

From Fr. Gene... Ash Wednesday is this week and we begin a time of renewal and growth in our lives. The traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving help us with that, as well as those "extra opportunities" – Stations of the Cross, Friday evening Faith Enrichment sessions (on Vatican II this year), our parish retreat with Fr. Charlie, and our own personal practices. I pray that the 40 days of Lent bear much fruit for us individually and as a parish.

PARISH EVENTS



CARD PARTY

Sun. Feb 12, 3 pm, MultiPurpose Rooms. Pinochle & Whist \$5 includes soup & sandwiches following the games.



BREAKFAST/SILENT AUCTION

For Parishioner Wendelin Holzer & family who just lost their Wife & Mother Kathy. Proceeds will benefit the tremendous medical expenses during Kathy's stay in the hospital, she did not have medical insurance. Free will offering, Sun. Feb. 19, 9-1:30, Apple Creek Country Club (3 miles East on Hwy 10). An account has been set up at Dakota Community Bank, 1727 State Street, Bis. 58501, Attn: Kathy Holzer Benefit Fund.

MINISTER SCHEDULES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

- ~ Please sign up in the Gathering Space for Ministries.
- ~ Pick up your new ministry schedules in the Gathering Space. Includes the new Usher schedules.

ASH WEDNESDAY PARKING

When attending the 5:30 pm & 7 pm Ash Wednesday Masses please DO NOT use the Pizza Hut parking lot. Our parking lot/play ground will be open off Thayer Ave as well the small lot east of the Rectory off 9th St. Parking is also available in the Centers for Excellence & MedCenter One parking lots off Thayer Ave between 7th & 9th St.

AWARENESS FOR THE HOMELESS BREAKFAST

Sun. Feb. 26, 9-12:30 pm, Msgr. Feehan Hall. Free will offering accepted. Proceeds benefit Ruth Meier's Hospitality House. Sponsored by St. Mary's Charity & Justice Team



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun. Feb. 19

9 am Benefit Breakfast for Holzer family, Apple Creek Country Club
10 am Altar Society Mtg, MultiPurpose Rm, N

Tues. Feb. 21

7 pm No Mass
7 pm Pastoral Council, MultiPurpose Rm.

Wed. Feb. 22

9 am, 5:30 & 7 pm Ash Wednesday Masses

Thurs. Feb. 23

Fellowship after Mass
7 pm Finance Council, Conference Room

Fri. Feb. 24

6:30 pm Stations of the Cross, Church
7 pm Lenten Enrichment, MultiPurpose Rms

Sat. Feb. 25

9 am Cleaning Team, Church



Thank you for your patience last Sunday with Jr Hi Youth Group being canceled. **Jr Hi Youth Group** will meet this Sun. Feb. 19, 12-2:30PM in the Dwelling Place. Invite your friends to come! We will be talking about compliments & make Valentine's Day cards a week late for the homebound & those in nursing homes from our Parish. Because the Sr Hi Ski Trip being canceled WE WILL have **Sr Hi Youth Group** this Sunday 7:30-9 PM, St. Anne's. If you do not know where the youth room is, call Melissa when you arrive. Invite a friend! Thank you to Fr. Jason for his incredible guidance on the topic of media. We will have many more great upcoming speakers! In March we will meet in St. Mary's, Dwelling Place. Youth ages 16+ join us on a SEARCH weekend March 24-25, Medora. Cost: \$75 due with registration by Mar. 4. You will not regret taking this weekend to renew your faith and make new Catholic friends!

Get ready to SKI! The Tri-Parish Youth Ministry for Jr Hi grades 6-8 ski trip to Bottineau, Mar. 9-11. Cost \$200 includes food, lodging, skiing & travel. Registration due in the parish office by Mon. Feb 24, deposit of \$75 to reserve your spot. There are only 20 spots available & registrations are taken on a first come, first served basis. Registration packets available at youth group. Please call Melissa to [chaperone, 989-0196](mailto:chaperone_989-0196) or e-mail triparish.youthministry@gmail.com

