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CELEBRATING
150
YEARS

BUILDING UPON A TRADITION
OF CATHOLIC FAITH

Sunday Social's are underway

By David Schmidt

Just as spring allows us the opportunity each year to experience all things new, this Lent saw the beginning of something new at St. Pat's, the beginning of our St. Pat's Sunday Social's.

This monthly event, which looks to build community through faith, fun, and fellowship, by simultaneously offering multiple Social, Educational, Devotional, and Spiritual activities for people of all ages, has gotten off to a wonderful start.

So far the youth have learned about Lent, St. Patrick and Palm Sunday in our Sunday school. Adults have had the opportunity to partake in sessions about the Bible, The Holy Spirit, Confession, The Eucharist, the Future of Food, partake in a Catholic Q & A, pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Liturgy of the Hours, or praise God through song. And everyone has had the chance to partake in coffee, donuts and games or sit down to a delicious pancake breakfast and ham and scalloped potatoes lunch.

Overall, this February and March, we saw parishioners of all ages getting together to learn, share, and discuss their faith. We saw parishioners coming together in prayer and song to give worship to God. We saw parishioners sitting down and sharing a meal or having a conversation over a cup of coffee and a game of chess. It truly was beautiful to see the Spirit working in so many ways.

Yet this is only the beginning. Planning is already underway for our next several events on April 15th and May 20th. So if you haven't had the opportunity to join us please mark your calendars.

Additionally, we are constantly working to

make this event meet the needs of the parish. So if you have any ideas, suggestions for topics, would like to see certain topics repeated, or to learn more about what we are doing and ways to help, please contact David Schmidt at: davidjschmidt@hotmail.com or join us at one of our planning meetings announced in the Bulletin

Finally, like most things, this event takes time and effort, and is not done by a select few. We have had over 2 dozen volunteers; the Knights of Columbus, PCCW and St. Pat's Hispanic Community all contribute time and effort to make these mornings a success. For all their hard work we say THANK YOU and GOD BLESS!



PCCW Spring News

By Rita Verkler

Spring is always a busy time of year for the PCCW. Please mark your calendars for these events coming up in April, May, and June.

April 7/8: Divine Mercy Sunday Annual Collection will be conducted at all masses. The money is turned over to the Diocese Council of Catholic Women to fund their educational, spirituality, and leadership programs, and scholarships.

April 12: The Tomah Deanery Spring Gathering will be held at St. Patrick's Church in Mauston. Registration is at 6 PM. The program is at 7 PM. The featured speaker is Brigitte Varga who will be speaking on her and her husband's emigration to America. If you need transportation, call Bonnie Mlsna, 269-6067.

April 21: The Diocese Council of Catholic Women Biannual Conference will be held in Wausau. Flyers and registration forms are located on the bulletin board in the back of church.

April 27: St. Pat's PCCW Spring Spirituality Day will take us to the FSPA St. Rose Convent for a tour, mass, and lunch. Watch the bulletin for specifics.

May 16: PCCW 20th

Annual Appreciation Dinner. Watch the bulletin for details.

June 8/9: Spring Thrift and Bake Sale.

The term of office for our leadership team expires this summer. Our goal is to establish a team for the 2018 - 2020 term during our next meeting on April 23 at 7:00 in the church hall. Please prayerfully consider adding this service to your "bucket list." We hope to see some new faces at our regular meetings. The PCCW meetings are a great place to make new friends or re-connect with acquaintances. You may find out about a service project in which you can participate, or just things that are going on in our parish. If any parish lady is interested in learning more about PCCW and/or becoming a part of the leadership team, contact a current team member.

Our current leadership team is: Co-chairs, Darleen Ziegler and Rita Verkler; Secretary, Mary Hoef; Treasurer, Maureen Richardson. Our commission chairs are: Spirituality, Kassie Hendersin; Service, Kathy Shilling; Leadership, Cathy Phelps; and Pro-life, Bonnie Mlsna. Marilyn Donskey, Judy Spaeth, and Shirley Kuderer continue to chair our very able Funeral Lunch Crew. Erika Hodges is most helpful with our publicity and recently coordinated with Father Keith to establish a permanent site on a bulletin board in church so we can post our materials. THANK YOU, FATHER KEITH!

The PCCW wishes everyone a safe and fun spring and summer!

Coming Soon – VBS 2018

Join us July 22nd – July 26th from 5:00pm-7:30pm. For all children in 4k-5th Grade. Registration will open in May. Cost is \$5. Contact David Schmidt for more information at davidjschmidt@hotmail.com.



Please prayerfully consider adding this service to your "bucket list." We hope to see some new faces at our regular meetings."

St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus

By Mike Harris, Grand Knight

Praise and Glory to our Lord Jesus Christ!

At this writing we are in the midst of the Lenten/Easter season and waiting for the Resurrection! I hope you have had a blessed Easter.

