September | October

**6 SEP**
**PRAYER FOR SOLACE AND PEACE**
Livestream only. Remembering those who have died during the pandemic.

**20 SEP**
**TAIZÉ PRAYER**
Livestream only. Service is characterized by mantra-like singing of simple, beautiful songs.

**4 OCT**
**BLESSING OF ANIMALS**
Livestream only. Honoring animals that share our lives and touch our hearts.

**10 OCT**
**AUTUMN ACTIVITY KIT**
Pick-up a kit for your home to support The Basilica’s ministries.

“Seek the well-being of the city to which I have sent you. Pray for it to the Lord. For in seeking its well-being, you shall find your own.” - Jeremiah 29:7
FROM THE PASTOR

Father Bryan Massingale, a distinguished black faculty member at Fordham University, has written a powerful reflection on the challenge that faces the white community at this time. He makes some concrete suggestions for moving forward which serves as a template for the following reflections.

First, we need to understand the difference between being uncomfortable and being threatened. There is no way to tell the truth about race in this country without white people becoming uncomfortable. Because the plain truth is that if it were up to people of color, racism would have been resolved, over and done, a long time ago. The only reason for racism’s persistence is that white people continue to benefit from it, and we benefit from it, whether we know it or not. This truth makes my head and heart hurt.

What to do next? At first, nothing. Sit in the discomfort this hard truth brings. It needs to be agonizing. Let it move me to tears, to anger, to guilt, to frustration, to embarrassment. For what? For my ignorance. For my lack of understanding of the underlying issues that black and Latino people face every day. On any given day, at any given hour, their right to be on this good earth can be challenged. Because only when a critical mass of white people are outraged, grieved and pained over the status quo—only when white people become upset enough to declare, ”This cannot and will not be!”—only then will real change begin to become a possibility.

Second, we need to admit our ignorance and do something about it. We need to understand that there is a lot about our history and about life that we’re going to have to unlearn. And learn over. We have all been taught an incomplete version of America that masks our terrible racial history. As white Americans we do not have an accurate sense of the long tail of damage that slavery did to our nation. The impact of the Jim Crow laws that neutralized black efforts to become active citizens in our democracy. We probably know very little of the terror of lynching. For a 30-year period from 1885-1915, on average every third day a black person was brutally and savagely and publicly murdered by white mobs. At present, black and brown people experience law enforcement as the latest version of this reign of terror.

Third, are there creative things we can do as a community that allow for learning on a deep existential level? Are there ways to invite our whole campus into this powerful moment and see it as a graced time for conversion toward Gospel justice and the inclusiveness of the reign of God? As a community we are profoundly related to alums and friends, so many of whom have been deeply moved by the events of the past five weeks. They look to us not so much for answers as for moral leadership, for the affirmation that our country needs to deliver on its promise of freedom to all of its citizens and to those who come to our doors.
Fourth, we need to be aware of the expression of racist attitudes in members of our community. When we encounter these expressions, we may not be silent. If there was ever a time and a place for fraternal correction, this is surely it. Sometimes we may be too patient, too tolerant and dismiss a comment as insensitive or ignorant when in fact, it is just racist, and is extremely harmful in a community where we are working every day to be inclusive.

Finally, we need to pray the psalms in fresh and imaginative way. The psalms are filled with lament, with the voices of men and women who are being crushed every day, people who have nowhere to turn. True, racism is a political issue and a social divide. But at its deepest level, racism is a sickness of the soul. It is a profound warping of the human spirit that enables human beings to create communities of callous indifference toward their darker sisters and brothers. As historian Paul Wachtel succinctly declares in his book Race in the Mind of America, The real meaning of race comes down largely to this: Is this someone I should care about?” Our Catholic and Benedictine monastic tradition have powerful responses to these questions and strong spiritual resources to support reflection and action. They also have the ethical foundation on which to stand. Let there be no question: this is an urgent time, a decisive moment, and we may not let it slip away.”

SAFELY CELEBRATING MASS

The Basilica is our spiritual home—a place of welcome. We want each person who enters The Basilica to feel safe. The Basilica will follow all city and state health and safety guidelines.

