



# 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*

**22ND SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2017**

**A REVOLUTION OF LOVE  
AND TENDERNESS**

### MASS TIMES

**Saturday**  
5:00pm

**Sunday**  
7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am  
4:30pm, 6:30pm

**Monday-Friday**  
7:00am and Noon  
Saint Joseph Chapel

**Nursery**  
Available Sunday 9:30am  
Mass for children through  
age 4.

**Accessibility**  
West ground level doors for  
accessible entrance.  
Wheelchairs available upon  
request.

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## JUDGE NOT

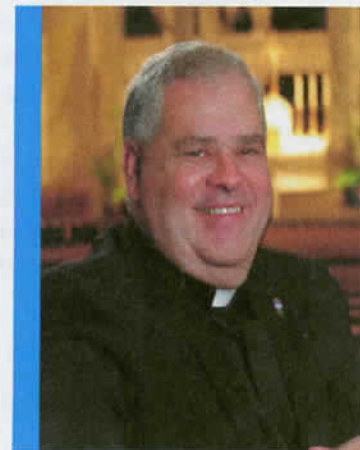
**The column below was submitted as a letter to the editor for the Catholic Spirit. It was written in response to two letters to the editor that appeared in the August 10 edition of the Catholic Spirit.**

I hate waiting in lines. Unless there is just a single line for people who want to check in/out; get gas; pay for their groceries, or whatever, I always choose the wrong line. I inevitably end up behind someone who is sure they have the exact change—if only they can find it; or someone who can't find their credit card; or someone who doesn't quite understand why they can't use a coupon that expired three weeks ago.

Given my abhorrence to waiting in lines, you can perhaps appreciate how surprised I was to read the letters to the editor in the August 10<sup>th</sup> Catholic Spirit. (The newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.) The issue they were writing about concerned an Illinois Bishop's decision to prohibit Catholics in same-sex marriages from receiving communion or having their funeral in a Catholic Church. One of the writers was clear that God *"does not have a place in heaven for those who decide his rules are outdated and don't fit the current whims of individuals."* Another suggested that: *"Those who claim they are loving others by allowing forbidden practices may just be loving them into hell."* As I read these comments I couldn't help but think that these writers had found a way to expedite the judgement line at the end of world.

This is pure genius. I am surprised that no one thought of this before. By narrowing down the issues that Jesus articulated in Matthew 25:31-46 to a single question: "Did you question/wonder about/believe in same sex marriage?"—in effect, by doing some pre-judging in this world—it will save God time at the end of the world. In fact, the line at the judgement at the end of the world should move along quite swiftly. We won't have to worry about whether or not we fed the hungry; gave drink to the thirsty; welcomed the stranger; clothed the naked; comforted the ill; or visited the imprisoned. Of course, though, if we narrow down the criteria for judgement to a single issue/question, it does make it difficult to explain why Jesus told that parable in the first place.

We need to be clear. The idea that we can save God time at the end of the world by doing some pre-judging here is complete nonsense. God searches our hearts, our minds, and our



**Fr. John M. Bauer**  
Pastor  
*The Basilica of Saint Mary*

# THIS WEEK

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Tours after the 9:30am and 11:30am Mass

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

9:30am SVdP Shoe Ministry  
9:30am Labor Day Mass, chapel

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

9:30am SVdP Outreach Ministry  
6:00pm Lector Practice\*  
6:00pm Crossroads Steering Committee  
7:00pm Mundus Rehearsal\*

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

9:00am SVdP Sandwich Ministry  
9:30am SVdP Outreach Ministry  
9:30am MOMMs Gathering  
12:00pm Listening Ministry  
4:30pm Emmaus Ministry  
5:45pm Children's Choir Rehearsal\*  
6:30pm Rediscovering My Faith  
7:00pm Basilica Cathedral Choir Rehearsal\*  
7:15pm Juventus\*

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

7:00am Men's Book Study  
9:15am Morning Prayer  
9:30am SVdP Outreach Ministry  
10:00am Crossroads Book Club  
5:30pm Hennepin Connections: Orientation and Training  
6:00pm SVdP Pathways  
7:30pm BYA Bible Study

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

10:00am Centering Prayer  
5:00pm Wedding  
6:30pm Reformation Panel Discussion

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

9:00am Confession  
9:30am SVdP Shoe Ministry  
12:00pm Wedding  
3:00pm Wedding  
7:30pm AA Meeting

\*Registration/tickets/audition required

souls; and God—and God alone—is the only One who is qualified to do any judging. And while I can't say for sure, I suspect God is not all that appreciative of those who think it is right and proper to save time at the end of the world by doing some pre-judging here.

As for me, I am grateful that judgement belongs to God alone, and that it is something God doesn't need any help with—however well intended. I am also hopeful that at the end of the world God will grade on a curve. I say this because the older I get, the more I realize how much in need of God's mercy I am.

## VOLUNTEER VOICES

Every year The Basilica community comes together to celebrate and connect at the Fall Festival (formerly known as the Parish Picnic). This is a large event and it takes a dedicated team of volunteers to plan and organize all the activities. Recently Jenessa, a member of this team, connected with our Gifts Leadership Team to share her story on why she chooses to share her time and talent with us:

"I started volunteering at The Basilica about a year ago. I began by helping out with Basilica Young Adults (BYA) sandwich making and later joined the Basilica Block Party Planning Committee, then the Fall Festival Committee. When I moved to Minneapolis a year ago, everything was new. I was in a new city, a new job, and a new church. The community at The Basilica is why I became a member of the church.

I volunteer because I believe that I am actively working toward maintaining and improving the community that I fell in love with when I moved here. My hope is that I, along with others who serve, can continue to spread the love of Christ and welcome people from all walks of life into our community. I quickly learned that volunteering at The Basilica is whatever you want it to be. As someone who often travels for work, I was worried about making commitments that I wouldn't be able to keep. Everyone has his or her own reservations about volunteering, but because there are many different volunteer opportunities, with various levels of commitment, you can work around your schedule and your needs."

**We invite you to celebrate The Basilica community with us next Sunday, September 10 during our Fall Festival—outside on the West Lawn following the 9:30am, 11:30am, and 4:30pm Masses.**

