

*the Quill and the Cloth*

***“The Lord God said: ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him.’”***

***- 1st Reading – Book of Genesis***

I always get a little personally unsettled when I hear this reading from the Book of Genesis at Mass or many times on the occasion of a wedding liturgy. For the Lord God states clearly that “...it is not good for the man to be alone”. Yet, for more than a quarter-of-a-century as a priest, I have been called to live the “ideal” of celibacy and not the “reality” of being with a spouse.



There are many American Catholics who are sitting in the pews that claim they would be very comfortable with the man who offers Mass, and is referred to “spiritually” as “Father”, to also have children who would refer to him “physically” as “Father”. With the ever increasing shortage of priests to serve as pastors in our parishes, there are many in the Church that think it is only a matter of time that priests will marry as celibacy is only a “discipline” and not a “dogma” of the Church. Although stranger things have happened, I have my doubts that this change in Church teaching will be forfeited any time soon.

I believe it was Billy Graham, (who has been considered the “Protestant Pope” by some), who indicated that shepherding a church while at the same time shepherding a family is no easy task. He or one of his contemporaries said that a person who pursues public ministry must ask a basic vocational question. The question is this: “Will I, as a pastor, be married to my parish or will I be married to the person I call a spouse?” Personally, I think I would be married to the first, so perhaps I chose well.

This weekend is certainly in part about man and woman, husband and wife, delightful marriages and marriages that end in divorce. Many in the media are still on a high about Pope Francis and his most successful visit to the United States. I would agree with many that the visit of Pope Francis was historical on several counts, including the canonization of a saint on foreign soil (non-Italian) as the Pope canonized Junipero Serra. Equally historically amazing was the fact that Pope Francis addressed a joint session of Congress, which has never been done by a Pope, much less anyone else outside of the President of this country.

One of the primary faith focuses of Pope Francis and his pontificate is the family. When Pope Francis was asked to respond to his “rock-star” status and popularity; he

dismissed it with the idea that today one is popular and the next day you are not.

If anyone wishes to read in depth Pope Francis feelings on marriage and family life, some might not think him to be the “progressive” soul that so many in the media claim him to be. (M.P.R. a week or so ago had a commentator who said outright that Pope Francis is a “liberal”.) Consider what Pope Francis said both before he became Pope and now as the Supreme Holy Pontiff.

In the book “On Heaven and Earth: Pope Francis on Faith, Family, and the Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”, the Pope says (quote) “...We know that in times of momentous change the homosexual phenomenon grew, but in this period it is the first time that the legal problem of assimilating it to marriage has arisen, and this I consider an anti-value and an anthropological regression. I say this because it transcends the religious issue, it is anthropological.” The Pope goes on to say in keeping with our first reading and the “idealism” of the Good News that Christ speaks in the gospel: “...Every person needs a male father and a female mother that can help them shape their identity... It is often argued that a child would be better cared for by a same-sex couple rather than in an orphanage or an institution. Those two situations are not optimal. The problem is that the State does not do what it has to do...One failure of the state does not justify another failure of the state.”

Marriage is a challenging ideal! Priesthood is a challenging ideal! Living chastely in the single state is also a challenging ideal. May we live out our earthly vocations with the Good News of HOLY IDEALISM, so that one day we might achieve that HOLY and IDEALISTIC state of existence, everlasting life. Have a great week!

**Rev. Paul van de Crommert**  
Pastor

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

*“But marriage goes in waves. You’ve got to be patient. People bail and give up on their marriages way too early. They just don’t put the work and the effort into it. You’ve got to suck up your ego a lot of the times, because that can be a big downfall.”*

*- Anna Benson*

**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Our prayers and best wishes go out to Robert and Dolly Meyer on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary that they are celebrating this weekend with a blessing at the close of the Saturday night Mass. May God bless them both with many more years of health, happiness and most of all...holiness! Congratulations!

