us; of the joy but wonder at the birth of Jesus; of the fear Mary experienced when she lost Jesus

Padre Paul's Pondering continued on page 4

STEWARDSHIP

Sacrificial Giving: November 21-22, 2020

Envelope Offering……..……...$9,221.00
Plate……..…….....$195.00
Automatic Online Giving……..…$16,097.00
Total…….....$25,513.00

Capital Campaign…..…….....$11,125.00

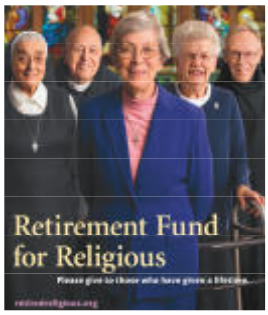
Sacrificial Giving: November 28-29, 2020

Envelope Offering……....$11,097.00
Plate……..…….....$280.00
Total…….....$11,377.00

Capital Campaign…...…….....$4,920.00

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Working to End Poverty and Injustice in the United States

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised ***$1200.00*** *to support those on the margins who are living in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give!*
Visit ***www.usccb.org/nationalcollections***.



Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Envelopes can be found in your weekly packets.

ST. JOSEPH'S STAFF & INFO

Sacramental Care		
Pastor	**Fr. Paul Kammen**	651-313-8466
Deacon	**Steve Boatwright**	651-313-8493
Deacon	**Gordon Bird**	651-423-4402
Administrative		
Director	**Randy Haney**	651-313-8468
Admin Asst: Reception	**Ann Brown**	651-313-8460
Admin Asst: Database	**Melissa Tousignant**	651-313-8461
Admin: Communications	**Bobbi Neuens**	651-313-8470
Bookkeeper/HR	**Jane Schmitz**	651-313-8467
Facilities Maintenance	**Pat Archer**	651-313-8488
Lifelong Faith Formation		
Director	**Kayla Rooney**	651-313-8464
Youth Coordinator	**Scott Kieffer**	651-313-8591
Catechesis Coordinator	**Kathy Neary**	651-313-8465
School		
Principal	**Kelly Roche**	651-313-8471
Secretary	**Cris Meaden**	651-313-8486
Worship		
Director	**Bill Bradley**	651-313-8469
Parish Council		
Parish Council Chair	**Ann Volkert**	651-341-5230

Additional Info

Parish Office: Hrs. (M–F) 8:00 am - 4:30 pm 651-423-4402
School Office 651-423-1658

To send an email to a St Joseph staff member, use the following format: ***first name.last name@stjosephcommunity.org***

Parish Website www.stjosephcommunity.org
Facebook: St. Joseph Catholic Church & School Rosemount Minnesota
Twitter: @stjoesrosemount

Archdiocese's Victim/Survivor Assistance Program:
651-291-4497 (for confidential care)

IRA ROLLOVER: TAX WISE GIVING

Individuals who are age 70 1/2 or older can make gifts of up to $100,000 directly from their IRA to one or more qualified charities without paying federal income tax on the withdrawal. This option provides tax savings to donors even if they do not itemize deductions.

Here are the specifics:

- Donors must be age 70 1/2 or older at the time the gift is made.
- The funds must be transferred directly to a qualified public charity. It is important not to withdraw the funds before making gifts.
- Gifts cannot be used to fund a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust.
- Each donor may give up to $100,000 total per year.
- Gift can be used to satisfy the donor's required minimum distribution.
- Donors can exclude the distribution from income on their federal tax returns. If they do, they will not receive a charitable income tax deduction.
- To qualify for tax-free treatment, donors cannot receive goods, services or a personal benefit (such as tickets for events) in return for the IRA charitable distribution.

Contact St. Joseph Staff Randy Haney at 651-313-8468 to let us know how the gift should be used or if you have questions about giving from an IRA.

St. Joseph's does not provide legal or tax advice. Donors should consult their own professional tax advisor before making a gift.

LITURGY & WORSHIP

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	7	8:30	Eric Glassman & All Military
Tues	8	8:30	Immaculate Conception Holy Day
Thurs	10	8:30 †	Melvin Bengtson
Fri	11	8:30	Ray Longo
Sat	12	5pm †	Richard & Darlene Keller
Sun	13	7am	St. Joseph Parish Community
Sun	13	8:30 †	Albert Pasker & William Francois
Sun	13	10:30 †	Floyd Sellner

READINGS

For the Week of December 6

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/ Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/ Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

VOCATION VIEW

The cry of the people:
"Lord, let us see your kindness."
Who will prepare the way of the Lord coming to us today?

Padre Paul's Pondering continued from page 2

but then found him in the Temple; or what Mary must have thought at the presentation when told "a sword will pierce your heart." Each of the mysteries of the rosary gives us so much to think about to help us in our spirituality and to grow closer to God. As one of my professors was fond of saying in seminary, "Mary is on our side" so we shouldn't be afraid to talk to our mother.

Through Mary's intercession for us, she brings us closer to God. What a gift we have in her - so let's never forget she is journeying with us as the bridge to her Son and that because of her, the road to Him is easier to travel.

