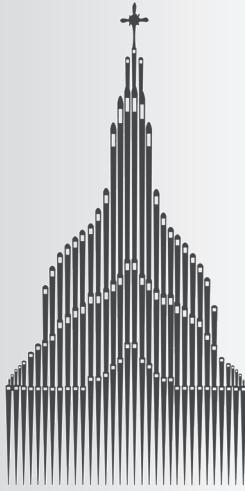


The Basilica of Saint Mary
PO Box 50010
Minneapolis, MN 55405-0010
612.333.1381
www.mary.org

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We can't perform solo.
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THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

*More than a church
for more than
a century*



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 10, 2008

Sunday Night Live: *Feb 10*
Minnesota Sinfonia: *Feb 16*
Stabat Mater Concert: *March 1*

WELCOME TO THE BASILICA

FROM THE RECTOR
BY REV. JOHN M. BAUER



This past month marked the 35th anniversary of the United States Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion. Many people thought this decision would be the final word in the abortion debate. Instead, the issue of abortion continues to be part of our public discourse. It has become such a divisive issue that it has divided our country, our

communities and in some cases, even our families. At this point, there is no indication that this will change in the near future. People on both sides of the abortion question hold their positions with passion and tenacity. This is certainly true for me. I believe in and espouse a pro-life position with passion and firm resolve. I am more than willing to discuss the issue of abortion whenever or however it comes up in conversation.

In the past several years, I've noticed a change in the way the issue of abortion is discussed.

By this I mean that when this issue comes up, one of two things usually happens. On one hand, people change the subject. On the other hand, they divide into two camps and the discussion usually becomes fairly vocal, occasionally confrontational, and at times mean-spirited. What this suggests to me is that we have reached an impasse and need to change the way, the manner, and the form the discussion takes with regard to this issue. If we continue along the present track, it will be enormously difficult, if not impossible, to arrive at a resolution. Given this, I would like to suggest that we frame the abortion debate differently in the future than we have in the past. I would suggest further, that we who hold a pro-life position take the lead in this effort. Specifically, I see six things that need to be part of the way we frame the debate and talk about the issue of abortion. Beginning now and in the future:

1. We need to tone down the rhetoric and eliminate the inflammatory language that has been a part of the abortion discussion. I think that those of us in the pro-life movement need to take the lead. It's too easy for people to

dismiss our position on the basis of our sometimes volatile language. We need to invite people into dialogue so that they can see the wisdom of our words and understand the moral rightness of our position. In this regard, I believe we are more apt to convince people than we are to coerce them. Using language that is simple, direct, non-inflammatory, and open to dialogue is a first step in this direction.

2. Those of us who are pro-life need to invite those who are pro-choice to help us look for common ground. We can use this as a basis for reaching out to each other and

moving forward together. In this regard, three areas come immediately to mind. The first is to ask what we can do to reduce the number of abortions that are taking place. Polls show that the majority of people think too many abortions are occurring. Let's talk with each other about how we can reduce this number. Secondly, in a related vein, we need to talk about how we can provide better medical and social services to women and men in problematic pregnancies so that abortion will not seem to be their only option. While our Church, and particularly our Archdiocese, has done much in this area, imagine how much more could be

done if we worked with those who advocate a pro-choice position. A third area has to do with the violence that in many cases is associated with abortion. As people who are pro-life, our position needs to be clear. Violence is not and cannot be part of our cause. We need to talk with those on the other side of this issue to see what we can do together to eliminate the possibility of violence.

3. As pro-life people, we need to begin a dialogue with those who are pro-choice about the unresolved issues in the abortion debate. In this regard, two issues come immediately to mind. In the 35 years since the Roe vs. Wade decision, many advances have been made in neonatal and in-utero medical care. These advances cannot be ignored. Let us talk with each other about what they mean for us and for the life of the unborn infant. Secondly, let's talk with each other about when life begins. Perhaps I am naïve, or maybe I am deliberately stubborn, but no one has ever been able to convince me that life begins other than at conception. I think this is such an important issue that it both deserves and needs our best efforts at dialogue. *(continued on page 8)*

Visit us online at www.mary.org.
EUCHARIST

- 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
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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

Fridays of Lent

5:30pm: Eucharist, Saint Joseph Chapel, undercroft

6:00pm: Soup Supper, Teresa of Calcutta Hall, undercroft

7:00pm: Stations of the Cross, The Basilica Church

Lenten Solemn Vespers

**Sundays, February 10, 24 & March 2, 9
3:00pm**

Join The Basilica Schola Cantorum in the choir stalls to celebrate Lenten vespers.

