



SAINT
JOAN
OF
ARC
Catholic Community

Welcome

We Welcome You Wherever You Are On Your Journey

Gym Masses

Presider: **Fr. James Cassidy**

Today we begin our Advent Season: **Be Still and Know**. Our Sundays will include an opening ritual of prayer, music and quiet, as well as witness stories from our parishioners on their experiences of the presence of God in times of light and darkness. We thank parishioner **Mary Slobig** for sharing her journey with us this morning and we ask God's blessing on all our Advent journeys.

Thank you **Christina Pawlowski** for the light of your special musical solo at today's gym liturgies!

Family Masses

Welcome to our Advent celebrations! Today we have a play, *The Gift of Love*, with music by the children's choir, which asks us to think about the hope brought by the spirit of St Nicholas. Join us in the church at 9:45/11:45 as we light the first candle on our Advent Wreath!



Pastors 2 Cents From: Fr. Jim DeBruycker

In today's readings Isaiah says: *Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.*

It is a prayer that we might actually live a life which gives life, reminding us that we are not God, but creation.

There are over 65 million refugees in the world - more than half are children - which means there are 65 million people who do not have a home they can call their own. They have to depend on others for food and medicine, and their children cannot count on receiving an education. Worse yet, it means they cannot plan for the future - theirs or their children's.

Most are refugees because of wars, civil or other, which have driven them from their homes. Some of the wars are based on political and ethnic differences, and some on religious differences. Yes, people are still killing each other defending a so-called all powerful deity.

The Gospel says, *Watch out! You don't know when you will be called to answer for yourself.* Okay, but what about a nation? Right now, we are terribly divided as a people. It seems we cannot agree on much and would rather destroy than build. How close are we to the calamities seen all over the world? Will we get to a point when we would rather start killing each other instead of working together? God knows we have enough nuts out there who have already started killing.

Time and again, the image of us as God's pottery is used. It is an image to keep in mind, because, guess what? We break when dropped. How many times are we going to applaud ourselves for being heroic after a disaster rather than trying to prevent one before it happens?

Watch out! We are not God, although we like to pretend we are. The bottom line is we break and we should do everything in our power not to break others.

The Sunday Morning Registration and Information Office is located in the Parish Center. In the office you may register to become a SJA parishioner, get program information, sign up for a program, and register to volunteer. The office is open after both of our Sunday morning liturgies.

Parking: Be considerate of our neighbors and their property. Please don't block driveways or park in their on-street handicapped areas. Thank you!

Weekend Masses are Celebrated at:
5 pm Saturday and 7:45 am Sunday in the Church
9 am and 11 am Sunday in the Gym
Family Masses at 9:45 am and 11:45 am in the Church

Highlights This Week at SJA

FFI check the bulletin, the SJA website or call the Parish Center. The Upper Room is located in the Parish Center; Hospitality Hall, in the Church basement; the Arc, across 45th Street, 4457 3rd Ave.

Sunday, December 3

The Changing Face of HIV/AIDS, after the 11 am Mass, Upper Rm

#SJA<40, *Coffee & Chat*, 12:30 pm in the Arc

Advent Evensong Reconciliation Service, 4 pm in the Church

Monday, December 4

Addiction Resources, 7 pm in Hospitality Hall

Tuesday, December 5

8 am Mass in the Church

Wednesday, December 6

Seniors Mass and Luncheon, 11:30 am Church and Hospitality Hall

Expectant Family Blessing, 7 pm in the Church

Thursday, December 7

8 am Mass in the Church

Parish Council, 5:30 pm in the Upper Room

Choir, 7 pm in the Church

Saturday, December 9

First Reconciliation, 10 am in the Church

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

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...

Sunday 9 and 11 am Gym Masses:

December 10: Presider: **Fr. DeBruycker**. Our SJA Choir will sing with women's trio – *Carin Vagle, Christina Pawlowski* and *Terrie Coats* and cellist *Laura Sewell*.

December 17: Presider: **Fr. Cassidy**. *Sofia*, a special musical trio (*Tim Frantzich, Carin Vagle* and *Dean Magraw*), will inspire our sung prayer and Advent ritual.

December 24: Presider: **Fr. DeBruycker**. Our own **Steve Kremer** and **Terrie Coats** will sing solos on this last Sunday of Advent!

Christmas Eve Masses

4 pm: **Fr. Cassidy**, especially for families, in the gym

4 pm: **Fr. DeBruycker** and the SJA musicians in the church

6 pm: **Fr. Cassidy** and the SJA choir in the gym

10 pm: **Fr. DeBruycker** and the SJA musicians in the gym

Christmas Day Masses

7:45 am: **Fr. DeBruycker**, quiet mass, no music in the church

9 am: **Fr. DeBruycker** and the SJA musicians in the gym

11 am: **Fr. Cassidy** and the SJA choir in the gym



Scripture Readings:

Sun, Dec. 3: Isa 63:16b-17,19b,64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

Mon, Dec. 4: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11

Tue, Dec. 5: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24

Wed, Dec. 6: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37

Thu, Dec. 7: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21,24,27

Fri, Dec. 8: Genesis 3:9-15,20; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Sat, Dec. 9: Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8

Sun, Dec. 10: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

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

Arlene Axelson, Danny Axelrod, Ben Barbastis, Dennis Barta, Phyllis Berninger, Elaine Boehm, Sally Bolster, Bill Brazil, Lorraine Bryant, Pam Burd, Chris C., George C., Carrie Carlson, Dayna Cell, Dennis Coleman, Kate Corey, Joe Chouinard, Nick & Megan Daoust, Colleen Dooley, Ann Duffy, Bob Duffy, Eric, Kris Erickson, Henry F., Mary & Del Fischer, Nathan Freeman, John & Margaret Frees, Roman Garwood, Peter & Kathleen Giefer, Stephen Goodman, Heidi Gregorich, Tom Griep, Brent Harapat, Jim Hare, Helen Hinton, Jim Hinton, Ethan Hoeschen, Megan Hoffman, Mary Hoody, Jan Horner, Kathy Horner, Neysa Housley, Kirk Ingram, Jen, Mario & family, Tricia Jacobson, Cecilia Jaisle, Marjorie & Scott Johnson, Paul Jonsson, Molly K., Judy Kadlec, Lois Kalis, Jean Karol, Maria Karpinski, Donna Kelly, Glen Kelley, Marcia Kirchner, Lois Kolis, Teresa Kragenbring, Loyce, Luke, Marianne Lafex, Amy Lainus, Iva Lang, Melva Larson, Rachel Larson, Darlene Lawson, Linda Lindholme, Gary Lindstrom, Eileen Lund, Pat Lyon, Malia, Kamran M., Kyle M., Edna Manns, Anthony Marino, Kaye Mason, Harvey May, Mayer Family, Dawn McClelland, Chuck Meiers, Marie Moilanen, Teddy Mueller, Clara Murrell, Nate, Neala, Randy Naae, Steve Nathe, Pat Nelson, Jeannie & Charlie Neumann, Craig Nordby, Ken Olsen, Charlie Olson, Dick Olson, Paul Olvera, Colette Ott, Pam Paul, Joan Penrose, Bill Peterka, Dick Pirola, Ron, Jim Rapp, Lorial Rathman, Nancy Rattray, Doris Rausch, Scott Rivard, David Rossini, Leslie & Steve Royal, Sara, Mary S., Conrad Sampair, Kay Samuelson, Ottavio Savina, Pat Schulstad, Dana Sell, Sam Slagerman, Jon Smith, Joan Speltz, Jeff Stearns, Chuch Stickler, Becca Sweeney, David Sylvester, Irene Taddiken, Anne Taylor, Tom Tedford, Matthew Tennant, Mary Eve Thomas, Echo Thoren, Bibi Tristani, Stacia Utz, Carin Vagle, Leroy Vague, Floyd Ward, Marlys Weber, Bennett Wentworth, Mary White, Dave Wilkie, Jim & Jerry Wohnoutka, Jim Wolfe, Ann Woolsey, Regis Yunker, Annemaire & Ava Zubrzycki

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 at 612.823.8205 ext. 223.

A Book of Prayer is located in our Gym vestibule. If you have a family member or friend who is ill or who has recently died, please write their names in our Book of Prayer before Mass so we may include them in prayers during our Sunday Masses.

Parish Life

Choir will rehearse for Advent and Christmas on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 7 pm in the church.

Within Our Darkest Night...Join our SJA community for an **Advent**



Evensong Reconciliation Service this afternoon at 4 pm. In the quiet of our candle-lit church the SJA Prayer Partners will lead our prayer and meditation, the Schola will offer song and Fr. Jim DeBruycker will reflect on Advent and this season of reconciliation and forgiveness. Come! Let us quiet our souls and prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus into our lives and world...again!

SAGES Senior Mass and Luncheon, *Sharing Christmas Joy*, Wednesday, Dec. 6. 11:30 am mass in the church followed by lunch in Hospitality Hall. SAGES invites all seniors for a gathering of prayer, food, entertainment and prizes. RSVP is required as space is limited. Call the Parish Center by noon Monday. Free Will Offering.