You will see new practices and policies when you return. The policies will continue to change as we monitor the official guidelines. Pre-registration for Mass is required at mary.org or call our Director of Engagement at 612.317.3417.

Please review all of the protocols on the registration form. To help explain our protocols we have prepared a brief video which is available at mary.org/massregistration.

Your cooperation in these extraordinary times embodies our vision to seek the well-being of our community. Archbishop Hebda’s dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass continues.

We will continue to livestream Mass Monday - Friday at Noon and Sunday at 9:30am at mary.org and Facebook live at facebook.com/BasilicaMpls.

Please consider refraining from Mass in-person if you:
1.) Experienced or have been near someone who experienced: cough, cold, flu, fever of 100°F +, shortness of breath, sore throat, or a loss of taste or smell.
2.) Have underlying medical conditions, including but not limited to: asthma, diabetes, heart condition, pregnancy, severe obesity, a compromised immune system, diseases of the lungs, kidneys, or liver, or are receiving cancer treatment.
3.) Live in a nursing home, long-term care or congregant living facility.
4.) Are age 65 or over.

Anyone concerned with interpersonal proximity, even with social distancing, should prayerful consider the prudence of attending Mass in-person.
## FROM THE DIRECTOR

**Exterior and Interior Participation**

One of the great gifts of the Second Vatican Council to the Catholic Church is *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. Paragraph 14 of this constitution is one of my favorites and one of the most foundational paragraphs in this document: “Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people (1 Pet. 2:9; cf. 2:4-5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism.”

In the best of circumstances this implies that all of us who are able to do so are called to physically participate in the liturgy by singing and speaking with full voice; by sitting, standing and kneeling by touching and kissing; and ultimately by sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ.

There are times, however, that our soul requires a more interior kind of participation. I vividly remember the celebration of the Eucharist hours after I learned my father had died. I did not sing because I knew I would start crying. My usual boisterous way of participating in the liturgy was replaced by a quiet and more interior way of participating. And yet my soul soared as the voices of the people around me lifted me up and brought me great consolation.

There are other times when interior participation is forced on us by outside circumstances such as a pandemic because physical participation is no longer possible. And although physical participation in the liturgy is much preferred, such circumstances invite an interior participation either because we attend the celebration of the Eucharist in a virtual way or because health protocols tell us to stay in our pew and to refrain from singing when we are physically present.

If there is lemonade to be made out of this liturgical lemon, it is that we are invited to embrace and deepen our often neglected interior participation in the liturgy which may have suffered in the past due to the gusto with which we engage in our physical participation.

And when it is time to return to physical participation in a fully active and conscious way, we may have developed a level of interior participation to match it which will make the experience all the more rich and transforming.

---

### LITURGY

#### PRAYERFUL OPPORTUNITIES

##### SUNDAY
- 9:30am Mass Livestream*
- 11:30am Mass with Assembly**
- 5:30pm Evening Prayer for Solace & Peace*
  - 1st Sunday of the Month
- 5:30pm Taizé Prayer*
  - 3rd Sunday of the Month

##### MONDAY
- 9:00am Art that Surrounds Us Video***
- 12:00pm Weekday Mass**

##### TUESDAY
- 12:00pm Weekday Mass**

##### WEDNESDAY
- 9:00am Coffee + Conversation with the Pastor
- 12:00pm Weekday Mass**

##### THURSDAY
- 9:15am Morning Prayer***
- 12:00pm Weekday Mass **

##### FRIDAY
- 10:00am Centering Prayer***
- 12:00pm Weekday Mass **

* Livestream Only
** Livestream with Assembly present
*** Visit mary.org for details

Please visit our website for the most current information on these and all events as changes may have to be made as we continue our journey with the COVID-19 Pandemic.

---

### PRAYER FOR SOLACE AND PEACE

**FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had many impacts in our lives leading to general frustration along with mental, emotional, and physical stress, and grief. In addition, we are facing the evils of racism that permeate our society and institutions. In times as these, though unable to gather together to pray with one another, we are not alone. We are in this together. So in spirit, we lift up one another with compassion and love in our hearts and minds and with a fervent desire for a better and more equitable world.

