

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY

JUNE 5, 2022

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.



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UNITY IN RICH DIVERSITY

"We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God." Acts 2:

9-11

I was about 12 years old when I was asked to proclaim the first reading on the Solemnity of Pentecost. As our lectors know, this is not an easy reading to proclaim. Mother Hildegard, my dear great-aunt, worked with me on the pronunciation of the many names in this reading. And she seized the opportunity to elaborate on what happened that first Pentecost.

My great-aunt's introduction to the early church opened my imagination to the world in which the Gospel was first proclaimed some 2000 years ago. This lively Pentecost scene somehow reminded me of the Sunday Market in Brussels, the capital of Belgium and Europe. When I went there for the first time, I could not believe my eyes. Coming from a small and traditional town in Flanders, the sight of people from all around the world made me dizzy with excitement. I could not believe



Johan van Parys Director of Liturgy and Sacred Arts The Basilica of Saint Mary

the exuberant and colorful clothes. Competing music in unknown languages blared from the different booths. I tasted dishes previously unknown to me. And to this day, I remember being olfactorily overcome by the scent of the many different spices. It was an absolute delight and it felt like I was traveling from country to country in a matter of moments. This is how I imagined Jerusalem on a holiday in the time of the apostles. A rich cacophony of humanity in all its diversity: just like the cradle of the church.

Visualizing my great aunt's description of that first Pentecost, I knew exactly where the apostles were. I saw them hiding in the upper room. In stark contrast to the festive atmosphere outside, the apostles were laden with angst and burdened by uncertainty. And then, in an instant, everything changed. Aflame with the Holy Spirit, they threw open the doors and windows, burst into the streets and started speaking of the marvelous deeds of God.





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 <u>mary.org/ourfuture</u>.

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

Continued from page 1

This happened with so much energy that it drew the attention of passers-by and quieted them down. And to everyone's amazement, they all heard the apostles speak in their native tongue. The Gospel of Jesus Christ was proclaimed in multiple languages and received by people from different countries, cultures, races, and ethnicities. This is a powerful testimony to the fact that though we all believe in the one, true God, we are as diverse as our world.

In contrast to this great Pentecost scene, where the diversity of the people was honored and lifted up, a dangerous fog of cultural fear and anger clouds our world today. These days diversity is met with suspicion and often leads to division.

The political world is particularly affected by this. Yet, our church is not immune to this either. Rather than welcoming the richness that comes from respectful dialogue between diverse races and opinions we clammer for uniformity. And rather than listening to one another we resort to speaking louder and louder in a desperate attempt to win whichever battle we are waging. Sadly, we lack the inner peace and the mutual respect needed to listen intently to one another and learn from one another. Tragically, we seem to have lost the way of the apostles who were able, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to rejoice in the richly diverse tapestry of humanity.

I look forward to the day when it will be said:

"We are republicans, democrats and independents; rich and poor; liberals, conservatives and moderates; women and men and children; gay and straight; Africans, Asians and Americans; Australians and Europeans, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongue of the mighty acts of God."

What an exciting and holy time that will be. May that day come soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

FAREWELL FR. BAUER ICE CREAM SOCIAL

JUNE 19, 25, & 26

BASILICA WEST LAWN AND PLAZA

Join us in celebration and appreciation of Fr. Bauer. You are invited to thank Fr. Bauer and wish him well as his tenure as pastor of The Basilica comes to an end.

Sunday, June 19 - after the 7:30 and 9:30am Masses Saturday, June 25 - after the 5:00pm Mass Sunday, June 26 - after the 11:30am Mass

2022 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

Please take time to vote. The Parish Council represents you—our parishioners. The Council plays a key role in working with the pastor to ensure that The Basilica of Saint Mary community continues to live out our mission and vision.

LEARNING

- Jennifer Lange

LITURGY & SACRED ARTS

- Matt Celichowski, Incumbent
- Edith Nicole Cameron

Thank you in advance for your participation and your continued support of The Basilica. Every registered adult parishioner in each household is entitled to vote once. Parish Council ballots will be available for online voting beginning June 1. Ballots must be cast online at mary.org/vote by **5:00 pm, Monday, June 13.**