

A great prophet has arisen in our midst, God has visited his people. (Luke 7:16)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This is the last Sunday before we begin the holy Lenten Season. We are reminded that the Church is the Body of Christ. Like a human body, it often needs healing and wholeness. This calls us to be humble enough to acknowledge our own needs, and to be Christ's healing touch for others.

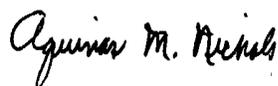
I ask you to please not leave Mass early unless it is an emergency. We should be willing to give the Lord this time each week. The Mass ends after the recessional hymn. When one leaves right after receiving Holy Communion it is not a reverent way to give thanks to God right after receiving his Body and Blood. Please! Let us break this unacceptable custom that has been growing for sometime! It gives scandal to our young people and our visitors.

Please also keep in mind our Building Fund and the on-going payments for our elevator debt. Both need attention to keep us financially secure. There are many constant repairs and projects which we need to attend to keep our buildings in good condition.

As we begin the holy season of Lent this week, plan ahead for your Lenten penances, and also for our Fish Fry suppers, followed by the Stations of the Cross and Benediction. These are wonderful opportunities to both support the parish and to grow closer to the Lord. There will be two Masses for Ash Wednesday, 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.

May God's grace always grow in your hearts!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Pastor

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: \$10,030.58 is owed for the ADA. Please help us pay this off!

ELEVATOR FUND

Current Donations.....\$ 668,403.90
Goal.....\$ 800,000.00



ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS: Our annual fish fry dinners begin THIS Friday, February 16, from 4:45pm – 6:45pm.

DIVINE MERCY: As we begin Lent, we also begin with our journey leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday, April 8, 2018. We have a few Parish activities planned for this year and the first one will be a collection of coats set for February 24th. Please bring any winter coats for men, women, children and even dogs if you have them. These will be donated to St. Vincent De Paul. This would be a great time to clean out your coat closets or even find one on sale to donate. Thank you and keep looking for more opportunities to participate in some Corporal Works of Mercy thru this Lenten season.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 10 TO FEBRUARY 18

TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS

SAT 10	4:00PM	+Gary Kiernan
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass
SUN 11	8:30AM	+Mary Sang Dinh
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
MON 12	12:00PM	+For a forgotten Soul
TUE 13	12:00PM	+Bob Kharouf
WED 14	12:00PM 7:00PM	ASH WEDNESDAY +Walt McManus Intentions of Ian & Tamara Steward
THU 15	12:00PM	+Rachel Hanian
FRI 16	12:00PM	+Lucille Molloy
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross
SAT 17	9:00AM	+Gerald Castonguay
	----- (Vigil Mass) 4:00PM +Carl & Florence Reelitz	
SUN 18	8:30AM	+Roman Barten & Caleb Woodfin
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors



THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:

www.YouTube.com/BasilicaStJohn

<http://basilica.churchcastonline.com> (live from your computer)

PRAYER CHAIN: Do you know someone who is in need of prayer? The Basilica Prayer Chain can help. To request prayers email Deacon Luke Tieskoetter at tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com or Terri at 321-2743 or sinc2@aol.com.

CATECHISM CORNER:

Last week's question:

How are non-Catholic Christians to be considered?

ANSWER: In the churches and ecclesial communities which are separated from full communion with the Catholic Church, many elements of sanctification and truth can be found. All of these blessing come from Christ and lead to Catholic unity. Members of these churches and communities are incorporated into Christ by Baptism and so we recognized them as brothers.





The Basilica of St. John
Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time
February 11, 2018

Respect
Life



**YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK
FEBRUARY 12 THRU FEBRUARY 18**

MON 9:00AM Adoration@
12 5:30PM Finance Council Meeting+
7:00PM RCIA**
7:00PM KC Council Meeting+

TUE 10:00AM Boy's Youth Choir+++
13 1:00PM Youth Choir Practice+++
4:30PM Columbus Academy Class**
6:00PM Hispanic Room in use**
7:00PM Bible Study**

WED **ASH WEDNESDAY**
14 9:00AM Adoration Begins@
9:30AM Bible Study+
6:15PM NO Religious Ed. **

THU 8:00AM Organ Practice+++
15 5:45PM Choir Room in use+++
7:00PM Choir Practice+

FRI 9:00AM Adoration Begins@
16 9:00AM Columbus Academy Class**
4:45PM Fish Fry until 6:45pm

SAT 8:30AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy###
17 10:00AM Secular Franciscan Meeting **
11:00AM Church Tour

SUN 8:00AM Vietnamese Prayer Group+
18 12:00PM Pastoral Council Meeting+

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of February 12, 2018:

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: JI 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: Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

LIFELINES: Pastors, rabbi 'bless' late-term abortion center, declare it 'holy' space: BETHESDA, Maryland, – Four Christian pastors and a rabbi “blessed” a late-term abortion facility this week, declaring it a “holy” space. Described by the *Washington Post* as an “unusual interfaith ceremony,” the “blessing” occurred at LeRoy Carhart’s new Bethesda, Maryland abortion facility, operating under the name AbortionClinics.org, Inc. Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life and the President of the National Pro-Life Religious Council (NPRC), told LifeSiteNews the clergy who “blessed” the abortion center are way out of the mainstream. Pavone said, “For clergy to say that is OK qualifies them as false prophets.” “It also qualifies them as lacking the basic human decency that even most atheists have,” he continued. “Beware of religious doctrine that contradicts human reason & decency. No Church authority – can give justification for even a single abortion. Show me a church that permits abortion and I’ll show you a false church; show me a Bible that permits abortion and I’ll show you a bible not worth the paper it’s written on.” *Abortion Jan 31, 4:34 pm By Claire Chretien, Lifesitenews.com*



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: Registration for the 2018-19 school year opens to new Catholic families in the 5 participating parishes on Wednesday, February 7. Please contact the school office for more information. St. Valentine’s Day will be celebrated in each classroom with a party on Friday, February 16. **An informational meeting will be held for all parents who are interested in their child attending Holy Family Catholic School’s Pre-K and Kindergarten classes for the 2018-2019 school year. This meeting will be held in the school gym on Tuesday, February 20, at 6:00 p.m. Admission procedure, financial aid, immunization requirements, curriculum, and the school mission will be shared at this event.** Holy Family Catholic School is looking for substitute teachers, if you can substitute, please call the school to set up a meeting.



The **Required Confirmation Retreat** for second year Confirmation Students will be the weekend of February 23-25, 2018. Students will be responsible for raising the funds. All second year students must participate. If you have questions call Maria Walters at 515-953-9188.



AROUND THE DIOCESE

Diaconate Call: Any Catholic man who feels called to the vocation of deacon should contact the diocesan vocations office. Bishop Pates is inviting you to learn more and consider applying for a four-year formation program that will lead to ordination. Email vocations@dmdioocese.org or call 515-237-5014. The deadline to apply is March 31.

Calling All Young Adults: We’ve got small Lenten faith-sharing groups organized. To get involved in one, meet new people and deepen your faith, contact Justin White at 515-237-5098 or email him at jwhite@dmdioocese.org.

Victim Assistance: The diocese’ Victim Assistance Advocate is a staff member at Polk County Victim Services. She helps victims of sexual abuse of minors by clergy through a complaint process and in seeking support and counseling services. She can be reached at 515-286-2024 or advocate@dmdioocese.org.

Catholic Tuition Organization: Applications for tuition assistance are now available on line at www.fairapp.com. School code: 450, Password: cto450. For families who want to send their children to our Catholic school, your income needs to be less than the amounts listed. If it is, you will qualify for tuition assistance for children K-12 who will be attending one of our Catholic schools this fall.

World Meeting of Families: The Diocese of Des Moines and Bishop Pates, with Iowa Catholic Radio, invite you on a pilgrimage to Ireland and to the World Meeting of Families. Our pilgrimage includes eight days of touring Ireland, as well as the opportunity to celebrate family life with Pope Francis in Dublin! Get information by contacting Adam Storey at astorey@dmdioocese.org or calling 515- 237-5056.