We are continuing the completion of the Ten Commandments monument this spring. There is a little more prep work to be done and the bricks are ready to install. This is also the time of year the Knights will be

having the Tootsie Roll Drive on April 18th-21st to help the mentally disabled. So, get your sweet tooth ready!

If you didn't already know the Knights Council 4592 now have a Facebook page thanks to the efforts of Tom McAnulty! Go to Facebook and search Knight of Columbus #4592. (Don't forget the hashtag!) Lots of good information to be found there.

I would like to extend a personal invitation to all

the men of St. Patrick's parish to come and see what we Knights have to offer the parish. There is a new kiosk in the back of the church with information on how to join us and make a difference.

Wisdom from Pope Francis:

Life is a journey, along different roads, which leave their mark on us.

So come and join us and leave your mark!

Vivat Jesus



"I would like to extend a personal invitation to all the men of St. Patrick's parish to come and see what we Knights have to offer."

From the Bishop - Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

By Bishop William Callahan

O God, who gladden us year by year with the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection, graciously grant, that, by celebrating these present festivities, we may merit through them to reach the eternal joys of Heaven.

Hi everybody, Bishop Callahan here. Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Yes, Christ has risen from the dead and we have reason to believe! For two thousand years, and here in our diocese the past one hundred fifty, people of Faith have been marking for us the anniversary of Christ's brutal passion, His death, and His Glorious Resurrection from the dead so that we will

remember - Jesus Christ, God the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, loves us.

His love for us was made real by his resurrection, and also through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is an expression of the Love between God the Father and God the Son. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit animates the Church, and animates us. When we reflect on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and use them to guide our lives, we are allowing ourselves to be open to the Will of God.

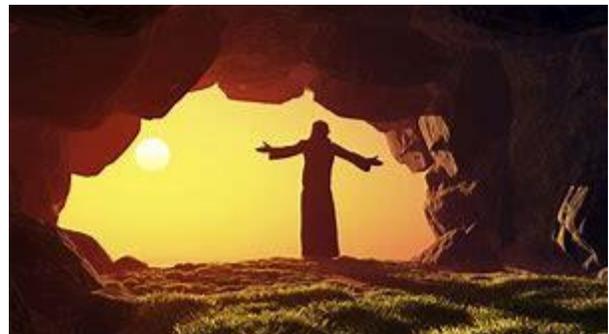
Easter is a time for us to celebrate the great gift we have been given! Make it a point to share the Easter Joy with those around you. Easter is also a time for us to deepen our awareness of the

presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, and to pray for the strength we need to merit the promise of eternal joy in Heaven.

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega

All time belongs to him and all the ages
To him be glory and power through every age and forever. Amen

Blessed Easter to you!



Pope Francis' Catechesis of the Mass

By Pope Francis
General Audience, Vatican City, March 21st, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good Morning!



“In this faith, we too turn our gaze to the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and we invoke him: “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof but only say the word and my soul shall be healed”.”

And let us now continue with the catechesis on the Holy Mass. The celebration of Mass which we have been reviewing in stages is organized around Communion, that is, in being united to Jesus; the Sacramental Communion: not spiritual communion which you can have in your own home by saying: “Jesus I would like to receive you spiritually”. Not, Sacramental Communion, with the Body and the Blood of Christ. We celebrate the Eucharist to nourish ourselves of Christ who gives himself both in Word and in the Sacrament of the Altar, in order to conform us to him. The Lord himself says this: “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him”. (Jn 6:56). In fact, Jesus’ gesture of giving his Body and Blood to his disciples at the Last Supper still continues today through the ministry of the priests and deacons; ordinary ministers of the distribution of the Bread of life and the Cup of salvation, to the brothers and sisters.

During Mass, after breaking the consecrated Bread, that is the Body of Christ, the priest shows it to the faithful, inviting

them to participate in the Eucharistic banquet. We know the words that ring out from the sacred altar: “Happy are those who are called to his Supper. This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”. Inspired by a passage in the Book of Revelation — “Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb” (Rev 19:9): it says “marriage” because Jesus is the Spouse of the Church — this invitation calls us to experience intimate union with Christ, the source of joy and holiness. It is an invitation which brings happiness and at the same time spurs us to an examination of conscience enlightened by faith. If in fact, on the one hand we can see the distance which separates us from the sanctity of Christ, on the other, we believe that his Blood is “shed for the forgiveness of sins”. We were all forgiven at Baptism and we are all forgiven or will be forgiven when we approach the sacrament of Reconciliation. And do not forget: Jesus always forgives. Jesus never tires of forgiving. It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness. In fact it is in considering the salvific value of this Blood that Saint Ambrose exclaimed: “If I sin continually, I must always have a remedy” (De Sacramentis, iv, 6, 28: pl 16, 446a). In this faith, we too turn our gaze to the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the

world and we invoke him: “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof but only say the word and my soul shall be healed”. We say this at every Mass.

