

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal! We are already at 20% of our parish goal of \$6,005.00. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please be sure to do so by either mailing it to the Archdiocese or dropping it in the collection basket. With everyone's participation, we will be able to reach our goal!

This month, we begin our parish and school focus on the corporal works of mercy. Our focus for the month of October will be "Feed the Hungry". In this week's bulletin you will find an insert outlining various ways to live out this particular work of mercy. Below is my column from the September 21st bulletin. It is worth repeating....

The Corporal Works of Mercy

Beginning in October, our parish and school will be focusing on the Corporal Works of Mercy. These works have their roots in Scripture. Perhaps the most well known passage is Matthew 25:31-46: When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, "Come you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothes me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me. Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

The Corporal Works of Mercy are: to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to visit the sick, to care for the imprisoned, to shelter the homeless and to bury the dead. Practicing these works of mercy helps us to grow in virtue, integrity and holiness. Throughout the course of history, many saints have devoted themselves to the practicing of a specific work and many religious communities and orders have been founded for the sole purpose of practicing these works. Quite often in our daily lives in the midst of all the demands and busyness that we face, we have a desire to practice these works and yet so often we don't know where to begin and so it becomes one of those things that we hope to get around to someday. Hopefully, this year in our parish and school, that someday will become today. Practicing these works is one way to come together as a community as we follow the words and life of Jesus Christ.

Each month we will focus on a different work of mercy. There will be a bulletin insert giving some background and suggested ways to live out the specific work for the month. Our prayers of the Faithful will include petitions for various needs related to the specific work of mercy for the month and our liturgical music will reference the various works as well. I hope that you will find this focus helpful for your spiritual growth and that this common focus will be helpful as a starting point to talk about our faith.

Blessings,

Fr. John

Question of the Week –What fruits of faith do you see in the world today?

Reading 1 Isaiah 5:1-7

Reading 2 Philippians 4:6-9

Gospel Matthew 21:33-43

Reflection: Jesus compares God to a vineyard owner whose messengers go to the tenants of the vineyard to collect his share of the grapes at harvest time. But the tenants beat, stone, or murder the owner's messengers. When the owner sends his son, the tenants treat him as they did the messenger. They kill the son, hoping to keep the vineyard, his inheritance, for themselves.

The son in the parable is Jesus, of course, and the messengers are God's prophets, who speak in God's name. Jesus is reminding us that the kingdom will be taken away from those who do not give God a harvest of good works.

PARISH SUPPORT	WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21 - SEPTEMBER 27
WEEKLY REVENUE	\$39,138.83
WEEKLY EXPENSES	\$7,945.39
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$31,193.44

YEAR TO DATE REVENUE	\$349,228.69
YEAR TO DATE EXPENSES	\$301,775.64
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$47,453.05

DID YOU KNOW... WE ARE LOOKING FOR 3 VOLUNTEERS TO HEAD NEXT YEAR'S SEPTEMBERFEST? Please contact Fr. John at the Rectory if you are interested in putting your great ideas into action for the St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament 2015 SeptemberFest.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

OCTOBER 11/12

ALTAR SERVERS: 5:00 PM: Jarrad Borosko, Kycie Negus
10:30 AM: Mia Dolan, Sam Parys

CANDLE BEARERS: 5:00 PM: Keegan Sullivan, Grace Treves
10:30 AM: Isaac Parys, Jerad Peck

LECTORS: 5:00 PM: Jerry Bexten
7:30 AM: Peg Ricketts
10:30 AM: Jan Sammans

DEACON: 5:00 PM: Deacon Alan LeClair
7:30 AM: Deacon Alan LeClair
10:30 AM: Deacon Fred Hendricks

EMHCs: 5:00 PM: Angie Bahle-Lampe, Sarah Bohnenkamp, Jacquie Dahlin, Theresa O'Neill
7:30 AM: George and Marsha Moon, Bonnie Shea, Larry Ziska
10:30 AM: Roy Edwards, Rich McShane, Fannie Parker, Dave Parks

GIFT BEARERS: 5:00 PM: Martello Family
7:30 AM: Haines Family
10:30 AM: Taborsky Family

MUSICIANS: 5:00 PM: Bryan Kinghorn and Friends
10:30 AM: Kim Becker and Family

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: Bill Cheese, Mary Todd, Norine Hoffman

