SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 30, 2023

MASSES ON THE LORD’S DAY
5:00 pm Sat (vigil)
8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 noon, 5:00 pm

Live Streaming of
Sunday Mass and daily
Mass offered at 8:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES
7:00 am (Mon-Fri)
8:00 am (Mon-Sat)
12:05 pm (Mon-Fri)

OPEN WEEKDAYS
6:30 am – 5:00 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS
Evening Prayer
4:30 pm (Sat)

OPEN SATURDAY/SUNDAY
7:00 am – 6:30 pm

CONFESSIONS
7:30–8:00 am
(Monday through Friday)
3:30–4:50 pm (Sat)
9:00–9:50 am (Sun)
11:00–11:50 am (Sun)

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS
Following 8:00 am &
12:05 pm Mass (Tues)

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
3:30 pm–4:30 pm (Sat)
8:30 am–11:45 am
(Every First Friday)
Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski and the people of the Archdiocese of St. Louis welcome you and hope that your time in our Mother Church may be an opportunity to share our faith and joy in Jesus Christ.

Please enjoy the beauty of this building dedicated to the glory of God and built for the inspiration of all who enter. Public tours of the Cathedral led by volunteer guides are available most weekdays, call for availability.

All visitors who are not of the Catholic faith are welcome to join us in prayer, but not to receive Holy Communion. Reception of Holy Communion is a sign of unity of faith and full membership in the Catholic community. Together let us pray for the eventual unity of all believers.

If you desire to become a member of the Catholic Church or to become a member of the Cathedral Basilica Parish, please complete a registration card, available at the entrances the church.

All contributions to the Cathedral Basilica parish, ministries, and maintenance are sincerely appreciated.
Dear Parishioners,

In today’s liturgy, the Old Testament reading presents to us the figure of King Solomon, the son and successor of David. It presents him at the beginning of his reign, when he was still very young. Solomon inherited a very demanding task and the responsibility that lay heavily on his shoulders was great for a young king. He first of all offered God a solemn sacrifice, “a thousand burnt offerings”, as the Bible says.

Then the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night and promised to grant him what he asked in prayer. And here we see the greatness of Solomon’s soul. He did not ask for a long life, nor wealth, nor the elimination of his enemies; instead he said to the Lord: “Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong” (1 Kings 3:9). And the Lord heard him, so that Solomon became famous throughout the world for his wisdom and his right judgements.

He prayed God to grant him “an understanding heart”. What do these words mean? We know that the “heart” in the Bible does not only indicate a part of the body, but also the center of the person, the seat of his intentions and opinions. We might say: the conscience. Thus, an “understanding heart” means a conscience that knows how to listen, one that is sensitive to the voice of truth and for this reason can discern right from wrong.

In Solomon’s case, the request was motivated by the responsibility of leading a nation, Israel, the people whom God chose to show the world his plan of salvation. The King of Israel, therefore, had to try always to be in tune with God, listening to his word, in order to guide the people on the paths of the Lord, the path of justice and of peace.

However, Solomon’s example is valid for every person. Each one of us has a conscience so as to be, in a certain way, “king”, that is, to exercise the great human dignity of acting in accordance with an upright conscience, doing what is right and avoiding wrong.

The moral conscience presupposes the ability to hear the voice of truth and to be docile to its indications. Let us ask the Virgin Mary, Seat of Wisdom, for help in this. May the Blessed Virgin help us to form in ourselves, with God’s grace, a conscience ever open to the truth and sensitive to justice, to serve the Kingdom of God.

Monsignor Henry Breier
Jesus brings forth the new by building on the old
We build God’s kingdom by bringing forth new initiatives to meet the needs of our time

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Lord has made us creatures of time and eternity. Our task is to work with time, just as a farmer works with a field, to plant the seeds of eternity in the midst of it. How can we do that?

This week’s readings give us one clue. God gives Israel a series of festivals to celebrate every year, as well as the command to celebrate a Jubilee every 50 years. God is teaching Israel how to sanctify time. Our own yearly liturgical calendar, as well as our daily “Liturgy of the Hours,” build on that foundation. More on that in a minute.

