

Weekly Bulletin

August 30 to September 6, 2008



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

651 Virginia St.
St. Paul, MN 55103
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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

1st Sat. of Month:

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

A Tale of Two Domes

As our city of Saint Paul hosts the Republican National Convention, our thoughts naturally turn to politics and to our duties both as citizens and as Christians. The domes of the State Capitol and the Cathedral complement one another. Archbishop John Ireland built the Cathedral of Saint Paul how and where he did to reflect the necessary interaction between our government and the governing principles of our hearts. Murder is illegal because it is first immoral. There is a fine balance to maintain in this relationship. Respect for the authentic separation of church and state is in the best interest of religious people. We never want to see one group impose its particular morality on the whole country—which is not to say that we want to see a country without any moral code.

During his recent visit to the United States, Pope Benedict XVI spoke admiringly of the religious freedom that Americans enjoy. He recognized the enrichment of our society due to this freedom. It is not the freedom of politicians to act without accountability to the moral considerations of their constituents. Rather, it is the freedom for people to advocate that the laws governing our nation be in accordance with its citizens' fundamental morals. Good laws are the product not of politicians but the movement of grace in every human heart. There are many things about which we can all agree without sharing the same religious faith. Our founding fathers wrote: "we hold these truths to be self-evident..." Of these truths, the right to life is the very first and most important. It is a tragedy that in recent years the consensus about the dignity of all human life has eroded. It should offend the morals of all people to kill a human being... and no opinion poll can change that.

Recent years have seen numerous Catholic politicians defend legalized abortion. Now we see something different: a Catholic politician commented this week that the Church has no clear teaching on when life begins. This steps from the realm of politics into theology. As a theologian, I need to make abundantly clear the Church's teaching that life begins at conception. Politicians can decide how to legislate but they can't change what the Church teaches and they are not the authoritative interpreters of theology. They can say what they want to get elected but they can't change Catholic theology to conveniently justify their moral cowardice. In fact, the Church teaches that it is the responsibility of all people of good will to defend human life from natural conception to natural death. This is not a Catholic issue but one of "self-evident truth." Archbishop Ireland would want to make sure that this message is heard loudly and clearly in the halls of government.

Father Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 8/30

5:00 PM Lillie Zak

Sunday 8/31

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Friday 9/5

8:00 AM Missionaries of Charity

Saturday 9/6

8:30 AM Ralph Mikel Family
5:00 PM Marge Frahm

Sunday 9/7

9:00 AM People of the Parish

GOSPEL READING AT MASS

Saturday 8/30 (Vigil)

Matthew 16: 21-27

Sunday 8/31

Matthew 16: 21-27

Monday 9/1

Luke 4: 16-30

Tuesday 9/2

Luke 4: 31-37

Wednesday 9/3

Luke 4: 38-44

Thursday 9/4

Luke 5: 1-11

Friday 9/5

Luke 5: 33-39

Saturday 9/6 (AM)

Luke 6: 1-5

Saturday Confession

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

Friday, September 5th, Special Mass with Archbishop Nienstedt at 8AM

This coming week our little Church of Saint Vincent de Paul becomes one of the few parishes that the new archbishop will have visited twice in his short time so far. Friday, September 5th is the feastday of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, foundress of the Missionaries of Charity. The sisters have done so much for our young people that I couldn't refuse when they asked to celebrate this feastday in our church. It will be a simple Mass at 8AM and most people will probably not be able to attend as it is in the morning of a working day. But if your schedule allows, please feel free to come to pray with the Archbishop and wish the sisters well on this special day!

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!!

First Saturday Mass

Each first Saturday of the month we have an 8:30 AM Mass to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. You are invited to join us next Saturday, September 6th, for this special Mass. Also each Friday evening we have a Holy Hour of Eucharistic adoration from 7 – 8 PM. These are opportunities to grow spiritually and deepen our relationship with God.

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.

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!**