

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

*Jesus said to His disciples: “take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father.”*

-*St. Matthew*

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday! I know it is hard to believe as it seems that we just finished celebrating the great season of Christmas. (\*In fact, as I write this, I still need to take down my nativity scene in the living room of the rectory!) The season of Lent is a time that most of us do not look forward to, spiritually speaking. Maybe that is why it seems to sneak up on us each year.

So, we are called to the three-fold Lenten mission of intensifying our “prayers”, “fasting” and “almsgiving”. No doubt, most of you that are reading this column are already doing these spiritual things in some form or another. You are attending Mass, the perfect prayer. You maybe have said no to a desert or a second glass of wine at a restaurant. You contribute to the local church or a charity as the need arises.

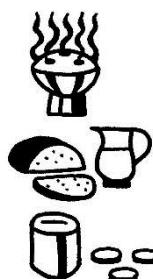
My definition of Lent is a “world-wide retreat” of the Universal Church. A retreat is a time where we set aside our concerns of the world and to be more concerned with the world to come. Unfortunately, we still need to hold our day jobs and cannot spend the entire 40 days in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Yet, we can take some of our personal time and to make it a time of prayer for the Lord.

Traditionally, Lent is focusing on three-fold mission of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. I have taught enough religion classes that students will automatically ask the point or the purpose of fasting. “How does my not eating food help those who have no food to eat?” The answer is simple. Fasting does not help physically, those who are hungry. But our fasting can help us spiritually, so that we can respond physically. For when we fast, when we feel hunger. We feel what so many people around the world feel on a daily basis. When we feel their pain, then we are more inclined to help them through our almsgiving.

Perhaps this Lent, rather than saying you are skipping desserts, drinking less soda pop and saying some additional prayers; maybe consider some ideas outside the usual Lenten box.

**Prayer:** In addition to coming to Mass each week as a family, how about those who are “retired” or working out of their homes to come to at least one daily Mass a week? How about this Lent coming to at least one or two Stations of the Cross during the Lenten season? How about celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation after all these months/years and memorizing the Act of Contrition prayer?

**Fasting:** No doubt we are called to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent as the stomach can sometimes get the attention of our soul.



How about this Lent eating out less (or not at all), and using the monies to give to the needs of the poor or the local church? How about simply using the stock-pile of canned goods in our kitchen or frozen foods in our freezer during this season and to see how little groceries you could buy for the next 40 days? How about simply saying “No” to all processed sugars for the next 40 days? Not only would this last request be penitential, but also extremely healthy at any age.

**Almsgiving:** It certainly is a noble act of penance to be more generous monetarily to the needs of local charities and the church. But, how about giving your house a true “house cleaning”? How many clothes, books, nick-knacks, furniture have been accumulating and have not been used in years or even decades? Think how much better our house would look and how good we would feel if those items were cleaned out of our rooms and closets.

Each year I look forward to Lent as a personal challenge to clean up my spiritual life. May we all pray that the Lent of 2015 might be the best Lent ever. God bless you!

Rev. Paul van de Crommert, Pastor

### Stewardship of Treasure

Adult (158)	\$ 8,409.00
Electronic Giving	3,231.00
Junior	61.30
Plate	255.00
Second Collection (Catholic School Subsidy)	45.00
Building Rent	1,435.00
Wine & Food Pairing Dinner	1,500.00
Religious Education	83.00
Home Missions	240.00
Fuel	1,167.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,426.30</b>

*\*Our weekly budget is set at \$12,750.00*

Thank you for another week of generous stewardship. Again this week, we surpassed our projected weekly budget. We also again exceeded the offerings from a year ago by a substantial stewardship margin. You have already embraced the spirit of “Lenten almsgiving” through your generous stewardship. Thank you so much for your gifts!!! You are doing great!!!

