

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

*“Jesus said to Nicodemus: ‘Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.’”*  
-St. John

“Laetare” in Latin means: “Rejoice”. This week we change the vestment colors from the penitential “purple” to the festive “rose” color. Flowers are also introduced liturgically in the sanctuary this weekend, as we look ahead to when the sanctuary will be filled with flowers as we celebrate the great feast of Easter.



This Lent has personally gone so incredibly fast as it has been a pretty intense time these past weeks. Having just finished another Funeral Mass this Wednesday morning, I have composed and preached 21 pages since March 1<sup>st</sup> and another 6 pages x’s 2 with our re-training of our Eucharistic ministers. So, when I tell you that on my day off this week, I finally took down my nativity scene, maybe it won’t sound quite so crazy.

As I was taking down the nativity scene (this past Tuesday – March 10<sup>th</sup>), it was a good meditation on not only how fast life has been going, but also how consoling sacramentals can be spiritually.

The nativity scene that I took down has been familiar to me since I was a little boy as it was one of the few things my parents brought on the boat to America. Even this year, with my first Christmas in a new residence, this sacramental made this old house not only feel like home, but it felt like “my” home. Now, my parent’s old mantel clock from Holland has been put in that space. While it is not a sacramental, its quiet ticking and melodious chimes also ring out spiritual comfort.

No doubt, today’s gospel, in which Jesus and Nicodemus recall Moses lifting up the serpent in the desert, was a great miracle of the Old Testament. For all the Israelites that had been bitten by the desert snakes, when they only looked at this bronze serpent that Moses had fashioned out of metal, they were brought to full health.

To be healed by merely looking, is maybe not as miraculous as we might think. For we only have to look around in our own life to see how many times we experienced spiritual healing by simply looking.

How many times when someone is sick and a loved one comes to visit, their sight not only brings joy and lifted spirit but also healing? How many times when someone comes home from the hospital and they see again their own home and their possessions, they recover much more quickly than when they were in the hospital?

The Eucharist is far more about singing and praying, but also adoring, or looking! At the HIGHEST POINT of the Mass, I was taught and raised on the belief that all eyes should be on the Lord in the Holy Eucharist when the priest raises the host and the chalice. Our eyes should not be in our missalette, or looking around, or hunting for a Kleenex or gazing at our watch. No, all of our eyes should be gazing on the Eucharist that heals our troubled and sinful soul. **For if a serpent made out of bronze can bring physical healing in the Old Testament, certainly the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist of the New Testament can bring spiritual healing to all that look upon Christ, through His Body and Blood.**

We are deep in the heart of the Lenten season. May we have the courage to look at others of the Mystical Body in a loving and merciful way, so that they might be brought to spiritual healing. Happy Lent! Be joyful! Easter will soon be here! (*\*For sure, enjoy this beautiful spring weather! May it last along with a good shower of rain!*)

**Rev. Paul van de Crommert**  
Pastor

<b>Stewardship of Treasure</b>	
Adult (142)	\$ 9,068.00
Electronic Giving	4,006.25
Junior	41.67
Plate	238.80
Catholic Relief	10.00
Fuel	135.00
Easter Flower Donation	577.00
Interest Earned	34.16
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,110.88</b>
<i>*(Our weekly budget is set at \$12,750.00)</i>	

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

*“A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.”*

- Pope Francis

<p align="center"><b>ACT OF CONTRITION</b></p> <p><i>O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life.</i></p>
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**PENANCE SERVICES**



The Lenten season is about praying, fasting and almsgiving. However, it is also all about the confession of our sins. I have been pastorally encouraged as I have been hearing more and more confessions at Holy Rosary. It is a true mark of faith!

**Mankato Area Penance Services**

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 3:00 P.M. St. Joseph the Worker**

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 5:00 P.M. Holy Rosary**

**Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 P.M. Ss. Peter and Paul**

**Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 P.M. St. John the Baptist**

Maybe this will be the Lent that you will return to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**STEWARDSHIP -**

**FUEL FINANCING - FLOWER FUND**

Last week an envelope was attached asking for your help with our Fuel Fund collection. We have taken in around \$4,500.00 and have spent in excess of \$15,000.00, with the final amount not being the “final answer”. Our warmer weather has been a great help from on high to keep our fuel consumption down! We pray that this mild weather will continue.

Attached to this week’s bulletin is also an “Easter Flower” envelope to help us defray the expenses of decorating with a variety of flowers for Easter. The Worship Committee has something beautifully planned for Easter, but it will require a few dollars. Yet, it will be far less expensive than it was at Christmas time, as beautiful as it was. However, if you can help, this would be great.

