

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Apr. 02		NO MASS
Tuesday	Apr. 03	11:30 AM (SP)	Jamie Kreuser
Wednesday	Apr. 04		NO MASS
Thursday	Apr. 05	11:30 AM (SC)	For World Peace
Friday	Apr. 06	11:30 AM (SP)	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	Apr. 07	5:00 PM (SP)	+RoseAnn & Randy Sticha
Sunday	Apr. 08	8:30 AM (SC)	+Lawrence, Marion, & John Jacques
		10:30 AM (SP)	For Our People

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR APRIL 7 & 8, 2018

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	4/07	Ron Ryan, Rosie Ryan, Tony Jirik
	4/08	Gloria Jacques, Leo Jacques, Don Pesta
Lector	4/07	Brianne Jirik
	4/08	Tim Sonnek
Altar Servers	4/07	Sam Lambrecht, Hayden DeGross, Mason DeGross
	4/08	Ben Meyer, Aly Volk, Samantha Schoenbauer
Ushers	4/07	Mel Gregory, Steve Kreuser
	4/08	Pat Puncochar, Darryl Volk

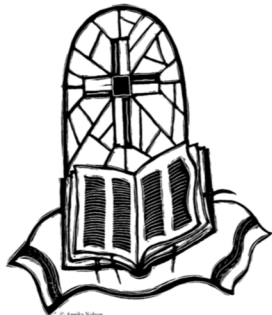
St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	4/08	Kevin Mahowald, Dave Nelson, Ken Ceola, Kathy Ceola
Lector	4/08	Dave Nelson
Altar Servers	4/08	Connor Anderson, Monica Muelken
Ushers	4/08	Bryce Horejsi, Greg Horejsi
Greeters	4/08	Gary & Ann Korbel

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?

Apr. 02: Fr. Michael Miller, Apr. 03: Fr. Sebastien Bakatuinamina, Apr. 04: Fr. Paul Baker, Apr. 05: Fr. Niel Bakker, Apr. 06: Fr. John Balluff, Apr. 07: Fr. Joseph Bambenek, Apr. 08: Fr. Luis Branches Plaza Semv.



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

What are the Odds?

A few years ago there was a big (and happily brief) media splash concerning a documentary that claimed to have found the lost tomb of Jesus and His family. The actual discovery of the cave containing the ossuaries (bone-containers) occurred in 1980. Then and now, serious archaeologists and biblical scholars dismiss the claim that this is the final resting-place of Jesus and His family as nonsense. The filmmakers main contention is that, statistically, the odds of finding the combination of the names "Jesus, three Marys, Joseph, and a Judah, son of Jesus" all together would be 600 to 1. Not being men of faith who would understand the implications of such a claim, one could perhaps understand their enthusiasm in the light of such odds. Arguing simply from a statistical basis, however, I would still bet the farm against them.

First of all, one of two Jewish women had the name Mary or Salome in the first century. The other names were common as well. It is normal for even more children of the time to be given these names in the light of the famous Gospel characters. Simply look in the phone book and see how many people have the same name. This was even more common in the past when naming someone after a parent or grandparent was customary. A century ago there were nine men named Joe Tuma in the small town of Lonsdale. They had to be distinguished by the brand of tractor they owned. One can find the same names and their various combinations repeatedly in genealogical research within the last 150 years. These are difficult enough to identify and keep straight. So, what are the odds of correctly identifying a particular family over 1500 years old, with no corroborating evidence, and no dates?

In addition to this, what are the odds that people who knew these individuals would go on and live their lives in a way that is in complete contradiction to the claim that is being made? If Jesus had not physically risen from the dead, showed Himself to His disciples, and ascended into heaven, would these same people give up everything they had, subject themselves to persecution, imprisonment, and even death? Would they have done these things if the body of Jesus were buried safely with the rest of His family? Is there any probability that the disciples of Jesus would be unaware that He was married and had a son? Even today in small towns everybody knows the basic details of everybody else's life. What are the odds that the real life of Jesus (who was very well known) was actually radically different from the account that we find in the New Testament? Would there not have been people speaking out against the Apostles and their followers, pointing out the bones of Jesus and the other people that disproved their



claims? Why would the Apostles or anyone else insist that their claims about Jesus were true? Very simply: because they were. "The mystery of Christ's resurrection is a real event, with manifestations that were historically verified as the New Testament bears witness" (Catechism, 639). If these events did not really happen, the claim that they did would have been torn apart at their roots by the people living at that time. So, what are the odds that the producers of "The Lost Tomb of Jesus" have discovered the proof that the faith of billions of believers has been in vain (see 1 Corinthians 15:1-19) for over two millennia? Not 600 to 1, not 6 million to one, but simply zero. He is risen from the dead, Alleluia!

