

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 18, 2021



this could be you!



SAINT WENCESLAUS CATHOLIC PARISH

Three Sites of Worship ~ One Community of Faith

Including St. Wenceslaus, St. John the Evangelist and St. Scholastica

215 MAIN STREET EAST ■ NEW PRAGUE, MN 56071 ■ 952-758-3225 ■ NPCATHOLIC.ORG

We welcome you...

Welcome to the greater St Wenceslaus Catholic Parish which includes the Church of St. Wenceslaus and St. John the Evangelist and St. Scholastica. We are so glad you are here. Should you be visiting just for today, WELCOME! If you are seeking a church home, we would be honored to have you consider joining our faith community. If you are interested in membership, please phone the parish office for assistance and registration. If you are over the age of 21, we ask that you register. Please feel free to stop by the parish office during office hours to register or you may do so online. Again, we are happy you are here.

At the Church of St. Wenceslaus**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday ~ 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE**Weekend Masses**

Saturday..... 5:00 pm

Sunday..... 8:30 & 10:30 am

Rosary Only

Monday..... 7:30 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday-Friday..... 8:00 am

If you are homebound or ill, *the previous weekend's Mass may be viewed on our website ~ npcatholic.org*

SACRAMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION**Anointing of the Sick**

Available to those who are seriously ill or suffering from a prolonged illness. Call 952-758-3225

Confirmation

Preparation required. Call Laura Schoenecker at 952-758-5131

Reconciliation

Friday from 3:00-4:00 pm in the church

Saturday 4:00-4:40 pm

Baptism

Preparation required. Call 952-758-3225

Marriage

Six months to one year preparation time required. Call 952-758-3225

Rosary

Monday – Friday 7:30 am in the church.

Fatima Prayer Cell

Monday – Wednesday in the SW Daily Chapel after 8 am service. (not being held at this time)

Adoration

Fridays 8:30 am to 6 pm in the church.

Early Morning Scripture Study

Wednesday 7:00 to 8:00 am in Pius X Room in church basement. (not being held at this time)

Prayer Chain

Judy: 952-758-2220 or Arnita: 952-758-4943

BeFrienders

Ann Schoenbauer: 952-758-3456 or

Lois Giesen: 952-758-2138

From the Desk of Father Eugene Theisen**Padre's Pen ~****Easter, First Communions, Confirmations, and Mask Mandates**

Happy Easter! Easter is a Season that gets very busy on its own with extra liturgies and Solemn Feast Day celebrations. We always add in during this time of the year the reception of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation through Confirmations and First Holy Communions. This year we do all of this in the midst of our nation's struggle to re-open our public venues that have been closed or limited for the greater part of the last year. There have been, there are, and there will be some growing pains as we celebrate the Christian mystery of salvation in the Sacraments of the Church in this environment.

What can we expect in the coming weeks? This weekend is our Confirmation retreat. The following weekend we have 1st Holy Communions at all our regular Masses in St. Wenceslaus (along with a baptism at the Saturday evening Mass) and we have the first of two special Masses for Confirmation.

The weekend after that (May 1st and 2nd) we will be restarting our 1st Saturday devotions and will have a Saturday morning 8:00 am Mass back in our schedule for those devotions. Our regular 1st Saturday adoration at St. John in Union Hill also will occur and we will have First Holy Communions at St. John 10:00 am Mass. Later that afternoon, we will have our second special Confirmation Mass at St. Wenceslaus.

Bottom line... it is a busy season and a busy month. Many of us will have guests coming for the special events and many of our people are returning to the in-person public celebration of the Mass. Please remember to return safely. There is still a mask mandate from our state government. We do keep extra masks pinned to the corkboard in the west entry should you forget to bring a mask with you. Please be charitable during this very busy time and pray for the peace and protection of Christ to be with us.

**Ad Christum per Mariam,
Fr. Theisen**

| Parish Debt Last Month | Parish Debt This Month |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| \$289,879.51 | \$275,881.84 |

Western Catholic Community

Important Information

Weekend Masses

Saturday..... 8:15 pm St. John
 Sunday 8:00 am St. Scholastica
 Sunday 10:00 am St. John

SACRAMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

Reconciliation

Saturday..... 7:30 pm St. John

Baptism & Confirmation

Preparation required. Call the Parish Office at 952-758-3225.

Anointing of the Sick

Call the Parish Office at 952-758-3225.

Marriage

Prep required. Call Fr. Eugene Theisen.

