

Update to Parishioners of Sacred Heart, St. Mary's and St. Philip's -- July 9, 2021

I pray that you all are having a good summer. Enjoy it while it is here as it goes by very fast.

1. **The 4th of July weekend marked the end of the dispensation from Sunday Mass attendance in person.** This is for all the dioceses in the state of Minnesota. There only a few viewing the live-stream Mass at 10:30 am on Sunday, but for now we will continue to live stream this Mass as long as we persons to do the live stream.

In light of our return to Mass, here is a short reflection from Fr. Michael Van Sloan (from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis) about the importance of our participation at Sunday Mass covering these points:

- Sunday Mass fulfills God's law.
- Weekly Worship Follows Jesus' Example.
 - Sunday is a Day of Thanksgiving.
 - Community Prayer is Essential.
 - Weekly Eucharist is Solid Spiritual Food.

[Give me five good reasons why going to Mass every Sunday is absolutely necessary. - Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis \(archspm.org\)](http://archspm.org)

2. **Recently you received a capital campaign appeal from the diocese** in regard to the purchase of the building and property of the Sisters of Mt St. Benedict. **I really encourage everyone to generously pledge and contribute whatever you can to this appeal.**

We are in great need of a new chancery. The structure is very much not fit for diocesan offices and is not handicapped accessible. As a diocese we have been looking at replacement of the chancery for some years (renovation would not make good sense in its case). We also have been in need of a retreat and meeting center since the Mount St. Benedict Center was demolished a few years ago.

What a blessing and opportunity was presented to us recently as the Benedictine Sisters offered to sell the property to us. With their community numbers down, they only need a small portion of the building (one wing) for their remaining members and will rent that section from the diocese as long as they have remaining members living there. Besides the need to sell the property, they wanted someone to oversee the maintenance and operations of the building.

Please read through the brochure and see how well this will fit our diocese needs and the needs of the sisters. It is truly a well-constructed and most suitable for our diocesan needs and is connected to our cathedral as well.

3. **Faith Survey Zoom Webinar for leaders from all three parishes** on Tues. 6:30 – 8:00 pm at Sacred Heart or you can watch. We will be coached on how to discern the three priorities to focus on in our three parishes in the coming year or two. **Watch your email for the invite.**

4. Speaking of finances

- We are working on budgets and Badger and Roseau will be seeking a 5-6 % increase in adult offerings to balance their budgets. Last year no one received any increase in wages, but this year they all went up some and so did other costs. At Roseau, the additional fees for inspections, maintenance and insurance with the new addition amount to about \$5,500.
- Thank you to all who contributed to help meet our DAA goals in all three parishes!
- Roseau will not be tarring the parking lot this year as we wanted to do but this will allow us to take care of some needed window replacements on the church and rectory. In light of that we are welcoming memorials and contributions to the building maintenance fund as well as the capital fund and to the parish.

5. **Workers are needed for shifts at the Sacred Heart County Fair Food Stand** Tuesday to Friday (July 20-23). We invite anyone and all from all three parishes to come share the joy of working together for the raising of funds for the KC's who donate almost all money to community needs, and for Sacred Heart parish to help with paying off the loan for their new addition. The food stand is more than a fund-raiser --- it is a witness to our faith and readiness to support one another. Stop in sign up for a shift in the SHC gathering space or call the parish office.

6. **Raffles are being set up at St. Philip's and at Sacred Heart** -- Please pick you tickets when they are made available and make a good effort to sell as many as you can.

7. **St. Mary's is planning to have a food stand at the church on Friday evening (Sept. 17) of the Badger Fall Fest.** Watch for details.

8 . **Sacred Heart will again have their Fall Supper** on Sunday, September 19.

9. **Sacred Heart is working on plans and needs helpers for Vacation Bible School in August** -- tentatively Aug. 9-11 in the evening. Call the parish office if you can help.

10. **Sacred Heart Summer Youth Ministry will meet again this coming Wed. July 14** – check the bulletin for details and dates of other events. Open to all students Gr. 7-12.

11. **Looking for families or individuals to take a week of maintenance help at Sacred Heart** – thank you for all who have signed up in the church gathering space – there are a few open weeks yet.

12. **Introduction to Natural Family Planning for Engaged and Married Couples – Tues. July 20th from 8-9 pm.** The presenter is trained teacher from the parish at Warren. To register to view the session, go to: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Enough for this update --- Blessings! -- Fr. John