

Dear Parishioners,

It is hard to believe that we have reached the midpoint of summer vacation! As we are now planning and preparing events for the upcoming year, I thought I would offer a "sneak peak" in this week's column. Our theme for next year for our parish and school will be the Corporal Works of Mercy. Beginning in October, we will focus on one work per month and ways that we can live out that work both as individuals and as a parish. Our liturgical music and environment will pick up on this theme as well. Plans for **Septemberfest**, formerly known as the Fall Festival are underway. We are incorporating elements of both the Fall Festival and Oktoberfest, as well as trying some new things. The festivities will kick off on Saturday with the Half-Way to Heaven Hill Challenge, music by the **Personics**, and of course, the Nebraska Football game. Sunday we will have our games, a sit-down German-style dinner in the Activity Center, the country-store, and the car show. This is our major parish fund-raiser for the year and I am asking for everyone's help to make it a success. I especially need your help selling raffle tickets! Due to the parish merger, I do not feel like I had the opportunity to become acquainted with many of our school parents and families last year and so beginning in August, Fr. Gama and I will be hosting a dinner for each grade. More information and invitations will be coming soon! The year is going to be an exciting one. It is so nice to see our Church fuller on Sundays and to have people singing and participating in the Mass!

Next week, I will be on vacation. Fr. Gama will be covering for me in my absence.

Blessings,

Fr. John

### Question of the Week – How does faith influence what you see and hear?

Reading 1 Isaiah 55:10-11

Reading 2 Romans 8:18-23

Gospel Matthew 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

**Reflection:** The parable of the sower is one of Jesus' best-known stories. It is filled with word-pictures that can take root in our memories. We can see the sower, or the farmer, tossing handfuls of seed left and right. And when Jesus describes the four different kinds of soil that the seed falls on, we can compare ourselves to one of those categories. How sad it is that so much of the seed does not bear fruit. Yet the word of God does not return to God empty. There will always be enough people of "good soil" to see and hear and do the work of God. The reign of God will come!

PARISH SUPPORT	WEEK OF JULY 1 – 5
Weekly Revenue	\$1,640.00
Weekly Expenses	\$2,172.68
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$532.68)
Year to Date Revenue	\$1,640.00
Year to Date Expenses	\$2,172.68
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$532.00)

**DID YOU KNOW...** Our fiscal year ended June 30th, 2014. We will be publishing a full year report of the 2013/2014 fiscal year later this summer. Today's numbers reflect Tuesday, July 1st through Saturday July 5th. Next week we will return to a full 7 days of reporting. Hope you are having a great summer!

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY OF FRED KINGHORN.** Fred is the father, father-in-law of Bryan and Michele Kinghorn and grandfather of Bennett. The funeral services for Fred will be Monday, July 14 in Grand Island, NE.

**COME AND TAKE HOME A BIT OF HISTORY!** 95 Years of History - Auction of entire contents of Church, School, & Rectory! Saturday, July 19 begins at 9 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament 3020 Curtis Ave.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR HELP!** If you would like to get involved with helping get ready for the auction at Blessed Sacrament or would like to help the day of the auction – either with set up or throughout the day, please call Larry Ziska at 402-451-3189 or Tim Kiuntke at 402-571-8600. There will be a meeting before the auction to discuss what to expect & assignments.

**100 DAYS OF SUMMER. 100 DAYS OF HOPE.** Blood is especially needed this time of year, so please schedule your donation today! Saturday, July 26 is the Knights Blood Drive in the St. Philip Neri Activity Center. Please contact Myron Smedra at 402-457-5622 to schedule an appointment or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) & use sponsor code: 009603

**ALL LADIES OF THE PARISH MAKE UP THE ALTAR SOCIETY.** If you don't belong to a Circle, you are considered an inactive member. We collect inactive dues this time each year so we can pay for Altar Breads, Missals and other special projects in the parish. **PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES TO THE RECTORY OR PUT THEM IN THE COLLECTION BASKET AT CHURCH WITH "ALTAR SOCIETY" NOTED ON THE ENVELOPE.** Thank you to those who have already donated. If you are interested in finding out more about joining one of our four Circles, please call Marsha Moon at 402-455-1485.

