

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER ... Nov. 7, 2021

NEW Parish Picture Directory... we are working with **Unique Church Solutions** (a Picture Directory Company from Mansfield Ohio) to produce a Parish Picture Directory.

Photography dates are: **November 15 (taken at St. Joseph, Giltner), 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 2021.** **The photograph times are M-F 2:00pm – 8:30pm and Saturday 10:30am-4:00pm.** Please contact: **Sharon Ousey (402-631-8915) this week** to volunteer to be a part of this project.

Universal Church Directories is widely known for top quality directories and photography. They will correct any glass glare (*if you wear glasses*). Their photographer will take pictures and you will view your proofs electronically immediately following your photography. Please Sign Up ONLINE. When you choose to schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to the Universal website, www.ucdir.com, (a link is available on our Parish website), click on the yellow sunburst icon, enter **NEI43** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. We have **158 families who have already signed up for a time to have their picture taken.** We would like to get 100% participation!

How long has it been since your family was professionally photographed? Plan now and you will have a portrait to be proud of. Only one short trip to the church will assure that you and/or your family will be a part of our pictorial directory. The whole process takes 45 minutes to one hour. Each family photographed receives a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait to be sent postage free to their home. Plus, they receive a complimentary directory.

Our new directory will help us all get to know one another better. The directory will also be a wonderful gift for new members, helping them to get to know their new church/parish family quickly. Directories become treasured keepsakes, capturing this present time in our Church's history, and in our families lives. So, please, do your small part in this project and participate!

Pray for our Seminarians: Peter Vincent Foley, from St. Peter Parish (Lincoln). He entered the Seminary in 2018; and he is in College 4 at St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

RCIA Classes ... Fr. Mark Seiker is leading an RCIA process (Inquiry class in the Faith). The classes are **Mondays in the Parish Hall, 7:00pm – 9:00pm. It is not too late to join!** Classes for Catholics & non-Catholics. Come, learn more about your faith.

It is always better to participate in the RCIA classes in person. However, it is possible to participate in RCIA through ZOOM. The **ZOOM information is:** Meeting ID: **629 734 5912**; Passcode: **RCIA2021**.

Bishop's Appeal for Vocations (BAV) ... "We are servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God (1Cor. 4:1)". **Parish Goals: St. Mary = \$5,980.00; St. Joseph = \$940.00.** This is our share of the Diocesan goal of \$800,000 established by Bishop Conley. **The totals thus far, are: St. Mary = \$7,045.00 from 38 families; St. Joseph = \$1,695.00 from 9 families.** *If you do not have your BAV card, or if you have questions, please contact Fr. Seiker (email or phone).* **Please support Bishop's Appeal for Vocations.**

Thank You ... for your generous response to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith these past weeks on World Mission Sunday. You may stay connected year-round to the Pope's missions, continuing the commitment of World Mission Sunday, by visiting MISSIO.org

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD ... "It is a holy & pious thought to pray for the dead." (2 Macc 12:45). One of the corporal works of mercy is to pray for the dead. Those persons whom we have loved during their life here on earth, we should still remember to pray for after they have died. **The best prayer of all is the Mass.** Forms are available outside Classroom D to request Masses to be offered for the repose of the soul of any of your loved ones. The usual Mass stipend is \$10.00. Simply write the name of the deceased person on the Form & your name and attach \$10.00. If you write a check, please make the check payable to St. Mary Church and write "Mass Stipend" in the memo. The Mass intentions are listed in the Bulletin. Pray for the dead!

An **indulgence** is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the dead. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls in purgatory. **This indulgence is a plenary (full) one from Nov. 1 – 30 (all of Nov.) & can be gained on each one of these days.** On other days of the year this indulgence is a partial one.

An **indulgence** is the remission of the temporal punishment due to sins that have already been forgiven. An indulgence can be gained by doing certain works of devotion, penance & charity, under conditions that the Church has set down. An indulgence is partial or plenary, as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin. An indulgence can be gained for oneself or for souls in punishment due to sin. (CCC 1471) The official list of works & prayers that have an indulgence attached to them, as well as the conditions that must be met, are contained in The Handbook of Indulgences.

Besides the exclusion of all attachment to sin, even venial sin, the requirements for gaining a plenary indulgence are the performance of the indulgenced work and fulfillment of three conditions: sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, prayer for the pope's intentions. The three conditions may be carried out several days before or after the performance of the prescribed work. But it is more fitting that the communion & the prayer for the pope's intentions take place on the day the work is performed.

Rededication to the Cause of Life ... "In this Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities: A Campaign in Support of Life we renew our call for individual Catholics and the many institutions and organizations of the Church to unite in an unprecedented effort to restore respect and legal protection for every human life – to be what the Holy Father asks us to be: a people of life and a people for life (*The Gospel of Life, no. 78*). It is our hope and expectation that in focusing on the need to respect and protect the lives of the innocent unborn and those who are disabled, ill, or dying, we will help to deepen respect for the life of every human being." (*US Bishops, 2001*).

Fr. Mark Seiker Gone from the Parishes ...

I left Aurora on Wednesday morning to visit my parents in Lincoln. Then on **Wed., November 3 – Sat., Nov. 6**, I was at the **Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, KS for a National meeting of Cursillo leaders.** Fr. John Rooney (*a Lincoln Diocesan Priest*) will be here for Confessions & Masses for November 6 - 7. Please welcome him. I will return on Sunday afternoon/evening.