---

**Liturgy & Sacred Arts Office**

Director – Johan van Parys

General Info - 612.317.3410
Liturgical Ministries - 612.317.3433
Sacred Art/Concerts - 612.317.3438
Music - 612.317.3426
We extend to you an opportunity to gather virtually in solidarity not only of the sorrow and grief we bare but in the hope and strength offered by our faith.

We especially invite those who have experienced the death of a friend or family member during the pandemic. Grief over the death of a loved one is even more compounded as many are unable to attend services due to restrictions imposed on gatherings. You are invited to submit names of loved ones. These names will be spoken during the prayer service in support of those grieving. May you know the healing and consolation of the resurrected Christ.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

During this time when the church can’t physically gather, the liturgical ministers have explored prayer, study, and community activities all through the Zoom platform. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8:00am we gather to engage a new prayer style (or go more deeply into a known prayer style). Tuesday nights we gather to play Trivia or BINGO. Saturday nights is a check-in happy hour, and Sunday mornings (after the livestream Mass) we sit down for virtual coffee and donuts. We are currently exploring some areas of learning—both for our specific ministries and The Basilica parish.

ART THAT SURROUNDS US

Given that we are currently unable to be in our beautiful Basilica we decided to bring The Basilica and our Sacred Art to you. Each Monday Johan van Parys provides viewers with art from The Basilica Art Collections. Detailing it’s significance within our collection and how we might prayerful reflect upon these image, the viewer is invited to recognize the beauty that surrounds his/her own life which can uplift and heal in times of need. Each weekly video is available at mary.org/artthatsurroundsus.

BASILICA ART COLLECTIONS ONLINE

We are currently creating online galleries of art from The Basilica’s collections. We plan to gradually add photos and descriptions. Our collections include art, paintings, sculpture, textiles, vestments, vessels, furniture and archival items. Some of this art is displayed in the church or other areas throughout the campus. Other pieces are kept in climate controlled storage for part of the year and brought out seasonally or periodically for particular feast days or liturgical seasons. Please let us know if there’s a piece of art you’ve been curious about. We can move it to the top of our list. Explore The Basilica’s permanent art collection online at mary.org/artcollections.

SHARE THE LIVESTREAM

Please continue to help us broaden our ministry by inviting friends and family to join us for livestream Mass on Sundays and on weekdays. You are welcome to have family and friends join us for any of the connection events above. Our parish remains committed to our mission and vision to serve actively and with great love through our strategic plan. Learn more at mary.org/ourfuture.

PRAYER FOR SOLACE AND PEACE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 5:30PM

During this prayer service, names of those who have died during the COVID-19 pandemic will be mentioned. Evening prayer is livestream only.

LABOR DAY MASS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 10:00AM

Mass for Labor Day will be celebrated at 10:00am in The Basilica. Register to attend. The Mass will also be livestreamed. There will be no Noon Mass celebrated this day.

TAIZÉ PRAYER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 & OCTOBER 18, 5:30PM

This service is characterized by mantra-like singing of simple, beautiful songs, following the Taizé community tradition of communal prayer focused on reconciliation and healing. Taizé Prayer is livestream only.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 1:30PM

Due to the continued pandemic this year’s Blessing of the Animals will be livestream. We invite you to join us virtually for this annual celebration and please make sure your animals are with you to receive the blessing.

MINNESOTA SINFONIA

OCTOBER CONCERT

Watch for more information about the Minnesota Sinfonia’s Fall & Winter season on mary.org and mnsinfonia.org. Due to COVID-19 restrictions it’s unlikely that the October concert will be open to the public. However they are planning to video record a performance and provide a link from their website to watch it virtually.

CATHEDRAL CHOIR AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held via Zoom. Contact Teri Larson at 612.317.3426 or tlarson@mary.org for more information.
“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus,” (Philippians 4:6-7).

This passage is somewhat familiar to me, as my wife and I chose it for one of our wedding readings. I revisit it from time to time, and it touched me as I thought about this particular newsletter. In particular, the command to “have no anxiety at all” stood out to me. I have lots of anxiety right now! The COVID-19 pandemic does not seem to be going away, there is still civil unrest in different parts of the country, and as a Learning department we look to the 2020-2021 ministry year, not sure how to plan.

