

Church of ST. PETER MENDOTA



PASTOR:

Fr. Steven Hoffman 651-452-4550
Deacon Tim Hennessey 651-905-4301

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Lisa Amos 651-905-4304

BUSINESS MANAGER:

Mary Jubenville 651-905-4307

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAITH FORMATION:

Kathy Raible, Director 651-905-4311
Elizabeth McCanna, Youth Coordinator 651-905-4312
Beth Halbert, Sunday School Coordinator ... 651-905-4313
Religious Education Information Line 651-905-4314

MUSIC and LITURGY:

David Dunst, Director 651-905-4323

COMMUNITY LIFE COORDINATOR:

Anne O'Keefe 651-905-4308

OFFICE STAFF:

Rita Holien, Bulletin-Website Coordinator... 651-905-4302
Carolyn Rynders, Parish Assistant 651-452-4550

MAINTENANCE:

Tom Deshler 651-905-4322
John Raible 651-452-4550

Parish Office: 651-452-4550

Office Hours: 8 am-4 pm Monday through Friday

Fax: 651-456-0646

E-mail: church@stpetersmendota.org

Parish School: Faithful Shepherd

651-406-4747, www.fscsmn.org

3355 Columbia Drive

Eagan, MN 55121



October 30, 2016
Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR MISSION

St. Peter's is here to bring the good news of the Gospel to all, so that every person can have a personal, life changing, life giving relationship with Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY MASSES (all in the Main Church)

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9 am and 11 am

WEEKDAY MASSES (all in the Historic Church)

9 am Monday-Friday

HOLY DAYS As announced.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fridays, 8 to 8:45 am and Saturdays 3:30 to 4:45 pm
and also any time by appointment.

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Mary LeClair. E-mail: maryleclair62@gmail.com or call the parish office at 651-452-4550.

Reflections from our Pastoral Associate

I was recently chatting with an old friend, and she expressed her frustration with a great deal of what's going on in the world today. She said that she's not surprised by anything anymore, and that it's almost impossible to know what to do about "all of it." I, too, am often frustrated by events and situations I read about in the news, but what is different for me now than earlier in my life is that I don't feel the despair that I used to and that she still does.

God, in the Infinite Goodness that is His very nature, has given us all what we need to respond to "all of it." In recent years, for reasons I know and some that I am still trying to learn, I had been growing increasingly frustrated. I shared my friend's feelings of hopelessness. There were, of course, all of the little daily annoyances, such as demands and requirements on my time, energy and some days, perhaps, even on my sanity. There were new worries about children that come up just because they are growing and maturing themselves. We are trying to keep up as parents and do the best we can in raising and forming them, often feeling as if we have no idea at all how to go about it. There were - and still are - all the large and small temptations of Legion that seek to set me apart from the love of Jesus and that shadow my need for God's help in fighting my damaging habits and thoughts. There was the grief I suffered with the death of my loved ones, the unavoidable changes in my own health as I get older and the growing unrest in the world around us.

As time goes on, I have tried to partner with God in nourishing and encouraging my faith, because I have grown to realize that it is the only way to discover the life God wants for me and to live it. For my part in this partnership, I strive to spend more time with Him, to deepen my prayer life, to read and study both Scripture and books on spiritual life and, most importantly, to keep my heart and eyes open to what God is doing for His part.

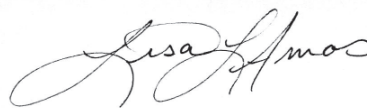
For some time now, references to the Sacred Heart of Jesus have been appearing around me with some frequency. They take different forms: a gift from a friend who has no idea of its significance to me, a new image in a familiar place, homilies, songs, books, the list goes on. As I became aware of this, it naturally followed that I would ponder the reasons and what God was trying to tell me. That is when I began finding references to humility in my path.

