



THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY



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

**26TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**
SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

MASS SCHEDULE
SATURDAY
5:00PM

SUNDAY
7:30AM, 9:30*, 11:30 &
5:00PM

*ASL Interpreted & Livestream

WEEKDAY MASS
7:00AM & NOON*

*Livestream

LEAFLET

Please find the leaflet on page 7.
Scan the code for the expanded
version online.



88 N 17th St
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612.333.1381
mary.org



AN EVER WIDER "WE"

Since 1914, The Catholic Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. This day is an occasion to highlight concern for people, vulnerable and on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about opportunities migration offers. The World Day of Migrants and Refugees is this Sunday, September 26, 2021.

The message of Pope Francis on this 107th Day of Migrants and Refugees is entitled "Towards an Ever Wider We." In his message, we are challenged to see "that we are all in the same boat and called to work together so that there will be no more walls that separate us, no longer *others*, but only a single 'we', encompassing all humanity." We are invited to embrace and recognize our broken and fragmented relationships. We are called to reclaim a deep commitment to one another. We are asked to sacrifice—to let go of an individualized "feverish consumerism and new forms of egotistic self-preservation" that can pull us through life.

On September 26, 2021 we have a unique opportunity to live this "ever wider we" in our community.

In mid September, there were about 12,500 Afghan refugees staying at Fort McCoy in Wisconsin. Flown in suddenly, with the collapse of the Afghan government and the departure of U.S. support, families were brought to Fort McCoy with nothing but what they were wearing and what they could carry over thousands of miles of movement. Local news reports that life at Fort McCoy is challenging, with food and clothing shortages and overcrowding. On top of this, people are experiencing deep grief and fear. Their individual bodies have been transported. But extended family and all remnants of their life in Afghanistan were left behind.

Since 2015, The Basilica has had a partnership with Lutheran Social Services Refugee Services, co-sponsoring twelve families from around the world who received refugee status. With the support of LSS, we have accompanied families, offering Circle of Welcome Teams that walk with them as they make Minnesota their home.



Janice Andersen
*Director of Christian Life
The Basilica of Saint Mary*

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STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS

The Basilica of Saint Mary is committed to the future growth of our parish. The *Our Parish Our Future* plan outlines the three strategic areas of focus for the next five years. This plan builds upon the parish's strong vision, mission, and values.

The Arts

Move, inspire, and transform individuals and communities through excellence in the arts and creative practices.

Inclusivity

Build a culture where people feel valued, welcome, integrated, and included.

Homelessness

Respond to the needs of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. These three areas of focus were strategically selected through a comprehensive, contemplative process with our parish leadership, staff, and consultants.

The three areas will unify and inspire collaboration across our parish and resonate throughout our commitment to the community.

Learn more about the strategic direction of our parish at mary.org/ourfuture.

A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we:

- Practice biblical stewardship
- Share our faith with others in word and deed
- Pursue ecumenical and interfaith relationships
- Rejoice in rich diversity

As the Co-Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, we are committed to provide:

- Inspiring liturgies and sacred arts
- Transforming life-long learning opportunities
- Engaging service to one another and justice for all

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This September, The Basilica is being invited to co-sponsor Afghan families through LSS. The people who have come from Afghanistan have risked their lives to support the mission of the United States. Now, we are being asked to extend a warm welcome and to keep them safe.

With a strong commitment to “an ever wider we” and a strong infrastructure of our Basilica Immigrant Support Ministry, The Basilica was able to quickly mobilize and commit to co-sponsoring up to four families from Afghanistan. More opportunities may follow.

Pope Francis states, “Today’s migration movements offer an opportunity for us to overcome fears and let ourselves be enriched by the diversity of each person’s gifts. Then, if we so desire, we can transform borders into privileged places of encounter, where the miracle of an ever wider ‘we’ can come about.” May we gracefully embrace this opportunity to grow towards a wider “we.”

REFUGEE FAMILIES FROM AFGHANISTAN

Right now, The Basilica’s St. Vincent de Paul ministries are urgently responding by sponsoring refugee families from Afghanistan. We are creating teams that will support these families as they assimilate and find safety in our community. We will provide more information as it become available about the family’s specific needs. For questions contact Janice at 612.317.3477 or jandersen@mary.org.

BASILICA HOMECOMING RENEW & RECONNECT

Renew our call to faith. Reconnect to our parish community.

If you are interested in volunteering please visit mary.org/volunteer to review all of the available opportunities.