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Mon. 02/20	- 9:00	Communion Service
Tues. 02/21		No Mass
Wed. 02/22	- 9:00	✙ Mary Kay Danzl
	- 5:30 pm	Poor & Hungry in America
	- 7:00 pm	Patricia Heisler
Thurs. 02/23	- 9:00	✙ Carl Weichel
Fri. 02/24	- 9:00	✙ Max Tschosik
Sat. 02/25	- 4:30 pm	✙ Eugene Senger
Sun. 02/26	- 9:00	✙ Corrine Feist
	- 11:00	St. Mary's Parishioners
	- 6:30 pm	✙ Conrad Wingerter



WITH SYMPATHY

Monica Backhaus, Pray for family & friends who grieve her loss. May the fullness of life be hers.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

"Your offenses; your sins I remember no more." (Is 43:25)
 "Child, your sins are forgiven." (Mk 2:5) We humans hold grudges - but that is not the way of God, the way of love. With Ash Wednesday approaching consider letting go of an annoyance or fault of your beloved for Lent. Don't bring it up again - at least for 6 weeks.

PARENTING POINTERS

Feb. 22 is Ash Wednesday. Talk with your kids about whether there is something the whole family might give up or DO for Lent. For example: omit desserts, TV, or videos except on Sunday; eat dinner together more, give each other one sincere compliment a day...



...Empowering women from the inside out. An outreach ministry of the St. Paul Benedictions.
www.stpaulsmonastery.org.
Invites you to...▶give yourself time to slow down ▶get in touch with your 'sacred self' ▶experience

a warm & welcoming environment ▶ meet other women to share & support each other in the joys & challenges of life. Information for women of all ages & stages of spiritual growth. 8-Week sessions begins Feb. 20-April 9, 6-8 p.m. FMI call Alison Black, 426-3637 or Shelly Vecchia, 222-8244.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

TIME & TALENT CARDS

Parish Service 2
Community Service 7
Prayer Hours 14
Electronic Giving 3

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Those who commit to stewardship as a way of life look to Jesus as the model of the perfect steward. He spent time in prayer; he used his talents in service of others; and he made the ultimate sacrifice for redemption from our sins.

1083 HOUSEHOLDS

Adult Envelopes (218) \$ 7,470
Electronic Contributions \$ 548
Youth Envelopes(76) \$ 72
Plate Collection <u>\$ 1,699</u>
Total Received Feb 12 \$ 9,789

Youth Envelope Winner: Kellan Martin

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday, Feb. 20 Jas 3:13-18/Mk 9:14-29	Tuesday, Feb. 21 Jas 4:1-10/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday, Feb. 22 Ji 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	
Thursday, Feb. 23 Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25	Friday, Feb. 24 Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday, Feb. 25 Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32	
Sunday, Feb. 26 Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15	

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASS SERIES

A series of classes for the sympto-thermal method of Natural Family Planning will be held at 1:30pm, Spirit of Life Catholic Church, Mandan: Feb. 19, March 18 & April 22. FMI 471-1549. Register at www.ccli.org

PARISH COUNSELOR

Dr. Ray Napierkowski provides counseling services in the areas of grief, bereavement & other issues. All sessions are confidential & free of charge. FMI or an appointment call Ray, 255-2821.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lenten Fish Fries Fridays, Feb. 24-Mar. 30, 5-7 pm. Corpus Christi Church, Bismarck. Proceeds support the Youth Ministry Program. Enjoy a great meal as you support our youth!

A Simple Lenten Retreat for Women Mar. 3, 9-3:30 pm, Christ the King, 505 10th Ave NW, Mandan. Fr Justin Waltz presents "How Can I Forgive When I Can't Forget?" Cost: \$20, send to 1145 S Highland Acres Rd, Bis. 58501. Reg. & payment due by Feb. 25. After Feb. 25, Cost: \$25. Questions call Patti, 224-9633 or Theresa, 222-2752. Continental breakfast & lunch provided.

Medcenter One Marillac Manor Independent Living Retirement Apartments. Immediate opening for a studio apartment. 450 sq ft. full kitchen & bath. All utilities included. Daily Mass & Rosary, Call 701-258-8702.

