Synod on Synodality: From Cynthia Bailey Manns, DMin

SJA Adult Learning Director & Appointed Delegate to Synod

So, what is this Synod on Synodality I have been appointed to, that will have me making history in the Vatican during October? Pope Francis says, “The purpose of the Synod…is not to produce documents, but to ‘plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands.’” (Preparatory Document, #32)

The Question: “How does this “journeying together in synodality” allow the Church, from the local to the universal level, to proclaim the Gospel in accordance with the mission entrusted to Her; and what steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow a synodal Church? (Ctr Preparatory Document n.2). The work is based on what emerged from listening to the People of God and synthesizing that.

The Process: Our work in Rome will develop as a prayerful pathway of spiritual discernment. The true protagonist is the Holy Spirit. The Instrumentum Laboris document’s three priority issues are: 1) Communion: How can we be more fully a sign and instrument of union with God and of all humanity?, 2) Mission: How can we better share gifts and tasks in the service of the Gospel?, and 3) Participation: What processes, structures and institutions are needed to fulfill that mission?

Importance to SJA: My participation is historic as this is the first time lay women and men will have full voting privileges! Our work will continue in an additional convening in 2024, which will produce the final document to be presented to Pope Francis. He will use our input in his discernment for the future path of our Church.

I Need Your Help! Synod on Synodality: Saturday, Sept 9, 9 - 11am, in the Gym. I want to take your sacred stories to Rome! See the Adult Learning page in this bulletin for information on registering for this discussion and preparing to share your thoughts and dreams for a Church that welcomes all and listens to those who have been excluded, ignored or demeaned. This is our moment to claim our presence and power in our beloved Church.

Thank you for your continued words of encouragement, prayers and spiritual gifts. All of them are special to me and are supporting me on this sacred journey!

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 20: Isaiah 56:1-6,7; Rom 11:13-15,29-32; Matt 15:21-28
Mon, Aug 21: Judges 2:11-19; Matthew 19:16-22
Tue, Aug 22: Judges 6:11-24a; Matthew 19:23-30
Thu, Aug 24: Revelation 21:9b-14; John 1:45-51
Fri, Aug 25: Ruth 2:1-3,8,11-14,13-17; Matthew 23:1-12
Sat, Aug 26: Ruth 2:1-3,8,11-14,13-17; Matthew 23:1-12
Sun, Aug 27: Isaiah 22:19-33; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20

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.

Looking Ahead...

8am Mass on Tuesday and Thursday in the Church

Gym Masses

August 27: Fr. Jim Cassidy

September 3: Fr. Jim DeBruycker. Delegates to our Sister Parish in Guatemala will share stories of this unforgettable experience.

September 10: Welcome Back Sunday. We invite you into the life of SJA through our Shared Ministry celebration.

September 17: Feast of St. Phoebe. A liturgy to lift up the life and ministry of St. Phoebe and the power of women leading in our church today.

September 24: Feast of St. Francis. A reflection on St. Francis, Pope Francis, and the Spirit moving in our church and in our world! We will bless our own Cynthia Bailey Manns as she journeys to Rome for the Global Synod.

October 1: Our speaker is Anne Winkler Morey, neighbor of SJA, college professor, and author of Allegiance to Winds & Waters: Bicycling the Political Divides of the U.S.

Presider Schedule for Saturday, 5pm Masses in the Church

August 26: Fr. Jim DeBruycker

September 2: Fr. Peter Nosbush

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

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.

To add a name or to renew your request, please call Nancy Becker the Parish Center at 612.823.8205.
Choir: Do you love music and want to be part of a joy filled singing community? Our SJA adult choir will start up again next month on Thursday, Sept 14. Contact Anna Vagle avagle@stjoan.com or 612.823.8205 ext 235. See you in September!

Sister Parish Delegation Returns on Monday: The delegation of 10 SJA parishioners to our Sister Parish in Guatemala is concluding their incredible 10-day immersion in the lives, history, culture & faith of our family in Tierra Nueva Dos. As our bulletin goes to print, we are aware that Sunday, Aug 20, is the national run-off in the contentious Guatemalan Presidential election, and we are holding the delegates in our prayers for an uneventful completion to their journey and safe travels home. Plan on being with us on Sunday, Sept 3, when delegates will share their stories with us as pre-mass speakers!

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

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 devotional 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.

Community Wellness Day: Next Saturday, Aug 26, 11:30am - 2:30pm, our friends at St. Peter's AME Church (on the corner of 4th Ave & 41st St) will host a day of wellness activities, with mobile health clinics, culturally responsive caregiver support, free screenings, and yoga and Zumba classes! All are welcome.

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 1:30pm in Hospitality Hall. We will be joined by the filmmakers. See more about the movie at facebook.com, WonderfullyMadeLGBTQReligion/.

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.

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, with supper, from 5 to 6pm. Sponsored by TRUST Inc and Diamond Lake Lutheran Church.

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!

