

MARCH 17, 2024

THE FIFTH
SUNDAY OF LENT

PASTOR

Fr. Kevin Kenney

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Wehmann



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

TOP OF THE WEEKEND TO YOU!

Fr. Kevin Kenney, Pastor

I remember when I was in eighth grade I was sent to school on Saint Patrick's Day wearing a green vest with shamrocks imprinted all over. It was embarrassing so when I arrived at school I took it off in the cloakroom and put it under my jacket. My teacher called me out and said, "The one who is probably the most Irish in this room is not wearing green today, how can this be?" She would have known that my mother would not have had us children leaving the house on Saint Patrick's Day without wearing something green. I embarrassingly explained that I am Irish looking enough that I needn't wear anything green to show that I am Irish but that I had left in the cloakroom the vest my mother had sent me with. I hesitantly walked over and put it back on.

Jesus says, "Whoever loves his life loses it, and who ever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there too will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me." In our service to the Lord, we need to let go of our own ways and humbly accept the ways the Lord directs us in service. In my sharing of the story above, it was not that I was not proud to be Irish; I just did not

feel I had to draw attention to myself. Sometimes our dying to self means that we need to be the instrument in which the Lord can work through us to bring a message of hope, sacrifice, repentance, familiarity, or history to those around us. Faith is a great gift from God and when we live our faith, it shows through our actions, words, and even sometimes, what we are wearing. Saint Patrick's Day is a day we remember how allegedly Christianity came to Ireland through the faith of Saint Patrick, Saint Brigid, Saint Colmcille, and others. Christianity gave meaning to the humble lives of the Irish where they found hope in Jesus Christ and the blessed Trinity. Mary, the blessed mother, is also a great hope for all the Irish, just as any mother is in a family. Prayer and faith are important in the lives of the Irish so Saint Patrick's Day is not just a day of drinking and frivolity, but one of Thanksgiving and hope.

This Fifth Sunday of Lent leads us closer to the holiest week of the year. We still plead with the Lord to "Create a clean heart in me, O God." Our Lenten disciplines have helped us along the way as we have found the beginning of the cleansing. Spring arrives this week as we yearly await the time to

open our windows and let the fresh air surround us. As the cleansing of our hearts takes place, we recognize what God has written in our hearts. What a great gift of faith we have received and the law of the Lord awakens in us the need for repentance and spiritual growth. The Lord states he will forgive our evildoing and remember our sin no more. What a great way to "spring clean" our lives, soul, and spirit! We will have extended confession hours on Saturday, March 23 and Tuesday, March 26, besides our regular times, to help you do so. The "sin bins" will be available and the "empty the sin bin" tab will be utilized often. Why not gift yourself as we prepare to enter into the Holy Week ahead.

God bless you all in these days and as traditionally recited, "May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."





EVENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

*RESPONSORIAL PSALMS ARE DENOTED BY SEMIBOLD ITALICS

March 17: Jer 31:31-34, **Ps 51**, Heb 5:7-9, Jn 12:20-33

March 24 – Palm Sunday: Mk 11:1-10, Is 50:4-7, **Ps 22**, Phil 2:6-11, Mk 14:1-15:47

PRAY SAINT OLAF SUNDAY MASS ON MCN CH 6

Pray our Sunday 10:00am Mass on MCN Cable TV Channel 6 on Sunday evenings at 8:00pm and replayed on Mondays at 10:00am. Saint Olaf also live streams our Monday-Friday 12:00Noon Mass and our Sunday 10:00am Mass on YouTube: youtube.com/user/SaintOlafChurch/live.

CELEBRATE! AFTER ALL MASSES MARCH 16/17

Calling all Maturest Adults – Ages 61-70! We Celebrate! you after all the Masses March 16/17. Stop in Forliti Gathering Room after Mass and collect your special treat and a gift just for you!

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 7:00PM IN THE CHAPEL

Join a Lenten Taizé service on Thursday, March 21 at 7:00pm in the Saints John and Paul Chapel. Songs, short readings, and prayerful silence will guide the focus of our prayer.

EXTENDED CONFESSION OPPORTUNITIES

We will have two dates when the Confession times will be extended: Saturday, March 23 from 12:30pm – 2:00pm and Tuesday, March 26 from 12:30pm – 2:00pm.

THE SKYWAYS ARE OPEN!

Skyway access to Saint Olaf is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings until 7:30pm, Saturday from 2:00pm-5:30pm and Sunday from 5:30am-5:30pm.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Fasting: Restricts eating to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of a single day, and prohibits eating between meals. This is for Catholics beginning at age 18 until their 59th birthday. Pregnant women and people who are sick are not obligated to fast. Such fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. **Abstinence:** Catholics older than 14 years of age may not eat meat on Ash Wednesday or any Friday of Lent.