Medjugorje Pilgrimage IV A Spiritual Medjugorje Pilgrimage is scheduled for departures from Bismarck & Minot, Oct. 29-Nov. 8, 2012. Please call Bob or Donna, 223-9235, as soon as possible to register or questions. Limited to the first 35 pilgrims.

VOCATION VIEWS

God's healing power is at work in you. Who needs your compassion? How will you be an instrument of healing and forgiveness? (Mark 2:1-12)



FROM THE DIOCESE

WORD OF LIFE MESSAGE

No society, however developed it may be, can do without fraternal service inspired by love. "Whoever wants to eliminate love is preparing to eliminate man as such. There will always be suffering which cries out for consolation & help. There will always be loneliness. There will always be situations of material need where help in the form of concrete love of neighbor is indispensable" (*Deus Caritas Est*, 28). It is love which soothes hearts that are hurt, forlorn or abandoned. It is love which brings or restores peace to human hearts & establishes it in our midst.

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Apostolic Exhortation *Africae Munus* (29), November 19, 2011

Director of Religious Education Job Opening - Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. **Qualifications:** Practicing Catholic in good standing with an MA in religious education or related field or BA with the willingness to pursue a master's degree. **Responsibilities:** Supervision & implementation of the parish religious ed. program (grades Preschool-12), along with direct responsibility for creating & implementing the adult faith formation program. FMI go to: www.cathedralparish.com. **Salary/Benefits:** Competitive. Work period Aug.15-June 15. **Apply:** Send resume, personal info., education & prof. training, work history, three references & cover letter describing your personal philosophy on the importance of catechesis in parish life to: Cathedral Search Committee, 519 Raymond St, Bis. 58501 or cathchrch@bismarckdiocese.com. **Deadline: Feb. 29.**

A FREE WILLS PLANNING GUIDE

Are you one of the 70% or one of the 30%? About 70% of Americans have no will. Of those that do, about 70% have outdated wills. Without a Will, the State will "make" one for you. Your family may not like what it says. A free *Guide to Planning your Will & Trust* call the Diocese, 222-3035 or e-mail mkiedrowski@bismarckdiocese.com.

Ministers Schedule Feb. 25/26

SATURDAY: 4:30 PM
USHERS: GROUP 10
READERS: CHUCK BELISLE
 DEBBY MARBACK
SERVERS: BEN ABERLE
 KENNEDY BLACK
GIFTS: DAN & TARA BROOKE FAMILY
EUCH: B1. GARY SCHAFER
 B2. CLAUDIA NAGEL
 B3. DEACON MICHAEL
 C1. KATHY ECKERT
 C2. TIM RASMUSSEN
 C3. LEO VOIGT
 C4. GAIL BELISLE
MUSIC: JOSIE & CHOIR
WORD: ALISON B & BIRGEN B

SUNDAY: 9 AM
USHERS: GROUP 11
READERS: SCOTT MILLER
 JANE PAUL
SERVERS: ADAM GREFF
 ABBY GREFF
GIFTS: ART & LAURA ARCHULETA
 FAMILY
EUCH: B1. JED STEINER
 B2. CINDY LEINIUS
 B3. DEACON HARVEY
 C1. MATTHEW KOPP
 C2. CLIFF LEINIUS
 C3. LEON UHRICH
 C4. PAM SEIFERT
MUSIC: ALISHA & KEYLEE
WORD: KIM S & BROOKE W

SUNDAY: 11 AM
USHERS: GROUP 12
READERS: JACKIE STEBBINS
 TERRY HULM
SERVERS: AUSTIN KLEIN
 ZACH ZENKER
GIFTS: BRAD & JODY KERZMAN
 FAMILY
EUCH: B1. DENNIS BURDOLSKI
 B2. COLLEEN OLUFSON
 B3. DEACON HARVEY
 C1. ROSEMARY WANGLER
 C2. BOB SCHMIDT
 C3. RAMY WANGLER
 C4. TERRY HULM
MUSIC: BRENDA & MICHAEL
WORD: CARMEN K & HOPE B

SUNDAY: 6:30 PM
USHERS: GROUP 14
READER: KIMBERLY PETERSON
SERVERS: VICTORIA WINDSOR
 JOHN WINDSOR
GIFTS: MARY NESPER
 DAVID JOHS
EUCH: B1. DEACON TERRY
 C1. CHAD PORSBORG
 C2. JOEL GUSTAFSON
MUSIC: SUSAN & STEVE

2012 LENTEN REGULATIONS

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2012. Lenten regulations for the Diocese of Bismarck are as follows:

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Fridays in Lent and Good Friday.
2. In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday and until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

These minimal penitential practices should not be lightly excused.

