

Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the world of life. (Philippians 2:15d, 16a)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

We begin the holy Season of Lent with the ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday this week. It is time for us to return to the Lord, to seek his ways, and to continue our journey to the Lord's kingdom of heaven. Our journey is often filled with moments of pain and trial. So often we wish that life was easy and pain free. Yet we know that this is not the reality of human existence. Nevertheless, our pain and our trials, weighed against our faith, show us the way to God's kingdom and give us a hopeful future. Our trials and sufferings, united with those of the Lord, will lead us into a deeper understanding of God's mystery. Let us use these weeks of Lent to return to the Lord by prayer, fasting and works of charity. And let us never doubt for a moment God's enduring love for us.

Here is our monthly report on our financial status:

Elevator: Debt of \$165,300.00. This is what remains on our loan.
Foundation: Debt of \$27,000.00. Borrowed to pay off the 2018 ADA.

The 2019 ADA Assessment begins this weekend. Please pledge as much as you are able to, so we can meet our assessment this year. More on this in the weeks to come as we get underway with that assessment. We had to pay off \$45,000.00 from last year's ADA which was not pledged. Thus, the bulk of the present debt to the Foundation.

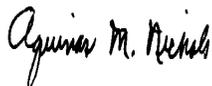
It is extremely important that we watch the weekly summary in the bulletin to meet our weekly obligations. Our bills have to be paid in a timely manner. Roughly \$15,000.00 a month must go the schools and also to pay our insurance. The bulletin clearly states what is needed each week in order to stay current with everything. I thank you for your fiscal contributions. We are doing fairly well. It is the responsibility of all of us to keep the parish financially sound.

Let us continue to go forth with faith and trust as meet the daily challenges of this world, confident that the Lord is always with us.

Come and join us for our Friday Fish Fry Suppers during Lent, followed by the Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. This is an excellent way to meditate on the Lord's Passion during this holy season. May the Lord grant you many graces and blessings in the weeks ahead!

Devotedly in the Lord,

Pastor



WEEKLY INCOME – 2/24/19

Total - \$10,904.53
Need - \$21,198.08

Year to Date (YTD) – Fiscal Year July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019
YTD Total - \$710,355.74
YTD Need - \$741,932.80

REMAINING ELEVATOR DEBT: \$165,300.00

REMAINING ADA DEBT for 2018: \$2,726.00

DEBT TO FOUNDATION: \$27,000.00

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

MARCH 2 TO MARCH 10

TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS

SAT 02	4:00PM	+Carolyn Brunk	
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass	
SUN 03	8:30AM	Parish & Benefactors	
	10:30AM	+Travis Crouse	
MON 04	12:00PM	+Deborah Ulrich	
TUE 05	12:00PM	+Mary Jean & Walter Gouger, Parents of Mary McManus	
WED 06		Ash Wednesday	
	12:00PM	+Donna Blaskovich	
	7:00PM	Parish & Benefactors	
THU 07	12:00PM	+Fred & Linda Nesbit	
FRI 08	12:00PM	+John O'Leary	
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross	
SAT 09	9:00AM	Living/Deceased Members of Altar & Rosary & for the Basilica Seminarians	
		(Vigil Mass)	
	4:00PM	Intentions of Charlotte Brien	
SUN 10	8:30AM	+Kathryn Mauro	
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors	

THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:
www.BasilicaofStJohn.org and click on the link...
..... "LIVE TELECAST" tab

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 does the laity participate in the prophetic office?***

ANSWER: They participate in it by welcoming evermore in faith the Word of Christ and proclaiming it to the world by the witness of their lives, their words, their evangelizing action, and by catechesis. This evangelizing action acquires a particular efficacy because it is accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world.



**Day light savings starts next weekend, March 10!
Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour!**



The Basilica of St. John
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
March 3, 2019

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK
MARCH 4 THRU MARCH 10

MON 04	9:00AM 4:00PM 6:30PM 6:30PM	Adoration Begins@ Organ Practice RCIA** KC Council Meeting+
TUE 05	8:00AM 10:00AM 5:00PM 5:00PM 6:30PM	Organ Practice+++ Youth Choir H.S. Humanities Class** Organ Practice+++ Divine Mercy Study+
WED 06	9:00AM 9:00AM 10:00 AM 6:15PM	Adoration Begins@ Catholic School House** Bible Study+ NO Religious Ed. & NO St. Jude's R.E.
THU 07	8:00AM 10:00AM 10:00AM 10:30AM 5:45PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice Catechesis Class** Divine Mercy Study** Organ Practice+++ Choir Room in use+++ Choir Practice+++
FRI 08	9:00AM 9:30AM 4:45PM	Adoration Begins@ H.S. Humanities Class** Lenten Fish Fry until 6:45PM
SAT 09	9:45AM 10:00AM	Altar & Rosary Meeting+ Carmelite Meeting**
SUN 10	8:00AM 12:00PM 4:30PM	Vietnamese Prayer Group+ Pro Life Meeting+ Rite of Election at St. Ambrose-RCIA

BAPTISM CLASS: Are you planning to have your child baptized at The Basilica? The Diocese of Des Moines requires parents or legal guardians to attend a pre-baptismal formation. If you are registered parishioner who wishes to have your child baptized at the Basilica and have not previously attended a pre-baptismal class our next event will be held TODAY Sunday, March 3rd from 1:00-4:00pm. For more details contact Deacon Mark at campbell.markh@yahoo.com

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY: The next Altar & Rosary meeting will be Saturday March 9, following the 9:00am Mass. Jeanne Kelley's Band # 1 will be hostess, and host Sunday coffee and donuts. We will begin plans for our 2019 Salad Supper.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE- for Lent: Is March 6, 2019 - April 14, 2019. It's biblical, prayerful and peaceful and meant to bring an end to the crisis that is hurting women, dividing families, and dehumanizing the most innocent among us. The crisis is abortion, which has become the leading cause of death in the entire world, where 42 million unborn children die every year; that's 1.2 million in the US alone. Abortions happen in our communities around the corner from our homes, schools and churches. Because of the 3/4 of a million people that have participated in 40 Days for Life, dozens of PP workers have quit, facilities have shut down and babies lives have been saved. You can end abortion right where you live. Join the Basilica at the Army Post location on March 22nd, or the Drake location on March 29th. You can sign up after Mass in the vestibule or you can text Mary at 515-975-2534. Thank you~~Basilica Pro-life Group

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: Parent/student/teacher conferences will be held next week on March 13 and 14. If you have not received notification of a conference time, please call Mrs. Lechuga at the school to make an appointment. Classes will be dismissed early at 1:00pm on Thursday, March 14 for conferences. Please be at the school to pick up your child at that time. There will be no school on Friday, March 15. There will be no classes March 18 through 22. Students and staff are on Spring Break. Classes will resume Monday, March 25, 8:00 a.m.

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of March 4, 2019:

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

LIFELINES: As Christians, we are called to be the "watchmen." *But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet to warn the people and the sword comes and takes the life of one of them, that man will be taken away because of his sin, but I will hold the watchman accountable for his blood" (Eze:33:6).* Not everyone is equipped to counsel women in the delicate situation of "an unplanned pregnancy." But we can all do something. This is the human rights issue of our time. We cannot plead ignorance or remain apathetic. *So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."(James 4:17).* As Christians, we cannot and should not sit idly by and accept this massive slaughter of the innocents. We are called to be the "watchmen" of our brothers and sisters who are defenseless, voiceless and by far the most vulnerable in our society. (pro-lifearticle.org)

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Fried Chicken Dinner: St. John the Apostle Catholic Church in Norwalk is having a chicken dinner with all the fixings on March 10th, from 11am – 3pm. Cost is \$10-Adults, \$5-Children 6-12; Free for children 5 & under. All are welcome. Join us at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church, 720 Orchard Hills Drive, Norwalk, IA 50211.

"Glorifying God by Your Lives" Iowa Catholic Men's Conference invites you to their 7th annual Conference on **March 30, 2019 at St. Francis of Assisi in West Des Moines.** This day features National speaker and author, Deacon Harold Burke Sivers, Deacon Randy Kiel, psychotherapist and counselor, and Deacon Tom Bradley, spiritual director and retired Army COL. Bishop Pates will join in a panel discussion with the presenters on "Being Called and Sent". In addition, a Spanish tract features Ambiorix Padilla, an internationally known speaker. Tickets can be purchased on-line. For information and to purchase tickets: iowacatholicmensconference.com or iowacatholicradio.com.

Seminary Visits Planned: If you've been thinking about whether you're called to be a priest, take the time to visit a seminary and talk with our seminarians. Father Ross Parker is taking men ages 16-24 to visit Conception Seminary in Missouri April 6- 8. Contact Father Ross at vocations@dmdioocese.org or 515-237-5050 and tell him you'd like to come along!