

## EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Mar. 2		NO MASS
Tuesday	Mar. 3		NO MASS
Wednesday	Mar. 4	6:00 PM (SP)	Steve & Lin Kreuser Family
Thursday	Mar. 5	8:30 AM (SP)	+Carlton Miller
Friday	Mar. 6	5:00 PM (SC)	+Jeff Schroeder
		5:30 PM (SC)	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	Mar. 7	5:00 PM (SP)	+RoseAnn & Randy Sticha
Sunday	Mar. 8	8:30 AM (SC)	+Brandon Bruzek
		10:30 AM (SP)	For our People

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH 7 & 8, 2020

### St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	3/7	Kelley DeGross, Tony Jirik, Barb Lewis
	3/8	Leo & Gloria Jacques, Dan Cervenka
Lector	3/7	Brianne Jirik
	3/8	Diana Schoenbauer
Altar Servers	3/7	Ian DeGross, Sam Lambrecht
	3/8	Ben & Claire Meyer, Alycia Klegstad
Ushers	3/7	Steve Kreuser, Mel Gregory
	3/8	Pat Puncochar, Norm Sticha

### St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	3/8	Joan Bruzek, Barbara Lerschen, Dave Nelson, Pate Schroeder
Lector	3/8	Kevin Mahowald
Altar Servers	3/8	Karley Vochoska
Ushers	3/8	Shawn O'Hern, George Doheny
Greeters	3/8	Dave & Joan Koller

*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?

Mar. 2: Fr. Michael Miller, Mar. 3: Fr. James McConville, Mar. 4: Fr. Patrick McCorkell, Mar. 5: Fr. Kevin McDonough, Mar. 6: Fr. Thomas McDonough, Mar. 7: Fr. Edward McGrath, Mar. 8: Fr. Thomas McKenzie Jr.



**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 Cat and the Silo

While walking around the farm with my dad several years ago, he told me how he was working near the silo when he heard a cat meowing desperately. He finally tracked it down to the silo. No longer in use, he put the bottom two doors in place to keep out animals. The cat, no doubt, saw these as mere obstacles to the possible delight inside.



Despite having the whole farm on which to hunt, in addition to the food already supplied, the cat climbed the doors and jumped in the silo. Once inside, the cat realized that it could not get out; the open door was too high and the walls too smooth. The only thing left to do was cry for help and hope that it would come. Fortunately, my dad heard its cry and opened the bottom door. The cat jumped out of its future tomb and scampered off alive and free.

It is a good image of the drama of the spiritual life. Adam and Eve had the whole garden from which to eat and, unlike the cat, understood the obstacle put before the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, which “symbolically evokes the insurmountable limits that man, being a creature, must freely recognize and respect with trust” (*Catechism*, 396). The obstacle was a commandment, which required the response of obedience. But as we know, “Man, tempted by the devil, let his trust in his Creator die in his heart and, abusing his freedom, disobeyed God’s command... He chose himself over and against God, against the requirements of his creaturely status and therefore against his own good” (*Catechism*, 397,398). This left man helpless and unable to get out of the situation: “Closed in the darkness, it was necessary to bring us the light; captives, we awaited a Savior; prisoners, help; slaves a liberator” (St. Gregory of Nyssa, in *Catechism*, 457). There was nothing he could do but cry for help and hope that it would come.

Each Sunday we profess the joyful truth that that hope was fulfilled: “For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven; and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.” Every person participates in this great drama of salvation. We all have been created by the same God for the same purpose: to know and to love Him, who first loved us. We all face the same basic challenges: do we believe in Him, and do we trust Him? Do we trust Him enough to believe that His commandments are not limits on our freedom, but are rather the only way in which we can truly be free? Do we understand ourselves well enough to know that because we still carry the wounds of original sin, we sometimes desire things that will harm us rather than make us happy? “Ignorance of the fact that man has a wounded nature inclined to evil gives rise to serious errors in the areas of education, politics, social action, and morals” (*Catechism*, 407). Do we understand that we cannot get to heaven on our own, and that when we jump into the silo of sin we cannot get out by ourselves? Do we have the sense to say with the psalmist “Out of the depths I call to you, Lord; Lord hear my cry! May your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy” (Ps. 129)? And do we have the confidence in God’s love for us that He will open the door of that spiritual tomb that we may emerge alive and free? *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.