We will again publish all of our benefactors as well as all those our contributors wish to remember in a separate bulletin insert at Easter. **The deadline for returning the Easter Flower envelopes so we can publish the memorials will be Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.**

I would be remiss if I also did not say “THANK YOU” for another great collection this week that surpassed our budget. Your giving has been great. I assure you that the staff and I are being good stewards of your gifts. Blessings in your generosity!

**BAPTISMAL BLESSINGS**

Our prayers and best wishes go out to Adam and Lora Chiabotti on the occasion of Baptism of their daughter Alaena Alyse, who was baptized this past Saturday here at Holy Rosary. May this sacrament of initiation be the beginning of a life-time relationship with Christ, His Church and the Holy Eucharist. God bless you all!

**THANK YOU EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**



We had for all practical purposes, 100% support for our re-training of our Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist! That was great. Thank you volunteers for giving up your Sunday evening to learn and be enriched spiritually in this important ministry of distributing the Holy Eucharist. We have welcomed **28** new ministers of Holy Communion and saw the return of nearly all of our Eucharistic ministers that stand at **45** ministers strong. **How blessed that our parish has now 73 active ministers.** We have a few who are still out of the state who will be trained before serving at the altar.

We have returned to Holy Communion under both forms beginning this weekend and throughout the year. We have submitted all of the names of those that have gone through the training to Bishop LeVoir and the Office of Worship. We will hold two installation weekends at all of the weekend Masses when the Diocesan Certificates arrives. It is required to be officially installed at Mass. Holy Rosary is so blessed by such open and willing volunteers. This group of Eucharistic Ministers is evidence of that. Thank you all so much! God bless you in your holy service!

**WEDDING WISHES**



Although Lent is normally not the time of celebrating weddings, we are doing so in anticipation of another family being in full-communication at this year’s Easter Vigil. So, it is with joy that we announce that Anthony Kimathi and Edith Githinji were united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony this past Saturday at Holy Rosary Church. May their faithfulness to one another in marriage be a sacramental sign of their faithfulness to Christ and to their family that is growing. The couple is already blessed with their daughter Elsie (who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil), with a new brother or sister coming in the near future. Congratulations to this wonderful young couple!

**SPECIAL COLLECTION**

*“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me” (Mt 25:40).*

Today, we are reminded that Jesus identified himself with our poorest brothers and sisters. The Catholic Relief Services Collection serves Jesus in the victims of human trafficking, in those who suffer from unjust laws, and in those who need pastoral care and humanitarian assistance across the globe. Through your support with today’s Collection, you **help Jesus in disguise**. Please be generous.

**UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS**

**Pastoral Council:** Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30 P.M.  
(Conf. Rm. #1)

**The Week Ahead**

**Sunday, March 15: Fourth Sunday of Lent –  
Laetare Sunday (Time & Talent Weekend)**

7:30 am – Rosary

8:00 am – Mass - Sandee & Gary Lindmeier  
(50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)

9:00 am & 11:00 am – Pancake Breakfast (Holy Rosary)

9:30 am – Rosary

10:00 am – Mass - People of the Parish

\* Morning Pre-School and Nursery

11am-2pm – St. John the Baptist's St. Patrick's Day Dinner

1:30 pm – Convert Instruction (Conf. Rm #1)

**Monday, March 16: Lenten Weekday**

8:05 am – Rosary

8:30 am – Mass - Joe & Martha Phillips

9:15 am – Bible Study

6:30 pm – Mankato Area Youth Ministry Planning  
Meeting at St. John the Baptist (Fr. Paul attends)

**Tuesday, March 17: Lenten Weekday**

8:05 am – Rosary

8:30 am – Holy Communion Service

5:30 pm – Soup Supper with Enrichment to Follow

7:00 pm – River of Life

**Wednesday, March 18: Lenten Weekday**

9:52 am – Loyola High School Mass

- Sarah (Max) O'Hara† (Fr. Paul)

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm – Sewing Group - Parish Center

4 pm, 6 pm, 7:15 pm – Faith Formation

6-7 pm – Holy Rosary Choir Practice - Choir Room

7:00 pm – Mankato Area Parish Loyola Subsidy

Meeting at St. John the Baptist (Fr. Paul attends)

**Thursday, March 19: Saint Joseph, Spouse of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:05 am – Rosary

8:30 am – Mass - Tom Schwarz†

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm – Sacrament of Confession

at Ss. Peter & Paul Middle School

5:30 pm - 10:00 pm – Region I Spring Gathering  
(Holy Rosary)