Minnesota Sinfonia

Saturday, February 16, 2:00pm

Great Winter Festival III will feature Nathan Farrington and Blake Hinson, bassists. Families and children are encouraged to attend this free concert.

Chapel Recital Series

Sunday, February 17, 1:30pm

The Rose Ensemble will perform a selection of medieval and Renaissance sacred music, including Gregorian chant, Latin motets and more. Also on the program are selections from *The Sorrowful Mysteries* and *The Mystery Sonatas* for violin and continuo, by Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber. In addition to the virtuosic and often pyrotechnic writing, the pieces require a re-tuning of the violin, called *scordatura*, which provides each of the sonatas with its own distinctive character. With Leah Gale Nelson, baroque violin and Dongsok Shin, organ. Free and open to the public.

WomenSpirit Event

Sunday, February 17, 2:00pm

Krista Tippett, creator and host of MPR's *Speaking of Faith*, will present "Why Religion Matters and How to Talk About It." Held at Westminster Presbyterian Church (Nicollet Mall and 12th St). Tickets (\$12) are available through www.ticketworks.com or at the door.

Gregorian Vespers

Sunday, February 17 & March 16, 3:00pm

With The Rose Ensemble in the choir stalls.

Presidents Day

Monday, February 18, 7:00am Eucharist

In observance of Presidents Day, The Basilica's offices will be closed. There will not be 12nn Mass.

Taizé Prayer with Opportunity for Individual Confession

Thursday, February 21, 5:30pm

In the Saint Joseph Chapel, undercroft.

The Rose Ensemble Concert

Saturday, February 23, 8:00pm

Candlelight Concert: *The Secret Society of Notre Dame de Paris*. Tickets: www.roseensemble.org or 651.225.4340.

Stabat Mater Centennial Concert

Saturday, March 1, 8:00pm

The ethereal and rarely-heard piece, *Stabat Mater*, by Francis Poulenc, will be performed by The Basilica Cathedral Choir, Schola Cantorum and professional orchestra. Hear the words of Mary as she stood under the cross of Jesus, sung with the beautiful vocals that are characteristic of this French composer. The concert will begin with Poulenc's Four Lenten Motets. Free and open to the public.

Easter Flower Contributions

Memorials for loved ones may be donated for the Easter season; all proceeds will fund materials needed for Easter decorations. Those names received by March 6 will be listed in the Easter leaflet. Envelopes will be located in the pews throughout the month of February.

100 Voice Youth Choir

Sunday, June 1, 6:30pm

*CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH (Grades 8-12):
MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD FOR THE CENTENNIAL.*

The Basilica has a dream of creating a 100-voice youth choir to lead us into the next one hundred years. If you are a singer (you don't even have to be a GOOD singer), please sign up. There will be six rehearsals leading up to the closing liturgy on Sunday, June 1, which will be directed by Teri Larson and Walter Tambor. For more information and to sign up, contact Teri at 612.317.3426 or flarson@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

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Family Learning Event

All families in the parish are invited to attend! *We anticipate that all families who participate in both Sunday and Wednesday children's learning programs will attend, as this event is an integral part of the program.*

Wednesday, February 27

6:30-7:45pm

The Basilica School

Parents Presentation

Marilyn and Steve Robach
The Great Hall of The Basilica School

Children's Presentation

Jerry the Magician with Homeward Bound Performers
The Basilica School, room LL7

To sign up, contact Michelle at 612.317.3414 or mslaughtert@mary.org and indicate the number of adults and children who will attend. The event is appropriate for children in grades 1-5. There will be nursery care for children younger than first grade. Please indicate the number of children you plan to bring to the nursery, as space is limited.

Nursery

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

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH LEARNING

Special Youth Learning Opportunity

Sunday, February 24, 1:30pm

Undercroft

The 6th-12th graders will help support "Genocide Today: How to Bring Hope and Peace to the World," an event co-sponsored by the Christian Life and the Peace Site Committee. The event will feature a young Catholic Rwandan woman, who will speak about her experiences during Rwanda's genocide. Any 6th-12th graders who would like to help promote the event by wearing t-shirts (with a statement about genocide printed on them, provided by The Basilica) to church and/or helping with hospitality at the event, should contact Kelli Kester at 612.317.3439 or kkester@mary.org. Adult volunteers are needed, too!