**ST. PATRICK GROUP II FISH FRY:** Friday, March 27th, 5:00—8:00 PM in the social hall. \$12/adult, \$5/child, 3 and under/free. Look for sign-up sheets in the back of church and on our face book page. Group II members please bring 2 dozen bars or cookies. Chairs: Tish Scheffler, 612-799-6496 and Rob Sticha, 612-499-3103.

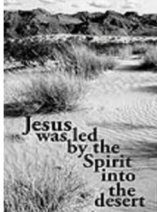
**ST. PATRICK PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Monday, March 16th at 7:00 PM in the social hall.

### Stewardship of Treasure

*"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"*

Sunday Collection February 23, 2020

Received this week.....\$ 2,105.27  
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 2,223.00  
Fuel Collection.....\$ 559.00



## ST. CATHERINE

### CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

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

### ST. CATHERINE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**MEETING:** Monday, March 23rd at 7:00 PM.

### Stewardship of Treasure

*"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"*

Sunday Collection February 23, 2020

Received this week.....\$1,069.56  
Weekly budget requirement.....\$1,040.00  
Fuel Collection.....\$ 615.00



## 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.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS** are coming up the third weekend in March. If you would like to run, please contact John Cassady, 815-441-7558 (St. Patrick) or Deanna Vochoska, 651-303-8778 (St. Catherine).

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Friday, March 6th at 5:30 PM at St. Catherine Church.

*Serve the Poor, Support Life,  
Strengthen the Faith — — —*

**CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL FOUNDATION** funds twenty designated ministries including:

- Serving 265,000 meals & snacks to those in need
  - Supporting over 100,000 Catholics via hospital chaplains
  - Strengthening the faith of those in prison through sacraments
- Contributions go directly to the designated ministries. To learn more, go to [www.csafspm.org](http://www.csafspm.org). To donate, go to [GiveCSAF.org](http://GiveCSAF.org).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Mar. 4	6:45 PM	Religious Education Classes, 1-9
Sun. Mar. 8	9:15 AM	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Ages 3-5
Wed. Mar. 11	6:45 PM	Religious Education Classes, 1-9
Sun. Mar. 15	9:15 AM	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Ages 3-5

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Fri. Mar. 27	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry
Sat. Apr. 4	S.P.	Spring Bake Sale & Boutique
Sun. July 19	S.P.	Parish Festival
Tue. Oct. 13	S.C.	Autumn Dinner

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Fish Fry,** Fri. Mar. 6, 4:00 PM—8:00 PM at the Crusader Civic Center in Lonsdale. Sponsored by Lonsdale Knights of Columbus. \$12/adult, \$8/child, 6 & under/free. Proceeds to support local pro-life ministries.

**Fish Fry,** Fri. Mar. 13, 4:30 PM—7:30 PM at St. Anne's School in LeSueur. \$12/adult, \$6/child, 4 & under/free. 507-665-2489.

**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.

**Roman Barten Memorial Breakfast,** Sun. Mar. 22 at the K.C. Hall in New Prague. Pancakes, sausage, cinnamon rolls, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM. Free-will donation. Proceeds benefit 8-yr.-old Gage Hoy of Lonsdale, diagnosed at age 3 with leukemia.

Bring back the joy to your marriage. Your marriage is worth saving! **Retrouvaille** begins with a weekend experience. You learn the tools to communicate more effectively as a couple. **Twin Cities Retrouvaille** 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](http://www.tcr-mn.org)

**Women's Weekend Retreats,** April 3-5 and April 24-26 at Franciscan Retreats in Prior Lake. Call 952-447-2182 or online [www.FranciscanRetreats.net/register](http://www.FranciscanRetreats.net/register)