

**Dear Parishioners,**

Archbishop Lucas dispenses Catholics in the archdiocese from the prohibition of eating meat on St. Patrick’s Day this year, so on St. Patrick’s Day, Friday, March 17 we can eat meat this year. Those choosing to eat meat on Friday, March 17 are required to abstain from meat on Saturday, March 18.

Please join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during this Lenten season. On the Fridays school is in session, the students will join us at 2:30 p.m. In the evening, we will begin with stations in the Church at 6:30 followed by a (meat-less) pot-luck in the Parish Center. Please bring a dish and the recipe to share. Let us pray for one another during this holy time.

**Blessings,  
Fr. John**

**God speaks to us in many ways, including through this Sunday’s Scripture readings.**

***Transfiguration – with the Spirit of Jesus living within us, we will be transformed.***

**Reading 1** Genesis 12:1-4a

**Reading 2** 2 Timothy 1:8b -10

**Gospel** Matthew 17:1-9

**Question of the Week – Adults:** Perhaps this reading calls us, not to cling to the familiar, but to leave the comforts of the parish and reach out to the world around us. In your neighborhood or community, who is waiting to hear the Good News?

**Children:** Have you ever had a “mountain top” experience where you felt exceptionally close to God? How was your life changed by that experience?

<b>PARISH SUPPORT WEEK OF FEB. 26 - MARCH 4</b>	<b>DID YOU KNOW... THERE IS A LITTLE OVER 3 MONTHS LEFT IN THE FISCAL YEAR?</b>
<b>WEEKLY REVENUE</b> \$21,330.25	As you can see we have a deficit for the year. Our Sunday giving is
<b>WEEKLY EXPENSES</b> \$17,314.57	down compared to the same period last year. We can easily make
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b> \$4,015.68	up this short-fall. If we all give an extra few dollars, we would more
<b>YEAR TO DATE REVENUE</b> \$799,676.31	than make up this shortfall. Thank you for your continued support.
<b>YEAR TO DATE EXPENSES</b> \$886,907.15	We couldn’t do it without you!
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b> (\$87,230.84)	

<p><b>LITURGICAL MINISTERS:</b> <b>SATURDAY, MARCH 18</b> <b>5:00 PM:</b> <b>ALTAR SERVERS:</b> Kobe Mulcahy, Amir Ring <b>CANDLE BEARERS:</b> Jackson Cramer, Dominic Martello <b>LECTOR:</b> Hugh Reilly <b>EMHCs:</b> Jacquie Dahlin, Theresa O’Neill, Jennifer Russell, Mike Holmgren, Matt Swoboda, Mary Ann Taylor <b>GIFTBEARERS:</b> Bahle Family <b>MUSICIANS:</b> Kim Becker  <b>NERI DOLLAR SELLER:</b> Lynn Ingraham <b>USHERS:</b> Vern Andersen, Rock Cramer, Jim Coe, Ron Allbright</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY, MARCH 19</b> <b>7:30 AM:</b>  <b>LECTOR:</b> Alyce Kozimor <b>EMHCs:</b> Norine Hoffman, Bob and Betty Jones, Bruno Kozimor, Bonnie Shea, Mary Todd <b>GIFTBEARERS:</b> Kathy Rossitto  <b>NERI DOLLAR SELLER:</b> Patty Wiederholt <b>USHERS:</b> Bill Wilber, Carl Sedlacek, Chuck Holderness, Chuck Livengood</p>	<p><b>10:30 AM:</b> <b>ALTAR SERVERS:</b> Nick Meier, Jerad Peck <b>CANDLE BEARERS:</b> CJ Buell,, Ryan Greenwood <b>LECTOR:</b> Jan Sammons <b>EMHCs:</b> Bill Cheese, DeLynne Clausen, Cathy Fluckey, Mary Fink, Fannie Parker, Rita Ziska <b>GIFTBEARERS:</b> Sammons Family <b>MUSICIANS:</b> Colleen Monti and the Church Ladies <b>NERI DOLLAR SELLER:</b> April Collamer <b>USHERS:</b> Rick Krebs, Fred Maycock, Tim Kiuntke, Carl Cramer, Mark Lampe</p>
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**COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND:** Bev Baer, Roy Edwards, George and Marsha Moon, Dave Parks  
**COLLECTION MONEY COUNTERS:** Liz Maycock, Patty Wiederholt  
**IMMANUEL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – THURSDAY, MARCH 16:** Roy Edwards, Rich McShane