The Gospel readings this week focus our attention on the kingdom of God. Jesus gives a series of parables: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, like yeast, like a treasure buried in a field, and so on. When He finishes the parables, Jesus says to His disciples: “Every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.”

The feast days we celebrate this week exemplify what Jesus says. St. Ignatius of Loyola (July 31); St. Alphonsus Liguori (Aug. 1); St. Eusebius of Vercelli (Aug. 2); St. John Vianney (Aug. 4); the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major (Aug. 5). All of these are great examples of building on the old while bringing forth something new for the sake of the kingdom. St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Alphonsus Liguori, for example, held fast to the deposit of faith and the sacraments, while also bringing forth new religious orders to serve the needs of their time. The Basilica of St. Mary Major was the first church built to honor Mary under her title as Mother of God. This was a new title for Mary at the Council of Ephesus in 431, though it was built on the teaching of the Council of Nicea in 325.

That’s a great lesson for us these days, as pastors come into new assignments and parishes come into new configurations. Jesus built on the foundation of Israel, while also bringing forth something new. Saints have continued to build on the old and bring forth the new throughout Church history. And we, today, while holding fast to the deposit of faith and the sacraments, are bringing forth new initiatives to meet the needs of our time.

But Jesus gives a warning, too. Right after giving His parables on the kingdom, He visits His hometown of Nazareth. The new thing that He’s bringing forth — the kingdom — can’t break through in Nazareth because of their lack of faith. Does that mean He isn’t all-powerful? No. It means He respects the nature of what He has made — because He made us as free creatures; and He respects the nature of what He’s bringing forth — because the kingdom is a free cooperation between God and human beings.

We are creatures of time and eternity. As we step into changes in the coming weeks, months and years, let’s be deliberate in asking: How can we bring forth the new and the old, so that we’re planting the seeds of eternity in the midst of our times?

Note: This column appeared in the St. Louis Review for July 29 & 30 and may be read in the print edition or at https://it.ly/35qIoXr
Joy in the Journey

In an interview with Michael Phelps, he once stated that before he became an Olympic swimmer he would wake up every morning at 5:00 am in order to get to the swimming pool where he would practice for two straight hours. Afterward, he would go to school all day. After school he would return to the swimming pool for two more hours. After which he would return home, eat dinner, and work on homework. He would then fall into bed completely exhausted and waiting for his alarm to go off and start the same routine all over again. When the interviewer asked him why he would follow such a disciplined and rigorous schedule he simply said, “My goal was to make the Olympic Swim Team.” He was willing to give up on parties and staying up late in exchange for a gold Olympic Medal.

Had Jesus chose to walk the earth now rather than in A.D. 30, today’s Gospel might read very differently. Rather than talk about a pearl merchant who sacrificed all to buy a dream pearl or a farmer who sold all to buy a field with treasure in it, He might have talked about an Olympic swimmer, who sacrificed all to make the Olympic Swim Team.

What is the connection between a pearl merchant, a treasure hunter, and an Olympic swimmer? The one thing these three people have in common is their total commitment to a dream. All three of them are willing to sacrifice everything in order to attain a goal that they have set for themselves. This leads us to the point that Jesus makes in the Gospel reading from today, His point is: Citizenship in the Kingdom of God requires total commitment on our part. We cannot pursue it as a part-time job. We cannot approach it and work at it as though it is a hobby. Being Christian is like being a pearl merchant, or a treasure hunter or even an Olympic swimmer. Total dedication is a requirement. However, there is one key difference between the pearl, the treasure and the gold Olympic medal. Paul refers to it in a letter to the Corinthians. Every athlete in training submits to a strict discipline in order to be crowned with a wreath that will not last.

Indeed, we strive for one that will last for all time without ending. That is the difference. The pearl, the treasure, and gold Olympic medal are all perishable and will become nothing over time. At the moment of death, there is only one thing that truly counts.

