



**St. Olaf**  
Catholic Church

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 2, 2018

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

## What's Your Story? By Fr. Patrick Kennedy, Pastor

Whether it is our family life, social settings, the workplace, or here at St. Olaf, much of our communication with others comes down to stories. We tell stories, and we listen to stories. This dynamic is older than recorded history (I was not there at the beginning).

Stories help to proclaim and/or explain some of the larger-than-life phenomena going on around people at the beginning of time and since. Stories also express our deeply personal, intimate moments where context and trust provide extra meaning when mere words would fall short.

Our faith life is also shaped and formed by stories. God's Word is one Great Story of love shared with us through Jesus Christ. This one story is made up of many stories found in the scriptures. Added to these is the sacred story of each one of us, created in the image and likeness of God and called into a relationship of love.

The stories in scripture and our stories in faith often have a journey attached to them. Sometimes it is movement like conversion of heart. At other times, it is moving from one point to another like Moses leading his people to the Promised Land or the disciples on the road to

Emmaus. Both kinds are sacred, important to God, and therefore important to the Church.

Is it any wonder why when viewed through the lens of Catholic social teaching, we are called to pay close attention to the stories about immigration and the migration of God's people? Because so many are forced to make a journey because of violence, oppression, or severe economic hardship, they are left vulnerable. The same social teaching summons us to a preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. Most of us have had some kind of journey, maybe in earlier generations of our families, and all of us have had some combination of falling from grace and/or conversion of heart. Stories help convey the power and importance of who we are and how we are to others.

The St. Olaf Commission on Charity and Justice has taken this preferential option to heart and has been planning for a special exhibit here at the parish during the month of September. The "Green Card Voices" project will be on display in the Forliti Gathering Room beginning right after Labor Day.

"Launched in 2013, Green Card Voices' mission is to share various stories of our

nation's 40 million immigrants and put a human face to the current immigration debate. Simply, we hope to introduce immigrants to their neighbors" (*website [www.greencardvoices.org](http://www.greencardvoices.org)*). St. Olaf is home to some of these 40 million.

The opportunity provides for various ways to connect with the stories. "Each exhibit includes portraits, 200 word biographies, and quotes from each immigrant. A QR code is displayed next to each portrait and can be scanned with a mobile device to watch the digital stories." High tech and low tech makes it accessible to all!

Because the exhibit will be here for a month, you can take in a few stories each week or fully immerse yourself. The project will also be part of the monthly Discussions that Encounter at St. Olaf, September 13 with parishioner Dr. Angela Osuji presenting. We are fortunate to have this opportunity.

I am grateful the Commission members have some next steps in mind. It isn't enough to reflect on the stories in the project that are here for a month. Our connection to each other at St. Olaf ought to call us to ask about the story of

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one another and share our story as well. Like we hear in the gospels, Jesus listened to the stories of his people, embraced them, and called them to bring their story to be part of the Body of Christ. All the while he told the Great Story of Love.

We are called to do the same, and we can start by asking the question, "What's your story?"



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

**Labor Day Mass** is at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, Sept 3. Offices are closed all day. The building will be closed after Mass.

**After Labor Day** — Hospitality after Masses resumes next weekend, September 9.

**St. Olaf Book Club** — September 9, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. The book is *The Sleeping Witness: A Father Gabriel Mystery* by Fiorella De Maria.

St. Olaf's Sacramental Program for **First Communion and First Reconciliation** is for children 8-12 years old. **The deadline for registration is Sept. 2**, so please call the office right away. We have mandatory student classes Sept.-April, approx. twice a month on Sundays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. There will also be three mandatory parent meetings on Saturdays throughout the year.

**Becoming Catholic** — St. Olaf will begin RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*) classes on Saturday, Sept. 15 at 10:00 a.m. Classes run through May 11. Anyone interested in becoming Catholic, either from another faith tradition or who has never been baptized, is welcome. Contact Fr. Michael Krenik ([frmkrenik@SaintOlaf.org](mailto:frmkrenik@SaintOlaf.org) or 612-767-6209) to register. Also needed are sponsors (parishioners to walk candidates through the process).

Back to school for kids, so back to school for tutors! **The Catholic Tutor Corps** is recruiting for the coming school year. A representative will be at St. Olaf after Masses on Sunday, September 9. Join other St. Olaf members helping local students at Catholic schools and get back even more than you give. Call the parish office or contact Dick McGurie for more information at [ctutorcorps@gmail.com](mailto:ctutorcorps@gmail.com).

## OF MINISTRY AND MUSIC, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

Excitement is growing, and people are responding! Connect the sacred and the secular at our concert of a higher order! Go to [SaintOlaf.org](http://SaintOlaf.org), click on Oct 12 OF MINISTRY AND MUSIC at the bottom of the home page. Watch for details in the upcoming St. Olaf Newsletter. We will raise our spiritual roof in Jesus' name!

[FRMurnane@SaintOlaf.org](mailto:FRMurnane@SaintOlaf.org) or 612-767-7635.



## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

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

### Saturday, September 1

9:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass/Confessions</b>
2:00 p.m.	African Choir Rehearsal
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>

### Sunday, September 2 — 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

<b>6:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>
9:00 a.m.	Nursery Opens
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>

### Monday, September 3

*Labor Day (Office closed; Building closed after Mass)*

<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>
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### Tuesday, September 4

<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass/Confessions</b>
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass/Confessions</b>
5:30 p.m.	Parish Advisory Board

### Wednesday, September 5

<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass/Confessions</b>
7:00 a.m.	AA
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>
12:00 p.m.	AA
7:30 p.m.	Alanon

### Thursday, September 6

<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass/Confessions</b>
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass/Confessions</b>

### Friday, September 7

*(Office closed on Fridays)*

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

### Saturday, September 8

9:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass/Confessions</b>
12:30 p.m.	Venite Choir Rehearsal
2:00 p.m.	African Choir Rehearsal
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>