St Olaf Catholic Church

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PASTOR
Bishop Kevin Kenney

ASSOCIATE PASTORS
Fr. Wehmann
Fr. Terry Beeson



Parley Lake Vineyard, Waconia - photo by Mike Burakowski

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LESSONS IN MERCY AND COMPASSION

Mike Burakowski, Parishioner and Special Projects Coordinator

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The Lord is good to all and compassionate toward all his works. - Psalm 145

Our readings today share the common thread of mercy and compassion, while reminding us all that we need to be engaged in fruitful labor. In the first reading, Isaiah admonishes us to turn from our wicked ways and seek the mercy of the Lord, whose ways and thoughts are above ours. God is generous in forgiving, compassionate and merciful. That message resonates in the psalm, where we sing of God's mercy and graciousness, acknowledging that God is good and compassionate to all, responding with justice.

"It's not fair!" is a common complaint today - from children who feel like they should have given a bigger treat than their sibling or been allowed to participate in an activity with their friends. We hear the same complaint from adults, both young and old, who claim that they are being slighted or left out, whether deserved or not. I can't help but think that the laborers in today's Gospel parable might have voiced this same complaint in their grumbling against owner of the vineyard.

The vineyard owner seeks out workers five times throughout the day, finding willing laborers each time, bringing them to his vineyard to work. All workers were to be paid, whether they worked one hour or the entire day, yet those who started at dawn thought that were being cheated because they had worked all day and were entitled to more. I can hear the grumbling now: It's not fair! We don't hear from the workers who worked the last hour. Was there a sense of relief that they earned a day's wages? Joy at being chosen to work after waiting all day in the marketplace? God, in the image of the vineyard owner, always gives us what we need through the gift of grace. We are blessed through His will, not necessarily according to what we think we deserve. Whether we have been faithful our entire lives, have lapsed for a time or are newly converted to the faith, God's mercy and compassion will flow to us. We should respond with gratitude and joy.

I watch the nightly news on the weekends because the broadcasts end with a segment called "There's good news tonight". Recently, they highlighted a gentleman who had logged 7,500 hours of volunteer time at a children's hospital. Known for his great hugs, hospital staff called him an angel, which he denied, claiming that anyone can be an angel by being willing to give kindness to a stranger. The time spent was worth it, he continued, if he was able to help to ease someone's burden. How can we imitate the generosity of God by encouraging, forgiving, welcoming or serving others? Is it easy to be generous without thinking about ourselves and what we think we deserve? We are called to respond to those we encounter daily with the same mercy and graciousness that God lavishes upon us. That's a worthwhile challenge because the reward is great.

PRAY FOR BISHOP KEVIN - PROJECT HOPE

Bishop Kevin is grateful for your continued prayers during his cancer journey. You may find information on his diagnosis and treatment updates at ***archspm.org/bishopkenney***. The Saint Olaf website will also be updated as opportunities to **Pray ~ Serve ~ Share** your gifts are formulated for **Project Hope**. Support **Project Hope** by sharing your gifts to bring hope to those who need it today.

EVENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG/EVENTS

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

**RESPONSORIAL PSALMS ARE DENOTED BY BOLD ITALICS*

Sept 20, 25th Sunday: Is 55:6-9, ***Ps 145***, Phil 1:20c-24, 27a, Mt 20: 1-16a
Sept 27, 26th Sunday: Ez 18:15-28, ***Ps 25***, Phil 2:1-11, Mt 21: 28-32

PRAY SAINT OLAF SUNDAY MASS MCN CH 6

You can pray our Sunday 10:00am Mass on MCN Cable TV Channel 6 on Sunday 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***.

NEVER BAPTIZED? NOT YET CONFIRMED? YET TO HAVE FIRST COMMUNION?

Would you, or someone you know like to become Roman Catholic? Are you already Roman Catholic, but have not yet been Confirmed or never received First Communion? We are starting the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) in October. Please contact Michael Strande, ***MStrande@SaintOlaf.org*** or ***612-767-7630***.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Calling all Young Adults: This Tuesday, we will explore the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Join us Tuesday evenings from 5:45pm - 7:00pm for faith, fellowship, and meaningful discussion.

