Pastor’s 2 Cents: From Fr. Jim DeBruycker

Six-word homily: The spirit groans, learn to listen.

Once again, congratulations to Cynthia on her appointment to the Synod gathering in Rome. It’s a great honor and a chance for the people of God to be heard. The question Pope Francis has asked them to answer is: “What is the Holy Spirit saying to the Church today?”

I envy Cynthia’s being in the middle of that discussion, I think, maybe. Hierarchy doesn’t like being questioned, so as Jesus says; “Remember, I am sending you out like sheep among wolves; so be cunning as serpents and yet as harmless as doves”. God speed, Cynthia.

I am addicted to cable news, I have to get my ‘Morning Joe’ fix, among others. I used to get most of my news from PBS, but it wasn’t enough. However, I’m now bombarded with advertising or what I like to call “programmed anxiety”. I now know more about dermatological issues than I ever knew existed and what drugs will cure them, prescribed or over the counter. It must be hell to be a doctor these days with patients telling them what they need to prescribe to cure their many maladies. Who needs med school?

I also now know that jellyfish do not suffer from memory loss and have given us a special supplement to rejuvenate our memories and that two pills, one for fruits and one for vegetables, will transform our lives and lead to longevity. And sad to say, I don’t belong to a 5G network, whatever that is. Of course, I was a telephone man when the switching was still mechanical, you could actual watch the machines make the connections, - definitely prehistoric. Have you ever gone online to research if any of these ads are telling the truth? Most of the time you have to wade through myriad reports created by the manufacturers to get an accurate report - which usually tells you there is no significant findings to assure accuracy.

There are some truths you learn from advertising, maybe not the veracity of what’s being sold, but that our society is growing up when it comes to diversity. I grew up with Betty Furness selling Westinghouse products on TV. You couldn’t prove to me, by the ads, that black people even owned televisions or refrigerators. Sitcom married couples had twin beds so the censors wouldn’t come after them. Now, same sex couples are shown shopping for beds together, not to mention mixed race couples in bed together. OMG, and for a society which 50 years ago wouldn’t let you use the word pregnant now tells you way more than you need about reproductive products. Nothing is more liberal than capitalism.

So, what could this possibly have to do with the Gospel? Jesus lets us know that to find the truth you have to go through a lot of fake truths.

Weekend Masses are Celebrated at:
5pm Saturday & 7:45am Sunday in the Church
9am & 11am Sunday in the Gym
Family Masses will resume on September 10 at 9am & 11am in the Church
Scripture Readings:

Sun, July 16: Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23
Mon, July 17: Exodus 1:8-14,22; Matthew 10:34-11:1
Tue, July 18: Exodus 2:1-15a; Matthew 11:20-24
Wed, July 19: Exodus 3:1-6,9-12; Matthew 11:25-27
Thu, July 20: Exodus 3:13-20; Matthew 11:28-30
Fri, July 21: Exodus 11:10-12:14; Matthew 12:1-8
Sat, July 22: Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2,11-18
Sun, July 23: Wisdom 12:13,16-19; Romans 8:26-27; Matt 13:24-43

Gluten-free Communion is available upon request. Please see any of the Sunday sacristans in the gym before Mass.

Enhanced Hearing Devices are available in the church and gym. They are located in the back of the church and the welcome center.

SignUpGenius for Eucharistic Ministers is available online. It is simple, user friendly and a reminder is sent 3 days before your scheduled volunteer day. FFI contact Marcia at mkurtz@stjoan.com.

Prayer Corner: Please remember in your prayers those who are in need of healing:


Prayer Corner Requests: To keep prayer requests current, names will be included in the bulletin for four weeks and then removed.

Looking Ahead...

8am Mass on Tuesday and Thursday in the Church
Gym Masses

July 30: Fr. Jim Cassidy
August 6: Fr. Jim DeBruycker
August 13: Fr. Jim Cassidy
August 20: Fr. Jim DeBruycker
August 27: Fr. Jim Cassidy

Presider Schedule for Saturday, 5pm Masses in the Church

July 22: Fr. Peter Nosbush
August 5: Fr. Peter Nosbush
August 12: Fr. Jim DeBruycker
August 19: Fr. Peter Nosbush
August 26: Fr. Jim DeBruycker

The 5pm Saturday Mass is Recorded and Available on our YouTube Channel Sunday afternoon.

Our Parish Center Summer Hours (June - August) are:
Monday 9am - 4:30pm, Tuesday - Thursday, 9am - 8pm, Friday, 9am - 3pm, Saturday, closed, Sunday, 8am - 12:30pm.
Parish Life

Choir: Our SJA adult choir season is over for the summer and will start up again on Thursday, September 14. Do you love music and want to be part of a joy filled singing community? Contact Anna Vagle avagle@stjoan.com or 612.823.8205 ext 235. See you in September!