I have recently been reading Andrew Murray's book, *Humility: The Beauty of Holiness*. Murray served as a Dutch Reformed missionary in South Africa in the early 1800s. Ironically, he began his religious studies, not out of a zeal for Christ or even any strong faith, but as a

career choice. It was during his studies that he recognized our identity as created beings loved by God. In a letter to his parents Murray wrote, "Your son has been born again. I have cast myself on Christ. May not a single moment of my life be spent outside the light, love, and joy of God's presence and not a moment without the entire surrender of myself as a vessel for him to fill full of his Spirit and his love." He was a prolific author on Christian spirituality and ministry, founded education institutions and was dedicated to social justice work in his community. His interpretations of Scripture encouraged Christians to allow themselves to believe in and experience the grace of God. He believed that God had done everything necessary for people to live rich, productive, meaningful lives that participated in the life of God. The obstacles to such lives included half-hearted surrender to God, a lack of confidence in the anointing of the Spirit and a deep-rooted skepticism about the power of prayer.

Today's Gospel reading is yet another message about our place in God's family. We are his created and beloved ones. We have much to look forward to when our earthly lives are at an end, and we reach our ultimate goal of eternal unity with Him in His presence. The things of this life are weighty. We are always in danger of allowing them to drag on in our minds and hearts, making it difficult for us to hear God's ever present call. As Murray explores in his book, the only way to truly live as we are meant to is to recognize our nothingness. That is to say that, without humbling ourselves and acknowledging our complete dependence on God's grace, we can never hope to resist the temptations of apathy and evil. "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (1 Peter 5:5)

We, like Zacchaeus, are invited to see more clearly and to cast out the things of the now to make room for Jesus in our lives. Let our prayer be, as Murray says, that we will come to realize fully our "position as the creature, and [yield] to God his rightful place."



Lisa Amos
Pastoral Associate

Sincere Sympathy

St. Peter's Parish extends its sympathy to the family and friends of Oronell Wilharber and Frank Indihar. We invite all to join us in praying that God may make them sharers in eternal salvation.



Elementary & Middle School Religious Education Programs

No classes November 2

Please remember there will be **no elementary or middle school classes (grades 1 – 8) on Wednesday, November 2**, as it is the Feast of All Souls. We invite you to attend Mass at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Kathy Raible at kraible@stpetersmendota.org or 651-905-4311 if you have any questions.

Grade 2 Reconciliation Program

On **Tuesday, November 15**, we will have our second Parent-Child Session for those who have children in the Reconciliation Program. Parents will meet at **6 p.m. in Heritage Center**; children will go to their classrooms. **Grade 2 children will not have class on Wednesday, November 16**. Please try to arrive a couple of minutes early, so that we can begin the parent meeting on time. If you have not contacted your child's parish of baptism, please do so. Have them send verification of your child's baptism to me. Thank you.

Perissos

High School Youth

All high school youth are welcome to join us at Perissos, our new high school ministry. Join us on Wednesdays, from 6:30-8 p.m., as we all grow in our love of Christ and His Church. For more information contact Elizabeth Mc Cann a t 6 5 1 - 9 0 5 - 4 3 1 2 o r emccanna@stpetersmendota.org.

St. Thomas Academy Open House

Join Us for an Open House at Saint Thomas Academy! We invite families interested in learning more about Saint Thomas Academy Middle and Upper School to attend an upcoming admissions open house on Sunday, November 6, at 1 p.m. STA is Minnesota's only Catholic, college preparatory, military/leadership school for boys in grades 6 to 12. For the schedule and to register, please visit our website at www.cadets.com/OpenHouse or call 651-683-1516.



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Eagan, MN 55121
651-406-4747, www.fscsmn.org

FSCS Information Night

Families interested in learning more about our parish K-8 school, Faithful Shepherd Catholic School, are invited to attend a parent information night on Thursday, November 10, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Childcare is available on-site.

Come and hear presentations about Faithful Shepherd's curriculum, student life and our school community, from our teachers and staff. You will also be able to visit with current parents to learn more about the school.

If you are unable to make this date, you may contact the school at 651-262-2898 to arrange a private tour, or you can attend one of the open house events on Wednesday, December 7, or Tuesday, February 7, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Faithful Shepherd Catholic School is part of the educational ministry of St. Peter's of Mendota, St. John Neumann of Eagan and St. Thomas Becket of Eagan.

Christmas Wreath Sales

The Boy Scouts of St. Peter's Troop 264 will be taking orders for wreaths at St. Peter's after Masses on November 5 and 6.



Stop by to see their selection and put in your order. You may pay for your order when you pick it up on the weekend of November 26 and 27, or you can make other arrangements for pick ups. All funds earned on wreath sales go to the camping and activities for the scouts. Your support is gratefully appreciated. If you miss us at St. Peter's, you may call Larry Sachi at 651-894-3623 to order.

Thank You From MORE

Dear Kathy and all at St. Peter's, Thank you so much for the generous donation of school supplies. We have seen an increase of students as of late, and so this donation could not have come at a better time. All of our teachers and students will be so excited to use all of these brand new items. Thank you! Hayley, MORE Education Program Manager.

Wedding Banns



First Proclamation

Matthew Groppetti and Lauren Patient



Giving Tree

It may seem very early to think about Christmas and the Giving Tree, but there are so many things that need to be prepared. In order for the program to be ready for the families before Christmas, those who work with the Giving Tree need to begin now.

If you are aware of a family in need of Christmas gifts, or if you, yourself are in need, please complete an application, available in the Gathering Space, to apply for the program. Turn your applications in to the office by November 13.

Your help in identifying recipients is very important. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

Papal Footprints Project 2016

Many NEW gifts are coming in for the needy in Appalachia. Now we need to work on the shoeboxes for the "Papal Footprints" project. Flyers explaining the program will be placed near the Appalachian Christmas box in Heritage Center. Again, please do not wrap the boxes and label them accordingly.

We will be packing gifts, shoeboxes and candy in the Ravoux Room after the 9 a.m. Mass on Monday, November 7. Any volunteers for packing would be deeply appreciated.

Kathi Dumond, Chair
Paula Ehrich, Co-Chair.

The Council of Catholic Women's Annual Poinsettia Sale

The CCW will be taking orders for their annual Christmas Poinsettia Sale after all Masses this weekend, October 29/30. We will also have \$25 Gerten plant cards for sale. Stop by the CCW table in the Gathering Space.



Thanks for supporting the CCW and St. Peter's Church.

ACCW to Host An Advent Morning of Reflection

The St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women will host an Advent Morning of Reflection. "Year of Mercy - Where Do We Go From Here?" will take place at the Church of St. Peter in Mendota, on Saturday, December 3, starting with registration and refreshments at 8:30 a.m. We will end the day with Mass with Bishop Cozzens at 12 noon. The cost for this event is \$15 before November 23 and \$20 after.

Bishop Andrew Cozzens, Dr. Ann Marie Klein, Assistant Professor in the Department of Catholic Studies and Fr. Michael Becker, Rector of St. John Vianney College Seminary will be speaking.

Invite your mothers, aunts, daughters, sisters and friends. Vendors will be available to help you with Christmas shopping.

For credit card registration, visit www.events.archspm.org/accw-advent-2016.

Annual Report/Pledge Cards

If you have already turned in your 2017 pledge card, thank you! If you have not returned it, we ask that you do so as soon as possible. These pledges are very helpful in planning programs and activities for the upcoming year. If your card was misplaced, or if you did not receive one, please contact the parish office at 651-452-4550.

Eucharistic Adoration

Parishioners and friends are welcome for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Historic Church on Tuesdays after the 9 a.m. Mass until 6 p.m.

Matthew 26:40-41—Jesus said to Peter:
*"Could you not watch with me one hour?
Watch and pray."*

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Rita Lew at 651-399-0921 or ritalew5@mac.com.