It is not whether in life we acquired a prize pearl, a rare treasure, or even a gold Olympic medal. The only thing that will matter is what have become in the process of seeking the pearl. Acquiring the treasure or winning the medal are merely the end goal. What has the pursuit of these items done to the three? It strengthened them for the journey and ultimately they attained the goal.

Similarly, how has our commitment to personal prayer affected us? Do we work at it daily? Are we dedicated to strengthening our relationship with Jesus Christ? Today’s Gospel exemplifies the joy and willingness of the merchant and the landowner to sacrifice worldly possessions in order to obtain the Kingdom’s eternal riches.
Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis
requests the honor of your presence at the

2023 Cathedral Basilica Gala

August 19, 2023

Benefitting the preservation and restoration of the art and architecture in this great monument of our faith

Saturday, August 19, 2023

Cocktails & Dinner
Old Warson Country Club
9844 Old Warson Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63124
At 6 o’clock in the evening

Attire Coat & Tie
Valet Parking

Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis Gala

Saint Louis, King of France, $25,000
• Recognition in Gala program
• 2 tables of 10 with prominent seating at Gala

Saint Vincent de Paul, $15,000
• Recognition in Gala program
• 1 table of 10 for Gala

Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, $10,000
• Recognition in Gala program
• 1 table of 8 for Gala

Friend of the Archbishop
• Recognition in Gala program
• 4 tickets for Gala

Or

Individual tickets may be purchased at $200

Individual tables of 8 at $1,600

For more information, please contact Jennifer Stanard at 314-373-8220
Men of the Cathedral

The Men of the Cathedral cordially invite all parishioners and visitors to join them with Adoration of the Holy Eucharist on Tuesday, August 29th at 6 PM.

We are gratified to see more people joining us for Adoration, both men and women; parishioners and visitors who have heard of the evening and seek a closer relationship with Christ. So many among us are suffering silently. If this is you, or you are praying for someone with a special intention, please join us in personal prayer at Adoration to ask God to intercede and aid those who may feel alone and without hope.

Adoration will begin promptly at 6 PM. Confessions will be heard during Adoration.

All are welcome for Adoration.

All men are invited to drinks, dinner, and fellowship in Boland Hall immediately after the conclusion of Adoration. A suggested donation of $20 is appreciated.

For dinner reservations, please contact Michael Weisbrod at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org by Monday, August 28th.

The Gospel of the Lord

Jesus said to his disciples:

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure buried in the field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has to buy it.

Again the Kingdom of Heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away.

Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

“Do you understand all these things?” They answered, “Yes.” And He replied, “Then every scribe who has been instructed in the Kingdom of Heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.”

Matthew 13:44-52

Women of the Cathedral

Our next gathering of Women of the Cathedral will be Saturday, August 5, 2023. We will start with 8:00 am Mass at the Cathedral Basilica. Afterward, we will move to Boland Hall for fellowship and conversation. Msgr. Breier will host a short informative session.
A Thought on The Sanctity Of Life

“A woman with an unexpected pregnancy may have any number of fears and challenges: facing judgment from her friends and family, losing her job or housing, or being abandoned by the father of her child. Following Mary’s example, we can ask ourselves how to better know these mothers, listen to them, seek understanding, and help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children.”
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

What Catholics Believe

Join us at the Cathedral Basilica two Wednesdays a month, when Fr. Povis will present an in-depth theological reflection on the articles of the Apostles’ Creed.
-6:30pm in Boland Hall
-50 minute presentation followed by social
-Feel free to bring food and drink
-Designed for adults, but all are welcome!

Next Session

Sessions will resume in September

Daily Readings for the Week...

The readings are included each week so that the parishioners who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

Readings for the Week
July 30, 2023 through August 6, 2023

Tuesday: 402: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Ps 103:6-13 Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday: 403: Ex 34:2-35 Ps 99:5-7, 9 Mt 13:44-46
Thursday: 404: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38 Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11 Mt 13:47-53
Friday: 405: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Ps 81:3-6, 10-11 Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: 406: Lv 25:1, 8-17 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Mt 14:1-12
Sunday: 614 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9

Testimony of the Sick

It is our responsibility in the Lord to remember the sick, who are especially close to the Redeemer in their suffering.

