



St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor

Rev James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates

Deacon MJ Kersenbrock

Atkinson NE

402-925 2122 or Emergency 402-340-0277

stjosephatknson.org holtboydcatholic.org

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon NO MASS

Tue NO MASS

Wed 8:15 AM + Schaaf/Schulte Families

Thur NO Mass

Fri 8:15 AM + SJ Memorial Society

Sat NO Mass

Sun 8:30AM + Darryl & DeLoris Haase

Confession 1/2 hr before weekend Masses.

Fr. Weeder...will be offering a teaching on prayer along with adoration & confession on Sundays from 7—8pm during lent in church. The teachings will be different at the two locations in each region, but it won't be necessary to attend both in order to understand each teaching.

February 28—St Boniface, Stuart

March 7—St Mary, Spencer

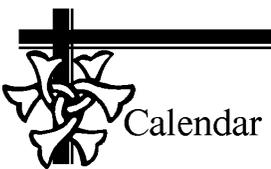
March 14—St Joseph, Atkinson



Taking The Vocation

Cross...this week—Gary & Deb Pospichal. The week of March 7—Brendan Borer Family.

WE REMEMBER...those in need of special prayers: Emma Lou Gunther, Kenny Fessler, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, Andy Hoffman, David Leiding, Lois Tunender, Mary Jo Closson, Tracy Nelson, Reese Keating, Judy Steimle, Carolyn Anderson & Harold Krumwiede.



Calendar

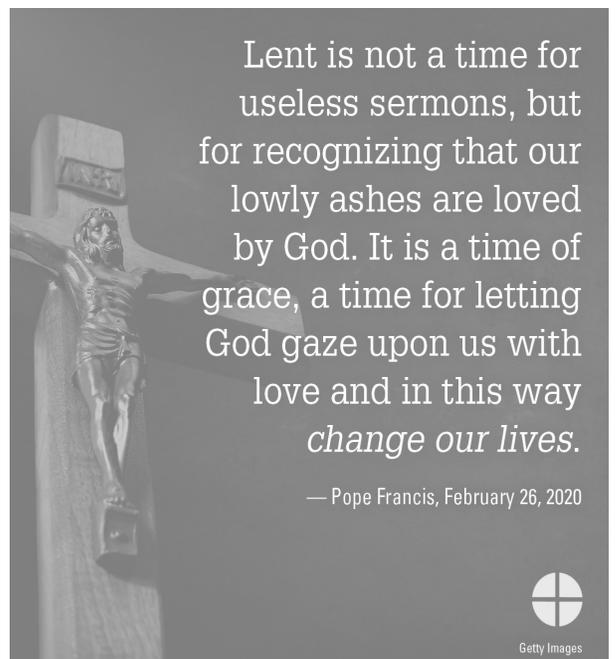
Wed., March 3—Adoration, 9am—3pm, CCD classes

Fri., Mar. 5—Stations w/ Grade School 12:30p in church.

—Fish fry in Atkinson...Dine in or carry out. Hours:

5—8pm. For delivery, call 402.340.1964.

Sun., Mar. 21—Poultry Party @ the KC Hall



Homilies from all priests are recorded and posted online at HOMILIES.HOLTBOYDCATHOLIC.ORG

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PICK OF THE WEEK

February 28, 2021

WATCH

FATHER MICHAEL MCGIVNEY: AN AMERICAN BLESSED

In May 2020, Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Fr. Michael McGivney, paving the way for his beatification. This new documentary highlights Fr. McGivney's fraternal charity, evangelization, and empowerment of the laity.



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**From the
Pastor's
Desk**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties,

The readings this weekend present a collection of themes that shape the Lenten season. The first reading concludes the cycle of narratives about Abraham (Gen 12–23), which unfold from his call, with the promise that he and Sarah will be the parents of many nations, through the covenant and the birth of a son, the bearer of the promise (Isaac), and reaches its pinnacle in God’s command that Abraham offer Isaac as a holocaust. As one of the most treasured subjects of Christian art, the final scene of the story is familiar. At the last moment “the Lord’s messenger” intervenes; Isaac is spared, and the promise is renewed: “Because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly” (Gen 22:16-17).

In both Judaism and Christianity Abraham is a paradigm of faith who “when tested was found loyal” (Sir 44:20), who “hoped against hope” (Rom 4:18), and who “[b]y faith, . . . when put to the test, offered up Isaac” because he believed in a God who could raise up the dead (Heb 11:17 - 19). Also, in Jewish tradition Isaac is transformed into a model of self-sacrifice who went will-

ingly to his death, which is adopted by Christians for Jesus, “the Son of God who has loved me and given himself up for me” (Gal 2:20; all NABRE).

“Transformation” might be a better term to describe this weekend’s gospel, since Jesus, though in the form of God, took on the “form of a slave” (Phil 2:6-7; NABRE), and is now transformed and seen as an exalted member of the heavenly court. The narrative is dense with biblical allusions. The dazzling white clothes are a symbol of divine presence in Daniel 7:9, while the presence of Elijah and Moses has been interpreted in a variety of ways. They are symbols of the prophets and the Law; both are people who did not taste death but were exalted to heaven (Elijah in 2 Kgs 2:1-12; Moses in extra-biblical tradition); they are faithful prophets who suffered because they followed God’s word.

The deeper focus of the account emerges from the divine voice: “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him” (Mark 9:7). The transformation follows the first of three predictions by Jesus of his death by crucifixion, which the disciples consistently resist. Peter’s desire for three booths seems an attempt to substitute divine presence for the way of the cross. The same three disciples who witness Jesus’s transformation fail to watch with him during his agony in the garden (Mark 14:32-42). Mark’s readers and we ourselves are to hear the voice of a Jesus who says that the way to glory is only through the cross.

The narrative is also followed by one of the most dramatic stories in the gospel (Mark 9:14-29), the exorcism from a young boy of a destructive demon which the disciples of Jesus are powerless to combat. Raphael’s magnificent panorama “The Transfiguration,” which greets visitors to the Vatican museums, captures the sequence perfectly. While Jesus and the heavenly companions are illumined in resplendent colors, the fruitless struggle of the disciples with the demon occupy the lower right-hand corner. The eye cannot help but behold the chaos of earthly evil when looking at heavenly glory.

The transfiguration is not, a kind of midpoint encouragement to the disciples, since they will continue to misunderstand Jesus and will flee at his arrest; and Peter denies him. The deeper meaning of the narrative for Mark and for us during Lent is that even after moments of transcendence and transformation, we must come back to earth, continue to hear the voice of Jesus, and follow him on the way to the cross. Experience of transcendence is juxtaposed with the struggle against evil. The readings this weekend encourage deep faith and trust in God.

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman

THE LORD’S PORTION

Adult Envelopes (23)	1,352.00
Loose Checks (4)	185.00
Loose Cash	40.00
Energy (2)	100.00
Home Mission (8)	250.00
4 in 1 (4)	145.00
Seminary (1)	20.00
Online Giving (5)	605.27
TOTAL	2,697.27

LITURGICAL MINISTERS –MARCH 7

MASS TIMES	SAT (Stuart)	SUNDAY
EMHC		Landyn Mlady
LECTOR		Brian Mlady
GIFTS		
ORGANIST		Jayne Fetherston
SERVERS		
USHERS		

When you’re unable to attend the Stations of the Cross with the school children, & would like an additional way to pray them, try THE MAGDALENE XIV STATIONS OF THE CROSS podcast. You can listen at home, in your car, on a walk, or wherever you are able to pray. Go to

<https://xivministriespodcast.pobean.com/>