

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Jan. 2		NO MASS
Tuesday	Jan. 3	8:30 AM (SP)	Ron McBroom
Wednesday	Jan. 4	8:30 AM (SP)	Will Kreuser
Thursday	Jan. 5	8:30 AM (SC)	Ruth Jorgenson
Friday	Jan. 6	8:30 AM (SP)	+Braden Flicek
Saturday	Jan. 7	5:00 PM (SP)	+RoseAnn & Randy Sticha
Sunday	Jan. 8	8:30 AM (SC) 10:30 AM (SP)	For Our People Jeff Moulton

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JANUARY 7 & 8, 2017

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	1/7	Ron & Rosie Ryan, Megan Green
	1/8	Amy Holden, Kristi Schulte, Agnes DeGross, Dan Cross
Lectors	1/7	Lynne Hoffman
	1/8	John Cassady
Acolytes	1/7	Hayden & Mason DeGross, Joe Weiers
	1/8	Lily & Bella Schulte, Bryce Deutsch
Ushers	1/7	Roman Stepka, Matt Sirek
	1/8	Leo Jacques, Norm Sticha
Greeters	1/8	Leo Jacques, Norm Sticha

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	1/8	Kevin Mahowald, Barbara Lerschen, Deloris Friske, Rachel Friske
Lector	1/8	Laura Saarela
Acolytes	1/8	Abbie Kavouras, Jenna Kavouras, Laura Saarela (CB)
Ushers	1/8	Bryce Horejsi, Greg Horejsi
Greeters	1/8	Bonnie Theis, Ann Timmerman

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday at noon. (notices can be mailed, faxed to 952-492-6290, or put in the black box on the side of the rectory) Save the counting people time: write your name & amount of donation on your Sunday envelope. Thank you! Going out of town? Won't be at mass next weekend? Call the parish office in advance and ask for a parish bulletin to be mailed to you. Keep up on parish events!

WILL YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

Dec. 26: Fr. Richard Banker, Dec. 27: Fr. Patrick Barnes, Dec. 28: Fr. James Barnett, Dec. 29: Fr. David Barrett, Dec. 30: Fr. James Barry, Dec. 31: Abp. Bernard Hebda, Jan. 1: Fr. Pope Francis.



Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The Best New Year's Resolution

At the beginning of each new year many people make resolutions to improve some part of their lives. They are usually things that we know we really should do, but because of the discipline required we often put it off until the new year, or Lent, or sometime in the future. Many people are this way about the practice of their faith, which is really more dangerous than anything else we may be trying to change. One of these practices is going to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. Everyone knows they should do this, but for some reason or another many Catholics find themselves missing Mass occasionally or habitually. Of course, if one is sick, homebound, or has some other legitimate reason we are excused from that obligation. But for most it is simply a matter of laziness, low priority, or a lack of understanding. All of these can be overcome. Growing up I saw, and later helped, my father milk 40 cows, do the associated work, and drive 7 miles to get to Mass every Sunday, without exception. My family did this because my parents knew it was important to obey the 3rd Commandment and worship God in the way the Church has given us. That instilled in me a sense of the importance of the Mass that has never gone away. Parents have a great responsibility to insure that their children get to Mass, and to help them to grow in their understanding of it. It is surely as important as making sure they get to school, or other activities in which they have agreed to participate. It is very sad to have children confess that they have missed Mass when it is their parents' fault for not taking them. We all have a serious obligation as God's children to worship Him as He has commanded us, unless we are prevented from doing so by a legitimate reason. Therefore, the best New Year's resolution that every Catholic can make is to attend Mass every time that we are obliged to (Sundays and Holy Days), and to participate in each one with all of the reverence, attention, and devotion that we can. For those who already do so, continue. For those who do not, start. For what we have before us in the Mass is the absolutely greatest thing this side of heaven. In fact, it is the closest we can get to heaven this side of



death. If one does not understand why this is so, or what goes on at the Mass, or why it is so important, find out. The Church has written abundantly about all of these things. As Jesus approached Jerusalem before His death He wept and said, "If this day you only knew what makes for peace – but now it is hidden from your eyes" (Luke 19:41-42). The same could be said for many Catholics and the Mass. Perhaps its beauty, power, and the peace it brings has been hidden from their eyes because they were so nonchalant about missing it, or while they had closed their minds and hearts to its grace through inattention or unrepented sin. But if like the three Kings we search diligently for its meaning, we will find in the Mass the same Jesus that they traveled so far to find. And Isaiah's prophecy will be fulfilled in our midst: "Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow" (Is. 60:5). What New Year's resolution could be better?

