

St. Mary Help of Christians Church

24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301

May 3, 2020



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



"Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." - Jn 10:2-3

PARISH: 320-252-1799

SCHOOL: 320-251-3937

WEBSITE: www.SMHOC.org

PRAYER LINE: 320-558-6187

OFFICE EMAIL:
shellyg@smhoc.org

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Matthew Crane, *Pastor*

Kelly Kirks, *Principal*

Shelly Gohmann, *Secretary*

Kathy Waletzko,

Music Director

Tracy Yarke

Promoter of Catechesis

MASS SCHEDULE

Suspended until May 15

EVENING PRAYER & RECONCILIATION

Suspended until May 15

RCIA "RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS"

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Faith call the Parish Office.

BAPTISM PREP CLASS

June 8, 2020 at 6:30pm. Call the Parish Office to register.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Call the parish office for more information.

CEMETERY

JERRY KOLTES 320-252-1354

MARRIAGE PREP

Arrangements must be made at least 6 months before wedding. Call the Parish Office.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of St Mary Help of Christians Parish, are called to love and serve the Lord through our lives.

Established in 1856, the church is the cornerstone around which we have built our community of faith.

We encourage all to participate through worship, education, and sharing of their gifts and talents.

With the strength of our families, the optimism of our youth, and the wisdom of our seniors, we strive to be advocates of the "Good News" as we continue to grow and change.

May 3, 2020

Looking for good fruit out of this prolonged lockdown is not an easy task. Striving, though, to maintain the joy of Easter and see some good fruit from all of this, I would point to a video statement made by the bishop back on the 24th of April.

Bishop Kettler noted that the necessity of putting a lot of parish activity and information online has allowed us to reach parishioners we might not otherwise reach. He's right. Also, I would add, we are reaching in new ways people who otherwise might have already been participating. Unable to gather at the parish in order to meet and greet old friends, long-time parishioners are now engaging in parish activities online, solely to meet Jesus. While at first such a meeting is bracing, in the end, especially in the Easter Season, it is rather sweet.

That, I think, is very encouraging!

Sincerely in Christ, Fr. Matthew Crane

Readings for Next Sunday, May 10

Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

1 Peter 2:4-9

John 14:1-12

Cemetery Regulations - Please remember that flowers may be on the graves at our cemetery until June 15th. If the flowers are not attached to the gravestone, they will be discarded.

Bishop's Annual Appeal: Thank you to everyone who is supporting diocesan ministries through the Appeal, especially during these trying times. As of April 20, the Appeal raised \$865,841 in gifts and pledges toward the goal \$1,300,000. Please remember that it is especially important at this time to support your parishes and **safely** reach out to family, neighbors and people in need.

Graduating High School Seniors - If your child is graduating from High School this year, please call the Parish Office, 320-252-1799 or email the office at shellyg@smhoc.org with your child's name so we can recognize them.

Parish Contributions - In these uncertain times, we humbly ask for your continued financial support to the parish. There are a couple different options available: Your contributions can be mailed to the parish office,

St. Mary Help of Christians Church
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Or to set up automatic withdrawal email the parish office at shellyg@smhoc.org and the office will email you a form.

Thank you to those who have been able to mail their contributions or who already use the automatic withdrawal. We are grateful for your support! If you are not able to give to the parishes at this time, we understand and appreciate your prayers!

While there is no Public Mass, please remember the following in your prayers:

- 4 Monday - ☩ Betty Voigt
- 5 Tuesday - ☩ Lorraine Spoden
- 6 Wednesday - ☩ Larry Reiter
- 7 Thursday - ☩ Lyness & ☩ Odelle Held
- 8 Friday - ☩ Walter Kenning
- 9 Saturday - ☩ Frank & ☩ Bernice Voigt
- 10 Sunday - ☩ LeRoy Wettstein



The National Day of Prayer is an annual day of observance held on the first Thursday of May, designated by the United States Congress, when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation." Each year since its inception, the president has signed a proclamation, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day. This year the National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 7, 2020.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations - The World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed on May 4, 2020. The purpose of this observance is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38, Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), to the Religious life in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to societies of apostolic life, to secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life, in the particular sense of mission "ad gentes". 2020 marks the 57th anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Parish Support

Adult	\$4,559.24
Easter	750.00
Votive Lights	59.50
Food Shelf	200.00
Rice Bowl	91.00
Home Missions	100.00



Employment Opportunity - Our ACC is hiring a Director of Faith Formation! This person will be responsible for both adults and youth for the entire ACC. There is more information on our parish website www.smhoc.org

Click on the Faith Formation Picture, then click on the Director of Faith Formation Description. If you know of anyone that would be interested in applying, please pass on the information!



