

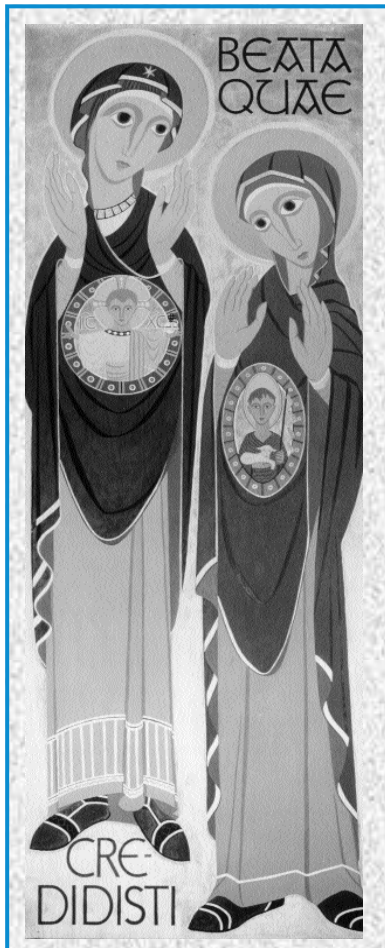
VISITATION CHURCH

10/05/08

518042

CONTACT:

Chantel at 612-822-3139 or cell phone at 612-388-3255



Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday Mass 10:00 am
Daily Mass Tue-Sat 8:00 am
Holy Days of Obligation
 8:00 am, 7:00 pm
Reconciliation
 Saturdays 4:00 pm,
 or by appointment.
Nursery
 10:00 am Sundays, infant-4
Eucharistic Adoration
 Every Thursday 8:30 am-
 7:00 pm.
Rosary Devotion
 Before First Saturday Mass
 and daily Mass at 7:30 am.

THE CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

Catholic Church

4530 LYNDALE AVENUE S. MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55419

www.visitationcatholicchurch.com

Church Office 612-822-3139 Fax 612-824-3515

62ND ANNIVERSARY 1946-2008

Pastor

Father Thomas F.A. O'Brien frthomasobrien@aol.com 612-822-3139

Administrative Assistant/Bulletin Editor

Chantel Cervantes visichurch@aol.com 612-822-3139

Bulletin notices due by noon on Mondays.

Facilities Coordinator

Anita Rosener visianita@aol.com 612-822-3139

Custodian

Tom Abresch 612-822-3139

Choir Directors

Barb Schrenk, Contemporary Ensemble 612-869-7076

Master of Ceremonies

Timothy G. Wolfgram

Trustees

Kristine Callaghan 612-825-8431

Tom Schuster 612-866-8561

Parish Pastoral Council

Connie Klaers, Chair cklaers@msn.com 612-823-6213

Finance Council

Philip Gleason, Chair 612-823-0080

Baptisms

Saturdays or Sundays at Mass. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriages

Six months preparation time needed. Must be a member of the parish for at least six months.

Parish Membership

Please call the church office to register in the parish.

After Hours Emergency Only

Father Thomas F.A. O'Brien 612-532-4707

As Kingfishers Catch Fire, Dragonflies Draw Flame...

Dear Friends,

Life in a Jesuit parish named *Gesu* had its advantages when I was in grade school. First, because we had a special free day on December 3, the feast of the Jesuit saint, Francis Xavier, our pastor's patron saint. Second, because our parishes patronal feast was January 2, the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, so we were always given an extra day of vacation. Everyone else returned to school right after New Year's Day; we had an extra day to delight in all the spoils of Christmas—toys, games, books, skates, and sleds. Third, when March and the Novena of Grace in honor of St. Francis Xavier rolled around every year—we had special talks in church (no class!), special ceremonies, and opportunity to pray to God for something each of us really wanted, confident He would hear my prayer and answer it to my good. (I should mention in the interest of full disclosure, I suppose, that we had games at school on March 12, because that date marked not only the end of the Novena, but also celebrated the date on which St. Francis was canonized in 1622.)

March of 1965 was especially important. My parents were grappling with a decision as to whether they should build a new house on a choice piece of property thirty miles away. My father was certain it was a good idea, all of us children thought it would be an exciting adventure, and my mother thought she needed to pray about it. Mother was *always* praying about things! She told us that no decision would be made until the Novena of Grace ended on March 12. We were instructed to make as our special intention an answer to the prayer, "should we move or shouldn't we?"

I can recall as clearly as yesterday, writing my novena petition and putting it in a special box to be placed on the altar in *Gesu* Church. The days passed—beginning with March 4—and nothing happened. By March 8, I was worried it might not work; God might not answer us. By March 11, I was really anxious, and certain it had all been a dismal exercise in futility. I walked home from school on March 12, somewhat dejected (despite the party), and quite uncertain as to what Mother's next step would be. But something had to give: Mother wouldn't budge without knowing God's will.