Adoration

Fridays 8:30 am to 6:00 pm at St. Wenceslaus Church

PARISH OFFICE

215 Main St. E., New Prague 56071
 952-758-3225

Rev. Eugene Theisen

Pastor

952-758-0469
 Eugene.Theisen@npcatholic.org

Hall Rental:

Pamela Sherlock 952-758-0477 or email:
 Pamela.Sherlock@npcatholic.org

Prayer Chain WCC:

Carol Bauer 952-457-4057
Noreen Giesen 952-758-2608
Marlene Dohmen 952-492-6879

To see or not to see? That is the question.

Would I turn away from the man beaten and robbed in the parable of The Good Samaritan?
 What if the bruised and plundered and hurting ones are our planet and the poor?

The challenge of climate change can seem so overwhelming that we turn away because we think there is nothing we can do that will make a difference. The inadequate response of the last few decades to the challenges we face has left us with increasingly erratic and damaging weather events, drought and starvation, rising temperatures and sea levels. We ALL have a part to play to save creation.



THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- Cut down on food waste; plan ahead. If you buy it or grow it, eat it or share it!
- Use fewer fossil fuels: drive less, cut heating and cooling costs, reduce flying and pleasure trips, explore Minnesota, buy energy efficient vehicles and appliances.
- Cut down on packaging waste: consolidate or reduce online orders with delivery, buy in bulk or larger quantities when possible, contact manufacturers to request that they cut down on unnecessary packaging.
- Reduce home plastic use (fewer bags and containers).
- Be generous with donations that serve the poor or environmental restorations.

Mass Schedule Volunteers - St. John & St. Scholastica

| April 24 / 25 2021 | Saturday St. John 8:15 PM | Sunday St. Scholastica 8:00 AM | Sunday St. John 10:00 AM |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lector | MaryCarol Wolf | Karen Odenthal | Danielle Solheid |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Fr. Theisen | Kevin Odenthal | Fr. Skluzacek |
| Servers | No Servers | No Servers | No Servers |
| Gift Bearer Family | No Gift Bearers | No Gift Bearers | No Gift Bearers |

COLLECTION INFORMATION

WESTERN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021

Total Collected for 04/11 \$3,860
 Collections at Mass \$2,510
 Electronic Collections \$1,350
 Over Budget for Weeks \$706
 Actual Collections YTD \$124,397
 Under Budget YTD -\$4,911
 Budget for Next Week \$3,154

Thank you for your support!

Bulletin E-mail: info@npcatholic.org

Website: <http://www.npcatholic.org>



****Our Livestreamed Masses & Rosary may be viewed on our website, npcatholic.org; on our Facebook Page, New Prague Catholic; or on YouTube, search "New Prague Area Catholic Community" at YouTube.com. One License: 700. A-711205**

Saint Alphonsus Liguori

(to pray anytime you are unable to physically participate in Communion)

My Jesus, I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



God Bless the Newly Baptized

Welcome and congratulations to *Nash Michael Anderson*, son of Brandon & Larissa Anderson. We rejoice with your family on this joyful occasion!

April Showers Bring May Flowers – CCW Spring Flower Fundraiser May 9-15! Watch for the flyer which if used gives 10% of your purchases at Cedar Brook Garden Center during this fundraiser to your CCW. What do they use the \$\$\$ for? Why to keep your churches well decorated with floral beauty!

Pillow cleaning – Pro-life benefit

Feather pillows cleaned, deodorized, sanitized and fluffed, with new ticking – same day service. Saturday, April 24, 7:00 am - 1:00 pm, early drop off Friday evening, 6:00-7:30pm at the Parish Activities Center (west side). Extend the life of your feather pillows with proper cleaning. Also, custom made NEW pillows and comforters for sale. Proceeds go to assist women and their babies in need. For more information contact Mary Higgins 952-240-1604.

First Saturday resumes May 1

See Father's article on Page 2 or contact the Parish Office for more information 952.758.3225.

A cause for celebration! We will be celebrating two of the sacraments of initiation coming up soon!

On April 24-25, at all three Masses at the SW site, children of our parish will be welcomed to the Lord's table for the first time! We will also be livestreaming all three of these Masses for family members who cannot be in attendance. On May 2 at the 10:00 am Mass at the SJ site, we will also be celebrating First Holy Communion. We welcome these children as they join us in communion. On Sunday April 25 and May 2, at 2:00 pm, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation for 70 of our young adults. These Masses will only be open to Confirmation and their families. Nevertheless, both Masses will be livestreamed.

St. John's Cemetery Board will hold its annual meeting Tuesday, April 27, 7:00 PM, @ Koenig Hall.

Meeting is open to the public. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Is your heart open to bringing the Eucharist to our senior buildings' residents? We have returned to distributing Holy Communion to our community in senior housing.

If you would love to give this most precious gift to those who have waited so long in isolation, please contact MaryCarol Wolf at 952-758-0463 or email MaryCarol.Wolf@npcatholic.org for more information.

~ COLLECTION INFORMATION ~

St. Wenceslaus Site SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Total Collected for 04/11 | \$22,868 |
| Collections at Mass | \$11,766 |
| Electronic Collections | \$11,102 |
| Over Challenge for Week | \$4,632 |
| Actual Collections YTD | \$619,011 |
| Under Challenge YTD | -\$22,181 |
| Challenge for Next Week | \$18,235 |

Thank you for your generosity!

Angels and Demons: What do Scripture and Tradition Say about Them?

Movies and the Internet show no shortage of information on angels and demons. Bookstores have whole racks devoted to the topic. While much of what we see and read keeps us entertained, the media's presentation of the spiritual and diabolical worlds is all too often unconnected to the Christian message. In this presentation and in light of Christ's absolute victory over sin and death, Fr. Michael Patella will outline the Christian understanding of the devil, angels, demons, ghosts, and

spirits in Scripture and Tradition. He will also discuss the inherent problems and dangers that arise today with the undue attention many give to the occult. Friday, April 30, Webinar presentation from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Event is Free. Registration is required (register at least five days in advance of the event); please visit www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday, call 320-363-3560, or email theologyday@csbsju.edu to register.

Pilgrimage to Poland and Lithuania I invite you to join me (Father Skluzacek) on a pilgrimage to Poland + Lithuania: Lands of Mercy, Lands of Saints – August 2-13, 2021. The 12-day trip features visits to sites pertinent to the Divine Mercy, including the Divine Mercy Shrine in Krakow, the birthplace of St. Faustina, and the original painting of Divine Mercy in Lithuania. The pilgrimage also includes visits to places associated with St. John Paul II, including his birthplace in Wadowice and the salt mines of Wieliczka. Other highlights include the Shrine of Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko in Warsaw, the Eucharistic Miracle of Sokółka, and sites associated with various saints, including St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), and St. Casimir. Brochures with more information are available in the back of church. You may also visit the website of Mater Dei Tours at: www.materdeitours.com. Questions? Feel free to contact me at sklu9211@stthomas.edu.

The local Ancient Order of Hibernian Shamrock Division is accepting new members. We invite all Catholic men of Irish birth or descent to seek admittance to the FINEST Irish Catholic Organization in the World — all we would ask is for you to live our motto of: "Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity". New member installation is Sunday April 25th at 2:00 pm at Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church in Belle Plaine. Email cld1941@frontiernet.net to sign-up.



FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Some very exciting events coming up for June of 2021! As of now, our plan is to move forward with our Summer Disciples of Christ program for children entering grades 1-7 in the fall - YAY! We will meet mornings from June 1 - 11. More details will be out soon. Watch this bulletin, our Facebook page, and our parish website for more information.

Our summer VBS will look different this year because we will not be joining with FaithPoint. Our decision was made during the height of Covid; with both churches deciding it would be better to keep groups

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who make this bulletin possible by their advertising.

MARQUARDT JEWELERS

smaller. Instead, we are very excited to be offering Totus Tuus (Totally Yours) June 21-25. St. Patrick will be joining us as we experience this totally Catholic VBS. It will run from about 9:00 am-2:30 pm for grades 1-6. We will also offer a 7-12 grade session in the evening. Mark your calendars! More information will be coming out soon.



SCHOOL NEWS from SWS

Dear Parishioners, Dear Parents, Grandparents, and Friends of SWS,

Now is the time to ramp up our sales for our Pot-O-Gold. One lucky winner will get \$20,000! We are only selling 650 tickets. If each school family bought one ticket, then we would be 1/2 way there! If you can help us by selling 1-2 tickets to a co-worker or family member, we would be most appreciative. Call the office to purchase 952-758-3133.

We also really need helpers for our Spring Fish Fry. This is a big endeavor and we cannot do it without you! Looking for lots of volunteers for the Fish Fry. Here is a link to sign up to help on April 29 and April 30. <https://signup.com/go/mTaRYaK>

Kim Doyle, Principal

Pray Often, Work Hard, Trust God!

Fish Fry April 30

Lunch 11:00 am -1:00 pm

Dinner 4:30 pm -7:00 pm

.....
take-out only - west
side of PAC
.....

\$12 or \$14 at the door



952.758.3133
info@swsaints.org

MENU

Fried Fish
Cheesy Potatoes
Creamy Coleslaw

Sunday, Apr 18, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Each one teach one

Each of us walks through miracles eventually. Maybe we know it at the time and praise God heartily. Or perhaps we only look back later, realize the road's on fire behind us, and shiver. Sooner or later, we all experience the mystery of grace that carries us over obstacles, through dangers, and ferries us to safety. We are witnesses of these things. And even if we're reluctant to "talk religion" to friends, coworkers, and strangers, we'll inhabit hours when it's time to tell what we know about Divine Providence. Be attentive for when your testimony is required.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48 (47). *"You are witnesses of these things."*

Monday, Apr 19, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Seek a way to serve

Saint Timon, whose feast is today, is mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles (6:5) as one of seven deacons chosen by the apostles to assist in ministering to the community of believers in Jerusalem. As the apostles concentrated on preaching, the deacons assisted in providing for the material needs of the community. This focus on both word and deed, or evangelization and service, continues to be the hallmark of Christian discipleship. As the church teaches in *Lumen Gentium*, "Each one of the faithful must willingly hear the word of God and accept God's Will, and must complete what God has begun by their own actions with the help of God's grace." What will you do to continue the work of love that begins and ends with God?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29 (273). *"What can we do to accomplish the works of God?"*

Tuesday, Apr 20, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Seek the light in learning

On this day in 1303, Sapienza University of Rome was instituted by Pope Boniface VIII. Sapienza, boasting such famous alumni as Maria Montessori and Federico Fellini, is considered the first pontifical university—an institution approved by the Vatican and committed to teaching theology, philosophy, and canon law. Today, all pontifical universities are governed by the document *Veritatis Gaudium*, a 2017 update written by Pope Francis. It begins: "The joy of truth expresses the restlessness of the human heart until it encounters and dwells within God's Light, and shares that Light with all people." How will you share God's light today?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 7:51—8:1a; John 6:30-35 (274). *"The bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."*

Wednesday, Apr 21, 2021

MEMORIAL OF ANSELM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Love the questions

How would you define the term *theology*? Google it and you find it described as the critical study of the nature of God or the divine. Saint Anselm (1033-1109) said it another way: "Theology is faith seeking understanding." Every time you try to understand how God allows suffering, or wonder how it is that God loves every human being, or try to understand if God truly hears your prayers, you are doing the work of theology. As a French Benedictine monk

and later archbishop of Canterbury, Anselm was a wise and learned teacher who challenged the secular power of kings. Your life may not seem extraordinary, but the pursuit of knowledge about God belongs to you as well. Don't be afraid of the questions. Ask for grace to allow the questions to help your faith grow.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40 (275). *"Everyone who . . . believes in him (the Son) may have eternal life."*

Thursday, Apr 22, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Prepare your heart for encounter

Today's first reading about Philip explaining scripture to a receptive Ethiopian is a beautiful example of something that Pope Francis often emphasizes: the need for openness when we encounter another, especially someone different from us. In homilies, speeches, and documents, the Holy Father tells us we are called to encounter Jesus, to allow ourselves to be changed and shaped by that encounter, and to bring the same attitude to our dealings with people. Pray for the grace of openness toward the people you encounter today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 8:26-40, John 6:44-51 (276). *"The bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world."*

Friday, Apr 23, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Be the change

Prior to his conversion, Saint Paul, who earlier in life was known by his Hebrew name Saul, was most definitely no saint. He not only disliked those who followed Jesus, he attacked them. So what happened? He encountered Jesus the Christ. Jesus did not put Paul through what fiction refers to as a "mind wipe," or erasure of former personality and memory. Jesus called Paul to stop and see clearly the truth of his mindset and actions. And then Paul put in the work. This is something we all have to do—put in the work—especially when our dislike of those who are different leads to harm.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59 (277). *"Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"*

Saturday, Apr 24, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Stay the course

Followers of Jesus have been disputing the meaning of the eucharistic meal and Jesus' instructions to "eat my flesh and drink my blood" ever since the words were first uttered. Many could not look beyond a literal interpretation of the words to see the powerful symbolism of the image of the paschal lamb offered for the sins of the community at Passover. So they simply walked away. Now that the sacrifice has been accomplished and Easter season is well underway, will you turn away as well, or are you with those who stayed with Jesus because, like Peter, you have come to believe that he has the words of eternal life?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 9:31-42; John 6:60-69 (278). *"Many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer walked with him."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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LITURGIES & PRIEST'S MASS INTENTIONS

INCLUDES ALL CHURCH LOCATIONS

WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2021 - APRIL 25, 2021

Rosary at St. Wenceslaus
MONDAY – FRIDAY at 7:30 am
SATURDAY at 8:00 am
LIMITED ATTENDANCE ONLY

Monday, April 19

7:30 am Rosary SW

Tuesday, April 20

8:00 am Mass SW

Wednesday, April 21

8:00 am SWS - Mass SW

5:30 pm Mass SW

Thursday, April 22

8:00 am Myrt Hanzel † - Mass SW

Friday, April 23

8:00 am Carolyn Rynda † - Mass SW

3:00 pm Confessions SW

Saturday, April 24

4:00 – 4:40 Confessions SW

5:00 pm Albert & Odonia † Kubes - Mass SW

7:30 pm Confessions SJ

8:15 pm Jacob, Marcella & Charles Giesen † - Mass SJ

Sunday, April 25

8:00 am Richard & Claretta Schmitz † - Mass SS

8:30 am Mass SW

10:00 am Mass for the People - Mass SJ

10:30am Dick & Nan Eischens †,

..... Jim Walker & Family,

..... Stanley Puncoschar † - Mass SW

STAFF DIRECTORY NEW PRAGUE AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**Rev. Eugene Theisen**

Pastor

952-758-0469

Eugene.Theisen@npcatholic.org

Fr. Michael Skluzacek

Sacramental Minister

James Herzog

Seminarist

Ruth Weinandt

Parish Business Administrator

952-758-0466

Ruth.Weinandt@npcatholic.org

MaryCarol Wolf

Pastoral Minister

952-758-0463

MaryCarol.Wolf@npcatholic.org

Pamela Sherlock

COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Administrator

Media, Communications & Technology

WCC Site Coordinator and Liaison

952-758-0477

Pamela.Sherlock@npcatholic.org

Laura Schoenecker

Faith Formation Director, Pre-K through

Adult, Safe Environment Coordinator

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Michelle Redfearn

Interim Confirmation Coordinator

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Mary Higgins

Adult Faith Formation Associate

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Kim Doyle

St. Wenceslaus School Principal,

Safe Environment Coordinator

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Sarah Gullickson

Preschool Director

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Debbie Gregor

Director of Liturgical Music at SW

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Debbie.Gregor@npcatholic.org

Lisa Leverson

Parish Administrative Assistant,

Bookkeeper

952-758-3225

Lisa.Leverson@npcatholic.org

PARISH BUSINESS OFFICE

215 Main St E, New Prague, MN 56071

PH 952-758-3225 FAX 952-758-2960

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

On campus in Parish Activity Center

ST. WENCESLAUS SCHOOL

227 Main St E, New Prague, MN 56071

PH 952-758-3133 FAX 952-758-2958

LITTLE SPIRITS PRESCHOOL

On campus of SWS ~ 1950's building

952-758-0480

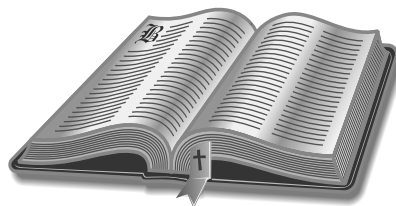
MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

952-758-2327

SCRIPTURE READINGS

WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2021 -

APRIL 25, 2021

**Monday, April 19:**

Acts 6:8-15 / Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday, April 20:

Acts 7:51-8:1a / Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday, April 21:

Acts 8:1b-8 / Jn 6:35-40

Thursday, April 22:

Acts 8:26-40 / Jn 6:44-51

Friday, April 23:

Acts 9:1-20 / Jn 6:52-59

Saturday, April 24:

Acts 9:31-42 / Jn 6:60-69

Sunday, April 25:

Acts 4:8-12 / 1 Jn 3:1-2 /

Jn 10:11-18

**MEETINGS & EVENTS
CALENDAR**

WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2021 -

APRIL 25, 2021

**THERE ARE
CURRENTLY NO
MEETINGS/EVENTS
BEING HELD AT ANY OF
OUR PARISH SITES.**

Safe Environment Information:

Saint Wenceslaus facilitates a safe environment for minors and vulnerable adults by requiring all employees, as well as volunteers, who have regular or unsupervised interaction with minors or vulnerable adults, to be Essential 3 qualified (background check, Code of Conduct, and Safe Environment Training). For more information, contact laura.schoenecker@npcatholic.org

If you or someone you know has been abused, exploited, or harassed by a clergy member, religious brother or sister, lay employee or volunteer of a parish or Catholic school, your first call should be to law enforcement. You are also encouraged to contact the archdiocese's Victim Assistance Program at 651-291-4475.



| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
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