

ADVENIAT REGNUM TUUM; FIAT VOLUNTAS TUA, SICUT IN CAELO, ET IN TERRA

My family used to joke me about my phrase at home: "I need food and I need drink." The Lord blessed me with a decent appetite and love of a good meal. This can get out of hand quite quickly in our house and the "need" to eat starts to be the main goal when one has not eaten...and may be tired and a litany of other things. I feel I can relate with "the enemies of the cross of Christ" that St. Paul talks about in today's second reading. Their "god is the belly." (Phil. 3:19)

Our line of the Our Father we focus on today is "adveniat regnum tuum; fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo, et in terra." Literally, this means: "May your reign/kingdom come, may your will be done, as it is in heaven, so may it be on earth." In this whole first part of the Lord's prayer, as we focus on God...he is drawing us up and out of this world's grip on us. He wants to give us that beautiful freedom of the sons and daughters of God. When we are totally focused on the here and now of this material world, we do not have perspective on what life is really about. So, in Lent, after prayer our Lord's instructs us to fast. We say no to our passions so that we can with God's grace gain self-mastery and be able to freely do his will.

I don't know about you, but hunger is hard. Our Lord however has grace for us when we are fasting. Whether it is chocolate, meat on Fridays, bad language, complaining, time on the internet/computer games, ipods/facebook/twitter, or whatever you spend your time on that you may consider fasting from, you are invited to take that to prayer (especially before our Lord in the eucharist) and say "here it is Lord, for this 10 minutes or day long time period, I will not _____ so that I can spend more time with you, take in more of your word and give myself more to others in loving service." When we fast reasonably, for the right reasons and with joy the Lord gives us this self-mastery to be able to be in possession of our self *so that* we can give ourselves away in love to another. But we cannot give what we do not have. I would suggest starting very simply if you feel you do not dominate in this area. If you love salt on your food, try just one or two shakes instead of 20. You can do the same with sugar in your coffee. If you love being first in line, in traffic, in conversation...maybe you can seek second or further back to let others in before you. God will inspire your self-denial as you ask him in prayer. And if/when you do, his regnum/kingdom will be real in your life because you will be seeking his will, which is nothing less than to love you and involve you in his glory and salvation of the whole world.

Fr. Adams

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.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday..... Sunday School
Tuesday..... Fatima Rosary Group, Choir Practice 7pm
Wednesday... Morning Mass @ Holy Cross 8:15am, Religious Ed.
Thursday..... Adult Faith Formation 9am & 7pm, RCIA @ Holy Cross
7pm, Mom's Group 9:30
Friday..... Soup Supper 6pm, Stations of the Cross 7pm
Saturday.... First Saturday Prayers
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.

The Christian faithful are to do penance through prayer, fasting, abstinence and by exercising works of piety and charity. All Fridays through the year and especially during Lent are penitential days.

Abstinence: All who have reached the age of 14 are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent.

Fasting: All those who are 18 and older until their 59th birthday are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Only one full meal is allowed on days of fast. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to one's needs; but together they should not equal one full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted but liquids are allowed.

The above does not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be affected seriously. People in doubt about fasting or abstinence should consult a parish priest or confessor.

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

This Weeks Soup Supper is Hosted by.....

Youth Group – Thirteen of St. Nicholas youth along with youth from a few north metro youth groups are with Father Adams this weekend enjoying Lutsen skiing, snowboarding, and hiking. They will have Mass, and opportunities for adoration and reconciliation. Many youth are looking forward to World Youth Day in 2011. Please watch for ways you can support these youth through your prayers and fundraising events. We look forward to seeing you at this Friday's soup supper!

Stations of the Cross / Soup Supper will be offered during the Lenten Season. The first Soup Supper is Fri day, 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.

Morning Moms' Group/Book Club will meet on Thursday, March 4 & 18, April 15 & 29 & May 13 @ 9:30am At Deb Streefland's home. Childcare provided! The current book is "Raise Happy Children: Teach Them JOY!" By Marianne Budnik. Please contact Sarah Kuehl @ 952.461.4631 or Katherine

THE APPEAL IS NOT OVER!

We need your help to reach our parish goal. Prayerfully consider making a gift in support of the Catholic Services Appeal. A gift is greatly received and sincerely appreciated. For your convenience, pledge envelopes are available in the pews and many of you have received these at home. Thank you for generosity and support.

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

CMLG is hosting a Marriage Enrichment Dinner on April 24th. We will be meeting on Feb 22nd at 7:00PM in the church basement for a planning session. All are welcome to attend the session and help plan the event.

Looking for a short spiritual getaway? A wonderful retreat is planned for all women on Saturday morning, March 13th; at St. Wenceslaus Church in New Prague from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.) We will pray the Stations of the Cross and the sacrament of reconciliation will be available. There will be an inspirational speaker and Holy Mass will be offered at 11 a.m. followed by a light Lenten lunch. Cost is \$5. If you would like to bring a baked goodie or other item for the silent auction — all proceeds go for pro-life. This spiritual event is sponsored by Southwest Deanery Council of Catholic Women. Bring a friend for a morning of prayer and reflection. Please Sign up by March 1st. We will gladly carpool or pick up anyone unable to make the drive to New Prague. Call Denise Anderson at 952-461-5019 or sign up on the form at the back of the church.

CHOIR

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

Choir Mass: 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

Eucharistic Adoration is visiting and spending time with Jesus in the Sacred Host. It is an expression of our love for Jesus, who loves us so much that He never wants to leave us and stays with us day and night in the Blessed Sacrament. He says: **"Behold I am with you always."** --- Pope John Paul II

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),
Wednesday: 9 am, 4 pm, **Thursday:** 2 pm, 3 pm, **Friday:** midnight, 3 am, **Saturday:** 3 am, 1 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

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.

RELIGIOUS ED.

March Calendar

All grades will be prayer tested on **Wed. March 10th**. If you miss class this evening, you will be tested the following week. All students will be prayer tested.

10th Gr. Reconciliation is scheduled for **Wed., March 17th** (more information will following in a couple weeks)

10th Gr. Confirmation Interviews are scheduled for **Wed., March 24th**

No Class Wed., March 31st.

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	27	5:00 pm	Stuart & Joyce Rusell+
Sun	28	8:00 am	Melvin Shea+
Sun	28	10:00 am	For the Parish
Tues	2	8:00 am	Bishop Paul Sirba
Wed	3	8:00 am	Special Intention
Thurs	4	8:00 am	Bridget Wagner+
Fri	5	8:00 am	Poor Souls
Sat	6	8:30 am	
Sat	6	5:00 pm	Marlene Hanson+
Sun	7	8:00 am	Shirley Hafermann+
Sun	7	10:00 am	For the Parish

Daily Scriptures		
Mon	Daniel 9:4b-10	Luke 6:36-38
Tue	Isaiah 1:10,16-20	Matthew 23:1-12
Wed	Jeremiah 18:18-20	Matthew 20:17-28
Thu	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Luke 16:19-31
Fri	Genesis 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a	Matthew 21:33-43,45-46
Sat.	Micah 7:14-15,18-20	Luke 15:1-3,11-32
Sun	Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15/ 1	Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12/Luke 13:1-9

Liturgical Stewardship			March 6 & 7
5pm	Lectors:	Chuck Mathews-H	
	Ministers:	Gail Mathews-Ch-H	
	Servers:	Steven Conway & Curtis Kiewiet	
	Ushers:		
8am	Lectors:	Leander Wagner-H	
	Ministers:	Ralph Wagner-Ch-H	
	Servers:	Sam Zweber, Peter Hilpisch	
	Ushers:	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	
10am	Lectors:	Paul Panka-H	
	Ministers:	Larry Caduff-Ch-H	
	Servers:	Matthew Alacheff, Joseph Panka	
	Ushers:	Tom Wagner, Pat Theisen	

Sacrificial Support Week 34 / February 21, 2010			
Budget	\$4900	Budget-to-date	\$166600
Received	\$5445	Received-to-date	\$156747
Capital Improvement	\$140 / School \$40		

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

C.H. Carpenter Lumber
Lumber-Millwork-Windows-Shingles
Scott Rhein 952-469-3320

2nd Sunday of Lent,

February 28, 2010

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.

PRO-LIFE

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

YOUTH GROUP



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

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

Reclaiming the Culture of Marriage & Life, 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 know 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.

Veseli Holy Trinity Men's Club Annual "made from scratch" Pancake and Sausage Breakfast, Sunday, March 7, serving 8:30am – 12. Veseli Church Basement. Adult: \$6, Children 3-12: \$3, Under 3: Free

Southern Valley Alliance For Battered Women is in need of additional volunteers to answer its 24-hour crisis line, facilitate its women's support group and provide childcare for those groups. Free training for crisis line and group facilitation volunteers will begin March 27th. No training is required for childcare volunteers. For more information, please call Martha or Lori at 952-873-4214.

St. Elizabeth Unit of St. Anne's CCW Proudly Presents All you can eat Spaghetti Buffet, on Saturday, March 13th 4-7pm. Adults: \$8, Children 5-12: \$4, Under 5: \$1. St. Anne's School – 511 North 4th Street, LeSueur, MN

"Loving Myself...Nurturing the Treasures Within." Please join us for a spring salad luncheon at St. Catherine's of Spring Lake on Saturday, March 20th at 11:30am. We're delighted to have Sisters Lay O'Neil and Michelle Meyers, Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, as our keynote speakers. Tickets are \$10 for the lunch and program. Contact Irene Buresh at 952-461-2400, if you would like to purchase tickets.

Women's Retreat Bulletin Announcement:

Join Bishop Lee Piché for a LENTEN WOMEN'S RETREAT "Blessed Mary and the Ministry of Compassion: Our Lady at the Foot of the Cross"

Bishop Lee Piche cordially invites all women of the Archdiocese to enter into the season of Lent through a morning retreat of prayer, sacrament and reflection. The morning will include a continental breakfast, reflections from Bishop Piché, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a walk with Mary through the stations of the cross, and Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Piche. Confessions will be heard throughout the retreat.

Retreat Details: Saturday, March 13 from 9:00 am ~ 12:00 noon, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, St. Paul Cost is \$10, which includes light refreshments

Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office for Marriage, Family, and Life. For more information or a registration form, call 651.291.4489. On-line registration forms also available at: www.archspm.org

NEW & USED BOOK SALE – The St. Nicholas Golden Hearts are sponsoring a new & used book sale on Friday, March 19th 6-8, Saturday March 20th following 5pm mass, Sunday March 21st, following morning masses. If you would like to make a donation to the book sale, please bring your items in the church basement by Friday March 19th.

Mark your calendars! Several excellent speakers are lined-up throughout the coming year--you won't want to miss them! The Respect Life Groups of South Central Minnesota are sponsoring the following presentations:

Fr. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, director of education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center (April 22, 2010, Church of St. Dominic, Northfield)

Archbishop Raymond Burke, Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura at the Vatican (Aug. 8, 2010, Divine Mercy, Faribault)

Kalley Yanta, former KSTP TV news anchor and pro-life activist (Oct. 21, 2010, Divine Mercy, Faribault)

With questions, call Dr. Richard Weiland, 507-645-2633, or Anne Fredrickson, 507-645-2348

Vacation Bible School - 2010

PARENTS – ARE YOUR KIDS READY TO SINK THEIR TEETH INTO BIG FUN?

That's just what they will do at Crocodile Dock, where fearless kids shine God's light! Crocodile Dock Totally Catholic Summer Program is filled with incredible activities that allow kids to see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible, crafts, team-building games, cool songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the Crocodile Dock activities that help kids connect faith to real life. We will help kids discover how to see God in everyday life – something we call God sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!

Mark these dates on your calendar Monday, June 14th – Friday June 18th.

Time: 8:45 – 11:30am.

Ages 4 (must be 4 by June 1st) – Gr. 5th (fall of 2010)

Location: St. Nicholas Church Campus

Cost: \$15 per child with a family cap of \$45

Registration: Sunday, March 28th in the church basement, or by calling the parish office at 952-461-2403. Registration will open to outside the parish if not full by May 1st.

We rely on many volunteers to help with this week-long fun program. We are looking for ADULT and Student volunteers. We have been very blessed in years past to have such fantastic help. If you are interested in helping please sign up on Sunday March 28th or by calling the parish office at 461-2403. Parents if you sign up to help and have children in the program, your fee will be waived. Any questions please call the parish office 461-2403.