

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.

(John 3:16)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are already at the Third Sunday of Lent. We see the zeal of the Lord for the Father's house and all things to do with fulfilling the will of the Father. The refreshing quality of water is also put before us, not just in the physical sense, but more importantly in the spiritual sense. Christ brings us the life-giving waters of baptism and promises to keep us spiritually refreshed throughout our lives.

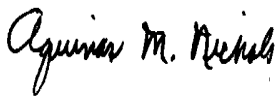
Please keep in mind our Building Fund and the on-going payments for our elevator debt. The realistic total goal for the elevator project is **\$1,030,000.00**. It was underestimated up until now. So far we have raised **\$736,646.03**. Roughly half of what we still owe will come from the diocese if everyone pays up their pledges to the Capital Campaign. Also, we presently have a debt to our Foundation of **\$12,419.33** 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.

Next week there will be a second collection for the Catholic Relief Services. Please do what you can to help with this good work.

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

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Pastor

ELEVATOR FUND

Current Donations.....\$ 736,646.93
Goal.....\$ 1,030,000.00

DEBT OWED TO THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN FOUNDATION: \$12,419.33
Please help us pay this off!



ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS: Our Lenten fish fry dinners are from 4:45pm – 6:45pm, every Friday through March 23.

LENTEN MEDITATION IN SONG: Please join us Friday, March 9 after the Stations of the Cross for a prayerful Seven Last Words Meditation in song. This will be presented by the Seraphic Singers and Bosco Boys, two of the Catholic Youth Choir ensembles. It will last approximately one half hour from 7:40-8:10 pm.

ALTAR & ROSARY MARCH MEETING UPDATE: Altar & Rosary will **NOT** meet on Saturday, March 10th for Bingo or other business due to Communal Penance taking place that day. Band #2 will host coffee and donuts on March 11.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

MARCH 3 TO MARCH 11

TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS

SAT 03	4:00PM	+Carl & Florence Reelitz
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass
SUN 04	8:30AM	+W.E. Lowery
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
MON 05	12:00PM	+Gerald Castonguay
TUE 06	12:00PM	+Dan Rupp
WED 07	12:00PM	The Nguyen Family Members who need prayer
THU 08	12:00PM	+Sheila Gallop
FRI 09	12:00PM	+Berendene Castelline & Lisa Behnami Castelline
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross
SAT 10	9:00AM	Living/Deceased Members of Altar & Rosary Basilica Seminarians
		(Vigil Mass)
	4:00PM	+Gary Kiernan
SUN 11	8:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
	10:30AM	Friends/Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters, FEHJ

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:

Question: In what way is the Church holy?

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

SAVE THE DATE: For the 10th Annual Basilica Bus Trip.
This year it will be on Thursday, September 20, 2018.



The Basilica of St. John
Third Sunday of Lent
March 4, 2018

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK
MARCH 5 THRU MARCH 11

MON 05	9:00AM 7:00PM 7:00PM	Adoration@ RCIA** KC Council Meeting+
TUE 06	10:00AM 1:00PM 4:30PM 6:00PM	Boy's Youth Choir+++ Youth Choir Practice+++ Columbus Academy Class** Hispanic Room in use**
WED 07	9:00AM 9:30AM 6:15PM	Adoration Begins@ Bible Study+ Religious Ed. **
THU 08	8:00AM 5:45PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice+++ Choir Room in use+++ Choir Practice+
FRI 09	9:00AM 9:00AM 4:45PM	Adoration Begins@ Columbus Academy Class** Lenten Fish Fry until 6:45pm
SAT 10	8:30AM 9:45AM 10:00AM 10:00AM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy### NO Altar & Rosary Meeting Communal Penance Carmelite Meeting+
SUN 11	8:00AM 10:00AM	Vietnamese Prayer Group+ Pro Life Meeting+



PRAYERS PLEASE: For the repose of the soul of *Lou Fiori* who recently passed away. Please also pray for his family & friends in their time of need.



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Congratulations to Sofia Roush, Rhonin Ward, Alberto Carlos, Jude Wills and their families on the recent celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism.



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: Katherine Bourne, and Connor Ward.



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: Parent/student/teacher conferences will be held this week on March 7 and 8. 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, Thursday, March 8 for conferences. Please be at the school to pick up your child at that time. There will be no school on Friday, March 9. There will be no classes March 12 through 19. Students and staff are on Spring Break. Classes will resume Tuesday, March. 20, 8:00am. Holy Family staff and students celebrate Lent with weekly prayer services each Monday morning at 8:15am in the school gym. Parents are welcome to join us on our Lenten journey.

Holy Family Catholic School: Will have a rescheduled Preschool and Kindergarten Round-Up on Monday, March 5 beginning at 6:00pm. Come visit the new Student Activity Center and learn about the opportunities we have for your children. If you can't make it to Round-Up, please call the school to schedule an appointment, 515-262-8025.

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of March 5, 2018:

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21 or Year A
 Second Scrutiny at 10:30 Mass: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a, Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

LIFELINES: Abortion and Adoption– The number of would-be adoptive parents (of newborn babies) far outstrips the supply in America. Each year in the United States, about 135,000 American children are placed for adoption. Experts estimate somewhere between one and two million couples seek to adopt yearly. Every year, there are about 1.3 million abortions. Sadly, only 4% of women with unwanted pregnancies give their children up for adoption. Every child is wanted, and wanted desperately!
 (by Pro-Life Articles Author, www.pro-lifearicle.org)

FOUNDATION NOTES: We all try to “GIVE UP” or “DO” something for Lent. Here is an idea: Why not take the cash value of those things that you have “given up” and donate the cash value to the Basilica of St. John Foundation? That way you “give up” and “do” something at the same time.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Hospital Communion Ministers: Something to do for Lent that is very good and very important! Once a month, once a week or somewhere in between, we need Communion Ministers for hospitals. No previous training/experience required. Training is March 10, 9:00am at St. Ambrose Cathedral Hall for Methodist, Blank, Lutheran, Broadlawns and Methodist West. We need you! Just show up. If interested, but not able to attend this training, e-mail at michael.mclaughlin1746@gmail.com. Even if you are already a trained/practicing Communion Minister, you need to be retrained. This training will count. If you are unable to attend the above training, contact me at the above email.

Beginning Experience Open House: Will meet on three Friday nights: March 16, March 23 and April 6. The meeting is from 7-8:30pm at St. Augustin Church Hall, 42nd and Grand Ave. Des Moines. What if the worst thing you think could happen does, like you are widowed, separated or divorced? How do you cope? How do you deal with the grief, loss and pain? Beginning Experience can help. You don't have to suffer alone. We have walked through similar feeling which you are facing in your life. The open house gives beginning steps of healing and is also an invitation to attend our weekend of April 20, 21 and April 22. If you wish to know more about the healing process, contact Dana Reed at 515-975-3745, Mike Losee 515- 360-8268 or Father Bob Schoemann 515-418-1938.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend: Has something in it for every married couple. The Weekend has value for couples married one year on up to 50 years or more. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends on March 9-11 at La Crosse, April 20-22 at Dubuque. Early registration is highly recommended. For information and to register go to iowa-wwme.org or call 563-608- 3305 or email: JLJwwme08@Gmail.com