

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you to all who helped to support our annual Mardi Gras celebration! It was a great success and we raised \$50,679.84 for our annual operating budget! Please mark your calendars for next year's Mardi Gras which will be on February 6th.

Congratulations to the following people who won our raffle:

- | | |
|---|--|
| John and Joanne Schaffart - Car | Treves Family - Taylor Swift Concert Tickets |
| Norman Rief - Groceries for a Year | Carol Mahlberg - Dinner at Avoli |
| John Loughran - Gas for a Year | Caryn Pfeifer - \$500 Neri Dollars |
| Jeanne Little - Vacation Package | Mike and Lisa Plewa - Necklace and Bracelet |
| Kathy Johnson - Spring Cleaning Package | Dan Peterson - Case of Wine |

After Mardi Gras of course, comes the Lenten season, a time when we focus on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Please remember your fellow parishioners in prayer as we begin this holy season. We will have Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at 2:30 p.m. with our students and at 7:00 p.m.

**Blessings,
Father John**

Question of the Week – What does conversion mean to you?

Reading 1 1 Genesis 9:8-15 Reading 2 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel Mark 1:12-15

Reflection: Can you imagine a movie scene illustrating the first part of today's gospel story? Jesus is out in the desert where he is put to the test or tempted by Satan. But he is also surrounded by wild beasts and angel attendants. It must have been an interesting forty days Jesus spent preparing to proclaim the good news. "The reign of God is at hand," he announced in Galilee, and he called people to get ready for God's reign by reforming their lives.

Lent can be for us like a new day dawning--just like the one Noah and his family experienced when the flood was over. It is a time for a fresh beginning and a renewal of our covenant to live as God's people.

PARISH SUPPORT	WEEK OF FEBRUARY 8 - 14
WEEKLY REVENUE	\$33,077.35
WEEKLY EXPENSES	\$55,972.19
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(\$22,894.84)
YEAR TO DATE REVENUE	\$879,649.19
YEAR TO DATE EXPENSES	\$830,563.73
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$49,085.46

DID YOU KNOW... When you shop at Target you can help St. Philip Neri School? Every time someone uses their REDcard, Target donates 1% of the purchase to the eligible K-12 school. Simply sign up for a REDcard and designate St. Philip Neri School as your K-12 school. Also, ask your relatives, neighbors, and friends to designate St. Philip Neri School as your K-12 school. Even those who live out of town! To those who already use a REDcard, THANK YOU! Last week the school received a check for \$406.04!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1

ALTAR SERVERS: 5:00 PM: Jayden Mulcahy, Kobe Mulcahy
10:30 AM: Aydin Meehan, Caden Tussey

CANDLE BEARERS: 5:00 PM: Wyatt Brungardt, Genesis Mulcahy
10:30 AM: Tysen Holmstedt, Hannah Kimble

LECTORS: 5:00 PM: Jerry Bexten
7:30 AM: Alyce Kozimor

10:30 AM: Jan Sammons

DEACON: 5:00 PM: Deacon Alan LeClair

7:30 AM: Deacon Alan LeClair

10:30 AM: Deacon Fred Hendricks

EMHCs: 5:00 PM: Sarah Bohnenkamp, Juli Bohnenkamp,
Jim Shepherd, Mary Ann Taylor

7:30 AM: Bruno Kozimor, George & Marsha Moon,
Kathy Rossitto

10:30 AM: DeLynne Clausen, Mary Fink,
Ellen and Wayne Russell

GIFT BEARERS: 5:00 PM: Bohnenkamp Family

7:30 AM: Schonberner Family

10:30 AM: Doran Family

MUSICIANS: 5:00 PM: Colleen Monti and the Church Ladies
10:30 AM: Joan and Todd vonKampen,
 Kevin Throne and Friends

NERI DOLLAR SELLERS: 5:00 PM: Joni Locher
7:30 AM: Nancy Core
10:30 AM: Kara Rief

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: Kelli Brock, Joni Locher,
 Bob and Betty Jones