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

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

Week of August 7 – August 13, 2023
Actual $25,605  Budget $37,750
Prior Year Actual $37,625

Year to Date (July 1, 2023 – August 13, 2023)
Actual $227,075  Budget $238,000
Prior Year Actual $237,061

THANK YOU for your continued generosity!
Pastoral Ministries

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

**SJA Mental Health Ministry’s Mission** is to increase awareness of this broad and diverse field while diminishing discrimination, stigma and secrecy associated with mental health challenges that people encounter on their journeys. Through relationships, support, education, and resources, we aim to instill hope in a safe and welcoming environment, in order that we can achieve a wholeness of mind, body and spirit. On **Saturday, Sept 9 at 10am**, we’d like to invite you to an informational meeting in the Welcome Center to learn more about our ministry and how you might benefit from what we do and/or how you might be able to add your unique abilities and contributions to our growing, vital ministry.

**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 this 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!

**988 Turns 1 Year Old!** Last month, the Mental Health Crisis number, 988, celebrated its one year anniversary. Since then, there has been a 1135% increase in texts, 141% increase in chats and a 46% increase in calls. If you or a loved one is facing a mental health crisis and you don’t know where to turn, 988 is the best and most efficient number to call for quick, confidential help.

**August is National Wellness Month:** We get dental check-ups every 6 months to prevent cavities, so why not a health check-up periodically to prevent debilitating stress? Call the MHC Navigator line (612.642.1220) for assistance finding ways to help you with distress before it gets worrisome, and visit the table in the Welcome Center for books on wellness topics that you can check out.

**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 27** is Picture Day. Note: beginning in September, the group will hold its meetings here at SJA. Watch the bulletin for further details.

**In Transition? Moving? Estate Closing? TRUST’s estate sale program will advertise, sort, price, and conduct the sale for you. Contact Jan at 612.269.1865.**

Peace and Justice

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

**Mary’s Pence Visiting SJA Today:** Make plans to greet our friends at their table in the Welcome Center today after both masses. Mary’s Pence supports women-led community initiatives in Mexico, Central America, and the U.S., and we are so glad to welcome them and learn more about their work.

**Catholic Tutor Corps at SJA: Sign up Today:** CTC connects passionate volunteers with Catholic school students at 12 metro area schools. You can help students in Math, Reading, and Science. Visit SJAner Dick McGuire today after Mass in the Welcome Center to learn more. You can make an incredible difference and have a great time, too!

**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 Welcome the Stranger Fall 2023 Immigration Experience:** On Saturday, Sept. 16 we will learn more about the Ukrainian community in the Twin Cities. First, join us at 10am at the Museum of Russian Art for the exhibit **Say No to War: Political Cartoons by Ukrainian and Russian Artists.** The museum has declared that it stands with the people of Ukraine in urging Russia to cease hostilities immediately and withdraw. Following the exhibit, we will join the Ukrainian Heritage Festival in Northeast Minneapolis! FFI/to RSVP, please contact Julie Madden.

**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!

**SJA Outreach Fund Update:**

- **Celebrating the IARP (The Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project)** is a recipient of several Justice Grants from our Outreach Fund. Our friends at IARP invite you to an Iraqi and Afghan Cultural Celebration with free food, music and activities for all on Sunday, Sept 3, 4 - 7pm, at the Como Midway East Picnic Pavilion (1199 Midway Parkway in St. Paul). Come and create lasting memories and connections!

- **Justice Grant Deadline Approaching:** Our next deadline for applications is Nov 1. Grants are awarded to non-profit organizations and projects in which our parishioners are committed volunteers and leaders. Contact Julie Madden for an application.
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.

**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.

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

**Save The Date! Scripture Matters**, Tuesdays, Sept 26, Oct 17 & 31, and Nov 14, 7 - 8:15pm, in the Parish Center. Please join us as we continue to explore The Gospel According to Matthew: Part Two. Purchase the book at https://litpress.org/Products/6433/The-Gospel-According-to-Matthew-Part-Two. We look forward to evenings of community, learning and laughter!

**Save The Date! Synod on Synodality:** Saturday, Sept 9, 9 - 11am in the Gym. Please join Dr. Cynthia Bailey Manns, appointed delegate to 2023 Synod on Synodality, to explore the three priority issues of the the Instrumentum Laboris document - Communion, Mission and Participation (https://www.synod.va/content/dam/synod/common/phases/universal-stage/iI/PAGINATED_ENG_INSTRUMENTUM-LABORIS-A4.pdf) In preparation for the gathering, please read the document and complete the worksheets B1.2, B2.3, and B2.4. Come prepared with a 1 - 2 minute reflection regarding your topic that calls you to action, such as, yet not limited to, racism, women’s participation, liturgy, LGBTQIA+, youth engagement, etc. Cynthia wants to take your sacred stories to Rome! RSVP information is available on the SJA website.

**Save the Date! Eve of the Synod Prayer Service,** Tuesday, Oct.3, 7 - 8pm in the Church: Pope Francis reminds us, “The Synod that we are now celebrating calls us to become a Church that gets up, one that is not turned in on itself, but capable of pressing forward, leaving behind its own prisons and setting out to meet the world, with the courage to open doors.” Please join us in praying for the sacred work of the Synod and those engaged in this work - including our own Cynthia Bailey Manns. RSVP information to follow. (Co-sponsored by Discerning Deacons)

**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.

**Men’s Retreat:** The Keys to LivingSanely in Challenging Times. Join us on Saturday, Sept 9, 9am - 1pm (includes lunch) in Hospitality Hall. Presented by: Mike Halley, Ron Joki & Mark Scannell Cost: $20. To register call the Parish Center, 612.823.8205, by Sept 1.