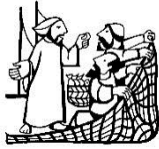


From the Pastor's Desk:

*“Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.’
Then they abandoned their nets and followed Him.”*

-St. Mark

Happy Third Sunday in Ordinary Time and Happy Catholic Schools Week! It is in the coldness of a Minnesota winter that we celebrate with warmth the sacrifices and the service of so many that keep our Catholic School presence alive and viable here in the greater Mankato area.



As I write these words on a Wednesday afternoon, I celebrated this morning's Mass with the youth of Loyola. I was anticipating celebrating Mass with just the K-3 students, but found myself with a capacity crowd in the chapel as the high school students also joined us that morning for the liturgy.

As I was offering Mass at Loyola on a Wednesday morning, it struck me again that it is an awesome responsibility that is entrusted to both the priest, the professional educators as well as the parents to raise up the next generation of Roman Catholics in an increasingly technological, diverse and secular society. There are many modern day realities that go against the grain of what we as a Church and a Catholic School represent. There are many who question the purpose of private, Catholic education, much less the need for religion in our modern times.

Yet, our local Catholic school, when it is done well and is thoroughly Catholic, has the potential to raise up, not only the next generation of practicing Catholics, but the future clerical and lay leadership that is so needed to ensure a strong Catholic presence in our community, our nation and our world. In short, in keeping with this weekend's gospel, a Catholic School is the perfect “fishing hole” to be a “fisher of men and women, boys and girls” for Christ!

Pope Francis has defined Catholic education as the “*solution to secularization*”. So, it becomes imperative that we do more in Catholic education than simply try to imitate those in the public sphere of education with the latest technology and facilities. Rather, when a person walks into any of our Catholic School buildings they should see, hear and feel Catholicism through our charity and personal warmth.

Supporting Catholic education transcends far beyond putting money in the collection plate and putting students in the classroom. (I believe that the people of the Mankato area have done this in spades!) I would like to intellectually argue instead, that Catholic education is less of a physical place to learn and more of an ideology to live. Catholic

education should be a safe refuge to be and to act Catholic in a culture and a time in which the individual is everything and the community is becoming less common.

I recently challenged the high school students at a morning Mass at Loyola to see their Catholic experience for what it truly is, a privilege! I told them that they should pray daily for their benefactors who make their Catholic education possible! What other student can come and take time out of the school day to gather in prayer and adoration of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist? Although diversity in our age is celebrated, in the spirit of the scriptures and the early Church, what a blessing to be under the same roof holding in community the same Catholic “mind and spirit”. This too should be celebrated!

Having personally attended Catholic school for some 12 years for high school, college and postgraduate work, I know what it is like to sit behind a Catholic school desk. Having taught and been pastor of a Catholic School for an equal amount of time, I know what it is like to be on the other side of the desk. From praying for our benefactors as a Catholic student, to being the primary fund-raiser for a Catholic grade school, the sacrifice is all worth it; not simply for the sake of the “institution” but rather for the sake of the One who became “incarnate”, namely Jesus Christ.

The best way that we can celebrate Catholic Schools week goes far beyond a pastor's column or a Catholic Schools Mass on Tuesday at St. Joseph the Worker. **The best way to celebrate Catholic Schools week and another year of Catholic Schools is to be warm and friendly, greeting the stranger and the visitor in our midst, modeling Christ in all that we say and do. That is how we will catch others for the sake of Christ.* Happy Catholics Schools Week Loyola!!!

Rev. Paul van de Crommert, Pastor

Thought for the Week

“To speak from the heart means that our hearts must not just be one fire, but also enlightened by the fullness of revelation and by the path travelled by God's word by the heart of the Church and our faithful people throughout history.” -Pope Francis

Coffee

There is coffee in the parish office from our diocesan San Lucas Toliman Mission. We have three kinds: ground, whole bean, and dark roast whole bean. It is \$10 for a 17oz bag. All money from sale goes directly to the mission.