NOTE: In lieu of this event, we will not have class on Sunday, February 24.

Sacrament Preparation for Grades 6-12

Attention all 6th-12th graders wishing to make their First Eucharist and/or first reconciliation! On April 12, 10:00am-12nn, we'll have a preparation session for youth and their parents. The session will explore the meaning and purpose of Eucharist and reconciliation and how these sacraments are celebrated in the Catholic Church. After the session, youth will be invited to participate with their families in Eucharist at Mass at The Basilica and reconciliation at Taizé prayer, held each third Thursday of the month at 5:30pm in the Saint Joseph Chapel. Please call Michelle Slaughter at 612.317.3414 to register for this event.

Baptism Preparation

Baptism preparation classes for parents are offered one evening each month. It is required that parents attend this class before registering for a baptism date and we encourage them to do so before their child's birth. It is 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.

MyBasilica Online | www.mary.org

*Recently married? Just moved? 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!**

ADULT LEARNING

Lenten Scripture Study

Wednesdays, February 13–March 5,
7:15pm

The Basilica School, Room LL1

Among the many gospels written following the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth, only four were designated by the early Church as the heart of our New Testament. These four all feature the story of Jesus' death as central to understanding the purpose of his life and mission. Yet, each gospel tells the story in a unique fashion.

“The Passion Narratives,” led by Rev Charles Bobertz, Ph.D., will explore these stories to give participants a better grasp of the literary and theological quality brought to the Church in each gospel. Cost is \$40/series. To register, call 612.317.3414 or visit www.mary.org and click on MyBasilica.

RCIA

Rite of Sending

Saturday, February 9, 5:00pm Mass

During Lent we are called to a profound conversion of life. We are called to remember all that the Lord has done for us and to let him change our hearts and have a greater place in our daily lives.

On February 9, The Basilica's RCIA candidates and catechumens will celebrate the Rite of Sending at Mass. It is a sign of our conversion to which the Lord calls us. Through this Rite, they proclaim to us that they believe God has called them to participate in the Easter mysteries of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. They enter into an intense preparation of purification and enlightenment. We, the Church, ratify their choice or election. We are responsible to support them on their journey and welcome them into our midst and witness our faith to them as they are called conversion.

Lent and the Catechumenate

RCIA is very consistent in describing the role of the community as essential in the process of initiation. The season of Lent itself evolved out of the preparation for baptism by those enrolled in the ancient Order of Catechumens. At the completion of a period of teaching and conversion of lifestyle, those who sought sacramental initiation were brought before the community. This “rite” customarily took place 40 days before Easter. Those deemed ready, now known as the Elect, began a period of intense prayer, fasting and almsgiving to better prepare and purify themselves for the great celebration of the Pascal Mystery—the Easter Vigil.

ADULT LEARNING

Marriage Mentor Training

MARRIED COUPLES! If you have ever considered getting involved at The Basilica and would like something you...

- can do together
- can schedule on your own time
- is important, needed and fulfilling
- is fun
- will nourish and encourage growth in your own marriage....

Then, perhaps the **Marriage Mentor Ministry** is for you.

A training session is the first step—you will not be asked to make a commitment until afterward. Training is planned for late February. For information, contact Nancy at 612.317.3478 or nkeller@mary.org.

YOUNG ADULT LEARNING

Sunday Night Live

Sunday, February 10, after 6:30pm Mass

All young adults are invited to join us for our next Sunday Night Live event! We'll meet following the 6:30pm Mass for food and conversation at Joe's Garage. Topic of discussion will be “Catholic Sex: What Does it Mean?” presented by Ron and Nancy Keller.

Sunday Night Live strives to nourish Catholics in their 20s and 30s by inviting them to seek a meaningful connection with a spiritual community of peers.

Upcoming Sunday Night Live Events

- March 9: “Making the Invisible Visible: Sacramental Exploration”
- April 13: “Dead or Alive? A Look into the Lives of the Saints”

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

Social Events for February

Mass and a Meal

Sunday, February 24

Join AVENUES for 6:30pm Mass and dinner at a restaurant. RSVP to Paul at 612.216.1513.

