

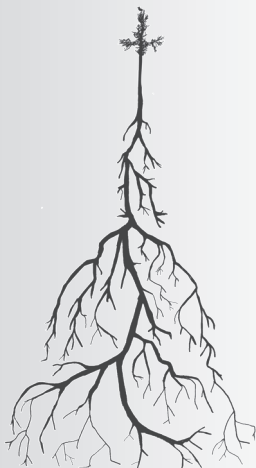
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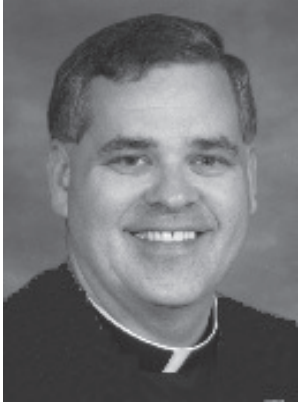
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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 13, 2008

Cities 97 Basilica Block Party: July 11 & 12
Labyrinths for Peace Presentation: July 20
New Member Brunch: July 27

WELCOME TO THE BASILICA

FROM THE RECTOR
BY REV. JOHN M. BAUER



With this column I would like to update you in regard to six areas of our parish's life.

1. Our Parish Finances: As I've mentioned before, this past fiscal year our parish income took a hit as a result of the current economic climate. While we didn't experience a decrease in our income, we didn't experience the

increase we had anticipated when budgeting for this fiscal year, which ended on June 30.

At the beginning of May, Fr. O'Connell and I wrote to parishioners in regards to our financial situation. Our letter noted that in response to the anticipated shortfall in revenues, our staff had worked diligently to not only control this year's expenses, but to reduce them. While those efforts were fruitful and very helpful in terms of this year's budget, they were not sufficient to deal with our revenue shortfall. Given this, the decision was made to immediately reduce staffing levels in some areas and not rehire certain positions for the next fiscal year.

In regard to next fiscal year's budget, we're taking a conservative approach. Specifically, we're not projecting an increase in revenues for the next fiscal year. While this was difficult, it was the only way our Finance Committee felt comfortable with a budget for the next fiscal year.

I want to thank all of those whose ongoing financial support has been critical in terms of keeping our parish moving forward. Please know of my personal, as well as our parish's gratitude for your generosity.

As we move into summer, I'd like to remind everyone that during the summer months most parishes experience a dip in their weekly collections. With vacations and weekend getaways, many of our parishioners miss being at The Basilica for some or several weekends. While this is a good thing for you, it does have an impact on our revenue. And while you

may have the opportunity to get away during these summer months, our parish doesn't get a break from our bills. Given this, I simply ask you to keep our parish in mind this summer.

2. Staffing for the Next Fiscal Year: As a result of our revenue shortfall, we've reduced some staffing levels for next year and will not rehire certain positions. Four Basilica departments were impacted directly by the staff reduction: Administration, HR/Finance, Special Projects and Development. To help with the staff reductions and restructuring, our staff has been asked to step up and take on additional responsibilities.

The primary area where staffing levels were reduced is reception. We no longer have two full-time receptionists. We're grateful to our administrative assistants from our various departments who are filling in at the reception desk. We've also increased the number of volunteers who are helping in this area. However, we still need more volunteer support for nights and weekends.

Sandy Christian, our director of finance and human resources, is retiring this year. This allowed us to re-structure the accounting function. Our current staff accountant, Audra Johnson, is moving into a new position of accounting manager. Other roles will be filled by part-time staff and a part-time financial consultant will provide oversight.

Tom Green, who has served as director of special projects in recent years, will retire after 19 years at The Basilica for medical and personal reasons. With the help of volunteers in the Mental Health Ministry and Employment Ministry, we're in the process of determining how to continue this ministry through volunteer leadership and by transferring some of the responsibilities to other staff and/or areas.

In addition to the above full-time employees, we also eliminated several part-time positions. While these decisions weren't made lightly, and while it's always difficult to lay off valued employees, this was the only way for us to reduce our expenses and start to bring our budget back into balance.

Continued on p.8

Visit us online at www.mary.org.

EUCCHARIST

Saturday: 5:00pm-Visiting Choirs, Cantor & Organ

Sunday: 7:30am-Cantor and Organ

9:30am-Basilica Cathedral Choir (Sign Language Interpreted)

11:30am-Contemporary Ensemble/Choir

4:30pm-Contemporary Ensemble

6:30pm-Contemporary Ensemble

Monday - Friday

7:00am & 12:00nn-Saint Joseph Chapel

Nursery service available Sundays in the Cowley Center during the 9:30am and 11:30am liturgies. For handicapped access, please use the east entry. Wheelchair available upon request.