Stewardship of Treasure

Adult (153)	\$ 9,215.00
Electronic Giving	1,920.25
Junior	58.68
Plate	416.50
Christmas	20.00
Mary, Holy Mother of God	25.00
Fuel	500.00
School Rent	625.00
Wine & Food Pairing Dinner	270.00
Faith Formation	17.00
Catholic Financial	25.00
School Soda Machine	18.00
Christ Our Life Capital Campaign	13,802.73

Grand Total \$ 26,913.16

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

Stewardship

I have only GOOD NEWS when it comes to stewardship this week. For this past Tuesday, I received a check from the Diocese of almost \$14,000.00. At first glance, I thought it was the over-run from the D.M.A. from last fall. Actually, it is the over-run from the Christ Our Life Campaign! (Since I was not anticipating this revenue and it was not designated as some parishes had done with this money, I will be sending it onto Loyola to reduce our assessments.) A final piece of Good News is that when the collection is compared to 2014, at this time, (excluding the campaign money) you have increased your giving in just one week by @ \$2,500.00. This is also wonderful. Thank you for your faithful stewardship. God bless you!

Wedding Blessings

Our prayers and best wishes go out to Mary "Lizzie" Niemann and Lucas Ezarski, who were united in the Sacrament of Marriage this past Saturday at Holy Rosary. This couple are people of great faith that they choose as their wedding date, a winter's day in January in Minnesota!!! Although the weather outside is cold, their hearts are warm with their love for one another as well as for Christ who they promised fidelity to one another. May God bless the youngest newly married couple of Holy Rosary with many years of health, happiness and holiness! God bless you both!



I Ask For Your Prayers

Over the past few months as pastor, I have been in communication with various individuals who have expressed interest in joining our parish and the Catholic faith. I told them that I would be in contact with them after the New Year to begin instruction.



Right now I am anticipating more than a 7 souls (and the possibility of 2 more) that have expressed interest in being received into the Catholic faith at this year's Easter Vigil here at Holy Rosary. (When I mentioned this Good News to some of the faithful, I was told that it had been several years since we had such a strong response of potential candidates.) Last year when I had just arrived at St. Anne's in Wabasso, I thought that I would have a breather when it came to converts since I had just arrived in the parish. But we were blessed with six converts last year. It was a joy to teach them and grow with them spiritually.

I will be meeting with our potential candidates this Sunday afternoon to talk about the Church's expectations as well as to set up a set time from now until Easter where we can meet.

I write this as I have always invited those from the parish that would like to grow in their faith and to review the Church's teachings to also attend these sessions as part of their continuation in the faith. I have always had a number of the parishioners attend the classes. I will let you know the time and place of our meetings, after I have met with our new candidates in the event that you would like to join us. Please keep them and this catechist in your prayers. We will have much to celebrate this Easter Vigil!!!

P.S. If you know of someone that would like to come into the Catholic faith, encourage them to come this Sunday, January 25th, at 1:00 P.M. in Conference Room #1 in the school.

Save the DATE - Wine & Food Pairing Event

*Friday, February 13th, 2015 at 6:30 PM
Loose Moose Convention Center*



This is a great Hospitality Fundraising event you just do not want to miss!! 5 Course Meal - provided by Loose Moose (Mike Maes) and wine provided by NaKato Bar & Grill.

Please call the Parish Office to make a reservation. Seating is limited!

The Week Ahead

Sunday, January 25: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1:00 pm – Organizational meeting for people to be received in the Church
(Conference Room #1 – School Building)

Monday, January 26: Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

8:05 am – Rosary
8:30 am – Mass - Monica Haack†
9:15 am – Bible Study
6:30 pm – Worship Committee Meeting
(Conference Room #1)

Tuesday, January 27: Weekday

9:30 am – Catholic School Mass at St. Joseph the Worker - Colleen Bianchi†
(Fr. Paul Presiding)

Wednesday, January 28: Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:05 am – Rosary
8:30 am – Holy Communion Service
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm – Sewing Group -
Lower Level Parish Center
4 pm, 6 pm, 7:15 pm – Faith Formation
6-7 pm – Holy Rosary Choir Practice - Choir Room
7:30 pm – Religious Education 1st Holy Communion Parent Meeting (Conference Room #1)