**\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE! WE ASK THAT THE GIFTBEARERS ASSIGNED TO EACH MASS CHECK IN WITH THE USHERS BEFORE MASS – SO THAT THE USHERS KNOW THAT YOU ARE HERE TO TAKE UP THE GIFTS. THANK YOU!**

**Mass Intentions March 13 - 19**

Monday	8:15 AM	No Communion Service
Tuesday	8:15 AM	Jerry Goeken + Jeanne Danek
Wednesday	8:15 AM	Jack and Ann O'Connor +
Thursday	8:15 AM	SPN Teachers Int.
Friday	8:15 AM	Deacon Al Le Clair + Jaimie Leonardo +
Saturday	5:00 PM	Our Parish Family
Sunday	7:30 AM	Trisha Ricketts Int. Merl Core + Katie Zenk + Jim Graves +

**Each session:** See a 30 minute video of Fr. Toups' talk, use workbook with reflection questions & Lectio Divina & pray together. (Daily scripture/prayer encouraged.) For more info, call: Judy Smedra 402-457-5622 or 402-670-1368 Or email: msmedra98@gmail.com



**HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY**

You will find pocket size pamphlets by the doors of Church which contains easy to read step by step instruction on how to pray the rosary including prayers and the mysteries.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY OF STELLA KOZIMOR AND ELSIE BOHNENKAMP.**

Stella is the mother – mother-in-law of Bruno & Alyce Kozimor, grandmother of Laurel & Bob Hamilton, great grandmother of Abel & Arbor Hamilton. Stella was buried this Friday in Lake Zurich, IL. Elsie is the mother-mother-in-law of Bernie & Nancy Bohnenkamp, Dave & Julie Bohnenkamp, grandmother to Sarah, Caleb, Matt & Sadie, Andy & Sarah, great grandmother to Clay, Thomas, James, Millie, Charlie, Pauline, & Margaret. Elsie was buried from here this past Thursday.



**WE RECEIVED A CALL FROM KATHY FRANC WITH AN UPDATE ABOUT DEACON CHUCK!** Kathy wanted me to be sure & thank everyone for the prayers. They are working! Deacon Chuck is still in hospice care but doing much better. Please continue to pray for Deacon Chuck & his family.

**A PLAN FOR LENTEN ACTIVITIES**

As a practice of prayer, fasting & almsgiving, a Parish Pastoral Council member will lead the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary during Lent starting at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, 7 & 10 a.m. on Sunday. Please plan to join us!

**DO YOU FIND IT EASY TO PRAY?** In our busy lives, prayer is seen as a luxury, when in reality it is at the foundation of a healthy spiritual life. The good news is that you can overcome your difficulties with prayer, & it is easier than you might think. Over the course of 8 weeks, the **Oremus** study program teaches you the essentials of an effective & fruitful prayer life.

**Where:** St. Philip Neri Activity Center Kids Welcome  
**When:** 3:30 pm - 5 pm March 3 – April 27  
 (1 week off—Holy Thursday).  
**Materials:** Workbook (\$13 optional)

**JOIN US FOR AN 11-WEEK JOURNEY THROUGH THE SACRAMENTS** each Saturday morning at 7 a.m. in the Parish Center.

**The Bible and the Sacraments.**

*Week 8: Reconciled to God:*

- The parable of the Prodigal Son as a story of restoration
- The call of Christ to perfection
- Original Sin and consequences of the Fall
- Penitential rituals in the Old Testament
- Internal and external healing by Christ in the New Testament
- The Disciples' authority to forgive sins through Christ

**SPECIAL THANKS TO EACH OF YOUR WHO PREPARE A DELICIOUS SALAD OR HOMEMADE DESSERT FOR A FUNERAL LUNCH.**

This ministry is very much appreciated. Please stop down to the Parish Center & pick up your special pan or bowl! We can assure you – we will call you again & you will need that special pan or bowl. **THE ITEMS FROM THE LOST AND FOUND ARE ALSO ON THE TABLE IN THE PARISH CENTER.** Please stop down & you will find that glove, hat, umbrella, lunch box & jacket you have been looking for. It is time to Spring Clean & the items will be donated to the St. Vincent de Paul on *Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>*.

**CHRISTIAN HUMOR** Two men are in a truck driving around with a penguin. Noticing the penguin, a traffic cop stops the truck driver & tells him to take this animal to a zoo right away. The next day, the same cop sees the same two men in the same truck with the same penguin again. He stops them & says, "Didn't I tell you guys to take this

animal to a zoo yesterday?" The driver replies, "We did officer! We are taking him to the movies today."