The Week of October 31

Monday, October 31

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:30 rosary)
6 pm St. Paul Civic Symphony Rehearsal, Heritage Center
7 pm Boy Scout Meeting, Ravoux Room

Tuesday, November 1

- 8:30 am** Rosary, Historic Church
9 am All Saints Mass, Main Church
9:30 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
10 am Adoration Before the Blessed Sacrament until 6 pm, Historic Church
6:30 pm All Saints Mass, Main Church

Wednesday, November 2

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:30 rosary)
9:30 am CCW Board Meeting, Conference Room 1
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room
6:30 pm All Soul's Day Mass, Main Church
7:30 pm All Soul's Reception, Heritage Center

Thursday, November 3

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:30 rosary)
6:30 pm RCIA, Ravoux Room
6:30 pm Liturgy Committee Meeting, Conference Room 1
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, November 4

- 8 am** Confessions, Main Church
9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 rosary)
9:30 am Anointings, Historic Church

Saturday, November 5

- 9 and 10:30 am** AA Meeting, Classrooms 2, 4
9 am Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, Conference Room 1
10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Community Room
3:30 pm Confessions, Main Church
4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Rm
5 pm Mass, Main Church
6 pm New Parishioner Registration, Gathering Space
6 pm Boy Scout Wreath Orders, Gathering Space
6 pm Bachmeier-Keller Peruvian Dinner, Heritage Center

Sunday, November 6 - Hospitality Sunday

- 8:30 and 10:30 am** Choir Rehearsal, Music Rm
9 am Mass and Baptism, Main Church
9 & 11 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Ravoux Room
9 am Sunday School, Classrooms
11 am Mass, Main Church
After Masses New Parishioner Registration, Gathering Space
 Boy Scout Wreath Sale, Gathering Space

Parish Pastoral Council

Joseph Towle.....651-683-9250
 Paul Hirsch.....651-431-1832
 Sarah Larsen.....612-384-1474
 Maria Schwartz.....651-452-1796
 Alice Sheeler.....651-457-8119
 Nancy Stanton.....651-686-9009
 Laurie Reding.....651-688-8536
 Parish Pastoral Council Email:

ParishPastoralCouncil@stpetersmendota.org

Trustees:

Jim Oricchio.....651-452-3587
 Helen Wilkie.....651-365-1334

Readings for the Week of October 30

Sunday: Wis 11:22--12:2/Ps 145: 1-2, 8-11, 13-14/2 Thes 1:11--2:2/Lk 19:1-10
Monday: Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1-3/Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Wednesday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-6/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40
Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-7/Lk 15:1-10
Friday: Phil 3:17--4:1/Ps 122:1-5/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 8-9/Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15/2 Thes 2:16--3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

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Mass Intentions

The following are the intentions remembered by the priest at Mass:

Monday, October 31 - †Clem and Annette Schmitz
Tuesday, November 1 - 9 a.m. - Mass For The People
Tuesday, November 1 - 6:30 p.m. - †Joyce Chuckel
Wednesday, November 2 - 9 a.m. - †For All The Faithfully Departed
Wednesday, November 2 - 6:30 p.m. - †For All The Faithfully Departed
Thursday, November 3 - Gerald Mayers
Friday, November 4 - †George Zirnelt
Saturday, November 5 - Mass For The People
Sunday, November 6 - 9 a.m. - †Richard Gangl
11 a.m. - †Quentin Mayers

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



Many husbands and wives seem to be caught up in their careers, TV, sports or children. Re-examine your married lifestyle and priorities through a Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next scheduled Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is November 18-20, at the Franciscan Retreat Center, 16385 St. Francis Lane in Prior Lake. Early registration is highly recommended.

For more information, visit our website at twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-756-8720.

Is God Calling You?

In the silence of your heart, do you wonder if God is calling you to the religious life? Come and see! The Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles will be hosting a "Come and See" Retreat for single women, ages 18-35, who are interesting in taking time to learn more about vocational discernment and religious life. The retreat will take place Nov. 11-13, at the Church of St. Peter, 2600 Margaret St. N., in North St. Paul. For more information, please call 626-300-8938, email mncomeandsee@outlook.com or visit www.carmelitesistersocd.com.

Learn About The Catholic Faith

We are excited to offer classes for those seeking to learn more about becoming Catholic, and for those Catholics who want to grow deeper in their knowledge and inner faith life. We look forward to serving those baptized in other Christian traditions, the unbaptized and anyone who may already have made their First Communion as a child, but has not received the sacrament of Confirmation.

Participants meet Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m., beginning October 27, in Conference Room 1. For more information or to register for these free classes, please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or email lamos@stpetersmendota.org.



Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend

Relevant Radio 1330 am

Fr. Michael Becker of St. John Vianney College on Relevant Radio.

Fr. Michael Becker, Rector of St. John Vianney College Seminary, is host of a new national show on Relevant Radio. "Encounter" is dedicated to the Holy Spirit and features a unique look at Scripture and prayer. Sheryl Moran, wife, mother and classically-trained artist, joins Fr. Becker as co-host. The show airs locally on 1330 AM on Saturdays, from 11 to 11:30 a.m., and on Relevant Radio network on Sundays, from 1 to 1:30 p.m. Podcasts are also available on the Relevant Radio website and mobile app. Please contact Mary May, Director of Marketing at 612-643-4117 or at mmay@relevantradio.com.

Catholic Charities Counseling Program Available

Catholic Charities Counseling Program has appointments readily available for adults, couples and families who are dealing with emotional turmoil, worry, stress, interpersonal conflict, anger or life changes. We accept most health insurance providers and also have sliding fee/reduced fee plans available.

Locations are in Saint Paul, Burnsville and Blaine. A Men's Therapy Group meets every other Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. in St. Paul. Please call 651 647-3100 for more information.

Cursillo Corner

All are welcome to attend the monthly Ultreya (meeting) for South East Metro which will be held on Saturday, November 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church, 835 2nd Avenue Northwest, in New Brighton. Future events include:

- Sunday, November 27, at 7 p.m., South East Metro Ultreya at the Church of St Patrick, 3535 72nd Street East, in Inver Grove Heights.

For more information about all of the Cursillo events and weekend retreats, you can visit www.tc-cursillo.org, email Jane Marie at janemarie.rief@gmail.com or call her at 651-485-7089.



An Evening of Peruvian Food and Culture

Please join the Bachmeier and Keller families for an evening of Peruvian food and culture on Saturday, November 5, from 6 to 10 p.m. in Heritage Center. Peruvian food will be served and Peruvian music and dancers will perform. We are asking a suggested donation of \$25 to \$50 per person. All proceeds will go to the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Peru. Please RSVP to Dale at 651-757-0757 or Yojani at 651-233-4834.

Blue Mass at the Cathedral

On Wednesday, November 2, at 5:15 p.m. members of law enforcement, first responders, their families and the public are all invited to this special Blue Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, 239 Selby Avenue, in St. Paul, honoring their courageous service and asking for God's protection and blessings, as we all work together to build up the common good. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda.

Operation Andrew Dinner

Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda, Bishop Andrew Cozzens and Father David Blume, Director of Vocations, invite men discerning the priesthood, who are between the ages of 16 and 50, to dinner and conversation with vocation testimonials on the priesthood and religious life. The dinner will take place on Tuesday, November 8, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Archbishop's residence, 230 Summit Avenue in St. Paul. It is typical for a pastor, religious or youth minister to accompany each discerning guest.

Register online before November 4, at www.10000vocations.org. For more information contact the Office of Vocations at 651-962-6890.

All In God's Plan

Mother/Daughter Program

On Saturday, November 19, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., St. Joseph's Church in West St. Paul will be holding a program for girls age 9-12 (recommended) and their moms. Come and learn about the physical and emotional changes of early adolescence and God's gifts of life, sexuality and fertility. This event will take place in the Msgr. Foran Great Room. There is a suggested donation of \$20 per adult. Refreshments will be served.

Reservations are required by Monday, November 7. For more information and to register, please visit the St. Joseph website at www.churchofstjoseph.org. If you have questions, call Ann Osendorf at 651-789-8378.

Higher Calling Series

What is true leadership? Is it based on someone's personality, style or influence? Is it measured by power, popularity or financial gain? Or is there more to it?

Register for the Higher Calling Series to participate in an evening of exploration and inspiration about what it means to truly lead and better understand the impact of leaders who anchor themselves in sacred principles, goodness and the Kingdom of God. What does this approach mean for those leaders, their communities and the world?

