

# Weekly Bulletin

August 23 to August 30, 2008

## "Who do you say that I am?"

Jesus asked His disciples to answer a simple question. He invited them to a deeper understanding of their relationship with Him. Were they ready to acknowledge that Jesus was more than another great teacher or miracle worker? By the grace of God, Saint Peter was able to profess his faith that Jesus was the Christ (Messiah/Savior), the Son of the living God. Our faith must run a similar course: from ideas about Jesus and from having Jesus do things for us to a confident trust in Jesus as the perfect revelation of Merciful Love.

Saint Peter was given a great commission as "keeper of the keys"—not due to his own worthiness, but to meet our need to find the truth of faith. Of the faith we share with all of our Christian brothers and sisters, we have the opportunity at this time to meditate on three distinctively "Catholic" elements: the Blessed Sacrament, the Pope, and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The desecration of the Holy Eucharist by a University of Minnesota professor last month, this week's readings about Saint Peter (as well as Pope Benedict XVI's recent visit to the USA), and last week's solemnity of the Assumption of Mary provide us with plenty to think about.

Imagine for a moment that Jesus' question was asked about us instead. Who do people say that I am? Would they describe me as a Christian in the first chapter of a biography about me? How does my relationship to Jesus and the Church He founded influence my life? Is my Christian faith a defining characteristic of my daily life? Am I giving witness to the people around me that Jesus is Lord? Is my life noticeably different than the lives of those who do not believe? Perhaps these last, lazy days of summer are a time to reflect on these questions before we plunge into the hectic activities of fall. We need to be clear about who Jesus is and who we are in relationship to Him as God.

As our Hmong Catholic community welcomes new members through the great sacrament of baptism this week, we should all renew our own baptismal commitment to Jesus Christ. May we grow in love of God and in love for one another!

**Fr. Joseph**

## Financial Aid for Catholic Schools



## St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

651 Virginia St.  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
Ph: 651-488-6737  
[www.svdpcchurch.org](http://www.svdpcchurch.org)

### CLERGY

- † Fr. Joseph Johnson,  
Pastor
- † Fr. James Adams,  
Associate Pastor
- † Fr. Andrew Cozzens,  
Associate Pastor
- † Dc. Va Thai Lo
- † Dc. Nao Kao Yang

### SCHEDULES

#### Masses:

Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 9:00 AM

#### Confession:

Sunday 8:00AM-8:45AM

#### Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday 7:00PM-8:00PM

#### Religious Education:

Sunday 10:30AM-  
12:00PM

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Month:

- Mass at 8:30AM
- Altar & Rosary Society  
Meeting

To know, love and serve Jesus Christ

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday 8/23**

*5:00 PM Lillie Zak*

**Sunday 8/24**

*9:00 AM People of the Parish*

**Saturday 8/30**

*5:00 PM Lillie Zak*

**Sunday 8/31**

*9:00 AM People of the Parish*

**GOSPEL READING AT MASS**

**Saturday 8/23 (Vigil)**

Matthew 16: 13-20

**Sunday 8/24**

Matthew 16: 13-20

**Monday 8/25**

Matthew 23: 13-22

**Tuesday 8/26**

Matthew 23: 23-26

**Wednesday 8/27**

Matthew 23: 27-32

**Thursday 8/28**

Matthew 24: 42-51

**Friday 8/29**

Matthew 6: 17-29

**Saturday 8/30 (AM)**

Matthew 25: 14-30

**Saturday Confession**

Saturday Confession will be at the **Cathedral of Saint Paul** from 3:30PM-5:00PM

**Lus ceeb toom**

Vim tsis muaj tus teb xov  
tooj hauv peb lub Tsev teev  
Ntuj lawm, mas yog nej hu  
tuaj, tus yuav teb xov tooj  
yog tus khiav hauj lwm nyob  
pem lub niam Tsev teev Ntuj  
(Cathedral). Tso nej npe  
thiab xov tooj, Txiv Plig  
mam li hu rov rau nej.

St. Vincent de Paul,  
Pray for us!

Saint Vincent de Paul received a special grant a couple of years ago for the sole purpose of assisting students from our parish to attend Catholic schools. Several students have benefited from this fund over the past two years. The remaining funds are available to parishioners who would like to enroll their children in Catholic schools. Assistance for the coming year is available in the amount of \$500 for grade school tuition and \$1,000 for high school tuition. Requests should be submitted in writing to Fr. Johnson by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Religious Education Meeting**

On Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30-9:30 PM, the Church of St. Helena is hosting an in-service catechetical meeting entitled “Helping to Identify a Catholic Identity.” This class features high quality speakers and is open to anyone working in religious education.

**Labor Day Mass**

All are welcome to attend the 9:00 AM Mass at the Cathedral, Monday, September 1st. Please be aware that the Republican National Convention will be in session beginning at 9 AM so the area surrounding the Cathedral will be filled with extra activity!!

**Mass Intentions Available**

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest possible prayer there is. It is a powerful prayer to offer for a friend or family member. Please call the parish office at 651-488-6737 to arrange for a Mass to be offered for your own intentions.