Although we are the ones who stand in procession to receive Communion; we approach the altar in a procession to receive communion, in reality it is Christ who comes towards us to assimilate us in him. There is an encounter with Jesus! To nourish oneself of the Eucharist means to allow oneself to be changed by what we receive. Saint Augustine helps us understand this when he talks about the light he received when he heard Christ say to him: “I am the food of strong men; grow, and you shall feed upon me; nor shall you convert me, like the food of your flesh, into you, but you shall be converted into me” (Confessions VII, 10, 16: pl 32, 742). Each time we receive Communion, we resemble Jesus more; we transform ourselves more fully into Jesus. As the Bread and the Wine are converted into the Body and Blood of the Lord, so too those who receive it with faith are transformed into a living Eucharist. You reply “Amen” to the priest who distributes the Eucharist saying “the Body of Christ”; that is, you recognize the grace and the commitment involved in becoming the Body of Christ.
 (Cont. Pg. 5)

From the Pope (from pg. 4)

(From Pg. 4) Because when you receive the Eucharist, you become the Body of Christ. This is beautiful; it is very beautiful. As it unites us to Christ, tearing us away from our selfishness, Communion opens us and unites us to all those who are a single thing in him. This is the wonder of Communion: we become what we receive!

The Church strongly desires that the faithful also receive the Lord's Body with Hosts consecrated at the same Mass; and the sign of the Eucharistic banquet is more fully expressed when Holy Communion is received under the two Species, even though we know that Catholic doctrine teaches us that Christ, whole and entire, is received even under only one Species, (cf. girm, 85:281-282). According to ecclesiastical norms, the faithful normally approach the Eucharist in a processional manner, as we have said, and receive Communion standing with devotion, or on their knees as established by the Episcopal Conference, receiving the Sacrament either on the tongue or in the hand, if allowed,

as preferred (cf. girm 160-161). After Communion, silence, silent prayer helps us treasure in our hearts the gift which we have received. To slightly extend that moment of silence, speaking to Jesus in our hearts, helps us a great deal, as does singing a psalm or a hymn of praise (cf. girm 88) that can help us be with the Lord.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist ends with the prayer after Communion. On behalf of everyone, with that prayer the priest turns to God to thank him for having shared the banquet and to ask that what was received may transform our lives. The Eucharist makes us strong in order to produce fruit in good works to live as Christians. Today's prayer is significant: we ask the Lord that "the participation in his Sacrament may be for us a heavenly medicine, heal us from sin and reaffirm us in his friendship" (cf. Roman Missal, Wednesday, Fifth week of Lent). Let us approach the Eucharist: receiving Jesus who transforms us into him makes us stronger. The Lord is so good and so great!

Additional transcripts of Pope Francis' 2018 General Audiences can be found at:
<http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2018/index.html#audiences>



After Communion, silence, silent prayer helps us treasure in our hearts the gift which we have received."

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://stpatricksparish.weconnect.com/>

Online Giving at:

<https://stpatricksparish.weshareonline.org/>

St. Patrick's School at:
www.spartacatholic.org

Upcoming Events

- 01 Apr – Easter
- 03 Apr – Worship Committee Meeting
- 04 Apr – K-10 Grade REP
- 04 Apr – Eucharistic Adoration
- 09 Apr – Knights of Columbus Meeting
- 10 Apr – Education Committee Meeting
- 11 Apr – K-10 Grade REP
- 15 Apr – St. Pat's Sunday Social
- 16 Apr – Second Harvest Food Pantry
- 18 Apr – K-10 Grade REP
- 25 Apr – K-10 Grade REP
- 23 Apr – PCCW Meeting
- 26 Apr – 2nd Grade Church Search
- 29 Apr – Last Weekend Food Drive
- 02 May – Eucharistic Adoration
- 02 May – K-10 Grade REP
- 06 May – First Communion
- 08 May – Education Committee Meeting
- 08 May – School and Home Meeting
- 09 May – K-10 Grade REP
- 13 May – The Ascension
- 14 May – Knights of Columbus Meeting
- 20 May – St. Pat's Sunday Social
- 20 May – School Chicken Q
- 20 May – Pentecost
- 21 May – Second Harvest Food Pantry
- 27 May – Last Weekend Food Drive
- 28 May – Memorial Day
- 01 Jun – Last Day of School
- 11 Jun – Knights of Columbus Meeting
- 17 Jun – St. Pat's Sunday Social
- 18 Jun – Second Harvest Food Pantry
- 24 Jun – Last Weekend Food Drive

Additional Resources...

Diocese of La Crosse - <http://diolc.org/>

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops - <http://usccb.org/>

The Holy See - <http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>

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