

"Smile"

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord. There are many reasons not to smile. Even if we look out into our world in these recent days, we call to mind the horrible tragedy of the earthquake in Haiti of these recent days, the many wars taking a multitude of other lives, and this week on January 22nd we remember the decision of our in 1972 of our supreme court to legalize abortion which has lead to some 46 million deaths of unborn babies. As a former high school teacher said to a smiling youth: "I can give you plenty of reasons to wipe that smile off your face."

But if this was the end of the story, there would be no "gospel," no GOOD NEWS. I am here to tell you, our Lord is in the Eucharist and in his people to proclaim that we have even more reasons to smile! Of course we are not called to ignore reality and not care about the horrors and sorrows of our day. We are called to be Simon of Cyrene for those carrying their crosses. As we do that, God wants us to experience his delight in being *his*. His plan, as Isaiah says in Sunday's first reading, is to take delight in us... "as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you." (Is 62:5)

Have you seen the recent movie *Invictus*? (Directed by Clint Eastwood and starring Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon) Freeman is portraying Nelson Mandela after he comes out of prison into the presidency in South Africa. As the new bodyguards assemble for duty, they are required to smile on the job...and they have trouble doing so. I would too. And yet, when authentically given, rightfully received, this is a powerful message we need at every age and time and place.

So, I encourage you to let God smile at you and love you as the best of bridegrooms as he comes in the Eucharist and is present to us all day and all night. Receive his delight that he takes in us and share that in your home and work place and on the battlefield. If you will march for life this Friday in Washington or St. Paul, bring that smile with you for those who hate us.

We don't smile to antagonize others, but to welcome them and recognize their dignity and to be in communion with them in all that is good, true and beautiful.

There is a time for everything. We cannot always feel like smiling, but we can choose to see the many more reasons there are for smiling than not. God bless you, Fr. James Adams

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday..... Donut Sunday, Sunday School, Y.G. Simply Social
Tuesday..... Fatima Rosary Group, Baptism Class 6pm,
Parish Council Meeting 7pm
Wednesday... Morning Mass @ Holy Cross, Religious Ed. 6:55pm,
Thursday..... Mom's Group 9:30am, RCIA @ Holy Cross 7pm
Friday..... Trip to Capital (Roe vs. Wade)
Sunday..... Sunday School

St. Nicholas Emergency Food Shelf

If you would like to make a donation towards the food shelf or you or someone you know needs assistance please call 952-288-8101.

For your information, we are currently undergoing an audit and also in the process of parish planning for the future. We hope to report on these by February. Thank you for your prayers. -Fr. Adams"

Your 2009 Contribution Statements are ready to be picked up in the back of church.

"COME TO THE MARCH FOR LIFE! The archdiocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Life will hold its annual prayer service for life at the Cathedral of St. Paul from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 22. Archbishop John Nienstedt will lead the prayer for the 46 million babies that have been aborted in the United States since 1973, when abortion was made legal, as well as the men and women who suffer because of the decision they made to terminate a pregnancy.

Last year, approximately 3,000 people attended.

At noon on Jan. 22, the annual March for Life, sponsored by Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life to commemorate the 37th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, will begin in front of the Minnesota State Capitol. A program with pro-life speakers will follow at 12:30 p.m. on the Capitol steps.

For more information on the March for Life, visit the MCCL Web site at www.mccl.org or call (612) 825-6831. Our Holy Cross School will be boarding their bus in the morning at school about 9:15am and returning by 2:30pm with a stop at McDonald's on the way home. Let Margy Schipper (at margys@holycrossschool.net or the school #952-652-6100) know if you wish to go with the kids. There are only 20 spots available on the bus and you will be walking from the Cathedral to the Capitol.

TODAY IS DONUT SUNDAY, please join us after the morning masses for donuts, coffee, juice and fellowship. Donut Sunday will be hosted by Cursillo.



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday, January 31st after both Masses. Come down and enjoy a delicious hot meal and fellowship. Holy Cross School will be kicking off their Catholic Schools week that day also. So come hungry and support the Knights and the school in all their good works."