**Friday, March 20: Lenten Weekday**

8:05 am – Rosary

8:30 am – Mass - Dick & Carol Arndt Family

4:30 pm - 7:00 pm – Fish Fry at St. John the Baptist

5:30 pm – Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 21: Lenten Weekday**

1:00 pm - 1:00 am – Carruth Family Benefit  
(at Circle Inn Bar)

8:00 am - 3:00 pm – Spring Rummage Sale  
(St. Joseph the Worker)

4:30 pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm – Rosary

5:00 pm – Mass - John Depuydt†

**The Week Ahead Continued**

**Sunday, March 22: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

7:30 am – Rosary

8:00 am – Mass - People of the Parish

9:30 am – Rosary

10:00 am – Mass - Ricky Gish†

\* Morning Pre-School and Nursery

1:30 pm – Convert Instruction (Conf. Rm #1)

4:30 pm - 7:00 pm – St. Patrick's Day Dinner  
at Holy Family (Lake Crystal)

**Liturgical Roles March 21-22**

**Lectors**

5:00 pm: Eileen Wadekamper

8:00 am: Linda Hiniker

10:00 am: Chris Cain

**Eucharistic Ministers**

5:00 pm: Daniel Gowanlock, Mary Beth Nygaard,  
Nicole Hull, Patrick & Wanda Hull,  
Tom Koch

8:00 am: Mary Homan, Terri Compton,  
Cathy Neve, Arlyce Anderson,  
Jackie Cesario, Margaret Ayers

10:00 am: Deb Stachon, Dennis Haga, Kevin Mettler,  
Mike & Diane O'Dea, Sherry Henrickson

**Altar Servers**

5:00 pm: Reid Gruenes, Riley Gruenes, Larkin Hansen

8:00 am: Ben Cahalan, Lauren Cahalan, Carson Fischer

10:00 am: Jacob Reynolds, Jack Roering

**Presentation of Gifts**

5:00 pm: Brennen Loosbrock Family  
(First Communicant Family)

8:00 am: Rich & Carol Boruff Family

10:00 am: Taiton Moore Family

(First Communicant Family)

**Ushers**

5:00 pm: Bob Meyer, Paul Stevens,  
Tom Rheaume, Larry Bennett

8:00 am: Bill Cahalan, Jake & Doug Homan,  
Chris Sturm

10:00 am: Bob Stachon, Doug Helget,  
Jim Barker, John Jagerson

**Music Ministry**

5:00 pm: Julie Gruber/Jeanne Makela

8:00 am: Lori Christiansen/Jeanne Makela

10:00 am: Kathy Jo Johns & Nancy Evans/Vicki Galli

**Rosary Leaders**

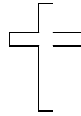
5:00 pm: Eileen Wadekamper

8:00 am: Sharon Lenz

10:00 am: Donna Wolf

**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**

Shawn Reynolds, Kris Bachmann, Herbert Karpinsky, Rose Wilson, Jane Keltgen, Isaac Kolstad, Rachel Tobin, Mary Jane Ledwein, Tom Grausam, Don Haley, Doris Lorentz, Bill Goettlicher, Lenore Sweers, Krystal Portz, Jan Brumm, Steve Fitterer, Nancy Marquardt, Gabriel Speckel, Shannon Murphy, Harriet Senesac, Lisa LaPoint Leland, David Bruender, Marilyn Bastian, Nancy Wesely, Susan Zenk, Catherine Atchley

**FOR OUR FAMILIES**

**Monday** Lorraine Klaseus  
**Tuesday** No Mass  
**Wednesday** Paul & Kristine Skjeveland  
**Thursday** Lindsay & Jodi Kohrs  
**Friday** Cheryl Edwards  
**Saturday** Stephen & Jacqueline Campbell  
**Sunday** Steven & Michelle Nixt

**FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY**

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

**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**

**Mon:** Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54  
**Tues:** Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16  
**Wed:** Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30  
**Thurs:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 /Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
**Fri:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
**Sat:** Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53  
**Sun:** Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

**K of C Council #5551 News**

March 26 - General Meeting  
 March 27 - Fish Fry



**Money Counters - Jan, Feb & March 2015**

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

**Bulletin Folders for March 2015**

Ruth Fitterer, Rosal Molski, Bob & Renee Amundson

**BANNS OF MARRIAGE: (III)**

Anthony Kimathi and Edith Githinji – Wedding Service, March 14, 2015, Holy Rosary Catholic Church, North Mankato, MN.