OF MINISTRY AND MUSIC 2026 – OCT 1

This year's theme is Denim and Diamonds!! Join us for an evening of friends, fun, and a delicious barbecue meal catered by Lake Elmo Inn. You will have the opportunity to learn a little line dancing from Dance Instructor Rebecca Abas with Bishop Kenney. Register soon and find more information at ***SaintOlaf.org/OfMinistryandMusic***. Register today. See you there!

JOIN THE CHOIR(S) AT SAINT OLAF

The Parish Choir sings at Sunday 10:00am Mass; the Contemporary Choir sings twice a month at Sunday 4:00pm Mass; the African Choir sings on the third Sunday of the month at the Noon Mass. Please contact Joel Anderson, Director of Music at ***JAnderson@SaintOlaf.org*** or ***612-767-7628*** or stop by the organ after Mass.

SEÑOR DE LOS MILAGROS

Sunday, October 4, at the 12:00Noon Mass we will celebrate the Lord of the Miracles, with special music and ritual in English and Spanish. A Peruvian dish will be featured at coffee and donuts after Mass.

WEEKLY ORGAN ANNIVERSARY FUN FACT

On March 8, 2002, Saint Olaf patrons were treated to a Guy Bovet Recital and Master Class. Tickets for our Anniversary Concert are available now! Scan the QR Code to get yours today!



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SAINTOLAF.ORG

WELCOME!

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

+ LIVE STREAMED

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

10:00am	Centering Prayer - Forliti Gth Rm
10:00am	Small Grp - Fleming Fyr
12:00Noon	**Mass**
12:30pm	Confessions
12:30pm	Rosary
4:00pm	**Vigil Mass**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

6:00am	**Mass**
8:00am	**Mass**
10:00am	**Mass+**
12:00Noon	**Mass**
12:30pm	Secular Franciscan Formation - Murphy Rm
1:45pm	Secular Franciscan Group Mtg - Edu Rm
4:00pm	**Mass**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:00am	**Mass - Chapel**
7:30am	Confessions
12:00Noon	**Mass+**
12:00Noon	AA Meeting - Edu Rm

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7:00am	**Mass - Chapel**
7:30am	Confessions
7:30am	Adoration - Chapel
8:00am	Small Group - Edu Rm
12:00Noon	**Mass+**
12:30pm	Confessions
5:45pm	Young Adults
6:30pm	Small Group - Fleming Fyr

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

7:00am	**Mass - Chapel**
7:00am	AA Meeting - Edu Rm
7:30am	Confessions
9:45am	JustFaith Immigration Series - Fleming Fyr
11:30am	Nicotine Anonymous Meeting - Edu Rm
12:00Noon	**Mass+**
12:30pm	Apologetics Series - Forliti Gth Rm
12:30pm	Small Group - Fleming Fyr
6:30pm	Parish Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm	Women's Bible Study

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

7:00am	**Mass - Chapel**
7:30am	Confessions
12:00Noon	**Mass+**
12:30pm	Confessions
12:30pm	AA Meeting - Edu Rm
12:30pm	Small Group - Fleming Fyr
4:00pm	Small Group - Edu Rm

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

7:00am	**Mass - Chapel**
7:30am	Confessions
10:00am	Craftworks Ministry - Forliti Gth Rm
11:00am	Adoration - Main Church
12:00Noon	**Mass+**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

10:00am	Centering Prayer - Forliti Gathering Rm
10:00am	Secular Franciscan Board Meeting - Educ Rm
10:00am	Small Grps - Fleming Fyr/ Fleming Hall
12:00Noon	**Mass**
12:30pm	Confessions
12:30pm	Rosary
4:00pm	**Vigil Mass**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

6:00am	**Mass**
8:00am	**Mass**
10:00am	**Mass+**
12:00Noon	**Mass**
4:00pm	**Mass**

SAMARITAN MINISTRY NEEDS

Our current needs for Samaritan Ministry; towels, men's gym shoes, sweatpants, larger-sized hoodies and light jackets. Items may be dropped off the next time you are at Saint Olaf. Thank you

ANNUAL BUDGET

CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Aug 24 - 30	$13,409	$8,158	$5,251
YTD - Week #9	$147,403	$158,354	-$10,951

Thank you for your continued support of Saint Olaf.