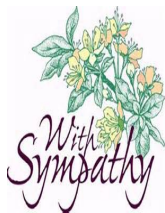
COLLECTION MONEY COUNTERS: April Collamer, Jim Dahlin
IMMANUEL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Bonnie Shea, Mary Todd

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES OF BARBARA MIKULICZ AND DARLENE HICKEY. Barbara is the wife of Ted Mikulicz. She was buried from St. Patrick Catholic Church, Elkhorn this past Thursday. Darlene is the mother of John (Patricia) and Michael Hickey. She was buried from Roeder Mortuary – Ames Chapel this past Thursday.



PLEASE JOIN US AND BRING A FRIEND - THAT MAN IS YOU! – The men’s ministry program that has swept across our Archdiocese and the country. We meet Thursday mornings in the St. Philip Neri Parish Center from 6 – 7:30 a.m.

A LADDER TO HEAVEN surveys the spiritual giants of the two thousand years of Catholicism (culminating in Blessed John Paul II) to develop a pathway to God for men in the modern world. It is designed to provide a structure to your spiritual life not only now, but also well into the future.

Session 3: Step 2 – Those who Mourn

- Sin Separates us From God and this Brings Sorrow
- Scripture Gives Pride of Place to Greed
- The Money Tip
- Wealth and Happiness
- The Dark Side of Greed
- The True Cost of Financial Stress
- Marriage and Poverty Towards Money and the World

Contact Tom Carney at 402-578-6879 with any questions.

FEBRUARY DINING GROUP Feb. 24th is the day, 6pm is the time, & Millard Roadhouse 133rd Millard Ave is the spot for this month. Hope to see everyone there! RSVP to Maria at mhackenberg@hotmail.com or call 402-493-5697.

A LITTLE WARMTH FOR THE JANUARY 500 CLUB WINNERS

- \$140.00 - Francis McGovern, \$72.00- Rosemary Turner
- \$32.00 - Mary Jane Miner
- \$24.00 - Chuck Holderness, Mary Ann Williams, Don Schettler
- \$20.00 - Barb Berry, Dorothy Polan
- \$15.00 - Roy Holmgren, Patricia Hodges, Tom Sammons

LOOKING FOR A SIMPLE WAY TO DRAW CLOSE TO JESUS BY GIVING TO OTHERS THIS LENT? As suggested in flier in last week’s bulletin we are inviting you to write letters for the different people in our Works of Mercy. We begin our Mercy Letters for Lent this week with cards, letters, etc. for the sick and suffering in

our parish and our families. We all know someone who could use some cheering up.

WANTED! Volunteers that would like to work basketball games on Saturday and Sundays. We have several games in our Activity Center & need help with the book & the board, & the concessions stand. If you are a high school student or school parent that need hours or an adult who would just like to help out. **YES – this does count for volunteer hours needed for school families!** We are willing to train! Please visit <https://spnvolunteers.ivolunteer.com/> to volunteer or call Shelly Philbin at 402-991-6150 or 402- 740-5670.

DID YOU KNOW THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS membership is available to practicing Catholic men 18 and older? Contact George Moon at 402-455-1485 for more information.

CHRISTIAN HUMOR A schoolteacher asked her primary six class to construct sentences with the words: defeat, detail, defense. There was a pause before a pupil raised his hand and said he could make a sentence with them; "The cow jumped over defense and detail went over defeat."

MASS INTENTIONS FEBRUARY 23 – MARCH 1

Monday	8:15 AM	Communion Service
Tuesday	8:15 AM	Jensen Family Living and Deceased
Wednesday	8:15 AM	Del Murphy +
Thursday	8:15 AM	Margaret Tillotson + Alberta Fox +
Friday	8:15 AM	Gary and Jackie Peck +
Saturday	5:00 PM	Joe Thibodeau + Sr. Ellen Hoffman +
Sunday	7:30 AM	Our Parish Family Int.
	10:30 AM	Anthony "Tony" Stuhr + Mary Ann Doran +

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."