The evening takes place at the University of St. Thomas Anderson Student Center, 2115 Summit Avenue in St. Paul. Dinner, presentations and guided discussion run from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Monday, November 14, with a social hour and cash bar from 8 to 9 p.m. The cost for the general public is \$25. The deadline for registration is November 8. To find out more, visit www.stthomas.edu/business/events/college-events/2016-11-14-higher-calling.html.

Neighbors, Inc. Food Shelf

Hi everyone,

The last of the peppers are coming in and pumpkins and squash are starting to be harvested. The leaves are changing and a cool breeze is blowing. It's definitely fall! Thank you to all of the gardeners who brought in the fruits of your labor this growing season.

A BIG thank you for the great response to the plea for brown paper grocery bags, as well. We are in much better shape now (although we can always use them if you have them).

In the next couple of months, many people will ask what sorts of holiday foods the shoppers at the food shelf are looking for. I've included a special holiday "bonus list" in this email, since the next time I write will be just before Thanksgiving. When in doubt, just think of the foods you and your family like to eat.

As always, thank you to all of you for taking care of your neighbors and making sure they have enough food to eat.

Have a great day!

--Scott

Most needed items now are juice, shampoo, feminine products, shaving supplies, oil and pancake syrup.

The holiday requests are stuffing, gravy, sweet potatoes, pie filling and pumpkin.



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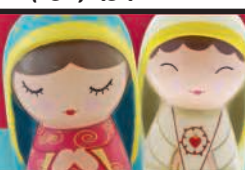
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CHURCH OF ST. PETER

Prayer of Remembrance for Our Parish Dead

Month of November 2016



*Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord,
and, as our faith in your Son,
Raised from the dead, is deepened,
so may our hope of resurrection for your departed servants also find
new strength.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.*

*~Collect (formerly called the Opening Prayer),
First Mass, All Souls Day*

For all the faithful who have died we pray, but in particular for

*Loretta Kopp
Ron Mergens
Joel Kavanaugh
Carl Barton Hedges
William Glendenning
Charles Hall
Sy Hennes
Doris Bohlig
Deborah Ginder
Neal Black
Irene Griffin
Jack Eddy
Mary Brady*

*Clyde LeClaire
Lambert Derks
Pamela Grinstead Van Rooij
Alois Sewald
Virginia McCarthy
Anita Selg Friedrich
Donald Friedlander, Sr.
Thomas McMenimen
Rosemary McGinty
Marceline Wohlers
Oronell Florence Wilharber
Frank J. Indihar*

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.*

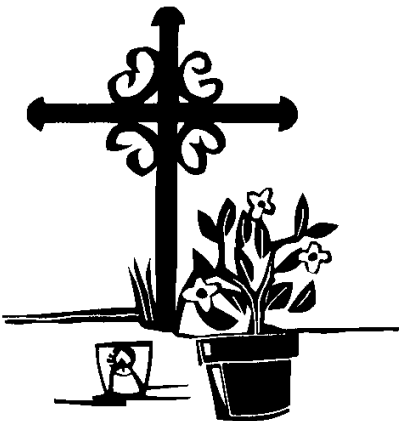
*May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.
Amen.*

*†A remembrance book to write the names of your deceased loved ones will be placed in the
Main Church through the month of November.*

NOVEMBER

“The Close of the Liturgical Year”

November brings us to the end of the liturgical year, beginning with the Solemnity of All Saints on November 1 and ending with the final Sunday of the year, The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. As we draw closer to the end of the year, the focus of our Sunday readings turns to the end of time. We are challenged to examine our own lives in terms of their final, last moments.



On All Saints Day we come to realize that, like our brothers and sisters who have gone before us, we are called to holiness of life and perfect union with God one day in heaven. All Souls Day reminds us of our need to pray for the dead who are being purified.

As in the Gospel, the wedding party waiting at the groom's house need to have their lamps prepared and burning to be ever ready. We too are challenged to be prepared, since we know neither the day nor the hour.

We are also challenged to be good stewards of that which God has entrusted to us. We have an obligation to care for these goods, but also to use them wisely, in order to help the Kingdom grow.