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12 – DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME!**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION** – Trailer in Parking Lot

**NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS**

9:00 A.M. **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION CLASS** - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade only - School

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

**MONDAY, MARCH 13**

6:30 P.M. **CUB SCOUTS** – Parish Center

7:00 P.M. **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** – Activity Center Meeting Room

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14**

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

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15**

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

9:00 A.M. **MATTHEW BIBLE STUDY** – Activity Center Meeting Room

3:15 P.M. **LITTLE FLOWERS** - Parish Center

6:30 P.M. **FIRST COMMUNION FAMILY CLASS** – Parish Center

**THURSDAY, MARCH 16**

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

3:30 P.M. **OREMUS – GUIDE TO CATHOLIC PRAYER** – Activity Center Meeting Room

7:00 P.M. **RCIA** – Activity Center Meeting Room

7:00 P.M. **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING** - Parish Center

**FRIDAY, MARCH 17**

**NO SCHOOL** - School

**NO 2:30 STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

6:30 P.M. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND POTLUCK** – Church and Parish Center

**SATURDAY, MARCH 18**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION** - Trailer in Parking Lot

7:00 A.M. **BIBLE STUDY** – Parish Center

**RCIA** – 1<sup>st</sup> Scrutiny at 5 p.m. Mass

**NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 19**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION** – Trailer in Parking Lot

**NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS**

9:00 A.M. **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION CLASS** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade only - School

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

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** Vacation Bible School will be the week of June 26 at Cooper Farm! SPN's Week for Hummel Day Camp is July 24-28! Registration is March 21<sup>st</sup> at 8 a.m.

~ **NERI DOLLAR NEWS** ~

**AS YOU LOOK FOR PLACES TO EAT THIS LENTEN SEASON**, please think about some of the gift cards we carry that you can use at local restaurants.



Restaurants who serve fish:

Bonefish Grill Tussey's  
Red Lobster

Restaurants who serve pasta:

Carrabba's Tussey's Olive Garden

*All preorders are due by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.*

**ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL**

"Gifts of the Holy Spirit - Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Fortitude, Piety, and Fear of the Lord"

**PLEASE NOTE! THE SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER HAS OFFICIALLY CHANGED TO 402-315-3500.** The old school phone will no longer automatically transfer over to the new number.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS WHO EARNED HONOR ROLL FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER!**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade - 2<sup>nd</sup> Honors: **Tiana Earlywine, Kristen Ellett, Andrew Fink, Gracie Murphy, Lydia Treves**
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 2<sup>nd</sup> Honors: **Zacary Logan, Sophia Mason, Dru Oxenrider, Julian Rosas, David Taylor, Sophia Wagoner-Straub**
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - 2<sup>nd</sup> Honors: **Luke Kelly, Jerad Peck, John Plewa**

**CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER TO ISAIAH SUTHERLAND!** Isaiah participated in the Music in Catholic Schools Solo/Ensemble Festival recently and received a Superior rating. We are proud of you Isaiah!

**OPEN REGISTRATION FOR PRE-SCHOOL IS NOW!** Please tell your neighbors & friends about our great school!

**PRO-LIFE ESSAY CONTEST** Give voice to your pro-life values! The Archdiocese Pro-Life Essay Contest is now taking entries from students in grades 7-11. Prizes range from \$20-\$40, & first place entries will be submitted to the Knights of Columbus statewide contest. For the writing prompt & submission details, contact Whitney Bradley, Respect Life

Apostolate Coordinator, at [wabradley@archomaha.org](mailto:wabradley@archomaha.org) or call 402-551-9003 x1306.

**MERCY HIGH SCHOOL INVITES 5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS** to our annual Lock-In on March 18<sup>th</sup> from 5-10 P.M. For more information go to: <http://bit.ly/2017mhslockin> Space is limited, so sign up today!