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Adult (115)	\$ 15,623.00
Electronic Giving	2,803.25
Junior	95.11
Plate	373.30
Catholic University of America (Special Collection)	50.00
Votive Lights	85.75
Rental Income	1,500.00
Rel. Ed. Reboot! Live! Ticket Reimbursement	225.00
Faith Formation Tuition	1,210.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,965.41</b>
<b>+Memorial Monies</b>	<b>85.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>22,050.41</b>

*\*(Our weekly budget is set at \$12,900.00)*

**STEWARDSHIP**

Thank you for another GREAT week of stewardship. We broke budget once again! Thank you too for all of our parents who were so generous and covered their tuition for religious education. We have the vast majority of it in at this time. These monies will go right back into the texts and supplies that we have purchased for the students due to our increased enrollment.

One final piece of Good News. At our last Finance Council meeting this past Monday, it was reported that our revenue at the close of the first quarter of 2015-2016 has increased from the previous year by 20%. That is wonderful. Thank you so much for your great stewardship for the ongoing work of Holy Rosary parish.

**FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY!**

**COME TO MORNING MASS  
- WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>!**

Happy Feast Day! On Wednesday of this week, our parish will be celebrating our patronal feast of the Most Holy Rosary! We are celebrating our name day. Although I have a pre-scheduled Mass at 10:00 am at Loyola, in honor of our feast I will also be holding an additional Mass at 8:30 am at our church. There will be coffee and rolls served downstairs after Mass for all who attend! Mark your calendars!!!



**WORSHIP COMMITTEE - CLEAN UP  
THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to the hard working women from Worship Committee who helped me in cleaning up and organizing four more closet areas in the sacristy this past Tuesday. You were great! Thank you!

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY RECAP!**

How wonderful it was to see so many young people participate in our Mass processions last weekend! The banners hanging on the side aisles represent what students will be learning in their classes this coming year. We will keep them up for a couple of weeks. I hope you take time to look at them. Father has yet to determine which class gets a pizza party for the best poster! I want to thank all the students who participated! It is so fun to see you engaged in the Mass!



**REBOOT! LIVE! SUMMARY**

We had a tremendous turnout for REBOOT! LIVE! We had nearly 80% of students in attendance. What a wonderful attribute to our parish to have so many students be present at this event! Some comments from students include: "I thought I was really good." "Boring...but really cool!" "It makes me think about choices I will make." There are many people to thank for the success of the evening: Parents for allowing students to come early and stay late, Catechists for the responsibility of supervision, CCW & KCs for bus transportation, and to Father Paul and Holy Rosary Church for their support in purchasing a large share of the ticket price. Chris Stefanick was inspiring and we all went home with something we could practice to make our lives a little more "Christ-like" by praying, going to Mass each week, being part of a community, working with the poor and dealing with yesterday.

**UPCOMING DATES**

- October 7<sup>th</sup>:** Grades 1 – 6 meet from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
- October 11<sup>th</sup>:** Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW), Nursery & Sunday School during the 10:00 am Mass
- October 14<sup>th</sup>:** No Classes – MEA
- October 18<sup>th</sup>:** No CLW or Sunday School
- October 21<sup>st</sup>:** Grades 7 – 11 meet from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Social Hour/Pizza available from 6:00 pm to 6:50 pm
- October 28<sup>th</sup>:** Grades 1 – 6 meet from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

**CIRCLE OF GRACE**

All Religious Ed students will be going through the *Circle of Grace* child safety curriculum as provided by the Diocese. Your student will be bringing home a green "Opt-Out" Form to be filled out if you do NOT want your child to attend this portion of the class. If you opt-out, you will need to provide the training at home. Training for Grades 1 – 6 will be on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Training for Grades 7 – 11 will be October 28<sup>th</sup>. The forms can be returned on the night of class.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Monday, Oct. 5: Weekday (Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest)**

- 8:05 am – Rosary
- 8:30 am – Mass - Richard Friedrichs†
- 4:00 pm – **Social Concerns Meeting** (Conf. Rm. 1)
- 7:00 pm – **CCW Fall Luncheon Meeting & General Meeting** (Conf. Rm. 1)
- 7:00 pm – **Fall Festival Committee Meeting** (Church Basement)

**Tuesday, Oct. 6: Weekday (Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, Virgin)**

- 7:00 am – *Mass at St. Peter & Paul*
- 8:15 am – *Mass at St. John the Baptist*
- 12:05 pm – *Mass at St. Joseph the Worker*