**UPCOMING EVENTS: Council of Catholic Women**

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

**YOU'RE INVITED!**



The Council of Catholic Women would like to invite all ladies of the Parish 18 years old and older to attend the Region 1 CCW Spring Gathering, Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, here at Holy Rosary Parish. Holy Rosary CCW will pay your \$10.00 registration/meal cost. Please call the parish office 387-6501 if you plan to attend, so we can plan for food and handouts. Registration begins at 5:30pm followed by mass, dinner and two dynamic speakers from Partners for Affordable Housing.

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH**

Universal: That those involved in scientific research may serve the well-being of the whole human person. For Evangelization: That the unique contribution of women to the life of the Church may always be recognized."



**SINCERE SYMPATHY**

To the families of

- ❖ Betty Jean Kotthoff
- ❖ Dolores Spreter
- ❖ Janice Schmidt
- ❖ Stanley Lyons
- ❖ Richard Flynn, Jr.

*-May they rest in peace.*

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

The Youth Group will be serving a pancake breakfast after both the 8am and 10am Masses this Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. The will be serving blueberry, chocolate chip, and plain pancakes as well as eggs, sausage, and juice. Proceeds will go to the expenses of their mission trip to St. Bernard's mission school.





Current families of Loyola Catholic School are invited to attend Enrollment Night on Tuesday, March 17, on the Good Counsel Campus from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M. It’s an opportunity to gather with other families and have a light supper, as well as to turn in enrollment papers. We hope you’ll join us.

We welcome inquiries for Loyola Catholic School. A Shadow Day for your student can be set up to explore the possibility of Loyola Catholic School. Please contact Sr. Mary Beth Schraml (388-0618) for information, to set up a tour or Shadow Day.

**NOTABLES –**

\* Congratulations to 7<sup>th</sup> Grader, Sara Gartner for placing in the top 20 of this year’s Regional Spelling Bee.

\* 6<sup>th</sup> Grader, Bryce Schwab, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Lions Poster Contest .

\* Congratulations to Regional Science Fair winners: Junior Ester Archer, Sophomores Elaine Adams & Ella Haefner. All three qualified for the State Science Fair and will be competing in May in Houston TX at the I-SWEEEP competition. There were only 3 I-SWEEEP trips awarded and the Loyola girls won two of them.

**CHOIR CONCERT** – Grades 7 – 12 will hold a Choir Concert on Thursday, March 26, at 7:00 P.M. in the Good Counsel Campus Chapel. Mark your calendar to join us for an enjoyable evening of music.

**LENT AT LCS** – During Lent, the Primary School collects donations for Food for the Poor, a Christian outreach to people in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through Food for the Poor, families in need receive farm animals, seeds and fruit trees, school supplies, small business start-up equipment and supplies, and food.

Other Lenten opportunities for students throughout the entire school are:

- \* Grade Level retreats
- \* Celebrating the Sacrament of Penance
- \* Lenten Prayer Services
- \* Stations of the Cross

**SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**

Saturday, March 21, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker Gym (423 W. 7th St., Mankato). We will be accepting donations starting Thursday, March 19. No clothing or electronics. Proceeds benefit the St. Joseph the Worker & Holy Family Youth Group.

**MISSION SCHOOL COLLECTION**

Next weekend, March 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a second collection for the St. Bernard Mission School. St. Bernard is a part of the Catholic Indian Mission located in Fort Yates, ND. This is the school that the Holy Rosary youth group will be working at on their annual mission trip.

**STEWARDSHIP 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
	<b>(*We are 158.5% our goal!)</b>
3. Loyola Catholic School Assessment:	
DUE:	\$ 238,000.00
<b>Pd. this week:</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>
Pd. to Date:	\$ 132,135.93
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Total Assessments 2014-2015:	\$ 343,812.77
Total Paid to Date 2014-2015:	\$ 222,796.36
<b>Total Assessments Due 2014-2015:</b>	<b>\$ 127,016.41</b>
	(* Total includes D.M.A. overrun)

**FR. ED ARDOLF ENDOWMENT FUND**

This fund is now at \$131,552. 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.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR – HOLY WEEK**

Holy Week is quickly approaching. As we gather on this “Laetare Sunday”, we “REJOICE” that the great celebrations of Holy Week will soon be upon us!

So many times when we prepare our schedules, the spiritual life comes in second to the secular life. How many times the activities of our family and our work come before Christ and His bride the Church.

