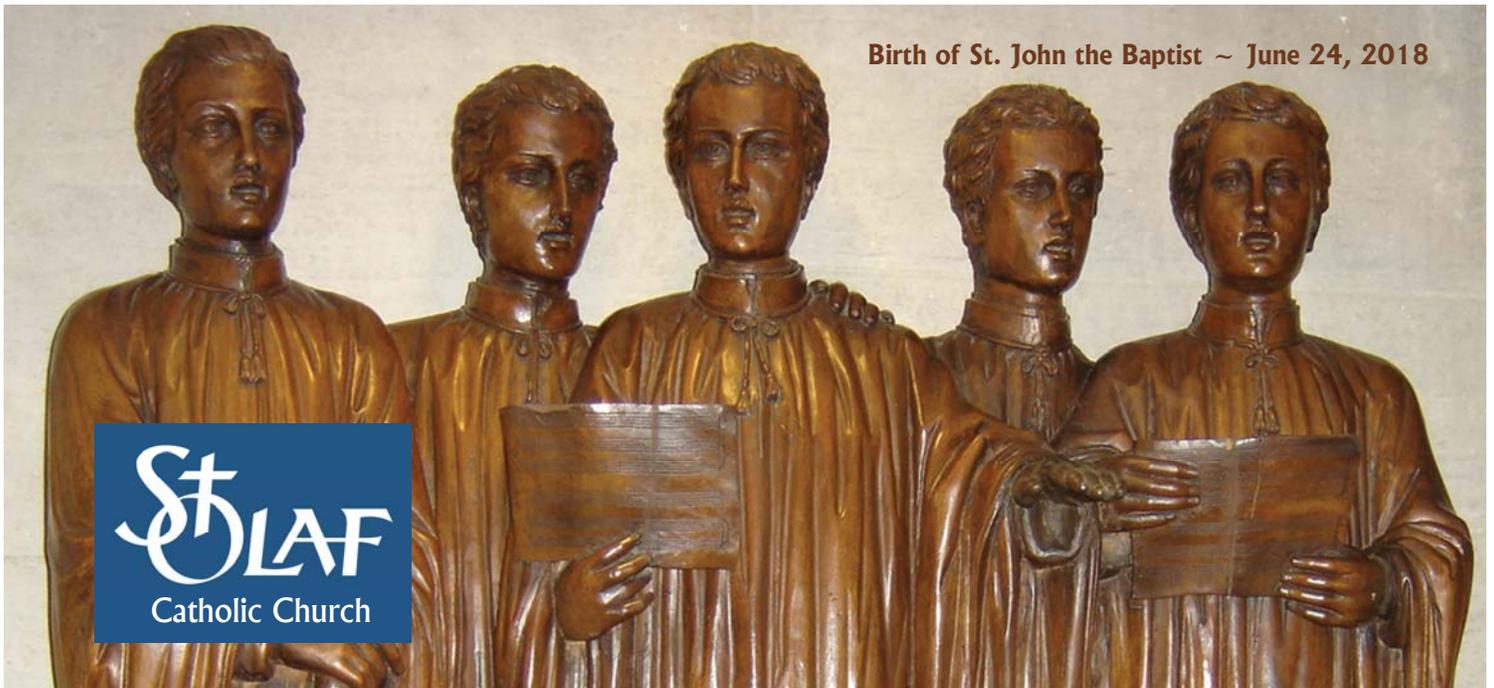


Birth of St. John the Baptist ~ June 24, 2018



St. Olaf Catholic Church ■ Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 ■ 612-332-7471 ■ [www.SaintOlaf.org](http://www.SaintOlaf.org)

## We are at a Crossroads By Fr. Patrick Kennedy

My friends,

A few weeks ago, we heard that the Archdiocesan bankruptcy had some movement on both sides and hopefully will be settled by the end of the year. A huge step forward was taken when the victims of sexual misconduct agreed to accept \$210 million dollars in settlement for the pain and suffering they have endured because they were abused by members of the clergy. It will now be up to the court to review the settlement and finally declare the bankruptcy ended. While it is a great relief for victims and for the Archdiocese to have reached this settlement, the work the Archdiocese needs to do as a Church is just beginning.

We began this work some years ago. The protection and care for children and vulnerable adults in the Church has become a fundamental priority for all of us working in the Church. There are many new procedures required for each Church volunteer and employee. There is a yearly audit of how these new practices are being fulfilled by each parish and institution in the Archdiocese. Reports of our success or failure at meeting the rigorous benchmarks we have set for ourselves are shared with the local law enforcement and government officials.

All of these procedures have been good for those who enter our churches and institutions. They are able to have a greater degree of confidence they will not be taken advantage of physically or emotionally. We will always have to deal with the exceptions to providing a safe place for all people. The protocols in place have us working in tandem with law enforcement officials when events occur, and they are dealt with immediately by both parties.

Protocols and procedures are good. They create a way in which we deal with the difficulties of inappropriate behavior from clergy, employees, and volunteers who work in the Church. However, the greatest and most devastating part of these events which have altered the way we are Church together is the fact, we, who have been entrusted with the care of the youngest and most vulnerable members of our Church, failed them miserably. Our intransigence and inability to act on their behalf have left scars that will never go away. The suffering that the victims have endured will take more to alleviate than any sum of money the Church offers them.

