



St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor

Rev James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates

Deacon MJ Kersenbrock

Atkinson NE

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April 11, 2021

2nd Sunday of Easter..Divine Mercy Sunday

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon NO MASS

Tue NO MASS

Wed 8:15 AM + KCs

Thursday NO MASS

Friday 8:15 AM + James Mullen

Saturday NO MASS

Sunday 8:30 AM + Mary Jo Closson

Confession 1/2 hour before weekend Mass

Names Are Being Accepted..for school board election. Please call the school office, 402.925.2104, if you'd like to be a candidate.

*The Harvest Is Great,
Laborers Are Few...Taking the vocation
crucifix this week—Jozette
Koisek. The week of April
18—Beverly Cone.*

The week that CHANGED the world continues to CHANGE our lives

Parents... see bulletin attachment & take advantage of summer learning for your children!

WE REMEMBER...those in need of special prayers:
Emma Lou Gunther, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, David Leiding, Judy Steimle, Carolyn Anderson & Ron Schaaf (brother of Diane Keogh).



Wed., Apr. 14—Adoration, 9am—3pm, CCD
Sat., Apr. 24—Stuart's Prom...Mass in Stuart, 5pm

Our Gratitude...to all who helped decorate church for Easter following the Liturgical Service on Good Friday & also thanks to the organists, EMHCs & lectors who share their time & talents with us .


We Offer Sympathy...to Marla and Ed Kilmurry & family with the death of Marla's father, Allen Boes. May perpetual light shine on Allen.

Many thanks to all who made an Easter offering. \$5,901.00 has been received. \$11,000. was budgeted, so hopefully in the next few weeks we will reach this goal!



PARISH COUNCIL: Tue., Apr. 13 @ 7pm, at school

KCs: Thu., April 15. Rosary to be prayed @ 7:15pm with meeting to follow. On the menu: soup, sandwiches & pie. Lotto goes to \$50. as Roger Frickel wasn't present. For your insurance needs contact Mike Scholz, 308.991.6157. For hall rental contact Wayne Baker, 402.340.0314.



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

Thomas had not been in the room when the risen Jesus appeared to the disciples, and so has missed out on any personal encounter with him, the words of missioning, and the bestowal of the gifts of peace and forgiveness in the Spirit. John makes Thomas a foil for our own need of these gifts and our struggles with doubt and faith. Often the comments about Thomas concentrate too much on him as a doubter (which he is never called anywhere in the gospels) and too little on his desire to touch the source of life. John's gospel shows him to be the kind of person who blurts out the questions or comments others are too timid or too embarrassed to speak. He is ready to go along with Jesus en route to Lazarus's grave and die with him (John 11:16); and he is honest enough at the Last Supper to say that none of the disciples have any idea where Jesus is heading (John 14:5). The disciples to whom the risen Lord appeared on Easter eve announce the resurrection to Thomas in the same words as Mary Magdalene spoke to them: "We have seen the Lord." And they are just as unsuccessful in convincing Thomas as Mary had been with them. Like all disciples, Thomas needs a personal experience of Jesus before he will believe. Until then, he is locked in his own criterion for faith: he wants Jesus to be "touchable."

So, eight days later, on the next "first day of the week" according to the resurrection timeline, the risen Lord of the Sabbath stands again in the midst of his disciples, greets them with his peace, and then turns to the individual who is most in need of this. For eight days Thomas has wrestled with the dark stranger of doubt and is wounded by this struggle. The wounded, risen Jesus and the wounded disciple stand before one another. Jesus invites Thomas to stretch out his hand to the wounds of his hands and side. But there is no physical touching. Jesus's personal presence and self-offering to Thomas touch him and demolish all doubts. Here is "the way, and the truth, and the life" that Thomas is seeking, and he responds with the most profound and personal assent of faith in all the gospels: "My Lord and my God!" For the future generations who will listen to this gospel in the presence of the physically absent Jesus, the last beatitude that Jesus then addresses to Thomas is our greatest hope: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." It is to hand on such life-giving faith, says the evangelist, that he has written his gospel.

In his Asian Journal, Thomas Merton wrote: "Faith means doubt. Faith is not the suppression of doubt. It is the overcoming of doubt, and you overcome doubt by going through it. The man of faith who has never experienced doubt is not a person of faith. Consequently, the monk is one who has to struggle in the depths of his being with the presence of doubt, and has to go through what some religions call the Great Doubt, to break through doubt into a certitude which is very, very deep because it is not his own personal certitude; it is the certitude of God Himself, in us."

Christ took his wounds into the grave and did not disown them in his resurrection. Because of his wounds, Jesus is now credibly in touch with wounded humanity: with the wounded in body and spirit, those hurt by society, the victims of domestic and global violence, those suffering from their own addictions, those abused by our disregard and complacency. And we know only too well our own woundedness. Such wounds reveal our need for one another and, therefore, the potential for the building of a compassionate, healing community that witnesses to the love of the Wounded Healer.

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor

THE LORD'S PORTION—04.04.21

Adult Env. (50)	4830.00
Loose Checks (4)	750.00
Loose Cash	121.00
Insurance (1)	25.00
Holy Land (11)	670.00
Sunday (6)	410.00
Online Giving (6)	348.78
TOTAL	7,154.78

LITURGICAL MINISTERS — April 18

MASS TIMES	Sat. @ Stuart	SUNDAY 8:30
EMHC		Cheleigh Sholes
LECTOR		Erin Jelinek
GIFTS		
ORGANIST		Terri Vrooman
SERVERS		VOLUNTEERS
USHERS		

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY—Sr. Faustina was a Polish nun who received visions from Jesus, including one of Jesus wearing a white garment with beams of red & white coming from His heart, which came to be known as the image of the Divine Mercy. According to the vision, those who receive communion & attend confession on the Feast of Mercy receive total forgiveness of sins. Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial & resurrection. As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified."