

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Jan. 22	6:30 PM (SC)	Jed Kreuser
Tuesday	Jan. 23	6:00 PM (SP)	+Leo Maciej
Wednesday	Jan. 24	6:00 PM (SP)	+Shirley Cassidy
Thursday	Jan. 25		NO MASS
Friday	Jan. 26		NO MASS
Saturday	Jan. 27	5:00 PM (SP)	Sam Stehlik
Sunday	Jan. 28	8:30 AM (SC)	St. Catherine C.C.W.
		10:30 AM (SP)	For Our People

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JANUARY 27 & 28, 2018

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	1/27	Bill Weiers, Tony Jirik, Rita Ryan
	1/28	Jan St. Aubin, Dan Cervenka, Dan Cross, Agnes DeGross
Lectors	1/27	Mike Puncochar
	1/28	Juli Volk
Acolytes	1/27	Ben Simon, Blake Simon, Joe Weiers
	1/28	Rachel Theis, Alyssa Volk, Elias DeGeest
Ushers	1/27	Dave Roach, Matt Sirek
	1/28	Rob Sticha, Darryl Volk

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	1/28	Joel & Deanna Vochoska, Bonnie Theis, Kathy Prochaska
Lector	1/28	Pat Schroeder
Acolytes	1/28	Addey Vochoska, Karley Vochoska
Ushers	1/28	Lloyd Friske, Dennis Maciej
Greeters	1/28	Frank & Cathy Simons

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?

Jan. 22: Fr. Eugene Tiffany, Jan. 23: Fr. Michael Tix,
 Jan. 24: Fr. Patrick Tobin, Jan. 25: Fr. Adam Tokashiki,
 Jan. 26: Fr. Rolf Tollefson, Jan. 27: Fr. Jon Tran,
 Jan. 28: Fr. Paul Treacy.



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

January 22 marks the 45th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision that has stained the conscience of our nation with innocent blood shed because of legalized abortion. The total of over 60,000,000 human beings that never had the chance to see the light of day is almost impossible to fathom.



There are many reasons this has continued for so long. That fact that it is hidden proves the dictum "out of sight, out of mind". If we saw the remains of aborted babies on the news this would have ended long ago. There is of course the mistaken basis of the law that the Constitution of the United States protects this "freedom of choice." Yet how could the Constitution explicitly or implicitly address an issue that was not an issue at that time? Especially given the fact that it is rooted in the ideas of the Declaration of Independence which stated 11 years earlier, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Abortion denies all three of these to the person who is aborted.

The Declaration points out another reason legal abortion continues to exist. There are those, including those running for political office, who consider abortion to be a matter of faith. They will even say that they are personally opposed to abortion but that they have no right to impose this religious belief on other people. But this is clearly wrong. That abortion is wrong is not a matter of faith, it is a matter of reason: "these truths are self-evident." A matter of faith would be something such as God is a Trinity of Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; or that Jesus is God and Man united in one Person; or that He is present Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Most Holy Eucharist, etc. That life in the womb is naturally destined to become life in the world is not a matter of faith, it is a matter of reason: it is self-evident. No expectant mother gives birth to anything other than a boy or a girl: a human baby. It is naturally destined to be so from the moment of conception, every bit as much as an acorn is naturally destined to become an oak tree. Like every living thing there is a natural progression of development that if left uninterrupted will continue until natural death. In fact the science now is so precise that it is completely unreasonable to deny it.

This is why St. John Paul II, following the constant tradition of the Church, so clearly taught, "No circumstance, no purpose, no law whatsoever can ever make licit (lawful) an act which is intrinsically (in itself) illicit, since it is contrary to the Law of God which is written in every human heart, knowable by reason itself, and proclaimed by the Church" (The Gospel of

Life, *Evangelium Vitae*, 62).

Those who support legal abortion defend it so vigorously because they believe it is a "right". But it is not a right. It never was, it never will be; it cannot be. Even if the Constitution did explicitly guarantee the "right" to abortion, it would have been wrong to do so and would have to be changed because no government has the power to change the law of nature, the author of which is God, our Creator who has endowed each person with the unalienable right to life. It is a truth so clear that it can be rightly called self-evident.

After such a long time we may be tempted to despair that this situation will never change, or we may be tempted simply to tolerate it. But we must not give in to such temptations. We must continue our prayers and political action - never voting for a candidate that supports legalized abortion, or doubting the power of God's grace to change minds and hearts to see the beauty and goodness of life.