The Basilica of Saint Mary

PO Box 50010 Minneapolis, MN 55405-0010

612.333.1381 | www.mary.org

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 9:00am-10:00am and by appointment.

BAPTISM

Please call the Parish Office at 612.333.1381.

MARRIAGE

Must be a registered member for SIX months before scheduling a wedding. Call the Parish Office ONE year prior to setting wedding date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Arrangements made by calling the Parish Office.

LITURGY AND SACRED ARTS

Basilica Block Party

Friday, July 11, No 7:00am Mass

Saturday, July 12, No 5:00pm Mass

Due to the Block Party celebrations, there will not be 7:00am Mass on Friday, July 11 or 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, July 12. The Mass schedule remains unchanged for Sunday, July 13.

Labyrinths For Peace

Exhibit through July 27

John XXIII Gallery & Teresa of Calcutta Hall

Labyrinths are a powerful tool for reflection, meditation, and discovery. View examples of ancient and modern labyrinths in the US and throughout the world.

Presentation & Discussion

Sunday, July 20, 1:15pm

Learn about the spirituality and history of labyrinths and hear from Lucinda Naylor, The Basilica's artist-in-residence, regarding her experience creating the Mary Labyrinth.

Auditions

Basilica Cathedral Choir

Auditions will be held: Wednesday, August 20 and Thursday, August 21, 4:00-7:00pm; Saturday, August 23, 11:00am-1:00pm. Check www.mary.org for requirements. Call Teri Larson at 612.317.3426 to schedule a 15-minute audition.

Cathedral Choristers

All youth in grades 4-8 are invited to sing in the Cathedral Choristers. Voice checks are required and will be held August 11-14 from 1:00-3:30pm in the Saint Cecilia Room. Choristers rehearse from 5:45-7:00pm on Wednesday evenings during the school year. Contact Teri Larson to schedule a voice check.

All Returning Choir Members

Time to schedule your voice check. Choristers: August 11-14 from 1:00-3:30pm and Adults: August 23, 25, 26 or 27 by appointment. Contact Teri to schedule. This is a requirement for singing in the upcoming 2008-2009 season.

Junior Cantor Ministry

Do you like to sing? Are you between the ages of ten and 18? We'd like to invite you to a workshop for potential junior cantors on Saturday, August 23 from 9:00-10:00am. For more information and to sign up, contact Teri Larson at 612.317.3426 or tlarson@mary.org.

Angelicum Women's Choir

Angelicum Women's Choir sings about six times a year for Basilica liturgies, and 1-2 concerts. Rehearsals will be held two times a month from 9:00-11:00am on Saturday mornings. Reading music is required. Auditions held by appointment in August. Call Teri Larson to schedule an audition.

Join Our Contemporary Music Ministry!

Are you feeling called to share your love of music within one of our contemporary music ministry ensembles? Adults and youth are invited to enter into this musically-exciting and spiritually-fulfilling ministry.

Mundus

The Basilica Contemporary and World Music Choir enlivens the 11:30am liturgy two times a month. Repertoire includes music of contemporary American composers and music from North and South America, Africa and Asia. Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:15pm. There are openings for all voice parts and instrumentalists.

Juventus

The Basilica Youth Ensemble for youth grades 8 and up leads music twice a month at the 4:30pm Sunday Mass, September through May and once a month during the summer. Rehearsals take place on Sundays from 3:00-4:00pm. There are openings for all voice parts and instrumentalists. Bass, guitar and percussion players welcome!

To schedule a voice check or instrumental audition, contact Walter Tambor at 612.317.3507 or wtambor@mary.org.

Plan to Have Your Child Sing in a Choir

All children are welcome to sing!

- Cherub Choir (Pre-k-K); 5:30-6:00pm on Wednesdays.
- Children's Choir (1st-3rd grade); 6:00-7:00pm on Wednesdays

For more information, call Pat Arasim at 612.370.0920. No audition is required.

Sacrament of Anointing

Saturday, August 2, 5:00pm

The sacrament of anointing will be celebrated after Mass.

Basilica Choir Camp

August 11-August 15, 9:00am-noon

The Basilica School

Choir camp will be held for children grades 2-8. Sign up now—space is limited! Cost is \$210 and scholarships are available based upon need. For details, visit www.mary.org.