AIAIA Summer Fundraiser: Last Call for Monday's Event, less than a dozen tickets remain for Arm in Arm in Africa's Together We Can fundraiser Monday, July 17. Doors open at Sociable Cider Werks at 5pm and the program begins at 6pm. Only a handful of tickets remain; however, there is also a waiting list and some tickets do get turned in late for resale. For complete details, go to aiaia.org. If you can't join live, please consider participating in our online auction. From vacations to dinner cruises to artwork, many great prizes await. To see all auction items - plus AIAIA t-shirts and caps - click on the link on the home page at aiaia.org.

Mission Sunday: We Welcome A Wonderful Guest to SJA: On July 22 and 23, our guest speaker at our liturgies will be Maryknoll priest, Fr. Bob McCahill, who has lived in a series of small towns in Bangladesh for 40 years, offering a witness of joyful simplicity, serving the sick, welcoming all, in a spirit of respect and solidarity for his Muslim neighbors. We will take a second collection to support the work of Brother Bob, and we look forward to welcoming him to SJA!

Mobile Loaves Twin Cities: Needs washcloths, unopened travel size shampoo - no conditioner - lotion, soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes, as well as family size soap and toothpaste. We also need crew socks for girls/boys, socks for toddlers, and individual packages of wet wipes. Please place your donations in the collection hamper in the Parish Center.

Food Shelf Donations Needed: We continue to accept non-perishable food items for Sabathani Community Center. Most needed items are cereal, water and sports drinks, laundry detergent and toilet paper. Items can be dropped off in the bins in the Parish Center on Sundays, or Monday thru Friday, during regular hours. Thank you for your willingness to help those in need.

Wedding Policies: Weddings at St. Joan of Arc are provided as a service to members of the parish community. For a wedding to take place at SJA, it is necessary that one of the engaged couple be a registered member of the parish for at least six months before a wedding date can be set. A date can only be scheduled by one of the priests after an initial interview with the engaged couple. A minimum of six months from the time the date is set to the wedding is necessary in order to complete requirements. In cases where there has been a previous marriage ending in divorce, it is not possible to set the wedding date until notice of an annulment is in hand. FFI contact Marie Thielen at mthielen@stjoan.com.

Parking: Please be considerate of our neighbors and their property. Do not block driveways or park in their “on-street” handicapped areas. Thank You!

Democracy Talks Book Discussion: Join us this Wednesday, July 19 at 1:30pm in the Parish Center for a continuing discussion of Adrift: America in 100 Charts by Scott Galloway. Even if you haven’t read the book, join our discussion of trends in rising economic inequality, political divisions, and social alienation - and what we can do together to reverse these trends.

Sunday Suppers: Swing Into Summer with live music and more, Sunday afternoons at Diamond Lake Lutheran, 5760 Portland Ave. Activities start at 4pm, supper, 5 - 6pm. Join the fun next Sunday, July 23 and Sunday, August 27. Sponsored by TRUST Inc and Diamond Lake Lutheran Church.

Kingfield Farmers Market: 4055 Nicotell (Behind park building) Sundays, through Oct 29. 8:30am - 1pm.

Recycle: Please use the labeled receptacles for compost, paper, glass, plastic, cans, waste and cups. By doing so we will be ecologically responsible and a big help to our maintenance staff as well. Thank you.

Wills: Every adult should have a will, whatever the size of the estate. In addition to being a legal document, a will is an ethical document that conveys your values and priorities from which organizations and causes important to you may benefit. We hope that in preparing your will, you consider including St. Joan of Arc as a beneficiary. If you already have, please let us know so we can thank you. Our legal title is Church of Saint Joan of Arc, Minneapolis.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs): When planning your IRA withdrawal strategy, you may want to consider making charitable donations through a QCD. A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity (St. Joan of Arc). QCDs can be counted toward satisfying your Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) for the year, as long as certain rules are met. In addition to the benefits of giving to charity, a QCD excludes the amount donated from taxable income, which is unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA. Please consult with your tax or financial planner before making a QCD. FFI call all Nancy McPherson, St. Joan of Arc Finance Manager.

Summary of contributions for the week and fiscal year. Includes Plate, Envelopes and Sustaining Member payments.

