



Holy Rosary Catholic Church

O F N O R T H M A N K A T O

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Parish Office

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Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm

Emergency Number

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Religious Education Office

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Accounting Office

507-345-6828

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Holy Rosary Parish Staff

Father Paul van de Crommert, *Pastor*
Brooke Foreman, *Office Administrator*
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Cathy Neve, *Director of Religious Education*
Tracy Meadows, *Youth Minister*

Ministry for Sick & Homebound

Lorraine Klaseus | 507-388-4932

Calvary Cemetery

Board Representative

Tom Kiffe

Loyola Catholic School

Adam Bemmels, Pre-K—12 Principal

Loyola School Office

507-388-0600 | Fax: 507-388-3081

Bulletin Article Deadline:

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm Noon

FOR SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION,
PLEASE VISIT:
[HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO.COM/
WORSHIP-SACRAMENTS](http://HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO.COM/WORSHIP-SACRAMENTS)



HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO

March 4, 2018

Third Sunday of Lent



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and the oxen, and spilled the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves He said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a market place." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, **zeal for your house will consume me.**

-St. John

You do not hear the word "ZEAL" mentioned much in everyday conversation these days. I recall teaching a group of Confirmation students in Olivia several years ago. It was one of the last classes I taught on a weekly basis in the parish setting. That particular night in the church basement, I took on the topic of "zeal" with the 20 or so students that were in attendance. Then, as now, some of the students were not turning in the work that was required of them, which was a remarkably minimal amount. When they came to class, I had worked hours preparing for class with notes and visuals and trying to make it both interesting and insightful. When I had asked a simple question that night to the students, they simply looked at me or grinned to a classmate with the attitude, "This is pointless." Tired of the attitude the students were displaying that evening, I launched into the need for "zeal" if we are to live our faith. I then started talking from the heart for much of the period. When the students wrote their required letter to the Bishop, many of them commented that it was the best part of their Confirmation preparation.



This weekend, Bishop LeVoir comes to confirm another class of juniors from our parish. The Confirmation usually goes well. The students are dressed up. They do what is asked of them and go downstairs to greet our Bishop after the Mass, have a photo and a slice of cake. Then, they leave. For many of them, when they walk out of church, they leave for good. For many people, it seems to hold that Confirmation is not becoming an adult member of the faith but more of a graduation. I and other pastors have seen this all too often. In the months that follow, neither the newly confirmed, and many times the entire family, do not return to celebrate the Holy Eucharist! Congratulations?

A woman by the name of Sherry Weddell wrote a work entitled: "Forming Intentional Disciples". She lists in her writing some very "less-than-zealous" statistics. **1.) Only 30% of Americans who were raised Catholic are still practicing 2.) 10% of all adults in America are ex-Catholics. 3.) Nearly 80% of cradle Catholics are no longer Catholic by the age of 23.** So, with these statistics it is safe to say that 80% of the young people who profess before the Bishop who is the Father of the Faith, as well as their own family, that they will not marry in the Catholic faith, nor will they raise their families Catholic. Not only is this the result of a lack of "zeal", it is simply a spiritually tragedy.

What is causing this contemporary Exodus? Just as the ancient Israelites had their own Exodus in the Old Testament from Egypt as slaves, into the desert for 40 years and later into the Promised Land; many Catholics both young and old are entering into a "cultural wilderness" looking for their own promised land, but this time without the guidance of Almighty God. They are looking for pleasure and entertainment, riches and luxury, technology and the things that will make their life lived in way that is both quick and convenient. The Second Vatican Council warned us already back in the 1960's of this coming trend when the Church wrote of modern humanity in the pastoral constitution on the "Church in the Modern World" in part: **"...Many things compete for humanity's attention, but we are always compelled to make a choice among them, and to renounce some. What is more, in our weakness and sinfulness we often today do what we do not want to do, and fail to do what we would like to do. In consequence, we suffer from a conflict within ourselves, and this in turn gives rise to so many great tensions in society. Very many people, infected as they are with a materialistic way of life, cannot see the dramatic state of affairs in all its clarity, or at least be prevented from giving thought to it because of the unhappiness they themselves experience. Many people think they can find peace in the different philosophies that are proposed...The Church believes that Christ died and rose for all, and can give humanity light and strength through our Spirit to fulfill the highest calling; Christ is the only name under heaven in which humanity can be saved."**

