

# Naming the New Parish

Parishioners of both St. Margaret Mary and St. Gregory the Great have been invited to submit recommendations for the name of our new parish. The Executive Committee of the Merger Transition Team has reviewed the list of suggested names and evaluated it in accord with the parameters established by Bishop Lennon. The review resulted in a final list of 9 suggested names. The names and brief rationale as to the appropriateness for the new parish in South Euclid, with a worship site at St. Gregory the Great Church, follow below.

## **Blessed John XXIII (June 3)**

- Blessed Pope John XXII opened a new chapter in church history.
- His pontificate lasted less than 5 years but presented him to the world as an authentic image of the Good Shepherd.
- There is a depiction of him in the mosaic of St. Gregory the Great in St. Gregory Church; and St. Gregory Church was built while he was pope.

## **Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta (September 5)**

- Referred to as “one of the most relevant personalities of our age” and “an icon of the Good Samaritan.
- Pope John Paul II said of her that her life was a bold proclamation of the gospel. He found her love for the Eucharist, for prayer and for the poor a model for all to imitate.
- A holy woman of the modern day to inspire our merged parish to find new and creative ways to address the needs of the Catholic Church in South Euclid, especially those relating to evangelization, the return of Catholics to Sunday Mass, the plight of the poor, and the changing racial and ethnic mix of the population.
- Through her intercession we will meet the face of Jesus in the people on the streets of our city.

## **Blessed Sacrament**

- As an affirmation of the deep devotion both parishes have to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and to His Most Sacred Heart.

## **Christ Our Hope**

- A title of Jesus used by St. Paul in his first letter to Timothy (...Christ Jesus, Our Hope...) and by Pope Benedict XVI to name his Apostolic journey to the United States in 2008.
- The name should remind us that as we embark on this new venture as a brand new parish, we do so as a people filled with hope in the person of Jesus Christ Himself.
- Our human hopes and desires find perfect fulfillment in the life, death and resurrection of Christ.

## **Divine Mercy (observed the 2nd Sunday of Easter)**

- As a Beacon to Our Community: We, as Catholics, are witnesses of Jesus' Divine Mercy firsthand.
- We are called to convey His message of mercy and forgiveness to all people.
- As a newly-formed, merged parish, we can recommit ourselves to the Eucharist and evangelization.
- Both parishes observe Divine Mercy Sunday annually.

## **Mary, Mother of Hope**

- This title of Mary is found in a Marian antiphon, the Salve Mater Misericordiae (Hail, Mother of Mercy) “...Mother of God : Mother of Hope and kind forgiveness...”
- Pope Benedict XVI closes his encyclical Spe Salvi (Saved in Hope) by invoking Mary, the Mother of Hope, and offers us the hand of our Blessed Mother to guide Us and lead us through the trials and challenges of life. He says to reach Christ we need people to shine His light and guide us along our way. Mary always leads us closer to her Son and therefore always closer to Hope.
- There certainly will be challenges and fears, successes and failures as our new parish begins to establish itself.
- There is much work for this new parish to do for and with God's people in South Euclid; and we need our Mother Mary to be our beacon of Hope.

## **Sacred Heart of Jesus**

### **(19 days after Pentecost Sunday)**

- Because of the great devotion St. Margaret Mary had to the Sacred Heart and the fact that St. Gregory the Great Church has an altar dedicated to the Sacred Heart.
- Feast owes its origins to the apparitions of Christ to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.

**(Please see the final 2 suggestions on the back side.)**

### **St. Benedict Parish (July 11)**

- Benedict is the name chosen by our current Holy Father.
- At this time, there is no other parish named St. Benedict..
- St. Gregory the Great was a Benedictine Monk and Pope.
- The two altars in the back of St. Gregory the Great Church (Sorrowful Mother and St. Ann) and the rose window in the school building are all from the former St. Benedict Church.
- The mosaic in the sanctuary of the worship site depicts a papal tradition that the name St. Benedict would carry on.

### **Sts. Peter and Andrew Parish (St. Andrew—November 30)**

- Peter and Andrew were brothers and the first fishermen to be called by Jesus.
- Their names and their lives recall for us how Christ intended to build His church on earth.
- Since they were brothers, joining 2 parishes would be symbolic of a new family relationship.

We invite you to read, re-read and pray about each of these as a possibility for the name of our new parish. While it is true that the church building of St. Gregory the Great has been designated as the worship site for the merged parish and thus its name will remain unchanged, the parish, as a whole, will be known by a new name beginning on June 20, 2010.

This same list is being presented at each parish. While the procedure may be a bit different from one parish to the other, the outcome will be the same: the top three “vote getters” overall will be submitted to Bishop Lennon for his final decision. It is within his prerogative to select one or none of these. So far, of the parishes who have submitted their list to him, all of them have received one of the names on the list. We will notify you which names have been forwarded for the Bishop’s consideration as soon as we know them.

Please continue to pray for the success of this transition and merger.

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