Expectant Family Blessing! Are you awaiting the arrival of a new member in your family through birth or adoption or fostering? Let our community support you in this sometimes anxious time of waiting. Join our Prayer Partners this Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 7 pm in our church for prayer, story and a special ritual blessing. FFI contact Anna Vagle at 612.823.8205 ext. 235.



SJA CARE Committee at Work: Each month, our CARE Committee volunteers meet with parishioners and neighbors in need of emergency financial assistance. Our mission is to help people stay in their housing and keep utilities turned on. On average, we help 10-15 households a month, and, as one committee member shared, "Many people cry with gratitude and relief. They know they have found a way to keep moving forward." Your support of our SJA Outreach Fund makes this possible. Thank you.

Uptown Heating & Air Conditioning in partnership with TRUST is offering Furnace Tune-Up & Carbon Monoxide Safety Check. \$69 Fundraiser Special (normally \$210) TRUST receives the \$69; call TRUST at 612.827.6159 for the coupon. Furnace package includes: Video inspection of furnace and heat exchanger, test carbon monoxide, test safety controls test and adjust system efficiency, remove dirt, soot, and corrosion. Can be used for furnace or boiler, can not be used for rental or commercial property.

Where Does My Coffee Cup Go? We strive to be a zero-waste campus and your help is needed making sure that coffee cups are disposed of properly on Sunday mornings. Here's the info you need:

1. All hot cups brought in from outside SJA are TRASH (not recyclable), unless marked "Certified Compostable"
2. Cold plastic beverage cups and lids are RECYCLABLE. Straws are not.
3. All cups from within SJA are COMPOSTABLE - organic, made from corn.

Thank you for your help!

SJA Concert Series:

Christmas Concert: *O Christmas Three* brings our three band-leaders, Dan Chouinard, Tommy Barbarella and George Maurer back together by popular request with a host of favorite singers and musicians for a night of holiday music. Bring the whole family! Sunday, December 17 at 7 pm. Doors open at 6:15.



Watch That Star - 2018 MLK Concert, Sunday, January 14, 7 pm: Bruce Henry leads a spellbinding journey through 400 years of African-American protest songs, with an all-star band, singers Tonia Hughes, Robert Robinson, Mari Harris and PaviElle, dancer Kenna-Camara Cottman, the SJA choir and more.

Urban Farmer's Almanac, Sunday, April 29, 7 pm: Through music, comedy and conversation, Dan Chouinard and guests celebrate the bountiful city and explore ways of leading a greener urban life. With author and Star Tribune writer, Beth Dooley, Ruhel Islam of Gandhi Mahal Restaurant and Urban Farm, lots of musicians, storytellers and more.

Tickets are on sale after Sunday masses or at www.stjoan.com. After mass sales: cash or check only. On-line sales: credit card.



Holiday Volunteer Opportunities:

Wreath of Love: If you took a card off of the Wreath of Love, please return your **wrapped** gifts to the Parish Center by **Dec. 10**.

SJA Jesse Tree: If you took an ornament from one of the trees outside the church or gym, please return your **unwrapped** gifts with the ornament attached by **Dec. 10**.

Christmas with Dignity: Many SJAs are involved in this great project with Hospitality House in North Minneapolis. Toys, games, clothing and books are sold to low-income families at affordable prices, giving parents the opportunity to choose gifts for their children. If you'd like to help pre-sorting and marking of gifts or accompanying families the day of the sale, contact Paula Larsen at info@changeisachoice.com or 763.228.2493.

Native American Ministry: For a list of gifts to purchase for a family from the church of Gichitwaa Kateri, contact Mary Ellen at 763.535.7241, or Ruth and Gary at 612.922.1539. Wrapped gifts will be collected in the Egan Room (south side of the gym) on Sunday, Dec. 10 and 17. Thanks to all who share your abundance during the Christmas season.

Summary of contributions for the week and fiscal year. Includes plate, envelopes and estimated Sustaining Member payments.

Week of November 26, 2017

Actual \$37,239 Budget \$39,476
Prior Year Actual \$39,768

YTD (July 1 – November 26, 2017)

Actual \$733,379 Budget \$745,961
Prior Year Actual \$741,450

Thank You For Your Continued Support!

Pastoral Ministries

FFI on Pastoral Ministries contact Sherri Stella at 612.823.8205 ext. 231 or [sstella@stjoan.com](mailto:ssstella@stjoan.com)

Mental Health Ministry: Please join us on Monday, January 8, 5:45 pm – 8 pm in Hospitality Hall for a discussion on *Creating Caring Communities*. All are welcome. FFI about our collaborative Mental Health Ministry, please contact Sherri Stella at the Parish Center.

Did You Know? The *What's Left: Lives Touched by Suicide* art exhibit returns to our area for display at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 715 Minnetonka Mills Rd, Hopkins, Nov. 19 - Jan. 7. FFI: hopkinsgethsemanechurch/home or 952.935.1753.

The Parish Visitor Ministry offers confidential listening, prayer, communion, and support in times of life challenges or transitions. Through phone calls and visits, this quiet support is available to parishioners who cannot join us for worship or would like an additional long or short term parish connection in the home, hospital, rehab or care center. FFI contact Sherri Stella at the Parish Center or Carolyn Dobis, 651.485.2868.

TRUST, Inc. Grief Support Series: Join us on Thursday, Dec. 7 at Our Lady of Peace Church, 5426 12th Av. S. for the last session of the Fall series. Our prayerful Service of Remembrance is a time to honor our deceased loved ones. All are welcome and invited to bring a picture or other memento of your loved one (not required). Gathering time 6:15 pm; Service time: 6:30 pm, followed by refreshments and social time. FFI contact Norine at 952.925.2437.



Peace and Justice

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

Sister Parish Card and Craft Fair: We have just a few items still available, handmade by members of our Sister Parish in Guatemala. Your support will help delegates from Tierra Nueva Dos come to SJA in February, 2018. Thank you!

Will You Join Our Delegation to Guatemala? If you are interested in traveling with fellow SJAers to our Sister Parish in Tierra Nueva Dos from August 10-20, 2018, please join our informational meeting on Dec. 6 at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. It is a life-changing experience of faith and solidarity and we'd love to have you join us on the journey!

Thank You for Sharing Your Abundance! We are grateful to all the Thanksgiving Day mass-goers who brought donations of food for the food shelf at the Aliveness Project, a neighbor of SJA that provides services to people living with HIV/AIDS. 775 pounds of food were delivered! Thank you for your remembering our neighbors in need.

The Changing Face of HIV/AIDS: To commemorate World AIDS Day, we will hear from staff of the Aliveness Project **today**, following the 11:00 mass, in the Parish Center Upper Room. The Aliveness Project, a recipient of Justice Grants through our SJA Outreach Fund and a neighbor of SJA (located at 38th and Nicollet), is a community organization providing life-giving services to people living with HIV/AIDS, and their families.



Building An Antiracist Church: Next Sunday, Dec. 10, following the 11 am mass, join our SJA Antiracism core team for a brief introduction to their work and our journey together. Meet fellow SJAers, share your story, and enjoy hospitality together. We are committed to the transformation of our church, our community and ourselves as we work toward racial justice.

SJA WAMM/Peacemakers in Action: Next Sunday, Dec. 10 is Human Rights Day, and our SJA WAMM (Women Against Military Madness) Peacemakers will have info on the Int'l Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. This campaign - called iCAN (www.icanw.org) - is being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize that day, and our peacemakers are proud to be a partner in their efforts. We are followers of Christ calling for a message of nonviolence from our church and our nation. Join us!

Without Papers: A Testament to the Dream Act. On Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 pm, SJA's *Welcome the Stranger* ministry (focusing on immigrants, asylees and refugees) will host the screening of this short film which lifts up the journey of a young woman and the impact the Dream Act has had on her life. We will be joined by filmmaker, Andres Parra, for discussion of this beautiful story and ways we can support the Dreamers in our country.

SJA Housing Ministry: Thank you to all on our team who volunteered yesterday with Urban Homeworks, rehabbing a property that will provide beautiful and affordable housing for a low-income family. You made a difference in our city! We wish all of our volunteers a blessed Christmas season. Our next volunteer date is Saturday, Feb. 3, and we welcome newcomers and experienced volunteers - contact Julie Madden at the Parish Center.



Justice Grants to Be Awarded: This week, our dedicated Justice Grant committee will meet to award a round of grants - what a fun job this is! Grants are awarded to organizations and projects in which SJAers volunteer. This is how we partner with you, our parishioners, in your work for justice and peace. The Justice Grants are part of our SJA Outreach Fund, and we thank all our donors and everyone involved in this incredible process. We'll have the list of grants for you next week after mass!

Mobile Loaves Twin Cities needs toiletry size soap, toothpaste toothbrushes, shampoo, lotion, socks, hats and mittens for the winter. Please place your donations in the collection hamper across from the food shelf bin in the Parish Center entrance. FFI contact mlf.mpls@gmail.com.

