



NOVEMBER 29, 2020  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**St OLAF**  
Catholic Church

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

## BE WATCHFUL! BE ALERT! WATCH!

by Fr. Kevin Kenney

Today we begin a new liturgical year, the First Sunday of Advent. We find ourselves in Cycle B for which we will walk with Jesus in Mark's Gospel. Mark's Gospel was the first to be written and is the shortest of the four gospels. It is worth the time to sit and read Mark's gospel in its entirety as we begin this New Year. The emphasis in Mark's gospel is that Jesus is the Messiah and we are all called to discipleship. We are not invited twice because Jesus in Mark's gospel is on the move. Jesus does not let the dust settle under his feet. The glance of Jesus to each individual enamors their soul and we need to decide whether we want to follow him or not. Once we accept Jesus' glance our lives are enveloped with grace and the desire to be with Jesus. Like any relationship we have our ups and downs and Advent is a time to renew our relationship with Jesus as we wait and prepare to celebrate his birthday and look for his return. Mark's gospel begins with John the Baptist proclaiming a baptism of repentance and that, "One mightier than I is coming after me." May this Advent be for us a time of reflection during this pandemic as to where we need to renew in our lives this love for Jesus. May we watch and know that Jesus wants the best for us, so during this "dialed back" time, make your Advent a time

of reflection, prayer and renewal. We are the work of the Potter's hands; may we allow God to continue to mold us into God's image and likeness.

Every year the Archdiocese requests we take up a second collection for a specific mission. This year we are honored to help the Sisters of Immaculate Heart of Mary in the Archdiocese of Kananga, Congo, Africa. The Sisters work in Kananga is to prevent rape and violence against woman by building wells in the villages so the women do not have to walk miles to get water from outside wells. The Sisters write: "Our Congregation's goal is to give our girls and women some sense of security and self-worth. We are training them in speaking out and denouncing their abusers. We encourage group work when they farm or fetch wood and drinking water. An isolate woman is more vulnerable than a group of women. Most importantly, we are building wells to provide water to our villages. Our villages have no running water. Women and, mostly young girls, travel 5 or 6 miles one way from their villages to fetch cooking woods and/or drinking water for their homes. Besides increasing their exposure to sexual violence, this prevents young girls from attending school. Providing villages with wells is an effective way of reducing cases of sexual

abuse. A good well can provide water to over 1000 homes. We have already managed to build two wells in two Catholic missions. It has improved the lives of many women significantly. Our hope is to build as many as 100 wells over the next 10 years throughout the Archdiocese of Kananga. A good well costs around \$15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars). Your generous help will help us save the lives of our women and our children." Please keep these Sisters in your prayers. As we remember Saint Nicholas today, what a wonderful way to honor his legacy with a gift to the Mission Appeal. A second collection will be taken up on December 5/6 or you may send your donations to the parish office.

I'd like to inform you of two invitations from Archbishop Hebda. The first is an Archdiocesan Day of Prayer and Fasting against the Sin of Racism, which we will mark this year on Wednesday, December 2, 2020. A prayer service will be held at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 7:00 PM. The second, on December 8, 2020, the Archdiocese will open a Year of St. Joseph with a Mass celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 7:00 PM. Please see our website for more information about viewing these events online.

May this Advent Season be a source of hope and peace for you, your families and our world.



## EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT [SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS](http://SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS)

### READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

November 29: Is 63: 16B-17, 19B; 64: 2-7, Ps 80, 1 Cor 1:3-9, Mk 13:33-37  
December 06: Is 40: 1-5, 9-11, Ps 85, 2 Pt 3:8-14, Mk 1: 1-8

### USHER VOLUNTEER HELPERS

With an increase in attendance at Mass, and anticipation of the Christmas celebrations, we are seeking usher volunteer helpers. We are trying to make sure we fit as many people in the lower part of the church as possible, so we are looking for people to help escort people to the pews to make sure we get maximum use of each pew. If you are willing to do this, please contact Fr Mike Krenik (612-767-6209 or [frmkrenik@saintolaf.org](mailto:frmkrenik@saintolaf.org)) for training.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF SAINT OLAF AND OUR ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL

We are pleased with the initial returns for the Annual Stewardship Renewal. If you have returned your Intention Card, thank you! If you have not yet returned your Intention Card, please take the time to review your giving in the past year and return your completed card as soon as possible. You can use our online form for your Stewardship Renewal. Go to the Saint Olaf website, [www.SaintOlaf.org/renewal](http://www.SaintOlaf.org/renewal), and complete your form safely and securely from home.

### TWO VIRTUAL ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

The Archdiocesan Day of Prayer and Fasting against the Sin of Racism will be on Wednesday, December 2, 2020. A prayer service will be held at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 7:00 PM. Start the Year of Saint Joseph with a Mass on December 8, 2020. The Archdiocese will celebrate at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 7:00 PM. Please see the website for more information about viewing these events online:  
[www.archspm.org/prayer-fasting/](http://www.archspm.org/prayer-fasting/)  
[www.archspm.org/archdiocesan-consecration-to-saint-joseph/](http://www.archspm.org/archdiocesan-consecration-to-saint-joseph/)

### SAMARITAN MINISTRY AND GIVING TREE

Even with early snow and cold, followed by unusual warm temps, one thing is unchanged, Saint Olaf Samaritan Ministry needs winter coats to share with our guests. Men's sizes XL and larger are in very short supply. This very urgent need is one of many opportunities highlighted by the annual Samaritan Ministry Giving Tree now on full display under the skylight at the 8th Street entrance. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

### VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CHOIR

The choirs of Saint Olaf Catholic Church are preparing a virtual choir project for Christmas. Parish community members are invited to participate. Contact Joel Anderson for details: [janderson@saintolaf.org](mailto:janderson@saintolaf.org) or direct office line 612-767-7628.

### WATCH SAINT OLAF SUNDAY MASS ON CABLE TV

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

### DAILY MASS LIVE STREAM

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



## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT [SAINTOLAF.ORG](http://SAINTOLAF.ORG)

### WELCOME HOME

We have returned to our regular Mass schedule. Please be patient with us as we maneuver a new way of existing.

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, NOVEMBER 28 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>	<b>7:00 AM MASS</b>
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS	7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
<b>4:00 PM MASS</b>	<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

<b>6:00 AM MASS</b>	<b>7:00 AM MASS</b>
<b>8:00 AM MASS</b>	7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
<b>10:00 AM MASS</b>	<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>
<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>	12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
<b>4:00 PM MASS</b>	

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

*OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS*

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

<b>7:00 AM MASS</b>	<b>7:00 AM MASS</b>
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS	7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>	11:00 AM ADORATION
	<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

<b>7:00 AM MASS</b>
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

<b>12:00 PM MASS</b>
12:30 PM CONFESSIONS
<b>4:00 PM MASS</b>

### ANNUAL BUDGET AS OF WEEK #20

CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Nov 9-15	\$30,569	\$21,692	8,877
YTD through Week #20	\$341,390	\$359,499	<b>-\$18,109</b>
Annual Stewardship Renewal Week 2	\$335,296 Pledged	166 Respondents	14.91% of Parish

*Thank you for your continued support of Saint Olaf.*