THE STUDENTS OF ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL WILL HAVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY during Lent at 2:30 p.m. in Church. We hope that you can join us.

THE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION IS SPONSORING A "GAME NIGHT" on Friday, Feb. 27th from 6 - 8 p.m. Please come & enjoy a free meal & play some games!

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP will be held on Wed., March 11. Please encourage your friends & neighbors to send their children to St. Philip Neri School & attend our Kindergarten Round-Up. Please call the school if you have any questions, 402-455-8666.

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL invites 6th, 7th, & 8th grade girls and their parents to an Info Night on Thursday, February 26th from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Meet with faculty, administrators, students, and parents to find out if Mercy is the school for you. Please call 402-553-9424 or visit <http://www.mercyhigh.org> for more information.

8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION RETREAT is on Saturday, Feb. 28th at the Pro-Sanctity Center from 9a.m. – 3p.m.. Students need to provide their own transportation.

Pro-Life Student Essay Contest All 7th-11th grade students

living or attending Catholic school/religious formation in the Archdiocese of Omaha are eligible to participate in the Pro-Life Student Essay Contest. Cash prizes will be given to the top three winners in each grade, & the first place winners will compete in the statewide completion for additional awards. The contest deadline is March 25th. Contact Elizabeth Abbott with questions: emabbott@archomaha.org; 402-551-9003 ext. 1306 or visit www.RespectLifeOmaha.com for more info. & the registration form.

JR. CRUSADER BASKETBALL tryouts for Marian High School are on the following dates:

Grade in Fall 2015

- 3rd & 4th grade 5-6:15PM on Sunday, March 8th
- 5th grade 6:15-7:30PM on Monday, March 9th
- 6th grade 7:30-9:00PM on Monday, March 9th
- 7th grade 6:15-7:30PM on Wednesday, March 11th
- 8th grade 7:30-9:00PM on Wednesday, March 11th

Pre-register online at www.leaguelineup.com/marianjrcrusaders

2015 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Send your kids on an icy expedition! At Everest VBS, kids embark on the coolest adventure of the summer! Everest VBS is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Sciency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, cool Bible songs, & tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes & safe shoes.) Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life -- something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot! **So mark these dates on your calendar: JUNE 1-5.** The fun starts at 9 AM & will end at 12:00 Noon. Registration & Volunteer Opportunities Coming Soon! ~ Sincerely, Sam Hensel, Everest VBS Director 402-455-2190 spndresamhensel@gmail.com

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER ALL MASSES**
- SPECIAL COLLECTION AT ALL MASSES** – Black and Indian Mission
- CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** – During 10:30 Mass
- 5:00 P.M. **RCIA DINNER** – Parish Center
- RITE OF ELECTION AT CATHEDRAL** following dinner

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- PSALMS – STUDY GROUP** – Seven Oaks
- 6:30 P.M. **BOY SCOUTS** – Parish Center

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 8:15 A.M. **GRADES K – 4 SCHOOL MASS** - Church
- 9:00 A.M. **WOMEN'S IGNATION PRAYER/STUDY GROUP** – Parish Center
- 7:00 P.M. **PSALMS – STUDY GROUP** – Parish Center
- 7:00 P.M. **SCHOOL BOARD** – Activity Center Meeting Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 6:00 A.M. **TMIY – A LADDER TO HEAVEN** – Parish Center
- 8:15 A.M. **ALL SCHOOL MASS** - Church
- 7:00 P.M. **RCIA** – Parish Center

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 6:00 P.M. **HOME AND SCHOOL – FAMILY GAME NIGHT** - School
- 2:30 P.M. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Church
- 7:00 P.M. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Church

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 9:00 A.M. **CONFIRMATION RETREAT** – Pro-Sanctity Center
- NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS**

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION** - in front of School
- NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER ALL MASSES**
- ROLLS AND COFFEE** – In the Parish Center after all Masses
- 9:00 A.M. **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION** – School
- CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** – During 10:30 Mass

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! ROAST BEEF DINNER – PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29!

