

## A Word from Fr. Mike



Every year since I was a young boy, my family has taken a trip to the North Shore. We stay in the Sea Villas of Lutsen, and even though I've been fortunate enough to travel the world—Italy, Ireland, Russia, China, the Dominican Republic—nothing quite beats the rocky coast of Lake Superior in my book. And even though our activities largely remain the same—hiking the Temperance River, the annual Selenski brother golf tournament at Superior National, a day trip to Grand Marais for a whitefish sandwich at the Angry Trout, and countless listens to *The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald*—every return brings new life. Part of the joy now is watching my nephews fall in love with the North Shore too. Same places. Same trails. Same songs in the car. And yet somehow, every year feels different.

Lent is a little like that.

I'll be honest with you—I never quite look forward to Lent.

I'm much better at Easter feasting than Lenten fasting.

Give me ham, chocolate, and alleluias over ashes and sacrifices any day of the week! But that's precisely why the Church, in her wisdom, gives us Lent. Because the deepest growth in our lives rarely happens when everything is easy and comfortable.

It happens in the desert. It happens when we step away from the noise, the comforts, and the distractions that keep us just satisfied enough to not hunger more for God.

And here's the wonderful part: every Lent is familiar, but no Lent is ever the same. Yes, we hear the same readings. We sing the same songs. Many of us give up the same things we probably should have cut back on months ago anyway. But we are not the same people we were a year ago. Life has happened.

Joys, crosses, changes, surprises, a few more gray hairs in the beard (speaking personally here). And God wants to meet us right where we are now—not where we used to be.

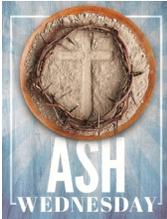
So my invitation to you is simple: don't coast through Lent. Jump into it. Pray a little more intentionally. Fast in a way that actually costs you something. Give generously. And most importantly, bring your real self to God—the messy parts, the tired parts, the hopeful parts, all of it. Don't settle for a surface-level Lent when God is offering you a transforming one.

St. Josemaría Escrivá once said, "A saint is a sinner who keeps trying." That's the whole game plan for Lent. Not overnight perfection. Just perseverance. Just getting up, turning back to the Lord, and trying again.

Because if we really lean into this season—if we really let God do His work—then forty days from now we won't just be celebrating Easter...we'll be different.

Come and celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass with us this week on Wednesday, Feb. 18. Join us at 8 AM, 12 PM, or 6 PM.

NOTE: Confessions will not be held on Ash Wednesday.



## Stations of the Cross

Please join us on Fridays during Lent at 7 PM in the Church for the Stations of the Cross.



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment." - Mt 5:22a

February 15, 2026



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

**KNOW** and celebrate our Catholic Faith,  
**LOVE** God and our neighbor,  
**SERVE** as disciples of Jesus Christ.

## CONTACT

Online: [saintvdp.org](http://saintvdp.org)

E-Mail: General: [churchinfo@saintvdp.org](mailto:churchinfo@saintvdp.org)

Prayer Line: [prayerrequests@saintvdp.org](mailto:prayerrequests@saintvdp.org)

Parish Office: (763) 425-2210

School Office: (763) 425-3970

## SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday at 7:30 AM;  
Saturday from 3:30-4:15 PM

Baptisms: Please call the office at 763-425-2210.

Matrimony: Please call the office at 763-425-2210.

## WORSHIP

Location

9100 93rd Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN, 55445

Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday at 8 AM

See LH column for Ash Wednesday Mass times.

Saturday at 5 PM & Sunday at 7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM

## Daddy-Daughter Luau



Create lasting memories at the Daddy-Daughter Luau next Saturday, Feb. 21. Open to both school and parish families, the evening begins after Mass in Regan Hall. You and your daughter(s) can enjoy a night of dinner and dancing together. Register online by Noon this Tuesday, Feb. 17 at [school.saintvdp.org/daddy-daughter-dance](http://school.saintvdp.org/daddy-daughter-dance).

## Lenten Fish Dinners

**Friday, Feb. 27— 5:00-6:30 PM**

*(Tickets sold through Noon on Wednesday, Feb. 25)*

**Friday, March 20 — 5:00-6:30 PM**

*(Tickets sold through Noon on Wednesday, March 18)*

Join us for one or both of our upcoming Lenten fish dinners hosted by the Knights of Columbus! Each dinner will include pan-fried tilapia with tartar sauce, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, dinner roll, and dessert. Tickets are \$14.00 per plate and must be purchased in advance on our website or by calling the Parish Office.

## 40 Days for Life Begins this Week

40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign to end abortion. Join Pro-Life Action Ministries in this international movement of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils, and community outreach to end abortion from Feb. 18–March 29.



During this time, please consider a time of prayer, a day of fasting or participate in a peaceful vigil at designated locations around the twin cities. Visit the 40 Days for Life Website for more information at [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com).

## Lenten Bible Study

**All Five Mondays in March from 6-7 PM**

Fr. Mike will be leading Dr. Edward Sri's "A Biblical Walk through the Mass", a fascinating exploration of the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy—what it all means, where it comes from, and why it matters. The cost is \$20, which includes an in-depth workbook, but be assured there is no homework! Register by Noon this Friday, February 20 at <https://saintvdp.org/bible-study>.

If you've ever wanted to understand the Mass more deeply—and love the Eucharist more fully—this study is for you.

Space is limited, so please sign up today!

## Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Wednesdays at 3 PM during Lent in the Church**

**Starting next week, February 25—April 1**

All are invited to participate! The Chaplet is prayed on the beads of an ordinary rosary and may be recited in about ten minutes. Questions? Contact Terri Leeds at 763-370-3777.



The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is a prayer that Jesus dictated to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, a young Polish mystic, in the 1930s. He directed this humble nun to pray it unceasingly and to encourage others to do the same, attaching to its prayerful recitation a myriad of extraordinary promises.

Learn more at: [divinemercyforamerica.org](http://divinemercyforamerica.org)

## Catholic United Financial Raffle

You can still purchase Catholic United Financial Raffle Tickets in the parish office until Feb. 20. Your \$10 tickets (purchased with cash or check) directly benefits our parish school.

## Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration



To sign up or to be a sub, login to [saintvdp.org/perpetual-adoration](http://saintvdp.org/perpetual-adoration) or call JoAnne Newman at 763-420-4089.

Help is urgently needed for:  
**Saturday at 2 AM, 1 PM, & 2 PM**

## Sunday Pre-K Formation Volunteers

We are hoping to offer a monthly Sunday Preschool Formation during the 9:00 AM Mass. For this to begin, we are seeking to create a core team of adults and youth (13 yrs. old and up) who are willing to work with and share their faith with the little ones in our parish family. If you are interested in joining the core team, or would like more information, please contact Nichole Chang at: [nicholechang@saintvdp.org](mailto:nicholechang@saintvdp.org).

## Mass Intentions for Feb. 16-22

Monday	8:00 AM	Lorenzo Cerda & † Gloria Salazar
Tuesday	8:00 AM	† Mary Sinner
Wednesday	<b>8:00 AM</b>	† Joju Antony
	<b>Noon</b>	† John Resler
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	† Dianne Gustafson
Thursday	8:00 AM	John & Bridget Lessard
Friday	8:00 AM	Maria Wallace Family & † Nancy Davis
Saturday	5:00 PM	† Michael Larson
Sunday	7:30 AM	† Jeanne & Harold Trombley Jr.
	9:00 AM	Parishioners
	11:00 AM	† Elsie Waletzko

## Readings for this Week

Sunday:	Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/ 1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
Monday:	Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/ Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/ Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/ Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

The deadline for the bulletin is Monday at Noon.

## Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 8 AM – 3 PM & Friday: 8 AM – Noon

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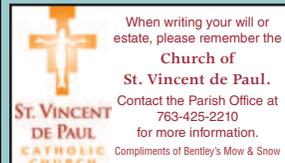


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