



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 3rd, 2015

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ! We have many things to be thankful for at this time as a parish. Last weekend eighteen of our students were confirmed at Divine Mercy Catholic Church in Faribault. Bishop Cozzens offered a beautiful homily and there was a full church as we witnessed Bishop Cozzens and Father Clinton confirm around 140 youth from various area parishes. Congratulations to the newly Confirmed who are now fully initiated members of the Catholic Church! "The sacrament of confirmation impresses a character and by it the baptized, continuing on the path of Christian initiation, are enriched by the gift of the Holy Spirit and bound more perfectly to the Church; it strengthens them and obliges them more firmly to be witnesses to Christ by word and deed and to spread and defend the faith" (Canon 879), (*The Essential Catholic Handbook*. Liguori 1997, 159).

A key question for us dear brothers and sisters is at what point did we or will we begin living the grace of our Confirmation. If we do not open ourselves, God will not force Himself upon us. Has the grace of our own Confirmation been dormant? Have we allowed God to work through us to, "...more firmly be witnesses to Christ by word and deed and to spread and defend the faith"? If the grace of this beautiful sacrament is dormant, God will stir it within us as soon as we give our consent! Now is the time!!

This weekend we will celebrate First Communion at Saint Nicholas, another of the three Sacraments of Initiation. This is a test, what are the other two? They are of course... Baptism and Confirmation. There are thirty-five students receiving First Communion this year! Congratulations to you and to your families. Christ will come to you each week in His body, blood, soul, and divinity, to help you, heal you, strengthen you, and journey with you on your pilgrimage to Heaven! I cannot encourage you and your families enough to stay close to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, He will transform your lives as He offers you Himself!

Carpet update: We are making the final schedule for the church floor project. This includes taking the pews out, sanding and finishing the wood floors, putting the pews back in, and then replacing all of the carpet in the church with new carpet. The flooring will be done the week of May 18th and the week of May 25th and the carpet will be installed the week of June 29th. During that time we will have daily Mass in the church basement, **not** in the old school building. Please note brothers and sisters that we have heard feedback about the elevator and gathering space planning. The elevator is priority for our parish so that people with disabilities are able to go into the basement for bathroom use and for various parish events and functions. A gathering space is not as high of a priority, but it is important that we continue to plan for the future, especially considering the importance of having a place other than the church body where people can visit after Mass and before funerals. **Right now the only plan of action is to install new carpet and finish the wood floors under the pews.** We will continue to discuss and to seek your feedback before starting any further project regarding an elevator and / or gathering space. God bless!
Fr. Barnes

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

- Sun, May 3.....First Communion @ 8am mass
 - Mon, May 4....
 - Tues, May 5... ..Fatima Group 8:30am, Choir Practice 7pm
 - Wed, May 6.....
 - Thurs, May 7....Mom's Group 9:30am, KC Meeting 7:30pm
 - Fri, May 8.....Cursillo 7pm
 - Sat, May 9.....Rosary in Chapel 9am, Hall rented 10am
 - Sun, May 10...Happy Mother's Day, Doughnut Sunday
- 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 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) 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: May 10th and June 14th. Doughnuts are served after both Sunday masses. Everyone is welcome!!

Taylor Drew Moyer, daughter of Adam and Jamie Moyer, recently received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism here at St. Nicholas. We warmly welcome her into the family of Christ.

Memorial Day Mass & Cemetery Service -Mass at 8am followed by the annual Memorial Day cemetery service at 8:50am.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Thank you for your continued prayers for me during the last month before my ordination to the priesthood. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to join me in the celebrations surrounding this wonderful event.

The ordination will take place Saturday, May 30th. It will be at 10:00am at the Cathedral of Saint Paul.

I will then celebrate my Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, May 31st. This will be at the Church of Saint Paul in Ham Lake, MN. The Mass will be at 10:30am with a reception to follow.

The following weekend, on Sunday June 7th, I will celebrate Mass at 10:30am at Our Lady of the Lake in Mound, MN. There will be a reception afterwards.

