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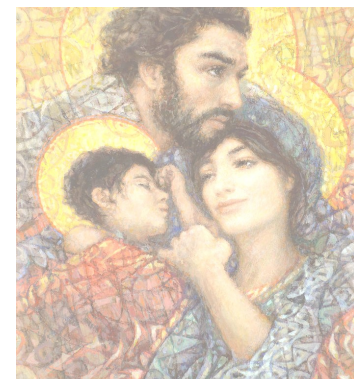
Holy Family & Epiphany B, Dec 31, 2023 & Jan 7, 2024

Mantador: Plate \$433
Envelopes: \$1,480

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to those who sent their pastor a gift or card for Christmas. It certainly warms my ♥. Sorry I can't send each of you a personal *Thank You*. I'm sincerely grateful for the privilege to share this Earthly Pilgrimage with you, and that includes, too, all those who did not send a greeting, either because 'it's not your thing' or because I'm not your style of pastor. "God alone is Good" (Mk 10:18). The best we can do is serve God and one another with our daily level best & keep trying. Let's embrace the New Year as fellow servants of Christ—whom the Magi sought with gusto and whom Mary & Joseph surrounded with unwavering TLC. The Joy of this shared Faith eclipses all our differences and propels us forward.



A GOD WHO BLESSES. The wk before Christmas, the Vatican allowed for spontaneous blessings of people in "irregular situations" to include same-sex relationships. For those with questions, please read the document, *Fiducia Supplicans: On the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings*. It's about the universal reach of God's Love. As all the best commentators noted, there's been no doctrinal shift. The declaration actually goes out of its way to point out that the Church's doctrine about marriage is left intact: "Therefore, rites and prayers that could create confusion between what constitutes marriage — which is the 'exclusive, stable, and indissoluble union between a man and a woman, naturally open to the generation of children' — and what contradicts it are inadmissible. This conviction is grounded in the perennial Catholic doctrine of marriage; it is only in this context that sexual relations find their natural, proper, and fully human meaning. The Church's doctrine on this point remains firm."



What Pope Francis intends here is to give priority to how Catholic teaching affects people's real lives. His program for reform does not touch on changing Church teaching but works to make Church life as accessible as possible to everyone.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & ADULT EDUCATION. This week, we have Eucharistic Adoration and Adult Edu. Adoration at 5pm; Mass at 6pm; around 6:30pm fellowship, a meal (if someone desires to sign up) and an episode of Robert Barron's *Catholicism* video series. In Mantador on Tue; Mooreton on Weds.

This wk, Episode III: **"THAT THAN WHICH NOTHING GREATER CAN BE THOUGHT - THE INEFFABLE MYSTERY OF GOD"** After Fr Barron considers the Mystery of God, he lets the Catholic tradition speak to the challenging question of evil & the existence of God. Barron will also invite us to the heights of the Sinai desert and makes his way to mysterious Istanbul, walks the streets of Paris and then captivates the viewer with the glories of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.



HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

Did you hear about the guy who made a New Year's resolution to read more? He figured out closed captioning & added subtitles to his T.V.



2 WKS AGO, we had a strange happening at St. Anthony's. One of the cruet's handles just detached, sending the vessel to the hard pavement. The shattering caught everyone's attention. Were there a few giggles? This past Friday, Luke Mauch showed up at my door with 2 beautiful new cruets. And it wasn't even his fault, ☺. Thanks Luke!



Keeping God's House Beautiful, January

Sts PP: *Donna Thiel, Barb Lingen, Jackie Lingen, Cindy Reiland

St A: Mary Erbes, Alyson Krier, *Kirstin Erbes, Jeri Pausch, Anita Onchuck, Tiffany Carlson

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS, ST A 10:30 AM

ADULT EDU, JAN 2—MANTADOR, JAN 3—MOORETON

JAN 4-12, FR. MICHAEL IS AT A WEDDING, CONFERENCE, & A VISIT TO HIS PARENTS IN OHIO

JAN 14, MOORETON PARISH COUNCIL APPRECIATION SUPPER, COTEAU DES PRAIRIES LODGE, 4:30 PM

JAN 21, MANTADOR PARISH COUNCIL APPRECIATION SUPPER, BARNEY PUB, 4:30 PM

FEB 14, ASH WEDS

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS:

Hannah Storbakken, Michelle Johnson, Dale Althoff, Denise Hejtmanek, Janice Ward, Chester Glynn, Richard Mauch, Rogan Erbes, Sheree Foertsch, Taylor Allmendinger, Anita Onchuck



Q: What goes up and never comes down?
A: Your age.

Also, this just in, statistics show that those who have the most birthdays, live the longest.

**Thomas & Terrie Breuer,
Seth & Anna Harlas,
Andrew & Bethany Mauch**

