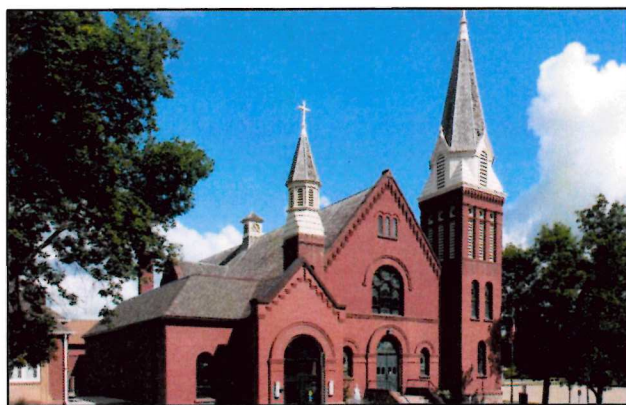


St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish

540 3rd Ave NE - Valley City, ND 58072

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
March 2, 2025**

www.catherineofalexandria.org



MASS SCHEDULE: (For Lent)

Monday - Thursday 8:00 am

Friday: 5:30pm

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

RECONCILIATION: (For Lent)

Monday - Thursday 7:30 - 7:50 am

Tuesday 8:15 - 9:30 pm

Friday 4:45 - 5:15 pm

Saturday - 4:00-4:45 pm

Sunday - 7:30-8:00 am

Parish Office Hours:

Monday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00am - 4:30pm

Closed from 12:00 - 12:30pm everyday

March Serving Information:

March 2: Coffee and Rolls

Temporary chairperson: Margaret Doyle

701-840-0142; email:

doylemargaretm@yahoo.com



Coffee and Rolls

Sunday

Between the masses



KC/CDA Breakfast



Sunday March 9th from 9:00am - Noon

Free Will Offering

Menu: Caramel and Cinnamon Rolls,
scrambled eggs, smokies, Sunny D.

Everyone is welcome, please join us!!



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Mass Times:

8:00 am

12:10pm

6:30pm

Mardi Gras Thanks: Thank you to the following parishioners/parents who helped make the Mardi Gras Celebration last Wednesday evening for the high school youth group a huge success: Dennis & Linda Heit, Steve and Amy Jorissen, Christopher Holm and Nick Deschamp. A great time was had by all.

March Calendar of Events

SUN 2	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:55am Rosary 8:30am Mass 9:30am Coffee and Rolls 10:10am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass 2:00-4:00pm KC/CDA Mardis Gras Carnival
MON 3	NO MASS 5:30pm Bible Study - Potluck
TUE 4	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 8:30am - 10:00pm Adoration 8:30am Tuesday Movie 6:40pm KC Rosary & Meeting
WED 5	Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins 7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 12:10pm Mass 6:30pm Mass
THU 6	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 1:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Quilters
FRI 7	2:00pm Mass - St. Raphael 5:30pm Mass 6:00pm Stations of the Cross 6:30pm Simple Supper
SAT 8	9:00am Confirmation Retreat 10:00am Mass - Mercy Hospital 4:25pm Rosary 5:00pm Mass
SUN 9	First Sunday of Lent 7:55am Rosary 8:30am Mass - OCIA Rite of Sending 9:30am - Noon KC/CDA Breakfast 10:10am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass 3:00pm OCIA Rite of Election - Cathedral

MASS INTENTIONS March 3 - 9

M 8:00am	NO MASS
T 8:00am	† Allan Weber
W 8:00am	† Dave Winkler
12:10pm	People of the Parish
6:30pm	† Roxanne Reed
Th 8:00am	† George Judd Sr
F 2:00pm	† Marilyn Beach
5:30pm	Deb Didier
Sa 5:00pm	† Diantha Scherr
Su 8:30am	People of the Parish
10:30am	† John Linnehan

TODAYS READINGS

First Reading — Sir 27:4-7

Second Reading — 1 Cor 15:54-58

Gospel — Lk 6:39-45

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2;

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

PRAYER NETWORK

Remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who are ill or are in need of our prayers:

Warren Ventch

Audrey Suhr

Darlene Miller

Andrew Tangen

Larry Doyle

Lucille Winkler

Marlys Koble

Donna Hammond

Jerry Sand

Krystal Lemer

Cemetery Announcement

St. Catherine cemetery will be closing for the winter and will reopen in the spring when the conditions improve, if you need any help, you can call the **Sexton Deacon Joe Leitner 701-840-7429**.



