

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 21, 2016

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Feb. 22	6:00 p.m. (SC)	+Rosetta Shea
Tuesday	Feb. 23	8:30 a.m. (SP)	+Karen Liemandt
Wednesday	Feb. 24	6:00 p.m. (SP)	Lin Kreuser
Thursday	Feb. 25	(NO MASS)	
Friday	Feb. 26	6:30 p.m. (SC)	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	Feb. 27	5:00 p.m. (SP)	Thoele Family
Sunday	Feb. 28	8:30 p.m. (SC)	+Al Schneider, Sr.
		10:30 a.m. (SP)	For our people

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR FEBRUARY 27 & 28, 2016

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	2/27	Barb Lewis, Kelley & Jim DeGross
	2/28	Ron & Kathy McBroom, Dan Cervenka, Don Pesta
Lectors	2/27	Lynne Hoffman
	2/28	Tim Sonnek
Acolytes	2/27	Mitchell Rousseau, Sam Lambrecht, Dan DeGross
	2/28	Elias DeGeest, Bella Schulte, Hannah Langeberg
Ushers	2/27	Dave Roach, Melvin Gregory
	2/28	Leo Jacques, Gerald Sandey
Greeters	2/28	Don & Elaine Pesta

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	2/28	Kevin Mahowald, Dave Nelson, Barb Lerschen, Bonnie Theis
Lector	2/28	Laura Saarela
Acolytes	2/28	Addey Vochoska, Karley Vochoska, Abbie Kavouras
Ushers	2/28	Dennis Maciej, Tim Saarela
Greeters	2/28	Joe & Diane Williamson

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?

Feb. 22: Fr. Steven Hoffman; Feb. 23: Fr. John Hofstede; Feb. 24: Fr. Spencer Howe; Feb. 25: Fr. Ralph Huar, Feb. 26: Fr. Jeffrey Huard; Feb. 27: Fr. Lawrence Hubbard; Feb. 28: Fr. Thomas Huntstiger.

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.

ST. PATRICK CHURCH

CHURCH CLEANING FOR FEBRUARY: *Jesse & Rebecca Pexa, Jeff Paul, Don & Elaine Pesta, Roger & Jackie Pomije, Jack & Amy Puncocar, Mike & Rachel Puncocar, Patrick & Kayla Puncocar, Rob & Jodie Puncocar. Altar Linens: Rosie Ryan.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation. Authorization forms are available in the back of church. Authorization is also accessible through our website, www.stpandc.mn.org

CCW MEETING: Reminder—St. Patrick's CCW Meeting on Monday, March 7, at 7 p.m. in Social Hall.

GROUP II FISH FRY: Friday, March 11, 5:00-8:00 PM in the social hall. There are sign-up sheets and flyers in the back of church. Please take some flyers and post in workplace or other public places. All Group II members are asked to bring 3 dozen bars or cookies. They can be dropped off on Thursday, (10th) night or Friday (11th) during the day or that night. If you have any questions, call Rob & Jodie Puncocar @ 952-758-5143.

ST. PATRICK PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS: March 19 & 20. We will be electing two new members for the Parish Council. If you are interested in running, please contact Father Miller, Joe O'Brien, or the parish office @ 952-492-6276.

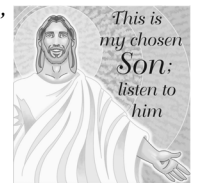
THANK YOU Thanks "a million" for allowing us to continue baking our cookies in your kitchen! Year after year the generosity of your parish has allowed our fundraising efforts for God's ministry, "Care for the Wounded," to help many needy families around the world. Heaven applauds you and your congregation.
Donna Rae Buckingham

WE NEED ACOLYTES: St. Patrick is in need of more servers. If you have had your 1st Communion and would like to be a server, please contact Heidi Michaelson @ 952-233-8772 or the parish office @ 952-492-6276.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection February 14, 2016

Received this week.....	\$ 2,825.00
Weekly budget requirement.....	\$ 1,867.00
Steeple Repair Project budget.....	\$38,000.00
Steeple Repair amt. remaining.....	\$16,637.00



ST. CATHERINE CHURCH

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

ST. CATHERINE CCW SPRING LUNCHEON:

Save the date! Saturday, April 30 at 11 a.m.
Speakers—Our favorite nuns will be back...

ST. CATHERINE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MEETING: Monday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m.

BAT EVICTION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: The total cost for the eviction and abatement of all guano and the insulation, sanitizing/deodorizing, and re-insulating is \$13,645.80. If you wish to donate to this campaign, please place your contribution in the collection basket and mark your envelope accordingly (your name and labeled “Bat Removal”). We will publish in the bulletin a running total of contributions weekly until we meet our goal. If you have further questions, contact Joe Williamson, Gary Korb, or Tim Saarela.