Faith Formation and Adult Learning

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

Children in Grades 4 - 6: Work With Mobile Loaves Twin Cities!



Love. Grow. Serve.

On the third Tuesday of the month, from December through April, join together with other SJA kids to pack food which will go out our neighbors in need, on the Mobile Loaves Twin Cities truck! You'll meet at Knox Presbyterian Church (4747 Lyndale Ave S., Mpls) from 3:45 pm to around 4:30 pm. Pack some meals, make some friends, do some good! We also need several parents to join the kids each month on: Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Mar. 20 and Apr. 17. Sign up after Family Masses. FFI contact Gabrielle at gdane@stjoan.com.

Adoption Book Club: This time we look to the classic, *Anne of Green Gables*, by Lucy Maud Montgomery. Let's plan to get together and talk about the book on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 10 am at Turtle Bread (4762 Chicago Ave., Mpls). If you are interested in adoption, please come, even if you don't finish the book!

New to SJA? Meet a Mentor Family! Do you love SJA but find it hard to connect with other parish families? Would you like to be part of the many exciting SJA ministries, but don't know how to get started? Sign up with a mentor family! Your mentor family will join you for coffee and cookies after a Family Mass to share with you the ways their family found a home at SJA. FFI contact Gabrielle at gdane@stjoan.com.

Shoes for the Homeless: Calvary Church in Minneapolis welcomes donations of gently used shoes for people in need. Only sturdy shoes and winter boots in good condition please. Questions? Contact Gabrielle at gdane@stjoan.com.



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/to register call JP at the Parish Center.

Nursery: FFI contact Michelle Dehn, Nursery Director at mdehn@stjoan.com or 612.823.8205 ext. 240.

Our Nursery, located in the lower level of the Parish Center, is open for the 9 & 11 am Sunday Masses. The Nursery is a wonderful community of families and volunteers that allows parents to enjoy Mass and meet other families in the Parish. Drop-ins are always welcome.

Pre-school: (Ages 4-Kindergarten) FFI contact Olivia Brown at 612.823.8205 ext. 230.

Grade School: (Grades 1-6) FFI contact Marie Bissonnette at 612.823.8205 ext. 229 or mbissonnette@stjoan.com.

Youth Ministry: (Grades 7-12) FFI contact Rose Aspholm at 612.823.8205 ext. 241 or raspholm@stjoan.com.

Volunteer Opportunity for 9-12 graders and their families: *Ronald McDonald House Cooks for Kids* meal program creates a home away from home for families whose children have life-threatening illness and need to stay near the hospital. Volunteers provide the food, prepare and serve the meal with lots of smiles and humor for the families. You must be at least 14 years old to serve and be accompanied by one or both parents who will serve with you. We are looking for 1-2 more families to join this awesome ministry. Meets the 3rd Sunday of the month, 10 am - 3 pm. FFI contact Rose at raspholm@stjoan.com.

Christmas Cookie Decorating Night: Friday, Dec. 15, 6 - 9 pm in Hospitality Hall. 7-12 graders are invited to come join the youth ministry crew in making holiday goodies, drink a cup of hot cocoa, sing carols and watch a Christmas movie. Enjoy some holiday cheer with your friends by decorating cookies and playing a few Christmas games. Everyone will leave with a plate full of treats and a heart warmed with the Christmas spirit. Please invite a friend! Registration online. FFI contact Rose at raspholm@stjoan.com.



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

#SJA<40 - Coffee & Chat! Calling those 23 - 39, let's come together **today**, 12:30 - 2 pm, in the Arc, to meet and greet each other and share ideas for the #SJA<40 Ministry.

Addiction Resources, 1st Monday Gatherings - How to Get Unstuck: Please join us on Dec. 4, 7 - 8:30 pm, in Hospitality Hall for the sharing of information and experiences.

2nd Monday Dialogue with SAGES: Enjoy coffee and dialogue with presenter Monica Nilsson, Director of St. Stephen's Human Services. Monica will discuss St. Stephen's efforts with homelessness among seniors. Join us on Monday, Dec. 11, 1:30 - 3 pm, in Hospitality Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Parish Book Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of a month at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. Everyone is welcome anytime!

- December 13: *Underground Christmas* by Jon Hassler
- January 10: *Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

Healthcare Deadlines: Enrollment for 2018 for the Affordable Care Act **ends Dec. 15**. Funds to publicize the dates have been cut, so please be aware and help get the word out to others who may need to apply for healthcare through the ACA.



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