**Week of July 3 – July 9, 2023**
- Actual $38,883
- Budget $32,500
- Prior Year Actual $32,362

**Year to Date (July 1, 2023 – July 9, 2023)**
- Actual $54,533
- Budget $65,000
- Prior Year Actual $64,724

THANK YOU for your continued generosity!
Pastoral Ministries

**FFI on Pastoral Ministries** contact JP Fitzgibbons at 612.823.8205 ext. 231.

**Caregivers:** Do you have a story that you think might work well in a play? Wanderlust Productions is looking to hear from you: nurses, family caregivers, educators, first responders… anyone who provides care to others. FFI go to wlproductions.org or call 651.212.5075.

Our Mental Health Ministry can be of benefit to all of us here at SJA. From our relationship with Mental Health Connect and NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) to the resources available to everyone in our own Parish Resource Library, our ministry offers tools to help alleviate some of the struggles that every one of us deals with as we travel on our journey. FFI contact JP at jfitzgibbons@stjoan.com.

**Did You Know** that 1 in 5 adults have a diagnosable mental health disorder? Fortunately, recovery is possible! Visit the Mental Health Ministry table after the Mass to learn about resources available for you and your loved ones facing mental health challenges.

Mental Health Connect (MHC) provides free community-based resources, support and education, to improve access to mental health services and to connect individuals and families with the services they need. FFI contact a MHC navigator at 612.642.1220 or navigator@mhcconnect.org.

**Grief Support:** Please join us for grief support on Saturday mornings at St. Mark’s Episcopal, 519 Oak Grove St, Minneapolis, 55403. The Downtown Coalition for Grief Support holds weekly Saturday meetings that are free and open to the public, regardless of religious affiliation. The meetings provide a safe, understanding environment for grief education, comfort and recovery. Registration begins at 9:30am, followed by the speaker at 10am. From 10:30 - 11:30am we break for small group discussions, each led by experienced facilitators trained in: spouse or partner loss, family or friend loss, and child loss. **This Saturday, July 22** the speaker will be Ted Bowman who will speak on ‘The Conundrums of Absences and Presences’.

Peace and Justice

**FFI on Peace & Justice programs** contact Julie Madden at 612.823.8205 ext. 228 or jmadden@stjoan.com.

**We Celebrate SJA ISAIAH!** ISAIAH is a coalition of faith communities, including SJA, and other organizations collaborating for economic and racial justice. Stop by our table in the Welcome Center after Mass for more info on the work of our ISAIAH core team during this historic legislative session and how our state moved to enhance the lives of all Minnesotans, as well as broaden our democracy and protect our climate! Also, ISAIAH has been receiving great national attention and we’d love to share that with you, too.

**SJA Antiracism Ministry:** Join our next monthly discussion on Sunday, July 23 at 1pm on Zoom. All are invited to share resources, actions, and connections with one another as we continue to move toward becoming an antiracist church. Our monthly gatherings always include new learnings and community news, and we hope you’ll be with us! Contact Julie Madden for the Zoom link.

**North Star Journey and Ice Cream Social:** Special Neighborhood Event at SJA! On Wednesday, Aug. 9, 6pm, in Hospitality Hall, join us as our wonderful neighbor (and leader of the Sankofa Garden at St. Peter’s AME Church) Greg McMoore shares stories of his family’s **North Star Journey.** These stories were compiled for an exhibit at the Hennepin History Museum, and detail Greg’s family’s migration from enslavement in Virginia to Hastings, MN, and finally to the vibrant Black community in South Minneapolis, before their family home was destroyed by the construction of 35W. Our evening will also include an ice cream social, hosted by our SJA Antiracism Ministry Outreach Team.

**SJA Housing Ministry News:** St. Joan of Arc is a proud member of Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative. Beacon develops and builds beautiful, affordable housing around the metro area, and also leads us in advocating for public investment in housing statewide. On the heels of our success at the state legislature for **Bring It Home MN,** a lot is happening this summer. Contact Julie Madden to get involved. Also, a special thank you to two SJA Housing Ministry leaders, Daymond Dean and Theresa Dolata, who are serving on the Beacon Board of Directors. We are grateful to you both for your commitment to human dignity and the common good!

**Mary’s Pence Visits SJA:** Mary’s Pence funds and supports women-led community initiatives for justice, and we will host representatives from Mary’s Pence in our Welcome Center after both Masses on Sunday, August 13. Stop by their table to learn more and join in solidarity with women in Mexico, Central America, and the U.S.

**A Screening of The Letter: A Message for Our Earth:** This Thursday, July 20, at 6pm, Guardian Angels Church in Oakdale invites you to a screening of this powerful film, featuring Pope Francis and diverse stories from environmental protectors around the world. Through these witnesses, we hear the voices of wildlife, of the Indigenous, of the youth, and of the poor.