**ROYAL NEIGHBORS REPORT ON PROJECT "MOTHERS IN CRISIS".**

We have filled 10 large shoe boxes with items for Mom's at U.N.M.C. We want this to be an ongoing project...SO keep filling the basket under the St. Joseph altar in Church with the following items: socks, washcloths, small towels, coupons/gift cards for fast food, playing cards, pens, notepads, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, tooth brushes, combs, brushes, sewing kits, manicure kits, lotions, etc. With your back to school purchases of shoes – keep us in mind – we can use large, sturdy shoe boxes. If you have any questions or would like more info., please call Marsha Moon at 402-455-1485, Raylyn Ramsgard at 402-689-8681 or DeLynne Clausen at 402-455-9610.

**MASS INTENTIONS JULY 14 – 21**

Monday	8:15 AM	Communion Service
Tuesday	8:15 AM	Tom Dowd Sr. Int. Margaret Grove Int.
Wednesday	8:15 AM	James D. Slaven + Sara Maxwell Brown +
Thursday	8:15 AM	Tess Lawler +
Friday	8:15 AM	Timothy L. Slattery +
Saturday	5:00 PM	Deceased members of the Weber Family + Jim Rentscher +
Sunday	7:30 AM 10:30 AM	Our Parish Family + Tom Dowd Jr. + John Jefferson Wooden +

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS: JULY 19/20**

- ALTAR SERVERS:** 5:00 PM: Natalie Ruckman, Emmet Lampe  
10:30 AM: Aydin Meehan, Tanner Muhlecke
- CANDLE BEARERS:** 5:00 PM: Jackson Cramer, Tim Spiker  
10:30 AM: Mia Dolan, Nick Meier
- LECTORS:** 5:00 PM: Hugh Reilly  
7:30 AM: Hank Henkenius  
10:30 AM: Jan Sammons
- DEACON:** 5:00 PM: Deacon Al LeClair  
7:30 AM: Deacon Fred Hendricks
- EMHCs:** 5:00 PM: Tahlyr Banks, Angie Bahle-Lampe,  
Matt Swoboda, Mary Ann Taylor  
7:30 AM: George and Marsha Moon,  
Kathy Rossitto, Sue Schartz  
10:30 AM: Kelli Brock, DeLynne Clausen, Rose Peck,  
Dave Parks, Roy Edwards
- GIFT BEARERS:** 5:00 PM: Lampe Family  
7:30 AM: Schonberner Family  
10:30 AM: Brock Family
- MUSICIANS:** 5:00 PM:  
10:30 AM:
- COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND:** Norine Hoffman,  
Mary Todd
- NERI DOLLAR SELLERS:** 5:00 PM: Susan Matsunami  
7:30 AM: Patty Wiederholt 10:30 AM: Kara Rief
- COLLECTION MONEY COUNTERS:** Patty Wiederholt,  
Glenda Merwald
- IMMANUEL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** Kathy Rossitto, Dorie Mittlieder
- USHERS:** 5:00 PM: Fred Bonacci, Dave Sedlacek, Jim Coe,

- 7:30 AM: Bill Wilber, Carl Sedlacek, Chuck Holderness,  
Chuck Livengood
- 10:30 AM: Tom Mendicino, Rick Krebs, Fred Maycock,  
Carl Cramer

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A LECTOR OR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION & HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE ARCHDIOCESAN TRAINING,** there will be classes on August 10, 12 & 18. You are invited to attend one of these sessions which are offered here in Omaha. Please contact the Rectory no later than July 30 to register.

**THE ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESE MARRIAGE CELEBRATION MASSES** will be Sunday, Sept. 7 at St. Cecilia Cathedral & Sunday, Sept. 14 at St. Mary Church in Norfolk. Marriage Celebration is for all couples celebrating milestone anniversaries of 5, 25, 40, 50, 55, & 60 or more years of marriage. Please call the Rectory no later than July 25 to register. Names must be submitted to the archdiocese no later than Monday, July 28.