### Thought for the Week:

*“...A good father knows how to wait and knows how to forgive from the bottom of his heart. Of course he can also discipline with a firm hand; he’s not weak, submissive, sentimental...”*

-Pope Francis

**HOLY ROSARY WORSHIP COMMITTEE  
MINUTES - JANUARY 26, 2015**

The Worship Committee was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by chairman Kathy Neve. Father led in an opening prayer and the minutes of November 10th meeting were read and approved. Father began with some opening comments as he thanked the Worship Committee for all of their hard work during the Christmas season in both setting up and taking down. There was much positive feed-back from the parishers regarding the decorations. Father shared a little bit of enrichment stating that Georgetown University recently completed a study that indicated 63% of Catholics decide where they are going to Mass based largely on the quality of the sermon that the priest gives on Sunday. Pope Francis recently said that the mark of a good homily is three-fold. 1.) It must be short 2.) It must be relevant 3.) It must bring the scriptures to life.

**Old Business:**

1.) The choir is being well supported with good rehearsal attendance. The choir will sing during Lent, much of Holy Week and for Confirmation. The Children's Choir will be singing at 10:00 A.M. Easter Mass and for 1st Holy Communion.

2.) The altar servers are doing well and we are consistently having three servers. More servers want to start serving. Father will have one other member of the Worship Committee assist him with training the servers.

3.) Training new and returning Eucharistic ministers will be held with two sessions on Sunday, March 1st and March 8th at 6:30 P.M. Father will give the instruction. All E.M.E's will be required to attend one session. The committee stressed to Father that "proper dress" is necessary as people are becoming very casual in their appearance.

4.) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was discussed. It was decided to suspend the Thursday evenings as virtually no one is attending. Instead the parish will have Exposition beginning on First Fridays through the school year with a sign-up to cover the hours. Father will expose the Blessed Sacrament and will conclude with a brief Benediction, @ 3:00 P.M. More details will be forthcoming.

5.) Lector booklets were discussed. Lectors are now requesting these books yet no one had responded to Kathy's e-mail prior to Father's Paul's arrival. A second e-mail will go out. Father requested at least one book in the sacristy for lector's use. It was also decided that after February 15th to go down to one lector at the weekend Masses as opposed to two. Some are coming only to do one short reading when the Deacon is present. Most parishes in the area have only one lector. Many lectors have been looking for substitutes. A future lector training is being considered.

6.) "The Word Among Us" booklets will again be ordered, but a smaller quantity as there have been more ordered than were taken.

7.) Palm Sunday was discussed including palms and environment. Liturgically, we are encouraged to process into the church. A perfect place to gather will be the school gym. The procession will occur at the 5:00 P.M. and the 10:00 A.M. Mass. A simple procession will be held at the 8:00 A.M. Mass in church.

8.) Holy Week and Easter was discussed at length. Times for the services will all remain the same except for the Easter Vigil. That time will be pushed up to 7:00 P.M. to encourage greater attendance. We are anticipating 6-8 converts coming into the Church. Father will stress that this is the most important Mass of the entire Church year throughout Lent!!!!

9.) Stations of the Cross was discussed as well as soup supper to follow along with some optional enrichment for those wishing to stay on Fridays. Father will also have Stations on Wednesday once for the grade school and high school. (Deacon Russ might also help with Stations.)

10.) Ash Wednesday will have three Mass times. Mass will be at 8:30 A.M. 4:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. Students from religious education will have class and will attend the two later Masses.

11.) Food Shelf collections has not been stressed but will be again during the Lenten season.

12.) A lengthy discussion was held about re-opening the church as opposed to having it locked most of the time. The churches in the Mankato community are open during the day. It was agreed that it could be open from 8:00 – 5:00 P.M. but with the sacristy remaining locked and the basement secured. Father will look more into this in the week's ahead.

13.) Father asked the committee if they felt the parish would want the mural in the sanctuary cleaned, repaired and restored. The parish has designated money set aside specifically for the project. The committee encouraged talking about this with the Pastoral and Finance Council and the possibility of the work being done in the summer of 2015.

14.) The air conditioning and the temperature in church was discussed. It was felt by a good number on the committee that the air-conditioning does not have to run for several months straight. A de-humidifier is needed for the church social hall. The heat of the south windows was discussed. Years ago, there was metal awnings that reduced the heat. They have been removed and has made sitting in church difficult with sun shining in people's eyes and heating up the church. Father will explore some options and present to the committees if something can be done.

