

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

***“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!” Jesus rebuked him and said, “Quiet! Come out of him!” The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. -St. Mark***

A year ago in February, Pope Francis spoke in his Sunday message at the time of the Angelus (12:00 P.M.) about the importance of avoiding slander in all forms as we strive to live out the Christian life. Pope Francis said in part these exact words:



***“...It’s so rotten, gossip. At the beginning, it seems to be something enjoyable and fun, like a piece of candy. But at the end, it fills the heart with bitterness and also poisons us...I tell you the truth, I am convinced that if each of us would purposely avoid gossip, at the end, we would become a saint! It’s a beautiful path...”***

No doubt, if we are at all honest, we must all admit that we have participated in idle talk at some point or time in our life. Chances are good that when we spoke about the other person it was negative and the person of whom we were speaking would not have appreciated what we were saying, regardless if it was factual or fiction. (Sometimes people feel it is good to berate another person if what is being said is negative, but true. But we must always ask ourselves if what we are talking about is charitable.)

I mention the negative talk of gossip because in today’s gospel account from St. Mark, someone is talking about the Son of God. However, the man is not talking about the Son of Man behind His back. No, the man (who is possessed by an unclean spirit) is talking about the Redeemer, right in front of His face! What makes the situation even more mysterious is that what he is saying is absolutely right! He who is filled with an “unclean spirit”, a person who is in contradiction that Christ, acknowledges “spot on” who Jesus is! Amazing!

I find it curious that this person has only known Christ from a distance and is in an adversarial situation with Him. Yet, He knows exactly who Jesus is. Then, on the other hand, the very apostles of Jesus, who are with Him 24-7, when asked by Jesus, “Who do you say that I am?” there is hesitation and then Peter finally says “You are the Christ!”

As we start the month of February, the readings for this Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time seem to be centered on the idea of “LISTENING”. In the First Reading, Moses says to the people: “A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for you from among your own kin; to him you shall listen.” The Psalm refrain is also about listening as we sing the words; “If today you hear His voice, harden not your

hearts.” St. Paul, in the Second Reading to the Corinthians distinguishes between the married and unmarried. St. Paul stresses that if you are married you have to “listen” to your spouse to try and please them. If you are unmarried/virgin, then St. Paul says those folks are “anxious about the things of the Lord”, or more simply put, can put more spiritual energy in listening to the Lord. The Gospel not only has a man with an unclean spirit listening to the point that he knows Jesus is the “Holy One of God”, but the people who witness the miracle listen to the words of Christ and are amazed that His words have such “spiritual authority”.

There is no doubt that we do not have the authority in our words to produce a miracle like Christ in today’s gospel. Yet, our words do have power in that they can make or break the spirit of another. We are only 17 days away from Lent. Now might be a good time to think what we are going to “give up” or “take on”. Maybe besides not drinking as much coffee or eating less candy, how about exercising our conversations that they became largely positive. “Listen” to yourself when you are speaking criticism, complaints or commanding something out of someone. You might be surprised that when you are speaking positively or with kind word or compliment, you will have a spiritual authority that will also amaze the people around you. Have a great week! God love you!

Rev. Paul van de Crommert, Pastor

**FULL COMMUNION IN THE CHURCH  
(RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)**

I was pleased that I was able to meet for the first time 6 candidates for instruction for full communion in the Catholic Church. (\* Due to personal schedules, we are anticipating the possibility of 2-3 more in the coming days.) It is exciting to see such a nice size group of people take that “step-in-faith” and begin the preparations to become a Roman Catholic. God-willing, we will have much to celebrate this Easter Vigil as we welcome all of these young people into the fullness of the faith.

**SAVE THE DATE -  
Wine & Food Pairing Event**



Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 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!

**Stewardship of Treasure**

Adult (124)	\$ 6,760.00
Electronic Giving	4,151.75
Junior	46.20
Plate	320.50
School Rent	250.00
Religious Education	500.00
Stole Fees	200.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,228.45</b>

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

**STEWARDSHIP**

You might notice this week that our contributions are under the necessary budgeted amount. This is naturally a slower time in stewardship. Yet, your offerings again this week is only Good News. Week after week your giving has increased exponentially as well as the number of envelopes that we have received.

For example, when compared to a year ago to this date in 2014, (in one week's time) the plate offering is up from \$147.00 to \$320.50, or 218%. E-giving is up from a year ago from \$2,265.59 to \$4,151.75 or 183% increase. The 2014 collection for the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in January was \$9,030.26. This year it is \$12,228.45. As we come to the close of January we have \$139,000.00 of assessments to pay. This comes down to a little less than \$7,000.00 a week that will leave the parish. This is still a lot of stewardship, but manageable. Thank you for your great stewardship efforts this year!

