

PATER NOSTER!

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord! By God's grace we will begin Lent this week on Ash Wednesday when the Church reminds us (in one of two ways) as she places ashes on our forehead: "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel (Mk 1:15)" or "Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return." (Gen 3:19). Our Lord in the Gospel directs us as usual to our Heavenly Father "who sees in secret." This is the Father is who Jesus wants us to come to know and return to if we struggle in any way with sin and the effects of sin. The church invites us to follow Jesus for forty days similar to his time in the desert where he prepared for his public ministry. "Pater" means "Father". "Noster" means "Our." So, the beginning of *the prayer* our Lord and savior gave us in the mother tongue of the church is: "Pater noster." The Catechism has an awesome commentary and teaching on this in its fourth part. So helpful for us at the beginning of Lent is our need for *purification* of our hearts so we can "enter into his (God's) mystery as he is and as the Son has revealed him to us." (#2779)

Thus, I propose as we take a look at the history of Christianity in Minnesota and in New Market in these days, we take as our guide the Lord's prayer and in particular for Lent some further suggestions for your benefit.

- I. First and foremost would be an increase in prayer /reading of scripture and Eucharistic devotion. An early church father Tertullian calls the Our Father "the summary of the whole gospel". Let these words of our Lord lead us to deeper reading of the bible and a deeper commitment to a daily prayer time. In addition to our Sunday obligation, try coming to daily Mass and spending time in our adoration chapel if you do not already. Maybe just one day a week for starters.
- II. For helpful reading to guide you, I would suggest:
 - a) Catechism of the Catholic Church (Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1997) Part Four (#s 2558-2865)
 - b) God, Help Me How to Grow in Prayer by Jim Beckman (Servant Books, 2009)
 - c) Deep Conversion/Deep Prayer by Fr. Thomas Dubay, S.M. (Ignatius Press, 2006)
- III. GO TO CONFESSION! As the guide outside my confession quotes pope John Paul: "To those who have been far away from the sacrament of Reconciliation and forgiving love I make this appeal: come back to this source of grace; do not be afraid! Christ Himself is waiting for you. He will heal you, and you will be at peace with God." I try to be in the confessional at least 20 minutes before every Mass. Every Saturday there are confessions from 3:30-4:45pm as usual. There will be a communal penance service with the opportunity of individual confession Wednesday March 31st at 7pm. I encourage you to come the evening of the 31st, however if you cannot there will also be added confessional times at the time of Holy Week.
- IV. Let yourself be formed by our Blessed Mother so that as you do prepare for Easter by a greater union with God you will be lead to greater service and love of your neighbor as Mary went straight to her cousin Elizabeth to serve (Lk 1:39).

Let us pray for one another and encourage each other in these sacred days. God bless you all, Fr. Adams

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday..... **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!** Sunday School
Tuesday..... Fatima Rosary Group, Choir Practice 7pm,
Baptism Class 6pm
Wednesday...ASH WEDNESDAY Mass 8am & 7pm,
NO Religious Ed.
Thursday.....Mom's Group 9:30am, Adult Faith Formation 9am &
7pm, RCIA @ Holy Cross 7pm
Friday.....Holy Cross Fish Fry @ Lonsdale 4pm,
Stations of the Cross @ St. Nicholas 7pm
Sunday.....Sunday School

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.

Kyle Joseph Kuehl, son of Chris and Sarah Kuehl, recently received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism here at St. Nicholas. We warmly welcome him into the family of Christ

Our First Chicken Cookout Meeting is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 22nd @ 7pm at Bergstrom's Bar. Anyone who would like to help with a committee should attend this meeting.

New Market Blood Drive at Township Hall on Tuesday Feb. 23rd 12:30-6:30pm. For appointment or information call Sharon at 952-758-8716

150th Anniversary Books will continue to be available for purchase. Please contact the parish office to purchase one. 461-2403.

PPB Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 25th at 7:30pm at DeWalls.



Stations of the Cross / Soup Supper will be offered during the Lenten Season. Stations of the Cross will begin this week, Friday the 19th at 7pm. The first Soup Supper will be on Friday Feb. 26th at 6pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 7pm, and will continue every Friday during Lent, with the exception of Good Friday, when stations will be at 3pm and no Soup Supper.

ALL YOUNG ADULTS! COME ON RETREAT!

If you are a young adult (in college or a bit beyond) and interested in a silent retreat at this time in your life to discern God's will for you, come on retreat from the evening of Sunday May 9th through the morning of Friday May 14th, 2010 at the Villa Maria in Frontenac, MN. I will lead a shortened version of the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. If you are interested, there will be small informational meeting on Sunday February 20th between Masses in the church basement at 9:15am. This is a gift the church has to offer you as you seek to understand your vocation. Please let me know if you wish to come on this retreat by Thursday February 25th, 2010. –Fr. Adams

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.

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.

The Great Adventure Starting Back-Up.....