15.) Time and Talent sheets were discussed. They have not been done in the parish for many years. This will be done in the coming weeks.

The meeting concluded after nearly 3 hours. Next meeting will be March 2nd, at 6:30 P.M. in Conference room 1. The meeting closed with prayer.

**LOYOLA CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**

Throughout this past week, Loyola High School students celebrated Snow Week as a week of dress up days and a few fun activities. The Intermediate School also celebrated Kindness Week and raised funds for Kiwanis International Project Eliminate to protect third world women and children against tetanus.

Over the past few Fridays, high school students have gotten into the rotation of celebrating at Mass and having lunch with the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

Mark your calendars and encourage friends, relatives, and colleagues at work to attend **Kindergarten Round Up at Loyola on Tuesday, March 10 at 4:30 or 6:30**. Plan for about one hour to learn about Loyola's Kindergarten program while your Kindergartener-to-be enjoys classroom activities. Children who will be 5 by September 1 are eligible for Kindergarten in 2015-16.

Good luck to Loyola 7<sup>th</sup> Grader, Sara Gartner, as she competes on Tuesday, February 17, at the Regional Spelling Bee at South Central College. The Spelling Bee begins at 5:30 P.M. Good Luck, Sara!

Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Season of Lent. Feel free to join us for Mass at 8:15 A.M. at SS. Peter & Paul's Church with the Intermediate School or 10:00 A.M. at Blessed Teresa Gerhardinger Chapel with the Primary and High School.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

The 2015 Bishop Lucker Lecture and Diocesan Distinguished Service Award Ceremony will take place Monday, March 9, 2015, 7 p.m. at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls. Our featured speaker will be Fr. Raymond de Souza. His talk will be on "The Future of Religious Liberty in America." Fr. de Souza was ordained a Catholic priest on July 20, 2002, for the Archdiocese of Kingston, Ontario. He currently serves as chaplain at Newman House, the Roman Catholic chaplaincy at Queen's University. He is the pastor of Sacred Heart of Mary Parish on Wolfe Island where he currently lives. Fr. de Souza teaches at Queen's in the Faculty of Education and the Economics Department. He is a longstanding weekly columnist for the *National Post*, and contributes a weekly column to *The Catholic Register*, Canada's largest Catholic newspaper. He is the editor-in-chief of *Convivium*, a magazine examining the role of faith in our common life. All adult parishioners are invited free of charge. A social time will follow the ceremony and the presentation.

**MISSION TRIP DONATIONS**

On February 27<sup>th</sup> - March 6<sup>th</sup> Marsha Murphy will be going on her 6<sup>th</sup> trip to San Lucas Mission. Also going along with her are Gary & Mary Zellmer and Tom & Mary Clare Wyrowski. This will be their 1<sup>st</sup> experience to learn about the special life of the Mayan people & how they live. It is an experience of a life time. Please keep all of them in your prayers as they go on this journey. Also if anyone would like to donate any small school supplies or small over the counter medicines, they will have a suitcase to fill with donations. Thank you in advance and the people of San Lucas say "Gracias". If you have any questions, please contact Marsha Murphy at 507-388-7961.

**MISSION OF LOVE VALENTINES**

The "Mission of Love Valentines" project will be happening again this year for the San Lucas Mission. You can either make or buy a simple valentine and give them, along with a \$2.00 donation, to Maggie Bennett at our parish. The Religious Education children also participate in this as a project. The Valentines and money go to San Lucas Mission, which they will use to purchase corn, rice, & beans, as well as school supplies for the children. This is a simple way to bring a smile to many little faces as well as fill their tummies. Thank you! If you have any questions, please contact Marsha Murphy at 507-388-7961.

**STEWARSHIP CORNER**

1. Diocesan United Fund (D.U.F.) Diocesan Priest Pension Fund/ Medical Care and Diocesan Audit:

DUE:	\$ 78,103.92
Pd. to Date	\$ 46,769.43
2. Annual Diocesan Ministries Appeal (D.M.A.)