Many of the same questions our schools have had to grapple with we grapple with too. Can we have our programming in person at all? RCIA and other adult education offerings? What about young adults, who might be “Zoomed out” and not looking for online options? How will our weddings look with safety protocols in place? What about our wonderful families and children in our faith formation programming? Can we come together in person like normal? Every once in a while? Just plan online lessons? All of these are big questions that we will have to work out over time, but the rest of this reading helps me to calm down as I feel my blood pressure start to rise.

“In everything, make your request known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” No matter what happens, please continue to reach out to us with questions about our ministry offerings this fall. Whether we are online, in person or a little of both, know that we are here to continue serving all of you.

Ben Caduff
Coordinator of Young Adult, Young Family, and Marriage Ministry

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 6:30PM
ONLINE: ZOOM

If you are expecting, or in the process of adopting a child, please attend one of our baptism preparation classes. We offer classes approximately nine times a year for parents who are registered members of The Basilica and plan on having their child baptized here. Godparents are welcome too. For more information call the Learning office at 612.317.3414. Please register online at mary.org.

ENGAGED COUPLE PRE-MARRIAGE WORKSHOP
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

In this time of the coronavirus, we are still working hard to help engaged couples prepare for their weddings. Couples preparing for marriage will be going through a workshop to explore their pre marriage Prepare/Enrich inventory. These workshops typically involve our engaged couples and some of our marriage mentor couples. Please keep all of them in your prayers this day.

ADULT LEARNING

BEYOND THE POLITICAL DIN SERIES
SATURDAYS, SEPTEMBER 19 & OCTOBER 10
9:00-10:30AM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 6:30-8:00PM
ONLINE: ZOOM

Tired of the vitriol and division as we approach this fall’s presidential election? Join together in a three part series to read and discuss Dr. Bernie Evan’s book *Vote Catholic: Beyond the Political Din*. Dr. Evans will be with us for all three sessions to help us dive deeper into Catholic Social Teaching and how it can help us to live as engaged citizens this election cycle and beyond. This is a joint effort of the Christian Life and Learning departments, and is open to any adults in the parish. The sessions will allow us to explore Dr. Evan’s book and learn from each other as we engage in conversation around its various themes and hopefully get “beyond the political din” that surrounds each day. Cost is $10 to help with the cost of the book. Please register at mary.org.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

At the same time that we are distanced from friends and family, some people are feeling a tug, a gentle consistent reminder that there is something more to be experienced or grasped. Something more to be. Perhaps you have a bit more time to pray and reflect this summer. Perhaps you are thinking that this may be the right time to explore becoming Catholic, or learning more about the Catholic faith and celebrating Confirmation. The Basilica community is waiting to welcome you. Contact Cathy in the Learning department at cedwards@mary.org.
WE ARE MOVING AHEAD WITH A PLAN FOR FALL PROGRAMS. LIKE EVERY PANDEMIC PLAN, IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF OUR SITUATION IMPROVES OR DECLINES. WE HAD TO CONSIDER MANY THINGS, INCLUDING THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF SPACE WE HAVE AVAILABLE, THE AGE OF THE STUDENT AND THEIR ABILITY TO SOCIAL DISTANCE, THE MATERIALS WE HAVE ACCESS TO, OUR CATECHISTS WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE, THE LENGTH OF TIME IT TAKES TO PROPERLY CLEAN AND SANITIZE A SPACE, AND THE THOUGHTS OF OUR PARTICIPATING FAMILIES, NOT TO MENTION THE % OF POSITIVE CASES IN THE COUNTY. PLEASE KNOW THAT THE PLAN DESCRIBED HERE WILL BE RE-EVALUATED ON A MONTHLY BASIS AND WE WILL MAKE CHANGES TO KEEP OUR STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS SAFE AND OFFER THE BEST POSSIBLE PROGRAMS WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE.