Fr. Michael J. Miller

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

*Craig & Aubre Barnd, Curt & Tracy Anderson, Mary Jo Andreason, Ronald Bastyr, Joel & Andrea Beno, Francis & Colleen Beuch, Jim & Cathy Beuch, Jo Ann Beuch, Bryan & Jacque Bittner, Jeff & Rena Bjerke. Altar Linens: Rosie Ryan.

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.

BOXTOPS: Please save boxtops for Catholic Education. Each one you clip is worth money that goes back to education. There is a box in the back of church for you to place them in.

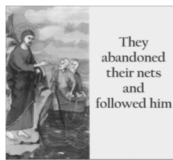
CONGRATULATIONS! Cody Schaefer & Molly Faber who were married at St. Patrick on Saturday, January 20, 2018.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection January 14, 2018

Received this week.....\$ 1,996.00
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 2,006.00



ST. CATHERINE

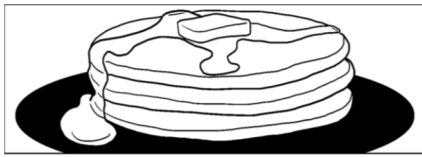
CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

Tom & Mary Kay Fredrickson, Joseph & Erica Kroiss.

ST. CATHERINE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MEETING: Monday, January 22nd at 7:00 PM.

ST. CATHERINE PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Sunday, February 11 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Ticket prices are \$8.00/adult, \$4.00/child, ages 5-12, 4 & under/free. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church, if you wish to help out.



SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL SUPPLY PROGRAM: The St. Catherine C.C.W. will begin collecting school supplies for the Scott County's School Supply Program request usually seen in September. Check the bulletin board under C.C.W. for requested items. A box will be placed in the entryway for supply donations. Questions can be directed to Barb Perry or the C.C.W. officers.

ST. CATHERINE C.C.W.: We would like to recognize the members of the St. Catherine's C.C.W. today with a Mass offered for their intentions. Thank you for supporting our little white church on the hill with your work and financial support.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection January 14, 2018

Received this week.....\$ 798.00
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 944.00



PARISHIONERS CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

PARISHES: Karen Zweber, Richard Arens, Amelia Cross, Andrew Buckman, Fred Winker, Marsha Simon, Mary Lee Androli, Michael Zender, Daryl Sternitzke, Fr. Francis Roach, Gerry Sandey, Amanda (Polson) Tinebra, Margo Mauser (sister of Kathy Prochaska) Danny Theis, Anne Kelnhofer, Albert Braith, Patty Whalen, Sandi Suilmann, Douglas Van Moorlehem (brother of Jan St. Aubin), Carol Prochaska, Sharon Mastain (Carol Timmon's sister) Rosie Pexa, Ann Pint, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Dave Hover, Alex Schlink, Ev Nelson, Paul Lambrecht, Cynthia Troendle, Pat Scharf, Jack Eiseman (father of Jacque Bittner), Gerry Jensen (Jan St. Aubin's cousin), 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.

R.C.I.A. PROGRAM: The next session will be Tuesday, Jan. 23 Eucharist, Walk through the Mass. Sessions will be held at 6:30 PM at the St. Patrick Social Hall. All are welcome.

M.C.C.L. WALK FOR LIFE: Please join us at the Cathedral on Monday, January 22nd. January 22, 2018 marks the 45th year since the landmark decision of Roe v. Wade making abortion legal in the United States. Since 1973 it is estimated that nearly 61 million babies have been aborted in the United States. Parishioners from local parishes will be taking a bus from the St. Michael parking lot to the Cathedral and State Capitol for a prayer vigil and rally to show our support to end abortion. The bus will leave St. Michael's at 9:30 AM and return at 2:30 PM. The Prior Lake/Savage Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the bus, so there will be no charge for the ride. For additional information, or to sign-up to take the bus, contact Joe Meurer @ 952-402-0689 or meurer55378@msn.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Jan. 24	6:45-8:00 PM	Class, grades 1-9.
Sun. Jan. 28	10:30 AM	Sunday School.
Wed. Jan. 31	6:45-8:00 PM	Class, grades 1-9.
	Confirm. Class	At St. Michael's in Prior Lake
Sun. Feb. 4		NO CLASS

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Fri. Feb. 9	S.P.	Group I Fish Fry
Sun. Feb. 11	S.C.	Pancake Breakfast
Fri. Mar. 16	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry
Sun. July 22	S.P.	Parish Festival