**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 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.

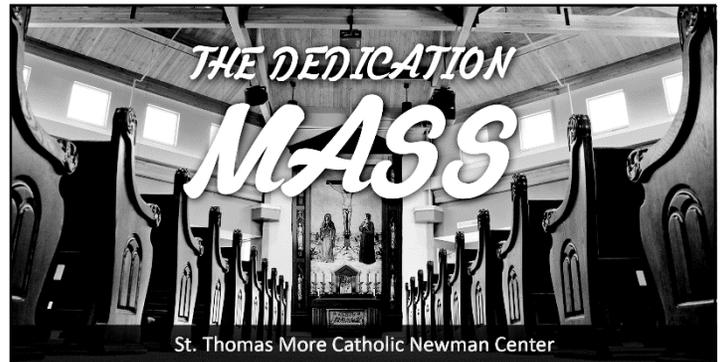
**Thought for the Week**

*"The great danger of family life, in the midst of any society whose idols are pleasure, comfort and independence, lies in the fact that people close their hearts and become selfish." -St. Pope John Paul II*

**OUT OF TOWN**



I am taking just a few days off this week, beginning on Sunday travelling out-of-state. I had hoped to take the weekend off, but the priest that was to cover, recently called to cancel the commitment. It is hard to find a priest on such short notice. I did secure one of our newly ordained for the Saturday evening Mass but will be back for the Sunday morning liturgies. Please call the parish office if you are need of a priest during officer hours or one of the area churches after hours. I ask for your prayers that my travels will be safe.



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.

**PRO-LIFE PRIDE!**

A week ago Friday I attended as pastor the fundraiser for the Options for Women benefit concert. I was so proud to see so many men and women from Holy Rosary directly involved in this pro-life cause through some leadership position. It was equally good to see so many from our parish that supported the event. May God reward you for doing the noble work in the name of "pro-life".



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BULLETIN**

This past week, we began 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 have had a few generous volunteers step forward to fold and collate the bulletins on Friday afternoon, however, we are still looking for more to join in the rotation.** If you interesting in serving Holy Rosary in this way, please contact the parish office at (507) 387-6501.



**The Week Ahead**

**Saturday, January 31: Saint John Bosco, Priest**

6:15 pm – Baptism

**Sunday, February 1: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am-12 pm – KC Pancake Breakfast  
(Holy Rosary – Lower Social Hall)

11:15 am – Religious Education 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion  
Parent Meeting (Conference Room #1)

**Monday, February 2: The Presentation of the Lord**

8:05 am – Rosary  
8:30 am – Holy Communion Service  
9:15 am – Bible Study  
6:30 pm – CCW Meeting

**Tuesday, February 3: Weekday**

7:30 pm – *River of Life* (Conference Room #2)

**Wednesday, February 4: Weekday**

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

**Thursday, February 5: Saint Agatha,  
Virgin and Martyr**

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm – Eucharistic Adoration

**Friday, February 6: Saint Paul Miki  
and Companions, Martyrs**

8:05 am – Rosary  
8:30 am – Holy Communion Service

**Saturday, February 7: Weekday**

4:30 pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4:30 pm – Rosary  
5:00 pm – Mass – Henry Nowacki†

**Sunday, February 8: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am – Rosary  
8:00 am – Mass – Joel Dauffenbach†  
9:30 am – Rosary  
10:00 am – Mass – People of the Parish  
*Morning Pre-School and Nursery*

**LECTORS**

There have been several of you that have been inquiring about the Lector Workbooks that have been purchased in the past. If you are interested in a book for this liturgical year, call the Parish Office no later than Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Liturgical Roles – February 7-8**

**Lectors**

5:00 pm: Maggie Bennett & Brian Eggersdorfer  
8:00 am: John & Nancy Holden  
10:00 am: Jennifer Spaude & Tom Koch

**Eucharistic Ministers**

5:00 pm: JoAnn Borchert & Rick Gruber  
8:00 am: Kurt Schroeder & Peter Backes  
10:00 am: Mike & Diane O'Dea

**Altar Servers**

5:00 pm: Larkin Hansen, Zachary Eggersdorfer  
8:00 am: Danny Collins, Lauren Cahalan,  
Ben Cahalan  
10:00 am: Sheamus Westermann, Elias Westermann,  
Hailey Barker

**Presentation of Gifts**

**Confirmation Candidates & Family**

5:00 pm: Luke Kolars Family  
8:00 am: Megan Resner Family  
10:00 am: Haley Kohrs Family

**Ushers**

5:00 pm: Larry Bennett, Bob Meyer, Paul Stevens,  
Tom Rheume  
8:00 am: Gary Zellmer, Carl Steffensmeier,  
Bill Fasnacht, Craig Amundson  
10:00 am: Jim Barker, Brandon Bernard,  
Steve Enderle, Blaine Kolstad

**Music Ministry**

5:00 pm: Myra Schroeffer/Jeanne Makela  
8:00 am: Julie Gruber/Janelle Campeau  
10:00 am: Tom Bachmann/Vicki Galli

**Rosary Leaders**

5:00 pm: Karen Ezzell  
8:00 am: Dennis McCabe  
10:00 am: Jeanette Barsness

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

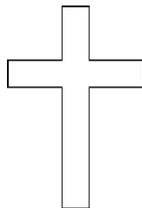
Marilyn Rieff, Shirleen Gulden, Jan Nelson & Jan Brumm