AN UPDATE ON FR. WEHMANN

Fr. Wehmann continues to recuperate from his surgery and to assist with his health recovery, he will be taking a 12-week medical leave. During this time, we ask for your continued prayers for Fr. Wehmann and his medical team that he may enjoy a swift recovery. You can send cards to the parish office and we will forward them to him. We will have Archdiocesan priests assisting Fr. Kevin with Mass and Reconciliation. If you have been receiving Pastoral Care visits from Fr. Wehmann, please contact Fr. Kevin, **612-767-7620** so we can arrange a lay minister or Fr. Kevin visit.

GIVING IS FAITH IN ACTION

When was the last time you had to face something difficult? Christ's perspective sheds new light on life's trials: "If [a grain of wheat] dies, it produces much fruit" (John 12:24-25). Saint Olaf, like Christ, desires that our trials bear much fruit. Our Catholic Services Appeal is a time when we ask for your help. You honor us with your gift, and we honor you, as we honor Christ's sacrifice for us! In advance, we thank you for helping us bear fruit and for all the souls entrusted to us. God bless you! For more information about this year's Catholic Services Appeal or to donate, visit hope.archspm.org.



SAMARITAN MINISTRY NEEDS

Samaritan Ministry needs pots and pans, silverware, backpacks, and hoodies (think spring, but it's still March!) We welcome new or clean and gently used items. Thank you for your support!



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

10:00am Small Group Saturday Session - Fleming Hall

12:00Noon **Mass**

12:30pm Confessions

12:30pm Rosary - Chapel

4:00pm **Vigil Mass - Celebrate! The Maturest Adults - Aged 61-70 after Mass.**

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY! CELEBRATE! THE MATUREST ADULTS - AGES 61-70. AFTER ALL MASSES.

6:00am **Mass**

8:00am **Mass**

10:00am **Mass+**

11:15am Small Group Sunday Session - Fleming Hall

12:00Noon **Mass**

1:15pm Secular Franciscan Group Meeting - Edu Rm

MONDAY, MARCH 18

7:00am **Mass - Chapel**

7:30am Confessions

12:00Noon **Mass +**

12:00Noon AA Meeting - Edu Rm

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

7:00am **Mass - Chapel**

7:30am Confessions

12:00Noon **Mass+**

12:30pm Confessions

5:45pm Young Adult Group - Forliti Gathering Rm

6:30pm Seasonal Choir Rehearsal - Main Church

6:30pm Small Group Tuesday Session - Fleming Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

7:00am **Mass - Chapel**

7:00am AA Meeting - Edu Rm

7:30am Confessions

11:30am Nicotine Anonymous Meeting - Edu Rm

12:00Noon **Mass+**

6:30pm Parish Choir Rehearsal

6:30pm Women's Bible Study - Forliti Gathering Rm

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

7:00am **Mass - Chapel**

7:30am Confessions

12:00Noon **Mass+**

12:30pm Confessions

12:30pm Small Group Thursday Session - Fleming Hall

6:30pm Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) - Edu Rm

7:00pm Taizé Prayer Service - Chapel

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

7:00am **Mass**

7:30am Confessions

10:00am Saint Olaf Craftworks Ministry - Forliti Gth Rm

11:00am Adoration

12:00Noon **Mass+**

12:30pm Stations of the Cross+

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

10:00am Small Group Saturday Session - Fleming Hall

10:00am Secular Franciscan Board Meeting - Edu Rm

12:00Noon **Mass**

12:30pm Lenten Extended Confessions until 2:00pm

12:30pm Rosary - Chapel

4:00pm **Vigil Mass**

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

PALM SUNDAY

6:00am **Mass**

8:00am **Mass**

10:00am **Mass+**

11:15am Small Group Sunday Session - Fleming Hall

12:00Noon **Mass**

4:00pm **Mass**

- Building closes at 5:30pm Monday - Friday.
- Offices are open until 4:30pm Monday-Thursday
- Chapel is open for private prayer Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 5:30pm
- + LIVE STREAMED**

COMMUNION MINISTERS NEEDED

Our Mass attendance is growing! Especially for the 10:00am, Noon, and 4:00pm Sunday Masses. This means we need more Eucharistic Ministers. Please consider becoming a Eucharistic Minister. Training is provided. Contact our Director of Liturgy Michael Strande:

MStrande@SaintOlaf.org, 612-767-7630.

ANNUAL BUDGET

CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Feb 26 - Mar 3	\$27,676	\$27,460	\$216
YTD through Week #36	\$997,369	\$962,120	\$35,249

Thank you for your continued support of Saint Olaf.