Knights of Columbus Council #6438



Invitation to Join

We welcome Catholic men over the age of 18 who are members of St. Catherine's to consider joining our Council. The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.7 million members. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people.

For more information about the Knights of Columbus contact Financial Secretary Joe Sykora at 701-890-7178 (jhsykora@gmail.com).



Pastor's Page

ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS

No matter the date of Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, it always seems to surprise us a bit with its appearance. As much as that might be the result of a calendar reckoning ("We just had Christmas!"), I think that Lent brings with it a sudden spiritual realization that rocks our boat at least a little bit. Lent is just different, isn't it?

We've been cruising along in Ordinary Time since the Christmas Season ended in mid-January, and now - boom! - Lent happens. And what a change that is, huh? Lent is usually seen as one of the more "intense" periods in the Church's year - as well it should be.

Of course the entirety of our spiritual journey in this life involves us listening, taking in, and living the teachings and ways of Our Lord - our sanctification (holiness) in Him. And Lent obviously does not deviate from that altogether. However . . . Lent does turn/twist things at least a bit. It's a time to leave *ourselves* behind and concentrate more and more on Jesus, as we watch Him - and accompany Him - on His journey to Jerusalem and His passion and death - and resurrection. I encourage you to do just that in an ever more conscious way this year. Stay with your spiritual life's course, but not only apply His ways to your life - just watch and appreciate and let sink in what happened to Him and what *He did for you*. Watch Him. Notice how He relates with those who love Him, those who hate Him, and those who are lukewarm and/or indifferent to Him as He moves ever closer to ending His life in this world as a sacrifice for all of us, no matter which group one may belong to at any time. His entire life was lived for you and me, but this is a special part of His life that we are re-living with Him during this season of Lent and into Holy Week.

And then of course . . . the Resurrection. What does *that* mean for me? Well, we'll get to that later, but for now, go with the flow of Lent and see how He manages to live - and die - in a way pleasing to His Father (and ours) in this fallen world. It is a sudden, drastic change from His usual public ministry of teaching and healing *us* - now it's our turn to pay more attention to Him and *what He's undergoing* for us.

* * *

One of the unique things about the season of Lent is the taking upon oneself a "Lenten penance" as a way of doing something a bit extra for Our Lord during this time. It's a way to unite ourselves to His self-offering for us by offering a sacrifice of ourselves to and for Him. It really should be related to Him, not just something we arbitrarily pick, perhaps for our own particular reasons instead of relating it somehow to Him. "Related to Him" also does not necessarily mean it has to be of a "spiritual" nature, but even giving up beer for Lent might be a good Lenten penance in terms of the self-denial that would be involved for someone who really loves beer, and so a self-denial for oneself in response to His self-denial (of His own life) for us.

I've given this suggestion before and I'll do it again now: for a penance choose something that would be *good for you in terms of a new life habit that would last not only through Lent, but long after Lent is over, perhaps even for the rest of one's life*. That's the reason I'm not much of a fan of "giving up beer" or "giving up TV" or "giving up chocolate" for a Lenten penance, not because they would be worthless in themselves - for some they may be a perfect Lenten penance - but because for most folks once Lent is over they will simply go right back to having a beer, watching TV, and eating chocolate. In other words, once Lent is over the penance is over. How about choosing something that would be a good penance, but one that the 40 days of Lent would provide as a good "starting ground" for a new habit-pattern in life that would be pleasing to God and could be the beginning of something that would continue on for years to come? For example, giving some time to prayer *each day* (including weekends!) would be a good Lenten penance, as it will be a bit tough to get to that point, but once Lent is over, is something I could then more comfortably keep up for good - which would be a good life-habit to have acquired, right? Or a penance of limiting "screen-time" however one can do so to make it not so intrusive into one's life, especially relationships - and once having gotten through the withdrawal of not having as much screen-time during those 40 days that one can comfortably keep that up for good - and live a healthier life that way. Would not Our Lord not only be pleased with a sacrifice given for Him, but also one that would benefit the rest of our lives with Him?

Continued ➡

Think about it. Perhaps giving up chocolate or junk food - or managing the consumption of it better - would be a great Lenten penance for the one who not only would then use that time of self-denial for Christ, but then also would find its healthy effects continuing on long after Lent is over if one can then keep it up.

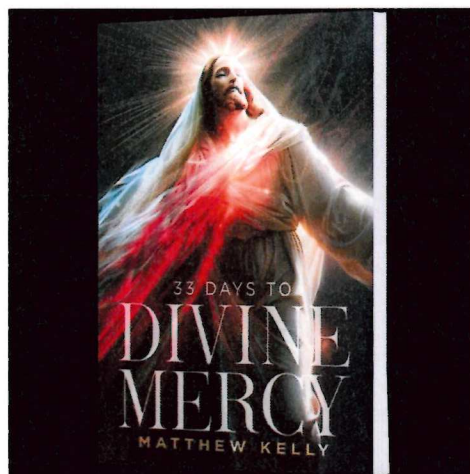
Consider a Lenten penance that would be pleasing to Our Lord, not just for these 40 days, but for one's life - and may Lent 2025 be just the start of some great new habit-patterns long after the penitential season is over!

Fr Duchschere
Pastor

33 DAYS to DIVINE MERCY TO BEGIN ON MARCH 5, 2025

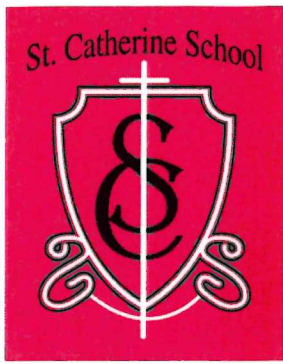
33 DAYS to DIVINE MERCY is the *spiritual pilgrimage* we will be on in our Divine Mercy Cenacle for Lent 2025. Dynamic Catholic offers us this “unprecedented spiritual resource as a guide to discover the very heart of God and his extraordinary plan for our life”. Each day you will read a short reflection in the book that will help you open your heart to God’s mercy and show you how to be an instrument of love in the world.

The Divine Mercy group will meet at 4:30 each Wednesday during Lent beginning on March 5 in the Sacred Heart room in the basement of the church to discuss the book. If you are interested in joining us this Lent, you can order your copy of the book called 33 Days to Divine Mercy by going to dynamiccatholic.com. or call to order at (859) 980 7900. ALL ARE WELCOME.



Dear Parish Family,

St. Gerard’s Court of Catholic Daughters is preparing a scrapbook highlighting the projects we have done in our parish to take to our State Convention in May. **We could use a bit of help.** Some of you may have done or currently still do scrapbooking. If you have any of the large cardstock pages, large heavy paper pages or embellishments you do not need CDA would appreciate your donation of “Scrapbooking” supplies. I do believe we have enough of the plastic cover sheets. Thank you for checking your craft closets. If you find supplies you can donate, please call CDA Regent, Ina Thomsen at 701-490-1919. I will be happy to pick them up.



Principal's Page

St. Catherine School & Daycare Update

We are excited to share that our **job posting for the Daycare Director** will be available next week! Please keep an eye out and encourage any qualified candidates to apply. A **collaborative team atmosphere, deeply rooted in our Catholic faith**, will be essential in creating a daycare that embodies our mission.

A heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who has already contributed their time and effort to the daycare project—we appreciate your support! **This weekend, the lockers are coming out**, making way for the next phase of updates. **New flooring in the daycare hallway** is set to be installed in the coming weeks, and **Bakkegaard & Schell** has been working diligently on our new heating system in the basement.

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **PIE Day Celebration – March 13th**

Since there is **no school on March 14th**, we will celebrate PIE Day on **March 13th**! Please **RSVP to the school office at 701-845-1453** to let us know you're coming!

- **Thank You to Paul Donahue**

A special thank you to **Paul Donahue** for his many years of service helping with aluminum can collection for the school. We are now **looking for a volunteer to take over this ministry**, which provides valuable support for our school. If you are interested, please contact **Principal Nick Lee** at **701-845-1453** or email **nicholas.lee1@k12.nd.us**.

Enrollment for 2024-2025 Now Open!

Enrollment for next school year is now **open in all grade levels**! If you are considering St. Catherine School for your child, we encourage you to **schedule an enrollment meeting** to get your questions answered. Our goal is to make a Catholic education **as accessible as possible for families**. If you have concerns about any aspect of enrolling, **please reach out—we are here to help**.

School Choice Legislation Update

There are **two school choice bills currently under consideration** in the North Dakota Legislature. As the legislative session moves into **cross-over** (where Senate bills go to the House and vice versa), we will continue to monitor developments and provide updates.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Catherine School and our growing daycare program!

Blessings,

Nick Lee

Principal, St. Catherine School

St. Catherine's Parish Team

Parish Office..... 845-0354

Hours:

Monday 8am - 12pm and 12:30pm - 3:00pm

Tuesday - Friday 8am - 12pm and 12:30pm - 4:30pm

Pastor: Very Rev. Paul Duchscher
e-mail: paul.duchscher@fargodiocese.org

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Joe Leitner Rev. Mr. Tom Vanorny

Parish Office Administrator: Jessica (Jess) Storhoff
e-mail: stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

Liturgy Coordinator:
e-mail: st.catherine.liturgy.schedule@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Carol Jabs
e-mail: stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com

Lay Directors: Jeff Bopp & Rhonda Fairfield

Parish Council:

Steve Jorissen Doran Chandler
Larissa Musgrave Mark Oberlander
Joe Zubrod

St. Catherine School..... 845-1453

Principal: Nick Lee

Office Assistant: Terra Giesen

Sexton: Deacon Joe Leitner **840-7429**

Rectory 845-0725

Fax 845-0556

Nearly Nu Store..... 845-1022

Baptisms: Contact the Parish Office.

Marriage: Contact the Pastor at least 7 months prior to the wedding.

Home Bound Eucharist: Darlene Kerzman,
701-721-1899

Bulletin Deadline: 3 PM on Wednesdays

If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please email Jess: stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

Newcomers: WELCOME! Please register at the Parish Office or use the registration form on our website.

FINANCIAL REPORT: February 23, 2025

Regular Parish Income

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Last Week	12,237.25	10,265.38	1,971.87
Year to Date	368,661.11	349,022.92	19,638.19
Registered families.....	473		
Adult Envelopes			11,691.00
Children			9.00
Plate			446.25
Votive			71.00
Utility			20.00
Total Collection			12,237.25

Thank you for your generous gifts!!

Peter's Pence Collection \$100

**Online Giving available @
www.catherineofalexandria.org**

Prayer Quilts/Shawls Available

Some of our parishioners may be dealing with some very challenging physical, mental, spiritual or emotional situations/needs (a terminal illness, treatments, an accident, severe depression, a miscarriage) To convey the prayers & support of our parish family, Prayer Quilts/Shawls are available for all parishioners who will need them. To request a Prayer Quilt/Shawl contact: Georgia, 840-2737 or Lela, 840-8352.



Our Lord wishes for us to be whole, body, mind and soul. To be healed, to be complete. There is a group of individuals from the deanery

that are offering to pray with you, for healing. We would be willing to come to pray with you as an individual, at your home or parish church. Confidentiality is assured. The St. Catherine's Healing Prayer Group meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 PM in the Church our next prayer meeting is Monday, March 24, 2025. We are also asking for individuals who would like to be involved in this healing ministry from around the deanery to join us. We have gotten permission from the priests in the deanery so please visit with your pastor. If you are interested, please contact one of the individuals listed below for more information.

Doran Chandler 701-840-1257

Deacon Jim McAllister 701-840-1473

St. Catherine's Religious Education Grades K-8, 6:30 pm



Dates to Remember:

March 5: Ash Wednesday, NO RE, encouraged to attend Mass at 6:30pm

Looking ahead:

March 8, Confirmation/1st Eucharist Retreat
March 21, Confirmation/1st Eucharist

Third grade parents, please be thinking about who your child's sponsor will be and help your child find a confirmation name. This information is due on March 8, at the Retreat.

Prayer cards for those being confirmed and receiving 1st Eucharist are on a table at the entrance to the church.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact DRE Carol Jabs at stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com

St. Polycarp, pray for us.

Tuesday Morning Movies

Please join the Tuesday Morning Movie Group, each Tuesday morning after the 8:00am Mass in the Sacred Heart Room for a movie, muffins and mighty good fellowship. Showing this week: "The Overcomer" a heartwarming story about a young athlete. All are welcome!

Prayer - Fellowship - Quilting Join The Fun!



St. Catherine Quilters make quilts for those in need in our area every

Thursday 1-4:30pm & 6:30-9pm next to the school cafeteria. Everyone is welcome for any length of time. No experience necessary & supplies provided.

**Questions call:
Christine, 840-2580 or Lela, 840-8352.**



St Catherine's Teen Corner Grades 9-12, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 5: Ash Wednesday, NO CLASS, encouraged to Attend Mass at 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 12: Class, "The Struggle"

Wednesday, March 19: Class, "All Tied Up?"

Classes will be from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., unless noted in teen corner. All youth, grades 9-12 are invited to come, have fun and learn about their Catholic faith. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Deacon Tom Vanorny 701-210-0640.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Gerard # 2518



Meet Monthly 2nd Monday

Mar. 2 CDA leads Divine Mercy Chaplet 9:30am Coffee and Rolls, 2 – 4pm KC/CDA Mardi Gras Carnival in the school gym

Mar. 5 Ash Wednesday, Mass 8a, 12:10p, 6:30p

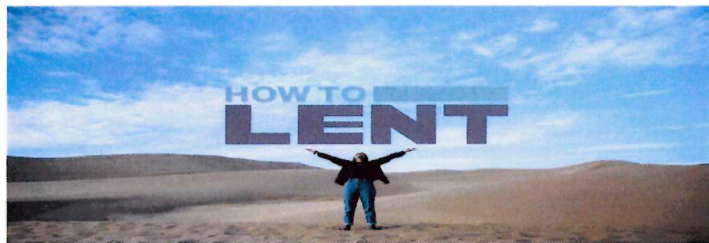
Mar. 7 5:30pm Mass, Stations, and Simple Supper (KC/CDA)

Mar. 9 9:00am – Noon KC/CDA Breakfast – many hands make light work. We need Help!!!

Mar. 10 Regular Meeting night – 6:00pm Prayer, snack; 6:30pm Meeting

Mar. 14 5:00pm Mass, Stations, simple supper – KC's cooking CDA help clean up

formed™
Forming Catholics for Life



How to Lent | Trailer

Lent is right around the corner. In How To Lent, you will be guided by priests and religious in the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving so that you can make this your best Lent yet.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the Formed app to your phone



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN CONJUNCTION
WITH THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

PRESENTS

Mardis Gras **CARNIVAL 2025**



SUNDAY March 2, 2025

2PM – 4PM

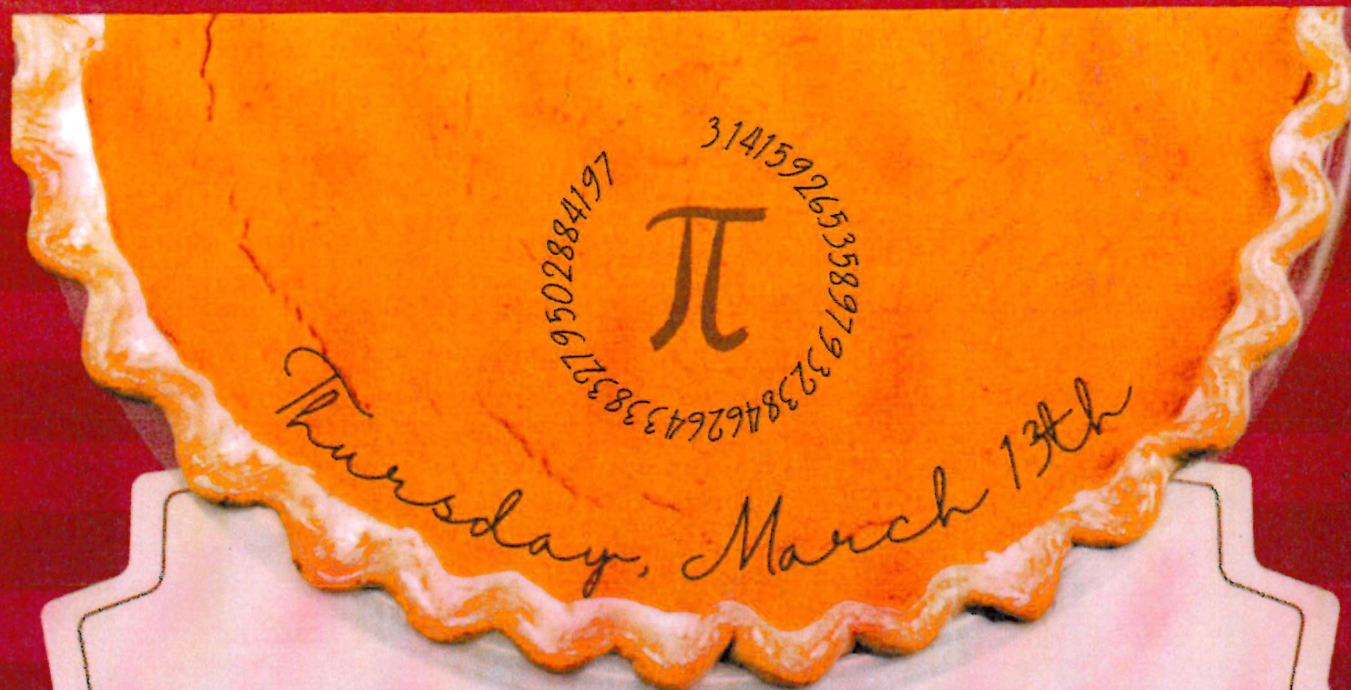
ST. CATHERINE'S SCHOOL GYM

FEATURING GAMES FOR YOUNG AND OLD, INCLUDING BINGO,
FACE PAINTING, CAKE WALK, FISHPOND, MINI-GOLF, PLINKO,
CORN HOLE AND MORE.

CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE
(HOT DOGS AND WATER).

Free Will Offering

One hot dog and water included.



Let's Celebrate
**NATIONAL
PIE DAY**
...A DAY EARLY

Parents, Grandparents, Family and Friends please come join us for pie on Thursday, March 13th at 2:00pm in the Church Hall to celebrate National Pie Day!

Please RSVP to the school office (701-845-1453) by Monday, March 10th with how many are coming and your choice of pie.

Pie Choices:

Apple, Chocolate, Pumpkin or Pecan