

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

(Acts 16:14b)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Sometimes our merciful, generous God acts graciously towards others, but we look upon this with jealousy, not joy or gratitude. To see as God sees is to behold the Divine at work in the world, and respond in a similar, merciful and generous way. The Holy Gospel reminds us that God's ways are not our ways, and are beyond our comprehension.

There will be a second national collection this weekend for the victims of Hurricane Irma. Please do what you can to help in this regard.

Our annual Wine and Cheese Fundraiser for the Foundation was a great success this past Sunday. I wish to thank the Foundation Board members and all those who helped to make this such an enjoyable event. The food and the wines seemed to satisfy the hungry heart!

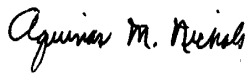
October 2nd there will be new office hours for the Basilica. From Monday through Friday the office will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Adoration on Monday, Wednesday and Friday will be from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please plan your parish needs accordingly.

Please keep our ADA campaign for 2017 in mind. It is extremely important that we make our goal to take the burden off of our financial resources. I ask you to prayerfully consider making a pledge now in a spirit of good support for our parish. Blank pledge cards are in the back of the Basilica in the pamphlet racks. We are still at just about 50% of our goal. **We need 100% participation if we are to meet our goal. Please help us! Please watch the bulletin to see where we stand in this effort.**

We also continue to make our timely payments to our elevator debt. I thank you for your contributions in this regards which keep coming in a little bit every week. We rely greatly on your fulfilling your pledge to the Sharing God's Gifts Campaign.

May God's grace always grow in your hearts!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Pastor

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: \$66,026.41 has been paid on our 2017 assessment of \$132,297. We still owe \$66, 270.59 or 50%

ELEVATOR FUND

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

RCIA CLASSES: If you are interested, or if you know someone who is interested in participating in our RCIA classes which are held Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the school, please contact Jenifer Parsons at 244-3101 ext. 204. Participants will learn about basic Catholic beliefs as well as be provided with opportunities to develop and grow in a closer relationship with God by attending weekly Mass and through prayer.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

**SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 1
TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS**

SAT 23	4:00PM +Bob & Vergida Vonk 6:00PM Spanish Mass
SUN 24	8:30AM Parish & Benefactors 10:30AM +Frances Kolner & Ben Homan
MON 25	12:00PM +Deceased Members of Deery & Robson Family
TUE 26	12:00PM +Gary Kiernan
WED 27	12:00PM +Peter Rettinger
THU 28	12:00PM +Claudia Koon
FRI 29	12:00PM +Elizabeth Brien
SAT 30	9:00AM +Jim Powers
----- (Vigil Mass) 4:00PM +Carl & Florence Reelitz	
SUN 01	8:30AM Intentions of the Dinh Family 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:

Why is the church the "people of God"?

ANSWER: The Church is the "people of God" because it pleased God to sanctify and save men not in isolation but by making them into one people gathered together by the unity of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

ADORERS ARE NEEDED: We are in need of additional adorers to spend one hour praying before the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 11am to 12pm. Please call Jenifer at 244-3101 ext. 204 if you are able to help.



The Basilica of St. John
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 24, 2017

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK
SEPTEMBER 25 THRU OCTOBER 1

MON 25	9:00AM 6:30PM 7:00PM	Adoration Begins@ Finance Council Meeting+ RCIA**
TUE 26	9:00AM 4:30PM 6:30PM	Organ Practice+++ Columbus Academy Class** "Mystery of the Bible" Study Series+
WED 27	9:00AM 6:15PM	Adoration Begins@ Religious Ed. **
THU 28	8:00AM 6:00PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice Choir Room in use+++ Choir Practice+++
FRI 29	9:00AM 9:00AM	Adoration Begins@ Columbus Academy Class**
SAT 30	8:30AM 10:30AM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy## Una Voce-Day of Recollection til 3pm+
SUN 01	8:00AM	Vietnamese Prayer Group+

SIGN INDICATORS

+++ = Choir Loft; ** = School; @ = Chapel; * = Rectory
 + = Church Hall; ## = Church; % = Conference Room;
 (N) = (North Hall); (S) = (South Hall)

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of September 25, 2017:

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51
Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5; Mt 21:28-32

LIFELINES: The Consequences of Being Wrong!: Any reasonable person considers the possibility that he (or she) could be wrong regarding any important position they take. If the pro-life movement is wrong, then we are guilty of trying to deny women a so-called right to privacy (which has never been part of our Constitution). But, if the pro-abortion side is wrong, then they are indisputably and directly responsible for the slaughter and mass murder of millions of innocent children---three and a half thousand a day in the United States. So, the question is, would it be better to be pro-life and wrong, or pro-choice and wrong? The answer is very clear! (pro-lifearticles.org)

FOUNDATION NOTES: Your support of the Basilica of St. John at the Wine & Cheese Event was most appreciated. Proceeds generated will be added to the fund for future financial needs of the parish.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: School picture retake day is Tuesday, September 26. This is for students who missed the original picture day or who want their original pictures retaken. Students who are having retakes done may wear dress clothes (not jeans) this day. Parent/student/teacher conferences will be held this week on September 27 & 28. If you have not received notification of a conference time, call Mrs. Lechuga at the school to make an appointment. Classes will be dismissed early at 1:00 on September 28 for conferences. Please be at the school to pick up your child at that time. There will be no school on September 29. There will be no classes October 2 through October 9. Students and staff are on Fall Break. If HFS families are in need of childcare anytime during this break, please contact the School to make arrangements for the A.C.E.S. program. Classes will resume October 10, at 8:15 a.m.

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE: This 8-week study begins this Tuesday, September 19. There is still time to sign up if you wish to join us. Please contact Jenifer Parsons at 244-3101 ext. 204.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: Registration begins this weekend and continues until all hours are filled. The Basilica of St. John will take Friday, October 13 at the Drake P.P. location and Friday & Saturday, October 20/21 at the Army Post location. Be prepared to fast, pray, and put yourself in their shoes as you speak out for Life. See you after Mass in the back of the church or text Mary at 515-975-2534, to schedule your hour. Thank you—Basilica Pro-life group.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Hurricane Irma Special Collection: Please use the following link if you would like to give online for the Hurricane Irma Special Collection. <https://dmdiocese.thankyou4caring.org/pages/donation-form---hurricane-irma>

Annual Turkey Dinner: St. Boniface Church in Waukee, will hold their Annual Turkey Dinner on Sunday, October 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at St. Boniface parish hall, 1200 Warrior Lane, Waukee. Menu includes turkey and stuffing, mashed potatoes, vegetables, roll, pie and beverage. Cost: \$10/adults, \$5/children ages 3-12, free/age 2 and under. Information, call the parish office at 515-987-4597.

Sponsor A Meal: Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter needs help providing meals or snacks to those who are in the shelter. They could use yogurt, string cheese, and protein items for nighttime snacks. If you are interested, contact Ashley Raske, Shelter Coordinator, at 515-282- 1235 to schedule a night to provide a meal, donate, or sponsor a meal.

Iowans For LIFE Banquet: On October 12 join Matt Birk, former Baltimore Ravens 2013 Super Bowl winner, and six-time Pro Bowl Center, as he discusses how his faith, enabled him to stand his ground in the NFL and in life. The father of seven children under the age of 14, Matt is an entertaining speaker you won't want to miss! Wear your team colors! Special basket offer! Banquet will be held in The Meadows Bishop Ballroom at Prairie Meadows in Altoona. Cost is \$50/person, \$500 sponsors a table of 8. RSVP before October 7 at iowansforlife.org or call 515-255-4113.

Strengthen Your Marriage "Essential Elements For A Strong Catholic Marriage": Is a workshop to be presented October 14 for couples interested in improving communication, experiencing healing and forgiveness, exploring the role of service and prayer and cherishing the marriage intended by God. Contact Adam Storey at 515-237-5056 for details.

Bishop Drumm Garage Sale: This Thursday, September 28 is the last garage sale for the season. All items are now **half price**. Hours are 9:30am-1:30pm. The sale is located in the garage next to the Bishop Drumm Care Center.