DON'T GIVE UP CHOCOLATE THIS LENT. INSTEAD, DO SOMETHING LIFE CHANGING. Join Matthew Kelly, the best-selling Catholic author in America, on a life-changing journey through your Best Lent Ever. Each week, participants will receive short videos & inspiration from Matthew that explain the genius of Catholicism & empower them to become the best-version-of-themselves. It's simple & completely FREE, the only cost is your commitment to live better each day this Lent. Go to dynamiccatholic.com & click on for **The Best Lent Ever**

A Prayer for our Troops

Your goodness is so great!
 You have stored up great blessings
 for those who honor you.
 You have done so much for those who come to You for protection, blessing them before the watching world.
 You hide them in the shelter of Your presence, safe from those who conspire against them.
 So be strong and take courage, all you who put your hope in the Lord. — Psalm 31:19-20, 24

BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS. Join others in peaceful prayer to end abortion on Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. - 1p.m. in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood at 3105 N. 93rd St. or Fridays & Saturdays at the Abortion & Contraception Clinic of Nebraska at 1002 W. Mission Ave. in Bellevue. Priests lead group prayer from 11 - noon on Thursdays at Planned Parenthood & Fridays in Bellevue. Prayer volunteers are also

needed on Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in Bellevue. Prayers are offered at the Omaha Planned Parenthood on Saturday mornings from 10 -11 a.m. as well. For more information visit www.RespectLifeOmaha.com or contact Elizabeth Abbott at emabbott@archomaha.org or 402-551-9003 ext. 1306.

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND "THE AQUINAS FORUM", a Catholic lecture series for inquiring minds on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m., at Gloria Deo, 13065 W. Center Rd. Dr. Dave Hilger will present "[Why Faith, Science, and Reason are Not in Conflict.](#)" Dr. Hilger will present an historical perspective of modern issues of faith, science, & reason. He will briefly discuss the various modern proofs for God's existence & explore how faith, science, & reason impact modern medicine & issues of conscience. The Aquinas Forum at Gloria Deo is free & open to the public; free will offerings welcome.

RONCALLI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S 9TH ANNUAL POP, POPS AND POPCORN CONCERT is Wednesday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m. at the Roncalli Student Center, 6401 Sorensen Pkwy.

TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE This Lent, spend some quiet time in contemplation, Thursday, Feb. 26, 8 p.m. at St. John Church, Creighton University, 2500 California Plz. Taize Prayer is Christian evening prayer, celebrated with the meditative mantra music from the ecumenical community by the same name. For more info., contact [Molly Mattingly](#).

You are always merciful! Please wipe away my sins. Wash me clean from all of my sin and guilt. - Psalm 51

YOUNG ADULTS ARE INVITED to deepen their faith by watching & discussing *Fr. Robert Barron's Catholicism*, 4-part series, Thurs., Feb. 26-March 26 (no meeting March 12), 7-9 p.m. at Pizza West, 12040 McDermott Plz, LaVista. Questions & to register-email pizza.priest.omaha@gmail.com

SILENT CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER RETREAT with Fr. Thomas Leitner Fri. Feb. 27 – Sun, March 1 "It is in fact absurd & impossible to try to grasp God as an object which can be sized & comprehended by our minds" (Thomas Merton). Contemplative prayer is the opening of mind and heart - our whole being -to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words, & emotions. This retreat, involving breath practice, is for beginners on the contemplative way, as well as for those who have some experience with it. Please bring loose fitting clothing of neutral colors. To register call the St. Benedict Ctr. Schuyler 402-352-8819.