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS – are encouraged to help with the Pancake Breakfast on Jan. 31st. The hours can be used towards your required 15 hours of service. To help out please contact Pat Theisen at 461-2599

The Great Adventure continues.....

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about The Story of Salvation during Lent.

Jeff Cavins Bible Timeline continues every Thursday in February and March beginning February 4 through March 25th, 9:00am-10:30am and 7:00pm-8:30pm.

If you would like to refresh the first 4 sessions or are joining us late there will be an opportunity to view sessions 1 & 2 on Jan. 21st 8:30-10am & 7pm-8:30pm and sessions 3 & 4 on Jan. 28th 8:30-10am & 7pm-8:30pm.

If you did not sign up for the first 4 sessions are and are interested in joining us please call Kathy Chlan at 952-652-2286 or Jean Moeller at 952-461-4552. You are welcome anytime !



A pilgrimage is a journey one makes to a sacred place for the purpose of venerating it or to ask for heavenly aid, and ultimately to come to know God better. Along the journey, there are many sacrifices involved, however, what matters is the distant goal. Please pray for all of our youth as they consider taking the pilgrimage to Madrid, Spain in 2011.

"World Youth Day is a great opportunity to learn more about your faith as a young person. This is also a wonderful way for the whole parish to support our youth. Consider coming on this pilgrimage if you are a freshman this

year in high school or up to 30 years of age. So many of us priests and consecrated men and women have heard God calling us personally through the voice and presence of the Holy Father. If you are meant to be married, this is also a wonderful time to grow in your faith and your role in the church. Join us at the end of the month for more details at the next world youth day meeting in the parish. -Fr. Adams

Jan. 31 @ 6:30 in the youth room there will be a VERY important meeting on the plans for WYD along with commitments to certain fundraisers for the trip. If you are unable to attend but have a strong desire to attend WYD please contact Megan Anderson or Liz Lane. This meeting is also important for the parents to attend so that they have all the facts about the pilgrimage, costs, commitment and answer to other questions.

ADVERTISERS WANTED – We are looking for several new advertisers to fill the back of our bulletin. Rates are cheap & your ad runs every week for a full year. Please call the parish office for more information. 952-461-2403.

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you would like to have the name of someone seriously ill, a newborn baby, or someone deceased mentioned in our bulletin for all to pray for, please notify the office by the end of each week. You must be an immediate family member of the person mentioned so as to respect their privacy.

Morning Moms' Group/Book Club will meet on Thursday, Jan. 21 @ 9:30am At Deb Streefland's home.. Childcare provided! Please contact Sarah Kuehl @ 952.461.4631 or Katherine DeWall @ 952.797.2359 for more information.

I would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" for your patience and acceptance of our Holy Cross eighth graders who are practicing public speaking by volunteering as lectors at the various weekend Masses. Thank you for seeing past shaky voices and stumbled pronunciations in order to give these students a loving and welcoming community experience. May God continue to bless you!

Margy Schipper
8th grade
Holy Cross Catholic School

BOOK CLUB

The St. Nicholas evening Book Club.

We meet at Deb Streefland's home from 7:15 – 9pm. We read a variety of Christian books and enjoy lively and challenging discussions. The next gathering dates are Feb. 3, April 7 & 28, May 12 and June 2. If you would like to join or would like more information call Deb at **952-652-2349.**

CHOIR

Choir Practice: Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, March 2,9,16,23 & 30th. All practices are Tuesday evenings at 7pm. **New members are always welcome!!**

Choir Mass: Jan. 31, Feb. 14, 17 (Ash Wed.), 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28 (Palm Sunday), April 1 (Holy Thursday, April 2 (Good Friday), April 3 (Easter Vigil), April 4, (Easter Sunday, 10am)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

"Where your treasure is, there is your heart..." (Matt. 6:21)

Adorers are welcome to come to the Chapel at any time.
MORE ADORERS ARE NEEDED FOR HOLY HOURS WITH

JESUS. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING WITH AN HOUR.