Dining Out

Thursday, February 28, 6:00pm

Crossroads' restaurant of the month is Nick and Eddie (1612 Harmon, across from The Basilica). For reservations, call Jeanne and Dave Young at 763.785.0467 by February 21. Next Crossroads restaurant date: March 27.

Lenten Soup Supper Hosting

Friday, February 29

Crossroads will host the Soup Supper at The Basilica prior to Stations of the Cross. Help is needed beginning at 4:00pm for set-up, serving, and clean-up; bread contributions are also needed. To volunteer, contact Karl Jones at 763.427.7891.

"A Journey of Faith"

Tuesday, April 1, 6:00pm

Fr. Michael O'Connell will preside at 6:00pm Mass in the Saint Joseph Chapel. Mass will be followed by a dessert social in Theresa of Calcutta Hall and viewing of Fr. O'Connell's journey to the Middle East with other Minneapolis church leaders. Please bring a dessert to share.

Thursday Morning Book Club

First Thursday of the month, 10:00am

Join Crossroads Book Club in the Cowley Center. Call Pat at 763.374.2350. **Upcoming books:** March—*The Master Butchers Singing Club*, Louise Erdrich; April—*Tipping Point*, Malcolm Gladwell.

The 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.

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls have been used throughout generations to remind us of God's constant presence. The Basilica Prayer Shawl Ministry meets twice monthly to knit and crochet shawls for children and adults coping with illness or loss. If you know someone who would like a shawl or if you would like to join the ministry, please call Katie at 763.458.8679 or Jane at 763.479.1555.

Faithful Citizenship 2008

The Office for Social Justice's legislative briefings will help prepare you for the 2008 elections. The briefings provide the information needed to call for economic and social justice as a faithful citizen.

Thursday, February 28—Guardian Angels, Oakdale

Monday, March 3—Saint William, Fridley

Thursday, March 6—Christ the King, Minneapolis

Tuesday, March 11—Faithful Shepherd School, Eagan

All briefings are held from 7:00-9:00pm. Call the Christian Life Office at 612.317.3419 for information.

Grief Ministry

Grief Ministry supports those who experience loss of a friend or family member through death. If you or someone you know has experienced the death of a loved one, please contact the Christian Life Office at 612.317.3474 or cedwards@mary.org.

We are looking for volunteers who can work from home to send letters and make calls to those in our community who are grieving. For information, contact Cathy Edwards.

Faithful Friends and Families

The mission of this ministry is to provide support for parents, families and friends of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, and foster knowledge and understanding. If you would like to speak to someone who has traveled this road with a loved one, please contact Cathy Edwards at 612.317.3474 or cedwards@mary.org.

BeFriender Ministry

Anyone who is in a life transition may benefit from a BeFriender relationship, including those suffering from illness, loneliness, addiction, the death of a loved one or job loss. If you or someone you know is in transition and would like to learn about the BeFriender Ministry, please contact Cathy Edwards at 612.317.3474 or cedwards@mary.org.

Community of Sant'Egidio Prayer Tuesday, February 19, 6:30pm The Basilica of Saint Mary

Please join the Twin Cities community in prayer on the first and third Tuesday of each month. The Community of Sant'Egidio is a lay Catholic association that began in Rome in 1968. With more than 60,000 members in over 70 countries around the globe, the Community is dedicated to prayer, communicating the Gospel, solidarity with the poor, ecumenism, and dialogue. To learn more, please stop by the informational table in the undercroft after Mass, February 9-10 or visit www.santegidio.org.

Northside Neighborhood Peace Dinner Tuesday, February 26, 6:30pm Church of the Ascension

Join the Ascension community for the next Peace Dinner at the Ascension School cafeteria. These dinners are an opportunity to break bread together and participate in an activity that will help build strong families, healthy youth and a community of peace on the North Side. For more information, contact Joan Prairie at 612.928.9180 or geisentomjoan@earthlink.net.

Friends of the Orphans' Nicaragua Pequeño Tour April 10-15

Friends of the Orphans and The Basilica of Saint Mary announce the Friends of the Orphans' Pequeño Tour, which will benefit the children of *Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos* (Spanish for "Our Little Brothers and Sisters"). NPH is home to over 3,500 orphaned and abandoned children in Latin America and the Caribbean.

On Sunday, April 13, 20 pequeños from NPH Nicaragua will sing native songs and perform after the 11:30am Mass. This fundraiser will help Father William Wasson continue to feed, educate and care for these children.

There are many ways to get involved:

- Join the planning committee.
- Donate food or monies to put on the performance and small meal on April 13.
- Host two pequeños or chaperones in your home, April 10-15.
- Sponsor a child, for as little as \$30 a month—100% of funds go directly to the children's orphan home.

For more information visit www.mary.org or contact Lisa Anderson at landerson@doreap.com or Janice Andersen at jandersen@mary.org.

Lenten Observance

Help Saint Vincent de Paul reach out to those in need in our community. **Take an SVdP coin bank, fill it with coins, and bring it to The Basilica on Holy Thursday.** All gifts will support our neighbors in need. Every penny counts!

Also, pick up a **Saint Vincent de Paul Lenten Reflection book** from the church to use in your personal or family Lenten prayer.

Did you know

Nearly half of hungry Minnesotans are children 12 years old and younger, and the fastest-growing group of hungry Minnesotans are senior citizens,

So let's act!

March is Minnesota FoodShare Month at The Basilica of Saint Mary. We urge everyone in the community to donate food and/or money to the local food shelf to ensure that all of our neighbors will have enough nourishment to share fully in the life of our community.

Join us as we work to provide food for the hungry in our community. Call 612.317.3419 for more information.

Peace Site Celebration Sunday, April 19

On April 19, The Basilica of Saint Mary will be dedicated as a Peace Site to recognize our community's strong commitment to justice and peace over the past 100 years. The Basilica Centennial Peace Team is planning a celebration to inspire parishioners to recognize ways they promote peace in their lives and communities. The dedication will conclude with an interfaith concert for peace with world music.

In preparation for our celebration we invite you to reflect on three questions. An electronic version of this survey can be found on www.mary.org. Please note: responses may be used in event communications.

1. How do you feel you live out peace?
2. In what way do you feel The Basilica is a community that actively promotes peace?
3. What is the relationship between peace and justice?

To become involved with the celebration, call 612.317.3477.

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!

RECTOR'S COLUMN (CONT'D)

(from page 2)

4. We need to continue our efforts to educate people's minds, illumine their hearts, and challenge their spirits to understand what a truly wonderful gift life is. Over and over again, we must remind people that life is a gracious gift from a loving God. As pro-life people, our challenge and goal is to preserve, protect and enhance life at all stages of development, and in all its manifestations. This activity needs to occur at all levels of our society, and it rightly includes the participation and influence of the political process. Wherever the opportunity arises, and whenever the occasion presents itself, we must freely, openly and unapologetically speak of the value and dignity of every human life – from the unborn to the elderly to the terminally ill. All life is a precious gift. This needs to be, and must be, our unchanging message.

5. We need to communicate to our brothers and sisters who have been involved in abortions and are estranged from our Church and from our loving God that it is time to "come home." We need to remind them that God's grace is more powerful than any shame or guilt they are feeling. We need to tell them that healing and hope await them in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. More than this, though, we need to extend our most profound and deepest apologies to them for any judgments we may have made about them, any unkind words we may have spoken regarding them, disdain we may have heaped on them, or any affront we may have given them. We need to say clearly and so that none will misunderstand, that we want and need our brothers and sisters who are estranged from our Church and from God to "come home." Without exception or distinction, without reserve or hesitation, we invite and beseech you to "come home." God's love and grace await you.

6. Finally, we need to pray with, for, and sometimes in spite of, those who do not hold our pro-life position. I am more and more convinced that if we cannot pray with and for each other—despite our disagreements and differences—that it is only out of force of habit that we will dare to call ourselves followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus has taught us that we need to pray together and for each other. Prayer unites us in the common belief that a hand greater than our own created this universe and sustains us even now. Prayer is our often feeble attempt to respond to God the Creator, and to try to understand the will and hope of our God for us. In our prayer, particularly with and for those with whom we disagree, we imitate Jesus, and open ourselves up to God's grace so that together we might seek to understand and do the will of our God.

The above are my suggestions as to how, on the 35th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, we might proceed into the future. I am sure there are many things I have missed, but I would like to suggest that if we are ever to come to a resolution with regard to the issue of abortion, this can only

occur when we change the way, the manner, and the form in which we talk about this issue, and seek new ways and means to engage each other in dialogue. As people committed to life, I think we need to be in the forefront of this activity. I believe that ultimately it is only in this way that we can help others understand the value, dignity and worth of every human life.