**Sister Parish Prepares for Delegation:** From Aug 11-21, a wonderful group of SJA parishioners will travel to Guatemala for 10 days with our family in Tierra Nueva Dos in Guatemala. 30 years of delegations back and forth keep our relationship growing, and we are thrilled to resume in-person experiences. The group is preparing now for this experience, and we will bless the delegation at our gym Masses on Aug 6. We will also have a banner for you to sign your greetings to all our loved ones in TNII!

**SJA Outreach Fund News:** We recently awarded Justice Grants from our Outreach Fund to 13 organizations and projects in which our parishioners are committed volunteers and leaders. One of our grants went to Golden Valley Pride Festival - the first suburban Pride Festival in Minnesota, and a wonderful day to support LGBTQ+ families! Thank you to parishioners Pete Knaebel and Steve Pesavento, for your commitment to this project, and for bringing it to us.
Faith Formation and Adult Learning

We form the faith of our community through participation in prayer, liturgy, sacraments, education, community and works of justice.

Baptism: To have your child baptized at St. Joan’s you must be a registered member and participate in a 90-minute Baptism preparation class. FFI and to register call JP at the Parish Center.

Baptisms Celebrated at SJA in June: Cecilia Joan Brolsma, Finnley Thomas Bronder, Tynan Yogi Hanzlik, Milo Joseph Neuman

Archdiocesan Safe Environment: St. Joan of Arc is committed to providing a safe environment for all. Staff and adult volunteers who interact with minors must complete requirements every 3 years. Our website (www.saintjoanofarc.org/safety) includes a link to the Archdiocesan Safe Environment website, as well as the Victim Assistance Hotline phone number. Questions? Contact Diane Haugesag at dhaugesag@stjoan.com or 612.823.8205 x238.

Grade School/Family Mass: FFI (Grades K-5) contact Marie Bissonnette at 612.823.8205 ext. 229. Family Mass contact Gabrielle Dane at gdane@stjoan.com.

Registration for 2023/24 Elementary Ed Classes: Plan Ahead! You may register your elementary school children for our K-5 classes on Sunday mornings for the 2023-2024 program year now at https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/families-children. Click on the registration form.

Youth Ministry: FFI (Grades 6-12) contact Chris Sonnek at 612.823.8205 ext. 241 or csonnek@stjoan.com.

Registration for 2023/24 Youth Ministry is Now Open! Go to https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/youth-ministry to register.

Adult Learning: FFI contact Cynthia Bailey Manns at 612.823.8205 ext. 226 or cmanns@stjoan.com.

SAGES Presents the Last Tuesday Seminar on July 25 at 4pm via Zoom. Mark Scannell is the presenter & the theme will be: Seasons of Life: Passing the Baton. To get the Zoom link, contact Mark at gasscann@bitstream.net.

Centering Prayer: Join us Sundays in the Lady Slipper Room (lower level in the Parish Center) 10:15 - 10:45am, for an in-person meditation. We will also simultaneously Zoom it online. FFI contact Ray Spack at raymondspack@gmail.com.

Parish Book Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6 - 8pm. FFI and a list of future dates and books, check the SJA website under Ministries, Parish Life and click on the Parish Book Club button.

Catholic Social Teaching:

The Foundation of Our Faith and Our Shared Future. The principles of CST offer us a powerful lens through which to see and love the world as God does. They are a blueprint for us in overwhelming times:

- **Human Dignity**: Every one of us is created in the image and likeness of God.
- **Common Good**: We realize our human dignity in relationship and community.
- **Option for the Poor**: The moral test of our society is how we treat our most vulnerable.
- **Rights and Responsibilities**: We all have a fundamental right to what is needed to live in dignity - life, food, shelter, health care, education, employment. We also have a responsibility to participate in our public life together.
- **Role of Government**: The state has a positive moral function to promote human dignity, protect human rights and build the common good.
- **Economic Justice**: All workers have the right to decent and fair wages and safe working conditions. No one is allowed to amass excessive wealth while others lack the basic necessities of life.
- **Stewardship of God’s Creation**: We are called to live in right relationship with the earth.
- **Promotion of Peace and Disarmament**: Peace is not just the absence of war. Peace is the fruit of justice.
- **Global Solidarity**: We are called to work together globally in an interdependent world.

SJA Mission Statement

Saint Joan of Arc is a joyful Christian community which celebrates the loving word of God in worship and action. We transcend traditional boundaries and draw those who seek spiritual growth and social justice.

We welcome diverse ideas and encourage reflection on the message of the Gospel.

We are committed to the equality of all our members and strive to ensure their full participation through liturgy, education and service.

By these means we seek to empower all who come to grow in wisdom and bring to reality the promise of Christ.

SJA Vision Statement

To be a visible, progressive, Catholic Community, compassionate and welcoming to all.