THIS FALL THE PLAN IS AS FOLLOWS:

PRE-SCHOOLERS (AT HOME AND DISTANCE LEARNING)

• A fall Parent Meeting live and recorded to learn about program materials
• Stories of God’s Love folders sent home for families
• Activity Masters for these lessons and extra activity materials (crafts) copied and sent home
• Optional Classroom Zoom or Google Classroom (15 minutes) to guide extra activity, lead prayer and learn music

ELEMENTARY GRADES (AT HOME AND DISTANCE LEARNING)

• A fall Parent Meeting live and recorded to learn about program materials
• Finding God Workbooks sent home
• Craft Project materials and black line masters copied and sent home
• Weekly Zoom or Google Classroom Lesson (by catechist OR by lower/upper school art easel lesson, music, and prayer)

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL GRADES
(hybrid model, meeting in-person monthly in September/October moving to every other week in-person and distance learning classes)

• A fall Parent Meeting live and recorded to learn about program materials
• Youth Bibles and other materials sent home
• Monthly moving to biweekly in person Zoom and Google Classroom Lesson, middle school one week and high school the next to keep numbers low
• Following guidelines of the CDC, we will not be serving meals.

Each family will receive a prayer table package which may include: liturgical color linens, candle, mini cross, holy water, prayers, Mary card, and a rosary.

All sacramental lessons for Confirmation will be done within the regular class. All sacramental lessons for First Reconciliation/First Communion continue to be done by parents and will be supplemented with virtual opportunities for learning. Materials will be distributed in the fall at a drive-by pick-up and will include craft materials and worksheets through the month of December. Families will need to have basic supplies like scissors, glue, pencils, and markers or crayons on hand. Once materials are distributed, a parent meeting will take place to learn about our new texts and how our programs will work.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Christine at 612.317.3439 or cmoore@mary.org.

A PRAYER FOR OUR UNCERTAIN TIMES

All Mighty God,
May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health and making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home. As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

And during this time when we may not be able to physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

- Written by Rev. Dr. William J Barber II
FROM THE DIRECTOR

With Eyes Wide Open

In 1973, as a high school junior, I attended a National Lutheran Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. Traveling with my youth group from a small Norwegian immigrant congregation in Brooklyn, New York, two vivid memories continue to inspire me almost 50 years later. One memory was the experience of being among thousands of high school students from across the country—worshipping and learning together. There was diversity in language, race, culture, and ethnicity. The differences were celebrated. There was solidarity—all working toward the common good.

My second memory was of the overall theme of the Gathering: “With Eyes Wide Open.” Throughout the week, we were challenged to understand that seeing what is real is crucial to living a life as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. We heard preachers, teaching the lessons of Jesus in scripture. We heard speakers, naming the realities of our world. We were challenged to live. With Eyes Wide Open: to know in our hearts and our minds the reconciling message of Christ, and to act boldly in love to find personal and collective healing.

As people of faith, we are challenged to grow in the spiritual discipline of reading the signs of the times. We are called to live and grow each day by reading scripture in one hand, as we read the newspaper in the other. Two hands: reading the movement of the Holy Spirit, intersecting and connected. We are called to have eyes wide open—to know what is going on in our world. And to know what we are called to do and be, as Christians.

Today, more than ever, it is crucial to immerse ourselves in our faith. We are to learn and be transformed by scripture and the life of Christ. And, it is essential we open our eyes to see what is real in our neighborhood and world. We can see the good, and celebrate it. We can see the pain or brokenness, and work toward healing and reconciliation. The Holy Spirit is calling us, today.

CHRISTIAN LIFE

BECOMING HUMAN: DISMANTLING RACISM

During the season of Lent 2020, the University of St. Thomas and The Basilica of Saint Mary collaborated on an educational series focused on dismantling racism called Becoming Human. Now available through an online portal, this six-part series examines the historical, economic, cultural, and institutional systems of racism and explores varying approaches to social change. One of the three core themes of The Basilica Strategic Plan is Inclusivity: building a culture in which people feel valued, welcome, integrated, and included. As a parish, we seek to address cultural and religious divides, support and welcome all—even those who have been marginalized—and seek interventions in systems that perpetuate marginalization.

