

# St Matt's Memos



12210 S. 36th St  
Bellevue, NE 68123  
Phone: 402-292-7418  
Fax: 402-292-7421  
stmatthewbellevue.org

Mass Schedule  
Saturday: 5pm  
Sunday: 8:30am & 10:30am  
Tuesday to Friday: 9am

Reconciliation  
Saturday: 4 :15pm

## From the Pastor — Father Leo Rigatuso



To look back over the last twelve months and see the progress that has been made on the church is really amazing! Last March we were waiting for the snow to melt and the ground to thaw in order for Boyd Jones to get the footings in the ground. There was significant work to be done before we could start going vertical with the structure.

Here we are just about a year later and the church is just about completely enclosed. If you've seen the pictures and video that Rick has put together for our weekly-weekend updates in the commons, you'll know that it is going to be a beautiful and uplifting Church.

Our First Mardi Gras celebration on Feb 21st was a huge success thanks to Sue, her team and all the incredible volunteers. We

look forward to what she will have planned for our next Food, Fun, Raffle & Auction event!

This Lenten season we will repeat our annual stewardship campaign to assist and build up our financial resources so as to meet our operational needs. This fall we will initiate our next capital campaign - our first one for the new church officially ended Dec 31, 2019, and gratefully many kept their contributions coming in. More details on these events will be coming soon.

The Lord has sent His Spirit upon us - we are forever grateful. May He continue to bless us with such wonderful and faithful disciples!

Thank you for all that you do!

Fr Leo

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## Parish Council—President Rick Holdcroft



Fellow parishioners:

As I rapidly approach the end of my first year as Parish Council President, I have to echo the words of Fr Leo above that it has been a great twelve months with many ac-

complishments.

Our new church is nearing completion, our parish family is growing and our finances are looking better every month.

It is now a good time to take stock and plan for the future. Up until now, our focus has been on building a new church and getting out of the gymnasium. Well we are there. Now we need to figure out what to do next.

After much discussion in the Parish Council, Finance Commit-

tee and Building Steering Committee, it has been decided we need a plan to help guide our major decisions over the coming decades.

To that end, we have engaged an architecture firm, RDG, to help us put together a "Master Plan" for our campus and we need your input to put it together.

Over the next several months we will have a number of facilitated sessions to solicit inputs and put together a roadmap for the growth of our Parish and School. Frankly, it is long overdue.

Our plan is to have this Master Plan in place before the Capital Campaign we will hold in the Fall.

Many of you participated in the design of the new church. This will be your opportunity to influence the direction of the St Matthew Community for decades to come. Join us in this effort.

Rick

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## School Update—Principal Angie Palmer



Spring School report 2020

We are in full swing for registration for next year. With the help of some money from the Ignite the Faith grant, we've made some big marketing pushes to help spread the word about our school. We are noticing several new families reaching out to register as well as so many current families coming back. Like the parish with the anticipated opening of the church, we are also ready for some new faces coming our way.



The top 10 highlights of the last few months are as follows:

10. Paper Airplane contest
9. The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
8. Food Drives
7. Making "saint" floats for Mardi Gras



### 6. Donuts with Father Leo



### 5. 8th graders receive High School Scholarship/Awards

- Jonathan Sevick- Merit Scholar at Creighton Prep
- Elliott Cook- Innovation Grant from Gross Catholic High School

### 4. Bingo with prayer partners during Catholic Schools Week



### 3. Spelling Bee/Geography Bee

- Spelling bee champions- Davide Burgos and Eli Mabbitt
- Geography bee champions- Patrick McFall and Brigid McFall

### 2. Are you Smarter than an 8th grader

- 8th graders defeated the teachers

### 1. Family picnic during Catholic Schools week

Thank you again for your continued support.

Angie Palmer

Principal

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## Women Working for God — Sherry Trupp



I think we can all agree we are looking forward to spring. This spring WWG will be going to the Cloisters on the Platte again, please plan on joining us. More information will be given.

Once again we will be awarding two scholarships to St. Matthew parish eighth

grade students planning to attend a Catholic high school. All eight grade students will be eligible to submit an application.

We will have our regular meeting in March and April and once again gathering for brunch during the summer months. Look for more information and plan to join us.