On Sunday, June 14th, I will celebrate Mass at 10:00am at Saint Nicholas in New Market. There will be a reception afterwards.

Deacon Peter Hughes

What is the "Big Ticket Raffle" anyway?

Some of you that may be new to our parish might be wondering, "why should we donate to the "Big Ticket Raffle"? Well, the Chicken Cookout is one of our biggest fundraisers for our parish. Every item for the raffle is donated. So everything we make on ticket sales is all profit. Please consider donating either as a donation from your family or business and anything works. From five dollars cash to gift cards or anything else you'd like to put together. Anything would be greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, please call one of the committee members listed below.



46th ANNUAL CHICKEN COOKOUT, SUNDAY, JUNE 21st, 2015

The Chicken Cookout is just around the corner. As always we need your support to make this successful. If you would still like to make a donation to the Big Ticket Raffle, please continue to place your donations in the collection basket or drop at the parish office. Please note, your donation will not be listed on the ticket, but will still be used in the raffle. This year's committee members for the Big Ticket Raffle are; Jim and Jodi Muelken, 952-447-1160; Cheryl Thomas, 952-461-2021 and Jan Seykora, 952-461-3435). All proceeds from the Chicken Cookout go directly to the parish.

Knights of Columbus meeting is Thursday May 7, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Interested in becoming a member? Please contact Leon Meger at 952-652-2826.

Do you enjoy working with and getting to know others in the parish? Do you have an interest in providing recommendations and insight on behalf of the parish community to Father? Parish Pastoral Council elections are just around the corner! We are seeking nominations to fill five vacancies serving a two year term. Please nominate yourself or others by filling out the forms at the end of your pew and placing them in the collection or box in the back of church. Nominations can be submitted now through 5/25. Contact any current PPC member with questions or the office.



Save the date for the St. Nicholas Garden Tour which will take place on Sunday, June 28 from 1-5 pm. Tickets will be available to purchase at the parish office mid-May. Cost will be \$10 per person. For more information

call Joyce Hanke (952) 461-1963 or Linda Fischer (952)-461-2230. All proceeds will go directly to maintaining the grounds at St. Nicholas Catholic Church.

Ever wonder what it is like to be a Nun or Brother? Come and See! St. Nicholas Church is taking a bus to tour religious communities in Mpls. and St. Paul on Friday, June 5th. Bring your whole family! Cost: \$5 a person. Meals will be provided. To sign up for this fun filled day, please call the parish office at 461-2403 or e-mail lisal@stncc.net. Any questions on this event please contact Lisa Damiani at 651-203-7734.



Join Us
this Summer

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Registration is now open!

VBS is open to children age 4 (by June 1st) – Entering 5th gr. in the Fall 2015. To register your child please pick up a form in the back of church or call the parish office at 952-461-2403. VBS will be held June 8-12th, 9am– 11:45am, \$20 per child with a family cap of \$60.

VOLUNTEERS

****We are looking for a few more ADULT volunteers and several KIDS (AGE 12 & OLDER) to volunteer.** If you are a parent volunteering and you have kids in the program, the fee will be waived. Any 9th or 10th grader who volunteers, can apply the hours towards your required Confirmation Service Hours. To sign up to volunteer, call the parish office at 952-461-2403.

DONATIONS

To help keep costs down for this program, we are asking for simple donations of food and supplies.

Food Items: small marshmallows, mini pretzels, pretzel rods, 10 cans of white frosting, vanilla pudding cups, canned fruit, raisins, goldfish crackers, Smarties candy, gummy worms, apples, caramel dip, fruit dip, cookies, granola bars, fruit snacks, large containers of lemonade or Kool-Aid, fruit juice, chocolate milk and 5 cases of water.

Supplies: cups, plates (large size), napkins, glue dots, cotton balls, fabric markers and fabric paint, band aides or cash donations.

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! 15,537.00
- Balance 3,444.50

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 continue 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.

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

Sat	2	5:00 pm	Jerry Giles+
Sun	3	8:00 am	First Communicants
Sun	3	10:00 am	For the Parish
Tues	5	8:00 am	PJ Siedow
Wed	6	8:00 am	Joe & Dorothy Chlan+
Thurs	7	8:00 am	Robert Saleck+
Fri	8	8:00 am	Dennis Wagner
Sat	9	8:00 am	Mr. Elfring
Sat	9	5:00 pm	Silverius Steinmetz+
Sun	10	8:00 am	Debbie Thomas+
Sun	10	10:00 am	For the Parish



Daily Scriptures

Monday:	Acts of Apos 16:11-15	John 15:26-16:4a
Tuesday:	Acts of Apos 16:22-34	John 16:5-11
Wednesday:	Acts of Apos 17:15,22-18:1	John 16:12-15
Thursday:	Acts of Apos 1:15-17,20-26	John 15:9-17
Friday:	Acts of Apos 18:9-18	John 16:20-23
Saturday:	Acts of Apos 18:23-28	John 16:23b-28
Sunday:	Acts of Apos 10:25-26,34-35,44-48/	1John 4:7-10/John 15:9-17

Liturgical Stewardship May 9 & 10

May 9 @ 5pm	Lector:	Leah Heselton
	Ministers	Mary Kay Forland-H, Gail Mathews-Ch-H
	Ushers:	David Sheedy, Dave DeGonda
May 10 @ 8am	Lector:	Matt Damiani
	Ministers	Margo Theisen-H, Kathy Chlan-Ch-H
	Ushers:	Paul Thoresen, Craig Goblirsch
May 10 @ 10am	Lector:	Leander Wagner
	Ministers	Denise Anderson-H, Dennis Anderson-Ch-H
	Ushers:	Steve Addabbo, Mike Chlan

SUNDAY GIVING: April 26 / Week 43 in Fiscal Year

Budget Weekly Sunday Giving:	\$ 6,276
Budget Year-to-Date Sunday Giving:	\$269,868
Actual Collection Received	\$ 6,800
Easter	\$ 60
Cemetery Care	\$ 80
Grounds Care	\$ 40
Children's Envelopes	\$ 2
Collection Received Year-to-Date:	\$ 267,520
	- \$ 2,348
Capital Improvement \$336 / Second Collection \$349	

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LNMV Religious Education - Check out the RE website at www.lnmvre.net



First Communion

Congratulations to our First Holy Communion Students who received Jesus in the Holy Eucharist for the first time:
Charlotte Benolkin, Magnus Blankenship, Easton Bosch, Maria Damiani, Stephen Deutsch, Grace Erickson, Kathryn Fredrickson, Joseph Friendshuh, Daniella Gibbons, Everett Harms, Lucy Havlicek, Megan Hennen, Cooper Herrmann, Jericho Juenemann, Jackson Kemp, Jack Kuhlmann, Grace Mahowald, Quinton McCabe, Elizabeth Michaud, Ava Miles, Grant Moening, Cole Murphy, Brendan Panka, Peyton Resop, Sidney Revak, Anthony Schilling, Estella Schoenfelder, Frank Schoenfelder, Cecelia Schultz, Isaac Simones, Jocelyn Simones, Dylan Thomas, Jesse Tupy, Austin Wilson and Erik Zweber.

Appreciation Night

St. Nicholas Knights of Columbus invites all our volunteer catechists, aides and their guest to be THEIR guest at a Clergy Appreciation dinner on Tuesday, May 19th, 2015. This dinner is in appreciation for your gift of time in teaching the faith to our children. All must RSVP by May 5th to kathyc@holycrossschool.net



All Praise and Thanksgiving to God for the many blessings and fruits brought to us this year and especially for all our Catechists, aides and office help who came each week to teach and pass on the faith.