Vatican II --- Gaudium et Spes December 1965

It is easy as a priest to give gloomy statistics and sobering quotes from Church documents, but it does not resolve the critical issue at hand. So, what is at the heart of the problem of this mass Exodus of our youth and how do you stop it? I shared my thoughts with this class of Confirmation students a few Sundays ago when they were having their "required" retreat; but I did not sense a strong "zeal" for what I had said. However, I will try and say it again.

(continued on page 3)



Stewardship of Gratitude

Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary

Adult Contributions	\$8,054.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,895.47
Youth Giving	\$90.26
Loose Plate	\$205.25
Weekly Offering Total	\$10,244.98
<i>Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,200.00</i>	

Feb. 2017 "Bridging the Gap" \$0.00



Additional Weekly Income \$4,850.47

Grand Total *\$15,095.45

Total weekly stewardship goal is set at \$13,000.00

Thanks for your gifts of gratitude to God!!!

Stewardship Of Gratitude

Last week, due to the weather, our attendance was understandably down. Thank you to all of you that did make the effort. There are additional graces when we make the necessary sacrifices for the sake of the Savior. Thank you for your gifts.

Welcome to Holy Rosary!

We welcome this week to Holy Rosary William "Bill" Barsness and Adria Ayers to Holy Rosary as our newest members. Bill is employed as a contractor and Adria is in sales and marketing. The couple have two children at home, Dawson, age 15, and Bradyn, age 18. It was wonderful to see this couple in attendance at our 1st Annual Taste of the Nations even here at Holy Rosary. Welcome to our growing parish family!



Are you new to the area or would like to join Holy Rosary parish? Go to holyroarynorthmankato.com/membership-registration and download the registration forms to fill out. You can also simply send us your contact information via an easy-to-use form and we will mail you a hard copy of those forms. Come join our growing Holy Rosary parish family!

"the quill and the cloth" continued...

Young people and really every person who dares to call themselves Catholic or Christian needs to have a personal moment of conversion and a personal and close-up encounter with Christ. Billy Graham and many other church leaders in the protestant movement have spoken of "accepting the Lord Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior". There is wisdom in those words. Recall, too, the words of Jesus Christ, "If you wish to be my follower, you must take up your cross and follow me." Only after we have carried the Cross of Jesus Christ through some great trial or trouble, and discovering that the Lord was with us the whole time, might be one of those graced opportunities to achieve a personal conversion. However, one does not have to go through great personal suffering in order to encounter Christ. But, we do need to be "zealous" as we search for him through the Church, where we will find Jesus Christ, and not through the culture.

I grew up in a home where we were strongly encouraged to read the various Catholic periodicals my parents subscribed to and even to read the parish bulletin. (Today I understand that young people do not see the bulletin as something for them but only for adults. Sad!) Yet, true zeal for the faith is not caught like the flu, it is taught like the French language. Anyone who is reading this, the Good News is that you have "zeal" like our Lord who cleansed the temple in today's Gospel from St. John, for the simple fact that you are trying to deepen your knowledge of the faith by reading this lengthy article. GOOD FOR YOU! Maybe, you can show your "zeal", by reading this article out loud or handing it to someone that is not practicing the faith or not practicing it very well. Maybe showing this article to a less than "zealous" soul is not going to necessarily be as dramatic as cleansing the temple, but it might clean the spiritual clock of another soul and bring them back into the temple of the Lord each Sunday! Happy Lent!

Concert Announcement

Join the Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra as we celebrate Spring with a concert featuring Kiara Riehl, Mankato East High School student, on Sunday, March 4th from 3:00 - 4:00 pm at Trinity Chapel, Mankato, MN. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and are available at the door.