Thursday, January 29: Weekday

8:05 am – Rosary
8:30 am – Mass - Baumberger Family
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm – Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, January 30: Weekday

8:05 am – Rosary
8:30 am – Mass - John Drummer†

Saturday, January 31: Saint John Bosco, Priest

4:30 pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:30 pm – Rosary
5:00 pm – Mass - People of the Parish
6:30 pm – Baptism

Sunday, February 1: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am – Rosary
8:00 am – Mass - Roy Dauffenbach†
9:30 am – Rosary
10:00 am – Mass – Sebastian, Gloria Lena & Emmanuel Anthonisamy†
Morning Pre-School and Nursery
11:15 am – Religious Education 1st Holy Communion Parent Meeting (Conference Room #1)

**Liturgical Roles –
January 31-February 1**

Lectors

5:00 pm: Eileen Wadekamper & Jim Theuninck
8:00 am: Mike Brumm & Michelle Fischer
10:00 am: Chris Cain & Roxi Lang

Eucharistic Ministers*

5:00 pm: Patrick & Wanda Hull
8:00 am: Craig Amundson & Arlyce Anderson
10:00 am: Tim McGowan & Tom Koch

(*Please note: Holy Communion will be under one form in the coming weeks due to the cold and flu season.)

Altar Servers

5:00 pm: Larkin Hansen, Jonathan Hull, Mitchell Bigaouette
8:00 am: Jake Homan, David Weber, Tony Weber
10:00 am: Jacob Reynolds, Matthew Helget, Isaiah Rentschler

**Presentation of Gifts
Confirmation Candidates & Family**

5:00 pm: Kaylie Rauchman Family
8:00 am: Adam Schwartz Family
10:00 am: Noah Erickson Family

Ushers

5:00 pm: Tom Rheume, Bob Meyer, Anne Richardson, Scott Smith
8:00 am: Bill Fasnacht, Ben Levandowski, Doug Homan, Kurt Schroeder
10:00 am: Schawn Reynolds, Bob Stachon, Glen Vershelde, Brent Friedrichs

Music Ministry

5:00 pm: Joe Kunkel/Jeanne Makela
8:00 am: Tom Bachmann/Vicki Galli
10:00 am: Youth Choir/Kathy Jo Johns/Vicki Galli

Rosary Leaders

5:00 pm: Eileen Wadekamper
8:00 am: Sharon Lenz
10:00 am: Donna Wolf

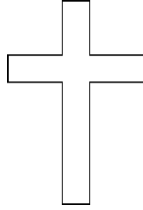
Money Counter for January, February and March 2015

Marilyn Rieff, Shirleen Gulden, Jan Nelson & Jan Brumm

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

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, Lydia Meehling, 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

- Monday** Michael & Lori Olson
- Tuesday** Travis & Jolene Studer
- Wednesday** No Mass
- Thursday** Mitch & Tara Hansen
- Friday** Daniel & Cindy Cummiskey
- Saturday** Ryan & Elizabeth Ehler
- Sunday** Lee & Patti Browne

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

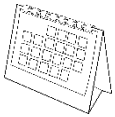
If you, or someone you know, would like to be included in our prayer chain, please call Karen Etzell, 387-7877

Readings for the Week

- Mon:** 2 Tm 1:1-8/Mk 3:22-30
- Tues:** Heb 10:1-10/Mk 3:31-35
- Wed:** Heb 10:11-18/Mk 4:1-20
- Thurs:** Heb 10:19-25/Mk 4:21-25
- Fri:** Heb 10:32-39/Mk 4:26-34
- Sat:** Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Mk 4:35-41
- Sun:** Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Upcoming Parish Meetings

The next meetings of our major councils/committees in the New Year and topics will be as follows:



Worship Committee – January 26th at 6:30 P.M.
(Review Christmas – Lent Planning) This MONDAY!!!

Finance Council – February 9th at 7:00 P.M.
(Review Diocesan Audit)

All of our meetings will be held in Conference Room #1 in our former school building.