We extend a big Thank you to: Jan Freeman; Sara Bertram; Shelley Kuhlmann; Erin Landwehr; Jennifer Hertel; Heather Seurer; Kathleen Miller; Cheryl Friedges; Phil and Jen Chromy; Deanna Brake; Paula Brohmer; Katie Roemer; Tim Fredrickson; Amy McDonald; Carly McDonald; Nicole Tompos; Chris Kuehl; Candace Panka; Norleen Lane; Matt Damiani; Alice Overgaard; Cheri Serie, Kendra Caduff; Brad Roemer; Steve and

Lenae Addabbo; Karen Johnson; Ron Chlan

Each have been a gift to the children they teach and help. Remember, you do not need to have children in the program to help teach or aide in classrooms. If interested or if you want more information contact Kathy Chlan at 952-652-6100 ext. 507 or email at kathyc@holycrossschool.net or the parish office.

HOLY CROSS NEWS:

Congratulations to our second grade students who made their First Communion this weekend or last. This is a special moment, and we pray that it will be the beginning of a lifetime of love for the Eucharist for them and all the First Communicants. Holy Cross students will celebrate by leading Mass and May Crowning on Wednesday, May 6, and we invite all members of our parish community to join us!

2015 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL
The CSA goal for St. Nicholas is \$18,555
Donations to date: \$18,551

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

Food Shelf Weekends!

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

Food Drive weekends: May 30/31 and June 27/28.

Please bring food and drop in alcoves on sides of church.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

The Couple to Couple League will be offering a series of classes, for engaged and married couples, on the *Sympto-Thermal Method of Natural Family Planning* here at the Church of St. Nicholas in the Myra Room. Classes begin on Sunday, May 17th, at 1:00 p.m. CCL's new streamlined methodology and new materials integrate Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Registration at <http://twincities.ccli.org>. For more information, call 612.721.3791 or email twincities.ccli.org@gmail.com.



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; May 12.**



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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

"Through Mary the cause of our joy you discover that no where on Earth are you more welcomed, no where on Earth are you more loved, than by Jesus, living and truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament...He is really there in Person waiting just for you." ---Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Memorial Day weekend schedule – The Adoration Chapel will close on May 21st at 5 pm, will stay closed through the weekend, and will reopen on Tuesday, May 26th at 8:30 am.

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), 4 pm (from June - Sept), **Tuesday:** 1 pm (2 Tuesdays a month), **Wednesday:** 10 am, **Friday:** Midnight, 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

MOTHER'S GROUP

We are reading Catholic books and meeting for spiritual discussion, to pray, and reflect on the Gospel to enrich and support our vocation as wives and mothers. Next gathering; May 7th & May 28th at 9:30am in the Myra Room, in the old school building. Please contact Lisa Damiani at 651-203-7734 to join!

PRO-LIFE

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

Continued on back

St. Nicholas Gala & Auction - Group Events, Space Available

Parishioners have stepped forward and volunteered to host these Group Events all at their own expense. These Group Events create ongoing fellowship throughout the year without added expense to our Parish.

Several Group Events have already taken place and were very well received. What a great way to meet your fellow parishioners and have a lot of fun too.

For those of you who missed the opportunity to sign up to attend the Group Events, here is another chance for you!

These Group Events have limited space available. If interested in attending these fun-filled events, please email the Hosts listed to sign up. All payments to attend are made directly to St. Nicholas.

A Special Evening at the Farm

Hosts: Gary & Maureen Vosejka

Email: info@thorncrestfarm.com

Date: Friday, June 5th, 2015

Alt. Date: Friday, June 12th, 2015

Time: 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Place: The Vosejka's farm, Dundas

Capacity: This Group Event is open to 25 adults only

Cost: \$20/person

Join us for a special evening at our farm. We'll enjoy hors d'oeuvres served in the garden, a hayride and then time to relax by a bonfire.

A Simpler Sunday

Hosts: Tom & Deb Streefland

Email: streef56@gmail.com

Date: Sunday, September 20th, 2015

Alt. Date: Sunday, September 27th, 2015

Time: 2:00 - 6:00 pm

Place: The Streefland's home, Webster

Capacity: This Group Event is open to 30 people of all ages

Cost: \$20/person or \$50/family

Enjoy a fun relaxing fall afternoon with your family and friends. We'll play some outdoor games, pick pumpkins and apples to take home and end our afternoon with a simple meal of hot dogs roasted over a campfire.

