



ST. OLAF CATHOLIC CHURCH • MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA • 612-332-7471 • WWW.SAINTOLAF.ORG

Saint Olaf Feast Day

by Fr. Kevin Kenney

This weekend we celebrate Saint Olaf. I found a plaque on the wall in the narthex that says, "Olaf Haraldsson was born in Ringerike, Norway. Olaf became a Viking warrior and quickly distinguished himself as a leader and strategist. It was during a voyage to Normandy that Olaf experienced the vibrant life of French Christianity and, exchanging Viking lore for the Christian faith, he was baptized at Rouen. Inspired to unite Norway under Christ, Olaf returned to his native land and won recognition as king. In 1028, King Olaf fled to Russia in exile where he led an ascetical life marked by prayer and fasting. Olaf had a vision to return to Norway. Upon his return in 1030, King Olaf and his outnumbered forces were opposed by Danish and rebel Norwegian troops, forces against whom they fought valiantly until the king fell to the blows of a rebel's axe. Olaf was buried in a steep bank by the river Nid from which soon thereafter a spring flowed; the water was accredited with miraculous healing power. The following year the bishop of Nidaros declared Olaf worthy of the veneration due to a martyr and ordered a chapel built on the spot of Olaf's grave. In 1164 Saint Olaf received pontifical recognition, and soon his grave became a popular destination for European pilgrims. It is thus for his faith, his ascetical life, and his heroic death that we honor Saint Olaf, King of Norway and servant of Christ."

I always find it interesting to review Saint

Olaf's life each year as we celebrate his Feast Day. Knowing of his life gives us all hope and encouragement in the midst of challenges and strife. Saint Olaf, after his conversion, spent time in prayer and listened to Jesus' words for him. Discerning God's will, Saint Olaf brought Christianity into his life and the lives of the people of Norway. We are strengthened by his example and courage.

Jesus says in today's gospel, "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." Saint Olaf lived by these words and so must we. It is through prayer that we communicate with God and Jesus teaches us to pray. Jesus was an example for his disciples, and they wanted to be like him. We hear the words Jesus taught his disciples, and we take them in and still today pray as Jesus has taught. Giving God praise, asking for daily bread and forgiveness, and forgiving others in the same way bring us to be like Jesus. No one of us wants to be subject to the final test. We have what we need to know for the test, we just need to live it to pass it. By living it, Jesus will provide for us as we ask, seek, and knock.

We celebrate Saint Olaf today, and we ask for his intercession in our lives to continue to live our Christian call and fulfill the Lord's Prayer in our daily lives. Thank you for your continued

support of Saint Olaf Catholic Church. We are proud to have our Church in the "Heart of the City" where Saint Olaf would continue to encourage people to unite under Jesus Christ. Today, if you pass by the Normandy, you have gone too far. Battling against the cones and construction keeps us challenged, but the victory will be won soon. No longer will we need to feel exiled to other places but can come home to Saint Olaf where the beauty of Minneapolis will surround us with a warm Scandinavian flavor. "Det er aldri så galt at det ikke er godt for noe!" (Translation: It's never so bad that it's not good for something. Meaning: The Norwegian version of "When God closes a door, he opens a window"). Uff Dah! I can't wait to open the doors and let the neighbors know we are here! Happy Feast Day!

(Just so you don't think I left through the open doors, I will be away next weekend enjoying Northern Minnesota and the following weekend, I'll be at Saints Cyril and Methodius in Northeast Minneapolis, my other parish.)



EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Additional Information at www.saintolaf.org/events

HAPPY ST. OLAF DAY

The patron saint of our parish is St. Olaf, King and Martyr. He is also the patron saint of Norway, where his feast day is celebrated on July 29. Each year on the weekend closest to this date we celebrate "St. Olaf Day." Enjoy Scandinavian treats after Sunday Masses. The St. Olaf Choir will minister at the 10:00am Mass in English, Norwegian, and Swedish.



HOSPITALITY

Today is St Olaf Day with special treats after Sunday Masses. Remember that we take a break in August. There will be no after-Mass hospitality until September. **Heartfelt thanks** to all of our volunteers who work to make our hospitality time a reality the rest of the year!

MISSIONARY SUNDAY AUGUST 3-4

Next weekend we will welcome Fr. Honorio Kim, a Franciscan Missionary, to speak of the Franciscan Missions in developing countries. Donations will help provide food and drinking water, housing and scholarships to impoverished communities in Africa and India. A collection for the Franciscan Missions will follow communion. Please make checks payable to St. Olaf Church with missionary in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity.

OF MINISTRY AND MUSIC II

Thursday, September 26, 2019 at St. Olaf. This event is for all parishioners, associate parishioners, family and friends of St. Olaf. It will be an evening of socializing, dinner, and music, and get to know Fr. Kevin Kenney - St. Olaf's new Pastor! More details to follow.

NURSERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to unforeseen circumstances, nursery services are suspended for the near future. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. We will announce in a future bulletin when services resume.

DISCUSSIONS THAT ENCOUNTER

No meeting in July. Next meeting is August 8 at 6:30pm.

CENTERING PRAYER

Saturdays at 9:15am in Forliti Gathering Room.

BOOK CLUB

No meeting in August.



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Additional Information at www.saintolaf.org

SATURDAY, JULY 27

- 9:00 AM** CENTERING PRAYER
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESIONS
4:00 PM MASS

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY 28

ST. OLAF DAY

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

MONDAY, JULY 29

- 7:00 AM** MASS/CONFESIONS
 7:30 AM SAMARITAN MINISTRY HOSPITALITY
12:00 PM MASS
 12:00 PM AA

TUESDAY, JULY 30

- 7:00 AM** MASS/CONFESIONS
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESIONS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

- 7:00 AM** MASS/CONFESIONS
 7:00 AM AA
12:00 PM MASS
 12:00 PM AA
 6:00 PM ALANON

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

- 7:00 AM** MASS/CONFESIONS
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESIONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

- OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS**
7:00 AM MASS/CONFESIONS
 10:00 AM KNITTING CLUB
12:00 PM MASS
 12:30 PM ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

- 9:00 AM CENTERING PRAYER
12:00 PM MASS/CONFESIONS
 2:00 PM AFRICAN CHOIR REHEARSAL
4:00 PM MASS – MISSIONARY SUNDAY

ANNUAL BUDGET AS OF WEEK #2

CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
July 8-July 14	\$11,379	\$21,000	-\$9,621
YTD through Week #2	\$26,446	\$42,000	-\$15,554