NERI DOLLAR SELLERS: 5:00 PM: Susan Matsunami
7:30 AM: Patty Wiederholt
10:30 AM: Kara Rief

COLLECTION MONEY COUNTERS: Anne Massengale, Nancy Bohnenkamp

IMMANUEL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Bill Cheese, Dick Hays

USHERS: 5:00 PM: Fred Bonacci, Dave Sedlacek, Jim Coe, Ron Allbright, Rock Cramer
7:30 AM: Bill Wilber, Carl Sedlacek, Chuck Holderness, Chuck Livengood
10:30 AM: Rick Krebs, Fred Maycock, Tim Kiuntke, Carl Cramer

HAPPY 95TH BIRTHDAY TO MARGARET WEILAND AND HAPPY 86TH BIRTHDAY TO DEACON CHUCK! This past Friday, Deacon Chuck and this past Saturday, Margaret celebrated birthdays. Please help us shower Margaret and Deacon Chuck with birthday wishes. Please mail your card to Margaret at 6801 N. 67 Plaza; Apt. 4; Omaha, NE 68152-2182 and mail a card to Deacon Chuck at 7717 N. 28th Ave.; Omaha, NE 68112.

THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN THIS PARISH. Come find where your talents can best be used by attending the Ministry Fair on the lawn on the north side of church after all Masses on this weekend, October 4/5. Questions? Call Kathy Rossitto at 402-571-8161 or Deanna Reilly at 402-571-9319.

May the Lord be with you as you use your God-given gifts in service of your parish.

REMINDER FOR THOSE WHO SIGNED UP FOR BIBLE STUDY ON MARY: 1st session begins Monday, Oct. 6th at 9:30 a.m. at the Notre Dame Chapel. Enter through West door. The evening session begins Tuesday, Oct. 7th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center.

THE BOOK STUDY – "MERCY IN THE CITY", the monthly evening session begins Monday, Oct. 6th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center.

PRAYER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 40 Days for Life began on Sept. 24th & runs through Nov. 2. This campaign focuses on prayer & fasting, community outreach & peaceful vigil as we pray for an end to abortion. You're invited to stand & peacefully pray during this 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside the Abortion & Contraception Clinic of Nebraska (1002 W. Mission Ave., Bellevue) & Planned Parenthood (3105 N. 93rd St.), & also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. **Our parish's specific prayer times are from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in front of Planned Parenthood on these upcoming Fridays: October 10, October 17, October 24 & October 31.** You may sign up via Sign Up Genius, or by calling Mary Fink at 402-614-7677. For more info., contact the campaign team at 402-399-0299 or 40DaysOmaha@gmail.com This local vigil is sponsored by Nebraskans United for Life.

MEN'S FAITH FORMATION INVITATION Looking for a spiritual fitness workout? "Come and see" (John 1:46) the new men's faith formation program beginning Thursday mornings, Oct. 16 at 6:00 to 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Center. This Fall's 8-week program by Crossing the Goal Ministries (www.crossingthegoal.com <<http://www.crossingthegoal.com/>>), of EWTN television and radio fame, will focus on the Our Father. Former NFL wide receiver Danny Abramowitz and team (Peter Herbeck, Curtis Martin, and Brian Patrick) will present a hard hitting look at Catholic spirituality for men. Forward moving and no nonsense, they will lay out a powerful game plan for incorporating the wisdom of the Our Father into everyday life. With solid Catholic teaching from Scripture, the Catechism, the Saints, and more they will show how to become the man Christ calls us to be and will give us the tools to make it happen. Please call Tom Carney with any questions – 402-578-6879.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!!! THE PANCAKE MAN IS COMING!!! Circle #2, Holy Rosary Circle, is hosting the Pancake man on Sunday, October 19. We will again have a beautiful quilt made & donated by Marcia Adler that we will be selling raffle tickets at the doors for the next few weekends. We appreciate your support.

AS YOU ARE CLEANING YOUR CLOSETS & GETTING YOUR WINTER CLOTHES OUT, PLEASE REMEMBER - The SVDP truck will be in the SPN Church parking lot for Bundle Sunday on Oct. 25-26.

CALLING ON ALL CRAFTER'S, BAKERS AND VENDORS!! Our Annual Altar Society Bake Sale & Boutique is coming soon! If you are a

craft or vendor & want a table or tables, please call Bev Baer 402-650-1104 to reserve now. We need all bakers to please donate homemade baked goods for the bake sale. More information will come later for the bake sale. This, & yearly dues are the Altar Society's main source for income so please plan to support this event. Thank you.

