

APRIL 23, 2023 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER PASTOR Fr. Kevin Kenney ASSOCIATE PASTO

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





Trees around Exodus bloom displaying hope and life.

# FIX THE HOUSING POTHOLES AND KEEP MOVING FORWARD

Fr. Kevin Kenney, Mary Kennedy, Michael Griffin & Luigi Bernardi

The writers represent Saint Olaf for project planning and communication, working with Aeon, parish leadership, and other decision-making bodies.

As the end of winter was approaching and the annual freeze/thaw cycle was in full swing, like you, we compared driving experiences and the incredible potholes we encountered along the way. There were news stories of others, including the pothole turned sinkhole that could swallow a car in Uptown Minneapolis. While it was not a competition, some of the stories shared certainly raised the bar for the best (worst?) pothole of 2023. However, at some point, if things get bad enough, wisdom says a course change might be in order.

Bumps in the road are a fact of life, whether literally when we are behind the wheel, or when circumstances knock us off of our planned path to achieve our goal, often by

forces outside of our control. This is also clearly the case for the Saint Olaf/Aeon affordable housing project that has been in the works for a number of years now. Some of the potholes in affordable housing development are years in the making. The project being planned is designed to respond to a great need, continue the stewardship of parish assets for decades to come, and provide a very strong expression of the parish mission, "to serve as a living sign of Christ's saving presence in the heart of the city."

Some of the affordable housing potholes include:

 Years of inadequate funding/building of affordable units of housing, including for persons with very low-income, on

- fixed-income, and work-force housing at the lower end of the wage scale.
- The Minnesota Legislature in 2022 ended the session without taking much action to fund affordable housing.
- The 2023 Minnesota Legislature is currently in session. While there is some funding for affordable housing, reading the tea leaves for the balance of the session likely means the specific type of funding needed for the Saint Olaf/Aeon project will not happen this year.

Recall, the planned development had a goal of 500+ units of affordable housing in a rehabbed, parish-owned Exodus building next door, and two towers, one above our parking lot and one next to Exodus. Phase I connected the Exodus with the parking lot tower, and Phase II was the second tower. With a mix of a few market-rate units, this innovative approach for funding and community building has a variety of stakeholders very enthused. Unfortunately, just not enough for this time.

Like the pothole-filled roadways we've been driving on, at some point it makes more sense to change course, even with the temporary fixes that attempt to bridge the gap. Accordingly, the decision has been made to "de-couple" the Exodus rehab portion of the project from the planned first tower. This will allow Aeon to ramp up the development of the Exodus building for deeply supportive housing with substantial services ASAP (likely now beginning early 2024), while also pressing the long game for the funding necessary for the tower development.

Saint Olaf and Aeon both remain deeply committed to the ultimate goal of 500+ units of housing in the heart of the city. The long game already played for quite some time will need to be played out even longer. Elected officials and other decision-makers will need their eyes opened to the reality of those the parish and others serve every day. We will continue this service while also continuing to advocate for fuller funding for solutions that bring dignified affordable housing for those who need it.

The disciples hit some potholes on the road to Emmaus. The companionship of Jesus got them through the immediate obstacles, and on to the mission. We have the same companionship with Jesus and mission. Let's keep moving forward! Come and learn more next week.

"Heart of the City"
Housing Project Update
Sunday, April 30 - 11:15am-12:00Noon
in Fleming Hall. Come and hear the
details and bring your questions!



#### EVENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS

#### **READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS**

\*RESPONSORIAL PSALMS ARE DENOTED BY SEMI-BOLD ITALICS
April 23, 3rd Sun of Easter: Acts 2:14, 22-23, *Ps 16*, 1 Pt 1:17-21, Lk 24: 13-35
April 30, 4th Sun of Easter: Acts 2:14a, 36-41, *Ps 23*, 1 Pt 2: 20b-25, Jn 10:1-10

#### WATCH SAINT OLAF SUNDAY MASS ON MCN CH 6

Watch 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.

#### IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for loved ones lost who are associated with Saint Olaf. We will post news of any pending Funeral Masses or Memorial Services when they are scheduled. Check saintolaf.org and click on Funerals in the top right corner of any page to see the scheduled funerals.

Tim Powers, Parishioner, died March 14, 2023. Funeral, Saturday, April 29, 2023, Visitation 9:00am, Funeral Mass 10:00am.

Amara Strande, daughter of Michael Strande, Director of Liturgy, died April 14, 2023. Funeral details pending.

#### SAINT OLAF/AEON PROIECT UPDATE

All are welcome to attend a brief project update on our Saint Olaf/Aeon Housing Project. Learn more about the project and the next steps to be made with the affordable housing project. Sunday, April 30 11:15am, Fleming Hall.