LENTEN FAITH ENRICHMENT SESSIONS

February 24	Reason for calling Vatican II – Fr. Gene
March 2	Dogmatic Constitution on the Church – Deacon Harvey
March 9	Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy – Deacon Michael
March 16	Dogmatic Constitution on the Divine Revelation – Deacon Terry
March 23-24	Parish Retreat we are made in God's Image & Likeness – Fr. Charlie Heidt
March 30	Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World – Dan Brooke Closing remarks – Fr. Gene

Stations of the Cross, 6:30 pm, Church. Lenten Sessions, 7 pm, MultiPurpose Rooms

SERVER TRAINING

Will be Sat. Mar. 3, 9 am in the church. **You must** call Deacon Michael, 258-6889 or email michael@stmarysparishfamily.net if you are attending the training.

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Were you baptized Catholic but have not received First Eucharist and/or Confirmation? Are you already Catholic, but would like a “refresher course?” Is your spouse Catholic and you would like to investigate joining the Catholic faith? If you answered yes, then RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) might be for you! Adult education sessions are Monday evenings, 7 PM. FMI, call Diane, 223-5562 or dianeh@stmarysparishfamily.net.

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Mason James Eggebrecht
son of Michael & Jennifer

Lucas John & Owen Steven Mattson
sons of Mandy & Adam

Kolton Adam Grimm
son of Dalon & Lynn

Miles Harold Osadchy
son of Josph & Anna

Jaxon John Hochhalter
son of Rick & Tara

Maddison Jo Rebel
daughter of Michael & Candace

Elizabeth Ann Kiesel
daughter of Travis & Karen

Mason James Silvernagel
son of Corey & Jessica

Miea Marii Kraft
daughter of Christopher & Cassandra

Micah Russell Slappy
son of Jermece & Nicole

Noah Jacob Longie
son of Kevin & Stephanie

LIGHT OF CHRIST CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE

As announced at the Masses last weekend and in the media and press on Monday and Tuesday, Bismarck's Catholic schools have embarked on a new vision and future for Catholic School education in the community, which involves the formation of a jointly operated Catholic school system. A unified system of Catholic schools provides many opportunities from the efficiency of reducing costs of services, a unified curriculum, enhanced resources to support staff development for our administrators and teachers, and the support and direction of an educational leader at the helm of our system. More importantly it will strengthen the already vibrant spirit of our faith community in Bismarck.

A national search has begun for a well-qualified Catholic school educator to be our Superintendent. The new Superintendent will have the credentials and expertise to build and lead the new system and, over the next three to five years implement the Strategic Plan.

The Light of Christ Catholic Schools of Excellence will include St. Mary's Grade School, Cathedral School, Saint Anne's School and St. Mary's Central High School. They will be jointly operated by the member parishes of Ascension, Cathedral, Corpus Christi, St. Anne's and St. Mary's.

It is our goal to make the Light of Christ Catholic Schools of Excellence available, accessible and affordable to all families who wish to choose them for their children.

There is a space in the Light of Christ Catholic Schools of Excellence for your children. For enrollment and information contact the schools listed below.

St. Mary's Grade School	701-223-0225	www.stmarysbismarck.org/school
Cathedral School	701-223-5484	www.cathedral.k12.nd.us
St. Anne's School	701-223-2273	www.st-anneschool.org
St. Mary's Central High School	701-223-4113	www.smchs.org

SMCHS

SMCHS CHOIR & BAND CONCERT

Midwinter Concert, Sun., Feb. 26, 2:30 p.m. in the school gym. Doors open at 1:45 p.m. Admission: \$3 for adults & \$1 for students. All Patron, Family & Maestro tickets will be honored. Reception following in the school.