**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**

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, 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** No Mass  
**Tuesday** No Mass  
**Wednesday** No Mass  
**Thursday** No Mass  
**Friday** No Mass  
**Saturday** Roger & Mary Mueller  
**Sunday** Lon & Julie Kelling

**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:** Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40  
**Tues:** Heb 12:1-4/Mk 5:21-43  
**Wed:** Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Mk 6:1-6  
**Thurs:** Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Mk 6:7-13  
**Fri:** Heb 13:1-8/Mk 6:14-29  
**Sat:** Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Mk 6:30-34  
**Sun:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

**BANNS OF MARRIAGE**

I) Timothy Flynn and Marya Flynn – Holy Rosary Church (2-14-15)

**WELCOME**

We welcome to Holy Rosary Glee Hodapp, who returned to the area and resides in Mankato. We are happy to have Glee as our newest member. We welcome her to our growing parish family. Blessings!

**BAPTISM**

Our prayers and best wishes go out to David and Amy Endres on the occasion of Baptism of their son, Ethan Robert, who was baptized this Saturday evening following the 5:00 P.M. Mass. May the celebration of Baptism for Ethan be the beginning of a life-time relationship with Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God. God’s blessings on the Endres family.

**UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS**

**Finance Council** – February 9th at 7:00 P.M. in Conference Room #1 in our former school building. (Review Diocesan Audit)



**K of C Council #5551 News**

February 12 – Planning Meeting  
 February 26 – General Meeting



**UPCOMING CCW EVENTS**

Please join us for the CCW Meeting, Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm. Carol Meyers-Dobler from Partners for Affordable Housing will talk about their fundraiser “Pedal Past Poverty” coming up on February 28<sup>th</sup>. General meeting immediately following speaker.

**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 15<sup>th</sup> will be the last day for collection. Thanks for your help!





**LOYOLA CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**

We thank you for all the prayerful support during Catholic Schools week. Our parishes can be proud of the efforts expended to maintain a strong Catholic school in the Mankato area.

Research shows the sacrifice is worth it. Catholic schools have been the Church's best effort to bring children into adulthood as practicing men and women committed to making the world a better place.

Know that our school community is grateful for your prayerful support and keeps you and your families in prayer.

-Fr. Robert Schneider

**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](http://www.marriages.org) for a listing of additional retreats or call 651.454.3238.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS**

Show your spouse how much you appreciate them with some quality time together. **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** make a great gift and the next weekends are February 6-8 in Buffalo, February 13-15 in Windom & Marvin, SD, February 20-22 in Fargo, March 20-22 in Baxter, March 27-28 in Minot & May 1-3 in Buffalo. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: [southmnwwme.org](http://southmnwwme.org) or contact John & Mary Beth at [applications@southmnwwme.org](mailto:applications@southmnwwme.org) or 507-838-8178.



**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.

**LATIN TRIDENTINE MASS**

The traditional Latin Tridentine Mass is celebrated at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Mankato on the First Saturday of each month. **The next Mass is Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.** You are invited to experience the beauty and reverence of the Extraordinary Form of the Mass. After the Mass there is a time for coffee and fellowship in the upper Room. All are welcome!



**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! EXCELLENT!)</b>	
3. Loyola Catholic School Assessment:	
DUE:	\$ 238,000.00
<b>Pd. this week:</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>
Pd. to Date:	\$ 114,135.93
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Total Assessments 2014-2015:	\$ 343,812.77
Total Paid to Date 2014-2015:	\$ 204,796.36
Total Assessments Due 2014-2015:	\$ 139,016.41
(* Total includes D.M.A. overrun)	

This week we paid another \$3,000.00 towards our Loyola school subsidy. We have now broken our total stewardship goal to under \$140,000.00. We continue to make good and steady progress. Thank you so much!

**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.



**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.

**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.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pedal Past Poverty event is coming up on February 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am - 2pm** and will be held at the YMCA in Mankato. This year, we would love to invite **everyone in the parish to participate** and create a "Holy Rosary" team. This event is designed to raise support for Mankato's two homeless shelters, the Theresa House and the Welcome Inn.

**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 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).

**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 687-5406.

**17 DAYS WEEKS UNTIL ASH WEDNESDAY!**

Do you know what we will be celebrating in 17 days? Would you believe that we will be starting the Lenten season with the celebration of Ash Wednesday on February 18<sup>th</sup>? In consultation with our music ministry team and religious education program, I will be offering **THREE Masses** that day 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 simply, 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!!!

**DAD'S BELGIAN WAFFLES SUPPER**

**The St. John II Area Faith Mission Group** invites you to their annual Pre-Valentine's Waffle Supper, Silent Auction and Bake Sale on



Saturday, February 7 from 4:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Crow River Winery east of Hutchinson, MN. Tickets are \$6.50 in advance or \$7.00 at the door and take-outs are available. All proceeds will go to our Mission in San Lucas, Toliman, Guatemala. Come for an evening of great food and fun!

**WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE**

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in the Church on Monday, February 2, 2015 and in parishes on the weekend of February 7-8, 2015. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.