THIS WEEK ON THE R.C.I.A. JOURNEY...

Perhaps the cross of Jesus has become almost too familiar. Some of us might see images of crosses & crucifixes so often, we may not realize that in the ancient world, the cross was a horrifying image - a little like an electric chair is today. Yet, the cross is the primary symbol of our faith, through which Jesus has given us the gift of salvation & eternal life. An ancient Roman wearing a cross around his neck like jewelry would be like us wearing a little electric chair around our necks. It would not only be bizarre; it would be shocking & appalling to the people around us. Yet the cross is the primary symbol of our faith. It is through Jesus' death on that instrument of torture that he gave us the gift of salvation & eternal life.

We call Jesus' work of redemption, accomplished principally through his passion, death, Resurrection & Ascension into heaven, the Paschal Mystery. The word *Paschal* refers to Jesus' offering of his life as the new Passover (or Paschal) lamb for our salvation. We express this in the Mass when we say, "We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again." Underlying the Paschal mystery is one fundamental reality: Jesus gives himself completely in love to the Father on our behalf to restore our relationship with God. And Jesus, through his death on the cross, also reveals to us that we are all called to the sacrificial love that leads to true happiness here on earth & eternal joy in the next life.

Please join us on Thursday night at 7 pm in the Parish Center as we discuss 'The Paschal Mystery: The Mystery of Jesus' Death and Resurrection' This week's video/discussion will center on:
 How the Cross "works"—how it brings about our salvation
 How Christ, being fully human and fully divine, was able to heal our relationship with God through his sacrificial death
 The meaning of Jesus going to the realm of the dead and opening heaven's gates
 That by his death, Jesus liberates us from sin
 That by his Resurrection, he opens us to new life
 How Jesus invites us to unite our entire lives with his self-giving love on the cross

CHRISTIAN HUMOR

- ❖ What's worse than finding a worm in your apple?
Finding half a worm.
- ❖ A TV can insult your intelligence, but nothing rubs it in like a computer.

PRIESTS MEET THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN CHALLENGE

Archbishop Lucas challenged all priests in the archdiocese to commit the first \$1 million toward the priest retirement goal of the *Ignite the Faith* Capital Campaign. He felt that meeting this challenge would be a most fitting way to show respect and gratitude for the priests who have labored before them. He also felt that such a show of support and unity would send a strong message to all parishioners who are being asked to join them in making a sacrificial gift.

With profound gratitude, Archbishop Lucas recently announced that together the archdiocesan priests have met his \$1 million challenge. Commitments to *Ignite the Faith* thus far demonstrate that parishioners are following the priests' example by joining them in generosity and sacrifice. To date, *Ignite the Faith* has raised more than \$35 million toward the \$40 million goal.

If you have not yet made your gift and would like to follow the example set by our archdiocesan priests, please do so by going to www.ignitethefaith.archomaha.org or calling the parish office. With your participation we will be helping to shape the future of our Catholic community.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	8:15 AM
Tuesday	8:15 AM
Wednesday	8:15 AM
Thursday	8:15 AM
Friday	8:15 AM
Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	7:30 AM
	10:30 AM

OCTOBER 6 – OCTOBER 12

Communion Service
 Bev Culp +
 Tyler Wilcox Int.
 Winkelmann Family Living and Deceased
 Shaun Buree Int.
 Joe Reeves +
 Cecelia Burree Int.
 Chen Family Living and Deceased
 Fr. Gama Int.
 Mary Beth Clark +
 Fred Kinghorn +
 Dona Leininger +
 George Schmitz +
 Fr. John and Fr. Gama Int.
 Our Parish Family

ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL

"WE ARE CALLED TO ACT WITH JUSTICE; WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE TENDERLY, WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER; TO WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD."

PLEASE SAY AN EXTRA PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS! They have been participating in the Terra Nova Testing this past week & will be testing next week too.