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

Morning Moms' Group/Book Club will meet on Thursday, Feb. 18, March 4 & 18, April 15 & 29 & May 13 @ 9:30am At Deb Streefland's home.. Childcare provided! Please contact Sarah Kuehl @ 952.461.4631 or Katherine

Thank you to those who returned their pledges for the Catholic Services Appeal today. For those of you continuing to prayerfully respond, we ask that you return your pledge form to Mass next weekend. Your pledge will touch the lives of so many needs in our parish. As a reminder, our parish receives 25% of all gifts made through our parish. The need has never been greater and your response is greatly appreciated. "We are one body, one body in Christ."

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 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.**

CMLG

2010 ACCW Legislative Day, Thursday, Feb. 25th am – 2pm at the Best Western Kelly Inn, St. Paul 194 & Marion St. 651-227-8711. Cost is \$10, lunch included, Registrations forms are in the back of church.

A Spiritual Day for all Women, Sat. March 13 at Church of St. Wenceslaus in New Prague, 8am – 1pm. To attend please call Denise Anderson at 461-5019. Meet in the church parking lot at 7:45AM if you would like to carpool

CHOIR

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

Choir Mass: 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)

KNIGHTS CORNER

On Sunday, March 14th, the New Prague Knights of Columbus will be holding their 1st, 2nd and 3rd degree initiation for all men interested in becoming a Knight. If you are a Catholic male in good standing with the church, we urge you to attend this beautiful ceremony. Starts at 9 am for registration and finishes at 3 pm for all 3 degrees and makes you a full member of our merry band of brothers. If you think you can donate 1 hour a month for a meeting and may have some time and talent to help with our many fun events, we would love to talk to you and help guide you through this great day. See Pat Theisen, Mike Moeller, or Mike Kaderlik and lets get you signed up."

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.

PRO-LIFE

Those who are sworn to serve their country in the armed forces are servants of the security and freedom of nations. If they carry out their duty honorably, they truly contribute to the common good of the nation and the maintenance of peace.

RELIGIOUS ED.

No Religious Ed. Class this week

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.

Mass Intentions			
Sat	13	5:00 pm	Mary Li & Cheryl Skluzacek+
Sun	14	8:00 am	For the Parish
Sun	14	10:00 am	Cecelia Nicklaus
Tues	16	8:00 am	Christine & Richard Pierson
Wed	17	8:00 am	Tom Boyle
Wed	17	7:00 pm	
Thurs	18	8:00 am	Bernadine Popp+
Fri	19	8:00 am	Special Intention
Sat	20	8:30 am	Joan Britten+
Sat	20	5:00 pm	Bob Devine+
Sun	21	8:00 am	Jack & Don Schilz+
Sun	21	10:00 am	For the Parish

Daily Scriptures		
Mon	James 1:1-11	Mark 8:11-13
Tue	James 1:12-18	Mark 8:14-21
Wed	Joel 2:12-18/2	Corinthians 5:20-6:2/Matthew 6:1-6,16-18
Thu	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Luke 9:22-25
Fri	Isaiah 58:1-9a	Matthew 9:14-15
Sat	Isaiah 58:9b-14	Luke 5:27-32
Sun	Deuteronomy 26:4-10/Romans 10:8-13/Luke 4:1-13	

Liturgical Stewardship		Feb. 20 & 21
2-17 @ 7pm	Lector:	Justine Panka-
	Minister:	Kathy Chlan-H
	Servers:	Joseph Panka & Matthew Alacheff
5pm	Lectors:	Jan Freeman-H
	Ministers:	Bill Vogel-Ch-H
	Servers:	Ray & Andrew Petroski
	Ushers:	
8am	Lectors:	Margo Theisen-H
	Ministers:	Mike Moeller-Ch-H
	Servers:	Nik & Jakob Freidges
	Ushers:	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
10am	Lectors:	Doug Nelson
	Ministers:	Anne Conway-Ch-H
	Servers:	Sam & Max Kjos
	Ushers:	Tony Nelson, Jim Filipiak

Sacrificial Support Week 32/ February 7, 2010			
Budget	\$4900	Budget-to-date	\$156800
Received	\$3616	Received-to-date	\$146695
Capital Improvement	\$50		

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TONY'S APPLIANCE

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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

"When, in adoration, we contemplate the consecrated Host...we discover the greatness of this gift, but we also discover the Passion, the Cross of Jesus and His resurrection" (Pope Benedict XVI).

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:

Sunday: 1 pm (once a month on the 2nd Sunday of the month), **Monday:** 1 am, **Tuesday:** noon (during the winter months), 4 pm, **Wednesday:** 9 am, 4 pm, **Thursday:** 2 pm, 3 pm, **Friday:** 3 am, **Saturday:** 1 pm.

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

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



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 have heard God calling us through his voice and presence of the Holy Father. This is a wonderful time to grow in your faith and your role in the church. -Fr. Adams

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH FRY – Friday, Feb. 19th serving 4-8pm at the American Legion in Lonsdale. Takeouts available. Advanced Tickets: Adults: \$10 – at the door \$11, Child (ages 5-10): \$4, Under 5: Free.

Advance tickets can be purchased at St. Nicholas Church Office & Holy Cross School.