Greetings from SMHOCS...

I recently shared this message with our families, but wanted the parish community to be aware: It is with a heavy heart that we must announce that our students will finish out the school year through distance learning. We had all hoped and prayed that this pandemic threat would be short lived enough that we could rejoin our students in our physical classrooms, but unfortunately, that is not to be.

Gov. Walz, with concern for our children’s health, has opted to keep school buildings closed until the end of the year. We are dedicated to ensuring the health and safety of our students, and will be following his directive. Therefore, school will remain in session through distance learning until May 29, 2020.

All CCS schools will **hold distance classes until May 22**, and the remaining time will be used to connect with families and collect materials and devices. It is our intention to hold a graduation ceremony for our sixth grade class. Details will be shared at a later date.

We are most certainly disappointed that we cannot return to school, but we are dedicated to ensuring the health and safety of our students. Summercare will open once we have been notified by the Department of Health that it is safe to do so. Watch for an update.

Teacher Appreciation Week is upon us. The teachers at SMHOCS are the cream of the crop. We honor their dedication, talent, and commitment to our students.

When God created teachers, He gave us special friends to help us understand His world and truly comprehend the beauty and wonder of everything we see, and become a better person with each discovery.

When God created teachers, He gave us special guides to show us ways in which to grow so we can all decide how to live and how to do what’s right instead of wrong, to lead us so that we can be strong.

Why God created teachers, in His wisdom and His grace, was to help us learn to make our world a better place.

Kelly Kirks, Principal

From the Diocese - Seeking Rural Life Coordinator:

Social Concerns is seeking someone with farming and agricultural background interested in working with other people of faith on activities that help families and individuals in our rural communities to serve as a part-time (14 hours per week) Rural Life Coordinator. The position allows candidates to work from home, engage in community meetings and partner with a great team striving to live out our Catholic Social Teachings while meeting the needs of our rural parishes and areas of the diocese. Competitive wage and paid expenses. A passion for promoting Catholic social teaching is required; some experience in parish social ministry or charity and justice work is preferred. Must have lived and/or worked in a rural environment, including knowledge of farming. Interested persons should contact Kateri Mancini at 320-229-6020 or email Kateri.Mancini@ccstcloud.org Catholic Charities is an equal opportunity employer.



Festival News - The 2020 Festival Committee is hard at work reviewing our options for the Festival with the government mandated limited social gatherings. If you have any questions regarding the festival or have any ideas for them, please call one of the Festival chairs:

- Jerry and Kim Hurrle 320-64-0135
- Doug Kilanowski 320-333-0819
- Janelle Ahlert 320-292-0526
- Jim and Jeannie Schmidt 320-248-3233



Condolences to **Pauline Kilanowski and family** on the death of her mother, Stana Meyer.

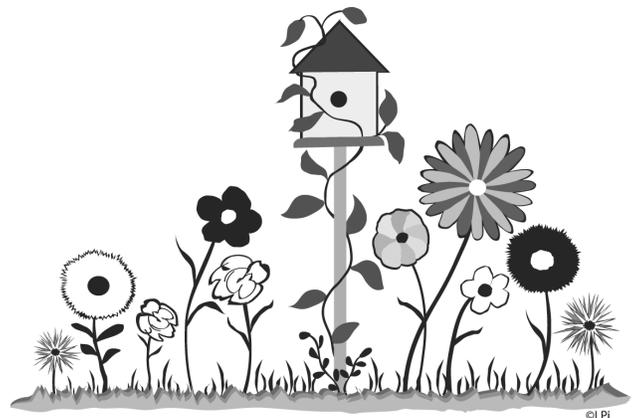
Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and may the perpetual light shine upon her.

Honoring Marriage Day: The Honoring Marriage Day has been rescheduled to Saturday, September 26th at 1:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. Mary in St. Cloud. If you were celebrating one of the marriage milestones, you should be receiving an invitation.

The Prayer Network is available when you want spiritual help for your special need(s). Contact Marcia Rosha at 320-558-6187.

From The Diocese of St. Cloud Vocations Office
2020 Summer Vocation Events:

- June 14: Paintball with the priests (9th grade young men and older)
 - June 16 – 18: Avon Vocation Camp (7th – 10th grade)
 - June 22 – 24: Belle Prairie Vocation Camp (7th – 10th grade)
 - August 8: Paschal Challenge, Sauk Centre (9th – 12th grade)
- More information or to register go to <http://vocations.stcdio.org/events/>



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