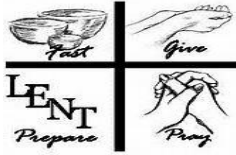


# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015



Dear brothers and sisters, in the ninth chapter of John's Gospel, there is an amazing progression of faith in the man born blind. In 9:11 the man born blind refers to Jesus as, "...a "man"; by verse 9:17 he is a "prophet"; by 9:33 he is "from God"; and by 9:38 he is the "Lord" worthy of worship. The narrative challenges our minds to make the same conclusion and our hearts to make the same response" (Hahn, Mitch. *Ignatius Catholic Study Bible – The Gospel of John*. 2003, Page 36).

The man born blind was being questioned by the Pharisees, almost put on trial after having been healed. Yet we see his faith growing all the while. He is a wonderful example for us of how our faith can grow even when we are put to the test.

God bless you!

Fr. Barnes

## EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sun, March 15...Middle School Night  
 Mon, March 16....  
 Tues, March 17.. Fatima Group 8:30am, Choir Practice 7pm,  
 Book Club 7:15pm, Baptism Class 6pm  
 Wed, March 18...Religious Ed. 6:30pm  
 Thurs, March 19..RCIA @ HC 7pm, PC Meeting 7pm  
 Fri, March 20.....Stations of Cross 6:30pm, GROW Meeting 7:30pm in  
 Church Basement  
 Sat, March 21.....Rosary in Chapel 9am, Hall Rented 10-4,  
 GROW meeting in Lonsdale 8:30-3:30  
 Sun, March 22...  
 Liturgy of the Hours (Morning Prayer): Everyone is Welcome - Tuesday –  
 Friday at 7:20am & Sat at 7:35am in the church.

Please consider signing up for Automatic Withdrawal for your Sunday giving. It's easy to sign up and will automatically be withdrawn from your account one time a month. Forms are in the back of church, on the parish website; [www.stncc.net](http://www.stncc.net) or by calling the parish office at 952-461-2403.

St. Nicholas apparel items and accessories are available to order online. Please visit the parish website ([stncc.net](http://stncc.net)) and follow the link provided or visit <https://ssastores.com/store/st-nicholas-catholic-church-elko-new-market-mn/>  
**Please note all ordering, payment, shipping and returns are handled through SSA Stores and not the parish office.**

**Doughnut Sunday schedule: April 12<sup>th</sup>, May 10<sup>th</sup> and June 14<sup>th</sup>.  
 Doughnuts are served after both Sunday masses. Everyone is welcome!!**

Would your child like to put their very own envelope into the collection basket each week? **Now they can!** We have a box of children's envelopes located in the back of church, which your child can use each week to write on, the good deed they did that week, a message to God or if they want to reach into their pockets and give a little something. Any amount that is collected will be listed in the bulletin each week. A great way to encourage participation and stewardship is by making an offering of prayer.

Dear St. Nicholas Parish Community,  
**It is not difficult to have an attitude of gratitude when I received a generous check for \$1,350.00 from St. Nicholas Parish Community. Once again you have SHARED IN THE CARE of our retired religious. Thank you for understanding our need!  
 May God bless you for your generosity!  
 Sister Midge Breiter, SSND  
 Archdiocesan RFFR Coordinator**

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Wed. April 1<sup>st</sup> – Confessions 4:30-5:30pm  
 Penance Service 7pm**  
**Holy Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Morning Prayer 8am  
 Confessions 11am–12pm  
 Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm**  
**Good Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>– Morning Prayer 8am  
 Confessions 11am –12pm  
 Veneration of the Cross 3pm,  
 Stations of the Cross 7pm**  
**Holy Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup>– Morning Prayer 8:00am,  
 Easter Vigil 8:30pm (NO 5pm mass)**  
**Easter April 5<sup>th</sup> – Mass 8am & 10am**

### **Food Shelf Weekends!**

We are excited to announce that our parish will now be holding food drives the last full weekend of every month. Food can be brought to Mass and deposited in the bins in the back of Church. All donations will be going to the Scott County Food Shelf. Mark your calendar and thanks in advance for your donations!

**Spring clothing collection for Joseph's Coat** – please bring your donations to the church basement and place by the coat rack, for pick up on Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

### **LENT 2015 -**

**Friday, March 27 - Stations, Soup and Speaker night.** Stations of the Cross will be followed by Soup Supper and a speaker. If you would like to help with planning any of these events please contact Jean Moeller or Kathy Chlan.