Adorers are needed especially for the following hours:

Monday: 1 am, **Tuesday:** noon (during the winter months), 4 pm, **Wednesday:** 9 am, 3 pm, **Thursday:** 2 pm, 3 pm, **Friday:** 3 am, **Saturday:** 1 pm, 7 pm.

To sign up as an Adorer or for more information on Adoration, please contact Dan and Lynne Soderlund at (507) 645-6012.

KNIGHTS CORNER

If you are a catholic male in good standing with the church and have some time and talent to give, then see what the Knights of Columbus can do for you. Contact Mike Kaderlik at 651-210-8644 or makaderlik@mchsi.com.

Mass Intentions

Sat	16	5:00 pm	Karen Algren+
Sun	17	8:00 am	For the Parish
Sun	17	10:00 am	Harold, Roman, Bob & Lenny Seurer & Edith Doherty+
Tues	12	8:00 am	Jacqueline Grobarek
Wed	13	8:00 am	Emma Hurley+
Thurs	14	8:00 am	David & Ruth Stencil+
Fri	15	8:00 am	Charlie & Lena Janisch+
Sat	16	8:30 am	The Stewarts+
Sat	16	5:00 pm	Christine & Richard Pierson
Sun	17	8:00 am	For the Parish
Sun	17	10:00 am	Bob Devine+

Daily Scriptures

Mon	1 Samuel 15:16-23	Mark 2:18-22
Tue	1 Samuel 16:1-13	Mark 2:23-28
Wed	1 Samuel 17:32-33,37,40-51	Mark 3:1-6
Thu	1 Samuel 18:6-9;19:1-7	Mark 3:7-12
Fri	1 Samuel 24:3-21	Mark 3:13-19
Sat.	2 Samuel 1:1-4,11-12,19,23-27	Mark 3:20-21
Sun	Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10/1	Corinthians 12:12-30/Luke 1:1-4:14-21

Liturgical Stewardship

Jan. 23 & 24

5pm	Lectors:	Pat Biren
	Ministers:	Bill Vogel-H, Ken Thomas-Ch-H
	Servers:	Steven Conway, Curtis Kiewiet
	Ushers:	
8am	Lectors:	Matt Damiani
	Ministers:	Ralph Wagner-H, Jolene Pierson-Ch-H
	Servers:	Joseph Knight, Peter Soderlund
	Ushers:	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
10am	Lectors:	Alek Nelson
	Ministers:	Tom Streefland-H, Deb Streefland-Ch-H
	Servers:	Quinn & Gavin Burke
	Ushers:	Randy Wagner, Pat McDonald

Sacrificial Support Week 28 / January 10, 2010

Budget	\$4900	Budget-to-date	\$137200
Received	\$3661	Received-to-date	\$131323
Capital Improvement	\$15 / School \$30		

Please show your appreciation by supporting those advertisers who help make our bulletin possible. This week we thank...

LEO'S BAR

Lottery, ON/OFF Liquor Sales

952-461-2327 – John & Molly Mahoney

RELIGIOUS ED.

Confirmation Students:

- Please remember to turn in your homily notes & service hours slips monthly! Notices will be mailed to parents by the end of the month.
- If you DID NOT attend the Lifeline Mass in November – **you must attend the one scheduled on February 6th. This is a Confirmation requirement!**

PARENTS – reminder to you – if your child is not going to be at religion you need to call the parish office or your child's teacher to let us know of your child's absence. If you are not reporting absences – they are marked unexcused.

Congratulations to all students who received the Sanctifying Grace of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, January 16th at our church:

Danielle Anderson, Zachary Berry, Carter Bertram, Logan Biren, Kaylee Brake, Kurt Chlan, Hannah Chromy, Jenna Clough, Hank English, Lydia Elliott, Mark Friedges, Sydnee Friedges, Owin Giles, Calvin Hertel, Isaac Holliday, William Kaderlik, Isaac Kern, Catherine Korman, Lana Krautkremer, Laura Krautkremer, Lauren Kuehl, Nicholas Kuhlmann, Ashley Mathew, Naomi McCabe, Sidney Meyer, Jack Michaud, Brock Mokoff, Andrew Olesen, Samantha Ponsonby, Grace Revier, Emma Seurer, Jacob Sieberg, Makayla Thomas, Michaela Tupy, Sam Tupy, Libby Zweber

Special thanks to the 1st grade families who brought treats and helped serve at the Reconciliation reception.

