

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Jan. 27	6:30 PM (SC)	+Joseph Bendzick
Tuesday	Jan. 28	8:30 AM (SP)	Deceased members of the Feldmeier Family
Wednesday	Jan. 29	6:00 PM (SP)	Todd Tobin
Thursday	Jan. 30		NO MASS
Friday	Jan. 31		NO MASS
Saturday	Feb. 1	5:00 PM (SP)	+RoseAnn & Randy Sticha
Sunday	Feb. 2	8:30 AM (SC)	+Brandon Bruzek
		10:30 AM (SP)	For our People

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR FEBRUARY 1 & 2, 2020

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	2/1	Ron & Rosie Ryan, Bill Weiers
	2/2	Ron & Kathy McBroom, Rob Puncocar
Lector	2/1	Shelley Shepherd
	2/2	Tim Sonnek
Altar Servers	2/1	Bryce, Mason, & Megan Deutsch
	2/2	Annie & Norah Blaschko, Alycia Klegstad
Ushers	2/1	Mel Gregory, Matt Sirek
	2/2	Don Pesta, Pat Puncocar

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	2/2	Lloyd & Deloris Friske, Joan Bruzek, Rachel Eicher
Lector	2/2	Laura Saarela
Altar Servers	2/2	Karley Vochoska
Ushers	2/2	Dennis Maciej, Rick Sirek
Greeters	2/2	Kevin & Mary Kay Mahowald

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. 27: Fr. Stephen LaCanne, Jan. 28: Fr. Charles Lachowitz, Jan. 29: Fr. Roland Lajoie, Jan. 30: Fr. Nathan LaLiberte, Jan. 31: Abp. Bernard Hebda, Feb. 1: Bp. Andrew Cozzens, Feb. 2: 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

The Self-evident Truth

For 47 years our nation has had the stain of legal abortion on its conscience. The total of approximately 62,000,000 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 the 4000 daily abortions on the news this would have ended immediately. 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 who hold 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 unexpectedly gives birth to a rabbit or a cabbage. It is always 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.

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 very 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 be called self-evident.

Fr. Michael J. Miller

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

FEBRUARY: *Philip & Elissa Ryan, Tim & Susan Rousseau, Donald & Patricia Ryan, James Ryan, John & Kathy Ryan, Mike & Rita Ryan, Rollie & Maureen Ryan, Ron & Rosie Ryan, Chad & Christi Ryburn, John & Toni Sacco.
Altar Linens: Rosie Ryan.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are seeking lectors and servers for the 5:00 PM Saturday evening Masses. Please call the parish office or Shelley Shepherd @ 952-492-3571 to volunteer.

ST. PATRICK CHURCH STAFF, Thank you so much for everything you ever did for Roman. He went to that church for decades and loved every moment of it. Thank you Father for a lovely funeral service as well. It meant a lot to us.

The Stepka Family

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection January 19, 2020

Received this week.....\$ 2,753.76
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 2,223.00



ST. CATHERINE

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

FEBRUARY: Dennis Maciej, Allen & Cathy Svoboda, Ken & Connie Svoboda.

ST. CATHERINE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MEETING: Monday, January 27th at 7:00 PM.

ST. CATHERINE PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Sunday, February 9th, from 9:30 AM—12:30 PM in the church basement. \$8.00/adult, \$4.00/child (5-12 yrs.), free/4 yrs. & under. Sign-up sheets and flyers are in the back of church.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection January 19, 2020

Received this week.....\$ 820.12
Weekly budget requirement.....\$1,040.00



PARISHIONERS CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

PARISHES: Stephanie Prochaska, Richard Knutson, Sue Bode, Ryan Maciej, Brooklyn Prochaska, Amber Rosenwinkel (granddaughter of Kathy Prochaska), Brandon Witt (brother of Jenny Clancy), John Mullenmeister, Shelby Perry, Bonnie Theis, Maxley Ferguson, Diane Sirek, Anne Weber (granddaughter of Sue Zender), JoAnn Kenne, Virginia Beuch, Karen Zweber, Richard Arens, Andrew Buckman, Fred Winker, Michael Zender, Daryl Sternitzke, Gerry Sandey, Margo Mauser (sister of Kathy Prochaska) Annie Kelnhofer, Douglas Van Moorlehem (brother of Jan St. Aubin), Carol Prochaska, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Alex Schlink, Cynthia Troendle, Pat Scharf, Gerry Jensen (Jan St. Aubin's cousin), Anikah Schmidt (great granddaughter of Bonnie Theis), Laura Stepka, Joe & Evelyn Scheffler, Jennifer Lonergan, John Thomas Byer.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Jan. 29	6:45 PM	Religious Education Classes, 1-9
Sun. Feb. 2	9:15 AM	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Ages 3-5
Sun. Feb. 2		Confirmation Retreat in Montgomery
Wed. Feb. 5	5:30 PM	Spaghetti Dinner
Wed. Feb. 5	6:45 PM	Religious Education Classes, 1-9
Sun. Feb. 9	9:15 AM	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Ages 3-5

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Sun. Feb. 9	S.C.	Pancake Breakfast
Fri. Feb. 21	S.P.	Group I Fish Fry
Fri. Mar. 27	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry
Sun. July 19	S.P.	Parish Festival

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The New Year always brings resolutions. Why not make a resolution to make Christ the center of your life? The Cursillo movement can help make your resolution a reality and offer a great opportunity for you to engage more in your faith and in living a Christ centered life. It all starts with making a weekend. The weekend begins on Thursday evening and ends on Sunday evening. The weekends for winter 2020 are approaching and are being held at Mary, Mother of the Church, Burnsville. The men's weekend is February 13 - 16, 2020 and the women's weekend is Feb 20 - 23, 2020. Now is the time to sign up. The weekend will help you experience your faith more deeply and help you to realize who God is working in your life every day. For more information regarding Cursillo, please contact Parish Ambassadors, Rosie and David Nelson, 952-492-3402, or visit the Cursillo website at www.tc-cursillo.org.

Spaghetti Dinner, Fri. Feb. 7, 4:30-7:30 PM at the K.C. Hall in New Prague. Adults/\$9.00, Child/\$4.00, 3 & under free.

A.C.C.W. Legislative Day, Sat. Feb. 8, 8:30 AM—noon at St. Michael Catholic Church in St. Michael. Cost \$15 (\$20 after Jan. 22) Morning refreshments, speakers, legislative information. Register at www.archspm.org/accwleg2020

Beef & Sausage Family Style Dinner, Sun. Feb. 9, 11:00 AM—1:00 PM at Guardian Angels in Chaska. Adult/\$13, Child/\$5.00.

26th Annual Soup Supper, Mon. Feb. 17, 4:30-7:00 PM at St. Wenceslaus Church Basement in New Prague.

S.W. Deanery C.C.W. Spiritual Day, Sat. Mar. 21, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM at St. Patrick's in Shieldsville. Speaker: Peter Connor, ("Rosaries by Peter"). Please bring an item for the silent auction.

Bring back the joy to your marriage. Your marriage is worth saving! **Retrouaille** begins with a weekend experience. You learn the tools to communicate more effectively as a couple. **Twin Cities Retrouaille** has helped more than 7,300 couples learn the tools to restore intimacy in their relationships. For more information, please call 651-464-5855 or visit www.tcr-mn.org

Women's Weekend Retreats, Feb. 21-23 & April 3-5 at Franciscan Retreats in Prior Lake. Call 952-447-2182 or online www.FranciscanRetreats.net/register