**KEEPING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH ALIVE AND ACTIVE.** You are invited to join St Wenceslaus in New Prague as they welcome John Crudele, well known speaker, author and coach who connects with his audience in a very personal and profound way. The fee is only \$5.00 to help with costs. You are welcome to come for all or just stay for the speaker. Please RSVP by April 19<sup>th</sup> to Kevin Kubat at [Kevin.kubat@npcatholic.org](mailto:Kevin.kubat@npcatholic.org) or 952-758-0477 for the light supper, speaker and teen and family mass at 6pm or if you would like a block of seats reserved.

### **2015 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL**

**The CSA goal for St. Nicholas is \$18,555  
 Donations to date: \$2,420**

If you have not made your contribution to the 2015 Catholic Services Appeal, please consider doing so.

One pledge can make a difference, especially when combined with all the other pledges made throughout our local Church. And, when our parish reaches its goal, 25% of all funds received will be returned for use to support ministries in our parish

**Thank you to everyone who has responded so quickly to the parish needs, through prayer, treasure and talent! God Bless You!**

**All these projects are complete!**

**We still need continued financial support for these projects.**

**Sidewalk replacement - \$2,236.50  
 Replacement of flat roofs over basement bathrooms & south basement entrance - \$11,250.00  
 Mold removal in parish basement - \$1,755.00  
 Mold removal in school building - \$600.00  
 Leaf guards for gutters on rectory - \$620.00  
 Additional Mold Removal (not in original bid) - \$1,952.00  
 Air Quality Tests (not included in original bid)- \$568.00  
 Total cost of current needed repairs: 18,981.50  
 Donations to date – Thank You! 13,826.00  
 Balance 5,155.50**

We are also in the process of identifying and prioritizing a number of other projects (solving our water problems is a big one). If you are able to contribute

to the parish for these expenses, you can make your donation two different ways. In your current Sunday envelopes, on the left side of the envelope it reads Capital Improvement and Endowment Fund Offering. Simply circle Capital Improvement and then list the dollar amount you would like to contribute to the projects. You may also stop in the parish office and leave your donation with Lisa. As the donations begin to come in, the dollar amounts will be listed in the bulletin. If you have any questions please contact the parish office at 952-461-2403  
Thank you from the Parish Leadership.

**ENDOWMENT DONATION OPPORTUNITY**

Please consider a donation to our Parish Endowment Fund. The Endowment is set up so we cannot spend the principle, only the interest earned can be spent as the Parish sees fit.  
Current balance \$ 96,000  
Accumulated Interest \$ 46,000

**BOOK CLUB**

Book Club meets one Tuesday a month @ 7:15pm at Deb Streefland's home. If you are interested in joining us, please call Deb Streefland at 952-652-2349. 2015 Schedule; March 17, April 14 and May 12.

**CHOIR**

The St. Nicholas choir practices Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:30pm. No previous choir or vocal training required to join. Our music ministry is one of the most vital to the Liturgy and one that brings its members many rewards for their time and talents shared. If you are interested but have questions, please contact Deb Carlson at 952-884-8251 or [debc@stncc.net](mailto:debc@stncc.net)

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL**

"There is more sweetness in one hour of prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament than in all the world's crowded theaters, and brilliant drawing rooms, and giddy diversions, and social gatherings." --St. Gabriel Possenti, Passionist clerical student, Italy, 1838-1862

**MORE ADORERS ARE NEEDED FOR HOLY HOURS WITH JESUS. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING WITH AN HOUR.**

Adorers are needed especially for the following hours: **Sunday:** 1 pm (1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays), **Tuesday:** 7 pm, 9 pm, **Wednesday:** 10 am, **Friday:** 1 am, 2 am, 3 am, 7 pm (2 Fridays a month), **Saturday:** 1 pm (on 2nd, 3rd Saturdays of the month). To sign up as an Adorer or for more information on Adoration, please contact Dan and Lynne Soderlund at (507) 645-6012 or at [lynsod@yahoo.com](mailto:lynsod@yahoo.com)

**MOTHER'S GROUP**

We are reading Catholic books and meeting once a month for spiritual discussion, to pray, and reflect on the Gospel to enrich and support our vocation as wives and mothers. Location and times may vary. Please contact Genie Stern and join us! 651-491-1447.

**PRO-LIFE**

We invite you to the chapel for the Pro-Life Rosary, every Saturday at 9am.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Check out the RE website at [www.lnmvre.net](http://www.lnmvre.net)  
Classes held at the Catholic Education Center (home of Holy Cross School) 6:30 – 7:45 PM

**Weekly CLASS night** on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>

Classes will have opportunity for Confessions  
10th grade Confirmation Students will also have testing this evening

**Weekly CLASS night** on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

**1<sup>st</sup> Communion Parents:** A reminder that April 11<sup>th</sup> is the First Communion Workshop at each parish from 9:30am to 11:00am. This workshop is mandatory.

