

*One does not live on bread alone, but on every word  
that comes forth from the mouth of God.*

( Matthew 4:4b )

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent recalls once again the temptation of Jesus out in the desert after he had been fasting for 40 days. The devil tries to tempt Jesus in his weakness, but Jesus stands firm in doing the will of the Father and in doing what is right. That is the model for us during this holy Lenten Season. Let us strive to amend our lives, doing what is right and pleasing before the Lord our God.

We have had to borrow from our Foundation yet again to pay off all of our various obligations to the diocese and stay current with our creditors. Please help us lower the debt to the Foundation. It is listed in the bulletin each week. At least we owe ourselves at this point and not much outside of the parish, except for the continuing elevator payments. These payments are about \$9,000.00 per month. Your continued sacrifices to pay off this debt is also greatly appreciated. Your generosity allows us to continue our mission to be present and to lead others to Christ.

The Anglo-Saxon word Lent originally referred to the "spring season" and came to replace the Latin "quadragesima" meaning "the fortieth day." This describes the forty day fast before Easter. The number 40 is used in Biblical texts to signal a lengthy period of time. So Moses and the Hebrews wandered in the wilderness for forty years. In the New Testament, Jesus is tempted in the desert where he ate nothing for forty days and forty nights. By the mid Third Century this period of preparation for Easter was already well-established in the Church and has been observed as a penitential period of preparation for the great feast of Easter, celebrating the Lord's rising from the dead.

Ash Wednesday began the Season of Lent. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstaining from meat. Those who are not able to fast should perform some other act of penance. Daily rosary, Stations of the Cross, careful reading of the Bible and acts of charity are recommended to all of us. We will again be having our wonderful Fish Fry suppers with the first Friday of Lent, March 3rd. Although they are "all you can eat" try and keep in mind the penitential character of Friday! These will be followed by Stations of the Cross and Benediction at 7:00 p.m. Please plan on joining us for these activities.

Let us pray for peace in our world and harmony among all peoples. May the Lord be with you all and bless you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Agustin M. Nichols*

**ELEVATOR FUND**

Current Donations.....\$ 591,62043  
Goal.....\$ 800,000.00

**DEBT OWED TO THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN FOUNDATION: \$19,054.84.**  
*Please help us reduce this!*



**ALTAR & ROSARY MEETING:** St. John's Altar and Rosary Society will meet on Saturday, March 11 in Fr. Muhlvill Hall immediately following the 9:00am Mass. We will enjoy coffee, treats and conversation, pray the rosary together and have a short business meeting. Sue Jansen's band will host. Come and meet some new friends.

**ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS!:** Guide Book Publishing is putting together another Guide Book & Directory based on an agreement made with the Basilica a few years ago. Please contact the parish office (244-3101, ext. 0) **if your address or phone number need updating or if you do not want your information published.** There is no cost to you or to the Basilica of St. John, though a directory will be mailed to each participating household. Likewise, the Basilica does not gain financially from advertisements sold by the company producing the directory.

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE  
MARCH 4 TO MARCH 12**

**TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS**

<b>SAT 04</b>	4:00PM	+Lisa Castelline Behnami
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass
<b>SUN 05</b>	8:30AM	+Maria Tu Tran
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
<b>MON 06</b>	12:00PM	+Patsy Gerdom
<b>TUE 07</b>	12:00PM	+Helen Brugger
<b>WED 08</b>	12:00PM	+Ron Weindel, Zach Walz, David Rachuy Andrew & Dorothy Wieberg
<b>THU 09</b>	12:00PM	+Ashley, Travis & Halley Askew
<b>FRI 10</b>	12:00PM	+Anna & Mylo Leporte
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross
<b>SAT 11</b>	9:00AM	Living/Deceased Members of Altar & Rosary, Basilica Seminarians
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		<b>(Vigil Mass)</b>
	4:00PM	Intentions of Robert & Donna Marasco
<b>SUN 12</b>	8:30AM	Intentions of Maria Nguyen Family
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors

**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 [tueskoetterluke3@gmail.com](mailto:tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com) or Terri at 321-2743 or [sinc2@aol.com](mailto:sinc2@aol.com).

**CATECHISM CORNER:**

*Question: **Why are the missions of the Son  
and the Holy Spirit inseparable?***

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

**There will be a short meditative evening of Song on the Seven Last Words of Christ following the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 10, beginning at 7:30pm at the Basilica. This will be led by two groups from the Catholic Youth Choir, the Seraphic Singers and Bosco Boys. Please join us after Stations of the Cross for a moving Lenten inspiration!**



*The Basilica of St. John*  
*First Sunday of Lent*  
*March 5, 2017*

Respect  
Life



**YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK**  
**MARCH 6 THRU MARCH 12**

MON 06	9:00AM 6:30PM	Adoration Begins@ KC Council Meeting+
TUE 07	10:00AM 1:00PM 6:00PM 7:00PM	Boy's Youth Choir+++ Youth Choir+++ Organ Practice+++ RCIA##
WED 08	9:00AM 9:15AM 6:15PM	Adoration Begins@ Bible Study+ Religious Ed.**
THU 09	8:00AM 7:00PM 6:00PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice+++ Adult Faith Class+ Bell Choir+++ Choir+++
FRI 10	9:00AM 4:45PM	Adoration Begins@ KC Fish Fry until 6:45pm
SAT 11	8:30AM 9:45AM 10:00AM 1:30PM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy Altar & Rosary Meeting+ Organ Practice Church in use
SUN 12	9:00AM 10:00AM 12:00PM	Vietnamese Prayer Group+ Confirmation Class (church & hall) Pro Life Meeting+

**Daily Scripture Readings for the week of March 6, 2017:**

**Monday** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46  
**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15  
**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32  
**Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12  
**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26  
**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48  
**Sunday:** Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

**LIFELINES:** The Sin of Silence: When Nazis moved through the cities of Germany .... not many spoke up. People were murdered ..., yet few "got involved" in this "political issue." That was the beginning of the Holocaust and the perpetrators gained confidence to carry out their atrocities, because most people looked the other way and did nothing. Tragically, it is happening again. The innocent are being slaughtered in a forty year Holocaust that has seen over 60 million children brutally put to death by legalized abortion. Christians cannot remain silent! "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." ... German pastor, Pastor Martin Niemoller (By Pro-Life Articles-pro-lifearticles.org)

**FOUNDATION NOTES:** The season of Lent is here! It is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Would there be a better way to provide assurance that our parish future financial needs would be satisfied than a Lenten contribution to the Basilica of St. John Foundation? Use the yellow/gold envelopes in your tithing package. "Give, and it will be given to you". (St. Luke)

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** The Basilica Conference of St. Vincent de Paul wishes to extend appreciation to our parish community for the generous response to the "5th Sunday" collections during 2016 which totaled \$3,177.46. This added income enables us to assist clients in need with some financial aid; contribute to St. Benedict Mission and Holy Family School; supply quarterly Living Word booklets for parish use; provide food at Thanksgiving for the needy and Christmas fruit baskets for our parish shut-ins. This year we hope to include the St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter on their list for donated meals on specific assigned dates. We welcome new members for assistance with our projects, helping our SVDP conference to help others.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Mark your calendar for **Thursday, September 21, 2017** for our exciting **9th Annual Basilica Bus tour across Iowa!**

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL:** Parent/student/teacher conferences will be held on March 8 & 9. 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 March 9 for conferences. Please be at the school to pick up your child at that time. There will be no school on March 10. There will be no classes March 13-17. Students and staff are on Spring Break. Classes will resume 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.

**BISHOP DRUMM MARCH BIRTHDAY PARTY:** Volunteers are needed to help host the March 15 birthday party at Bishop Drumm. You will help serve cake, ice cream and juice to 20-30 residents from 2-3 pm on Wednesday, March 15. Contact Chris Killough 279-6774 if you want to assist. This is the 3rd year that the Basilica has done the March b-day party at Bishop Drumm.

**The 40 Days for Life Lenten Campaign to fast, pray, and be a visible witness** goes from March 1st-April 9th. The Basilica will be taking March 31/April 1 at the Drake location and April 7/8 at the Army Post Rd. location. We will have sign ups after Mass each weekend until all slots are filled. We also want to encourage you to take at least an hour each week prior to our days at the Army Post location, as this is the largest abortion mill in Iowa and must be closed. (We need more presence there.) Also, for women going into this abortion mill, we are the last **sign of hope** for them and the first **sign of mercy** when they come out. Thank you for your help. The Basilica Pro-life group

**ATTENTION PARENTS OF FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION STUDENTS:** If you have not yet turned in your child's **Baptismal Certificate** please do so ASAP. You can bring it to class on Wednesday or drop it off at the parish office. It is **Diocesan Policy** that we have a current copy of the **Baptismal Certificate** or the Sacrament **can not take place**.

**SUPPORTIVE CARE IOWA:** The Iowa bishops' "Supportive Care Iowa" project is available to help people seeking guidance on making decisions about end-of-life health care that is aligned with Catholic values. Often we cannot foresee situations that will arise in regard to our health. Therefore it may be important, in advance, to choose a person who knows us and can speak on our behalf if we are not capable of doing so. There are now trained volunteers, called "Catholic Advanced Care Planning Consultants," that can help individuals with the completion of documents that designate another person with power of attorney for health care in the event of incapacity. It is our parish's goal to help Catholics have these faith-filled discussions with friends and family in advance of a crisis and to provide guidance in completing advance directive forms in alignment with Catholic moral principles. This service is available without charge. Please contact the parish office (515-244-3101, ext 0) if you are interested in this service.