



CHURCH OF ST. PETER
Roman Catholic Community

*Church of St. Peter
2600 N. Margaret St.
North St. Paul, MN 55109
651-777-8304*



OCTOBER 18, 2020

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*"Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God
what belongs to God." - Mt 22:21*

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

There is an ongoing debate across the books of the Bible, hence in Judaism and Christianity, about faith and works. Though it is fairly clear that faith is key (Jesus helps here: he repeats over and over “your faith saved you” as he accomplishes miracles), faith is hard to fathom. Just consider this passage from 1 Thessalonians, in this Sunday’s liturgy of the word: *“our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction”* (1Thes 1:5).



God the Father, Jesus says, is eternally at work (see Jn 5:17), and his communication is hardly “just” verbal, especially when we consider that the God of the Bible, since its first page, speaks in power and creates everything just by speaking. Paul’s words perfectly capture these biblical fundamentals.

But Paul adds the Thessalonians (and you and me, down the line) into this picture: the gospel has come to us in power, pushed by the powerful wind of the Holy Spirit (the best example is the wind that shook the cenacle and the apostles on the day of Pentecost).

This comprehensive understanding of how God works is, in my humble opinion, the way to approach the long-debated question of works of faith.

Faith is a life, therefore everything we do may be a work of faith.

Also, life has an allotted span (our time), therefore potentially all our time is a “time of faith”.

Once again Paul helps us out in this unified (we might say “catholic”) understanding of life and time and work: *“whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him”* (Col 3:17).

What we try to do in this communal reflection on stewardship is to educate us to this way of looking at our individual and common life: Christ has to do with everything, anytime, this is a fact (God “sustains” anything that exists), but are we aware of it?

This is what we can try to help with as a community of believers.

Look at how Christ “works” in politics, a hotly disputed subject these days as back in Palestine, two thousand years ago: *“At that he said to them, “Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.”* (Mt 22:21).

Here is an example of intellectual work of faith: Christ does something that marks the philosophical and political mind of the whole world, marking a distinction between religion and state that was remarkable and fundamental then as it is today: cultures that do not benefit from such wisdom are virtually incapable of democracy.

More modestly, but similarly, we are called every day to decide how to allot our time and our energies in creative and fruitful ways. How much does our faith help us to do it?

In Christ,
Fr. Stefano Colombo

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Many of us know the parable of the talents. Three servants are given talents to care for on behalf of their master. Two of them invest the talents, develop them, and return them and more to the master. They are rewarded. The third hides the one talent he received and buried it in the ground. He returns them to his master, but has done nothing with them, and is punished.

While we understand the term talents in the parable to refer to money, I heard a speaker at a stewardship conference last year encourage us to take the word more literally for how we use it today. Since then I have never quite heard the story in the same way.

God has given each of us special gifts: talents that we are to share with the world around us. He did not give us these gifts to bury them and have them hidden, use them only when it is convenient to us, or keep them to ourselves. He would rather we use them in the world to bring others joy, to serve others, and bring others closer to Him.

Too often it is easy for us to think about our service to God and His Church as something we will get to. I will volunteer once my kids are grown, or once I find my spouse, or after I retire. I am guilty of this. As a working mother of three young children, it can be easy for me to look at opportunities of service and pass on them because of how busy I am.

But when I do that I am the servant that buries her talents, I have been given the gifts of time and ability by God, and rather than use them even in small ways, I bury them away. And as the parable tells us that is not what God wants.

Let us think about how and where we use our talents. Do they serve God? Is there something you can do to help bring others closer to God? For some of us that may just be limited to prayer, but I ask you to discern if God is calling you to something during this time. One thing I felt called to do during this COVID time is ushering at Mass. Of course, I would not say that is a talent of mine, but something I can do during this time to help bring others closer to God. Right now, the usher role is essential for us to be able to come together for Mass and continue to offer a safe place to worship God and receive the Eucharist.