Parish Council Nominations in March

2008 Nomination and Election Schedule: Two positions are open for election this spring.

Liturgy (2008-2011)

Christian Life (2008-2011)

Nominations will be accepted during March and close on March 30. After nominations close, the Parish Council vice chair Ellen Meier will receive the nominations and the Council Executive Committee will designate at least two nominees to stand for election by considering the nominee's qualifications based on the council member job description, participation, and expressed interest in the Ministry area.

Parish Council Leaders, New Member: Elected to leadership roles are: Finance Committee representative Tom Geisen as president, at large council members – vice chair, Ellen Meier and secretary, James Van Sloun.

Due to job and family responsibilities, Brad Wilkenson recently resigned from the council. We are grateful to Brad for his leadership and five years of service. The Parish Council elected Coni Leonard to serve out Brad's term through June 2008 as Liturgy and Sacred Arts representative. An active Liturgy volunteer, Coni is an acolyte and a Eucharistic Minister, and has volunteered in many areas of parish life.

Parish Council Membership: \Composed of six elected members, including two representatives from Liturgy, Learning and Christian Life; five appointed representatives including three "at large," and members from the Finance and Development Committees. Terms for elected and appointed members are three years, with a maximum of two terms. The Council also includes four "ex-officio" members, the two parish Trustees, the managing director, and the rector.

Role of the Parish Council: An advisory group to the rector, the Council helps The Basilica community fulfill its mission through collaboration, consultation and support and plays a key role in strategic planning, communications and parish policies.

Centennial Campaign: Upcoming Events

In coming weeks, parishioners and friends will be hearing more about the Friends of The Basilica of Saint Mary Foundation's Centennial Campaign to raise \$13.2 million. Campaign volunteers spread the Centennial Campaign message to various groups within The Basilica, and we are pleased to announce that the campaign has raised nearly \$11 million! We wish to express our deepest gratitude to those individuals and organizations that have made generous contributions to help us reach our goal.

What to Expect Throughout the Centennial Campaign

On the weekend of February 17, we will share information about the campaign during Mass. A key goal of the Centennial Campaign is participation; we encourage everyone to give a gift at a level at which they are comfortable.

Be Our Guest on February 17!

After Mass, the Friends of The Basilica of Saint Mary Foundation will host a parish-wide event, "Food, Fun and Ice Skates" from 11:00am to 1:00pm. This free event takes place at The Depot Skating Rink and is open to all ages. You can get more information and register online by visiting www.mary.org and clicking on MyBasilica.

How can I help?

Volunteer: We still need volunteers to help us reach our campaign goals! To volunteer, call the Development Office at 612.317.3400.

Give: Gifts of every size will contribute to the success of this campaign. Each gift will help secure the future of The Basilica.

Pray: We need your prayers! This is a great opportunity for The Basilica of Saint Mary, and the power of your prayers makes our work possible.

Commitment Sunday, March 30

On March 30, everyone will be asked to bring their Centennial Campaign commitment to Mass. All are invited to deliver their financial pledges in a procession of faith during all Masses. This is a chance for us to commit our gifts by physically bringing them to the altar as a community. Prior to March 30, we hope that you will prayerfully consider what you are able to give.

Be sure to check out the kiosk in the back of the church to follow the progress of the Centennial Campaign towards its participation goal! If you would like more information about the Centennial Campaign, the Friends of The Basilica of Saint Mary Foundation, or upcoming events, visit our website: www.friendsofthebasilica.org.



tick, tick, tick...Move fast! Time and tickets are running out for the The Masqueray Ball on May 31!

At the "Celebration of the Century" you'll enjoy:

- **Wolfgang Puck's** catering
- **A special**, entertaining program
- **Live music** under the stars, in the shadow of The Basilica
- **An elegant evening** with friends, family and fellow parishioners

Buy a table or tickets today – visit www.mary.org and click on MyBasilica or contact Meghan Gustafson at 612.317.3428. All proceeds benefit the Reverend Michael J. O'Connell Endowment Fund for the restoration and maintenance of The Basilica campus buildings.

