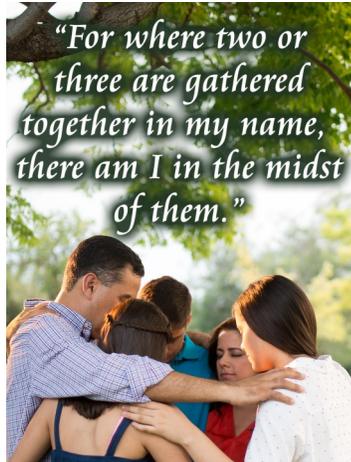




The Church of Christ the King Medford, MN

P.O. Box 120, 205 2ND AVENUE NW
MEDFORD, MN 55049 (507)-451-4845

23rd Sunday
in Ordinary
Time
September 6,
2020



Christ the King Mass Schedule:

Saturday 5:30pm, Monday & Friday 9am

Confession: Friday 7pm

St. Joseph Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:00pm*, Sunday 8:00 and 10:00am

* Saturday 4pm mass livestreamed on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJosephParishOwatonna/>

Mon. Sept. 7, 2020 NO Mass - Labor Day

Fri. Sep. 11, 2020 John Gross

Sat. Sep. 12, 2020 Parishioners



Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. Jim Starasinich (507)451-4845

E-mail--pastor@stjosephowatonna.org

Fr. Starasinich is available most Mondays & Fridays

at 9:30am at Christ the King Rectory and upon request

Parish Administrator: Al Christenson (507)451-4845

Senior Priest Assisting: Fr. Robert Herman

Religious Education Director: Jenna Sammon

Contact: medfordcatholicyouth@gmail.com or (507)451-4845

Mass Schedule: Saturday - Mass 5:30pm

Monday and Friday - Mass 9am

Parish Office:

Contact St. Joseph Parish, 512 S. Elm Ave, Owatonna

Phone: (507)451-4845

Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm Mon-Thurs; 9:00am-3:00pm Fri

E-mail: parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org

Christ the King Website:

<https://christthekingmedfordmn.org/>



Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope to the Poorest of the Poor

Please welcome Father Steve

LaCanne who will speak at all the

Masses on behalf of Cross Catho-

lic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America. **Please be generous in your response to Father's appeal. Brochures will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: 9/6/20

Reconciliation is today's theme and how we go about being reconciled within the Church is the message we receive from the Gospel. Today, we live in times where the secular world is not in compliance with the teachings of Jesus. Sometimes, when we look at the world from a Christian perspective, we wonder where these new ideas and philosophies originated. We ask, "How did we get here?" regarding the upheaval of moral standards and even common sense. Even the Church is undergoing what some are calling "a purification" because we seem to have failed to practice true Christian brotherly correction. Jesus teaches us this in the Gospel. Perhaps we should all answer these questions sincerely, "How do I relate to others in the Christian community, that is, in my own parish?" "Do I know others well enough to have the courage to speak with them when I know they have sinned, especially publicly?" "How do I practice fraternal correction within my own household?"

In the book of Genesis, we see the result of sin and the hardening of the heart of Cain in his response to God about the whereabouts of his brother Abel, "Am I my brother's keeper [guardian]?" Understanding sin and its consequences is important. We have heard the saying, "no man is an island". We all need to "get along" but that becomes difficult if society is not clear about standards and laws. We are being indoctrinated to be autonomous, "to be your own person", and do not let anyone or anything stand in your way.

Ezekiel's words are clear and easy to understand. Make an effort to correct your brother (in the faith) and if you have tried and failed to persuade your brother, you are at least saving your soul. Sins of omission can be deadly. Losing the affection or friendship of a person because you speak truth to that person is the price we have to pay for the salvation of two souls, as God's words to Ezekiel makes clear. We are indeed our brother's keeper! That is love, as St. Paul says, "Love does no evil to the neighbor." We need to help one another to exorcise the demons, to denounce sin and to be reconciled to God and one another.

The Gospel acclamation reminds us that it is God who wants to intervene and help us. "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation." Unless we allow Jesus to enter our lives, we cannot be entrusted with this message of reconciliation. It is a gift given to us, and one that we can only practice because we have been loved first by God! God makes reconciliation possible! It is also in God's way and time; we cannot force this love upon anyone because this is how Jesus loved the world and reconciled us: through the Cross!

Jesus wants us to be his instruments in this wounded world. The Gospel ends filled with hope:

"Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

We gather for the greatest prayer – the Mass – offered for the salvation of the world! If our hearts are one with God and we have nothing against anyone, then that united prayer will bring salvation even to the hardened sinner. If there is any prayer we want to be united in, it should be for the salvation of anyone who has gone astray. Jesus told us, "Love your enemies. Pray for those who persecute you." Prayer becomes love. Jesus prayed for all of us and excused us all from the Cross! May we never refuse that love!