LITURGY & SACRED ARTS

Director – Johan van Parys

General Info - 612.317.3410

Liturgical Ministries - 612.317.3433

Sacred Art/Concerts - 612.317.3438

Traditional Music - 612.317.3426

Contemporary Music - 612.317.3507

LEARNING

FAMILY LEARNING

Registration for '08-'09 Classes

Registration is open for 2008-09 Children's and Youth Learning Programs. Some programs have filled, but openings remain in many of the programs. Visit www.mary.org or pick up a packet at the back of church for full details.

Where Do I Find the Time?

Where does family life intersect faith? Parents can reach out to their children and youth at many different times:

Bed time	Meal time
Lap time	Car time
Worship time	Sick time
Play time	Story time
Rise-and-shine time	Walk time
Chores time	Anytime!

Nursery

The Basilica nursery in the Cowley Center provides care for infants and toddlers up to three years of age on Sundays during the 9:30am and 11:30am Masses. **We need nursery volunteers**; if you're interested, contact Janice Halverson at 763.788.5854. A background check, code of conduct and "VIRTUS: Protecting God's Children" training are required.

Baptism

Congratulations to the following children who were welcomed into The Basilica community through the sacrament of baptism on June 15:

Sierra Crystal Barrett
Bianca Susan Bissonette
Lincoln James Brown
Connor James Cox
Isabella Marie Dahling
Mason Rain Kujawa
Alice Ann Piper
Jesus Ricardo Melendez Reyes, Jr.
Alexandra Shukalovich
Cormac John Tebbe

Stay Informed—Electronically!

Want to be "in-the-know" about the latest happenings at The Basilica? Make sure to sign up for our new "Basilica Events" e-newsletter. To sign up, visit www.mary.org, click on MyBasilica and select "view/manage e-communications."

Summer Opportunity for 6-12 Grade Youth Urban Immersion Retreat Sunday-Wednesday, August 3-6

For information or to express interest in this event, please contact Kelli Kester at 612.317.3439 or kkester@mary.org. A minimum of 10 people is needed. Thanks!

Youth Learning Volunteer Opportunity

We're in need of a co-teacher for the 2008-2009 8th grade Learning Program. This group meets regularly on Sunday evenings after 4:30pm Mass. If you're interested or have questions, call Kelli Kester at 612.317.3439. A background check, code of conduct and VIRTUS training are required.

Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching—a gem of our faith tradition—will be explored in our 6th-12th grade Learning Programs this fall. Watch this space for details and to learn the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching.

Baptism Preparation

Baptism preparation classes for parents are offered one evening each month. It's required that parents attend class before registering for a baptism date and are encouraged to do so before their child's birth. It's also required that at least one parent is a registered parish member. Please call Michelle Slaughter at 612.317.3414 for more information or to request registration materials.



Christmas in July!

Help us clear out the store room and get some great bargains in the process!

Find some real treasures...

Stop by today!

Regular Store Hours:
Fridays: Noon—6:00pm
Saturdays: 10:00am—7:00pm
Sundays: 8:30am—8:00pm

Open 24 Hours at
www.luxeterna.org

LUX Eterna is located on the ground floor, 16th Street side of The Basilica.
Call 612.317.3601 for specific items available.

ADULT LEARNING

Catholics Coming Home

The Basilica is once again pleased to have the opportunity to work with Carrie Kemp and offer the Catholics Coming Home series in the 2008-09 program year. The first series will be held Wednesday evenings, Sept 24—Oct 22 from 7:00-9:00pm. Stay tuned for more details!

Fall 2008 Small Christian Communities

Registration for Fall Small Christian Communities on the topic of “Faithful Citizenship” will be held September 13-14 and 20-21 after all Masses. You may also register online—visit www.mary.org and click on MyBasilica. The program will begin with a kick-off potluck dinner and presentation by Fr. Jan Michael Joncas. Groups will meet on a weekly basis for five weeks (Oct 5—Nov 2). Please consider this opportunity to share and learn with other adults in our parish community.

Adult Learning Programs for Next Year

We’re in the process of planning the Adult Learning schedule of events and speakers for next year. Feel free to pass on your thoughts and ideas to the Learning Office or e-mail pkaempffer@mary.org. We value your input!

Adult Spirituality Websites

We often get questions about where one can find resources to strengthen one’s spirituality, deepen one’s prayer life, and connect more closely with God in one’s everyday relationships. The following are resources that might be helpful in these areas. Find more on www.mary.org.