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Paul

IN LOVING MEMORY

~In Loving Memory of those who have recently passed ~

Michael Elavsky

We pray for all our departed Brothers & Sisters and those who mourn their loss.

SACRAMENTS

Wedding Announcements

Please pray for the following couple who will enter into the Sacrament of Matrimony soon:

Hannah Esselman & Ryan Calton
December 4, 2020

INFORMATION

Immaculate Conception
Tuesday, December 8th
Mass will be offered
Tuesday, December 8th
8:30 am

***Extended Reconciliation Date During Lent**
Saturday December 19th
Starting at 3:00 pm

FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION

Faith Formation Update:

We have decided to switch to virtual/distant Faith Formation for the month of December with the intent of being back to in person once again in January.

We thank you for your flexibility and understanding during this time. While virtual is not ideal, we believe it is the best option for all of our families and volunteers, and is a way for us to do our part in slowing the spread of the virus. This past summer we had already been planning ideas for if we needed to go virtual - so now we are putting those plans into motion!

Thank you for your patience in this coming week as we fine tune the plans and get them out to you. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to ask.

Through some generous donations from parishioners and the Knights of Columbus, we are offering families a free book to enrich your Advent experience & to give you a jump start to your spiritual journey in 2021

You may choose from two titles & will be available Dec 13/14:

I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit by Matthew Kelly. *Is Your life Working? Most of us are trying to put together the jigsaw puzzle we call life without a very important piece. Over time this becomes incredibly frustrating. In this extraordinary book, Matthew Kelly powerfully demonstrates that we cannot live the life we have imagined, or experience the joy we yearn for, unless we learn to tend the soul. From there, with his classic style of practical wisdom, he teaches us how to remedy this problem.*

Do Something Beautiful for God. -The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa *On these pages, you will find the essential teachings of Mother Teresa. They provide remarkable insight into the depths of her heart, mind, soul and life. They will comfort you in your affliction and afflict you in your comfort. But most of all, in the midst of all this activity and noise of your life, you will hear Mother Teresa encourage you by gently saying: "Do something beautiful for God with your life!" It offers a short meditation for every day.*

Parish Director Corner

Parking Lot South Entrance Sign Updated – If you do not come in or out of the parking lot from the south entrance let me recommend that you take that route and admire the updated sign that was made possible by two families that prefer to remain anonymous. The sign now proclaims that we are a Catholic Church & School and that our school is Pre-K – 8 grades. Our address (13900) is also on both sides of the sign, previously it only resided on the south side of the sign. The fundamental design is in a number of ways is consistent with our sign on the corner of Biscayne and Connemara. An added touch included using the updated logo which is made out of stain glass giving a touch of classical beauty. A thank you to Bob Buckner who designed and constructed the sign. Bob also designed and built our electronic sign. Thank you to Bob and especially those families that made this possible. Blessings.

PASTORAL CARE
Would you or someone you know like a home visit, communion or an anointing? If so, please contact the Parish Office at 651-423-4402.

BAPTISMS
Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st and 3rd weekend of each month after the 10:30am mass. (please note that there can be fluctuations in this schedule depending on other liturgical needs). Parents are required to have completed the Baptism Preparation class which is offered the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. For more information please call the parish office at 651-423-4402.

RECONCILIATION
Individual reconciliation ~ Saturdays at 3:30 pm or by appointment. Communal celebrations and Individual celebrations are held during Advent and Lent.

MARRIAGE
All couples anticipating Christian marriage should contact the Parish Office at (651) 423-4402 at least 6 months prior to a wedding date being set.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK This Sacrament may be received by any Catholic who is seriously ill, about to undergo major surgery, or in poor health. Please call the Parish Office, (651) 423-4402 if this sacrament is needed.

PRAYER CHAIN To place a prayer request call Pat at 651-452-7689 or email *plawler321@gmail.com*

FAITH FORMATION and SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION
Sunday School for ages 3, 4, and 5 is held during the 8:30 & 10:30 Masses.
Faith Formation for Grades 1-12 along with Sacramental Preparation.
Call (651) 423-4402 for more information.

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL
St. Joseph School provides a God-centered, supportive academic environment for students, Grades PreK-8. Contact Kelly Roche, Principal at (651) 423-1658 for more information.

DAILY ROSARY
The rosary is prayed before each weekday Mass (Mon.-Fri.) starting 35 minutes before the scheduled Mass time–except on First Friday when the rosary is prayed at the start of Eucharistic Adoration. All are invited to join us as we pray for the needs of the Church and community.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Mondays. All bulletin announcements should be sent to ***bulletin@stjosephcommunity.org*** and **appropriate staff personnel** for approval before they will be included in the bulletin.

