

*Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, there also will my servant be.*

(John 12:26)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we begin the period known as Passiontide. During these final weeks of Lent the statues are covered, and we concentrate more on the upcoming passion and death of the Lord.

During these final weeks of Lent we should be imitating the pattern of Christ's life. We should offer ourselves in humility and sacrifice for the sake of others. In that way we truly proclaim that Christ is the Lord!

Please keep in mind our Building Fund and the on-going payments for our elevator debt. The realistic total goal for the elevator project is **\$1,030,000.00**. That will pay up the entire amount owed to the Knights of Columbus. It was underestimated up until now. So far we have raised **\$738,476.93**. Roughly half of what we still owe will come from the diocese, provided that everyone pays up their pledges to the Capital Campaign. Also, we presently have a debt to our Foundation of **\$6,901.00** that needs to be paid back. Our weekly collection has not been meeting our expenses and so we had to borrow from our Foundation to keep current with our obligations. During the holy Lenten Season let us sacrifice for the sake of the Lord and His Church and for the good of the parish.

**Remember our Fish Fry suppers on Friday, 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. This coming Friday, March 23rd is the last fish fry!**

**Mark your calendars for SUNDAY 06 MAY. That is the date for our annual Foundation Dinner. This year it will be held at the Tea Room downtown. More information will be coming soon, but mark the date now and plan to attend this event, which will be a very lovely evening.**

May God's grace always grow in your hearts! May the Lord grant you in these remaining days of Lent, His grace and peace, so that we may celebrate Easter with great joy!

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Pastor 


**ELEVATOR FUND**

Current Donations.....\$ 738,476.93  
Goal.....\$ 1,030,000.00

**DEBT OWED TO THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN FOUNDATION: \$6,901.00**  
Please help us pay this off!

**Annual Diocesan Appeal: Current balance due: \$115,494.00**

 **ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS: ONLY ONE LEFT!!** It is from 4:45pm – 6:45pm, Friday, March 23.

 **SEDER MEAL:** Will take place on Holy Thursday, March 29, at 6pm, in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. A free will offering will be taken. **We are in need of bundt cakes for the dessert that evening. If you are able to donate one, please call Chris Killough at 279-6774.**

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

**MARCH 17 TO MARCH 25**

**TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS**

<b>SAT</b> <b>17</b>	4:00PM	+Carl & Florence Reelitz	
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass	
<b>SUN</b> <b>18</b>	8:30AM	Parish & Benefactors	
	10:30AM	+Kathryn Mauro	
<b>MON</b> <b>19</b>	12:00PM	Intentions of Doc & Joanne Hallada	
<b>TUE</b> <b>20</b>	12:00PM	+For all the "Elders" in the Nguyen Family	
<b>WED</b> <b>21</b>	12:00PM	+Gerald Castonguay	
<b>THU</b> <b>22</b>	12:00PM	+Judy Debard	
<b>FRI</b> <b>23</b>	12:00PM	+Darrell J. Gass	
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross	
<b>SAT</b> <b>24</b>	9:00AM	+Anna Brunk	
		(Vigil Mass) 4:00PM	+Whipple & Gabriel Families
<b>SUN</b> <b>25</b>	8:30AM	Parish & Benefactors	<b>Palm</b>
	10:30AM	+Sharon Behlmer	<b>Sunday</b>



**THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:**

[www.YouTube.com/BasilicaStJohn](http://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](mailto:tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com) or Terri at 321-2743 or [sinc2@aol.com](mailto:sinc2@aol.com).

**CATECHISM CORNER:**

*Question: Why is the Church called "Catholic"?*

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church.  
(Look for the answer in next weeks bulletin.)



**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL:** Holy Family students and staff attend weekly Lenten Services each Monday in the school gym at 8:15am. Parents are welcome to attend! Reconciliation services will be held for students grades 2-8 this Wednesday, March 21, at OLOA, beginning at 8:30am. Parents are welcome to join their children for this sacrament as we prepare for Easter. Friday, March 23, is the next \$1 jeans day fundraiser for the missions. If a student chooses to dress out of uniform that day, they must bring \$1 to donate



*The Basilica of St. John*  
*Fifth Sunday of Lent*  
*March 18, 2018*

Respect  
Life



**YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK**  
**MARCH 19 THRU MARCH 25**

MON 19	9:00AM 7:00PM	Adoration@ RCIA**
TUE 20	10:00AM 1:00PM 4:30PM 6:00PM	Boy's Youth Choir+++ Youth Choir Practice+++ Columbus Academy Class** Hispanic Room in use**
WED 21	9:00AM 9:30AM 6:15PM	Adoration Begins@ Bible Study+ Religious Ed.**
THU 22	8:00AM 5:45PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice+++ Choir Room in use+++ Choir Practice+
FRI 23	9:00AM 9:00AM 4:45PM 6:30PM	Adoration Begins@ Columbus Academy Class** <b><i>Last Lenten Fish Fry until 6:45pm</i></b> Hispanic Baptism Class**
SAT 24	8:00AM 8:30AM	Diocesan Marriage Prep Class+ Chaplet of Divine Mercy##
SUN 25	8:00AM 10:00AM	<b><i>Palm Sunday</i></b> Vietnamese Prayer Group+ Divine Mercy Meeting+

**Daily Scripture Readings for the week of March 19, 2018:**  
**Monday:** 2Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 or Lk 2:41-51a  
**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30  
**Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42  
**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59  
**Friday:** Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42  
**Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56  
**Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

**LIFELINES:** "Ethics, then, and the Church agree in teaching that **no action is lawful which directly destroys fetal life...** extracting the living fetus before it is viable, is destroying its life as **directly as it would be killing a grown man...**"  
*--Catholic Encyclopedia/Abortion 1917*

**FOUNDATION NOTES:** SAVE THE DATE-  
 The annual Basilica Foundation Spring Banquet/Auction will be held on May 6th, at the Tea Room downtown. If you have a suitable item or experience to donate for the auction please contact Kate or Dave Asjes. Join us for this evening of fun on May 6th.



**DIVINE MERCY:** Our next project will be a **Snack Drive on the weekend of March 24-25**, to benefit the Catholic Charities Family Shelter (previously known as St. Joseph's Family Shelter). They need healthy, individually packed evening snacks for the residents. Thank you for continuing to look for opportunities to participate in Corporal Works of Mercy through this Lenten season. Please bring your donations to the vestibule of the church next weekend.

**SAVE THE DATE:** *Date change-* **For the 10th Annual Basilica Bus Trip. This year it will be on Thursday, September 13, 2018.**



**CHURCH DECORATING:** If you would like to donate a flower to decorate the church this Easter, we are asking for Lilies, Azaleas, Begonias—all colors. If possible please have them wrapped in gold foil. You can start having them delivered during Holy Week (March 26). Please have them here no later than Saturday, March 31, 10:00 a.m. You can attach a card to the flower, with the name of a loved one and after Easter there will be a special insert in the bulletin honoring their memory.

*Volunteers are needed to help prepare the church for decorating on Saturday, March 31, at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome.*

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**Catholic Youth Camp (CYC):** Registration for Catholic Youth Camp 2018 is underway and spots are filling quickly! Catholic Youth Camp is a sleep away summer camp for students entering 3rd grade through high school graduation. Every summer, over 1,400 young people will come to CYC to pray, learn about the Catholic faith, and have fun outdoors! CYC has updated many "camp" activities along with constructing a high ropes course and a crate stacker. Both create challenges that campers must work through and are designed to build self-esteem and strengthen team skills. CYC is located just outside Panora, IA – about an hour from Des Moines and less than two hours from Council Bluffs. Don't let your kids miss out on this awesome opportunity, register soon! Sponsorships are available. To find out more and to register, visit [www.stmcenter.com](http://www.stmcenter.com) or call 515-309-1936.

**St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP):** Is offering two classes at the facility on 6th Avenue, and is in need of child care assistants. One class runs Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5:00-7:00 p.m., March 13-May 10, and is a preparatory class for those wanting to take the HiSET (GED) class at DMACC. The second class is held on Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m., April 4–May 9, that educates young parents on how to develop good parenting skills. If you can help with even one evening, please call Anthony Gross/ 515-282-8327 ext. 17. Spending a little time with a little one is a BIG thing!

**Fanning the Flame Retreat:** This retreat was rescheduled to April 7 due to weather. Therefore, registrations are still open. Fanning the Flame is a day of prayer, reflection, and fellowship, all oriented towards identifying the movements of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives. This day will be very helpful for 9th & 10th graders preparing for confirmation. There is a separate track for sponsors and/or adult chaperones accompanying the teens to help them grow deeper in their faith as well. The cost is \$40 for teens and \$20 for adults. The retreat will be held at the St. Thomas More Center. For questions or registration information, contact Justin White, director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, 515-237-5098.

