

MARCH 8, 2020
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

St OLAF
Catholic Church



SAINT OLAF CATHOLIC CHURCH ■ MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA ■ 612-332-7471 ■ SAINTOLAF.ORG

GENERATIONS OF LOVE

by Michael Griffin, Parish Staff

"I Wish Grandpas Never Died" is the title of a current popular country song by Riley Green and recounts the power of his generational relationships that lives on in what he values today. I deeply appreciate the sentiments of the song and would importantly add the corresponding song "I Wish Grandmas Never Died" because I had all four of my grandparents alive and well and active in my life until I was 16. I honestly thought everyone had it this way until I discovered that some people never knew their grandparents, and others lost them at an age younger than me when you were supposed to be celebrating getting your driver's license.

Both sides of my family continued the vocation of farming, put in motion by earlier generations. They understood very hard work and often very tough times, but supported by a deep faith, it fostered joyful family life. Though my parents moved off the farm, it took root in them and eventually in my siblings and me.

As farmers they tended the people along with the other parts of God's creation, namely the crops and the animals, reflections of Catholic social teaching as they lifted up human dignity and care for creation. They were saints and sinners with a faithful sense of mission on Sundays at Mass and throughout the week. They brought their faith and experience to celebrate my baptism and

First Communion.

As things are watered, in baptism or in the ground, they grow and display life in a new way. This is not the end of the end of the road! Baptism is the gateway that invites us to gather around the table of the Lord and then to mission. Similarly, the land watered and nurtured by the "work of human hands" brings sustenance to gather around the farm table and goes on to feed the people gathered around tables all over the world.

I was recently reminded that we do not place a pile of wheat and a bunch of grapes on the altar, but rather through the "work of human hands" we present bread and wine, the "fruit of the earth and the vine" to become our spiritual food and drink. Our participation in the preparation and gathering around the table matters!

In addition to their other farm responsibilities, both of my grandmothers baked bread. The memory animates the phrase "Give us this day our daily bread" in a special way. They understood their participation in this was both a necessity (there was no running to the store for a loaf of Wonder Bread), and response to a call to share one's gifts in support of the gathered community, in this case their family. The bread of life was delicious!

Formed by experience and love, the work of their human hands sustained life so

participants could go forth whether back to farm work or into the world. They knew the ingredients and those who would share with them at their table (Their grandkids were city slickers!).

The farm table is large and accommodating with lots of room for food and people of all ages. A place for generations to form families. Generations also form communities. For nearly 80 years generations of faithful people have gathered around the table of the Lord here at Saint Olaf in the heart of the city. Today, five children are preparing to come to the table for First Communion on April 19th.

No matter what the song says, grandparents do die. But leaving the earth does not mean they do not leave an impression. I am more keenly aware of this now being a grandpa.

We have an opportunity this Lenten season to reflect on our participation in community life to make sure our parish table is accommodating and welcoming. We can renew our baptism and our contributions to help prepare what is needed and offer it to God and in support of our mission to serve.

And let us ponder how the work of our human hands proclaims the power of God's love and mercy in order to live on for generations to come.



EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

Mar 08: Gn 12:1-4; Ps 33; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9
Mar 15: Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Spring forward!

ENCOUNTERING HEAVEN ON EARTH

Fr. Wehmann will present *The Mass*, a video series by Bishop Robert Barron. Mondays from 12:30pm to 1:00pm March 2-April 6 in Forliti Gathering Room. No charge.

MINNESOTA: OUR COMMON HOME

Join Fr. Kevin Kenney and Mary Kennedy in a 6-week series exploring how we can live out Integral Ecology as Minnesota Catholic Stewards. **Thursdays 6:00pm-7:00pm:** March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2 and 16. Includes light supper. Register online, freewill donations to cover material costs and meal are welcomed.

DISCUSSIONS THAT ENCOUNTER

MARCH 12, 6:30-8:30PM

You are invited to be part of an important conversation featuring a panel of students from Cristo Rey Jesuit High School about the challenges faced by youth from racism and immigration in our society. Community meal begins at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:00 pm in the Forliti Gathering Room. There is no charge and all are welcome!

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD

UPCOMING PRAYER & LISTENING SESSIONS

March 14, 9am – Noon, St. Alphonsus, Brooklyn Center
Let your voice be heard.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH

Join us in celebrating St. Patrick on March 17th after the noon Mass. We will be having a traditional Irish lunch.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Saturday, March 21 at the noon Mass in the church. This sacrament offers strength and healing to those who are ill, elderly, or undergoing or recovering from surgery. Several priests will be present to administer the sacrament. All are welcome. Light lunch will follow.

DONATE TOWARD EASTER ENVIRONMENT

In honor of a loved one, living or deceased. You may use the cards at entrances and place donations in the collection basket or mail to the parish. Please submit your names by April 5. Names will be published at Easter. Thank you!

OFFERING A SIGN OF PEACE

Offering a Sign of Peace: Know that during the "Flu Season" it is ok to offer a bow to others as a sign of peace. Simply fold your hands and bow as people turn to you to offer peace. Offering a handshake is still appropriate but some many may not want to reciprocate because they have a cough or would rather bow. Thank you for being respectful and kind.

VOTIVE CANDLE DONATIONS

Special thanks to the volunteers who clean and restock the votive candles in our beautiful side chapels. Thank you also to everyone who offers a donation when you light a votive candle. Currently your offerings almost cover the monthly purchase of new candles and the replacement of glass sleeves as the need arises. The minimum suggested donation is \$3.00 for every three day candle and \$1.00 for every four hour candle. Your donations make a difference! Thank you.



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

9:00 AM CENTERING PRAYER
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESSIONS
12:30 PM LENTEN SERIES
12:30 PM ROSARY
4:00 PM MASS

SET CLOCKS AHEAD FOR DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

6:00 AM MASS
8:00 AM MASS
10:00 AM MASS
12:00 PM MASS
4:00 PM MASS

MONDAY, MARCH 9

7:00 AM MASS/CONFESSIONS
7:30 AM SAMARITAN MINISTRY HOSPITALITY
12:00 PM MASS
12:00 PM AA
12:30 PM ENCOUNTERING HEAVEN ON EARTH

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:00 AM MASS/CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESSIONS
5:15 PM MASS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

7:00 AM MASS
7:00 AM AA
12:00 PM MASS
12:00 PM AA
6:00 PM ALANON

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

7:00 AM MASS/CONFESSIONS
7:30 AM SAMARITAN MINISTRY HOSPITALITY
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESSIONS
5:15 PM MASS
6:00 PM MINNESOTA OUR COMMON HOME
6:30 PM DISCUSSIONS THAT ENCOUNTER

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS

7:00 AM MASS/CONFESSIONS
10:00 AM KNITTING CLUB
11:15 AM STATIONS OF THE CROSS
12:00 PM MASS
12:30 PM ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

9:00 AM CENTERING PRAYER
10:00 AM RCIA
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESSIONS
12:30 PM ROSARY
4:00 PM MASS

ANNUAL BUDGET AS OF WEEK 34

CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Feb 17 - Feb 23	\$13,317	\$17,000	-\$3,683
YTD through Week #34	\$940,785	\$918,028	\$22,757