Surprise! The mailman had rung our doorbell that very morning. He had begun by saying, when Mother answered the door, "Mrs. O'Brien, I owe you an apology. I delivered your husband's license plates almost two weeks ago, and wondered why I didn't have yours to deliver at the same time. This morning, I found your plates—they were wedged in my drop box, had probably been there all along." Mother hadn't thought anything of it as she opened the envelope that morning, expecting the plates to be the same as any other year. To her astonishment, though, the license plate number had changed. It was now "AA 2584." And, miracle of miracles, the number "2584" was the address of the very house in which we were living! Need I tell you the rest of the story? Mother called Dad; Dad told her she was crazy, and to call Father Dietz, the pastor. Father Dietz told her he could certainly see why she thought it an answer to her Novena prayers, and she should follow her heart. (From that day forward, Mother was certain Father Dietz was a living saint.) Guess what? We didn't move. Not so significant in itself, except that by not moving at that time, our move to Michigan about nine months later not only was possible but also was absolutely transformative and grace-filled for our entire family.

I warn you: don't ever try to question the power of novenas in any discussion with my mother! And, although I've not consulted her, I'm sure she would endorse wholeheartedly our decision to keep an *All Souls Novena* at Visitation this year. The Novena begins on October 24, and ends with the Vigil for the Feast of All Souls on Saturday evening, November 1. The prayers, a full schedule, and some reflections on why we pray for the dead will follow shortly. Please look for all this in coming bulletins.

Thirty years ago this past week, Pope John Paul I died unexpectedly. You may recall that his death was followed by nine days of mourning, Masses, and prayers. The same followed the death of his successor John Paul II in April 2005. In our own experience, novenas for the Dead may not be as popular as they once were, but they nonetheless are an opportunity—approved by the Church—for us as a community of believers to spend a concentrated period of time in hopeful mourning, in yearning, and in prayer. Our Novena later this month can be a wonderful preparation for the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls. Please join us!

With blessings for you and all you love,

Father Thomas F.A. O'Brien, Pastor

PARISH NEWS

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be during the 10am Mass, Sunday, October 12th, followed by a brunch in the Fellowship Room. All are welcome—those who are ill and desire the healing and prayer of this sacrament, and those who wish to join in prayer for all they know and love.

Second Collection this weekend. This is a new second collection for our Archdiocese, instituted last year by Archbishop Flynn in support of the educational and formation work of the Saint Paul Seminary. Currently, the seminary has 64 priesthood candidates preparing for ministry in the Archdiocese. The Archbishop often says, "As goes the seminary, so goes the priesthood; as goes the priesthood, so goes the Church." We are fortunate to have one of the best seminaries in the country in our Archdiocese. Please support it generously this weekend.

The **Parish Pastoral Council** will meet Tuesday, October 7, at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Room. The **Finance Committee** will meet Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Room. Members of these committees, please confirm your attendance with Chantel at 612.822.3139 or visichurch@aol.com

Ushers are needed for the 10:00 am Sunday Mass beginning in November. Substitute ushers are available if you ever need to be absent. Please join us in this important ministry. Questions? Call Bob Nehotte at 612-823-8346.

Visitation Pie Sale is coming this month, October 25 and 26. Pie bakers need additional pie pans. Please drop the pans off in the library.

A note from our Faith Formation Committee: We are looking for input from parishioners for adult education ideas. We are asking for folks to search their hearts and discern if they would like to help out. Religious education, an RCIA program, adult education, and Bible studies, are just some of the main areas of ministry opportunities available. Call Bill Mitchell at 651-428-0290 or send a note with your ideas to Chantel Cervantes and she will pass them on to the committee.

It's time to think about Christmas in Appalachia— Helping the poorest of the poor. Please gather any caps, mittens, scarves, sweaters, toys and games that can be gifts for everyone. The deadline is October 28. Please leave the items in the church library. Questions? Please call Rosie Bjornsted at 952-945-0393.

October 6-12, 2008



Monday	No Mass Today	
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Lola Bigbee
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Mass of Thanksgiving
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Harold Simonson
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Joseph Brashear
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	James McLaughlin†
	5:00 p.m.	People of Visitation
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Kay & Joe Schmidlein†

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK in our parish: Margaret Sullivan, Kathryn Mattefy, Lyn Paradise, Patrick McDonald, Edith Gibney, Roger Coryell, Arpad Rummy, Pattee Kilday, Ruth Kelly, Marion Tombers, Bonnie Klein, Donald Eblen, Amy (Reynolds) Gaston, Joseph Brashear.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading – The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel; the people of Judah are the LORD's cherished plant (Isaiah 5:1-7).

Psalms – The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel (Psalm 80).

Second Reading – God's peace will guard your hearts and minds (Philippians 4:6-9).

Gospel – The kingdom of God will be given to those who will produce its fruit (Matthew 21:33-43)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Gal 1:6-12; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday:	Gal 1:13-24; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday:	Gal 3:1-5; Lk 11:5-13
Friday:	Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday:	Gal 3:22-29; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10]



The sanctuary flowers this week are given by Delores Sisson & Mary Misica to the glory of God and in memory of our Parents.

ALTAR SERVERS NEXT WEEK:

Saturday, October 11	5:00 p.m.	Rebecca Winker Rachel Winker
Sunday, October 12	10:00 a.m.	Charlie Bassett Peter Flynn

Sunday's Collection: September 28, 2008 \$2,132.00