YOUTH GROUP

High School Youth Winter Adventure Weekend!

The information packet for this year's trip to Lutsen ski area can now be picked up in the back of church! This year's trip is later than usual: February 26-28. Youth can choose between skiing, snowboarding, cross country skiing, snowshoeing or even hiking to frozen waterfalls! For more information call Molly Havlicek at 952-461-2933 or Jen Messing at 612-518-5490.

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

The next Holy Cross Schwan's order is due **Wednesday, January 20**. The pick up date will be Thursday, January 28 from 2:30-6:30pm in the school parking lot. Thank you to everyone who purchased items at our December sale. Our school profit was \$360! Order forms and catalogues can be found at the back of church.

Pre-Kindergarten Registration Starts Now! We have begun the registration process for our 3-5 year old Pre-K Program. Registration packets and brochures about our program can be found at the back of church. We offer full day and half day options of two or three days per week. For more information, please contact the school office at 952-652-6100 or visit www.holycrossschool.net.

You're Invited! Holy Cross Catholic School will hold our Pre-K and Kindergarten Open House for the 2010-2011 school year on Tuesday, January 26 from 5-7pm at our school in Webster. This is a great opportunity for you to meet the teachers and see our school and learn more about the programs we offer. For more information, contact the school office or visit our website at www.holycrossschool.net.

Holy Cross invites all parish families and friends to our Family Pizza & Bingo Night on Friday, January 22 from 5-7pm. Enjoy all you can eat Dominos Pizza and play a few rounds of Bingo. The cost is \$7/adult, \$4/child with a maximum of \$20 per family

Crusader Winner for 11/30/09

Tim & Candy Picka \$150, Scott Pierce \$75, Georgann Larson \$75, Amber Simon \$50, Sarah Pavek \$50, Dan Miller \$50.

PRO - LIFE

Man is called to a fullness of life which far exceeds the dimensions of his earthy existence, because it consists in sharing the very life of God. The loftiness of this supernatural vocation reveals the greatness and the inestimable value of human life. Pope John Paul II

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

Annual Knights of Columbus Pro-Life Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, January 17th at the KC Hall in New Prague. Serving 8am – 12 noon. Free will offering. Please support the KC's Pro-Life Activities.

The New Prague Wrestling Booster Club will be sponsoring a scrambled egg and pancake breakfast on Sunday January 31st at the KC Hall in New Prague. This Breakfast will run from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Rick Tietz Memorial Scholarship that is awarded to graduating senior wrestlers. Please come and join us for this breakfast. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students grades K-6. Tickets are available from New Prague High School Wrestlers and at the door.

Veseli Area Lions Club are hosting the iHoops Basketball Skills Challenge on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 @ 11:00 a.m. with registration beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Holy Cross Catholic School Gym.

The skills challenge is free to all area youth ages 9 to 14 and is a timed half court obstacle course showcasing the youths passing, dribbling & shooting skills. Top finishers have the opportunity to advance to a Regional Competition held at the Target Center before a Timberwolves game and then may further advance to a National Competition held in Orlando, FL. For more information visit www.iHoops.com/skillchallenge or contact Jenny Malecha 507-744-2236.

5 Cents Bingo! Sunday, January 24th at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church basement in Lonsdale from 12-4. Lunch available from 11-4:30, featuring sandwiches and delicious homemade pies and cakes. Please join us and bring the kids.

Southern Valley Alliance For Battered Women – needs **additional volunteers** to answer its 24-hour crisis line, to facilitate women's support groups and to provide childcare for those support groups. Free training will begin October 3. For more information call Martha or Lori at 952-873-4214.