RETIREMENT GATHERING FOR SOFIA KOCK, principal of Holy Name School, Saturday, Feb. 28, 6:30 pm at St. Robert Bellarmine Mainelli Center, 11802 Pacific St., *2015 Imagine...A Principal Named Sofie Kock* will celebrate her retirement & the inauguration of the Sofia M. Kock Tuition Assistance Fund. Tickets are \$75 per person. For more info., tickets, or table sponsorship, contact the Holy Name Development Office at 402-451-5403, ext. 108 or email lweeks@hnschoolomaha.org

THE DROP BOX Hundreds of babies are abandoned on the streets of Seoul, South Korea every year, but one brave man has made it his mission to save them. Watch the trailer for The Drop Box, an inspiring film about Pastor Lee Jong-rak, who set

up a "drop box" to rescue & care for these babies. This Focus on the Family film event is coming to theaters **March 3-5.**

NEBRASKANS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO THE DEATH PENALTY Lobby Day is Wed., March 4th *10 am Rally & Lobby Training* - Gather in the basement of St. Mary's Church At 14th & K St., Lincoln (across from the Capitol). *11:45 am Luncheon with Senators* Gather in room 1023 of the Capitol. Lunch is free for citizen lobbyists. *1:30 pm Judiciary Committee Hearing* Following the luncheon, we'll go together; the repeal bill may be debated at this hearing. Attire: T-shirts with writing are not permitted at the Capitol. Pro-repeal buttons will be provided for you to wear. A van from Seven Oaks will be going to the event. Call Sr. Rosalee at 402-619-9273 for reservations. A free will offering will be accepted to help pay for gas.

HEIRLOOM WRITING WORKSHOP Thurs., March 5 from 9a.m. - 4 p.m. Fee: \$40 includes continental breakfast & lunch Have you been considering handing down a gift to your loved ones other than the typical material possessions? The most endearing - & enduring - legacy you can leave your family is your story. Join facilitator Elizabeth Mack as she guides you through the process of compiling & writing your life story. The only experience necessary is life! Facilitator Elizabeth Mack (MA, BFA) has taught Creative Nonfiction Writing and English at UNO, Creighton University, and Metropolitan Community College. To register online go to: www.kmscenter.org & click on **Retreat Registration** or call 402-359-4288 to make your reservation & then mail in your registration fee (check written out to Sisters of Mercy) to Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center, 2304 Campanile Rd, Waterloo, Ne. 68069.

THE JOY OF CREATIVITY March 6-8 We are made in the image of God; we are created to create. Awaken the joy of creativity using the playful, intuitive SoulCollage® process to create personal cards for prayer, meditation & reflection. Using images & collage, we will remember & appreciate the experience of joy in our lives. By exploring the Source of joy, we will learn how to cultivate joy & even experience a foretaste of the joy of heaven! Jodi Blazek Gehr, is an educator, SoulCollage facilitator & Benedictine Oblate. Read Jodi's blog at <http://soulfullyyou.wordpress.com/> To register call the St. Benedict Ctr., Schuyler 402-352-8819.

AN EVENING OF IRISH FUN! St. Bernard School on Sat., March 7th 6-11 p.m. Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner & Live Irish Music Call the Rectory at 402-551-0269 by March 1st.

ST. LEO CHURCH PARISH LENTEN MISSION with Steve Angriano A Lenten intergeneration opportunity including music, stories, prayer & fellowship. Parish Mission: Mon-Wed, March 9-11 1:30-2 pm (mini-Mission) 7 – 8:30 pm with a Youth Presentation on Sunday, March 8, 7 – 8:30 pm Free will offering will be accepted. For more info., call the Parish Office at 402-397-0407 or email: janet@stleo.net

WOMEN'S MORNING OF REFLECTION 2015 in St. Elizabeth Ann's Parish Center (114th & Fort) on Saturday, March 21 from 8:30-12:30. Our speaker this year is Karen Dwyer, PhD, author of *WRAP Yourself in Scripture*. She will teach us a method for reading & praying Scripture called WRAP - an acronym that stands for Write, Reflect, Apply & Pray. The

goal of WRAP is to foster a personal encounter & relationship with Jesus Christ through the Scriptures. Cost is \$20 which includes her book. To register, please contact Jo Kusek at 402-572-0369 or jkusek9212@yahoo.com