Stewardship of Treasure

“Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts”
Sunday Collection February 14, 2016

Received this week..... \$ 1,103.12
 Weekly budget requirement..... \$ 1,101.00
 Bat Eviction Capital Campaign budget..... \$13,646.00
 Bat Eviction Campaign amt. remaining..... \$ 4,191.00



PARISHIONERS' CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

PARISHES: James & Carol Prochaska, Janet Rezac, Sharon Mastain (sister of Carol Timmons) Rosie Pexa, Ann Pint, Laura Ryan, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Dave Hover, Diane Hentges (Cathy Theis' sister), Jerry Cavanaugh (Jodie Puncochar & Jim Cavanaugh's dad), Alex Schlink, E v Nelson, Mary Jane Keep, Paul Lambrecht, Braden Flicek, Cynthia Troendle, Pat Scharf, Beatrice Mushitz, Mike Zender, Jack & Jane Eiseman (parents of Jacque Bittner), Gerry Jensen (cousin of Jan St. Aubin), Therese Ryan, Florian Bauman (Bryan Bittner's uncle), Anikah Schmidt (great granddaughter of Bonnie Theis), Grace Bittner, Laura Stepka, Joe & Evelyn Scheffler, Benoite Stepka, Jennifer Lonergan, John Thomas Byer.

Please pray for the soul of Mary Ann Krautkremer (Amy Holden's sister), who recently died.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Fri. Feb. 26	7:00 p.m.	St. Patrick
Fri. Mar. 4	7:00 p.m.	St. Catherine
Fri. Mar. 11	7:00 p.m.	St. Patrick
Fri. Mar. 18	7:00 p.m.	St. Catherine
Fri. Mar. 25	3:00 p.m.	St. Patrick (Good Friday)

Mass & Benediction each Friday at 6:30 p.m. before Stations.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Friday, March 11	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry
Friday, April 8	S.P.	Men's Club Euchre Tournament
Saturday, April 30	S.C.	CCW Spring Luncheon
Sunday, July 24	S.P.	Parish Festival

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PRESCHOOL—GR. 9

Wed. Feb. 24	6:45-8:00 p.m.	Classes / Grades 8 & 9 Stations of the Cross
Sun. Feb. 28	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
Wed. Mar. 2	6:45-8:00 p.m.	Classes / Grades 1—7 Stations of the Cross
Sun. Mar. 6	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
Wed. Mar. 9	6:45-8:00 p.m.	Classes / Gr. 2 Learn. Cntr. / Grades 7 & 8 Reconciliation

Encouragement

When Jesus invited the Apostles to follow Him, it must have appealed to their sense of adventure, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matt. 4:19). The power of Christ's personality and the signs they had seen Him do compelled them to leave everything behind and follow Him. This sense of awe and wonder continued to increase as they witnessed Him change water into wine, cure the sick, cast out demons, multiply the loaves and the fishes, walk on water, and calm the wind and the sea. “What sort of man is this, whom even the winds and the sea obey?” (Matt. 8:27). At first it must have been easy and exciting to be among the inner circle. Everyone wanted to be close to Jesus, and they were the closest. But then He revealed His real purpose: “The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.” And that was not enough; those who follow Him must share in that suffering: “Then He said to all, ‘If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.’” (Luke 9:22-23). The difficulty and the cost of following Jesus were revealed to be much greater than they ever imagined. They must have questioned their ability and their desire to continue following Him. Undoubtedly, their enthusiasm was overshadowed by discouragement.

It was at this point, by His transfiguration, that Jesus allowed Peter, James, and John to see Him as He really was. As we pray in the preface of the Mass, “He had already prepared them for His approaching death. He wanted to teach them through the Law (Moses) and the Prophets (Elijah) that the promised Christ had first to suffer and so come to the glory of His resurrection.” By this self-revelation Jesus encouraged the Apostles. They were further encouraged by the Father, “This is My chosen Son; listen to Him” (Luke 9:35). The Apostles needed this encouragement to overcome the sufferings that a disciple of Christ must endure.

We are no different. That is why this event of the Gospel is read on the Second Sunday of Lent. We may have responded with a renewed zeal and enthusiasm to the Church's call “to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.” We may have deepened our resolve to follow Christ more closely through prayer and good works. At first it may have seemed quite exciting and even easy. But as we continue on, not only during Lent, but also through life, we encounter many difficulties along the way. Following Christ is not easy; He never said it would be. That is why we all need encouragement to continue on. God gives this to us directly and through the mediation of others. “Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak. Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not!” (Isaiah 35:3-4). It is like encouraging a runner in a marathon. Only we do not do it from the sidelines. We are all running it together, and those on the sidelines (the world, the devil, sinful habits, those who do not follow Christ) are discouraging us from continuing. We have to remember who we are following and encourage one another to keep going.