Maybe this year, as part of your Lenten resolve, will be to attend all three days of the Holy Triduum. Please note the slight changes that will be occurring this year as opposed to past years.

Palm Sunday Weekend: 5:00 P.M. and 10:00 A.M. (\*We will gather in the grade school gym and process into church for all those that are ambulatory.)

**Holy Thursday:**  
**7:00 P.M. Mass**

**Good Friday:**  
**12:00 P.M. Main Service**

(\*Passion/Veneration/Communion)  
**7:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross and Benediction**  
(\*There will be no veneration of the cross or communion.)

**Easter Vigil:**  
**7:00 P.M. Mass (\*Note earlier time.)**

**Easter Day:**  
**8:00 A.M. Mass and 10:00 A.M. Mass**



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNERS**

**March 15<sup>th</sup>:** St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Mankato, invites you to their 123<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Sunday, March 15, 2015, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Come and enjoy an \$8.00 meal of ham, potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, potato salad, Jello, beans, rolls, beverages, and pie. All are welcome!



**March 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Holy Family Catholic Church in Lake Crystal is hosting their annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Sunday, March 22, 2015 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Join in the festivities and get your Irish favorites including corned beef, hame, cabbage, Irish potatoes, Irish soda bread and green beer, as well as enjoy the musical entertainment of Irish classics. Cost: \$8.00 for adults; \$5.00 for kids; Free for kids under 5; \$20 Family Maximum. Take out and delivery available! Call 507-726-2725.

**LATE NITE CATECHISM**

This fun-filled interactive experience will be held at Fitzgerald Auditorium Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm. Tickets for this professional show are available through the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, either in the office at 523 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Mankato, or online at twinriversarts.org (507-387-1008). General admission tickets are \$50 with VIP at \$100. Proceeds will benefit the Good Counsel Learning Center which provides tutoring for area school children and adult English Language Learners.

**LUCK OF THE IRISH**

John Ireland School would like to invite you to "Luck of the Irish", a fundraiser for John Ireland School on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Nicollet Co. Fairgrounds in St. Peter which includes a dinner, silent auction, raffle drawing, live auction, games and more. Come join the fun! MUST be at least 21 years old to attend. We are also hosting a Luck of the Irish Fun Run (7K) the morning of March 28<sup>th</sup>. Please go to churchofstpeter.org/ji to register or call 507-931-2810 ext. 147 for more information.



**LOVED THE WEDDING. INVITE ME TO THE MARRIAGE. LOVE, GOD**

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can help you do that! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones — and focus just on each other. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are March 20-22 in Baxter, March 27-29 in Minot, April 17-19 in Frontenac, May 1-3 & July 17-19 in Buffalo & September 11-13 in Irene, SD. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at southmnwwme.org or contact John & Mary Beth at applications@southmnwwme.org or 507-838-8178.

**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES**

NFP is easy to learn, inexpensive to practice, and completely in accord with Catholic teaching. Three classes held one month apart beginning March 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Anastasia in Hutchinson. To register for classes or for more information contact Steven and Kathleen Jacobs at 320-327-2702 or NFamilyP@gmail.com

**DIOCESAN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Deacon Russell and Debra Blaschko received the Diocesan Distinguished Service Award at the Bishop Lucker Lecture this past Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, for their outstanding service to diocesan mission and ministry over a period of years. They have been helping engaged couples prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage at the diocese's pre-marriage preparation program for many years. They have presented on parenting, finances, and natural family planning. Congratulations!

**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.

**PASTA WITH THE PADRES**

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the 8<sup>th</sup> annual "Pasta with the Padres" such a great success. Because of you we raised over \$7,000 for ECHO Food Shelf, money that will be used to provide emergency food for the over 16,000 families who come to us each year.

We would like to specially thank the volunteer workers from each of our parishes who did such a wonderful job, our priests, sisters and deacons for their support, and everyone who came to shop and enjoy the dinner and music. We are truly blessed.

**FISH FRY DINNER**

The Knights of Columbus of St. John the Baptist, Mankato, are hosting their Fish Fry Dinner Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30pm to 7:00pm. The menu includes deep fried, pan fried or backed fish, backed potatoes, coleslaw, corn, beverage, dinner rolls and dessert! Cost: Adults - \$10, Under 12 - \$4, Family Max - \$25. Proceeds will support St. John's Knights of Columbus and their many activities and charitable contributions. The dinner will be held in Matthews Hall (basement) at St. John the Baptist, 632 South Broad Street, Mankato, MN.

