

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor
 Rev. James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates
 Deacon M.J. Kersenbrock
 Atkinson, Nebraska
 402-925-2122 or Emergency/After Hours, 402-340-0277
www.stjosephatkinson.org
www.holtboydcatholic.org

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
07/26/20

Monday	NO MASS
Tuesday	NO MASS
Wednesday	8:15 AM + Max & Agnes Hamik
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	8:15 AM + Robert & Mary Straka
Saturday	6:00 PM + Jeanne Mathis
Sunday	10:30AM + Clara Straka

Sacrament of Reconciliation: One half hour prior to Sunday Morning Mass

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JOY & HAPPINESS and a KNOWLEDGE of the Bible will improve your face value

Please notice Mass time change goes into effect next weekend

The Marriage Celebration will be Sun., Sept. 27 @ Norfolk, St. Mary's with a 1:30pm rosary & Mass @ 2:00 with Archbishop Lucas. This is for couples celebrating an anniversary of 5 years, 25, 40, 50, 55, 60+ years. Registration deadline is Fri., Aug. 7 & is limited to the first 50 couples. To register, call 402.551.9003 or visit Family.ArchOmaha.org/enriching-marriage

This weekend's gospel reading gives us the third Sunday in a row where we hear from Matthew's chapter [Matt 13:44-52] on parables. The setting this weekend is in the house, where Jesus continues to teach his disciples using this linguistic device, often explaining the symbolic of the parables meaning to them. Though in today's reading Jesus asks them a simple question, "Do you understand all these things?" to which the disciples reply, "Yes."

This particular gospel reading preserves parables not found anywhere else in the New Testament. These parables either come from Matthew's special source or they are his own composition. The reading begins with two parables: the treasure buried in the field, and the pearl of great price. Each is a side of the coin so to speak, with Jesus instructing his disciples that the kingdom of heaven is worth such a price. In other words, once one encounters the kingdom of heaven, a proper response is to reprioritize all else in favor of this. It is worth selling everything else to possess this one thing.

The third and final parable this weekend, rather than reinforce the lesson of the first two parables, —the net cast into the sea which brings in a terrific catch—has another message. The net is returned with good fish, but also with things that are not so good. The latter is thrown away. This then becomes the image for the eschatological judgment, a topic that Matthew addresses quite often. At the judgment, some will be not merely cast aside or "thrown away," but the angels will throw the wicked into the "fiery furnace." As we saw last week, this is a favorite Matthean theme, and it causes some scholars to posit that the parable is a Matthean creation, though certainly canonical Scripture that is both authoritative and inspired.

Matthew is sure to tell us there will be a final, definitive judgment and an unfortunate end is possible based on the decisions we have made.

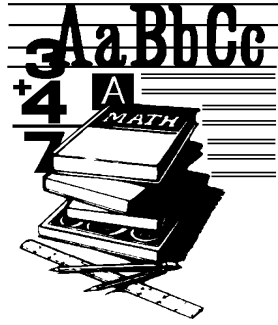
The Christian life ought to be a source of joy for us. Some of this joy is reflected in the first two parables. In each, people sell whatever they can to take possession of a prized object. This is what it ought to be like for us with respect to the kingdom of heaven. Once we realize what it is, what a prize we have, we joyfully reorient all of our priorities in light of it. We want that one prize above all else. And what's more, we have it! Thus, the source of joy.

When animated by Christian joy, we may be shocked at the inevitable suffering and death that Christ experiences. There is evil in the world and this evil impinges on our own reality. It certainly did for Jesus. But that terrible experience is not the end. Joy and love triumph as new life springs forth from humiliation and death. This new life

itself is a cause of joy. And so as Christians our joy is foundational. It should be a hallmark of our witness in the world. It is an essential element of our living the paschal mystery.

Ad multos annos!

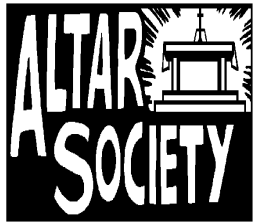
Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor



NEW Technology Needed...Will You Help?!?! The goal is \$3,200. for a possible match of funds raised. Please mail your donation to St. Joseph School, PO Box 69, Atkinson, NE 68713. Thank you for any amount you are willing to sacrifice to this most worthy project.

We Pray With Special Love & Concern For All Those Who Are Ill... Emma Lou Gunther, Blakely Bouska, John Gilg, Michelle Bulau, Garrett Scholz, John Mathis, Andy Hoffman.

In A Special Way... we remember Beth & Bill Laible & family with the death of Beth's parents, Don & Sandra Maybon of Norfolk. Please know our prayers & special thoughts are with you during these very difficult days.



Will Once Again... be accepting a donation of \$10.00 from each woman in the parish. This fundraiser takes the place of the fall dinner that we had several years ago. There are a few options that you are welcome to do in the next 3 weeks....mail a check to the parish office---PO Box 220, or to the treasurer...Diane Rentschler, 47691 883rd Rd,

Atkinson, NE 68713 OR you can drop it in the wooden box at church but PLEASE mark your envelope ALTAR SOCIETY. Thank you in advance!

Hey Golfers...Get Ready To Swing! The St. Joseph/St. Boniface Golf Tourney will be hosted by St. Joseph's this year. The date is set for Sun., August 9. For those who don't care to golf, a meal will be prepared for you!



The Week Ahead

- **Sat., Aug. 1**—Conference "The Niagara Falls of the Father's Love for Us." Flyer in church.
- **Wed., Aug. 5**—Adoration...9am – 3pm
- **Sun., Aug. 9**— Golf Tournament
- **Sat., Aug. 15**—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- **Wed., Aug. 19**—St. Joseph School begins with 1/2 day

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...Aug. 1/2

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC	Chris Nemetz	Linda Wolf
LECTOR	Madison Tunender	Jack Wolf
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST	Jayne Fetherston	Diane Osborne
SERVERS		
<u>USHERS</u>	FOR TWO WEEKS	Dennis Hytrek

THE LORD'S PORTION...07.19.20

Adult envelopes (19)	1,233.00
Loose checks (2)	125.00
Online Giving (5)	<u>810.00</u>
TOTAL	2,168.00

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

**GOD formed us
SIN deforms us
JESUS transforms us**