DUE:	\$ 27,708.85
Rec'd. to Date:	\$ 43,921.00

(\*We are 158.5% our goal!)
3. Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

DUE:	\$ 238,000.00
<b>Pd. this week:</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>
Pd. to Date:	\$ 120,135.93

Total Assessments 2014-2015: \$ 343,812.77  
Total Paid to Date 2014-2015: \$ 210,796.36  
Total Assessments Due 2014-2015: \$ 133,016.41  
(\* Total includes D.M.A. overrun)

**FR. ED ARDOLF ENDOWMENT FUND**

This fund is now at \$130,852.00. 85% of the earnings of this fund go to pay tuition at Loyola Catholic School for Holy Rosary families. Contributions to this fund may be dropped off at the parish office or sent to Amy at Loyola.

**Thank You:**

Many thanks to the volunteers that have come forward to collate our weekly parish bulletins in the months ahead. We are grateful to Jane Keltgen who has done this service for some time, but has taken ill and is not able to continue this work. We pray for God's blessings on her as well as her return to good health. Thank you men and women for stepping forward in service.

**Wedding Wishes:**

This past Saturday, we celebrated a wedding ceremony for Tim and Marya Flynn who have done the preparation by the Church to have their union recognized by the Universal Church. This is a great day for the Church and our parish of Holy Rosary. Tim is also preparing for full reception into the Catholic faith this Easter, along with several other candidates. Our prayers and best wishes go out to Tim and Marya and their family. Congratulations!

**Baptism:**

Our prayers and best wishes go out to Jamie and Mary Miller on the occasion of Baptism of their son "Jaxon James". May his birth and Baptism be the beginning of a life-time relationship with Jesus Christ and His bride, the Church. Congratulations!

**Time and Talent Surveys**

Through the efforts of our Worship Committee, all of you should have received a "Time and Talent Survey" in the mail with the financial statement. Enclosed in this week's bulletin is an additional copy. We are asking you to take just a few moments to fill out the form and return it through the mail or the Sunday collection. We are asking every parish household to fill out a form. We are asking that every household would take on at least "one" area of service for the good of our parish. Many hands and hearts make up a successful and spiritually active parish. The deadline for returning the forms is Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

**Eucharistic Ministry Training Sessions:**

We are presently doing the "Time and Talent" survey as we are looking for more Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist. A number of you have expressed an openness to serve in this important ministry. Now is the time to sign up through our survey. **The Worship Committee is scheduling two "mandatory" training sessions for both new and returning Eucharistic Ministers.** Father Paul van de Crommert will be leading these sessions in church that will be an hour and a half in



length, with a social that will follow. There are some new directives that will be implemented from the Universal Church. **The two dates for this (re)training will be Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 P.M. and March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M.** Please mark your calendars to attend one of these sessions. Thank you!

**Black and Indian Mission Collection:**

In 2014, 8.9 million dollars was collected from the faithful across the United States for this cause. Pope Francis reminds us that everyone is meant to evangelize. Your support is a means of evangelization of the Black Catholic, Native American and Alaskan Native communities as the Church maintains their schools, parishes and urban centers. Enclosed in your contribution envelopes is for the Black and Indian Mission collection. The collection will be taken up the weekend of February 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you for reaching your stewardship arm beyond our parish to the poor and those in need in the broader Church. Thank you!

**Potential Altar Servers:**

Several more young people have come forward, expressing interest in being trained to serve at our altar for the weekend Masses. We plan to begin training with Father and another adult in the coming days of February. We are in special need for servers for the 8:00 A.M. Mass as well as for the 5:00 P.M. Mass. We have sufficient numbers for the Mass at 10:00 A.M. If your son/daughter would still like to become an altar server, please call the Parish Office by March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Rite of Christian Initiation:**

We are a blessed parish at Holy Rosary as we had a great response for our initial meeting with those wishing to be received into Full Communion in the Church. Presently we have the potential of 10 candidates. This is tremendous as we add a good number of souls to the Roman Catholic faith!!! **What a wonderful Holy Saturday celebration we will have at Holy Rosary!** Please pray for these candidates and pray that you will receive the grace to welcome these individuals to our parish and into full communion by BEING IN ATTENDANCE AT THE EASTER VIGIL THIS YEAR!!!!

**UPCOMING CCW EVENTS**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting at 6:30pm**

**March 19<sup>th</sup> Region I Spring Gathering** (at Holy Rosary) 5:30pm registration, 6:00pm mass, followed by a meal and meeting.

**The Week Ahead****Sunday February 15:**

**1:00 - 2:30 pm – Convert Instruction (Conf. Rm #1)**  
**2:00 pm – Music on the Hill - Good Counsel Chapel**  
**3:00 pm – Dedication of the New Neumann Center Chapel – Bishop Quinn presiding (Fr. Paul Attending)**

**Monday, February 16: Weekday**

8:05 am - Rosary  
8:30 am - Mass – David Dehen †  
9:15 am - Bible Study  
**6:30 pm - Worship Committee Decorate for Lent**

**Tuesday, February 17: Weekday**

8:05 am – Rosary  
8:30 am – Holy Communion Service  
7:00 pm – River of Life

**Wednesday, February 18: Ash Wednesday**

8:05 am – Rosary – Dolores Portz  
8:30 am - Mass - Monica Haack †  
4:30 pm - Mass - Janice Person †  
7:30 pm - Mass - Henry (Lefty) Nowacki †  
**1:00 pm - 4:00 pm – Sewing Group - Parish Center**  
**4 pm, 6 pm, 7:15 pm – Faith Formation**

**Thursday, February 19: After Ash Wednesday**

8:05 am - Rosary  
8:30 am - Mass – Bob Lager †  
10:15 am – Communion Service at Pathstone  
**Deacon Preston**

**Friday, February 20: After Ash Wednesday**

8:05 am – Rosary  
8:30 am – Mass – Mary Cline †  
**12:00 noon – Stations of The Cross**

**Saturday, February 21: After Ash Wednesday**

4:30 pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4:30 pm – Rosary  
5:00 pm – Mass – David Eggersdorfer †

**Sunday, February 22: First Sunday of Lent**

7:30 am – Rosary  
8:00 am – Mass – Joyce Schroeder †  
9:30 am – Rosary  
10:00 am – Mass – People of the Parish  
**\*Mark and Pam Weingartz –Silver Anniversary**  
**\* Morning Pre-School and Nursery**  
**\*11:30 A.M. Baptism**  
**\*12:30 – 2:00 P.M. 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Learning Ct. Retreat**  
**\*3:00 P.M. Rite of Election – Cathedral of New Ulm**  
(\*Fr. Paul and R.C.I.A. candidates attend)

**K of C Council #5551 News**

February 26 - General Meeting  
March 12 - Planning Meeting

**Liturgical Roles – February 21-22****Lectors**

**5:00 pm:** Eileen Wadekamper  
**8:00 am:** Linda Hiniker  
**10:00 am:** David Lamm  
(\*In consultation with the Worship Committee, we will be going down to one lector per Mass.)

**Eucharistic Ministers**

**5:00 pm:** JoAnn Borchert & Gretchen Etzell  
**8:00 am:** Michelle Ellingworth & Arlyce Anderson  
**10:00 am:** Darlene Schorn & Jackie Cesario

**Altar Servers**

**5:00 pm:** Emma Niederegger, Larkin Hansen,  
Jonathan Hull  
**8:00 am:** Jake Homan, Tony Weber,  
David Weber  
**10:00 am:** Robbie Meidl, Abby Lang  
Rachel Kohlmeyer

**Presentation of Gifts**

**5:00 pm:** Patrick Hull Family  
**8:00 am:** Rich Boruff Family  
**10:00 am:** Haley Kohrs Family

**Ushers**

**5:00 pm:** Gary Wintheiser, Paul Stevens,  
Larry & Maggie Bennett  
**8:00 am:** Carl Steffensmeier, Gary Zellmer,  
Craig Amundson, Kurt Schroeder  
**10:00 am:** Steve Kaiser, Steve Fink,  
Doug Helget, Tom Kohls