Sherry Trupp  
WWG President

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## Why we are parishioners—the Martinicks

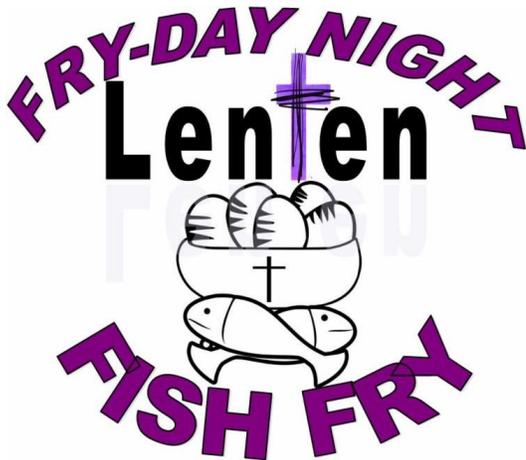


Hi! We are Blaise, Carla and Stephanie Martinick.

We moved to Nebraska in July 1996 when Blaise was stationed at USSTRATCOM. Our friends, the Murrays, invited us to attend the new Catholic church in Bellevue that was worshipping in an elementary school gym. We found St. Matthew's to be so welcoming and energetic we immediately became parishioners. Father Stolinski helped us prepare Stephanie for her First Communion in 1998 and graciously

welcomed her service dog, "as long as she doesn't bark!" In late 1999 we were transferred to Louisiana, but never lost touch. We continued our commitment to the Building Campaign and even chipped in with other needs we read about through the online bulletin. We did all of this because of something that Fr. Stolinski said that really rang true. He said that we have all been able to attend a church because of the people that came before us. As military brats and life long Catholics, we have celebrated mass in so many churches (once in a movie theater!) in different states and countries. After we got married and joined the Air Force, we never wondered if there would be a Catholic church in our newly adopted city, only the decision of which one we would join. Looking back on all the parishes we have been a part of, they were all established before either of us were born! When Blaise retired in 2004 and accepted a job at USSTRATCOM, we knew we would once again join St. Matthew's. Yes, we went from a public school gym to our own gym. Yes, we went from folding chairs to stacking them. Yes, it's been a long road, but we can now see the dream come to life! We are grateful for Fr. Leo and his leadership, the generosity of Fr. Stolinski and his family, and all the volunteers who give so selflessly. As much as we look forward to celebrating mass in our new church, it's always been the fellowship and commitment of the parishioners that make St. Matthew the Evangelist special. St. Matthew's offers so many ministries and opportunities to get involved. Blaise has served as president of the parish council and capital campaign ambassador. We also help with takedown, First Friday adoration, bake sales, and wherever we can fill a need. So if you're new, welcome! If you're already a parishioner, thank you! We feel blessed to be a part this community!

The Martinick Family



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### DINNERS HAVE BEGUN

The Knights of Columbus will be serving dinner on the following Fridays during Lent - March 6, 13, 20, 27 and 3 April from 5:00 to 7:30pm.

#### MAIN DISH:

- Baked Cod, Fried Cod or Fried Shrimp
- Weekly Chef's Special (e.g., salmon)
- Cheese Pizza
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Tortellini with Marinara Sauce

#### SIDE DISHES (included with your meal):

- Baked Potato or French Fries, Bread and Coleslaw.

#### DRINKS:

- Lemonade, Water and Coffee included with your meal.
- Pay as you go bar with sodas / adult beverages.

#### DESSERT:

- Available from our Women Working with God group.

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## Parent Teacher Organization — Vice President Alisha Olson



Once again, the PTO has been busy. We ended 2019 with St. Nicholas Day and the kids finding golden "coins" hidden in shoes they left outside their classrooms overnight. Our kids then shopped for Christmas gifts for loved ones at Santa's Secret Shop. They closed out the school year with class parties and well wishes over the break. We are now looking forward to the new year and every-

thing this Spring semester has to offer. Thus far we have helped teachers out with Catholic Schools Week, made a donation to the Mardi Gras fundraiser, and participated in the Food Drive. We have more exciting things to come such as: Family Movie Night, Donuts with Dad, Easter Egg Scramble, the Spring Book Fair, and Teacher Appreciation Week...just to name a few. We are looking forward to this busy Spring semester!

**Alisha Olson**

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## Knights of Columbus — Dave Boone



Knights were busy again this quarter.

### EVENTS and ACTIVITIES:

#### Quarterly Knights Mass:

November began with our quarterly Knights Mass. Knights filled all of the ministry positions from Choir to EM to Usher and

Altar Server. There was a good turnout of Knights in the pews with their families. A second mass was held in January. **Pancake Breakfast** (Bibles for Confirmation class and Religious Ed). This was an unscheduled event to make up for a previous breakfast that we opted to dedicate to a young Knight attending the FOCUS program. With an open date on the calendar, we ramped up for the extra breakfast to ensure the bibles would be purchased. Residual proceeds were reserved for Religious. Parishioners were generous in their support.

**Light Up Christ for Christmas was conducted on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Knights provided cookies and patrons were treated to a "surprise visit" from Santa Clause. The lights on the Nativity Scene were fired up prior to the inside festivities.

**The Annual Christmas Social** was held on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The social was well attended. The event also served as the monthly Business Meeting. During the meeting, the State Deputy Mark Borytsky, presented Past Grand Knight Pat Brennan with the Star Council award for 2019. Also recognized were the November Family of the month – Br. Chris

Weber and family and the November Knight of the Month, Mark Kyriss. Additionally, the 2019 Family of the Year – Bob Williamson Family, 2019 Rookie Knight of the Year – Shaun Richter and 2019 Knight of the Year – Greg Stoiber were announced. The annual award winners will be submitted to compete for honors at the state level in March. [For a complete list of KofM and FofM winners, see the list posted at the Knights Table in the commons.]

**January** Saw the kick off of the **annual Free Throw Contest**. There were 58 participants. Ultimately, 8 went on to compete at Districts in February, with one St Matt's winner headed for Regionals. Knights also handed out **Novena for Life Prayer Cards** after all masses January 11/12. This was in conjunction with the **Novena for Life** and the Nebraska and Washington D.C. **Walk for Life** events and the **Life Runners Banquet** organized by our Culture of Life committee chairman (Kevin and Janice Todd) and fellow Knight Dr. Pat Castle from the Life Runners.

The quarter concluded with our **February Pancake Feed** which was dedicated to Religious Ed and preparation to assist with the **Mardi Gras** evening coming up later in the month.

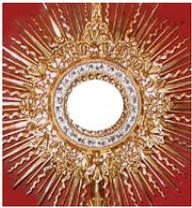
### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**40 Days for Life** will kick off on Ash Wednesday. Our annual **Lenten Fish Fry** events will kick off on February 28<sup>th</sup>. New this year will be the ability to process Credit Card/Debit Card payments at our Point Of Sale (POS) stations.

Faithfully in Christ,  
Dave Boone  
Grand Knight, Council 11879

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## Expanded Exposition of the Eucharist



Not only do we have 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Exposition from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on Saturday we now have Exposition of the Eucharist EVERY Friday. The hours for Fridays other than 1<sup>st</sup> Friday are 6:00 a.m. to 9:00p.m. Please consider during Lent to spend some extra time with our Lord.

Sunday evening Holy Hour ending with Vespers is another option for time with our Lord, Exposition begins at 5:00 ending at 6:00.



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We have many opportunities to Minister to the people in our Parish that cannot make it to Mass to receive the Eucharist every week. We have people that go to the following Care Facilities every week or in some cases every day (on a rotating basis):

- Eastern Nebraska Veteran Home—Thursday afternoon and Sunday morning
- Mable Rose—Wednesday and Sunday mornings
- Hillcrest –Tuesday morning
- Heritage Ridge – Wednesday evening
- The homebound of our Parish every weekend
- Bellevue Medical Center—Every day

The Rosary is lead by a Parishioner every Friday morning at the Eastern Nebraska Veteran Home

We are always welcome new people who would like to serve our Lord in any of these Ministries. The time involved is never more than 1-1/2 hours, often less. For more information please contact me, Phil McEvoy a prmcevoy@gmail.com or the Parish office.

I would like to share a story that happened to me once when I was visiting a homebound lady. She has a few pet birds that are free to fly around her apartment, more on that later. After reading the Gospel and reciting the Lord's Prayer I gave her Holy Communion. After a moment of silence I told her " You have just received the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity or our Lord Jesus Christ". At that very moment one of her pet birds landed between us---a white dove, the symbol of the Holy Spirit. I believe that all things happen for a reason, planned by God before the world began. I believe He was telling us that He was pleased with our actions. The lady and I talk about this every once in a while and although it happened many years ago we still get goose bumps.

Philip McEvoy

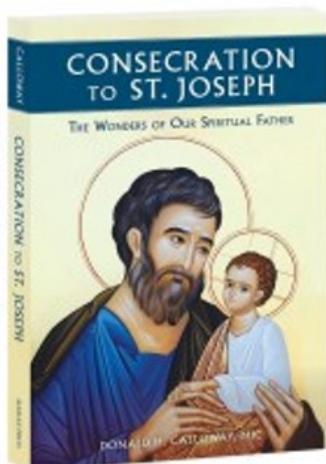
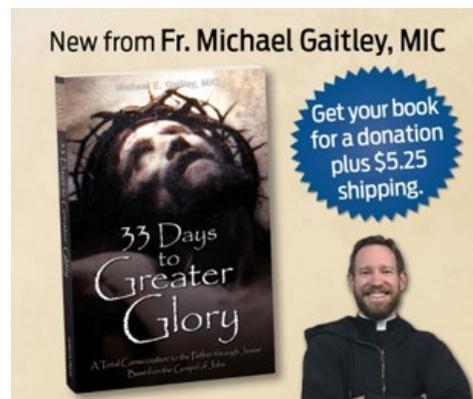
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## Adult Faith Formation — Kevin & Janice Todd and Sue Tracy



"In 2011, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, wrote the massively influential *33 Days to Morning Glory*, a beautiful distillation of the best works on Marian consecration. Now, he's inviting you to complete this journey to the Father that began nine years ago with the final installment in his 'consecration trilogy,' *33 Days to Greater Glory*. This consecration to the Heavenly Father is the greatest of all: God the Father is our origin and end, and all other devotions exist to bring us to Him. This book also includes Fr. Gaitley's popular and simple novena of consecration to St. Joseph, 'Nine Days to Joseph.' This Lent, consecrate yourself to the Heavenly Father on Divine Mercy Sunday with this Do-It-Yourself retreat. It's a big step on the journey back

home to Him." Order your book at [marian.org](http://marian.org) with a donation plus \$5.25/shipping now to start your reading on March 17. Please let us know if you will be making your preparation with us or if you have any questions at: [janice-toddcmc@msn.com](mailto:janice-toddcmc@msn.com) or 402-871-4699. We then invite you to the Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service to celebrate your Consecration.



We also encourage you to make a consecration to St. Joseph on May 1, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. "Drawing on the wealth of the Church's living tradition, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, calls on all of us to turn to St. Joseph, entrust ourselves, our Church, and our world to our spiritual father's loving care, and then watch for wonders when the Universal Patron of the Church opens the floodgates of Heaven to pour out graces into our lives today. Definitely a book for our time, Consecration to St. Joseph is dedicated to meeting the challenges of the present moment and restoring order to our Church and our world, all through the potent paternal intercession and care of St. Joseph. This book has everything you need to take your love and devotion to St. Joseph to a whole different level: a thorough program of consecration to St. Joseph; information on the 10 wonders of St. Joseph; and prayers and devotions to St. Joseph. Accessible, motivating, this book will kick off a great movement of consecration to our spiritual father and change the world." Order your book at [marian.org](http://marian.org) in time to start reading on Mar 30. You can view Fr. Calloway's "Go to St. Joseph!" homily on EWTN at <https://www.marian.org/videos/Go-to-St-Joseph-8641>

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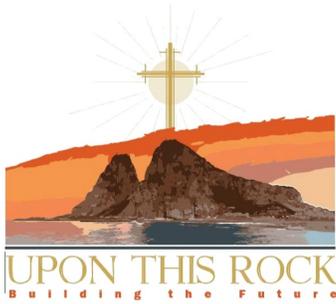
## New Bible Study: The Sermon on the Mount



Join us for a short—*only 4 weeks long*—Bible study of the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7 of the Gospel According to Matthew), with commentary by Clifford M. Yearly. The Sermon on the Mount challenges us to hear the sermon once again as Christ intended it, as our call to follow him whose life illustrated its every ideal. Yearly helps us to hear the Sermon on the Mount as a message for each of us, a challenge that is our constant call to discipleship and renewal.

This study will be offered on **Tuesday evenings beginning March 24<sup>th</sup>, from 7-8:30 pm in the St. Matthew school library, OR on Wednesday mornings beginning March 25<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30-11 am at Thanksgiving Church on the corner of 36<sup>th</sup> Street and Hwy. 370.** Childcare is available for preschoolers on Wednesday mornings for a small fee. We use the Little Rock Scripture Study program. The commentary/study guide is \$10, which includes access to online video lectures. Please call Susan Tracy at 402-292-4986 (leave a message) or email [srtracy2@icloud.com](mailto:srtracy2@icloud.com) if you are interested, since you will need a book *before* the first class.

No previous Bible study experience required! Join us and see how Scripture study can enrich your faith life!



# *The Strategic Plan*



Almost a year ago, we started the process of renewing our Strategic Plan for the Parish. We started with our Mission Statement:

**“As members of St. Matthew Parish in Bellevue, Nebraska, we join in the mission of Jesus through our Baptism, and so commit ourselves to live the values expressed in the gospel message.”**

We then developed a Vision Statement upon which to focus the next 3 to 5 years:

**“A united community moving in one direction to spread the gospel message to an evangelized next generation, in modernized facilities and supported by a strong financial foundation.”**

From this Vision Statement, we developed Strategic Priorities:

- **Create an atmosphere of mutual support for school and parish moving in the same direction**
- **Evangelize and catechize parishioners and community members**
- **Bring existing facilities in line with the new facilities**
- **Ensure a sound financial plan for sustainability**

From these priorities, we have developed specific strategic goals, some of which we have made great strides in accomplishing:

- **Joint Parish & School Projects (at least three per year)**
  - **2 Food Drives, the Mardi Gras Fundraiser and Recycling**
- **After mass activities, at least three per month, to build community**
  - **Pancake Feeds, Spaghetti Dinners, Donut & Cookies after mass, and a Welcome Mass**
- **Plan at least three Parish-wide events**
  - **Parish picnic, Mardi Gras Fundraiser & Golf Tournament**
- **Provide opportunities for parishioners to commit their time, talent & treasure**
  - **Annual Appeal (March/April) to support the operating fund and ministries**
  - **Capital Campaign (Every 3 to 6 years) to address major construction & renovation**
- **Develop a Plan for the usage of our resources through the next 30 years**
  - **Engaging an architecture firm to work with the Parish to develop a Master Plan**

There are other areas of our Strategic Plan which we continue to work, specifically in Marketing and Evangelization, which will become more defined as resources become available.

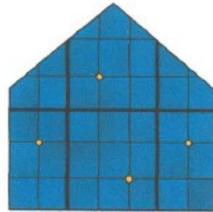
There is a lot of excitement in the parish as we approach the completion and consecration of our new worship center, but we need your help to meet the needs of the parish. One of the goals of the Upcoming Annual Appeal will be to provide an opportunity for parishioners, both old and new, to renew their commitment to St Matthew. Over the next several weeks of Lent, please take some time to consider how you can contribute to our efforts through your time, talent and treasure.

# Opportunities for Memorials and Dedications in our new Church

The items listed below are available for parishioners to purchase for memorials or dedications in our new church. They are available on a first come, first serve basis but full payment must be made at time of commitment. Payments cannot be made from already committed pledges. Recognition of the memorial or dedication will depend on the size of the item. For large items the recognition will be on a local label on the item and in a display in the narthex. Smaller items will be listed in the display in the narthex. Contact Paula Banks (402-292-7418 or plbanks@archomaha.org) in the Parish Office if interested.



**6' Rose Window (West)**  
\$19,000



**Clerestory**  
**Windows (3 remaining)**  
\$6,000 ea

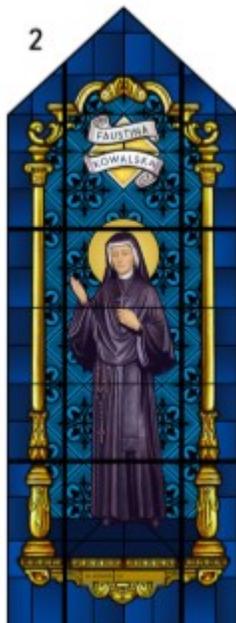
14' Stained Glass Windows are \$36,000 each  
Memorial/Dedication name will be in glass.



**Server Garments**  
**Youth Cassock and Surplices**  
12 Sets \$1164



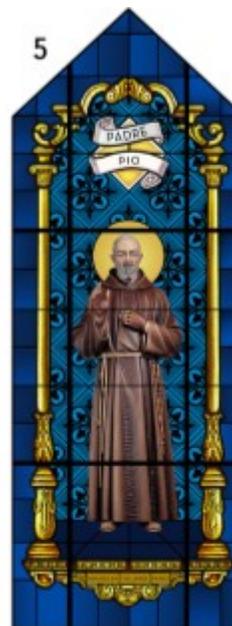
**St John Vianney**



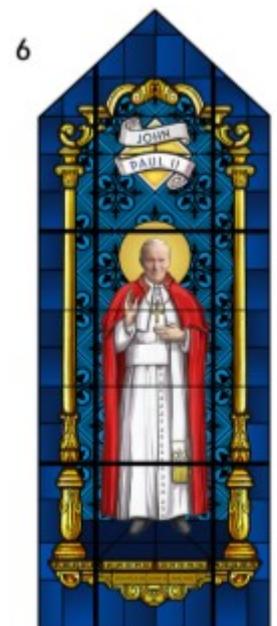
**St Faustina**



**St Joan of Arc**



**St Padre Pio**



**St John Paul II**

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# Welcome—New Families

Matt & Kristina Ambruster

Ted & Wanda Eaton

Travis & Angie Reineke

Sean & Melissa Murtaugh

Steve & Patricia Scheuber

Ashly Wynne

James & Ola Partusch

Matthew & Renee Anderson

Adam Volk

Michael & Diane Dspit

Angel & Chantelle Briseno

Jake & Ashley Erichsen

Tom & Jacqueline Litton

Colleen Martincik

Al & Suzanne Brunner

Steve & Maggie Winkelmann

## Supported by Our Founding Families

John & Beth Beaudoin

Ed & Kathy Bevan

Michael & Karen Biben

Dave & Mary Boone

John & Nancy Buennemeyer

Stephen & Joann Carson

Tim & Diane Dailey

Ray & Joanna Dominguez

Mary Elam

Sean Flanagan

Mike & Sue Franzluebbers

Donald & Marilyn Galaska

Bob & Rose Gleisberg

Jeannie Goble

Rob & Lynn Green

John & Wanda Halliday

Dick Harrington

Dennis & Patsy Hart

Jeff & Karen Hart

Philip & Minako Hernandez

Robert & Marie Hernandez

Mike & Jean Hichborn

Denny & Kathy Hynes

Richard & Patty James

Dennis & Norma Kathman

Bill & Mary Lamson

Nancy Leiber

ee & Annette LeRoy

Dick & Sue Lewis

Dave & Annette Linbrunner

Michael & Jane Lukasina

Jim & Susan Mailhot

Terry & Mary Kay Marshall

Brad & Barbara Martin

Edward & Pamela McCloskey

Jim & Kathy McCoy

Phil & Marylou McEvoy

Bill & Barbara Melvin

Andy & Teresa Metzger

Guadalupe & Karen Mier

Skip & Cynthia Murray

Carlos & Dinora Najera

Xenia Njera

Art & Phyllis Neun

Doug & Cathy Pachunka

Constant & Peggy Percosky

John & Teresa Perez

Al & Terry Petranick

Jorge & Myrna Ramirez

Enrico & Maria Ramos

Jim & Harumi Reardon

Russ & Edna Rolfzen

Gary & Dottie Schott

Barbara Scott

Leo & Mary Jo Smith II

David & Jolene Sobczyk

Jim & Susan Tracy

Mark & Sherry Trupp

Ted & Trish Wallinger

Roseanne Weber

John & Kathy Welbes

Jim & Marianne Whitcomb

Bob & Mary Fran Williamson

# March 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p><b>1</b></p> <p>11:30am Take Down 2:30pm RCIA 5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>6:30pm Hearts Afire 7pm Knights of Columbus</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club 5:30pm SVDP – Office 6pm Stations of the Cross &amp; Mass 6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>5:30pm RE Gym Setup 6:30pm Bible Study CSR 6:30pm RE/FBC</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>2pm Construction Meeting 6pm Adult Formation 6pm Security/ Medical Meeting</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Fish Fry Eucharistic Adoration—24 hrs</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>8am Setup</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>11:30am Take Down 2:30pm RCIA 5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>6pm Security Meeting 6:30pm Hearts Afire</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club 6:30pm Bible Study 6pm Stations of the Cross &amp; Mass</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>5:30pm School Movie 6:30pm Bible Study CSR</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>No School → 6pm Adult Formation</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Fish Fry</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Visiting Priest 8am Setup 10am Baptism Chapel</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Visiting Priest 11:30am Take Down 2:30pm RCIA 5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>6:30pm Hearts Afire 7pm Knights of Columbus</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club 6pm SMAT 6pm WWG 6pm Stations of the Cross &amp; Mass 6:30pm Bible Study 7pm PTO</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study 7pm Finance Mtg</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>2pm Construction Meeting 6pm Adult Formation 6pm SPSSC Meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Fish Fry</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Used Book Sale 8am Setup</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Used Book Sale → 11:30am Take Down Prayer Shawl 2:30pm RCIA 5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>6:30 Hearts Afire 7pm Baptism Class</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club 6pm Parish Council 6pm Stations of the Cross &amp; Mass 6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>6pm Security Meeting 6pm Adult Formation</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Fish Fry</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>8am Setup 4:30pm Welcome Reception</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>11:30am Take Down 2:30pm RCIA 5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>6:30 Hearts Afire</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club 6pm Stations of the Cross &amp; Mass 6:30pm Bible Study</p>				