To begin again, the leadership of the

Archdiocese must take measures to enter into a period of reflection and prayer to navigate a new way forward as a local Church. I would hope the leadership would be bold enough to create an environment where the voices of many different people throughout the Archdiocese gather together and set a new course for ministry and service.

There are many people suffering. The collateral damage done the last many years has people saddened and angry. Well-meaning and faith-filled people have lost trust and walked away. Unless we deal with this suffering by compassionate listening and learning from one another, we will not move forward with grace and the wisdom gained through our mistakes.

The bankruptcy was the cause of us trying to protect ourselves from our creditors because we were financially broke. With a settlement at hand, we will need to begin rebuilding our financial credibility to be able to once again promote and implement our mission and vision. But we have a more profound bankruptcy to deal with. In order to settle this one, we need the Catholics of this local Church to

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participate and fully engage in the work we set out to do going forward.

Truly, we are at a crossroads. Our leaders need to realize the people in our pews are our greatest asset in helping us build a new and more faith-filled Church that can serve and minister to all people coming through our doors in the future. May we have the strength and courage to stop and listen for as long as we need to. May we not be afraid to accept their wisdom and help so together we may allow the Holy Spirit to lead us to a new day in this Archdiocese.



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Additional info at: [SaintOlaf.org/events](http://SaintOlaf.org/events)

**Thanks and Farewell:** On Sunday, June 24 Fr. David Haschka, SJ will preside at the 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon liturgies. He will attend hospitality after the 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12 noon Masses to say good bye and receive well wishes.

**Road Closures:** Routes into and out of downtown are changing due to the roadwork on Hwy. 35W. See our website for details.

**A Small Change:** A small change in your will or estate plan can be part of your Legacy to St. Olaf. It can make a difference in your life while you are living and in the life of the parish for decades to come. Have you ever considered what dollar figure you might find meaningful and rewarding as your Legacy gift to St. Olaf? [FRMurnane@SaintOlaf.org](mailto:FRMurnane@SaintOlaf.org) or 612-767-7635.

**Independence Day Mass, 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 4:** Join us for a special Mass with music to celebrate Independence Day at 10:00 a.m. July. 4. There will be no 7:00 a.m. or 12:00 noon Mass and the offices will be closed.

**The next meeting of the Book Club** will be held on Sunday, July 8, 2018 from 2:30 to 3:30. "*Who Am I to Judge – Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love*" by Edward Sri. In an age in which preference has replaced morality, many people find it difficult to speak the truth, afraid of the reactions they will receive if they say something is right or wrong. Edward Sri helps us understand the classical view of morality and equips us to engage relativism, appealing to both the head and the heart.

**Summer Scripture Institute, July 16-17:** Fr. László Simon, OSB returns to St. Olaf for the annual Scripture Institute with the topic of *The Wisdom of God in its Rich Variety: Old Testament wisdom literature and its New Testament reverberations*. It will be held Monday and Tuesday, July 16-17, 9:30am – 3:00pm. Fee: \$20 per day. Lunch provided. Mail your check with contact information, including your phone number to: Scripture Institute, St Olaf Catholic Church, 215 S. 8th St, Minneapolis, MN 55402. For information, email: [carolquest@q.com](mailto:carolquest@q.com).

**St. Olaf Day on July 29:** We will celebrate the dedication of the Samaritan Ministry Room in the lower level of St. Olaf as the *Sister Rosanne Samaritan Hall* after Sr. Rosanne Fox, CSJ who served here for over 30 years and died May 15, 2018.



## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Additional info at: [SaintOlaf.org/events](http://SaintOlaf.org/events)

### Saturday, June 23

9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer  
12:00 p.m. **Mass/Confessions**  
4:00 p.m. **Mass**

### Sunday, June 24 - Birth of St. John the Baptist

6:00 a.m. **Mass**  
8:00 a.m. **Mass/Reception** for Fr. Haschka  
9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens  
10:00 a.m. **Mass/Reception**  
12:00 p.m. **Mass/Reception**  
4:00 p.m. **Mass**

### Monday, June 25

7:00 a.m. **Mass/Confessions**  
7:30 a.m. Samaritan Ministry Hospitality  
12:00 p.m. **Mass**  
12:00 p.m. AA

### Tuesday, June 26

7:00 a.m. **Mass/Confessions**  
12:00 p.m. **Mass/Confessions**

### Wednesday, June 27

7:00 a.m. **Mass/Confessions**  
7:00 a.m. AA  
12:00 p.m. **Mass**  
12:00 p.m. AA  
7:30 p.m. Alanon

### Thursday, June 28

7:00 a.m. **Mass/Confessions**  
12:00 p.m. **Mass/Confessions**

### Friday, June 29

7:00 a.m. **Mass/Confessions**  
12:00 p.m. **Mass**  
12:30 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

### Saturday, June 30

9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer  
12:00 p.m. **Mass/Confessions**  
2:30 p.m. African Choir Rehearsal  
4:00 p.m. **Mass**