Help Us Decorate Our Beautiful Church

Please consider giving a gift to help decorate The Basilica this Easter. Gifts can be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Names of those received by March 6 will be acknowledged in the Easter leaflet. Enclosed in this bulletin is an envelope for your special gift. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Stewardship 2008

Have you made a 2008 Stewardship pledge yet? It is not too late! We need everyone's help to reach our goal of \$3.2 million. We are now at 60% of our goal. Please consider giving one of the following ways:

- Pledge online at <http://four.mary.org>
- By mail with a pledge form
- By automatic withdrawal through EFT
- Or by calling Claire Mulligan at 612.317.3407

Please know that your support is so important to fulfill our mission each and every day at The Basilica. Thanks to the many generous parish members who have already pledged!

Electronic Giving

Please consider giving electronically – it's easy. Nearly half of all financial stewardship comes through automatic withdrawal, credit card and online giving. Questions? Visit www.mary.org or call Kelly Prosen at 612.317.3472.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Let's Celebrate Lent!

Join us to worship and break bread with others!

Ash Wednesday—February 6

7:00am: Eucharist and distribution of ashes, The Basilica Church

12nn: Eucharist and distribution of ashes, The Basilica Church

5:30pm: Eucharist and distribution of ashes, The Basilica Church

6:45pm: Soup Supper, Teresa of Calcutta Hall, undercroft

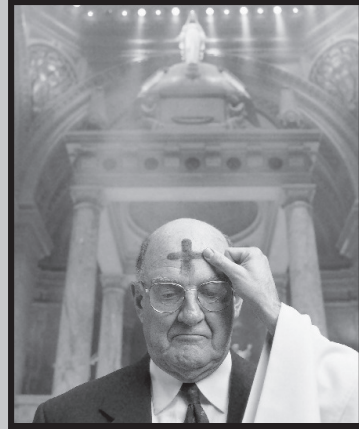
7:30pm: Eucharist and distribution of ashes, The Basilica Church

Fridays in Lent—February 8, 15, 22, 29; March 7 and 14

5:30pm: Eucharist, Saint Joseph Chapel

6:00pm: Soup Supper, Teresa of Calcutta Hall, undercroft

7:00pm: Stations of the Cross, The Basilica Church



©Photo by Mike Jensen.

Resume and Cover Letter Tips

Tuesday, February 12, 6:00-7:30pm

The Basilica School, room 103

Barbara Laporte's free workshop will cover resume formatting, submission guidelines and cover letters. For more information about Laporte, visit her website at www.laportecareerconsulting.com. Contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org to register.

Alzheimer's Type Dementia: Research, Care, and Supporting Families


Monday, February 25, 7:00-9:00pm

The Basilica School, room LL7

Join Martin Ramsden, University of Minnesota; Linnea Grey, Alzheimer's Association of Minnesota-North Dakota; and Brent Longtin, English Rose Suites, as they present the latest research and how to care for those affected. Contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org to register for this free presentation.

Love to Write?

The Basilica Magazine is produced through a collaboration between our talented volunteers and staff members. We're seeking skilled writers who are willing to contribute to the magazine on a regular basis. If you are interested, contact Molly Kelash at mollykelash@earthlink.net or Chris Murphy at Christopher.murphy@fleishman.com.

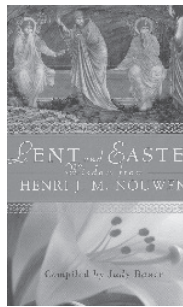


*Stop by today
for your Lenten
Devotional
Reading
Materials*

Store Hours
Friday: 12nn - 6:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am - 7:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am - 8:00pm

*Call 612.317.3601 for
availability of
specific items.*

**Lent and Easter
Wisdom
by
Henri J. M. Nouwen
\$9.95**



LUX Eterna is located on the ground floor of The Basilica on 16th St. Please enter through the ground level doors on Hennepin Avenue or via the stairs/elevator in the Narthex.

Fish Fry at Saint Albert's

February 8, 15, 22, 29; March 7 and 14

Fr. Joe Gillespie, a weekend presider and former vicar at The Basilica, invites you to Saint Albert's fish fry dinners during Lent. The dinners are served from 4:30-7:30pm. For more information, visit www.saintalbertthegreat.org.

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 February 10

Sun: Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9
 Mon: Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
 Tues: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
 Wed: Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
 Thu: Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
 Fri: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
 Sat: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Week of February 17

Sun: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11
 Mon: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46
 Tues: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15
 Wed: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32
 Thu: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12
 Fri: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26
 Sat: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48