LOADED BAKED POTATO SUPPER

Feb. 21, 4:30-7:30 pm in the cafeteria. Menu: SUPER sized potato with BBQ pork or smoked chicken & your choice of toppings (broccoli, sour cream, butter, shredded cheese, or ranch dressing) & ice cream. Cost: \$6/person. Sneak down for supper while enjoying the Saints vs Jamestown basketball games. Sponsored by SMCHS Pride Parents.

CARNIVAL LADIES ACTIVITIES

There is only one word to describe your efforts during the Carnival Weekend and that is WOW! The Baked Goods that all of you provided were outstanding. We have never seen anything quite like that in the years previous. You just kept bringing and bringing your baked goods all weekend & we kept selling. The end result was the best ever. I don't think there is any other event in the Bismarck area that can match our Bake Sale. And your donation of books & White Elephant items was tremendous, too. The results were fantastic! Start a box for next year?

My heartfelt appreciation for all you did to make our part of the SMCHS's Carnival a success. I will end with this, "Can we count on all of you again next year?" Thank you so much; we can't do it without you.

Rita Ritter, Ladies Activities Chairperson

CARD PARTY WINNERS

Leona Feist & Carla Schiermeister! Leona was our high Pinochle winner & Carla was our high Whist player at St. Mary's Altar Society's card party, Feb. 12. Everyone had a good time, enjoyed great fellowship with a bowl of soup & a sandwich. Join us next month Mar. 4, 3 p.m. for more of the same. Invite a friend. If you don't play cards, come for the meal & fellowship, 5:30. All are welcome. St. Mary's Altar Society

BIS/MAN AREA PRE MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Married couples are invited to join the teams working Pre Marriage Seminars. Each couple is asked to commit to 3 weekends throughout one year. Training is provided as well as childcare stipend for those with children. This peer ministry helps engaged couples preparing for marriage while strengthening your own married relationship. FMI or questions, call Kim or Diane Martin, 224-0740.

SPONSORING COUPLE TRAINING

There will be Sponsoring Couple Training at Spirit of Life Church, Mandan on March 9-10. The workshop runs from 7-10 PM Friday and 9-3:00 PM CST Saturday and includes videos, discussion, learning the assessment tool instrument FOCCUS, role playing and listening skills. This training is for priests, deacons, married couples or individuals working with engaged couples preparing for marriage. It is open to all faith denominations. FMI or to register, call Fr. Gene, 223-5562 or Joyce McDowall, Office of Family Ministry, 222-3035. Registration fee: \$50, includes materials & lunch. If you would like to take the training & receive the FOCCUS assessment manual, the cost: is \$10.

GROOMING THE NEXT GENERATION FOR SUCCESS

This Spiritual course for parents/teachers/coaches/youth pastors/grandparents or anyone who works with children. Learn to communicate with your child from toddler to teens like you never thought possible. Covers: **Dreams & Goals, Self Image, Work Ethic, People Skills, Discipline & Accountability, Prevention of Peer Pressure, Money Management, Nutritional Selections & Spiritual Equipping.** Feb. 25, Mar. 10, 17, 24 & 31, 9-11 am; 2000 Schafer St., Bis. (In the RebeccaRice office space); **FREE.** FMI call, Mary Jo Irmen, 751-3917 or maryjo@rebeccarice.net.

BLACK & INDIAN MISSION

Next Sunday, our parish will take up the annual Collection for the Black & Indian Missions. Our financial contribution helps support Catholic American Indian communities on reservations, in rural areas & inner cities. The collection also supports African American evangelization programs, particularly in the south. Let us unite ourselves with the love of Christ in supporting this mission with generous hearts.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES' OPERATION RICE BOWL

This Lent, our faith community will be joining millions of Catholics across the country by participating in CRS' Operation Rice Bowl. Your family is invited to pick up a Rice Bowl packet at the exits of the church and join in this simple yet powerful Lenten practice. Catholic Relief Services invites us to pray with our families & faith communities, fast in solidarity with those who are hungry, learn about our brothers & sisters around the world and give sacrificial contributions to help those in need.



ROSARY LEADERS NEEDED

For the 4:30, 9, 11 & 6:30 pm Masses. If you are interested please call the parish office, 223-5562.