Saint Louis University
<http://liturgy.slu.edu/4EasterA041308/main.html>

Sacred Space
www.sacredspace.ie/

The Word Among Us
www.wau.org/meditations/meditations.asp

Liturgy of the Hours
www.universalis.com/

Minute Meditations
www.americancatholic.org/Features/Minute/default.asp

Praying Each Day
www.prayingeachday.org/prayersites.html#just

Christ in the Desert
www.christdesert.org/news/homily.php

YOUNG ADULT LEARNING

Basilica ALIVE!

Join us for these upcoming events for young adults!

Book Club,

Monday, July 14, 6:30-8:30pm

Life of The Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World by Henry Nouwen. This book is a meaningful, short read about spiritual living in today’s society. Join the discussion! Contact Kate at katemminor83@hotmail.com for details.

Saint Paul Saints Game

Sunday, August 3, 1:05pm

“Halloween in August.” Let’s go out to the ballgame dressed in our favorite Halloween costumes. Tailgating begins at 11:00am. Bring your beverage, meat to grill and a dish to share. RSVP by July 1 to Ginny at mullenv1983@msn.com.

SACRAMENTS

Have You Ever Considered Becoming Catholic? Do You Wonder What Catholicism Is All About?

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the process of RCIA for next year—either to become a member of the Catholic faith or to serve as a sponsor to one of our inquirers, call the Learning Office at 612.317.3414.

Classes begin in September. We ask that those interested call and schedule an interview before classes begin.

Join Us!

Whether you are looking to enrich your spiritual life or become part of a diverse, faith-filled community,

The Basilica has it all.

Visit www.mary.org to learn more!

LEARNING OFFICE

Director – Paula Kaempffer

General Info/Baptism - 612.317.3414

Youth Ministry - 612.317.3439

Young Adult Ministry - 612.317.3439

Children & Family Ministry - 612.317.3435

Marriage Ministry - 612.317.3478

CHRISTIAN LIFE

Basilica of Saint Mary Social Groups

AVENUES—A faith-based community of adults in their 30s and 40s offering Christian hospitality.

Crossroads—A dynamic, accepting and supportive group of people 50 and older.

Social Events for July and August

Annual Pool Party

Tuesday, July 15, evening

Join Crossroads for their annual pool party! RSVP to Marilyn Walters at 763.541.9393. RSVPs limited to 40.

Dining Out

Thursday, July 24, 6:30pm

Crossroads will meet at The View in the Calhoun Beach Club. RSVP to Marilyn Walters at 763.541.9393.

Loaves and Fishes

Friday, July 25, 4:00pm

Help AVENUES provide an evening meal at River of Life Church (2200 Fremont Ave N). Volunteers are needed for preparation, serving and cleanup. Afterwards, we'll head to Elsie's for dinner. RSVP by July 11 to Terry at nowaktj@yahoo.com.

Mass and a Meal

Sunday, July 27, 6:30pm

Join AVENUES and Johan van Parys for 6:30pm Mass and the dinner at Joe's Garage. Meet by the welcome desk in the back of the church. RSVP to Paul at 612.216.1513.

Excelsior Streetcar and Minnehaha Boat Trip

Saturday, August 9, 2:30pm

Join Crossroads at the streetcar in Excelsior (Water St near 2nd St); \$2. At 3:45pm, we'll board a one-hour Lake Minnetonka cruise; \$10. RSVP required to Karl at 763.427.7891.

Interested in a Boat Cruise with AVENUES?

All aboard the LADY OF THE LAKE—Lake Minnetonka's Historic Sternwheeler. For information, contact Brett at BCorbitt@rocketmail.com.

Thursday Morning Book Club

First Thursday of the month, 10:00am

Meet Crossroads Book Club in the Cowley Center. Call Pat at 763.374.2350. **Upcoming books:**

August—*Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemirovsky

September—*Mayflower* by Nathaniel Philbeck.

CHRISTIAN LIFE OFFICE

Director - Janice Andersen

General Info - 612.317.3419

Charity - 612.317.3413

Justice - 612.317.3477

Caring Ministries - 612.317.3474

Welcome/Hospitality - 612.317.3419

Basilica Habitat for Humanity Team Gearing up for another year!

The Basilica will be constructing a Habitat for Humanity home the week of September 15. We're seeking steering committee members and volunteers to help with construction—no experience necessary! We also need assistance with breakfast, lunch, snacks and check-in. Call Julia at 612.317.3413 to join the fun!

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Why join a CSA? CSA enables you to buy organic produce and plants that are healthier and more flavorful because they are grown naturally without harmful pesticides. Crops are grown locally so farmers determine what to grow based on flavor, not whether the crops will withstand a long journey.