SPN HAS TAKEN PART IN DUKE UNIVERSITY'S PROGRAM FOR THE LAST 17 YEARS. 7TH graders are brought to the attention of this program through their 6th grade testing. Terra Nova scores from last year identified Mia Dolan as being eligible to take the college entrance exam as a 7th grader. Upon completion of the exam, state & national recognition is held. Congratulations Mia!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANNIE VONKAMPEN (6th grade) for being selected to the Music in Catholic Schools Honor Band. Annie plays the flute. The Honor Band will perform on Tuesday, December 2nd at 7:30 at Marian High School.

HY-VEE RECEIPTS – THIS YEAR'S CASH FOR STUDENTS PROGRAM began Sunday, Sept. 1st & continues through Tuesday, Dec. 31st, & includes all 14 Omaha/Council Bluffs Hy-Vee stores. Here's how it works: ANYONE who shops at any of the Hy-Vee stores can turn in receipts to the school. Hy-Vee records & totals the receipts collected & agrees to donate \$1 for every \$200 spent.

RONCALLI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S 16TH ANNUAL JUNIOR HIGH LOCK-IN All 7th & 8th Graders are invited for a night of fun with friends! Saturday, Oct. 18 from 5 – 11 p.m. – registration & check-in from 5-6 pm. Activities for the night include: An

Awesome Dance, 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, Dodge Ball, Movies & Games, Talent Show, Ping Pong Tournament, & Video Games For add'l info., call 402-571-7670.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION – in front of School

NERI DOLLARS SOLD: AFTER ALL MASSES

MINISTRY FAIR – Outside – North side of Church – After all Masses

9:00 A.M. **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION** - School

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

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

7:00 P.M. **BOOK STUDY – MERCY IN THE CITY** – Parish Center

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

8:15 A.M. **GRADES 1 – 4 SCHOOL MASS** - Church

9:00 A.M. **LORD, TEACH ME TO PRAY** – Parish Center

6:00 P.M. **ARTS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING** – Parish Center Library

7:00 P.M. **"MARY" BIBLE STUDY** – Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:15 A.M. **GRADES 5 – 8 SCHOOL MASS** - Church

9:00 A.M. **"MOM'S" GROUP** – Parish Center

5:45 P.M. **7TH GRADE CLASS DINNER** – Parish Center

7:00 P.M. **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING** – Activity Center Meeting Room

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:15 A.M. **ALL SCHOOL MASS** - Church

7:00 P.M. **RCIA** – Mass in Church

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 - RECTORY CLOSED

1:00 P.M. **NORTH HIGH SCHOOL PARADE** – on 30th St.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

NERI DOLLARS SOLD: After Mass

500 CLUB DINNER – Parish Center

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 – CLERGY APPRECIATION DAY

NERI DOLLARS SOLD: After all Masses

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

PLEASE NOTE THE RECTORY IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY, OCT. 10TH.

TODAY-SUNDAY MENSEN\BAER 18TH ANNUAL CRAFT SALE AND BOUTIQUE at 11922 Calhoun Road. 8 to 5.

TODAY IS THE PONCA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE AND "ALL YOU CAN EAT" PANCAKES, EGGS, & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST at the Fire Station; 12919 Ponca Rd. from 7 am – 1 pm. Free Will Offering will be accepted!

ST. JOHN CHURCH FALL FESTIVAL 11120 Calhoun Rd. Today - from 4 – 7 pm. Spaghetti Dinner, Raffle & Entertainment for kids.

FLORENCE BLVD. NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR Sunday, Oct. 5 at 12 pm. Tickets \$10 or 2 for \$15 available on the day of the event at Miller Park Pavilion.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR Deepen your spiritual life by joining the St. Margaret Mary Prayer Group on Monday, Oct. 6 - 9:30 – 11 am in the St. Margaret Mary Church Suneg Center, lower level at 6116 Dodge St. Men & women of all ages welcome. Childcare provided. To register call Lucretia at 402-558-8299.

UPCOMING RETREATS AT ST. BENEDICT CENTER

AWAKENING THE MYSTIC WITHIN Retreat Sat., Oct. 11 from 10 - 4 Is mysticism something beyond our reach? Many great teachers of the spiritual life remind us that we can be modern day mystics through the practice of awareness. God is present in our everyday life. This retreat explores how we can honor the mystic within by becoming aware of the love that God has kindled in our hearts. When we live from this mystical center of prayer, we will be catalysts for compassion, reservoirs of reconciliation & harbors of hope for one another & our world.