**Wednesday, Oct. 7: \*Our Lady of the Rosary\***

- 8:05 am – Rosary
- \*8:30 am – Mass - Special Intention (Come celebrate our parish!)**
- 10:00 am – **Mass at Loyola High School & Primary School** (Fr. Paul) - Mary Cline†
- 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm – Sewing Group (Lower Level PC)
- 6:00 pm – **Grades 1 - 7 Rel. Ed. Classes**
- 7:00 pm – **Holy Rosary Choir Practice** (Choir Room)

**Thursday, Oct. 8: Weekday**

- 10:15 am – **Mass at Pathstone** (Fr. Paul) - Frank & Christine Wieseler† & Family
- 4:30 pm – **Loyola Board of Trustees Meeting** (Fr. Paul attends)
- 7:30 pm – **Pre Baptism Class** (Conf. Rm. 1)

**Friday, Oct. 9: Weekday (Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest)**

- 8:05 am – Rosary
- 8:30 am – Mass - Ann Sturm† & Jerry Sturm†

**Saturday, Oct. 10: Weekday - COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN RECOGNITION WEEKEND**

- \*Echo Food Shelf Collection Weekend\**
- 4:30 pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 4:30 pm – Rosary
- 5:00 pm – Mass - Mark & Pam Weingartz
- 6:00 pm – Baptism

**Sunday, Oct. 11: 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - CCW RECOGNITION WEEKEND**

- \*Echo Food Shelf Collection Weekend\**
- 7:30 am – Rosary
- 8:00 am – Mass - People of the Parish
- 8:30 am - 12:00 pm – K. of C.'s Pancake Breakfast**
- 9:30 am – Rosary
- 10:00 am – Mass - Shawn Reynolds† (Nursery, Pre-K Sunday School & CLW during the 10:00 am Mass)

**ROSARY LEADERS**

Please pick up your new schedule for the fourth quarter in the Rosary Chapel!

**OCT. 10-11 LITURGICAL ROLES**

**Lectors**

- 5:00 pm: Eileen Wadekamper
- 8:00 am: Michelle Fischer
- 10:00 am: Jim Schorn

**Eucharistic Ministers**

- 5:00 pm: Rebecca Gruenes, Karen Etzell, Karen Winters, Maggie Bennett, Ruth Fitterer, \*Brenda Voracek
- 8:00 am: Margaret Ayers, Sharon Lenz, Terri Compton, Jane Younge, Gerry Hiniker, \*Bernie Bastian
- 10:00 am: Darlene Schorn, Dawn Matz, Sherry Henrickson, Rick Gruber, Tim McGowan, \*JoAnn Borchert

**Altar Servers**

- 5:00 pm: Rayna Gruenes (*Cross/Book/Bell*), Larkin Hansen, Emma Niederegger
- 8:00 am: Ben & Grace Ellingworth, Lauren Cahalan
- 10:00 am: Matthew Helget, Andrew & Haley Kohrs

**Presentation of Gifts**

- 5:00 pm: Glen & Peggy Landsteiner
- 8:00 am: John & Nancy Holden
- 10:00 am: Paul Manderfeld Family



**Ushers**

- 5:00 pm: Ken & Pat Thiele, Tom Rheaume, Paul Stevens
- 8:00 am: Gary Zellmer, Carl Steffensmeier, Bill Fasnacht, Steve Enderle
- 10:00 am: Doug Helget, Glenn Verschelde, Scott & Brandy Smith

**Music Ministry**

- 5:00 pm: Myra Schroepfer/Janelle Campeau
- 8:00 am: Julie Gruber/Vicki Galli
- 10:00 am: Kathy Jo Johns & Nancy Evans/Vicki Galli

**Rosary Leaders**

- 5:00 pm: Paul Stevens
- 8:00 am: Margaret Ayers
- 10:00 am: Curt & Donna Stanke

**Money Counters for October 2015:**

Bob Manwarren, Renee Amundson, Adrian Person, Mike Schneider

**Bulletin Folders for October 2015:**

Anne Frederick, Betty Rykhuis, Dolores Portz, Pat Lyons



**SINCERE SYMPATHY**

To the family of **Margaret "Peg" Schorer†**

*-May she rest in peace.*

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS...**

**PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR ALL OF OUR SICK AND INJURED OF HOLY ROSARY PARISH**



Our prayers go out to all of the sick and injured in our parish who are at home, in the hospital, nursing homes or assisted-living residences. May God bless them and keep them under His guidance and protection!

**FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL**

Janet Gish, Amy Olson, Dale Nickel, Christine Schorn, Dave Grams, Ruth Gag, Jeanette Barsness, Fr. Ed Ardolf, Randy Hermanson, Christine Lowe, Charles Ulman, Kathy Meyer, Daniel Crowley, Marilyn Rieff, Donna Peterson, Juliette Shamp, Vi Suedbeck, Ruth Baker, Ruth Fitterer, Jane Keltgen, Isaac Kolstad, Rachel Tobin, Mary Jane Ledwein, Doris Lorentz, Bill Goettlicher, Lenore Sweers, Krystal Portz, Steve Fitterer, Nancy Marquardt, Gabriel Speckel, Shannon Murphy, Lisa LaPoint Leland, David Bruender, Marilyn Bastian, Susan Zenk

**FOR OUR FAMILIES**

- Monday** Roy & Sheila Haefner
- Tuesday** No Mass
- Wednesday** Raymond & Nora Bruce
- Thursday** John & Sonja Jacobsen
- Friday** Rick & Catherine Plasschaert
- Saturday** Darlene Hoffman
- Sunday** Gary & Patricia Wintheiser

**FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY**

- |               |                     |                 |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Nick Blace    | Timothy Eick        | Alex Ek         |
| Jared Hiniker | Matt McGraw         | Ben Barsness    |
| Ann Winkler   | Christopher Schmidt | Sean O'Dea      |
| Dana Schiller | Jonathan Heintz     | Daniel Fitterer |
| Mark Hansen   | William Backes      | Anna Drummer    |



**PRAYER CHAIN**

If you, or someone you know, would like to be included in our prayer chain, please call Karen Etzell, 387-7877.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Mon:** Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37
- Tues:** Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42
- Wed:** Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4
- Thurs:** Mal 3:13-20b/Lk 11:5-13
- Fri:** Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26
- Sat:** Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28
- Sun:** Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

**BANNS OF MARRIAGE (I)**

Jason Worrell & Jenna Kuchinka – October 25, 2015, Holy Rosary Church

**PARISH MEETINGS – AT A GLANCE**

- 1) October 5<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm – Social Concerns

**SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE – MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Our Social Concerns Committee will be meeting for the first time this Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm. We will plan to meet in Conf. Rm. 1 in the school building. Materials will be handed out at the meeting.

**FALL FESTIVAL – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**FIRST PLANNING MEETING – MONDAY, OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup>!**

I am pleased to announce that after a long absence, Holy Rosary parish will be returning to the tradition of a parish festival. I am so grateful as pastor to the 13 individuals that have so willingly stepped forward to help steer this committee and parish event. (A reminder to the member that we will be meeting this Monday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Church Lower Hall.)



I have consulted both the Pastoral Council as well as the Finance Council as to what will work and what will not work for the festival from the kind of food that we should serve to serving foamy beer. Every parish has a different approach to their festivals, but I have only sensed a positive response to this great “parish get-together”.

We also plan to have a special “Folk Mass”, with the music being provided for us by the Cedar Creek Gospel Band. They have beautiful religious music and will also be leading us in the various acclamations at Mass.

In the coming days after our Festival Committee meets, we will be asking YOU, the GOOD PEOPLE of HOLY ROSARY, for your help in the various areas. We hope that your spirit of “YES” will continue as in the past.

Right now, please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. (A final piece of Good News! The Vikings kick-off that day will not be until 3:30 P.M. when we are winding down the festival.) See you then!

-Father C.

**FINANCIAL REPORT 2014-2015 (SECOND EDITION)**

We recently increased our bulletins by another 25 as we have been recently running out. My staff has informed me that even these are almost all gone after this weekend. I mention this, because we are virtually out of the Financial Reports from last week. This week we have put out another 100 copies for those of you who contribute to Holy Rosary and have not had a chance to review the report, as you may have been out of town. Once again, thank you for your great stewardship.



Loyola K-12 students are taking **NWEA assessments**. Younger students take the Reading and Math components, older students add Language Arts, and High School students add Science. K-3 students are beginning fall DIBELS assessments as well.

Each year, Loyola teaches *Circle of Grace*, a PS-12 child safety curriculum designed to give students an awareness of each person's dignity, rights, and personal space; and to provide the age-appropriate vocabulary children need when talking about and describing situations that are not comfortable or safe. We teach this curriculum each fall.

Pope Francis has declared December 8, 2015 through November 20, 2016 a **Year of Mercy**. Students in Catholic Schools historically engage in many local and global works of charity. During this Year of Mercy, we are asked to focus more consciously on how these good works address the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. At our Diocesan Principals Meeting last week we shared good works we traditionally do at our schools...Loyola can certainly be proud of the scope of our outreach!

Loyola will host "Together in Faith" day on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Teachers from all of the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Winona will gather for a day of sharing on the theme of Prayer.

**FALL SALAD LUNCHEON & BAKE SALE**

The **CCW Annual Salad Luncheon** will be held on **October 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**. The women will be hosting a bake sale and raffle starting at 10:30 am. The cost of the luncheon will be \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 & under. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!



**NEW this year: Dollar Table!** All ladies are asked to bring a donated item from home for our new Dollar Table. Please drop off the items in the Church basement or at the parish office any time before Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Volunteers are also needed to make the luncheon a success** - please call Sharon Lenz at 625-4566 to volunteer your time and talent. Thank you!

**COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN NEWS**

- Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> - Regular CCW meeting at 7:00 pm beginning with a **Fall Luncheon Planning Meeting** - Conf. Rm. 1
- Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> - CCW Sunday
- Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> - Fall Salad Luncheon - Mark you calendar!

**FR. ED ARDOLF ENDOWMENT FUND**

This fund is now at \$160,909.00. 85% of the earnings of this fund go to pay tuition at Loyola Catholic School for Holy Rosary families. Contributions to this fund may be dropped off at the parish office or sent to Amy at Loyola.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

Diocesan United Fund (D.U.F.) Diocesan Priest Pension Fund/ Medical, Care Comp Ins, and Priest Care Fund:

DUE: \$ 65,081.69  
Pd. to Date: \$ 19,583.07

Annual Diocesan Ministries Appeal (D.M.A.):

DUE: \$ 29,590.78  
Rec'd. to Date: \$ 0.00

Loyola Catholic School "Investment":

DUE: \$ 234,000.00  
Pd. to Date: \$ 27,000.00

Partial Assessments/Investments 2015-16: \$ 328,672.47  
Total Paid to Date 2015-16: \$ 46,583.07

We paid again this week \$4,000.00 on our stewardship goal for Loyola. We are striving to make this a weekly commitment. The Good News is that we are further ahead than last year at this time. Thank you for your stewardship, allowing us to cover our various financial commitments.

**"GREEN" STEWARDSHIP**

Traditionally, the stewardship that we give is "green" with the faces of Grant, Washington, Lincoln and the like. But stewardship comes also in the form of "green grass". We are most grateful to Tom Rieff and his firm of GreenCare for the donation of sod and service to beautify the area around the rectory as well as for all the additional work around the church and school building. When you are needing professional landscaping services, please consider Tom and his crew. Thank you guys for doing such a great job and for your great generosity!



**K. OF C. COUNCIL #5551 NEWS**

- Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> - Planning Meeting
- Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> - Pancake Breakfast
- Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Blood Drive



**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

The Knights of Columbus are having a pancake breakfast to benefit local children's charities next Sunday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, at Holy Rosary in the Church Lower Hall. They will be serving from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. Proceeds will be donated to help alleviate children's hunger in the immediate Mankato area. Spiced Pumpkin pancakes return for Fall, along with other great choices of flavors! Please join us and help us help local kids!



**OPTIONS FOR WOMEN | MANKATO  
BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

Starting this weekend, October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, Options for Women | Mankato is running a baby bottle campaign. Please take a baby bottle from one of the Church exits and fill it up with loose change, cash or checks over the next 3 weeks, and return the bottle to Church on or before the weekend of October 25<sup>th</sup>.



Your donations help the staff and volunteers at Options for Women offer medical pregnancy tests, limited ultrasounds, lay counseling, education and mentoring to those facing unplanned pregnancies in our community.

For more information about Options for Women go to [www.OptionsMankato.org](http://www.OptionsMankato.org)

**CHURCH ARCHITECTURE LECTURE**

Ever wonder why Catholic churches have columns, domes, murals, and more? Ever wish you could explain why your parish church looks the way it does? Come find out! You'll never look at a church the same way again. **Why Do Churches Look Like That? Lecture and Church Tour** with Dr. Denis McNamara, a renowned expert in church architecture. **Tuesday, October 12, 7 p.m., Church of St. Aloysius in Olivia.** This free lecture is open to all. Especially encouraged to attend are parish worship committee members, church decorators, musicians, catechists, teachers, youth ministers, and everyone else in the pew! Following Dr. McNamara's lecture, he will give a tour of the Church of St. Aloysius. To find out more, visit [www.dnu.org/events](http://www.dnu.org/events).

**RAKE THE TOWN**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2015**

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** We are recruiting volunteer groups to help rake leaves in Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties for homeowners who are unable to accomplish this annual task by themselves. We have rakes and tarps available and can arrange the size and location of your assignment to accommodate your group's schedule. As always, we'll be hosting a free lunch for rakers at St. Joseph the Worker Church in West Mankato.



Register your raking group at [vinevolunteers.com](http://vinevolunteers.com). Call the VINE office at 387-1666 with questions.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

40 Days for Life started on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> and will continue through Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. *40 Days for Life is a peaceful, prayerful - and proven effective - pro-life campaign.* **Holy Rosary parishioners will be responsible for covering from 6:00 am - 6:00 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.** If you have not signed up yet, please register for your prayer spot today at [www.40daysforlife.com/mankato](http://www.40daysforlife.com/mankato).

**DIOCESAN ETHICS CONFERENCE –  
OCTOBER 10, 2015**

Come and join us for the Diocese of New Ulm Ethics Conference on October 10, 2015 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at the Catholic Pastoral Center in New Ulm. Our topic will be: *Where Has Abortion Taken Us – How Are We Called to Respond?* The conference will look at where the issue of abortion has taken us and how the dignity of the human person forms and shapes a response. Topics will include abortion and the link to breast cancer, the moral use of human tissue and organs, how pregnancy help centers serve those in need, and the help and healing that Project Rachel provides. For more information on the conference go to [dnu.org/familylife](http://dnu.org/familylife). To pre-register go to [dnu.org/events](http://dnu.org/events), fill out a registration form and mail it with your payment to: Ethics Conference, 1421 6<sup>th</sup> St. N, New Ulm, MN, 56073 or contact Janelle at [jboyum@dnu.org](mailto:jboyum@dnu.org), 507-233-5319 by Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH**

This month of October begins with the celebration of Respect Life Sunday on October 4<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Every Life is Worth Living." Go to <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/> to find a host of resources. Check out the Prayer and Program Guide for suggestions for setting up a themed display; discussion guide for articles; intercessions for Respect Life Sunday and the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children; *9 Days for Life* summary, promotional flyer, and novena. Check back periodically as resources will be added to this page.

**VISITING WOMEN'S RELIGIOUS  
COMMUNITIES IN TWIN CITIES**

**8 A.M. - 6 P.M. ON SATURDAY, OCT. 17<sup>TH</sup>**

Women will have a chance to visit four different religious communities to meet, learn, share a meal and pray with Catholic sisters. We will visit the local communities of School Sisters of Notre Dame, Benedictines, Visitation Sisters and Sisters of St. Joseph. The event is free. For more information and registration, contact Sister Mary Swanson, SSND, [mswanson@ssnd.org](mailto:mswanson@ssnd.org), 414-305-9011, or visit the SSND website at [www.ssnd.org/events/2015/10/visiting-womens-religious-communities](http://www.ssnd.org/events/2015/10/visiting-womens-religious-communities). Please register by Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ECHO FOOD SHELF COLLECTION  
- NEXT WEEKEND**

Next weekend we will have the ECHO Food Shelf Collection. As a parish, we have been remiss on announcing and bringing food for the needs of the poor of the local area. Please consider bringing some non-perishable food items to be placed in the baskets at the entrances of the church. *"What you have done for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for Me!"*