Buying locally-grown food and plants greatly reduces our use of fossil fuels and wasteful packaging. You can also purchase meat from many CSA farmers, who treat the livestock humanely and do not give them harmful antibiotics. And, supporting CSAs keeps money in the local community. For details or to get involved, call 612.317.3477.

Eco-Tips

Looking for a way to recycle your CFL light bulbs? The Center for Energy & Environment, Great River Energy and Menards have partnered to offer CFL recycling at all Menards stores. Drop them off at the service desk and they'll be disposed of safely. Home Depot also will take CFL bulbs. A free lighting audit for small businesses is also available. Contact Kristin Funk at kfunk@mncee.org for details. To join The Basilica ecological team, call 612.317.3477.

Peace Teams at the RNC

Peace Teams act as a peaceful presence in potentially violent situations. They are a form of Third Party Nonviolent Intervention and are a powerful non-partisan tool being created to prevent violence during the Republican National Convention in St Paul, September 1-4.

There will be an eight-hour training on de-escalation techniques and non-partisan communication tools in late July and August. If you'd like to participate, call 612.317.3477.

"Cirque de Guerre"

Thursday-Sunday, July 17-20

"Cirque de Guerre" was created through the efforts and support of Every Church A Peace Church-Twin Cities. Small groups imagined skits that would humorously or seriously show the absurdity of the "Just War" theory, which are the basis for the final production. For further information and tickets, visit www.illusiontheater.org.

Saint Vincent de Paul and Disaster Relief Second Collection Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20, All Masses



Each week, hundreds of our neighbors in need knock on our door and we open it. At first glance, a sandwich or a pair of shoes might not seem like a lot. But to someone who's hungry, cold or homeless, it can save their life.

In addition to our neighbors right outside of The Basilica, there are also thousands whose lives have been turned upside down by disastrous floods in our neighboring state of Iowa. They need our help.

There will be a **second collection at all Masses July 19 and 20** to raise money for our neighbors in need. Not only will the collection provide financial support to The Basilica's SVdP ministries, but ten percent of what we raise will also support the Archdiocesan effort to collect money for disaster relief.

We cannot continue these ministries and help those in need without your support—thank you for your generosity!

The Basilica Mary Labyrinth

O, Blessed Virgin Mary, as we walk, hear our prayers both spoken and unspoken. The Basilica's labyrinth on the west lawn is dedicated to Mary, the blessed mother of Jesus. Unlike a maze, which confuses the walker, a labyrinth takes us on a journey of discovery—a miniature pilgrimage. A labyrinth's winding path mimics the road of life with its unexpected turns; walking it helps us to reflect.

We invite you to walk The Basilica's labyrinth while contemplating your own life journey. We also invite you to recall the life paths of Jesus and Mary during your walk. Saying the rosary is a perfect accompaniment.

As you walk the "long arms" of the Mary labyrinth, consider how God's love embraces us. Nearing the center, where the labyrinth's circular paths enfold us, reflect on how God nurtures us and how we can nurture others as instruments of God's peace and justice.

For more information, or to get involved in the Mary Labyrinth initiative, call 612.317.3477.

A Pathways Participant Shares

Pathways is a free weekly program focusing on spiritual life skills. We focus on awareness of God's presence and God's gifts and skills we can use to better our lives. Topics include goal setting, self-control, spirituality, budgeting and change. A meal and childcare are provided. All are welcome!

Everyone who attends Pathways benefits. A participant and volunteer shares: *"I have attended Pathways many times, for many reasons*—as a participant, as an advocate, as a mother too lazy to cook dinner on Thursday night. Whatever the reason, the result is always the same. I'm amazed by how little I know about things I *think* I know everything about, especially myself. The room is filled with people unlike me and just like me. The environment is safe and inviting and the fellowship is enriching. Anyone and everyone can be themselves with God. It's a perfect place to begin, renew or continue your faith journey. I'll always be a part of Pathways. It has made me a better human and a better Christian."

Volunteers needed for Pathways...There are many opportunities: food ministers, childcare ministers, discussion leaders, table hosts and facilitators who help to organize and administer the program.

Pathways is a great way to use your talents to help others! You meet people you may not meet in your everyday life with different challenges than your own. Match your time commitment to your schedule—weekly, monthly or a couple of times a year. Resources such as prayers, affirmations and discussion materials are available to you. If you're interested, please call Julia at 612.317.3413.

Welcome to The Basilica of Saint Mary!

Q. *What was the name of the original parish prior to the building of The Basilica in 1908?*

A. Immaculate Conception, founded in December 1866.

Learn more about your parish family and meet other parishioners at a New Member Dinner or Brunch!