**Music Ministry**

**5:00 pm:** Julie Gruber/Jeanne Makela  
**8:00 am:** Corinne Ort & Kurt Schroeder/  
Jeanne Makela  
**10:00 am:** Tom Bachmann/Vicki Galli

**Rosary Leaders**

**5:00 pm:** Paul Stevens  
**8:00 am:** Margaret Ayers  
**10:00 am:** Curt & Donna Stanke

**Money Counter for January, February and March 2015**

Marilyn Rieff, Shirleen Gulden, Jan Nelson, Jan Brumm  
Carl Steffensmeier & Bill Fasnacht

**Liturgical Roles – February 18 Ash Wednesday****Lectors**

8:30 am: Sr Mary Anne Schaenzer  
4:30 pm: Roxie Lang  
7:30 pm: Brian Eggersdorfer

**Eucharistic Ministers**

8:30 am: Karen Etzell & Margaret Ayers  
4:30 pm: Rick Gruber & Tim McGowan  
7:30 pm: Mike & Diane O'Dea

**Servers**

4:30 pm: Abby Lang, Hailey Barker  
Riley Gruenes  
7:30 pm: Danny Collins, Reid Gruenes  
Mitch Bigaouette

**Ushers**

8:30 am: Bill Fasnacht, Bob Meyer, Gary Zellmer  
Gary Wintheiser  
4:30 pm: Shawn Reynolds, Craig Amundson  
Chris Sturm, Doug Helget  
7:30 pm: Steve Enderle, Brent Friedrichs,  
Steve Hlavac, Brandon Bernard

**Gifts**

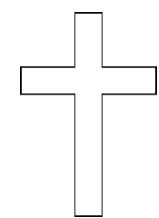
8:30 am: Bob Murphy Family  
4:30 pm: James Barker Family  
7:30 pm: Brian Corbett Family

**Music**

8:30 am: Julie Gruber / Jeanne Makela  
4:30 pm: Youth Choir, Kathy Jo Johns  
Jeanne Makela  
7:30 pm: Holy Rosary Choir / Sr. Adeline

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The Good Counsel Learning Center is bringing *Late Nite Catechism* to Mankato April 18<sup>th</sup> at Fitzgerald Auditorium. Mark your calendars now for this fun-filled, interactive experience to take you back to your Baltimore Catechism Days! For more information, call Director, Sr. Dorothy Zeller at 507-389-4229, or Sr. Virginia Bieren at 507-389-4499.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS...****PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR ALL OF OUR SICK AND INJURED OF HOLY ROSARY PARISH**

Our prayers go out to all of the sick and injured in our parish who are at home, in the hospital, nursing homes or assisted-living residences. May God bless them and keep them under His guidance and protection!

**FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL**

Herbert Karpinsky, Rose Wilson, Jane Keltgen, Isaac Kolstad, Rachel Tobin, Mary Jane Ledwein, Tom Grausam, Don Haley, Jan Schmidt, Doris Lorentz, Bill Goettlicher, Lenore Sweers, Dolores Spreter, Richard Flynn, Jr., Krystal Portz, Jan Brumm, Steve Fitterer, Kathy Eggersdorfer, Nancy Marquardt, Gabriel Speckel, Shannon Murphy, Harriet Senesac, Lisa LaPoint Leland, David Bruender, Marilyn Bastian, Betty Kotthoff, Nancy Wesely, Susan Zenk, Catherine Atchley

**FOR OUR FAMILIES**

<b>Monday</b>	Christine Lowe
<b>Tuesday</b>	No Mass
<b>Wednesday</b>	Erin Warmbold
<b>Thursday</b>	Joseph & Julie Bigaouette
<b>Friday</b>	Larry & Christine Sieberg
<b>Saturday</b>	Bryan & Lisa King
<b>Sunday</b>	Michael & Mary Sheldon

**FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY**

Nick Blace	Timothy Eick	Sean O'Dea
Jared Hiniker	Matt McGraw	Daniel Fitterer
Ann Winkler	Christopher Schmidt	Anna Drummer
Dana Schiller	Jonathan Heintz	
Mark Hansen	William Backes	
Alex Ek	Ben Barsness	

