

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Feb. 26	6:30 PM (SC)	For the souls of purgatory
Tuesday	Feb. 27	6:00 PM (SP)	For the end of abortion
Wednesday	Feb. 28	6:00 PM (SP)	For the end of human trafficking and exploitation
Thursday	Mar. 01		NO MASS
Friday	Mar. 02	6:30 PM (SP)	+Norbert & Viola Weiers
Saturday	Mar. 03	5:00 PM (SP)	+RoseAnn & Randy Sticha
Sunday	Mar. 04	8:30 AM (SC)	+Brandon Bruzek
		10:30 AM (SP)	For Our People

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH 3 & 4, 2018

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	3/03	Jim & Kelley DeGross, Tony Jirik
	3/04	Dan Cervenka, Dan Cross, Agnes DeGross
Lectors	3/03	Lynne Hoffman
	3/04	Jennifer Clancy (Juli Volk mentoring)
Altar Servers	3/03	Hayden DeGross, Mason DeGross, Ian DeGross
	3/04	Wyatt Giesen, Aly Volk, Ben Meyer
Ushers	3/03	Melvin Gregory, Steve Kreuzer
	3/04	Don Pesta, Darryl Volk

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	3/04	Kevin Mahowald, Dave Nelson, Barb Lerschen, Kathy Prochaska
Lector	3/04	Ken Ceola
Altar Servers	3/04	Kendra Korbel
Ushers	3/04	George Doheny, Lloyd Friske
Greeters	3/04	Bonnie Theis, Margaret Sharkey

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. 26: Fr. Dwight Whitt, Feb. 27: Fr. William Whittier, Feb. 28: Archbishop Bernard Hebda, Mar. 01: Pope Francis, Mar. 02: Fr. Michael Miller, Mar. 03: Fr. Benjamin Wilkerson SEMV, Mar. 04: Fr. Donald Willard CSSR.

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.



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

FROM THE PASTOR



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 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 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.

Fr. Michael J. Miller

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

FEBRUARY: *Brian & Meghan Blonigen, Chris & Laurie Blaschko, John & Cassie Boegeman, Michael & Sarah Brundage, Brian & Kelley Buckman, Jim & Crystal Buesgens, Joe & Julie Capaul, Rick & Beth Carey, Cam & Gwen Case, Pam Caselius. 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.

GROUP II FISH FRY: Friday, March 16, 5:00-8:00 PM in the social hall. \$12/adult, \$5/child. There are sign-up sheets and flyers in the back of church. Please take some flyers and post them in your work place and other public places. All Group II members are asked to bring 3 dozen bars or cookies. They can be dropped off Thursday night the 15th or Friday the 16th prior to 5:00 PM. If you have any questions, please contact Tish Scheffler @ 612-799-6496 or Rob Puncochar @ 612-499-3103. We hope to see you all there and God bless you.

CCW: There will be a CCW meeting on Tuesday, March 8th at 7pm in the Church Social Hall.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection February 18, 2018

Received this week.....\$ 2,244.00
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 2,006.00



I will make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky

ST. CATHERINE

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

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

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection February 18, 2018

Received this week.....\$ 629.06
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 944.00



PARISHIONERS CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

PARISHES: Karen Zweber, Richard Arens, 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, Virginia Beuch.

R.C.I.A. PROGRAM:

The next sessions will be Tuesdays,
February 27th Catholic Social Teaching
March 6th Prayer and Adoration
March 13th A Catholic Moral Vision
March 20th Topic TBD
Sessions will be held at 6:30 PM at the St. Patrick Social Hall. All are welcome.

MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS: There are Memorial Fund envelopes in the back of church if you would like to make a donation to the Memorial Fund.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday, March 2nd at 7:00 PM at St. Patrick Church.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

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 their 14th birthday are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Feb. 28	6:45-8:00 PM	Class, grades 1-9 5th grade — Station of the Cross
Sun. Mar. 4	10:30 AM	Sunday School
Wed. Mar. 7	6:45-8:00 PM	Class, grades 1-9 6th & 7th grade — Stations of the Cross
Sun. Mar. 11	10:30 AM	Sunday School

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Fri. Mar. 16	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry
Fri. Apr. 13	S.P.	Men's Club Euchre Tournament
Sun. July 22	S.P.	Parish Festival