K of C Council #5551 News

- February 12 – Planning Meeting
- February 26 – General Meeting



Upcoming CCW Events

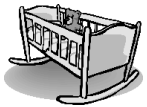
February 2nd General Meeting at 6:30pm with speaker Carol Meyers-Dobler from Partners for Affordable Housing

March 2nd General Meeting at 6:30pm

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

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 pac-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 months 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 15th will be the last day for collection. Thanks for your help!



“LIKE” US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Rosary is now on Facebook. Please check out the site & “Like” us - follow the link from our website – www.holyrosarynorthmankato.com





LOYOLA CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Loyola Preschool registration for 2015-16 opens on February 2. Loyola offers 2-day, 3-day and 5-day classes for three to five year olds. **Kindergarten Round-Up** is scheduled for March 10. Loyola has offered all day Kindergarten for over 20 years. For information or to schedule a visit/tour or shadow experience, contact Sister Mary Beth at 388.0618 or mbschraml@loyolacatholicschool.org

Last week Loyola Primary and Intermediate hosted area private schools for presentations by the **Minnesota Science Museum**. K-2 students learned about sound, and grade 3-5 students learned about engineering.

Loyola will join with Catholic Schools across the nation in celebrating the **40th National Catholic Schools Week January 25-31**. In addition to events scheduled by each parish, Loyola will celebrate an **all school Mass on Tuesday, January 27 at 9:30am** at St. Joseph the Worker parish. All are welcome. In preparation for this Mass, students have been challenged to reach out in love and service by doing **40 acts of kindness**. During Catholic Schools Week students will share in special activities and dress up days, and will collect items needed for Project Community Connect.

Seniors will be making their **annual retreat** beginning on Wednesday, January 28.

Daniel Tiger and friends from TPT/PBS will visit Loyola Primary on Tuesday. Last year current first grader, Eli Mons, won first prize in TPT/PBS writing contest, and this visit is part of his award.

Bingo Events - Sunday, January 25th

Super Bingo: All Saints Catholic Church in Madison Lake at 12:30pm with Early Bird Bingo starting at 11:30am. For tickets, call 507-243-3819.



Bingo Blitz: St. Mary's School Hall in Madelia at 12:30pm with Early Bird Bingo starting at 11:30am. For tickets, call 507-342-3324.

Natural Family Planning Classes

Invest in your marriage and see big payoffs. Couples who have learned to embrace their shared fertility as a blessing have discovered their communication, relationship, and love life are better with Natural Family Planning.

The next course starts at Ss Peter and Paul, Mankato, on Friday January 30th. More details and registration at www.ccli.org. For questions, please call Dan and Brenda Voracek at (507) 625-5008 or visit www.ccli.org.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

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

DUE:	\$ 78,103.92
Pd. last week	\$ 13,087.25
Pd. to Date	\$ 46,769.43
- Annual Diocesan Ministries Appeal (D.M.A.)

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

(*We are 158.5% our goal! EXCELLENT!)
- Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

DUE:	\$ 238,000.00
* Pd. this week:	\$ 16,802.73
Pd. to Date:	\$ 111,135.93

Total Assessments 2014-2015:	\$ 343,812.77
Total Paid to Date 2014-2015:	\$ 201,796.36
Total Assessments Due 2014-2015:	\$ 142,016.41

(* Total includes D.M.A. overrun)

*Last week we paid a "hefty" Diocesan bill of more than \$13,000.00. We are making an "in-house" commitment to pay \$3,000.00 each week to Loyola! This will not keep us current with the assessment, but will make our final balloon payment more manageable.

On the brighter stewardship side, this week we received a check from the Diocese of New Ulm from the Christ Our Life Campaign. This money was a surprise. (*Don't confuse this Diocesan fundraiser with the Diocesan Ministries Appeal we had last fall.) We received a check for \$13,802.73. I am applying all of this to our Loyola assessment this week as well.