#### PRAY FOR OUR SYNOD EVANGELIZATION TEAM

Saint Olaf's Synod Evangelization Team members have completed the School of Discipleship. We are grateful for their work and ask for Parishioner prayers as our team continues their formation, embarking on the Guided 40-Day Discipleship Challenge to help put what they have learned into practice as "activated disciples" who will lead our parish with our synod response.

#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – BRUSH WITH KINDNESS

Saint Olaf will again partner with the Habitat for Humanity on a Brush with Kindness project in Minneapolis on June 15-16. No experience is needed for scraping, painting, and minor repairs. Up to 10 volunteers are needed each day from 8:30am – 4:00pm and you can volunteer for one or both days. Register at: tchabitat.volunteerhub.com/vv2/lp/stolafcatholicchurch. If you are unable to volunteer please consider donating to Saint Olaf via check, writing Habitat for Humanity in the memo line or select Habitat for Humanity through our secure online giving portal, saintolaf.org/give.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

- Upholsterer to repair kneelers and chapel chairs. Please contact Mary Kennedy at MKennedy@SaintOlaf.org or call 612-767-6204 for more information.
- Communion Ministers to the Homebound. There is a Virtus training session. Please contact Fr. Wehmann at 612-767-6203 for more information.
- Wedding Coordinator, stipend provided. Please contact Michael Strande at MStrande@SaintOlaf.org or call 612-767-7630 for more information.

#### IT'S BACK - SAINT OLAF PANCAKE BREAKFAST

It has been a long wait, but it is definitely time once again to celebrate our community of faith with the return of the much-loved Saint Olaf Pancake Breakfast. What can be better on a Sunday morning than enjoying a stack of mouth-watering, hot pancakes with butter and syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage links, juice and coffee? We will be serving in Fleming Hall after the 6:00am, 8:00am, 10:00am and 12:00Noon Masses on Sunday, May 7. While we may not have pancakes after the Saturday and Sunday 4:00pm Masses, don't worry - we will have some tasty treats to enjoy after both of the 4:00pm Masses.



### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

DDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAFORG

## **WELCOME HOME**

## SATURDAY, APRIL 22

HAPPY EARTH DAY!

12:00 PM MASS

12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
12:30 PM ROSARY - CHAPEL
4:00 PM VIGIL MASS

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

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

2:30 PM BOOK CLUB - FORLITI

GATHERING RM

4:00 PM MASS

#### **MONDAY. APRIL 24**

12:00 PM AA MEETING EDUCATION RM

#### **TUESDAY, APRIL 25**

**7:00 AM** MASS - CHAPEL 7:30 AM CONFESSIONS

**12:00 PM** MASS+ 12:30 PM CONFESSIONS

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

**7:00 AM MASS - CHAPEL** 7:00 AM AA MEETING EDUCATION RM

7:30 AM CONFESSIONS

11:30 AM NICOTINE ANONYMOUS

MEETING -EDUCATION RM

12:00 PM MASS+

6:30 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY FORLITI GATHERING RM

6:30 PM SAINT OLAF PARISH CHOIR REHEARSAL

## THURSDAY, APRIL 27

appy Earth Day

**7:00 AM MASS - CHAPEL** 7:30 AM CONFESSIONS

12:00 PM MASS+

12:30 PM CONFESSIONS

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 28

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

7:00 AM MASS - CHAPEL 7:30 AM CONFESSIONS 10:00 AM KNITTING GROUP

FORLITI GATHERING RM

11:00 AM ADORATION **12:00 PM MASS+** 

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 29

 12:00 PM
 MASS

 12:30 PM
 CONFESSIONS

 12:30 PM
 ROSARY - CHAPEL

4:00 PM VIGIL MASS

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 30**

6:00 AM MASS 8:00 AM MASS 10:00 AM MASS+

11:15 AM SAINT OLAF & AEON HOUSING PROJECT

UPDATE - FLEMING HALL

12:00 PM MASS 4:00 PM MASS

Building closes at 5:30pm Monday - Friday Offices are open until 4:30pm Monday - Thursday Chapel is open for private prayer from

Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 5:30pm

+ Live streamed

## SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL FOR THE LOVE OF CHRIST IMPELS US TO BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF GIVING

Thank you to all who have given to the Catholic Services Appeal already! Saint Olaf's goal is \$76,698.06. As of April 14, we have received pledges and donations of \$17,909 from 69 donors, which is 23.35% of our goal. Prayerfully consider how you are called to share to support the 20 Designated Ministries.

Envelopes are available in the acrylic stands at the Church entrances, at **csafspm.org**, or use the QR code link here:

#### **ANNUAL BUDGET AS OF WEEK #41**

CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Apr 3 - 9	\$31,292	\$26,000	\$5,292
YTD through Week #41	\$1,004,548	\$1,048,000	-\$43,452

Thank you for your continued support of Saint Olaf.