Fr. Michael J. Miller

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

*Michael Dudley, Elltra Dureza, Duane & Kelli Dworshak, Anthony Efta, David & Ag-Rita Efta, Craig & Kristin Fliccek, Jim & Annette Frawley, Tom & Jessica Gallagher, Melvin & Kathy Gregory, Michael & Betty Hahn. Altar Linens: Rosie Ryan.

PRAY THE ROSARY: Join us to pray the Rosary every Saturday evening at 4:40 PM before the 5:00 PM Mass or Sunday morning at 10:10 AM before the 10:30 AM Mass.

POP CAN TABS: All three New Prague Elementary Schools are collecting pop can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Please collect your tabs and bring them to St. Patrick Church. Lisa Luskey will get them to the schools. Thank you.

ST. PATRICK MEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Friday, January 6th at 7:00 PM in the social hall. Please bring a dish to share for the potluck meal.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection December 18, 2016

Received this week.....\$ 2,554.00
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,925.00
Fund for the Needy Collection.....\$ 345.62



Steeple Repair Project budget.....\$38,000.00
Steeple Repair amt. remaining.....\$10,950.25

ST. CATHERINE

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

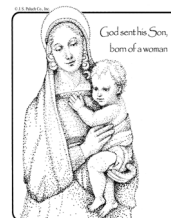
Tom & Mary Kay Fredrickson, Joseph & Erica Kroiss.

ST. CATHERINE C.C.W. MEMBERS: C.C.W. members who were not able to attend the Christmas party, please pick up your Christmas Angel wreath with you name on it located in the wicker basket on the entryway table.

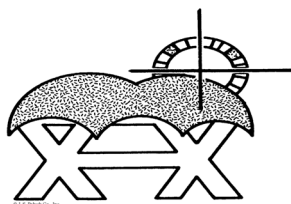
Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection December 18, 2016

Received this week.....\$ 738.00
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,001.00
Fund for the Needy Collection.....\$ 133.00



PARISHIONERS CORNER



PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISHES:

Danny Theis, Anne Kelnhofer, Albert Braith, Dale Nesbitt, Patty Whalen, Sandi Suilmann, Douglas Van Moorlehem (brother of Jan St. Aubin), Carol Prochaska, Sharon Mastain (Carol

Timmons' sister) Rosie Pexa, Ann Pint, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Dave Hover, Diane Hentges (Cathy Theis' sister), Alex Schlink, Ev Nelson, Mary Jane Keep, Paul Lambrecht, Cynthia Troendle, Pat Scharf, Jack & Jane Eiseman (parents of Jacque Bittner), Gerry Jensen (Jan St. Aubin's cousin), Therese Ryan, Florian Bauman (Bryan Bittner's uncle), Anikah Schmidt (great granddaughter of Bonnie Theis), Grace Bittner, Laura Stepka, Joe & Evelyn Scheffler, Jennifer Lonergan, John Thomas Byer.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Jan. 4	6:45-8:00 PM	Classes, grades 1-9. Confirmation at St. Michael's.
Sun. Jan. 8	10:30 AM	Sunday School.
Wed. Jan. 11	6:45-8:00 PM	Classes, grades 1-9.
Sat. Jan. 14	10:30 AM	Reconciliation-2nd grade.
Sun. Jan. 15	10:30 AM	Sunday School.
Sun. Jan. 15		Confirmation Retreat-St. Wenc.
Wed. Jan. 18	6:45-8:00 PM	Classes, grades 1-9.
Sun. Jan. 22	10:30 AM	Sunday School.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Fri. Feb. 24	S.P.	Group I Fish Fry
Fri. Mar. 31	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes with Fr. Dave Barrett. 11 days: Sept. 26—Oct. 6. \$3,299/person from Minneapolis. For more information, contact Fr. Barrett @ 952-758-0469 or e-mail dave.barrett@npcatholic.org

Women's Retreat, Jan. 13-15, & Jan. 17-19 at Franciscan Retreats in Prior Lake. For more information, call 952-447-2182.



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