It takes a lot for our parish to operate well; it cannot happen without volunteers. Has God given you the ability and time to invest a bit more? In the mail, parishioners will be receiving a letter from Fr. Ettore and a Stewardship of Time & Talent Commitment card. I ask that you read his letter and the commitment card to try discerning if God is calling you to use your time and gifts in a new way.

In Christ,
Tricia Hengemuhle





ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF OUR PATRON, ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

The Priests of the Fraternity of St Charles Borromeo would like to invite you to their annual St. Charles Borromeo Dinner, **Saturday, November 7, 2020** at 5:30 pm in O'Reilley Hall.

As all Covid-19 protocol requirements remain in place, we intend to have a moment of joyful celebration and a short presentation on the life of our fraternity with all our friends and parishioners who share our life and mission at St. Peter's.

Capacity: 100 people maximum and first come first served.

Entrance from E1 door.

Please **RSVP by October 26** with Connie, our assistant to the Pastor, by phone: 651- 894-6141 or by email at croering@stpetersnsp.org

Unfortunately, we will not be able, in the present situation, to offer child-care, though infants and children from middle school age on may attend.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE KEYS

I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly
John 10:10

All 6, 7, and 8th grade students are invited to join us two Fridays a month from 7 to 9 pm to share life through prayer, games, food, and learning about the friendship Jesus had with St. Peter and wants to have with each of us. Our time together is guided by a simple rule that our fellowship helps us follow: ***Jesus gives us something in every moment; if we can't see it, we will pray about it; if we do see it, we will share it with each other.***

Our next meeting is **Friday, October 30**. Come and see what it's all about! Questions? Contact Jennifer at jgreger@stpetersnsp.org or 651-777-8304.



VOTING WEBINAR

How Should a Catholic Vote this November?

Monday, Oct. 19, 2020, 7:30–9:00pm (CST), virtual webinar event. Listen in live to a debate about how Catholic voters can make the most prudent and conscientious choices during the upcoming election. Event is free and open to both men and women. No registration necessary. For more details, including webinar link, please visit: www.argumentclub.org.



PRAYER BEFORE AN ELECTION

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



CHURCH OF ST. PETER
STEWARDSHIP AS A
WAY OF LIFE



As we strive to make Stewardship as a Way here at the Church of St. Peter, we would like to **come together as a community in prayer each week**. Prayer is essential to being a disciple of Jesus Christ. Starting this week, we ask all parishioners to pray for the **weekly parish prayer intention**. A suggested prayer for the intention would be the **Prayer** listed below.

This week's prayer intention is: **Missionaries**

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself: We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your Name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours for ever. Amen.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

APPALACHIA CHRISTMAS and PAPAL FOOTPRINTS SHOE BOX MISSION

Bring Christmas joy to families in poverty stricken areas of rural Appalachia. Please consider donating new, unwrapped items and/or a filled shoebox for a child or teen. Gift ideas, directions for shoeboxes and my home address for drop off, contact me: Connie Williamson at conwilliamson@gmail.com. All gifts and filled shoeboxes are being collected at my home **until Sat. Oct. 24th. Thank You!**



ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH DAY

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6-10PM

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Schedule:
Opening Games/Activities
Talk by Fr. Mike Schmitz
Mass w/ the Archbishop
Snack and Small Group
Adoration and Confession
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**MASS WITH
ARCHBISHOP HEBDOU**



**YOUNG MAN,
I SAY TO YOU
ARISE! -LUKE 7:14**

For more information, visit the parish website.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

"My preschool aged son was so excited about the home prayer table kit we got to take home today. He found an old box from the recycling as his table and set it up right in the living room while I was cleaning up from dinner, with the toddler helping him out."