# April 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
			<p>5:30pm RE Gym Setup</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm RE/FBC</p>	<p>2pm Construction Meeting</p> <p>6pm Adult Formation</p>	<p><b>Fish Fry</b></p> <p>Eucharistic Adoration—24 hrs</p>	<p>8am Setup</p>
<p>5</p> <p>11:30am Take Down</p> <p>2:30pm RCIA</p> <p>5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30pm Hearts Afire</p> <p>7pm Knights of Columbus</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club</p> <p>5:30pm SVDP</p> <p>6pm Stations of the Cross &amp; Mass</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study CSR</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6pm Adult Formation</p> <p>6pm Holy Thursday Mass</p>	<p>10</p> <p>No School</p> <p>6pm Good Friday Service</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8am Setup</p> <p>8:15pm Easter Vigil</p>
<p>12</p> <p><b>Easter Sunday</b></p> <p>11:30am Take Down</p> <p>5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6pm Security Meeting</p> <p>6:30pm Hearts Afire</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p> <p>7pm Building Steering Committee</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p> <p>7pm Finance Mtg</p>	<p>16</p> <p>2pm Construction Meeting</p> <p>6pm Adult Formation</p> <p>6pm SPSSC Meeting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8am Setup</p> <p>3:15pm First Communion Rehearsal</p>
<p>19</p> <p>11:30am Take Down</p> <p>2:30pm RCIA</p> <p>5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 Hearts Afire</p> <p>7pm Knights of Columbus</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm WWG</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6pm Adult Formation</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8am Setup</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8am Welcome Reception</p> <p>11:30am Take Down</p> <p>1pm First Communion</p> <p>Prayer Shawl</p> <p>2:30pm RCIA</p> <p>5pm Holy Hour</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Book Fair</b></p> <p>6:30 Hearts Afire</p> <p>7pm Baptism Class</p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>School Music Program</b></p> <p>7:30am Prayer Club</p> <p>6pm Parish Council</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p> <p>2pm Construction Meeting</p> <p>6pm Adult Formation</p>		

# May 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 <i>Book Fair</i> <i>Eucharistic Adoration—24 hrs</i> <i>Golf Tournament</i>	2 <i>8am Setup</i> <i>WWG Bake Sale</i> <i>5pm Spaghetti Dinner</i>
3 <i>Book Fair</i> <i>WWG Bake Sale</i> <i>11:30am Take Down</i> <i>3pm Athletic Banquet</i> <i>5pm Holy Hour</i>	4 <i>6:30pm Hearts Afire</i> <i>7pm Knights of Columbus</i>	5 <i>7:30am Prayer Club</i> <i>5:30pm SVDP</i> <i>6pm PTO Meeting</i> <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i>	6 <i>5:30pm RE Gym Setup</i> <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i> <i>6:30pm RE/FBC CSR</i>	7 <i>5pm School Play</i> <i>6pm Adult Formation</i>	8 <i>Directory Photos</i>	9 <i>8am Setup</i>
10 <i>Directory Photos</i> <i>11:30am Take Down</i> <i>5pm Holy Hour</i>	11 <i>6pm Security Meeting</i> <i>6:30pm Hearts Afire</i>	12 <i>7:30am Prayer Club</i> <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i> <i>7pm Building Steering Committee</i>	13 <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i>	14 <i>2pm Construction Meeting</i> <i>6pm Adult Formation</i>	15 <i>6pm 8th Grade Graduation</i>	16 <i>8am Setup</i> <i>11am Hart Event</i>
17 <i>8:30am Confirmation</i> <i>3:30pm Take Down</i> <i>5pm Holy Hour</i>	18 <i>6:30 Hearts Afire</i> <i>7pm Knights of Columbus</i>	19 <i>7:30am Prayer Club</i> <i>6pm SMAT</i> <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i> <i>6:30pm WWG</i>	20 <i>PreSchool Graduation</i> <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i> <i>7pm Finance Mtg</i>	21 <i>Kindergarten Graduation</i> <i>6pm Adult Formation</i> <i>6pm SPSSC Meeting</i>	22 <i>Last Day of School</i>	23 <i>8am Setup</i>
24 <i>11:30am Take Down</i> <i>Prayer Shawl</i> <i>5pm Holy Hour</i>	25 <i>6:30 Hearts Afire</i> <i>7pm Baptism Class</i>	26 <i>7:30am Prayer Club</i> <i>6pm Parish Council</i> <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i>	27 <i>6:30pm Bible Study</i>	28 <i>2pm Construction Meeting</i> <i>6pm Adult Formation</i>	29	30 <i>8am Setup</i>
31 <i>7:30am Pancake Feed</i> <i>11:30am Take Down</i> <i>5pm Holy Hour</i>						

