



24th Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
September 16, 2018



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

## Can we find peace in our world today? By Fr. Patrick Kennedy

It doesn't take much for people to get all cranked up. Usually, it's about something disturbing us from within, or maybe what's in front of us. It could be a relationship gone sour. It could be the way someone reacts instead of responds to us. It could be our state in life. Politics is another trigger. The Church is, too. Our uneasiness about what we hear, see, feel, and experience in the world around us sows seeds in us which make us defensive and ready to do battle with anyone who comes our way.

Take the people you live with. Our familiarity with those we say we love and have forged the bonds of a relationship with often suffer because we don't listen well. We make assumptions. We have experienced both success and failure in these relationships, but it always seems we remember the latter. Carrying our bruised feelings around with us is something we keep in our interior arsenals to be brought up when we feel threatened. Our mandate to forgive is blurred by the notion that in order for forgiveness to be real, we have to forget a painful experience. It is not possible to do this. Even when justice is served and reparation is made and accepted, the painful memory

of what we have gone through remains. What is possible is to put these experiences in proper perspective and to cross a threshold of understanding together. When understanding is present, compassion follows.

Sadly, our generation is more ready to do battle than it is to try to understand one another and live in peace. This behavior is manifested in every facet of life. Who of us isn't weary of the wars we see raging across the globe? Or what about what has been happening in the Church? We remark to one another how terrible all these things are. We can't imagine the horrors of those who have been so unjustly harmed by another's greed and selfishness. And yet, this violence done so tragically to others, is mimicked in our personal lives as well. You may disagree. You may think the things we do to others pale in comparison to the violence against others we hear about in the world. I beg to differ.

Truthfully, it seems our inability to take the simple commands of Jesus to heart — loving God and our neighbor as we love ourselves — is often thwarted because we lack inner peace, and that cre-

ates insecurity. Being insecure creates fear and sabotages our ability to be at peace. Instead of seeking the way of peace for ourselves and one another, we seem to prefer to put our time and energy in keeping our defenses strong and readied just in case somebody is out to get us. Fear fuels the deep hurts all of us have collected in life, and they become the underlying motive of our behavior towards ourselves and others.

I often hear myself say, "When I was growing up, times were much simpler than they are today." My contemporaries say the same thing. The truth is, that sentiment was echoed by my elders as they participated in the fast changing world they thought I was growing up in. However, the deeply rooted desire to be at peace and live in peace has remained constant throughout the generations. Unfortunately, it has also remained elusive. If our innate desire for peace is ever going to become a reality, all of us have to commit to bring it about where we are right now and with the people who surround us each day.

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Can inner peace be the way to deal gracefully with life? It's a tall order. Seismic shifts have to take place in each of our lives. However, nothing is impossible for God. But in order for God to help us realize true inner peace, we have to resist less, drop our defenses, be less afraid, and cooperate more with the grace he gives us. We have to reset our perspective on what really matters in life. Only then, can a transformation take place in ourselves. If only we could align our attitudes with the way we want to live, and the way we know that others want to live as well. Maybe then, we might just transform the things that get us cranked up in the first place.



## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

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

### Saturday, September 15

- 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer
- 10:00 a.m. RCIA
- 12:00 p.m. Mass/Confessions**
- 12:30 p.m. Venite Choir Rehearsal
- 2:00 p.m. African Choir Rehearsal
- 4:00 p.m. Mass**

### Sunday, September 16 — 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 6:00 a.m. Mass**
- 8:00 a.m. Mass**
- 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens
- 10:00 a.m. Mass**
- 12:00 p.m. Mass with African Choir**
- 4:00 p.m. Mass**
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner with Exodus Residents

### Monday, September 17

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

### Tuesday, September 18

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

### Wednesday, September 19

- 7:00 a.m. Mass/Confessions**
- 7:00 a.m. AA
- 12:00 p.m. Mass**
- 12:00 p.m. AA
- 6:00 p.m. Legatus Mass
- 6:30 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Alanon

### Thursday, September 20

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

### Friday, September 21 — (Office closed on Fridays)

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

### Saturday, September 22

- 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer
- 9:00 a.m. Music Ministry Retreat
- 10:00 a.m. RCIA
- 12:00 p.m. Mass/Confessions**
- 12:30 p.m. Venite Choir Rehearsal
- 4:00 p.m. Mass**



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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### Tickets Are Going Fast!

Our October 12 concert – OF MINISTRY AND MUSIC – featuring The Steeles, is open to both the parish and to the public. If you plan to come to the dinner or to the hors d'oeuvres reception, both ticketed events, please send me your reservation as soon as possible, as space is limited and tickets are going fast. We opened tickets sales to parishioners and associate parishioners first before we went public, but sales have been open to the public for the last three weeks. Don't hesitate; join in. It will be a great party. See you there! Info: [www.suemclean.com](http://www.suemclean.com), [FRMurnane@SaintOlaf.org](mailto:FRMurnane@SaintOlaf.org) or 612-767-7635.

### Becoming Catholic

St. Olaf will begin the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes on Saturday, September 15 at 10:00 a.m. Classes will run through May 11. Anyone who is interested in becoming Catholic, either from another faith tradition or who has never been baptized, is welcome to attend. We ask that you contact Fr Michael Krenik (612-767-6209 or [frmkrenik@SaintOlaf.org](mailto:frmkrenik@SaintOlaf.org)) to register.

We are also in need of sponsors, parishioners willing to walk with the candidates through the RCIA process.

### St. Olaf Habitat for Humanity

A BRUSH WITH KINDNESS — September 20-22  
St. Olaf parishioners work with A Brush with Kindness, a project of Habitat for Humanity, to construct, paint, and fix-up area homes for families in need. A Brush with Kindness is about connecting people and restoring homes through simple acts of kindness so that homeowners can once again live in a safe and decent home.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Parish volunteers paint, do simple home repairs, recruit volunteers, and coordinate work teams. Please join us for this annual event of service, memories, and fun with your St. Olaf community! To sign up, call the parish office or go to: <http://stolafcatholic.tchabitat.volunteerhub.com/>.