God Love You!!! Fr. Jim Starasinich



Patriotic Rosary

Please join us at St. Joseph Church on the following Tuesdays at **6:30pm**:

September 8, 15, 22, 29,
October 6, 13, 20, 27 &
(Monday) November 2

The Most Reverend John M. Quinn, Bishop of DOW-R requests the honor of your presence at the Diocesan Marriage Anniversary Mass: Sunday, Sept. 13, 2020, 2:00pm.



The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will take place at two o'clock in the afternoon at **Holy Spirit Parish, 5455 50th Ave NW, Rochester.** If you wish to participate online only, please register at www.dowr.org (and let us know that is your preference) and we will send you the liturgy program via e-mail.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Luella Heim, Caleb Svenby, Dave Arnold, Barbara Steinbauer, Ann Willette, Jean Larson, Carolyn Willette, Kris Maas, Lawrence Giefer, Don Schultz, Mary Jean Malecha, Jim Thibodeau, Fr. Edward Mountain, Fr. Robert Herman, Tammy Pumper, Merle Gostomczik, and all who are ill. Please call the St. Joseph parish office to add to this list.

Upcoming Calendar

- **Mon. Sept. 7– Labor Day– NO 9am mass @ Christ the King**
- **Fri. Sept. 11– 9am mass @ Christ the King
NO 7pm Confessions**

Happy Birthday! Sep 7-13 Natasha DeVries, Merle Gostomczik, Angela Keilen, Benjamin Finholdt, Don Novak, Lynn Larson, Jenna Berg



Bishop Quinn to Celebrate the Renewal of the Consecration of the Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 5:15pm
Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Winona**

All are welcome to this annual event, but those interested in coming are asked to **RSVP** to the Cathedral at 507-452-4770 by noon on September 7.



Finding Mr. Right: One Woman's Journey to Becoming a Bride of Christ

Leandra Hubka is a Consecrated Virgin of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, consecrated by Bishop Quinn on Sept. 15, 2018. In her talk, Leandra will share about the vocation of Consecrated Virginity, its history and place in the Church, and how she heard the Lord's call to this unique vocation.

Please join the Serra Club of Owatonna Area to hear Leandra speak of her vocation on Monday, Sept. 14, 2020 at 6:15pm in Joseph Hall, St Joseph Parish. Social distancing will be adhered to; masks are required.

There will be Adoration in St Joseph Church from 5-6pm to pray for vocations with the Serrans. All are welcome to pray and then join us in Joseph Hall to hear Leandra's talk at 6:15pm.



Catholic Charities of Southern MN will be offering two fall studies based in Catholic Social Teaching

on Zoom. **Minnesota – Our Common Home** will be offered on Thursdays at 7 pm from Sept. 10th to Oct. 15th, and **Solidarity – We Are Our Neighbor's Keepers** will be on Tuesdays at 7 pm from Sept. 15th to Oct. 20th. **To register or get more info. contact Lisa Kremer by email: lkremer@ccsommn.org or at 507-360-3423.**

Directives for safe celebration of Mass during COVID-19 (Summary)

- **Wearing a mask is required by all over the age of 5 unless medical or other health concerns prevent it.**
- Those over age 65 are strongly encouraged not to attend, and anyone showing any symptoms of sickness, or anyone who has a household member who is sick should not come to church.
- **Seating is limited.** Only sit in open pews and do not move ropes unless directed by usher or other church personnel.
- **Continue to follow all social distancing guidelines.**
- **The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains dispensed until further notice, and at this time no one is obliged to receive communion.**
- Parishioners may **only** receive Communion on the hand.



Roads Less Traveled

See reflection for Sunday, September 6, 2020 at:
<https://www.4lpi.com/blog/roads-less-traveled/>

Prayer:

*Dear Jesus,
Help us to spread Your fragrance everywhere we go.
Flood our souls with Your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly that our lives may only be a radiance of Yours.
Shine through us, and be so in us that every soul we come in contact with may feel Your presence in our soul.
Let them look up and see no longer us, but only Jesus.
Stay with us and then we shall begin to shine as You shine, so to shine as to be a light to others.
The light, O Jesus, will be all from You; none of it will be ours.
It will be You, shining on others through us.
Let us thus praise You in the way You love best — by shining on those around us.
Let us preach You without preaching; not by words but by our example; by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to You.
Amen.*

September 6: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "...where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we help them to know that indeed "God is in the midst of them."

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

**Pamela (Maas) Kay
August 31, 2020**



May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no confessions on Sept. 4th & 11th and no morning mass on Sept. 7th.

The St. Joseph Parish office will be closed Monday, September 7th, for the Labor Day holiday.

NOTICE: The September issue of the *Courier* is available online at: <https://www.dowr.org/diocesan-news-ver01-30-2020-vQsSLXzdNaYQBsx7rbSh8FMM.html>