It is great to see that we broke a stewardship milestone this week of \$100,000.00 (plus) in subsidy payments to Loyola as well as the grand total of our assessments broke this week \$200,000.00! We have less than \$150,000.00 to go. It is still a big number, but there is light at the end of this dark stewardship tunnel! THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!

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.

Marriage Encounter Feb 14-15

Give each other the best Valentine's gift possible! Register for the February 14-15 Marriage Encounter held at Mt Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington. Visit www.marriages.org for a listing of additional retreats or call 651.454.3238.

Volunteers Needed for Bulletin

Next week, we will begin printing the bulletin insert sheet in-house. This should eliminate the need for the additional \$400.00 per month charge and save money for the parish. **We are looking for volunteers who would be willing fold and collate the bulletins.** If you are interested in serving Holy Rosary in this way, please contact the parish office at (507) 387-6501.

Pedal Past Poverty

Partners for Affordable Housing's Pedal Past Poverty event is a one-day, one-of-a-kind stationary bike race incorporating 60 teams of ten riders each.



The 3rd Annual Pedal Past Poverty event is coming up on February 28th from 9am - 2pm and will be held at the YMCA in Mankato. In the past, a few Holy Rosary parishioners have helped raise awareness and money by participating in this event. This year, we would love to invite **everyone in the parish to participate** and create a "Holy Rosary" team.

The name of the game is fun! You do not have to be of Tour de France caliber to enter. This is also a great family activity! Every Pedal Past Poverty participant will receive a free t-shirt and "goodie" bag stocked full of surprises. Additionally, each rider will be entered into a drawing for random prizes to be awarded throughout the day. Teams are asked to raise a minimum of \$1000 (or \$100 per biker) before race day. For more information about the event, visit partnersforhousing.org/pedal.

This event is designed to raise support for Mankato's two homeless shelters, the Theresa House and the Welcome Inn. Deep-rooted in the community for over 25 years, Partners for Affordable Housing is seasoned in the providence of emergency, transitional and permanent affordable housing options to homeless and/or at-risk individuals and families in the Mankato area.

If you would like to register for the Holy Rosary team, please call 507-387-6501 or stop by the parish office. We are also looking for someone to step-up and be the Team Captain!

If you are not interested in participating, but would like to support the Holy Rosary team, please consider donating an amount that is right for you. All checks to be made payable to "Partners for Affordable Housing." Donations can be dropped off at the parish office or placed in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Pedal Past Poverty" (you *must* include your full name, phone number and address).

Two and a Half Weeks!



Do you know what we will be celebrating in less than three weeks? Would you believe that we will be starting the Lenten season with the celebration of Ash Wednesday on February 18th? In consultation with our music ministry team and religious education program, I will be offering THREE Masses on Ash Wednesday beginning at 8:30 A.M., 4:30 P.M. and then a final evening Mass at 7:30 P.M. We will be holding regular religion classes that evening and concluding class with an Ash Wednesday Mass. Faith is not always taught but also caught. How wonderful if our parents would also be in attendance at these Masses and not simply to expect our students to be in attendance.

Secondly, what active, positive spiritual work could you take on this Lent? Certainly for our young people it might be abstaining from candy or Coke, cell phones and seeing hours of television. But what about us as adults? How about coming to Mass during the weekday, everyday, if we are no longer in the workforce? For those involved in our various liturgical ministries to come to a refresher course on how to distribute Holy Communion or to usher? Perhaps it will be to attend our evenings of enrichment on a Tuesday evening? Maybe you will simply be working harder at praying, fasting and giving!

Lent is coming, let us all be spiritually pro-active so that Holy Week and Easter will take on a new spiritual significance for us! Blessings!!!

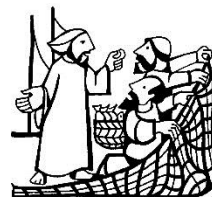
Lenten Retreat

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 God 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 17th, 6:30PM Xavier Hall, the Upper Room – SSPP Parish and ends Tuesday, April 7th.

If you would like to register or would like more information, please call SSPP Parish Office 388-2995 or Frank Cesario at 625-2395.



Come, follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of men.