From Julie Madden: Peace and Justice Ministries Director

Our first task in approaching another people, another culture, another religion, is to take off our shoes, for the place we are approaching is holy. Else we may find ourselves treading on people’s dreams. More serious still, we may forget that God was here before our arrival.

Max Warren

This quote describes the humility and respect with which our 10 delegates from St. Joan of Arc will travel as they journey to our Sister Parish in Tierra Nueva Dos in Guatemala this week. What this quote doesn’t begin to cover is the incredible welcome with which our delegates will be received by our loved ones in Guatemala. This is a homecoming! As past delegations can attest, there is no experience like the ten days our wonderful group has in front of them.

TNII is a community outside Guatemala City, and we have shared a relationship of faith and friendship for almost 30 years. With the church of Our Lady of Guadalupe in TNII, we support the women’s group, scholarships for youth, and an annual Christmas party hosted by the youth of the parish for more than 300 neighborhood children. Together we also address issues that matter a great deal to both of our communities – violence, the impacts of climate change, the economic inequity that is fueling migration.

During the pandemic, we continued to deepen our relationship with virtual delegations. We toured one another’s communities by video, and met together on Zoom. We connected with our prayer partners and shared news back and forth. But there is nothing like being able to gather again in person, and we hope to host a delegation from TNII to Minnesota in the near future.

In addition to homestays and travel in country, our delegates will learn about the history and culture of Guatemala and its indigenous people, as well as the impacts of war and American imperialism on the poor of this country. The delegates have been in orientation together for months, and we are grateful to all of them for representing us in love, and for deepening this long-lived relationship.

Stop by the Welcome Center after mass to sign our banner of greeting to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and to learn more about Sister Parish. And consider becoming a delegate yourself!

Hermanamiento is a Spanish noun to describe our journey of becoming brothers and sisters together in solidarity. As we hear the Transfiguration Gospel this morning, let us envision a world transformed, united in God’s love by our shared humanity. Our delegates will glimpse this vision this week and will share their stories with us on Sunday, Sept 3. Blessings to you all on this journey!

Six word homily: Free range Jesus, transformed by love.

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

Visit: www.stjoan.com   4537 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55419   612.823.8205   Fax: 612.825.7028
Faith • Hope • Love

Scripture Readings:
Sun, Aug 6: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9
Mon, Aug 7: Numbers 11:4b-15; Matthew 14:13-21
Tue, Aug 8: Numbers 12:1-13; Matthew 14:22-26
Thu, Aug 10: 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; John 12:24-26
Fri, Aug 12: Deuteronomy 4:32-40; Matthew 16:24-28
Sat, Aug 13: Deuteronomy 6:4-13; Matthew 17:14-20
Sun, Aug 14: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Romans 9:1-5; Matt 14:22-33

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

Prayer Corner Requests: To add a name or to renew your request, please call Nancy Becker the Parish Center at 612.823.8205.
Parish Life

Choir: Our SJA adult choir season is over for the summer and will start up again on Thursday, Sept 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!

Lake Harriet Bandshell Service: Baseball isn't the only thing better outdoors...Rain or shine, please join St Joan of Arc liturgy leaders and musicians at the Bandshell, 10am, on Sunday, Aug 27, to experience worship in one of the best parks in Minneapolis during the summit-time! Offerings collected benefit the Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, www.outdoorworship.org. Pack a lunch and join SJA for a picnic after the service!

It's Almost Time for School - Our Collection of New School Supplies Is Underway! We are thrilled to start our annual collection of fresh new school supplies and backpacks for the families of the Church of Gichitwaa Kateri. We will collect supplies in the Welcome Center through Sunday, Aug 13. Pick up a list of requested items in the Welcome Center after Mass, and thank you for your support.

LGBTQ+ Book Club: All are welcome to join us on Monday, Aug 14, 6:30pm at Gabe's Bar and Kitchen in St. Paul to discuss Razorblade Tears, a gripping crime novel by S.A. Cosby that wrestles with homophobia, racism, and classism. We hope to see you!