GOD IS DOING A NEW THING IN ME with Sr. Marie Micheletto, RSM Fri/Sat, Oct. 17 & 18 As we journey through life, we discover two major movements in our lives: "letting go" & "moving on," reconciling our dreams & opening ourselves—body, mind, spirit—to the "new thing" God is doing in us. What does it mean to be content with who I am? What holds me back from moving on in my life? What steps do I need to take to move toward the "new thing" God is doing in me? These themes will be developed through time for input, quiet reflection, prayer, discussion & sharing.

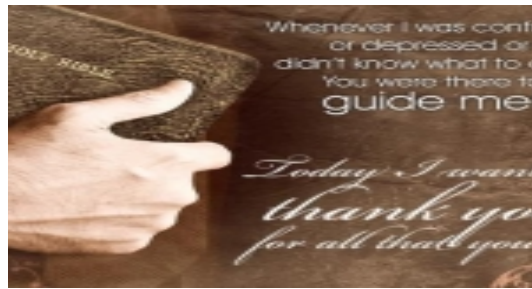
SPIRITUAL INTIMACY (SPIN) MARRIAGE RETREAT for married couples, Oct. 18 & 19 with Dr. John & Mary Jane Gresham, co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Omaha & by the Pro Sanctity Movement, will explore, teach, & model various prayer methods leading to deeper couple intimacy in your relationship with God. Includes talks, personal & couple reflection time, Mass & Reconciliation.

For more information or to register for the above retreats, contact St. Benedict Center, Schuyler, NE at 402-352-8819.

BUS TRIP TO SEE FR. CRAIG'S HOMETOWN, FARM & area Churches. Mass will be celebrated in Hartington with lunch followed by a visit to the farm, a visit to Msgr. Wortman's home parish & gravesite, & visits to churches in Bow Valley, Saint Helena, & Fordyce. Reservation deadline is October 6th. Bus trip is on October 15th. Bus will leave St. Leo's parking lot at 8 a.m. & will return at 6 p.m. Bus trip is \$50 per person & includes lunch. To reserve your spot on the bus at 402-397-0407.

COME JOIN THE OMAHA ARCHDIOCESE AND ST. GERALD CHURCH FOR THE CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING. If you are currently a grandparent, in name or in spirit, please join us in this very special organization. We will be focusing on growing our faith & spirituality independently & collectively with our grandchildren or with any child that we have a grandparent type of relationship. Meeting begins with Mass at 8:15 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 18th at St. Gerald's Lakeview Church, 7858 Lakeview St. Meeting to follow in the chapel at 9 a.m. Please contact Kay Buhrman at 402-551-9003, ext. 1304 or Vici Hegarty 402-880-6318 for more information.

Clergy Appreciation Day Sunday, October 12, 2014



October is Pastor Appreciation Month. It's also known as Clergy Appreciation Month. On one special day in October we celebrate "Pastor Appreciation Day", which is the second Sunday in October. For different reasons, some churches or congregations will observe it on another day, that's okay. Just as long as we remember to encourage and appreciate our pastors at least one special day a year. Of course, it's always good to remember our pastors more often. Hence, a whole month to remind us of our duty to honor pastors.

What can we do?

In the Bible, the Apostle Paul wrote instructions in a letter to Timothy. He says, "Elders who do their work well should be paid well, especially those who work hard at both preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'Do not keep an ox from eating as it treads out the grain.' And in another place, 'Those who work deserve their pay!' " (NLT 1 Timothy 5: 17-18) In the Greek and other translations, it says they are "worthy of double honor." So it's not just pay - it's honor, respect, and appreciation as well. This is not because of the pastor himself, or how good or smart he is. Rather, it's because of the one who called the pastor, and whom the pastor represents, the Good Shepherd, in his service of God and his sheep.

The Golden Rule

How would you like to be treated? Remember, because pastors are human like you, they usually enjoy things you do.

- They need food, clothes, and shelter.
- They need sleep too!
- They have birthdays.
- They have families; they need some time with their families.
- They need some time off work.
- They like breaks and vacations.
- They like weekends, but don't always get them.
- They have setbacks, disappointments, and sometimes get sick.
- They need your prayers.
- They need your encouragement and appreciation.
- They need ongoing time and training in God's Word, the Bible.
- They need friends and partners to help and support them, etc.

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." (NLT Romans 8:28)

Please keep Father John and Father Gama in your prayers
not only in the month of October, but all year long.