



JANUARY 10, 2021
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



SAINT OLAF CATHOLIC CHURCH ■ MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA ■ 612-332-7471 ■ SAINTOLAF.ORG

“PREPARE, CELEBRATE, AND THEN PROLONG THE PARTY!”

by Michael Griffin, Director of Social Ministry

One of the things I learned early on is that as people of faith, we really know how to prepare to celebrate, and then we really celebrate, extending it for a prolonged period of time. We have the 40 days of Lent, followed by Easter Sunday, and then the Great 50 Days of Easter!

A similar rhythm happens at this time of year. We prepare during Advent with wreath, candles and sometimes an Advent calendar all leading us to Christmas. We celebrate Christmas and then, we extend the seasonal celebration through this Sunday, January 10, the Baptism of the Lord. Prolong the party!! At a time when the after-Christmas sales are over and the Valentine’s Day candy is going on display, we still sing Christmas carols and make sure the poinsettias in church still have enough water.

This pattern of 1.) Prepare, 2.) Celebrate, and then 3.) Prolong the celebration is not just a way to describe our liturgical life and calendar. It is also a way to define our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. Ultimately, this pattern calls us to the mission to love and serve the Lord. There is no question about the need for God’s love we are called to share, and no shortage of sisters and brothers in need of our call to serve, especially here in the heart of the city.

Our act of worship (at home or at church), and our acting for mission, together deepens the

mystery and power of our relationship with God.

Recently, as happens virtually every day, a guest came into Saint Olaf late one morning in rough shape. He only had a hoodie, socks on his feet, and for pants he had his legs through the sleeves of a sweater that was then buttoned up to provide some modest cover (and it didn’t do a very good job). He explained to Jake, our facility director, that he had been mugged and the thieves took just about everything he had, including his pants, jacket and boots. It was a cold winter day. I put together some clothing and got him a beautiful new winter coat, hat, gloves and boots (courtesy of the Giving Tree). I pointed him toward the bathroom so he could change and told him to let us know if he needed anything. Jake was outside the bathroom when he came out with tears in his eyes. He expressed his thanks for the church to Jake and was on his way.

I shared this story with all of the Samaritan Ministry volunteers and reminded them they made this possible! Indeed, all associated with Saint Olaf make this possible. Whether you’ve been connected to the community more recently or for decades, popped in since the pandemic, or follow protocol and stay home with support from afar, your prayers, care, gifts and time all have helped prepare and celebrate a ministry

nearly 80 years in the making. Grounded in preparation, celebration and then prolonging the celebration, not just through the end of a liturgical season, but to grow ever-more deeply in a mission to love and serve all year.

As we prepare to celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, let us reflect on our own Baptism. Give thanks for those who helped prepare us (especially if we were baptized as infants!), and those people along the way helping us celebrate, prolonging the celebration into a mission to love and serve. The point of the pattern is to get us started and guide our way so our mission keeps going. The Christmas season might (finally?) be over next Monday, but the “reason for the season” never ends.

Giving Thanks for the Giving Tree!

Thank you to all who contributed to the Giving Tree program this year in support of Samaritan Ministry guests and the Exodus residents we serve. Whether you shopped, shipped, clicked, mailed or dropped off, you did not let a pandemic get in the way of the mission to love and serve here at Saint Olaf. Your support for Saint Olaf throughout the year is greatly appreciated!



EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

January 10: Is 42: 1-4, 6-7, Ps 29, Acts 10: 34-38, Mk 1: 7-11
January 17: 1 Sm 3: 3b-10, 19, Ps 40, 1 Cor 6: 13c-15a, 17-20, Jn 1: 35-42

WATCH SAINT OLAF SUNDAY MASS ON CABLE TV

Watch our Sunday 10:00 am Mass on MCN Cable TV Channel 6 on Sunday evenings at 8:00 pm and replayed on Mondays at 10:00 am.

DAILY MASS LIVE STREAM

Saint Olaf Live Streams our Monday-Friday 12:00 noon Mass AND our Sunday 10:00 am Mass YouTube link: [youtube.com/user/SaintOlafChurch/live](https://www.youtube.com/user/SaintOlafChurch/live).

Facebook search and like: **Saint Olaf Catholic Church, Downtown Minneapolis**. Saint Olaf also archives all of our Masses on the website, www.SaintOlaf.org/media.

VIRTUAL CHOIR

Choir members from four different Saint Olaf ensembles have made a special virtual choir video for Christmas. It was released on Christmas Eve and played at Mass on Christmas. To view this holiday treat from our music ministry, visit youtu.be/xCkVfVshOBI or find it on our website or YouTube channel. View this Christmas gift from our music ministry.

GIFTS OF STOCK ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Saint Olaf is appreciative of gifts of stock we have received from parishioners and friends of Saint Olaf. There are more stringent rules on donor notification today so if you decide to provide Saint Olaf with a gift of stock, please let us know the number of shares and stock you are planning to donate so we can identify who made the gift to us.

We happen to have recently received a gift of stock to Saint Olaf and have not been able to match it up with the owner. If you have recently gifted stock to Saint Olaf and have not received notification from us, we would love to have you let us know so we can properly thank you for your gift.

Saint Olaf has an account at Morgan Stanley to handle stock gifts. Contact Mary Kennedy in the parish office, **612-767-6204** to get more information. Also, we encourage you to always utilize a qualified financial planner to assist you with gifts of stock, and planned or estate gifts.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE STRICKEN BY THE CORONAVIRUS

that God's healing hand will stretch out over the world and awaken within us God's love and healing. Thanks for your prayers!

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for loved ones lost who are associated with Saint Olaf. News of any pending Funeral Masses or Memorial services will be posted when they are scheduled. Please check saintolaf.org and click on Funeral in the top right of any page to see any scheduled funerals.



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG

WELCOME HOME

Please be attentive to the following:

- If you are sick, please stay home
- Please arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before Mass starts (allow us to clean the Church between Masses)
- Please enter through the Parking Lot doors or the Handicapped Door off of Eighth Street
- Hand sanitizer is available
- Please wear a mask and observe social distancing

*Building closes at 1:00pm Monday - Friday until further notice.
Offices are open until 4:30pm Monday-Thursday*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

12:00 PM MASS
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
4:00 PM MASS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

OFFICES CLOSED ON FRIDAYS
7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
11:00 AM ADORATION
12:00 PM MASS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

12:00 PM MASS
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
4:00 PM MASS

ANNUAL BUDGET AS OF WEEK #26

| CONTRIBUTIONS | ACTUAL | BUDGET | DIFFERENCE |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Dec 21-27 | \$42,908 | \$80,000 | -\$37,092 |
| YTD through Week #26 | \$602,935 | \$665,459 | -\$62,524 |
| Annual Stewardship Renewal Week 8 | \$569,709 Pledged | 291 Respondents | 26.15% of Parish |

Thank you for your continued support of Saint Olaf.