New Member Brunch Sunday, July 27, 10:30am

The dinners and brunches are free. Sign up online—visit www.mary.org and click on MyBasilica—or RSVP to Sally Carlson-Bancroft at 612.317.3417.

Save the Date for the All-Parish Picnic! Sunday, September 14

This annual Basilica party happens on the east lawn after the 9:30 and 11:30am Masses. Great food, music, games, and fellowship—all free!

Many volunteers are needed. Sign up after Masses on Aug 2-3 and 9-10. You may also sign up online at MyBasilica or contact Sally at 612.317.3417 or scarlson@mary.org.

RECTOR'S COLUMN CONTINUED

3. Our Associate Pastor: You've probably heard that Fr. Tim Norris, our associate pastor, whom we have shared with the Church of the Ascension this past year, has been transferred to serve as pastor of the Church of Saint Mark in Shakopee. Tim has been a quiet, but very effective and helpful priest this past year. While I had hoped he could stay with us a while longer, in retrospect this was probably wishful thinking on my part.

What Tim's departure means in very practical terms is that for the first time, The Basilica will be without an associate pastor. This is certainly a loss for us. We're blessed, though, in that we have a great "farm team" to help us on weekends. I'm grateful to **Frs. Tim Backous** and **Greg Miller**, Benedictines from Saint John's Abbey, and **Fr. Joe Gillespie** for their willingness to continue to help us on weekends. **Fr. O'Connell** and **Fr. Norris** have also agreed to help us as their schedules permit. I'm enormously grateful to them for their willingness to help out. As I said, they are a blessing for our parish. Additionally, though, they are a blessing for me.

4. Strategic Planning: For the past few months, we've been working to develop a new strategic plan for our parish. This plan will serve as a road map to guide and direct our efforts for the next three to five years. Our efforts so far have helped us identify the ministries, programs and services that are important and necessary to our parish community. Additionally, we've also been challenged to look ahead in terms of what more we can and should do.

I've found Strategic Planning to be an exhilarating, but also a tiring process. More importantly, though, it's a necessary process. The reason we engage in strategic planning is simple. **"Where there is no vision, the people perish"** (Proverbs 29:18). If we don't consciously and prayerfully plan for our future, we're at risk of drifting into a future not of our choosing and not of our making.

I'm enormously grateful for our staff and for the many parishioners who've participated in the Strategic Planning process. If you'd like to learn more about our Strategic Plan, please visit www.mary.org, click on "MyBasilica," go into User Groups and look in "Administration."

5. Parish Pastoral Council Election: The results are in from our recent Parish Pastoral Council election. I'm pleased to announce that Anne Lockner has been re-elected as Christian Life representative and Chip Brink is the newly-elected Liturgy and Sacred Arts representative. Many thanks to our other candidates, Coni Beisker Leonard and Michael Scanlan. I'm grateful to all the candidates for their willingness to serve our parish in this important role.

The Parish Pastoral Council is very important in the life of every parish. It's the primary vehicle that calls a parish to be

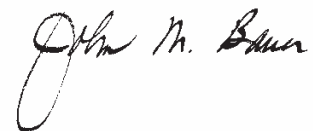
faithful to its vision and mission. The Basilica is blessed by those individuals who serve on our Parish Pastoral Council, as well as by those who serve on our various committees, organizations and ministries. Our parish is richer for their participation. We would be poorer for their absence.

6. The Friends of The Basilica of Saint Mary Centennial Campaign: We're working hard with the Friends of the Basilica of Saint Mary Foundation to bring our Centennial Campaign to a close. This Campaign, conducted by the Friends of The Basilica of Saint Mary, will help ensure a future full of hope for The Basilica. I'm very grateful to all those who've made gifts and/or pledges to this Campaign. For those who haven't made a gift or a pledge to this Campaign, I invite and encourage you to do so.

In regard to this campaign, there's both great news and good news to report. The great news is that the goal for the Rev. Michael J. O'Connell Endowment Fund has been surpassed. The interest from this Endowment Fund will be used to help fund the ongoing maintenance needs for our Basilica and campus buildings.

The establishment of this endowment fund was a forward thinking idea. As our buildings continue to age, maintenance needs will become increasingly expensive. This fund will help ensure that we'll never again encounter the situation we faced many years ago when the accumulated maintenance needs threatened the integrity of our beautiful Basilica.

The good news in regard to our Centennial Campaign is that while we've received a significant number of gifts/pledges to help fund some immediate needs (the new sound system, the renovation of the organ, our new grand piano and the renovation of the rectory basement) we're still in need of some cash gifts to help us reach our goal. I'm confident, though, that with everyone's continued prayers and support, we'll reach this goal.