The Week Ahead

Monday, March 5: Lenten Weekday

8:30 am - No Morning Mass

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm – CCW Business Meeting (Conf. Rm. 1)

Tuesday, March 6: Lenten Weekday

No Morning Mass at Holy Rosary

5:30 pm - **“Getting More Out of Mass” Adult Study Group**
(Church Basement)

Wednesday, March 7: Lenten Weekday (Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs)

8:30 am - No Morning Mass

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm – Sewing Group (Lower Level PC)

4:45 pm - 6:15 pm – **Holy Rosary Community Meal**
- Menu: Chili (School Cafeteria)

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm – **Children’s Choir Practice** (School)

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm – **Holy Rosary Choir Practice** (School)

6:00 pm - 7:10 pm – **Elementary Rel. Ed. Classes**

Thursday, March 8: Lenten Weekday (Saint John of God, Religious)

8:30 am – No Morning Mass

7:30 pm – **K of C Planning Meeting**

Friday, March 9: Lenten Weekday (Saint Frances of Rome, Religious)

8:30 am – No Morning Mass

9:15 am – Parishioners’ Breakfast at the Perkins
Restaurant (1123 Range St) - *All are invited

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm – **River of Life** (Conf. Rm. 1)

5:30 pm – **No Stations of the Cross**

Saturday, March 10: Lenten Weekday (Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin)

8:30 am – 2:00 pm **CCW Women’s Lenten Retreat**

4:30 pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm – Rosary

5:00 pm – Mass - People of the Parish

Sunday, March 11: Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 am – Rosary

8:00 am – Mass - Karen Gagnier Randall†

9:30 am – Rosary

10:00 am – Mass - Joseph & Martha Phillips
(Nursery, CLW, & Sunday School during 10:00 am Mass)

K. of C. Council #5551 News

March 8: Planning Meeting

March 22: General Meeting

March 23: Fish Feed

Church of St. Paul Breakfast Fundraiser

Enjoy a pre-Saint Patrick’s Day Breakfast and bucket raffle on Sunday, March 11 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. The men of the Church of St. Paul in Nicollet will be serving ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, potatoes, and a beverage. The tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children 6-12 and children 5 and under are free. This is a Catholic Order of Foresters Court 812 Matching Grant Fundraiser for Religious Education.



Council of Catholic Women News

The next CCW meeting will be held Monday, March 5th at 6:30 pm in Conference Room 1 in the Parish Center. All women are invited and encouraged to join us!

Save the Date: ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT! Please join us for a Lenten Day of Reflection on Saturday, March



10th, at Holy Rosary Church Basement. Registration will begin at 8:30 am. At 9:00 am, Sister Therese Even SSND will lead us in reflecting on how we can be more aware of God’s love and presence in our daily lives. We will learn how the Word of God and how prayer helps us to reach that goal and how to use steps to live life more fully. We will enjoy a light lunch and then another reflection on the importance of forgiveness and healing. We will end around 2:00 pm with a time for sharing how this day will help us to be ready to experience Easter joy.

We will need to have the total number of those attending, so please call our parish office, 387-6501, by March 5th to reserve a spot. If you need transportation, please leave that message at the office too. This event is sponsored by the Holy Rosary Council of Catholic Women.

Penance Service Individual Confessions

Lent is a time to “change our hearts” and we do this sacramentally through the Sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation. Due to many different schedules, it is getting more challenging to find a date where there are enough priests available at one time to celebrate a Penance Service. Therefore, beginning in one week and after the Stations of the Cross on Fridays (as well as on Saturday’s) I will be in the confessional to celebrate this important sacrament of confession. I will also have you note that there will be an opportunity to go to confession at St. Joseph the Worker at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 14th as well as Wednesday, March 21st. I am still hoping to schedule a time with additional priests here at Holy Rosary if that is possible. I also will be scheduling more individual times for confession as we get closer to Holy Week. “Go in peace!”



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“If Christianity is valid, why is there so much evil in the world?” To this the famous preacher replied, “With so much soap, why are there so many dirty people in the world? Christianity, like soap, must be personally applied if it is to make a difference in our lives.”

-Billy Graham

March 10th - 11th, 2018



Lectors:

- 5:00 pm** Vincent Guertin
8:00 am John Holden
10:00 am Jennifer Spaude

Eucharistic Ministers:

- 5:00 pm** Patrick & Wanda Hull
8:00 am Margaret Ayers & Michelle Ellingworth
10:00 am Julie Schoettler & Sherry Henrickson

Altar Servers:

- 5:00 pm** Riley & Rayna Gruenes, Connor McGraw
8:00 am Grace & Ben Ellingworth, Emma Otto (C/B/B)
10:00 am Hailey Barker, Jacob Reynolds, & Hannah Linnes (C/B/B)

Presentation of Gifts:

- 5:00 pm** Larkin Hansen
8:00 am Tabitha Plasschaert
10:00 am Ella Dunn

Ushers:

- 5:00 pm** Karen Winters, Jim Theuninck, Steve Enderle, & Mark Weingartz (*Head Usher*)
8:00 am Ben Cahalan, Dean Cullen, Sharon Lenz, Bill Fasnacht (*Head Usher*)
10:00 am John Jagerson, Glenn Verchelde, Isaac & Blaine Kolsatd (*Head Usher*)

Rosary Leaders:

- 5:00 pm** Karen Etzell
8:00 am Sharon Lenz
10:00 am Jeanette Barsness

Music Ministry:

- 5:00 pm** Cindy Gawrych/Jeanne Makela
8:00 am Tom Bachmann/ Jeanne Makela
10:00 am Myra Schroeffer/ Vicki Galli

Money Counters - March 2018: Arlyce Anderson, Bill Fasnacht, Shirleen Gulden, Jan Nelson

Bulletin Folders - March 2018: Ruth Fitterer, Rosal Molski, Mary Haley, Ken Thiele, Anne Doyle

Birthright Raffle

It is again time for the Knights of Columbus to co-sponsor its annual Benefit for Birthright Raffle. Tickets are available at the parish office or by calling David Mutch at 387-5406. The cost of a book of 6 tickets is \$6.00. There are 5 prizes ranging in value from \$50.00-\$250.00.



Lenten Adult Study Group

"Getting More out of Mass"

The Lenten Adult Study Groups has begun gathering in preparation for celebrating the Pascal Mystery and living the mystery in the world. We want to welcome everyone to join; men, women, singles, and couples, all perspectives are encouraged!

The group meets in the church basement on Tuesday evenings. The discussions are centered on the booklet, "Getting More Out of the Mass," by Fr. John Muir. The schedule of the topics are as followed:

March 6- How to Enter God's House

March 13- A Loving Conversation

March 20- How to Give Yourself to God

March 27- Finding Your Purpose



Each session starts with a simple soup supper at 5:30 pm in the church basement. Supper is followed by large group prayer, small group study, and sharing of scripture & prayer.

Please come and enjoy the fellowship and be involved with a faith-filled group of people to ponder the word of God. Sign up to participate by calling Mary Beth Nygaard at 625-1450 or JoAnn Borchert at 388-8813.

Picture Perfect!

Start scheduling your picture sessions before or after Mass! We will have tables set up in the back of church for you and your family to pencil in your appointment for your photo session. If you are not able to sign up at Mass, please go to our website holyyrosarynorthmankato.com and click the link on the top of the page to schedule online (**online scheduling is only available on weekdays**). If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call the parish office at 387-6501.

The sign up dates are as followed:

March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

The photography session dates are as followed:

March 13th-17th

March 20th-24th

March 26th-31st



The photographers will be there from 1:30-8:30 pm on weekdays and 9:00 am - 4:00 pm during Saturdays.

2017-2018 ECHO FOOD SHELF COLLECTION

Total Received To Date: \$14,203.71



Religious Education Program

Congratulations to the following Confirmation Students who received the gift of the Holy Spirit on

Saturday, March 3rd:

- Mitchell Bigaouette** son of Joe & Julie
- Sidney Botker** daughter of Jesse & Lindsey
- Grace Dehen** daughter of Mark & Kim
- Alyssa Enevold** daughter of Joel & Christine
- Cody Fromm** son of Daron & Ann
- Larkin Hansen** daughter of Steven & Tamara
- Thomas Keltgen** son of Joseph & Mary Jo
- Aiden McGraw** daughter of Sean & Jeane
- Alexander Nelson** son of Eli & Melissa
- Lily Niederegger** daughter of Thomas & Sarah
- Tabitha Plasschaert** daughter of Richard & Catherine
- Cole Rauchman** son of Thomas & Janelle
- Mackenzie Reynolds** daughter of LuAnn
- Teresa Weber** daughter of Frank & Connie

Upcoming Dates

- March 7 - Class for Elementary Grades 1 - 6; 6:00 pm - 7:10 pm; Community Meal - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm - School Cafeteria - On the Menu: Chili ; Youth Group 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm
- March 14 - Class for ALL Grades; 1 - 6 meet from 6:00 pm to 7:10 pm; Teaching Mass for grades 3 - 6 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm; Grades 7 - 11 meet from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.
- March 21 - Class for Elementary Grades 1 - 6; 6:00 pm - 7:10 pm; Youth Group 6:45 PM - 8:00 PM
- March 28 - NO Classes - Holy Week

Youth Group News

The Youth Group will be having a movie night on March 7th! We will start the movie at 6:20 pm and be done at 7:45 pm. On March 28th the calendar says scavenger hunt, but due to Holy Week we will not be having youth group that night. We will reschedule for a later date.



Wednesday Night Simple Meals

Please join us for our Wednesday night Simple Meals! They are open to all parishioners! We serve from 4:45-6:15 pm. On the Menu for March 7: Chili



Stewardship Corner

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

Pd. to Date: \$35,652.51
Goal: \$79,721.00

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

Rec'd. to Date: \$19,450.00
Goal: \$19,450.00

Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

Pd. to Date: \$190,767.00
Goal: \$205,014.00

Total Paid to Date 2017-18: \$245,869.51
Apostolate Stewardship 2017-18: \$304,185.00

We took another stewardship jump this week as we contributed \$5,000.00 towards our stewardship commitment towards our local Catholic School of Loyola. We are now down to our last \$13,000.00 that we need to pay. Then, we will start tackling our Diocesan commitment which is still nearly \$45,000.00. Ready! Set! Go! Thank you for your gifts!

Fuel Fund

This week we took in "Additional Weekly Income" the amount of \$165.00. Thank you for your generosity! To date this season, we have brought in a total of \$7,444.00. We have set a modest goal for our Fuel Collection at \$8,000.00 even though last year we had spent in excess a total of \$17,500.00. With a goal that is less than half of what will be spent, of that goal we are presently standing at 93% that we have collected to date. Thank you for supporting this important and most basic expense of the parish.



Holy Rosary Pedal Past Poverty

Holy Rosary Pedal Past Poverty team members from left to right: Arlyce Anderson, Brent Friedrichs, Steve Hlavac, Mary Clare Wyrowski, Katie Adelman and Bill Cahalan. Missing from photo is Dave Meyer, who also won 3rd place in his heat. Thank you to the riders and also to the CCW for their generous donation to this worthy cause!



Happy Birthday!

We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Mary Jane Ledwein who celebrated her 96th birthday on March 2nd. We wish you God's blessings and love!



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!

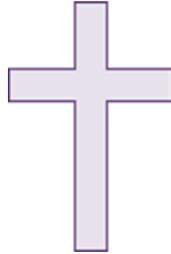
For Those Who Are Ill & Special Needs

Daniel Crowley, Jo Lindberg, Judith Neitge, Leonard Mettler, Joanne Vavrosky, Cyril Windschitl, Roger Keltgen, Dean & Julie Mettler, Juliette Shamp, Mary Jane Ledwein, Willard Forster

Home Visitation: If you wish to have yourself or a loved one receive the sacraments, Holy Communion or a personal pastoral visit, please call our coordinator, Lorraine Klaseus at 507-388-4932

For Our Families

Monday	Steven & Amy Rykhus
Tuesday	Danielle & Jeremiah Hess
Wednesday	Emma & Jasper Currington
Thursday	Joy & Huntly Baumberger
Friday	Timothy & Michele Adams
Saturday	Jeanne Makela
Sunday	Timothy & Marya Flynn



For Those in the Military

Nick Blace	Matt McGraw	William Backes
Jared Hiniker	Christopher Schmidt	Ben Barsness
Dana Schiller	Daniel Fitterer	Anna Drummer
Mark Hansen	Timothy Eick	



Prayer Chain

If you have a short term prayer request or prayer of thanksgiving for our prayer chain to pray for, please call Teresa Kolstad at 327-9810.



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:

William & Bertha van de Crommert†

This Week's Readings

Mon:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30
Tues:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
Wed:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
Thurs:	Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
Fri:	Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
Sat:	Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
Sun:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21



Learn about Loyola Catholic School...visit www.loyolacatholicschool.org

K-12 has current openings, PS/PK 2018-2019 enrollment is coming soon! Schedule **family tours** and **shadow days** at your convenience. **Contact Angela Casteel: 388-0615, acasteel@loyolacatholicschool.org**

Save the Date ... ALL ARE WELCOME!

- **Kindergarten Round Up, March 19, 6:00 pm** Bring your Kindergarten-eligible child, tour classrooms and find out what Kindergarten at Loyola is all about! Childcare for siblings is available. Can't make it? Schedule a family tour (call 507.388.0615) on a day that works for you.
- **Loyola Crusader Golf Classic: May 14,** Four-person scramble golf event friendly enough for the weekend golfer but challenging enough for the competitive player! Registration information coming soon!

Congratulations!

At West's **Speech** meet, Loyola placed 3rd overall. Brayton Matuska & Landon Javens, and Amanda Street & Brooke Mendele, placed 1st in their duo categories; Addison Frazee and Landon Javens placed 1st in their individual categories. At the East **Speech** meet, Brayton Matuska and Landon Javens each placed 1st in their categories and Loyola placed 3rd overall.

Duram Kelly placed 4th in the **regional Spelling Bee**.

Zan Raverty scored his **1000th career point** last week.

All eight of our **Regional Science Fair** participants qualified for the State Science Fair in April.

At the **city-wide concert** last week, students raised over \$3200.00 for The Reach.

Loyola 6th graders will participate in **JA Biz Town** on Friday.

Enrollment Night last Thursday was a fun, family event. Current families re-enrolled and new families toured, the Spirit Shop was open, we served supper for all, announced high school electives and AP classes for 2018-19, and had drawings for prizes.

***Did you know?** We continue to welcome families who are new to the area or are seeking a change. Come and discover Loyola's unique school culture and academic and co-curricular offerings.*

Your parish support makes all we do, learn, and celebrate at Loyola possible, *as we guide students to their full potential, walk with them in faith, and equip them to lead and serve.*

Stepping up in Faith

Rec'd. to Date: \$18,435.20
Estimated Need: \$50,000.00



Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes Holy Rosary Catholic Church January 29th, 2018

The Holy Rosary Pastoral Council convened on Monday, January 29th at 7:00 pm. Nearly all of the members of the Pastoral Council were present and accounted for at this meeting. Father began with an opening prayer. The past minutes of the council of November 20th, 2017, were reviewed and approved as read.

Pastor's Report: Father began his comments by thanking all of the parishioners for their outpouring of concern and support over the death of both his Father and Mother in the span of just 12 weeks. Father stated that his Mother had spent the Thanksgiving holiday with him at the rectory at Holy Rosary. She had experienced a good time and he drove her home on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Three days later, the staff at the assisted living residence informed him that she was depressed and had not eaten in three days and talked about dying. A week later she entered hospice. The hospice nurse stated that it is quite common that in a long-time marriage the other spouse gives up on living. She died peacefully on the Feast of Holy Innocents. The family had wanted to keep the funeral low-key. No notice was published, but there were about 100 people in attendance and 8 clergy including two bishops. Father spoke with his oldest brother and between his brother and himself, some 200 thank-you's have been sent out. Father is planning to take some time away from parish work in the coming weeks.

The parish had a very good Advent and Christmas season. It is spiritually stressful to go through seven Masses in the span of less than 48 hours. The attendance at the anticipatory Mass for Christmas alone was standing at 580 people. The attendance for the Christmas Masses was very strong. The stewardship for the fiscal year and for the Christmas season was up from the previous year.

Pastorally, Father and Lorraine continue to meet with the sick, homebound, and the dying. Father has visited in the past year nearly 100 people at home, HCF or the hospital. Lorraine has done many more through her weekly and daily visits. 71 parishioners from Holy Rosary are either in a health care facility or are homebound that we are presently aware of at this time. 251 people received the Sacrament of the Sick at our May and October anointing Masses. \$850.00 was given at Thanksgiving and Christmas for those in need. The parish also pays out monies for those that stop for food and fuel assistance. Four family names were submitted for the Loyola Christmas basket project.

During the Lenten season, Father will be taking on two "Teaching Masses", not just for the students in our religious education program, but also for their parents as

well as all of the parishioners as a time of Lenten enrichment. The ongoing spiritual struggle is to convince Catholics of our present time that the Holy Eucharist has to be central to our spiritual lives. Hopefully, this Lenten season we can take a step forward spiritually in this regard.

The education, Worship, and Social Concerns Committee have recently met. They will be sharing their reports of the work that they are presently engaged in at this time. The Finance Council was to have met last Monday, but due to the blizzard, the meeting had been postponed to next Monday evening. Overall, the parish is having a good year both temporally, pastorally, and spiritually.

Committee Reports: (*Highlights)

C.C.W.: Our last meeting was Monday December 4th which also included Mass and a potluck dinner. Everyone brought donations for the women and children at the CADA House. The gifts were most appreciated. The C.C.W and the KCs hosted the Parish Christmas Party on Saturday, December 9th with about 200 attending. The Advent Bake Sale held December 9th and 10th resulted in over \$1,100.00 profit. Arlyce A. and Dolores P. attended the Region 1 and NUDCCW Board Meetings held in Nicollet on January 20th Holy Rosary C.C.W will be hosting a Women's Retreat for all area women on Saturday March 10th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. All women are invited and encouraged to attend. The Region 1 Spring Gathering will be held at Holy Rosary on Thursday March 15. Flyers will be posted soon at church. The NUDCCW Convention will be held on Saturday April 28 at Redwood Falls.

Education Committee: Christmas Program - The Christmas program went very well! The students did a great job. We chose a very simple way to tell the Christmas Story. We are in communication with the Knights of Columbus and C.C.W groups in finding a way to combine the Parish Christmas Party with the program.

First Reconciliation - First Reconciliation was held on January 21st. We had two visiting priests as well as Father to hear confessions. We held a reception in the church lower hall featuring cake and lemonade. The sheet cake was baked by one of the second grade mothers and was delicious!

Theme for the year: "The Mass: Its Meaning & Importance in Our Lives" - Father is going to have "Teaching Masses" that will be a slow-motion version of Mass as he will explain what is happening throughout the Mass. We are going to require that parents attend these Masses as well as the students. The first teaching Mass will be on February 28 at 7:00 pm.

11th Grade Confirmation Retreat - The retreat is being held this Sunday. Students will attend the 10:00 am Mass and then head to the cafeteria for lunch and retreat activities.

Finance Council: Jim reported that the parish finances are again doing well this year, even better than the previous year. The parish is working hard to pay forward our stewardship commitments to the Catholic School of Loyola and are ahead of payments from a year ago at this time. On the other hand, the parish is behind in our payments to the Diocese when compared to last year. The parish is presently ahead of our budgeted needs. The parish is working on a new fundraiser that is being called "Taste of the Nations". Parishioners are buying tickets and the event looks promising. The hope is that the people of the parish will continue to make the sacrifices needed to meet our budgeted needs.

Knights of Columbus: The Knights reported that 180 people were served at the parish Christmas party which was up from the previous year and the social hall was filled with young and old. People seemed to be having a very good time. The Knights ordered less Christmas trees and were able to sell all of them and were done selling well before Christmas day. The new parking area worked well as a Christmas tree lot area. On January 4th there was a Blood drive held and 63 units were collected which is a great number. The Pro-life Pancake Breakfast is being held soon. On March 23rd, there will be a Fish Fry. The Knights are also working on a Birth Right Raffle and the next Blood Drive that they are sponsoring will be held on March 10th.

Social Concerns: The complexion of Holy Rosary parish is to be "socially concerned". There are many "socially" inspired works being done through our various organizations and committees that are presently under operation. Some of these areas include Birth-Right, Visiting the Sick, Prayer Chain, Work Order Requests for those in Need, Options for Women, Small Faith Groups, Card Ministry to the Aged and the Homebound, assisting with vouchers for those in need, working with the community on housing the homeless, etc. The source of our "Social Concerns" comes through the sacraments. Father has ordered 500 copies of a book about the Mass entitled "Getting More Out of the Mass", in order to strengthen our understanding in this central sacrament and perhaps make us even more socially aware. For all of our good work flows from this and the other sacraments. The Social Concerns Committee is continuing to meet and work on various social areas in the parish.

Business:

Parish Directory: Life Touch: Life Touch is the only company in Minnesota that provides the service any longer of putting out parish directories. The company's success is in the hope of parishioners seeing their photos and would like these pictures as a family memory. The presenter was Michelle – "Shelly" Conlon who Father has worked with in the past as well as some of the staff and volunteers of Holy Rosary through past directories. Much has changed in the business of taking parish photos and

putting out parish directories. The presentation showed a tightening up of benefits and services that are no longer being offered with some new items being offered. "Shelly" presented the Pastoral Council with two choices of books. The committee recommended to Father the smaller book. Father accepted the recommendation provided that a cover letter could be placed in the front of the book in the smaller version. Shelly said that she would check this out and thought it was a possibility. (**Shelly later informed the parish that this could not be the case. The directory would only have pictures and nothing else. As a result, it was decided after the meeting with the Directory Committee, to go with the second choice.*) Unlike the directories of the past, there were activity pages. This will no longer be the case as the company no longer offers this benefit. Again, this other choice will only have a cover letter from the pastor and then the photos of the parishioners. There is also an option to have an app for your smart phone with the entire directory at your finger-tips. The Pastoral Council was in full consensus that the parish proceed with the new directory with photo appointments being scheduled in the weeks ahead. In seven years, in 2025, Holy Rosary will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. It would seem appropriate to put out a new directory at that time as well that would be hardbound and also with a parish history included. Father stressed that the value of the directory is to have a photo of every household. Life Touch informed the council that in years past, submitted photos were allowed. Today a charge is made for any submitted photo at the cost of \$10.00 per photo. The council discussed that those with submitted photos would be required to pay \$10.00 if they wish to have a parish directory. Great efforts will be going into getting a photo in one form or another from the faithful as the book will have the most value if the majority of the parish is represented in the book. Jim Theunick and Lorraine Klaseus will be co-chairing the new parish directory to insure the completion of this project in a timely manner. In the past, several extra cases of books were given to the parish for new parishioners coming into the parish. This is also, no longer the case and the parish must pay for any additional books at \$10.00 a piece. **Church Front Entrance:** There has been good stewardship progress on the new church steps and front entrance. To date, \$17,600.20 has been received. This is a good start of stewardship but much more money will be needed. Father anticipates the continuation of raising money now and into 2019. No exact figure is yet known as no contractor has been hired and work is still being performed by the architects. The estimated figure is expected to be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.

Future Business: 1.) Small Faith Communities 2.) Newman Center – Young Adult Ministry Opportunities.

No future meeting date was set at the close of the meeting. The meeting closed with prayer