## Religious Education — Deacon Mark White



In our Ash Wednesday Mass readings, our Lord directs “Rend your hearts, not your garments.” To “rend” means “to split or tear apart or in pieces by violence.” By rending our hearts, God is calling us to a radical conversion. And the conversion leads us from a lesser existence to a far greater reality—a conversion to an incredible relationship with our

God who loves us infinitely. And to help us in this conversion, God gives us the fullness of His grace through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. We earthy pilgrims receive that fullness through the Catholic Church to include her prayers, the Sacraments, the Communion of Saints, and the Church’s liturgies and worship.

During this Lenten journey, our St. Matthew’s the Evangelist Catholic Community youth are striving to better know and understand this relationship that God dreams for us. Amongst these are almost 60 Religious Education and St. Matthew School youth preparing for their first sacraments. Our second-grade children have already received their first Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation during the past Advent season. They continue to prepare for their **first Sacrament of Holy Eucharist** that they’ll receive at a **1 p.m.** Mass on **April 26<sup>th</sup>**. As well, our eighth-grade Candidates have been preparing for the **Sacrament of Confirmation** that they’ll receive on **May 17<sup>th</sup>** at the **8:30 a.m.** Mass presided by **Archbishop Lucas**. Our parish is grateful to the many parish catechists, teachers, volunteers, and staff who have enabled our parish youth to better strengthen their relationship with God. As well, many thanks to our self-

less parish organizations like our Knights of Columbus, the school’s Parent-Teacher Organization, the Women Working for God, and our prayer warriors who provide material and spiritual support and safety for our parish youth in faith formation.

As part of our Religious Education program, the parish offers an on-going monthly Family-Based Catechesis (FBC) opportunity. In FBC, the parish adults gather in the main worship area to learn more about Catholic Church teachings as well as sharing our faith. Simultaneously, the parish youth meet with grade-specific catechists to learn more about their faith. The goal of FBC is to encourage and better prepare our parish families to grow the Catholic faith culture within their homes. **All parishioners** are invited to participate in the monthly FBC sessions as a means to grow in their own faith.

Through opportunities such as Sacrament preparation, FBC, as well as many other Bible studies and occasions for spiritual growth in our parish, we grow stronger as individuals and as families. This in turn leads to our St. Matthew’s parish and the entire mystical Body of Christ growing stronger as well. God calls us to strengthen our Catholic faith. And, He provides us the transforming graces we need through His Church when we respond to His call to “Rend your hearts.” Happy transformation this Lent!

Peace,  
Deacon Mark



## Help Always Needed

Every Thursday Father has Mass (1:00 pm) at the Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home and EMHC's visit the rooms of residents that are unable to make it to the Chapel.

Every Sunday at both the Veteran Home (10:45 a.m.) and at Mable Rose (10:00 a.m.) we conduct a Communion Service for the residents.

All of the above does not take more than 1-1/2 hours. A person is never alone during the time and training is provided. If you are not an EMHC, see Father and inform him of your intentions and he will advise you. Please contact the Parish Office and Paula or Patsy will put you in contact with the coordinators.