MyBasilica Online | www.mary.org

Contact information outdated? Visit www.mary.org and click on MyBasilica link. Simply register a username/password to update your Basilica contact info. You can also donate and pledge online, view volunteer opportunities and register for a myriad of events. *If only everything could be this easy!*

FY08 Basilica Financials: Year to Date, May 2008

The Basilica's income remains 6% under budget and 1% over last year at this time. Expenses are 2% under budget for the year. A \$250,000 deficit was planned, however, we are trending to a higher year end deficit with School lease income to cover this gap. With the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Parish Council has approved an FY09 Budget with income projected at \$3.4 million (basically flat to current year) and expenses of \$3,357,500. Income from the new school lease with KIPP will be used to cover the \$175,000 deficit. Plans are to reduce the deficit over the next three years, and bring the budget back into balance.

	Actual FY07	Actual FY08	Budget FY08	Variance to Budget	% Change Over (Under) Budget	% Change Over (Under) Last Year
Total Revenue	\$3,157,000	\$3,174,155	\$3,372,119	(\$197,964)	-6%	1%
Total Expenses	\$3,309,210	\$3,482,925	\$3,564,862	(\$81,937)	-2%	5%
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$152,210)	(\$308,770)	(\$192,743)	(\$116,027)		

The Joy of Giving Part II

This is the second of our three-part series that shows how your stewardship support makes a difference. This month we'll highlight the story of a woman whose life was transformed by her experience in our Liturgy Department.

We often think of the people we help when giving of our time, talent and treasure, but often forget what giving brings to our lives. Stop to consider the joy you've created in your life and that of another because you give.

"I love their hands, they are all so different. Some are disfigured, some are dirty from working all day, others are graceful, and then there are those of the young children. They come from all backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures for the same thing—to receive the Eucharist." These are the words of Bonnie Steele, a parishioner at The Basilica. Bonnie is a recent candidate of the RCIA program and loves being a Eucharistic minister.

"I like altar serving and being a lector, but my favorite thing is to distribute communion. I remember receiving communion for the first time; it was like the person really saw me. I try to do the same for those I give communion." Bonnie speaks with passion when she explains how The Basilica has changed her life and that of her family. *"The Basilica has given us so much, it only seems natural to give back. We are just so grateful."*

Bonnie's story illustrates how participating at The Basilica can make a significant impact. Without your support, our wonderful liturgies wouldn't be possible. Thank you for all that you do. To make a gift or to learn more, contact Claire Mulligan at 612.317.3407 or cmulligan@mary.org.

A Big Block Party Thank You!

The Cities 97 Basilica Block Party would like to thank all the dedicated volunteers, generous sponsors, The Basilica community and staff for their support of the 14th annual Party of a Higher Order. Thanks to you, we were able to make it another successful and totally rockin' event! See you July 10 and 11, 2009 for the 15th Basilica Block Party!

Your Gift has Double the Impact Thanks to a Challenge Gift!

The Friends of The Basilica of Saint Mary Foundation is pleased to announce that a parish family has given a generous \$500,000 challenge gift to the Centennial Campaign! Make a pledge today and your gift will have twice the impact. Pledges can be paid over three years—**all donors pledging more than \$3,000 (that's less than \$84/month) will be recognized on donor plaques in the church.**

Thanks to participating parishioners and friends, the Centennial Campaign is less than \$1.6 million from the final goal! If you haven't yet supported this campaign, consider making a gift; every gift gets us closer to success!

The Centennial Campaign supports necessary improvements to The Basilica—organ renovations, church sound system and technology improvements, a Steinway piano, renovated choir rehearsal space, an updated volunteer space, learning initiatives and 10% of unrestricted gifts are directed to Saint Vincent DePaul.

Three easy ways to make a Centennial Campaign pledge or one-time gift:

1. **Pledge form:** Available in pews
2. **Online:** Visit www.friendsofthebasilica.org
3. **By phone:** Call 612.317.3403

In June, Fr. Michael said good-bye to The Basilica and his parish family. The Friends of The Basilica of Saint Mary Foundation invites you to say thank you by participating in the Centennial Campaign. What better way to show your appreciation for Fr. Michael's 17 years of service than supporting a campaign that's part of his legacy? Each gift, no matter what amount, is deeply appreciated.

Questions? Contact Shana at sweaver@mary.org or 612.317.3403, or visit www.friendsofthebasilica.org.