**Lent:** Practice the three pillars of Lent – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Use your Lenten Calendars to help you stay on track. If you need a copy please go the [www.lnmvre.net](http://www.lnmvre.net) website for a copy.

**HOLY CROSS:**

This week Holy Cross middle school students begin an exciting after school enrichment class in 3-D Design and Printing. The course is being held in conjunction with Shattuck-St. Mary's of Faribault. An engineering instructor from Shattuck will teach five classes at Holy Cross using professional CAD

design software, and the sixth class will be held at Shattuck's engineering lab, where our students will use 3-D printers and lab equipment to see their creations come to life. We are very excited about this partnership!

**Mass Intentions – (\* indicates a change in mass time)**

Sat	14	5:00 pm	Joe Gallagher+
Sun	15	8:00 am	Paul & Therese Leon+
Sun	15	10:00 am	For the Parish
Tues	17	8:00 am	Floyd Hartmann+
Wed	18	8:00 am	Dave Williamson+
Thurs	19	8:00 am	Richard Kost+
Fri	20	8:00 am	Paul & Therese Leon+
Sat	21	8:00 am	DJ Bultman Jr.+
Sat	21	5:00 pm	Ken DeGross+
Sun	22	8:00 am	For the Parish
Sun	22	10:00 am	Emma Cannaday+



**Daily Scriptures**

Monday:	Isaiah 65:17-21	John 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ezekiel 47:1-9,12	John 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Isaiah 49:8-15	John 5:17-30
Thursday:	2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16	Matthew 1:16,18-21,24a
Friday:	Wisdom 2:1a,12-22	John 7:1-2,10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jeremiah 11:18-20	John 7:40-53
Sunday:	Jeremiah 31:31-34/Hebrews 5:7-9/John 12:20-33	

**Liturgical Stewardship March 21 & 22**

<b>March 21@ 5pm</b>	Lector:	Gail Mathews
	Ministers	Ralph Wagner-H
	Ushers	Doug Serie, Dave DeGonda
<b>March 22 @ 8am</b>	Lector:	Kathy Chlan
	Ministers	Jolene Pierson-H, Tom McCabe-Ch-H
	Ushers	Scott Steele, Gary Vosejka
<b>March 22 @ 10am</b>	Lector:	Vicky Chlan
	Ministers	Larry Caduff-H, Amy McDonald-Ch-H
	Ushers:	Richard Hanke, Dennis Anderson

**SUNDAY GIVING: March 8 / Week 36 in Fiscal Year**

Budget Weekly Sunday Giving:	\$ 6,276
Budget Year-to-Date Sunday Giving:	<b>\$225,936</b>
Actual Collection Received	\$ 3,477
Fuel	\$ 25
Bread & Wine	\$ 0
Flowers	\$ 0
Children's Envelopes	\$ 108
Collection Received Year-to-Date:	<b>\$ 215,439</b>
	<b>- \$ 10,497</b>
Capital Improvement	\$421

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## **Happening in the Area**

### **YOUTH/FAMILY - OPEN GYM NIGHT**

Lonsdale Civic Center gym (next to IC Church) on Friday Nights from 8:00-9:30 PM. All ages are welcome.

If there are multiple age levels or interest in different activities we will split the gym so there could be two groups at once. We also have space in our Youth Room for younger children to play floor games. If you have any questions please contact Kate Borgheiinck [507-744-2829](tel:507-744-2829) - [kateb@holycrossschool.net](mailto:kateb@holycrossschool.net)

### **2015 Archdiocesan Men's Conference – Saturday, March 21, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Join men of all ages and walks of life from around the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis for a morning filled with faith and fellowship. Learn how, with the help of Jesus Christ, you can *conquer sin!* The conference includes: Mass, breakfast, Keynote speaker Fr. Richard Simon (from Relevant Radio's "Father Simon Says"), and more! \$20 per adult; \$10 per student (up to high school senior).

Saturday, March 21, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. (Doors open at 7 a.m. for Adoration and Confession)

AARC Fieldhouse at the University of St. Thomas

Register online at [www.archspm.org](http://www.archspm.org), Keywords: Men's Conference. Questions? Call 651-291-4411.

### **Church of Saint Paul Youth Present Living Stations of the Cross**

All are invited to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> annual **Living Stations of the Cross** on Thursday or Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., with Benediction on Friday night. There will be a special presentation for youth groups on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The passionate message of Easter will be conveyed through the teens' dramatic portrayal of the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior and a score of inspirational music. Free will offerings to support this ministry will be gratefully accepted.