CALENDAR

****Please note ALL Parish Meetings are cancelled until further notice****

Monday, December 7
Giving Tree Gift Tags Due this Day!
8:20 am Moms in Prayer, ZOOM
8:30 am NO MASS TODAY

Tuesday, December 8 ~ Immaculate Conception
8:30 am Mass, Church
9:40 am School Mass, Church
3:00 pm Youth Ministry, SH A

Wednesday, December 9

Thursday, December 10
8:30 am Mass, Church
6:30 pm Finance Committee, ZOOM

Friday, December 11
8:30 am Mass, Church

Saturday, December 12
3:30 pm Reconciliation, Church
5:00 pm Mass, Church

Sunday, December 13
7:00 am Mass, Church
8:30 am Mass, Church
10:30 am Mass, Church

Mass Information for...
The weekend of December 5/6
Worship Aid -
https://www.stjosephcommunity.org/media/

- **There will be no Word & Communion Services until further notice.**
- **SANITIZE & MASK: We are encouraged to follow the guidelines from the CDC which include the use of hand-sanitizing stations, masks, and limiting your points of contact.**

For additional information please visit -
https://www.stjosephcommunity.org/2020/03/16/coronavirus/

Parish Office Will Be Closed

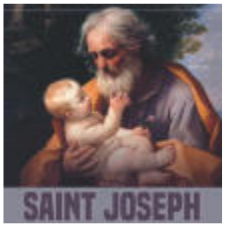
December 24th & 25th
and
January 1, 2021

PARISH LIFE EVENTS

Adult Mission Trip to Haiti Meeting Postponed...
The St. Joe's Adult Mission Team is planning its 6th international mission trip to Haiti **July 3 –July 10, 2021.**

If you're interested in being part of the team or have any questions - Contact Dave Berg at 612-850-2305 .

Archdiocesan Consecration to St. Joseph at the Cathedral of Saint Paul...
Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 pm
COVID-19 protocols will be observed for those in attendance, and the event will be livestreamed on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/cathedralsaintpaul.



(Registration required for in-person attendance
https://bookapew.com/app/mn/cathedralsaintpaul/

Dear Parishioners, *Thank you for bringing in your photos of deceased loved ones. The photos are now available for pick up in the parish office.*
Office Hours: M-F: 8-4:30 pm

CHRISTMAS/HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS/HOLY DAY SCHEDULE:

Christmas Masses -
Thursday- Dec 24th - 2:00 pm (Live streamed)
Thursday- Dec 24th - 4:00 pm
Thursday- Dec 24th - 6:00 pm
Thursday- Dec 24th - 10:00 pm
Friday - Dec 25th - 8:30 am
Friday - Dec 25th - 10:30 am

Holy Day - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Thursday- Dec 31st - 6:00 pm
Friday- Jan 1st - 8:30 am

Christmas Memorial Flowers
At Christmas time, many of us have loved ones that we wish to remember in some special way. Donations for the Christmas Flower Fund may be made any time before **December 17th.** All memorials will be printed in a special book which will be placed in the gathering space during the Christmas season. Place your donation in an envelope marked "Christmas Memorial Flowers" along with the names of those you wish to remember. These envelopes may be placed in the Sunday collection box or dropped off at the parish office.
Please print all names legibly. Thank you!

Your name _____

In Memory of _____

ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We are inspired, energized and grateful for your generosity!
Your response to our call for support lifts our spirits and reminds us that we are all invested in the success of our students and school. Your gifts help make it possible to be a steady, faith-filled presence in the lives of our students and families amid the chaos and stress of this unprecedented year.
From the teachers, staff and families of St. Joseph School, THANK YOU for standing with us as we navigate this unique year. We are proud to partner with you to offer excellence in Catholic education.

3rd Grade Long Term Substitute Teacher

St. Joseph School is seeking an energetic, caring, and faith-filled long-term substitute third grade teacher. This teacher will teach all assigned curriculum areas including Religion, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. The teacher will follow all health and safety protocols required for 5 days a week, in -person teaching and learning. Valid Minnesota teaching license and up to date Essential 3 required.
Approximate dates are January 19 through April 9th, 2020 (12 weeks).
Arch Careers Job Posting Link:
https://careers.archspm.org/jobs/3rd-grade-long-term-substitute-teacher/

Please contact Kelly Roche, Principal
kelly.roche@stjosephcommunity.org

PARISH EVENTS & INFORMATION

The Giving Tree needs your Help…

We are about a third of the way to having 100% of what we need to give to all the families/organizations in most need of holiday gift giving support.
(St. Joseph, CAP Agency, Alliance, Lewis House, Pregnancy Choices, and Angel Tree)
These organizations have asked for **all** Gift Cards for specific stores rather than gifts this year to encourage safety for all.

YOU CAN STILL PARTICIPATE BY…
donating monetarily online at ***www.stjosephgivingtree.org***
Or use the QR Code provided.

To ensure the gift cards get to the families on time, gift cards must be back at St. Joe's no later than **Monday, December 7th.** Parish office hours M-F 8:00 –4:30 pm. (we also have a drop box outside the Church's front doors as well)

Your help is needed for those less fortunate, thank you for considering helping others!

If you have questions please contact Ann Brown at 651-423-4402.

A big thank you to all those who helped safely decorate the gather space with a beautiful Christmas Tree!

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Erin K. Allen, D.D.S.
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Tara Truax-Newhouse
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St Joseph Parishioner
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