**FROM MARCH 1 - APRIL 6, YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN OTHER CHRISTIANS FOR 40 DAYS FOR LIFE**, forty days of prayer & fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand & peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil at the two abortion facilities in Omaha & Bellevue: Planned Parenthood (3105 N 93rd St.) & the Abortion & Contraception Clinic of NE (1002 W Mission Ave. Bellevue). **St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament Parish's vigil hours are from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 26 at Planned Parenthood.** Please contact Mary Fink at 402-516-8756 to sign up for an hour of prayer. 40 Days For Life is an internationally-organized, peaceful effort comprised of three components: prayer & fasting, peaceful vigils, & community outreach. Since the first coordinated campaign effort, 40 Days For Life reports 12,668 lives saved from abortion – that we know of – & the closing of 73 abortion facilities. Nebraskans United for Life is mobilizing local efforts in the Omaha & Bellevue area for the tenth year. For more international campaign results, visit [www.40DaysForLife.com](http://www.40DaysForLife.com)

**EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS "LGBTQIA – Beyond the Acronym"** Presented by Nikola Halcyone Jordan, LGBTQIA+ Educator, Facilitator, Advocate, working at UNO, will discuss language, concepts, & actions to support people in the LGBTQIA+ community. **March 16, 7- 8:30 p.m.** at Notre Dame Housing Senior Center, 3439 State St. Use the north entrance by the flag pole. For more info., call 402-982-9933.

**FRY-DAY NIGHT LENTEN FISH FRY** – March 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, & April 7<sup>th</sup> from 5–8 p.m. at Schwertley Hall; St. John the Baptist Catholic Church; 215 N. 13 St.; Fort Calhoun

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WOMEN'S LENTEN REFLECTION DAY** hosted by St. Patrick's Parish, Gretna will be held Sat., March 18 from 9 am-Noon. Keynote Speaker: Sr. Ann Shields, International Speaker & Author of Renewal Ministries of Ann Arbor, MI, & Radio Host of Spirit Catholic Radio's daily program of Food for the Journey. Free continent breakfast will be served. No registration is required. A free will offering will be accepted. For more info, call Kathleen 402-850-4610.

**8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LENTEN, "Morning of Reflection"** March 18<sup>th</sup> 9am – 11am **Forgiveness: Finding God in the More** Enhance your Lenten journey with a morning of prayer & reflection led by Fr. Kevin Schneider, SJ Creighton Prep, Sullivan Center (West doors) Hosted by the Ignatian Volunteer Corps of Omaha. A free will offering will be appreciated. Please register at: [www.ivcusa.org/omaha](http://www.ivcusa.org/omaha) or call Becky Ehrman at 402-681-6311.

**SEEKING TRUTH - Isaiah the Prophet** Sept - March 2017-18 Register Now at [www.seekingtruth.net](http://www.seekingtruth.net)

Thursday afternoon or evening live classes or on-line classes or start a FREE parish program of a past course.



**Our steps are slow,  
Our breathing ragged,  
Our burdens heavy.  
This walk to the cross,  
It is not easy,  
Yet Christ walked it for us.  
For the joy  
that was set before him,  
He despised the shame,  
He bore our blame,  
And shared our pain,  
Now let us build on the rock,  
That is Christ.  
Let us walk the way of the cross  
together,  
Moving forward without fear,  
Into God's eternal purposes.  
For Christ himself is with us,  
every step of the way.  
Let us trust in God alone,  
And find the joy that Christ did,  
Obedience to our loving God.**

(c) Christine Sine <http://godspace.wordpress.com>

**Exploring the Blessings in Your Life, March 18**, 1-day retreat with Margie Walker. St. Patrick's Day weekend, set aside time to explore the richness of blessings in your own life... & how patient waiting can help us with our burdens & our blessings. Come for a slice of sacred space & some Irish soda bread as a bonus! Experience how God's love sensitizes us to the many facets of blessings! Fee: \$30. Lunch is available for \$10.50 (incl. tax).

**Lenten Fish Fries, March 24**, 4:30 to 8 p.m., at St. Benedict Center, Schuyler, sponsored by the Benedictine monks of Christ the King Priory. Alaskan Pollock buffet. \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12; children ages 5 & under are free.

**The Mighty One Has Done Great Things for Me (Luke 1:49), March 25**, 1-day retreat with Sr. Colette Baldwin, RSM. At midpoint of Lent, we meet Mary on this feast of the Annunciation, who has spoken her yes to God & sings her praise for God's greatness & mercy. This day invites us to review the manifold gifts of God to us, who too have been loved into life &, like Mary, don't know what our yes to God will mean. Our lives have been blessed with God's greatness, mercy & wonders. Lent invites us to recall this & to praise God, while we continue the Journey with Jesus through dying to self & rising to greater freedom, consolation & new life. Fee: \$30. Lunch is available for \$10.50 (incl. tax).

For more info. about the above retreats, call