**PRAYER CHAIN**

If you, or someone you know, would like to be included in our prayer chain, please call Karen Etzell, 387-7877

**Readings for the Week**

<b>Mon:</b>	Gn 4:1-15, 25/Mk 8:11-13
<b>Tues:</b>	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Mk 8:14-21
<b>Wed:</b>	JI 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:206:2/ Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
<b>Thurs:</b>	Dt 30: 15-20/Lk 9:22-25
<b>Fri:</b>	Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14- 15
<b>Sat:</b>	Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
<b>Sun:</b>	Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

**LENTEN RETREAT**

During the season of Lent, Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Mankato, MN will offer the **Retreat in Everyday Life**, an eight week prayer experience based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. It is an opportunity to pause, reflect, listen and respond to the voice of God as He speaks to your heart. During the Retreat, each participant commits to spend some time each day in prayer and to meet weekly to share the past week's grace.

The retreat begins on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM Xavier Hall, the Upper Room – SSPP Parish and ends Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to register or would like more information, please call SSPP Parish Office 388-2995 or Frank Cesario at 625-2395.

**THE DEDICATION MASS****St. Thomas More Catholic Newman Center**

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, February 15, 2015** as Most Reverend Bishop John Quinn will be celebrating a special dedication Mass for the NEW St. Thomas More Catholic Newman Center. **Mass will begin at 3:00 pm** and refreshments will follow. Please join the Newman Center for this historic event.

**PASTA WITH THE PADRES IS COMING!**

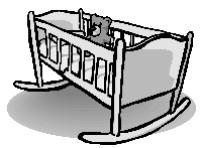
The 8th Annual "Pasta with the Padres" fundraiser for ECHO Food Shelf, sponsored by the four Mankato area Catholic churches, will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church on Sunday, March 8th from 4-7 p.m. We will need a lot of helpers again this year with both the dinner and Silent Auction. Sign-up sheets will be in the church entries next week. Please sign up to help and then plan to attend. It's lots of fun!

**BENEFIT FOR BIRTHRIGHT RAFFLE**

Tickets are again available for the annual Benefit for Birthright raffle. They may be picked up and dropped off at the parish office. For more information contact David Mutch at 387-5406.

**BABY ITEMS NEEDED**

The Council of Catholic Women will again reach out to newborn babies in the local area by collecting items. A gift is sometimes just what is needed to support someone in a difficult situation.



Items can be left in the pack-n-play at the main entry of the Church or in the bassinets at the side entrances. **NEW ITEMS ONLY!** Most needed: newborn-9-24 month outfits, diapers, baby wipes, diaper rash cream, baby bath towels & wash cloths, receiving blankets, bibs, infant socks (0-12 months), baby layettes, long sleeve onesies, baby books, small toys. Checks or cash will be used to purchase needed items - please put any monetary gifts in an envelope marked "Baby Shower" and place them in the collection basket, and we will do the shopping for you. February 15<sup>th</sup> will be the last day for collection. Thanks for your help!

**CAPS OF LOVE PROJECT**

Our parish Council of Catholic Women is now accepting caps from laundry detergents, beverages, toothpaste, shampoo, spray paint, tennis ball can lids, cream cheese and ice cream lids, medicines, etc. There can be no paper or metal in the caps. These can be sent to a Florida "Caps of Love" where they can be sold for recycling for funds to refurbish wheel chairs for American children.



These caps are not recyclable in our garbage pick up. Please drop off at the parish office and Elaine will see that I get them.

Here is a write up about the organization from their web site: CapsofLove.com

The goal of our non-profit organization is to help the disabled.

"Caps Of Love" is ***the only US affiliate*** with the international charity "Bouchons D'Amour".

By recycling plastic caps, we raise money to buy wheelchairs for disabled children. This also has an environmental benefit as discarded caps are put in our landfills or incinerated which harms the earth if not recycled. Plastic caps are a different grade of plastic from the bottles and are valuable in bulk. They can be sold to companies using recycled "post-consumer" plastic to create new products such as plastic shipping pallets, plastic park benches, plastic paint cans and many other items.

Thanks, Dolores Portz (388-3554)