Holy Cross Crusader Dinner – This annual event will again be held at Champions at Elko Speedway on Saturday, March 13. To purchase a ticket, please see a school family, or contact the school office at 952-652-6100.

Holy Cross Catholic School K-8 registration for the 2010-2011 school year has begun! Registration packets can be found at the back of church, on the school website (www.holycrossschool.net) or by calling the school office at 952-652-6100. If you would like to schedule a tour of our school, please contact the school office.

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.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

The Church of The Most Holy Trinity in Veseli will have Bingo on Sunday, February 14th at 1pm. Admission is \$4 which includes 1 card and lunch.

The St. Wenceslaus Soup Kitchen Committee is again sponsoring a Soup Supper on Monday, February 15th, 2010 from 4:30-7pm in the church basement. We will be serving Chili, Vegetable Beef and Chicken Noodle Soup, along with homemade breads and desserts. Cost is \$7 for a single ticket or \$24 per family. Kindergarten and younger children – no charge. Take-outs will be available. Tickets are available at the door. All proceeds go to fund the Soup Kitchen project at the Dorothy Day Center in St. Paul.

SUPPORT CZECH HERITAGE – Ham & Egg Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 21st, 8am – 12:30pm at the KC Hall in New Prague. Menu includes: Ham & Eggs, Czech Pastries, coffee, juice and milk. Adults: \$7, Age 5-12: \$4, Under 5: Free

Reclaiming the Culture of Marriage & Life, Thursday, Feb. 18; 7- 9:00 PM, All Saints Catholic Church, Lakeville or Saturday, March 20 9-11am @ St. John the Baptist in Jordan

How many times have you heard the criticism, "The Church should stay out of the bedroom," and not known how to respond? Why does the Church care so deeply about marriage and relationships? Does the Church really need to get involved in these issues? Isn't it enough to focus on helping the poor and vulnerable? Many current issues, such as contraception, abortion, cohabitation, divorce, and same-sex unions, challenge Catholics to think deeply about the meaning of marriage, its purposes, its connectedness to life issues and its values to individuals, families and society. Because reflection based on reason and faith provides an appropriate framework for current debates, we invite you to join us for an evening of discussion about what the Church teaches regarding these issues—and WHY. **Father Andrew Cozzens**, theology professor at St. Paul Seminary, will explain the Biblical, philosophical and spiritual foundation of Christian marriage. **Attorney William LeMire** will help us understand the legal battle. Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office for Marriage, Family and Life. Call 651.291.4488 or visit www.archspm.org for additional information.

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Please join us for the Annual Single Parent Morning Retreat

A time to Reflect, Recharge and Connect with other parents ~ All are welcome! The Archdiocesan Office for Marriage, Family and Life is hosting its annual Single Parent Morning Retreat: Saturday, February 20th from 9:00 am ~ 12 noon, *Nativity of Our Lord, St. Paul*, Free Childcare Provided!

Morning reflections include:

"Just One of Me—Successfully Surviving the Stress of Single Parenting"— Psychologist Catherine Mollner **"No Time Today!—Finding ways to Thrive Spiritually"**—Father Jeff Huard, *The Testimony of a Single Mom: "The Joys and Sorrows of Doing it Alone"*—Nancy Miller, single mom of 6.

Single parents of every age and stage in life are welcome. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 8:15 am. Registration begins at 8:45 am. The cost is \$10/family—scholarships are available. Free childcare will be provided. For more information or a registration form, call 651.291.4489. On-line forms also available at: www.archspm.org

The Galtier Society is hosting its annual "Lenten Morning of Reflection" on Saturday, February 20th from 9:00am to noon at St. Olaf Catholic Church in Minneapolis.

Rev. Father John Paul Erickson, Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Worship, will lead the morning of reflection themed "Sursum Corda - Praying the Mass with the Heart of Jesus Christ

[Pregnancy Choices LifeCare in Apple Valley has an immediate opening for a licensed ultrasound tech. One day a week guaranteed salary with possible growth. Great work environment. Call Jeri 952-997-2229](#)

Natural Family Planning Classes

The Couple to Couple League will be offering a series of classes, for engaged and married couples, on the Sympto-Thermal Method of natural Family Planning at St. John Neumann Church, 4030 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan. This series uses CCL's new streamlined methodology and new materials incorporating Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Classes begin on Sunday, Feb. 21 at 2pm. For registration / information, please call 612-721-3791, or visit our web site at : <http://twincites.ccli.org>

How Catholics Read the Bible

A Saint John's School of Theology-Seminary Theology Day

Join Charles Bobertz, Ph.D., for a brief history of biblical interpretation in the Catholic Church and a look at the current growth in biblical literalism in both the Catholic Church and evangelical Protestant communities. Bobertz teaches at Saint John's School of Theology-Seminary and the undergraduate Department of Theology of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University and serves as a deacon for St. Hubert's Catholic Community in Chanhassen, MN. Feb. 25, 6-9 p.m., Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis. Free event. Meal provided. **Registration is required:** www.csbsju.edu/sot or 320-363-3570.