

NOVEMBER 28, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

BEING A WOMAN OR MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

By Michael Strande, Director of Liturgy

You most likely have been taught that we are coming to the end of the Church calendar and will be soon arriving to our new Church year. The first Sunday of Advent is the beginning of the new liturgical year. In this past year we have waited in anticipation for the Christ to return; we celebrated the Emmanuel during the Christmas Season; we reflected on our brokenness and the brokenness of the Christ in his Passion; through it we are comforted in God's mercy; we rejoiced in Christ's triumph over death; we shared in the coming of the Holy Spirit; and interspersed between these seasons, we reflected on who the Christ is and what it means to be a follower of the Christ. We are at the end of this cycle and soon shall begin again, new, for the first time.

Advent is the time the Church asks us to await and anticipate. Are we waiting for the time we celebrate Jesus' birth? Sure. But, there is something even more important. Advent is about anticipating the Christ to return. The Ancient Church never used the term "second coming" in reference to Christ's return. The term used was "next coming." During Advent we await for the next coming of the Christ. The Parousia? Yes. The End Time when Christ returns in glory? Certainly. But we also anticipate the Christ's next coming in the here and

the now. The "now" of Christ's presence every time we celebrate the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The "now" of Christ when we reach out and help those in need. The "now" of Christ when someone reaches out to us when we are in pain, doubt, or fear.

Advent is the season we prepare for Christmas. But what are we preparing for? The birth of baby Jesus? That happened two thousand years ago. Preparing for Jesus' birthday by buying presents for each other? A nice sentiment, but there must be something more than the celebration of a memorial or the anniversary of the Incarnation. During Christmas we celebrate the coming of Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Who is this Emmanuel? The Emmanuel is not merely the Christ of the past and not merely the Christ of the future. The Emmanuel that we celebrate at Christmas is the Christ of the now! Who is the Christ of the now? The Emmanuel at Christmas, the Christ of the now, is not the baby lying in a manger. The Christ of the "now" is the Christ that has triumphed over death, the one who has left the tomb empty. The Christ of the now is the Resurrected One!

When we begin to recognize Emmanuel as the Resurrected One we begin to understand that Christmas is really more about Easter than it is about...well...Christmas. All of

the seasons of the church are pointing us to how we are to live, follow, and be a disciple of the Christ who has risen. Each season has its own themes that speak to how we are to be in relation to the Risen Christ. By the end of the Liturgical year we end up coming to the place we were once before, for the first time. We begin anew the cycle that continues to repeat itself. We begin by waiting. Waiting for that which has already happened, that which is happening now, that which will happen in the future. We await. Happy Advent!

WHO IS MICHAEL STRANDE?

My educational background includes a Master of Divinity degree from the St. Paul Seminary with a focus on Sacred Liturgy and Sacred Scripture. My undergrad degree is from St. Thomas University with a major in Catholic Theology.

I am married to my wife, Dana, and have two teenage daughters - one 19 and the other 15, Amara and Nora. I am looking forward to getting to know as many of you as I can over the next weeks and months. The community of Saint Olaf has a rich history, and is known for being a beacon of hope in a sometimes chaotic part of the diocese. I pray that I am able to contribute faithfully my gifts and knowledge to continue and enhance the great mission of the Community of Saint Olaf: of being the Body of Christ to the people of Minneapolis.



EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

November 28: Jer 33:14-16, Ps 25, I Thes 3:12-4:2, Lk 21: 25-28, 34-36
December 5, Bar 5:1-9, Ps 126, Phil 1; 4-6, 8-11, Lk 3:1-6

WATCH SAINT OLAF SUNDAY MASS ON CABLE TV

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.

DAILY MASS LIVE STREAM

Saint Olaf live streams our Monday-Friday 12:00noon Mass and our Sunday 10:00am Mass on YouTube: [youtube.com/user/SaintOlafChurch/live](https://www.youtube.com/user/SaintOlafChurch/live). On Facebook, search for and like: **Saint Olaf Catholic Church, Downtown Minneapolis**. Saint Olaf also archives all of our Masses on the website, www.SaintOlaf.org/media.

WHEN YOU SING, YOU PRAY TWICE

If you have always thought about joining the choir, this may be the perfect time to give it a shot. Join the Seasonal Choir for Christmas! Seasonal Choir sings at 4pm Mass on Christmas Eve; option to also sing at 12:00noon Mass on January 1, 4:00pm Mass on January 2, and 4:00pm Mass on January 9. Rehearsals begin Tuesday, November 30, at 6:30pm. To participate, sign up with Joel Anderson, director of music. **612-767-7628** or JAnderson@SaintOlaf.org.

PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL

Each of us is *Called to Serve*. Reflect on Micah 6:8 and see how you have been able to respond to the call to "do justice, and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God." Where have you been blessed this year? Are you pleased with where you have spent your time in prayer? How about where you are with sharing of your unique gifts and financial resources? Your gifts shared help us provide excellent liturgies, life-changing ministries, quality staff, and a welcoming building and environment. Each and every gift helps us stretch our budget and allows Saint Olaf to live our mission out loud, and to do justice – love goodness – walk humbly with God.

MESSIAH SING WITH THE MINNESOTA CHORALE

This Saint Olaf/Minnesota Chorale tradition returns, Sunday, December 5 at 6:30pm. Directed by Kathy Saltzman Romey, Dr. Lynn Trapp, Organist, Soloists from the Minnesota Chorale and you! This is a free event, register to attend at www.mnchorale.org. Masking and vaccination proof are required.

CALLING ALL WEEKEND HOSPITALITY HELPERS!

We would like to take those next steps of adding in coffee and treats to our re-opened Forliti Gathering Room after weekend Masses – but we need Hospitality Helpers to give us a hand. This is a fun ministry, sharing treats and smiles after your regular Mass time once a month. If this sounds like a perfect fit, contact Mary Kennedy in the parish office, **612-767-6204** or via email, MKennedy@SaintOlaf.org.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION REGISTER NOW

If you missed the Open House concerning youth Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation, please contact Linda Nunez, LNunez@SaintOlaf.org to add your name to the interest list. Classes will be starting soon.



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG

WELCOME HOME

Please be attentive to the following:

- If you are sick, please stay home
- Hand sanitizer is available
- **The wearing of masks is encouraged – please observe social distancing**

Building closes at 3:30pm Monday - Friday until further notice.

Offices are open until 4:30pm Monday-Thursday

Chapel is open for prayer from 1-3:30pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

12:00 PM MASS
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
12:30 PM ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL
4:00 PM MASS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00 AM MASS
8:00 AM MASS
10:00 AM MASS (+LIVE STREAMED)
12:00 PM MASS
4:00 PM MASS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS (+LIVE STREAMED)
12:00 PM AA MEETING - EDUCATION ROOM

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS (+LIVE STREAMED)
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
6:30 PM SEASONAL CHOIR - FIRST REHEARSAL, JOIN US!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

7:00 AM MASS
7:00 AM AA MEETING – EDUCATION ROOM
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS (+LIVE STREAMED)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
12:00 PM MASS (+LIVE STREAMED)
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:00 AM MASS
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
11:00 AM ADORATION
12:00 PM MASS (+LIVE STREAMED)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

10:00 AM CENTERING PRAYER (MONTHLY ONSITE GATHERING)
12:00 PM MASS
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
12:30 PM ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL
4:00 PM MASS

ANNUAL BUDGET AS OF WEEK #20

CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Nov 8 - 14	\$23,058	\$39,499	-\$16,441
YTD - Week #20	\$371,880	\$385,533	-\$13,652

Thank you for your continued support of Saint Olaf.