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THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

The life of the community, in days and years, is made up of a long string of events. Individual prayers, daily Masses, Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, Confessions, Weddings, and Funerals; drop-in visitors who sit quietly for a moment, a helping hand to someone in need: these are the small and large moments—ordinary, yet extraordinary—that, over time, make up the strong web of faith and history that form the actual Basilica.

Designed by Emmanuel Masqueray in the Beaux Arts style, construction of the church began in 1907. The exterior was completed in 1914; the interior completed in 1926—including the addition of the stained glass windows designed, constructed, and installed by Gaytee Stain Glass Co., a local business. Known as The Pro-Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the church was granted the title of The Basilica of Saint Mary by Pope Pius XI, February 1, 1926. It is the first Minor Basilica in the United States. The Basilica of Saint Mary was granted the title of Co Cathedral in 1966.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PRELUDE

We Thank You, God, for Animal Friends

Larry E. Schulz
Cathedral Choristers

PROCESSION

God of the Sparrow



1.	God of the	spar - row	God of the	whale
2.	God of the	earth - quake	God of the	storm
3.	God of the	rain - bow	God of the	cross
4.	God of the	hun - gry	God of the	sick
5.	God of the	neigh - bor	God of the	foe
6.	God of the	a - ges	God near	at hand



God	of	the	swirl - ing	stars
God	of	the	trum - pet	blast
God	of	the	emp - ty	grave
God	of	the	prod - i - gal	
God	of	the	prun - ing	hook
God	of	the	lov - ing	heart



How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Awe
How	does	the	crea - ture	cry	Woe
How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Grace
How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Care
How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Love
How	do	your	chil - dren	say	Joy



How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Praise
How	does	the	crea - ture	cry	Save
How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Thanks
How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Life
How	does	the	crea - ture	say	Peace
How	do	your	chil - dren	say	Home

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008, © 1983, Concordia Publishing House.
 Tune: ROEDER, 9 6 7 7; Carl F. Schalk, b.1929, © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc.
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LITURGY OF THE WORD



(Please be seated.)

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

1:20—2:2

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let the birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” And so it happened: God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and morning, the fifth day. Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And so it happened: God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

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RESPONSE

Bonse aba

Traditional Zambian Song
arr. by Andrew Fischer

Mundus, Juventus, Choristers, Children's Choir, Cherubs

Bonse aba mu pokelela Ba lipele maka akuba bana.
All that sing have the right to be called the children of God.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

11:1-6

On that day a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall be neighbors.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

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OFFERING

Your contribution to the offering provides support for next year's celebration.

Thank you.

REFLECTION

The Bandicoot

Carolyn Jennings
Cathedral Choristers
from *A Menagerie of Songs*

The bandicoot is fond of fruit. Australia's where she's found.
She likes to dig up gardens there and burrow in the ground.
How sandy for the bandicoot. (whistle)

The bandicoot (who dotes on fruit) is fond of insects, too.
She has a pouch to hold her young, just like the kangaroo.
How handy for the bandicoot. (whistle)

The pouch is on her belly. It closes on the top and opens on the bottom
But the babies never drop. How dandy for the bandicoot. (whistle)
Dandy, handy, sandy, bandicoot.

"Bandicoot" from THE LLAMA WHO HAD NO PAJAMA: 100 FAVORITE POEMS by Mary Ann Hoberman.
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All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir

Bill Staines
Children's Choir, Cherubs, Cathedral Choristers



THE PRAYERS



INTERCESSIONS *(Please stand as you are able.)*

The lector will announce each aspect of creation we offer to God in prayer.
We invite you to respond to each petition.

Lector: For ... we pray to the Lord.
Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Assembly: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



BLESSING & SPRINKLING OF WATER

The World Is Filled with Creatures

If you wish to hold your pet up for the blessing, you are welcome to do so.
If your pet is too large to hold, it is understood that the blessing is still received.

The world is filled with crea - tures, you can see them all a -
round With some that fly up to the sky or crawl
up - on the ground. They swim the seas, they
hide in holes, or use a tree to nest. But
ev - 'ry crea - ture I have seen is one I like the best!

A nuthatch does not hatch a nut, sandpipers do not pipe.
The wood duck is not made of wood of any common type.
But birds have wings to fly the skies, their voice is always strong.
They let us dream of freedom and they give the gift of song. **Refrain**

Your dog is always waiting when you come back to the house.
The cat will rub along your leg and shed upon your blouse.
But we hug them and we pet them, they're a gift from up above.
They fill our hearts with laughter and they show us how to love!
*Beavers 'n bison 'n birdies 'n bats! Chipmunks 'n cheetahs 'n camels 'n cats.
Donkeys 'n duckies 'n dolphins 'n dogs, ferrets 'n foxes 'n fishes 'n frogs!* **Refrain**

The silkworm spins the thread with which we weave the finest cloth,
And none can match the beauty of a butterfly or moth.
The sweetest food is given to us by the honeybee,
How wonderful is what these creatures do for you and me! **Refrain**