**I HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM FILLING GROCERY SACKS WITH FOOD FOR THE NEEDY AND AM SHOCKED AT HOW BARE THE SHELVES ARE AT THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL WAREHOUSE.** They are in dire need of: canned tomatoes and tomato sauce, canned fruit, canned meat: tuna & chicken, and saltine crackers. When I was there in June, the shelves were pretty full – thanks to the Post Office food drive – but now they really need our help. Let's help stock up the pantry at the St. Vincent de Paul warehouse by bring food all this month to Church! Please put the food in the barrels near the front doors of Church – and maybe line the food up the aisle towards the altar!

Thanks in advance! Kathy Rossitto

**CHRISTIAN HUMOR** Did you know...

- Sound travels 5 times faster through water than in air.
- During a total solar eclipse the temperature can drop by 20 degrees.
- The Eiffel Tower has 1,792 steps.
- There are 31,557,600 seconds in a year.
- Rubber bands last longer when kept refrigerated.
- Hard boiled eggs spin (uncooked or soft boiled don't).
- Coca Cola launched its product, Sprite, in 1961.
- The oldest word in the English language is "town".
- Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, JULY 13**

**NERI DOLLARS SOLD:** After all Masses

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD –** During 10:30 Mass

**MONDAY, JULY 14**

7:00 A.M. **KINGHORN GARDENS –** Parish Center

**SATURDAY, JULY 19**

9:00 A.M. **BLESSED SACRAMENT AUCTION**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION –** in front of School

**NERI DOLLARS SOLD:** After 5:00 Mass

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**SUNDAY, JULY 20**

**NERI DOLLARS SOLD:** After all Masses

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD –** During  
10:30 Mass

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**The Mission of St. Philip Neri School is to build the body of Christ by promoting academic, social and spiritual growth in a challenging educational environment.**

**OUR CHRISTMAS IN JULY TREE IS NOW UP!** Please visit one of the trees & pick an ornament to help the staff at our school replenish their supplies over the summer. You can drop your donation off at the rectory or just put it in the collection basket. The tree will be up through the end of July. Help us give our students & staff a Very Merry Christmas in July!

**THERE IS STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR VOLLEYBALL!** There are registration forms by the doors of Church. The deadline is

**THE GOAL IS TO TEACH GIRLS FROM PRE-K TO 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ABOUT THEIR CATHOLIC HERITAGE, FAITH, AND TRADITIONS.** The St. Philip Neri Little Flowers Girls Club is based on the spirituality of St. Therese of Lisieux. They will meet in the library after school from 3:15 – 4:45 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month starting in September. You will find registration forms by the doors of Church.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE NUFL GARAGE SALE** being held at Our Lady of Lourdes Gym, 2110 S. 32nd Ave., from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. on July 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> & 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Workers are needed for 4-hour shifts all 3 days. Youthful endurance is needed for moving items on July 14<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. Pricers & Sorters are needed from Mon., July 14<sup>th</sup> – Wed., July 16<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. – noon & 6 – 9 p.m. There is a desperate need for items to sell that are clean & in good condition (no clothing, please). Contact NUFL at 402-399-0299 for more information.

**26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ANN'S ATTIC CLOTHING SALE** St. Pius X/St. Leo Gym 69<sup>th</sup> & Blondo St. Enter off of 69<sup>th</sup> St. **Open** July 17 from 9 am – 7 pm, July 18 from 9 am – 5 pm, July 19 from 9 am – 12 Noon Men's, Women's & Children's - Quality Clothing of ALL Sizes – Coats & Shoes, Linens No Checks, Cash Only – No Early Sales!