Fr. Michael J. Miller

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

*Ralph & Brenda DeGross, Jonathan & Angela Deutsch, Dean & Kari Dolezal, Michael Dudley, Duane & Kelli Dworshak, Anthony Efta, Christine Efta, David & Ag-Rita Efta, Brian & Andrea Feist, Craig & Kristin Flicek. 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.

ST. PATRICK SPRING BAKE SALE & BOUTIQUE:

Saturday, April 7, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, sponsored by St. Patrick Council of Catholic Women. The sale will feature fresh-baked cinnamon and caramel rolls as well as home baked items contributed by parishioners. In addition, home-party representatives and other vendors will make up the boutique portion of the event. All parishioners are asked to contribute baked goods for this event. Donated items can be dropped off Friday, April 6, 5:00-7:00PM in the social hall and before 9:00AM on April 7. Sign up sheets are posted at the back of church to help with baking and packaging of the rolls. Please help to make this fundraiser a success with your participation and by promoting this event in the community. Thank you!

LuVerne Verhoeven

FESTIVAL GAMES: We are in need of larger toys for the festival. We need 5-10 or more of the same toy that is larger for the prize tree. Generally, we pay \$5-20 for each. We need 300+ large toys for boys and girls. If you have any questions, please contact Tish at 612-799-6496.

***We are in need of someone to help with Festival Games, buying toys throughout the year. If you are interested, please contact Tish at 612-799-6496.**

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection March 18, 2018

Received this week.....\$ 2,045.00
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 2,006.00
Flower Collection.....\$ 356.00



ST. CATHERINE

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

David & Rosie Nelson, Timothy & Laura Saarela, Pat Schroeder.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: St. Catherine Church is collecting NEW school supplies, even backpacks, for the Scott County children through the CAP Agency. Items of high need include: handwipes, tissues, and deodorant. We will be collecting now-early summer. Questions? Contact Barb Perry @ 952-461-2296.

ST. CATHERINE C.C.W. MEETING: Come and enjoy a light brunch, friendship, with a meeting to discuss May crowning with new member coffee and discuss July Garden Tour/Brunch on Sunday, April 15th after Mass. Call Margaret (461-2214) if you would like to share a baked item or if a ride is needed to return home.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection March 18, 2018

Received this week.....\$ 1008.08
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 944.00
Flower Collection.....\$ 321.00



PARISHIONERS CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISHES:

Virginia Beuch, 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), Anne Kelnhofer, Albert Braith, Douglas Van Moorlehem (brother of Jan St. Aubin), Carol Prochaska, Sharon Mastain (Carol Timmon's sister) Rosie Pexa, Ann Pint, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, 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. +Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sandi Suilmann.

ATTENTION ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Budget time is fast approaching. Please submit your budget requests for the 2018/19 fiscal year to the parish office by Friday, April 13th, so we have them before the Finance Committee Meeting. The committees we need budgets from are: Parish Council, Maintenance, Welcome, Faith Formation, Liturgy & Music, and Religious Education.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Apr. 4 6:45-8:00 PM Class, grades 1-9.
Sat. Apr. 2 2nd Grade 1st Holy Communion Practice.
Sun. Apr. 8 1st Holy Communion.
Wed. Apr. 11 6:45-8:00 PM Class, grades 1-9.

*Confirmation interviews with Father Miller.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Sat. Apr. 7 S.P. Spring Bake Sale & Boutique
Fri. Apr. 13 S.P. Men's Club Euchre Tournament
Sun. Apr. 15 S.C. C.C.W Meeting after Mass
Sun. July 22 S.P. Parish Festival