Dolphins dive below the waves and fishes swim in schools,
Salmon spawn in creeks and starfish bathe in tidal pools.
With flying fish above and living coral reefs below,
The waters of the Earth give life to help them all to grow!
*Spiders 'n sparrows 'n spaniels 'n sloths! Monkeys 'n mousies 'n minnows 'n moths!
Hedghogs 'n hippos 'n horses 'n hens! Warthogs 'n walleyes 'n walrus 'n wrens!* **Refrain**

Cows out in the pasture lie and calmly chew their cud.
Sheep may safely graze the fields and pigs will play in mud.
Oxen toil with the yoke and horses we can ride.
These animals feed and clothe us and they help us at our side. **Refrain**

Praise the Lord Most High through Brother Sun and Sister Moon.
And through the Creatures of the Earth and with this joyful tune.
The animals need us to live and on them we depend.
They're members of our family and each one is our friend. **Refrain**

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Tune: Mona Lyn Reese, © 1994, Reese and Hassing Music Publishers.
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CONCLUDING RITE



CLOSING DIALOGUE

President: This celebration is ended, let us go in peace.
 Assembly: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

1. We can - not own the sun - lit sky, The
 2. When bod - ies shiv - er in the night And,
 3. God calls hu - man - i - ty to join As

moon, the wild - flow'rs grow - ing, For we are part of
 wea - ry, wait for morn - ing, When chil - dren have no
 part - ners in cre - at - ing A fu - ture free from

all that is With - in life's riv - er flow - ing.
 bread but tears, And war - horns sound their warn - ing,
 want or fear, Life's good - ness cel - e - brat - ing.

With o - pen hands re - ceive and share The gifts of God's cre -
 God calls hu - man - i - ty to wake, To join in com - mon
 That new world beck - ons from a - far, In - vites our shared en -

a - tion, That all may have a - bun - dant life
 la - bor, That all may have a - bun - dant life
 deav - or, That all may have a - bun - dant life

In ev - 'ry earth - ly na - tion.
 In one - ness with their neigh - bor.
 And peace en - dures for - ev - er.

Text: Ruth Duck, b.1947, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.
 Tune: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, 87 87 with refrain; Robert Lowry, 1826-1899;
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SAINT FRANCIS PLEDGE



I / We Pledge to:

PRAY and reflect on the duty to care for God's Creation and protect the poor and vulnerable.

LEARN about and educate others on the causes and moral dimensions of climate change.

ASSESS how we—as individuals and in our families, parishes and other affiliations—contribute to climate change by our own energy use, consumption, waste, etc.

ACT to change our choices and behaviors to reduce the ways we contribute to climate change.

ADVOCATE for Catholic principles and priorities in climate change discussion and decisions, especially as they impact those who are poor and vulnerable.



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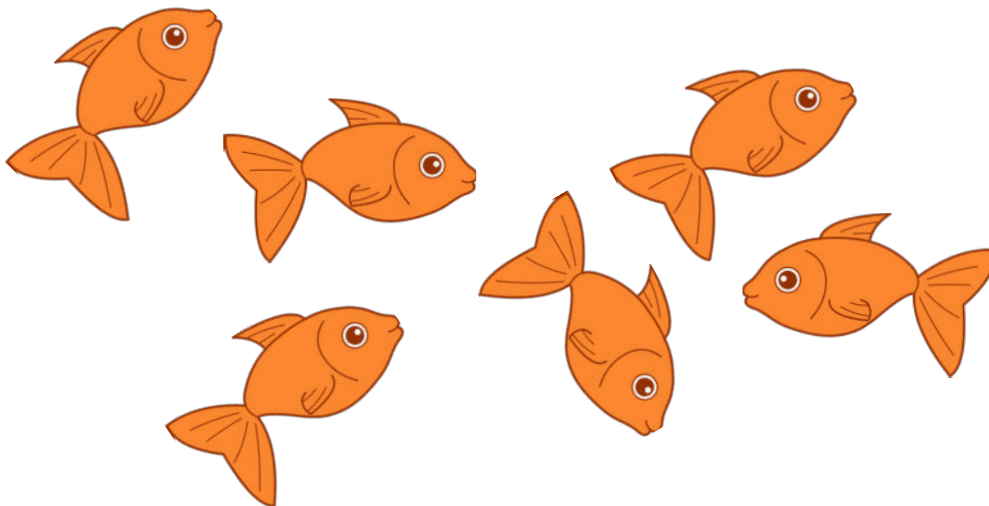
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OCTOBER 5, 2025

The featured endangered animal this year is the Red Panda.

Next year, the Blessing of the Animals will take place on Sunday, October 4. If you would like to help with next year's event, please contact Melissa Streit at The Basilica of Saint Mary, 612.317.3417. We hope you will be able to join us.

The World is Filled with Creatures was composed by Mona Lyn Reese. She was the 1993-1994 composer-in-residence at The Basilica of Saint Mary through the Minnesota Composers Forum program. The focus of this ecumenical program is to place a composer in one rural and two urban congregations to write the same music for all three. The other congregations in the consortium included Temple Israel, Minneapolis, and the College of Saint Benedict, Saint Joseph, MN. This program was funded by the Otto Bremer Foundation.



THE BASILICA
OF SAINT MARY