Warm Hands Warm Hearts Is Gearing Up! Sure, it’s hot now, but before we know it, kids will be waiting at the bus stop in very cold temperatures, and we want to ensure that as many children as possible have warm winter coats, gloves and hats. Our annual drive for new coats and winter accessories will begin in the fall, but if you have already purchased coats for this year's collection, please drop them off in the Welcome Center or the church vestibule. Thank you so much for helping us get this project off to a great start, and be on the look-out for our sign-up for this year, starting Sept 24.

Looking For: Do you have Catholic sacramental items that you don’t know what to do with? We will help you find a new home for them through our Faith Formation programs. You may drop them off at the reception desk in the Parish Center labeled, "Faith Formation." FFI email Marie @ mbissonnette@stjoan.com.

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.

Stranger At the Gate Film Screening at SJA: Nominated for Best Documentary Short Film, Stranger at the Gate tells the story of a former Marine with PTSD, who planned to attack a Muslim community in Indiana - until an unexpected encounter with faith and humanity. On Monday, Sept 18, at 7pm in Hospitality Hall, our SJA Antiracism, Mental Health, WAMM/Peacemakers and Welcome the Stranger ministries will co-host a screening of this incredible film. Please join us - all are welcome!

Put, Wonderfully Made: LGBTQ+R eligion), on Your Calendar Now! On Sunday, Oct 15, SJA will host a screening of this incredible documentary, in collaboration with Dignity Twin Cities and OutFront MN, at 7:30pm in the Hospitality Hall. We will be joined by the filmmakers. See more about the movie at facebook.com WonderfullyMadeLGBTQReligion/.

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

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

Parishioner Registration: If you are looking for a church home, we would love to have you join us! Registration forms are found in the Parish Center office or at the Church entrance. If you have any questions, staff at the front desk can assist or you can email/call Diane at dhaugesag@stjoan.com; 612.823.8205, x238. We welcome you wherever you are on your journey!

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 24 – July 30, 2023
Actual $19,449  Budget $32,500
Prior Year Actual $32,362

Year to Date (July 1, 2023 – July 30, 2023)
Actual $161,387  Budget $162,500
Prior Year Actual $161,810

THANK YOU for your continued generosity!
Pastoral Ministries

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

**Good Mental Health:** We all have mental health; it affects how we think, feel, and act every day. However, mental health is often ignored until something is going wrong. The best way to prevent that is to pay attention to your mental health even when you’re feeling ok or good. Just like with our physical health, we can all do things that make us mentally healthier. Stop by our table in the Welcome Center and learn more about what our own Resource Library has to offer!

**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! And, treatment for mental health problems doesn’t only consist of prescribed or OTC medication. Therapy, yoga, meditation and holistic treatments can all help to assuage symptoms.

**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@mhconnect.org.

**Grief Support:** Please join us for grief support on Saturday mornings at St. Mark’s Episcopal, 519 Oak Grove St, Minneapolis. 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 Aug 12 the speaker will be Paul Johnson who will speak on ‘The Transformational Nature of Grief’.

**Peace and Justice**

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

**Mary’s Pence Visit to SJA Rescheduled:** Our friends from Mary’s Pence will be with us Sunday, Aug 20 in the Welcome Center after both masses. Stop by their table to learn more about the women-led community initiatives supported by Mary’s Pence in Mexico, Central America, and the U.S.

**SJA ISAIAH:** You Shall Be Called the Repairers of the Breach, the Restorer of Streets in Which to Dwell. Starting this summer, our SJA ISAIAH core team is hosting small group conversations that invite YOU to be an active participant deciding the next priorities we work on in our public life together, grounded in the values of our faith. Stop by our table in the Welcome Center after mass for a schedule of small group meetings from which to choose, including meetings in person and on Zoom.
- Join our SJA ISAIAH core team for coffee and conversation on Sunday, Sept 17, 10 - 11am in the Upper Room. Learn more about this powerful ministry, and enjoy a donut with SJA friends!