To access the series visit: mary.org/becominghuman. For more information or to get involved in work of racial reconciliation at The Basilica of Saint Mary, contact Janice at 612.317.3477 or jandersen@mary.org.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: A POWERFUL WRAP

"Having been a member of The Basilica Prayer Shawl Ministry since its inception, I have knit many shawls through the years. We, as a group, receive many thank yous from recipients who share the feelings of love and comfort they have felt from the shawl in the times when God’s love is most needed. Five years ago, when my husband was ill, he asked me to knit a shawl for him. Of course, I speedily completed one in colors of his choice. The shawl accompanied him to the hospital where he was covered with it until he died. I took that shawl and wrapped it around myself and knew exactly how loved I had been, and felt I was in God’s arms. Our group continues to pray for each recipient by name every time we meet... I understand completely how blessed we are to be in this ministry through my own experience." -Valerie Rule, Basilica member

We knit or crochet on our own, and also gather twice a month via Zoom. Interested in joining the ministry? Or do you need a Basilica prayer shawl for yourself or someone you love? Contact Wendy at 612.317.3474 or wcaduff@mary.org.

EMPLOYMENT MINISTRY

Our Employment Ministry has helped 30 people secure jobs during the Covid-19 pandemic. Job coaches help with resumes, cover letters, mock interviewing, networking, assessments, and job leads. If you or someone you know needs job transition help, contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org.

IMMIGRANT SUPPORT MINISTRY

There are many issues calling for our attention as we prayerfully read scripture and the daily news. The issue of immigration continues to call us to attend to the most vulnerable in our midst. If you would like to be involved in the work of The Basilica Immigrant Support Ministry, contact Janice at jandersen@mary.org, or call 612.317.3477. Basilica parishioners continue to accompany families seeking asylum in Minnesota, and walk with those who are facing deportation each day.
"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY FOR ALL...”
- Abraham Lincoln, Second Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865

The Basilica of Saint Mary is partnering with Braver Angels to seek hope and healing in our community around the political divide.

The Challenge: November 4, the day after the Presidential election, could be the most divisive day in modern U.S. history—no matter who is elected. People on all sides will have a wide range of emotions, from grief to vindication, rage to triumph. The temptation will be to demonize the other side. November 4 could begin a dark time of polarization—unless we act together to make it otherwise.

The Opportunity: That’s the essence of the With Malice Toward None initiative. As people of faith, we have the opportunity and the responsibility to come together in the post-election moment. The goal is, rooted in our faith, to create a space for people to deal with their emotions (positive and negative), to build our capacities for working together to address our common challenges, and to commit ourselves to a renewed citizenship. This is not about covering over strong political differences or encouraging people to support whomever wins the election. It is about rooting our commitment to respect the humanity of those who differ from us in our faith. It is about faithfully recognizing our foundational role as citizens to be the architects and agents of a society rooted in Christ’s love. Look for ways to get involved this fall on mary.org.

ZOOM: PRISONERS OR PATIENTS?
THURSDAYS, SEPTEMBER 17 AND OCTOBER 15, 1:00-2:00PM, ZOOM

Prisoners or Patients Task Force is a program of The Basilica’s Mental Health Ministry and Voices for Justice. The group is working with Hennepin County Corrections and other local organizations to create a mentorship program for people leaving prison who also have mental health concerns. If you are interested in helping develop this important program, the group meets via Zoom the third Thursday of each month. For more information, contact Janet at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org.

EMMAUS MINISTRY IS GROWING!
The seeds of many years of dreaming and planning are coming to fruition in the Emmaus Ministry. This spring and summer the Emmaus Listening Ministry spent time visioning a way to be more collaborative and share gifts with other ministries who also do the work of accompaniment. This fall, we begin to harvest our work! Not only will we have Emmaus Listeners, which have been a gold standard ministry in our faith community for over a decade now, but we will also have Emmaus Hospital Visitors, Emmaus Homebound Communion Ministers, and Emmaus Grief Ministers. All of these ministries require the crucial skill of LISTENING and a willingness to walk with another person for a period of time. Training is provided, as well as ongoing ministry support and a way to be part of a caring community of other volunteers. Interested? We are recruiting for new volunteers desiring to serve in any of these areas. Interviews are taking place now, with training in November, most likely to be held in a virtual format over Zoom. Please let Wendy know if you want more info about joining one or more of these crucial Caring Ministries—or could benefit from one—by reaching out at wcaduff@mary.org or leaving a message at 612.317.3474.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY
The Basilica’s Mental Health Ministry helps our parishioners navigate the complicated mental health system through committee members’ knowledge of it and in partnership with community organizations. Contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org to become part of the vibrant group or to get the guidance you or a family member may need.