**BEAU ON BOW – A GENDER REVEAL CAKE COMPETITION** Sat., July 19 at 10 am at College of St. Mary's Mercy Hall You are invited! This charitable event will pair up expecting mothers with bakers to reveal the gender of their baby in a sweet way. General admission is \$5. RSVP to 402-502-9224 or register on line at [www.BethlehemHouseOmaha.org](http://www.BethlehemHouseOmaha.org)

**VENDORS ARE NEEDED FOR THE HEARTLAND FAMILY FESTIVAL ARTS & CRAFTS** show, Saturday, Aug. 2, 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Sponsored & supported by the Archdiocese of Omaha, this ecumenical event for families will draw thousands. Games, face painting, bounce houses, magician & celebrities, Colin Raye concert, & fireworks. Most child or family related articles or activities can be sold. Contact [John](mailto:John) at 402.510.3426 to reserve your 10'x10' indoor booth in air-conditioned Sokol Hall next to Morrison Field, Creighton Campus.

**CHANGE OF SEASON: CHRIST'S USE OF AGRICULTURE IN PARABLES, Aug. 8-10,** retreat at St. Benedict Center, Schuyler,

with *Father Ralph O'Donnell*. The Lord uses parables in instructing his disciples. Being blessed with rural, agricultural surroundings, we will have a look together at how the change of season can enrich our own discipleship. With the backdrop of Colfax County's fields, join us in the quiet of St. Benedict Center to reflect on how the word has been planted in our hearts & to acknowledge how it grows, develops, & matures through the Spirit's presence in our lives. The retreat shows how we can support this process in our day-to-day living. For more info., call (402) 352-8819 or visit [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com)

**FOR ADULTS WHO ARE DIVORCED, WIDOWED OR LEGALLY SEPARATED** A Beginning Experience (BE) Weekend retreat for the widowed, separated & divorced is planned for **Aug. 8-10** at the Archdiocese Retreat Center, St. Joseph's Hall, 3330 N. 60 St. The loss of a loved one through separation, divorce or death is one of life's most traumatic experiences. This retreat is designed to be a time to heal & a time to turn the pain of loss into an adventure of grace. Open to individuals of all faiths. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$100 semi-private or \$125 private sleeping room. For more info. & an application, visit [www.beginningexperienceofomaha.org](http://www.beginningexperienceofomaha.org) or call/email Kay Buhrman at the Family Life Office at 402-551-9003 Ext. 1304, [ekbuhrman@archomaha.org](mailto:ekbuhrman@archomaha.org)

**Can you imagine what air would cost if someone else provided it? ~ God**

**SAVE THE DATE!** Saturday, August 23 - 9a.m. **4th Annual Breakfast for Life** at the Creighton Prep Sullivan Center Featured speaker Rebecca Kiessling author of "Conceived in Rape; A Story of Hope", honored by Feminists for Life as one of their internationally- named "Remarkable Pro-Life Women". For tickets call EPS 402-554-0121 or go to [www.essentialps.org](http://www.essentialps.org)

**THE NEBRASKA STATE PATROL MOTOR ASSIST PROGRAM IS ASKING FOR VOLUNTEERS.** The State Patrol asks that a volunteer performs two tours of duty a month unless you have a priority commitment or vacation. The Patrol is very protective of the volunteers & will not ask them to do anything they are uncomfortable with. Volunteers are trained in CPR, AED, & Radio Procedure – since the vans have State Patrol radios. Since volunteers are not Law Officers, they do not chase/arrest speeders or come in contact with criminals. They do assist stranded motorist, change tires, take drivers to get gas – or transport them to a safe haven, work or home. They also tag abandoned vehicles. Men & women are welcome! To find out more, contact Patrol Dispatch at 402-331-3333 & ask for Lt. Bridges, Capt.. Konfrst, or the Duty Officer.

**OPEN YOUR HEART & HOME TO HOST A KOREAN EXCHANGE STUDENT.** What better way to bring another part of the world to your home & school, than to host a foreign exchange student! By hosting a young ambassador 4th through 10th grade, you & your family will be able to gain a better understanding of another country, its culture, & society – in a very personal way. You will also be able to impart on the exchange student a better awareness of America & share your faith. Experience God working in the hearts of the future leaders of Korea. Broaden your perspectives & gain a lifelong friendship across the globe. Please call our local coordinator Annie Distefano at 402-880-1397 or Mrs. Haewon Park at 800-521-6640 for more information &/or to become a host family.