In our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program this year, we believe the most valuable service that we can offer during this time is to help families pray with their children at home. In October, the preschoolers were introduced to the atrium and the church, and each family received a Bible and a "home prayer table kit" containing everything they would need to set up a child-friendly prayer table in their own home. Parent pages and specially adapted materials were also sent home to be an aid to both parent and child as they continue this work together. If you would like to learn more about CGS, please contact Barb Waldorf at bwaldorf@stpetersnsp.org

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

October 17/18, 2020

"Here I Am, Send Me"

World Mission Sunday is celebrated on the weekend of October 17/18. On this day, every parish, school and order celebrates World Mission Sunday and our baptismal call to be missionary by sharing the Gospel message of love and hope and offering gifts of support as we are able. Due to the current pandemic, the World Mission Sunday celebration and collection will include mission in our own country through Catholic Home Missions. This is one World Mission Sunday collection for all struggling missions everywhere. Collections and prayers on World Mission Sunday benefit over 1,100 struggling dioceses worldwide and 80 mission dioceses in the U.S. Join your brothers and sisters and support mission dioceses, everywhere. You can contribute to this appeal at your parish, or at <https://centerformission.org/contribute-donation-form/>. Questions? Contact Eric Simon, 651.291.4446.



MASS INTENTIONS

Week of October 18 - October 25, 2020

Sunday:	8:00 AM	†Elizabeth Lachapelle
	10:30 AM	†Thomas Goulding
	6:00 PM	†Augusta (Gussie) Wipf
Monday:	8:00 AM	†Dianne Sanders
Tuesday:	8:00 AM	†Kay Reber
Wednesday:	8:00 AM	†Jennie Rauh
Thursday:	8:00 AM	†Dianne Sanders
Friday:	8:00 AM	†Larry Bernie & Edith Jungmann
	9:30 AM	School children only
Saturday:	8:00 AM	†Dennis Weimann Sr.
	4:00 PM	†Knights of Columbus
Sunday:	8:00 AM	†Gregory Moris
	10:30 AM	†Dan Gibson
	6:00 PM	Church of St. Peter

EMAIL OR TEXT SCAM AFFECTING PARISHES

With the coronavirus there are new attempts!

The Archdiocese has been notified that several local parishes have been affected by an email and text scam. Using Priest, Principal or a staff member's name the scammer will create a new email address or text, contact the staff members, parishioners, or volunteers via email or text and then ask for a favor, money or gift cards.

PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THESE EMAILS.

If you receive such a fraudulent email or text from the parish or any staff member, please contact Jeff Peterson, jpeterson@stpetersnsp.org and notify the North St. Paul Police. **DO NOT RESPOND TO THE EMAIL OR TEXT.** In the case of any email or text asking for funds or appearing to be suspicious, **IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO CONTACT THE PERSON DIRECTLY BY PHONE OR IN PERSON TO MAKE SURE IT IS AUTHENTIC.**

Center for Mission

Thank you for your gift of **\$1,663.23** to The Center for Mission for the Missionary Cooperation Plan. We did not provide you with any goods or services in consideration of this gift.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Ed Mielke whose funeral was this past week.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

As of Oct. 11 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021

Collected for Week: Envelopes & Plate	\$14,154.
Collected for Week: Electronic Giving	\$3,305.
Total Amount Collected for Week	\$17,459.
Amount Budgeted for Week	\$16,340.
Collected to Date: Stocks & Special Gifts	\$304,215.
Budgeted to Date: Stocks & Special Gifts	\$310,445.
Percentage Above (or Below) Budget	-2.01%
Amount Above (or Below) Budget	(\$6,230.)

Current Fiscal Year Capital Improvement Fund balance after the HVAC and Audio System project is:

Donations Received as of October 11, 2020:

\$42,717.27

Thank you for Supporting St. Peter Parish!

THE HOLY ROSARY

We will be having a daily rosary **Monday - Saturday at 7:30am** in the church.



LIVING WITH CHRIST

"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."
- Matthew 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.

**Where in your life is
God not first? Why?**



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