In honor of our 20<sup>th</sup> year, attendees are encouraged to bring donated goods to support teens and young adults experiencing homelessness in Anoka county. Please check for a list of most-needed items at [www.hope4youthMN.org/donate-goods](http://www.hope4youthMN.org/donate-goods).

### **"SEAMUS HEANEY AND RELIGION" TALK MARCH 22**

Dr. Andrew Auge of Loras College will speak on the Irish poet Seamus Heaney and religion, 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 22, in O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center on the University of St. Thomas' St. Paul campus. Sponsored by the university's Center for Irish Studies and Center for Catholic Studies. Free. Information: (651) 962-5662 or [jrogers@stthomas.edu](mailto:jrogers@stthomas.edu)

### **Pro-Life Across America**

Pro-life Across America will be holding its annual Culture of Life banquet on Thursday April 23 at St. John the Baptist Church in New Brighton, MN. The social begins at 6 pm with dinner at 6:45 pm. The cost of the fundraiser is \$60. For more information see our website at: [www.prolifeacrossamerica.org](http://www.prolifeacrossamerica.org) or call Christine 612-782-9434 to make a reservation.

### **The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity – Upcoming Events**

**Graduate Studies Information Night** - Thursday, March 26, 2015, 5:15 – 9:00 p.m.

The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity invited you to join us to learn more about our graduate programs in theology, including an opportunity to attend an evening class. Scholarships are available.

For more information, please contact Graduate Admissions Counselor Amy Burbach: 651-962-5069 or [gradtheology@stthomas.edu](mailto:gradtheology@stthomas.edu)

**Priests v. Seminarians Basketball Tournament** - Totino-Grace High School - Friday, April 10, 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.

The evening begins with a barbeque, followed by a game between Saint John Vianney College Seminary and The Saint Paul Seminary. The winner will face priests from the Archdiocese of Saint Paul & Minneapolis in the championship round. The annual tournament also includes the Archdiocesan Catholic High School Dunk Contest. Free and open to the public.

**Solemn Vespers for the Third Sunday of Easter** - The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity- St. Mary's Chapel - Sunday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.

An evening of music with The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale, UST Schola Cantorum and the Beacon Hill Brass.

Featuring music from J.S. Bach's cantata "Christ Lag in Todesbanden" and the Magnificat setting by Kevin Vogt. Free and open to the public.

### **Upcoming retreats at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo:**

#### **DIVORCED & SEPARATED RETREAT**

**Theme:** FORGIVENESS, A JOURNEY TO THE HEART

**Date:** MARCH 20 – 22, 2015

**Presented by:** Fr. Jim Heneghan

**Suggested Offering:** \$170.00 per person (\$30.00 deposit required per person)

#### **MEN & WOMEN'S MID-WEEK RETREAT**

**Theme:** THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL

**Date:** MARCH 24 – 26, 2015

**Presented by:** King's House Preaching Team

**Suggested Offering:** \$150.00 per person (\$30.00 deposit required per person)

#### **MEN'S HOLY WEEK RETREAT**

**Theme:** WATCH & PRAY

**Date:** April 1 – 4, 2015

**Presented by:** King's House Preaching Team

**Suggested Offering:** \$210.00 per person (\$30.00 deposit required per person)

For more information on retreats held at Christ the King Retreat Center Call 763-682-1394 or visit our website at [www.kingshouse.com](http://www.kingshouse.com). If you would prefer to receive these announcements via fax, please contact Jessica Hanson email: [jhanson@kingshouse.com](mailto:jhanson@kingshouse.com) or by calling 763-682-1394.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Roman Barten Memorial Breakfast – Sunday, March 22, 2015, 8am – 1pm at the KC Hall in New Prague.** Cost: Free will donation. Proceeds benefit nine-year old Lukas Worm. If you are unable to attend donations may be made to the Lukas Worm Benefit at any Wells Fargo location. Lukas is the son of Aaron and Nadine Worm of Montgomery, to learn more visit [www.caringbridge.org/visit/LukasWorm](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/LukasWorm).

### **Fish Dinner**

**The Shakopee Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Fish Dinner on Friday, March 27, 2015,** at the Shakopee Knights Event Center, 1760 4th Ave E, in Shakopee. Baked or fried fish, potato salad & au gratin potatoes, green beans, fresh baked bread, dessert and coffee or milk will be served continuously from 5:00 to 7:30 PM. The cost is \$12.00 per adult, (age 11 or older), \$6.00 for children age 5 to 10, and children 4 and under are free. All you care to eat. Open to the public.