And finally, our actions need to be in line with our words. It is not what we say that is significant, but what we do. Have we been willing to take risks because of the Kingdom? The task of building up the Kingdom of God in the present continues. May the presence of Christ in the Eucharist move us to make a gift of our very self so that our world might have life!

Serving those who Serve



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) approved a special triennial collection for the AMS in November 2012. The first National Collection for the AMS was timed to coincide with Veterans Day November 2013 and raised more than \$8,239,000. The second National Collection for the AMS will be taken in dioceses and parishes across the country in 2016, for most at Masses the weekend of 5-6 November, or as otherwise determined by an individual diocese or parish.

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS) was established by Saint John Paul II in 1985 to provide the Catholic Church's full range of pastoral ministries to those in the United States Armed Forces. The mission of the Archdiocese is to "serve those who serve" by providing the same pastoral care and services as any other Catholic diocese to Catholics serving in the United States Armed Forces, enrolled in U.S. Military Academies, undergoing treatment at any of the 153 Department of Veterans Affairs' Medical Centers in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Guam, working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond U.S. borders, and the families of these populations. Programs and services vital to the unique mission and ministry of the Archdiocese include *Vocations, Evangelization and Catechesis, Sacramental Records, Tribunal, and Veterans Affairs*.

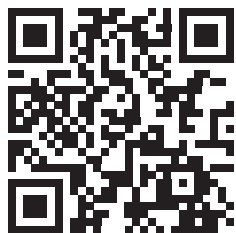
The AMS Office of Vocations informs and supports men exploring a priestly vocation and provides opportunities for vocation awareness and discernment with a focus on the military chaplaincy. The AMS Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program is a partnership with local dioceses and religious communities around the country. Currently, the AMS partners with 23 dioceses across the U.S. with 28 co-sponsored seminarians studying in 16 seminaries. As many as 20 additional candidates are in-processing for 2016 and, since the fall 2014, 113 candidates have been on one or more of the AMS discernment retreats and expressed interest in the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program and military chaplaincy. Once a seminarian is in the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program, the AMS covers half of the costs to his home diocese for priestly formation.

In 2016, three priestly ordinations and one transitional diaconate ordination are expected. Twelve priests are currently serving as priests in their home dioceses before they will begin ministry as active duty military chaplains. In 2015, three new co-sponsored priests joined a branch of the military. The Nation and the Church continue to depend on this generation of future priests to relieve a chronic shortage of Catholic chaplains in the military. At the same time AMS vocations programs have surfaced numerous other vocations to the priesthood and religious life who do not intend to serve as chaplains!

The AMS receives no funding from the military or the government in support of the aforementioned programs and relies solely on private donors. The AMS annual operating budget is over \$6.8 million, which includes the cost of maintaining an archive of more than 3 million sacramental records, a tribunal to adjudicate marriage annulments and other issues of canon law, and a religious education and faith-formation program. Additionally, the AMS average annual share of expenses for the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program is more than \$2.8 million over the next five years. The AMS average annual cost per seminarian is \$18,000.

While the Government is reducing the size of the Armed Forces, the world situation, as we have repeatedly and dramatically witnessed both at home and abroad, continues to make the need for a strong military more evident. It is imperative that the Catholic faithful who defend our religious freedom do not have to sacrifice theirs.

To learn more about the mission and ministry of the AMS, please visit www.milarch.org/nationalcollection.com.



**COLLECTION FOR THE
ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA**

Serving those who Serve



La Conferencia Episcopal de los Estados Unidos (USCCB por sus siglas en inglés) aprobó una colecta especial trienal para la Arquidiócesis Castrense en noviembre de 2012. La primera colecta nacional para la Arquidiócesis fue cronometrada para coincidir con el feriado de los Veteranos de noviembre del 2013 y recaudó más de \$8.239.000. La segunda colecta nacional se llevará a cabo en las diócesis y las parroquias a lo largo del país en el 2016. Muchos harán la colecta en las misas del fin de semana del 5 al 6 de noviembre o cuando lo determine cada diócesis o parroquia.