HAPPENING IN THE AREA:

Southern Valley Alliance for battered Women – Is in need of volunteers to answer the 24-hour crisis line from the comfort of your home. We also are seeking volunteers to facilitate support groups and provide childcare. Free training for crisis line volunteers begins on April 18th. For more information, please call Jan or Anna at 952-873-4214.

SUMMER SPLASH with the School Sisters of Notre Dame: a weekend for girls who are completing sixth, seventh or eighth grade and their moms (or significant female adults). Mom and daughter alumnae from any previous Summer Splash are also welcome. Held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Campus (170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato, MN 56001), beginning at 1:00 p.m. Friday, June 26 until 6:00 p.m. Saturday, June 27. Cost - \$75 per mother/daughter pair. Includes a blend of activities designed to strengthen the mother-daughter connection while providing an inside look at the Sisters' lives. See www.ssndcentralpacific.org/summer-splash-2015 for more information and to register. Questions? Contact Sister Dorothy Zeller, SSND 507-514-2296.

68th Annual May Day Rosary Procession - May 3rd, 2pm - Capital to Cathedral

Join with Catholics from around the Archdiocese in bearing public witness to our Catholic faith and in joyful devotion to our Blessed Mother Mary. Gathering begins at the steps of the state capital at 1:30p. Rosary procession to the Cathedral of Saint Paul will begin promptly at 2pm, led by Archbishop Nienstedt. Eucharistic Benediction to immediately follow in the Cathedral.

Bring your family and friends to this long standing local Catholic tradition. Let us honor our Blessed Mother in the great month of May.

Come Away and Rest Awhile - Women's Midweek retreat May 12-14

Our 2015 Retreat Theme: "Come Away and Rest Awhile" will look at the broad idea of "holy leisure," reflecting upon the value and the importance of making space for ourselves and our God in our daily lives. What are practices that can help us preserve a space for spiritual sanity in our lives? How can we set healthy limits on ourselves? How can we respond to the expectations that we lay upon ourselves, as well as the expectations (sometimes unrealistic or unfair) that are placed upon us by others? What are some of the deep desires that we have and how have we addressed those desires or have we buried or forgotten them to assist others in fulfilling their desires? What are we really drawn to in our lives?

Welcome and orientation at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday May 12th. Depart Thursday after brunch. Check in early and enjoy a light supper with us if you want. The retreat includes opportunity for Confession and Spiritual Direction. All meals are cooked on site. Call to ask about our BUS transportation service for groups of 12 or more.

Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center - 16385 Saint Francis Lane, Prior Lake MN. Register by calling (952) 447-2182 or online at www.franciscanretreats.net/register

Bishop Piché to Celebrate All-City Charismatic Pentecost Mass

All are welcome to the annual All-City Charismatic Pentecost Mass, Sunday, May 24, 2015, at Immaculate Conception Church, 4030 Jackson Street NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421. Bishop Lee Piché will celebrate the Mass, joined by other clergy from around the archdiocese. This beautiful Spirit-filled event, sponsored by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Office (CCRO), begins with praise & worship at 2:00 p.m. Mass at 3:00 p.m. and fellowship and refreshments after. Please join us.

Archdiocesan Marriage Day Celebration

Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Paul

Married couples, celebrate the gift of your vocation at the Archdiocesan Marriage Day Celebration Mass with Archbishop John Nienstedt. Participate in the grand opening of the exhibit "100 Years of Marriage at the Cathedral of Saint Paul." Those celebrating their silver and golden anniversaries in the 2015 calendar year will be honored in a special way. Family and Friends are welcome.

Submit requests for a special certificate by May 30 via email at fomos@archspm.org, or by mail to Office of Marriage, Family and Life, Marriage Certificates, 328 Kellogg Blvd W, St. Paul, MN 55102. For more information, call (651) 291-4488.