NEWS AND EVENTS

New and Improved Communications

Over the past few months, we've been exploring ways to improve our communications with you, as well as reduce our overall costs. We've come up with a solution that will not only allow us to share information with you in a more timely fashion, but also significantly reduce our budget.

All communications changes are effective as of August 1. Please see a further explanation of these changes below:

- **Monthly Bulletin:** Beginning in July, our 12-page bulletin will be mailed once each month instead of twice.
- **Weekly Newsletter:** A weekly 6.5 page newsletter will be handed out by the hospitality ministers after each Mass. This will replace announcements in the Mass leaflet.
- **Bi-Weekly E-Newsletter:** An e-newsletter will be sent out twice a month to highlight news and events. To subscribe, visit www.mary.org and click on MyBasilica.

As always, we welcome your feedback. Please remember that this is a new endeavor for all of us—we thank you for your patience and support!

Warm Regards,
The Basilica Communications Team

Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother

Thanks to all who gave a gift in honor or in memory of someone special in their life. Here are those they'd like to remember and honor:

- In honor of Scott Kajer-*Marianne Wheelock*
- In honor of Marianne Wheelock-*Marianne Wheelock*
- In memory of Helen Delgado-*Michael Delgado*
- In memory of Dorothea Norwood-*Linda Norwood*
- In memory of Molly Silehner-*Linda Norwood*
- In memory of John von Rueden-*Jody Estensen*
- In memory of Richard Ranelle-*Michelle Ranelle-Smedsrud*
- In honor of France Hofsess-*Thomas Antal*
- In memory of Robert Kolitz-*Linda Tilton*
- In honor of Thomas Popa-*Marcia Popa*
- In memory of Robert Foreman-*Teresa Foreman*
- In honor of Ronald C. Benson-*Terry Benson*
- In memory of Frank M. Gangl-*Ronald Gangl*
- In memory of Jerome Stans Sr.-*Ronald Gangl*
- In honor of Donna Peka-*Kathy Derochemont*

“What’s SCRIP?”

SCRIP is a program used by non-profits as a means of bringing in extra funds. Here's how it works: The Basilica will purchase gift cards from your favorite local stores at a discounted price. Then you, our parishioners, buy the gift cards at face value from The Basilica and use them when you do your everyday shopping. The money that The Basilica saves on the discounted gift cards will be directed to our operating budget. The SCRIP program will kick-off in the fall, so watch for more information about when and where you can start purchasing SCRIP gift cards.

If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to volunteer for The Basilica's SCRIP program, please contact Claire Mulligan at 612.317.3407 or cmulligan@mary.org.

Help Fulfill The Basilica’s Mission to Provide Hospitality

- **Cost** to get to your preferred weekend Mass—depends on where you live and how you travel.
- **Time required** to staff the Welcome or Information Desk, or refreshment table after Mass—20 minutes per month.
- **Satisfaction** of welcoming a newcomer or visitor to this awesome community—PRICELESS!

Please consider participating in this ministry. Contact Sally at 612.317.3417 or scarlson@mary.org or visit My Basilica.

Weddings

When our parish members celebrate sacraments, the entire Christian community celebrates with them. In the spirit of Christian support, we announce that the following couples will celebrate the sacrament of marriage:

- July 19: Kristen Blomme & Christopher Kelly
- July 19: Katherine Jetland & Mike Kuzniar
- July 25: Kate Henry & Gustavo Gonzalo
- July 26: Stephanie Feigh & Luke Griffis

MISSION STATEMENT

The Basilica of Saint Mary is a community rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As the Co-Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis it is our mandate to model, to inspire and to provide quality liturgy, faith formation, pastoral care, and hospitality; to preach justice and provide emergency relief to the poor; to pursue interfaith relationships; and to contribute to the celebration of the sacred arts in this community. The parish is marked by hospitality and a rich diversity of age, ethnic, racial, social, and economic backgrounds.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of July 13		Week of July 20	
Sun:	Is 55:10-11/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23	Sun:	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43
Mon:	Is 1:10-17/Mt 10:34-11:1	Mon:	Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Mt 12:38-42
Tues:	Is 7:1-9/Mt 11:20-24	Tues:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Wed:	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Mt 11:25-27	Wed:	Jer 1:1, 4-10/Mt 13:1-9
Thu:	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Mt 11:28-30	Thu:	Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Mt 13:10-17
Fri:	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Mt 12:1-8	Fri:	2 Cor 4:7-15/Mt 20:20-28
Sat:	Mi 2:1-5/Mt 12:14-21	Sat:	Jer 7:1-11/Mt 13:24-30