Roxanne Ali
Linda Baldwin
Janice Bashford
Barbara Beckemeyer
Edwin Ayala Padiña
Pauline Price
David Washington
Dorothy Quinn
Mary Leah Kovarik
Janetta Williams
Kelvin Ayala Reyes

Mary Riley
Vivian Rachel Rossen
Resy Sanchez
Mickey Shears
Mary Anne Work
Betty Ytzaina
Sharon Kay Moore
Duric Shiebler
Therese Terri Svehla
Deborah Lee
Stewardship Alive!

St Patrick’s Casserole Program
Home-cooked casseroles feed homeless persons at St. Patrick’s Shelter and non-perishable foods for their community pantry are provided at St Patrick’s Center, a ministry of Catholic Charities, each month by volunteers from the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. Volunteer coordinators will hold the next “drop off” of food in the parish parking lot (between the church and school) on Thursday, August 10, 2023 from 1-2 pm. For information about volunteering (simple recipes provided), please contact Skip or Nicki.

Thank You!
Dear Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis parishioners,

On behalf of the staff, volunteers, and patients of the Rural Parish Clinic, I want to thank you for your continued support of this ministry through your prayers and donations. The recent toiletry drive brought in much needed toiletry supplies, gift cards, and over the counter medications for us to use in assisting patients we serve in rural counties of our archdiocese. It is through the generosity of people like you that we can continue to answer the Lord’s call to meet the needs of our underprivileged neighbors. May the Lord bless each of you for the kindness you have shown.

In Christ Jesus,
Sister Mary Rachel Nerbun, RSM, MD, MA

Eucharistic Revival
The Bishops of the United States are calling for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They believe that God wants to see a movement of Catholics across the United States, healed, converted, formed, and unified by and encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and sent out in mission “for the life of the world”.

For more information or to volunteer with the Eucharistic Revival, please visit: www.allthingsnew.archstl.org/Evangelization/Eucharistic-Revival

Anima Christi Young Adults
Anyone between the ages of 18 and 39 is invited to join in prayer and fellowship with the young adult community of the Cathedral Basilica on Thursday, August 3rd. Our gathering begins with Holy Hour at 5:30pm (enter through the west door, by the playground). Followed by Mass at 6:30pm. Afterward there will be dinner in Boland Hall. Please join us, in full or in part, to deepen your relationship with Christ and with one another.

Weekly Thoughts on Giving
“We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” - Romans 8:28

Do you really trust God? Do you really believe that God will provide all that you need? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, in good times and in bad, means that God’s plan for our lives may be quite different than what we planned. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.
Parish Information

Registration in Parish
To join our parish, please register online at https://cathedralstl.org/about-basilica/parish-life or call the rectory at 314-373-8202.

Online Giving is a secure and convenient web-based service to make your weekly or monthly contributions to Cathedral Parish from your computer, or laptop, or tablet. Simply access the Cathedral website (www.cathedralstl.org) and go to Parish Online Giving under the “GIVE” tab. Then follow the easy instructions to set up your secure account and authorize your contributions to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the date you specify.

Baptism of Infants
Parents requesting Baptism should be registered members of the parish. To schedule baptisms or register for baptismal preparation classes for parents or godparents, contact the rectory at 314-373-8202.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
For persons interested in becoming Catholic, contact the rectory at 314-373-8202.

Anointing of the Sick
Parishioners facing surgery or struggling with serious illness may request this sacrament by calling the rectory at 314-373-8202.

Vocations to Christian Marriage
Couples planning to marry at the Cathedral Basilica may contact Mary Ann Fox at 314-373-8208.

Vocations to Holy Orders and Consecrated Life
Those who feel called to this life are invited to call the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations at 314-792-6460.

Cathedral Basilica Rectory
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314-373-8200 • fax 314-373-8290
www.cathedralstl.org — Email: parish@cathedralstl.org