**Remembering the Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki:** On Aug 6 and 9, 1945, nuclear weapons were dropped on two cities in Japan, killing 129,000-226,000 people within a few months. We remember this terrible loss today and grieve a world that continues to produce nuclear weapons, some of which are 3000 times more powerful than the bombs dropped in 1945. This Tuesday, Aug 8, at 7pm, the St. Paul - Nagasaki Sister City Committee invites you to a commemoration at 7pm at the Global Harmony Labyrinth at Como Park. And here at SJA, our SJA WAMM/Peacemakers invite you to join the global effort to ban nuclear weapons. FFI, contact Julie Madden at the Parish Center.

**A Discussion of Solito:** Our Welcome the Stranger ministry invites you to join us this Tuesday, Aug 8 in the Upper Room of the Parish Center at 7pm for a discussion of Solito. Javier Zamora’s memoir tells the story of his journey as a migrant from El Salvador when he was just 9 years old. All are welcome! For a Zoom link, email jmaccani@comcast.net.

**North Star Journey and Ice Cream Social: Special Neighborhood Event at SJA!** this 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 Antiracism Discussion:** We continue our monthly discussion on Zoom, exploring new learnings and actions toward becoming an antiracist church. Join us on Aug 27 at 1pm. Contact Julie Madden for the Zoom link.

**SJA Outreach Fund News:** Twice a year, we award Justice Grants from our Outreach Fund to nonprofit organizations and projects in which our parishioners are committed volunteers and leaders. Our next deadline for applications is Nov 1. In the past ten years, we have awarded almost $1 million in grants - funding projects that are focused on meeting immediate needs as well as on changing unjust systems, globally and in our own neighborhood. This is the good news, SJA, and we are grateful for your support.
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 July: Maddux Girtz, Mae Havey, Mackenzie Secord, Josephine Schwamberger, Etta Zweber

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: Register your elementary school children for our K-5 classes on Sunday mornings for the 2023/2024 program year now, click on the registration form. at https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/families-children.

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 School Year Is Open! Go to https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/youth-ministry to register. We have an exciting year planned! The Youth Ministry's Fall Kickoff Event will be held the evening of Sunday, Sept 17.

Registration for 2023/24 Confirmation is open for 10th - 12th grade. Go to https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/confirmation to register.

Adult Volunteers Needed for our 6th - 12th graders one Sunday a month, 10 - 11am, October thru May. Please contact Chris if you are interested in any of the following:

- Small Group Leaders for grades 6 - 12: 1 - 2 adults per group, leading the Youth through relevant curriculum and sharing.
- Micah Service Group Leaders: 1) Eco-Spirits Group: Current recycling expert or someone who aspires to be one. 2) Preventing Gun Violence Group: Join a local expert leading this group! 3) Dragonfly: Condolence Card Ministry. Other Opportunities coming soon.

Confirmation Classes for Persons With Disabilities ages 14 and older will be held on Saturday, Aug 19, 9:30 - 11:30am, at the Church of St. Richard, 7540 Penn Ave S, Richfield. The sacrament of Confirmation will be available at the Mass for Persons with Disabilities on Sept 17. FFI contact the Office of Marriage, Family and Life, 651.291.4488.

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

RCIA: SJA welcomes you on your spiritual journey of study, exploration, faith sharing, and faith formation. The Rite of Christian Initiation, or RCIA, is an important Sacrament designed for adults (called Candidates), who are interested in becoming Catholic, or for Catholics who wish to be Confirmed, and may also include the Rite of Baptism. Each Candidate works with an individual sponsor who will walk with them through this unique faith journey. The RCIA classes from Fall 2023 through Spring 2024, led by Fr. Jim DeBruycker and the RCIA leadership team, build learning relationships that encourage provocative questions about what it means to be Catholic and opportunities to grow in one's faith. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Fr. Jim DeBruycker at jdebruycrer@stjoan.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.

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 raymonspack@gmail.com.

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.