ZOOM: CENTERING PRAYER
FRIDAYS, 10:00AM, ZOOM

In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be a pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart—our whole being—to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words and emotions. Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer. Consider joining Basilica parishioners in a Zoom session of Centering prayer each week. Join the group, as they seek to grow in their relationship with God. For more information, contact Colleen at colleenmaiers@yahoo.com or go to mary.org.

DISABILITY AWARENESS MINISTRY
Are you interested in eliminating barriers to participation at The Basilica? The Disability Awareness Ministry meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm. The committee works with parishioners, staff, contractors, and consultants to make The Basilica campus open and welcoming to all. The group plans several programs each year including the Disability Awareness Ministry Fair in February. Contact Janet at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org to get involved.

SOCIAL JUSTICE PILGRIMAGES
A pilgrimage is a journey to a certain place that holds some importance, either to a group or an individual. Christian pilgrimages have been part of our spiritual experience from the very beginning. Although the destiny of a pilgrimage may be the physical goal, the transformation a pilgrim experiences while journeying toward that place is the ultimate goal, the spiritual goal. The Basilica Voices for Justice is collaborating with our Liturgy team to invite our community to participate in a series of pilgrimages to reflect on and be transformed by racial justice in our community. For more information, contact Mara at mara.stolee@gmail.com or go to mary.org.
DEPARTMENT UPDATE

We are eternally grateful for the outpouring of support that we have witnessed over the last several months for The Basilica of Saint Mary. In the wake of a global pandemic, we have learned that we are stronger together as a community. We look forward to a time when we are able to gather once again.

The Development Department continues to work from home and plan for a virtual autumn. In October, we kick off our Basilica Fund campaign, which accounts for 79% of our operating budget. Your gift to The Basilica Fund supports and allows us to continue our many ministries, especially in a financially straining year. As we continue to gather virtually or with social distancing, we ask you to consider a recurring electronic gift; electronic recurring gifts help our staff who are not in office to process envelopes and mail more efficiently. It also means less paper and administrative costs, enabling your contribution to go further. You can set up yours at mary.org/give.

After the cancellation of our summer fundraising and cultivation events, we are taking a virtual approach to our autumn events. While we cannot safely host in-person events in the same way as we would normally, we hope that the remote events and activities we are able to offer will continue to gather us together and cultivate our community, from the comfort of our homes.

PARISH FINANCIALS

If you are able, please help sustain our operations and empower our mission by setting up a recurring gift at mary.org/give.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jul 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YTD Actuals</td>
<td>3,532,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Annual</td>
<td>3,723,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Goal</td>
<td>(191,188)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variance</td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAKE A GIFT

MAKE A GIFT FOR VIRTUAL MINISTRIES

As we continue to connect virtually, we ask for your help to fund our online initiatives, web-based ministries, livestreamed Masses and other virtual operations.

Over the last several months, The Basilica has utilized these outlets to stay connected to our local community and beyond. With these shifts in technology come additional administrative costs. Please consider a gift at mary.org/give. You can also make a gift with a text from your phone; text “VIRTUAL” to 612.249.7559.

THE BASILICA LANDMARK

This year, The Basilica Landmark will fund the critical yearly maintenance on the church façade, maintenance of our treasured organ, and final project finishes to the school south façade. The maintenance of our historic buildings cannot continue without your help, particularly given the cancelations of our Basilica Block Party and Landmark Spark fundraisers due to COVID-19.

We thank those who have already made a gift to The Basilica Landmark’s Annual Fund. If you are able to support our efforts, make a gift at thebasilicalandmark.org/give.

AUTUMN ACTIVITY KIT

PICK UP AVAILABLE ON OCTOBER 10
10:00AM-2:00PM
Every autumn, The Basilica hosts its annual Great Pumpkin Bingo, a fundraising event to support our many ministries. Due to COVID-19, this event is, unfortunately, unable to take place.

In the absence of this year’s Bingo, The Basilica is offering an Autumn Activity Kit for your home. For further information or to register for your kit, please visit mary.org/autumn. Supplies are limited.