La Arquidiócesis Castrense de los Estados Unidos de América (AMS por sus siglas en inglés) fue establecida por el Papa Juan Pablo II en 1985 para proporcionar una gama completa de los ministerios pastorales de la Iglesia Católica singularmente a los católicos en el servicio de las fuerzas armadas estadounidense. La misión de la Arquidiócesis es “servir a aquellos que sirven” proporcionando el mismo cuidado pastoral y servicios que cualquier diócesis católica, a los católicos en el servicio de las fuerzas armadas de los Estados Unidos, a los ingresados en las academias militares, a los que están sometidos a tratamiento médico en cualquiera de los 153 Centros médicos del Departamento de los Veteranos en los Estados Unidos, Puerto Rico y Guam, a los que trabajan en posiciones civiles con el gobierno federal fuera de las fronteras de los Estados Unidos y a las familias de éstos. Los programas y servicios vitales para la misión y el ministerio singular de la Arquidiócesis incluyen las vocaciones, la evangelización y la catequesis, los registros sacramentales, el tribunal y el ministerio para los Veteranos.

La oficina para las vocaciones informa y apoya a los hombres en el discernimiento de la vocación sacerdotal. Proporciona oportunidades para fomentar la conciencia vocacional y el discernimiento con enfoque en la capellanía castrense. El Programa de Seminarista Copatrocinado es una asociación entre la Arquidiócesis y las diócesis civiles y las órdenes religiosas alrededor del país. En la actualidad, la Arquidiócesis mantiene asociación con 23 diócesis en los Estados Unidos con un total de 28 seminaristas copatrocinados cursando estudios en 16 seminarios. Un total de 20 candidatos están en proceso de discernimiento para ingresar en el 2016 y desde el otoño de 2014, 113 candidatos han participado en uno o más de los retiros de discernimiento de la Arquidiócesis, expresando interés en el Programa de Seminarista Copatrocinado y en la capellanía castrense. Una vez que el seminarista es aceptado en el Programa de Seminarista Copatrocinado, la Arquidiócesis Castrense asume la mitad del costo de la formación del seminarista a través de su diócesis de origen.

En el 2016, se espera tener tres ordenaciones sacerdotales y una ordenación al diaconado. Doce sacerdotes están prestando su ministerio sacerdotal en su diócesis de origen antes de iniciar como capellán castrense en el servicio activo. En el 2015, tres nuevos sacerdotes copatrocinados se unieron a una rama de las fuerzas armadas. La nación y la Iglesia dependen de esta generación de futuros sacerdotes para aliviar la escasez crónica de capellanes católicos en la militar. Al mismo tiempo, los programas vocacionales de la Arquidiócesis Castrense han identificado numerosas otras vocaciones al sacerdocio y la vida religiosa que no tienen la intención de servir como capellanes.

La Arquidiócesis Castrense no recibe fondos monetarios de la militar o del gobierno para sufragar los gastos de programas citados y depende únicamente en benefactores privados. El presupuesto de operación anual de la Arquidiócesis sobrepasa los \$6,8 millones, lo cual incluye el costo de mantenimiento del archivo de más de 3 millones de registros sacramentales, el tribunal para juzgar las nulidades de matrimoniales y otros asuntos canónicos y el programa de educación religiosa y de formación en la fe. Además, los gastos anuales promedio del Programa de Seminarista Copatrocinado asumidos por la Arquidiócesis ascienden a más de \$2,8 millones por los próximos cinco años. El costo anual promedio por seminarista es de \$18,000 para la Arquidiócesis.

Mientras que el gobierno está reduciendo el tamaño de las fuerzas armadas, la situación mundial, como hemos visto a menudo y dramáticamente dentro y fuera del país, sigue evidenciando la necesidad de una militar robusta. Es imperativo que los fieles católicos que defienden nuestra libertad religiosa no tengan que sacrificar la suya.

Visite la página cibernética www.milarch.org/nationalcollection.com para conocer más sobre la misión y el ministerio de Arquidiócesis Castrense.



**COLLECTION FOR THE
ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA**