



Second Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2016

Dear Parish Family,

"Fasting gives birth to prophets and strengthens the powerful; fasting makes lawgivers wise. Fasting is a good safeguard for the soul, a steadfast companion for the body, a weapon for the valiant, and a gymnasium for athletes. Fasting repels temptations, anoints unto piety; it is the comrade of watchfulness and the artificer of chastity. In war it fights bravely, in peace it teaches stillness." – St. Basil the Great

Are you struggling with a sin? I mean a sin that you just can't seem to get rid of; a sin that keeps you in a constant state of guilt and despair. You've prayed, you've frequented the sacraments, but you just can't seem to break its hold. We've all been there at one point or another, and such struggles are part and parcel of the spiritual life. But it doesn't have to be that way. Maybe we need to be reintroduced to a very powerful, but much neglected weapon in the spiritual arsenal: Fasting. If you want to energize your spiritual life, if you want to slay a sin that has you in bondage, if you want to grow in union with God, take up the holy weapon of fasting. For as Jesus said, there are some demons that "cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." Asceticism is necessary for everyone because of our passions—intense fleshly desires, which are sometimes referred to as concupiscence. Experience teaches us that we are often lead about by these desires in a way we can barely control. St. Paul tells us that "the impulses of nature and the impulses of the spirit are at war with one another." This war is so intense that our passions often lead us to do things we don't want to do, and we find ourselves saying, "My own actions bewilder me; what I do is not what I wish to do, but something which I hate." Keep in mind that the passions of our flesh are not necessarily wrong, but because of our fallen nature, they are out of control and they want to dominate us. Left unchecked, our passions will lead us to soul destroying behavior like gluttony, hatred, disordered sexual acts, or addictions of all kinds. Eventually, their dominion will lead us to hell. "The sinful passions...yield increase only to death," explains St. Paul. Let's start with the basics – The first step in fasting is obeying the law of the Church—fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, abstaining from meat on Fridays, and observing the Eucharistic fast (do not eat or drink one hour before communion). Regarding abstaining from meat on Friday, it's true that it technically is not required in the U.S., but some sort of food-based penance or sacrifice is still required. But instead of trying to invent some new penance, why not just stick with what Catholics have always done? Abstain from meat on Fridays? To be continued next week...

Peace to you and yours,
Fr. Stevens

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CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH

Please welcome Father Charles Smiech who will speak at all Masses on behalf of Cross Catholic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America. Please be generous in your response to Father's appeal. Brochures will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry.

PARISH COLLECTION



Envelopes: \$ 8,869.00 (280 parishioners)
 Loose: \$ 821.67
 Children: \$ 104.17

Total collected last week: \$ 9,794.84 Thank You!
 An average of \$13,000 in weekly contributions is needed to offset the cost of living increase for parish expenses, etc. Thank you!

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CATHOLIC FAMILY SHARING APPEAL: (CFSA)

Our 2016 Goal: \$ 110,400
 Pledged thus far: \$ 44,928 (41%)
 Collected thus far: \$ 38,271 (35%)
 Parishioner response: 260 (24%)

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AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS (ACH):

If you would like to have your church contributions automatically deducted from your bank account each month, call the parish office at 996-3639. Forms can also be found on our website at www.holyfamilymitchell.com (under FORMS) that you can fill out and return to the parish office.

PARISH NEWS

NEW TO THE AREA? MOVING? Please contact the parish office at 996-3639.

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THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MORNING MASS THROUGH MARCH 4 WHILE FATHER IS AWAY.

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DUE TO THE RENOVATION OF THE SACRISTIES, EUCHARISTIC ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND STATIONS OF



THE CROSS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL WORK IS COMPLETED. HOURS OF ADORATION AT HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH ARE THURSDAY 8:00 AM TO FRIDAY 7:30 AM AND STATIONS ARE HELD EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT AT 7:00 PM FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF GOOD FRIDAY.

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HAVE YOU SCHEDULED YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION?



There are photography sessions still available in February. Schedule your appointment online at www.holyfamilymitchell.com or call the parish office.

Be part of our history at Holy Family. Sign up for your session today!

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HOLY FAMILY AND HOLY SPIRIT ALTAR SERVERS - SAVE THE DATE!!



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a free movie for altar servers from both Holy Family and Holy Spirit Church. **Eddie the Eagle** will be shown on March 5 at the Logan Luxury Theater! A pizza and Coke party will follow the movie at the Holy Family Church basement! Theater doors will open at 9:30 AM and the movie will begin at 10:00. **Parents** – Please send money with your child if you wish for them to enjoy treats during the movie. You may pick up your child at the South Gathering Space entrance by 1:00 PM following the party. We hope to see lots of altar servers on March 5! This is the KC's way to say "Thank you for your service to the Church. We are proud of you!"

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48th Annual Knights of Columbus Sausage Supper



Sunday, March 6th - Serving from 3:00 to 6:30 PM
 John Paul II Gymnasium - Advance Tickets: \$8.00
 At The Door: \$9.00 - Children 12 & under: \$4.00

(Tickets available for purchase in the Parish Office.)

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Calling all men and women.... FREE Lenten Retreat
 Sunday, March 13 - 1:30-4:30-Holy Family Gathering Space
 Learn to DREAM! Make LOVING DECISIONS! Accept RESPONSIBILITY! Understand FEELINGS! COMMUNICATE honestly! Choose FORGIVENESS! Be GRATEFUL! Have HOPE!

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We are still in need of 8 more drivers on all 5 routes for weeks 3, 4, 5 & 6. If you would be willing to drive please call Kathy Domeyer 996-7977 or 630-0448. Thank you.

MITCHELL FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION NEWS



Mitchell Foundation
for Catholic Education

Nicole Fuhrer (605) 999-9127
Development Director mfce@mit.midco.net
1510 West Elm www.mitchellfce.com
Mitchell, SD 57301 "Like" us on facebook!

Annual Fund Update: 4.5 % of cards returned – 41 % of goal

Thank you to those of you who have supported our Annual Fund Drive thus far. If you have not yet made a pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. 100% of your tax-deductible donation stays here in Mitchell to aid in our mission to **Preserve the Past and Protect the Future** of Catholic Education in Mitchell!

Next month will mark the six year anniversary of my joining the Foundation as the Development Director. To be quite honest, I am still trying to figure out exactly what that title means. I decided that if I am unsure, how can you be sure? So, I have been prayerfully pondering just that. The fundamental role of my job is to invite YOU and meaningfully involve YOU in our mission and vision of creating a sustainable future for John Paul II School, our Faith Formation programs and ultimately our parishes. One thing I *do not* want to be viewed as is a professional fundraiser. My vocation as the Development Director is to draw you closer to God by being good stewards of what He has given you by investing in the mission of our organization. Our annual fund drive is a prime opportunity for us to form a relationship based on our common values. Over the next few months, I will be sharing other ways in which you can continue to support our mission. The gifts of your prayers, your time, and financial support is an investment in the future of the children of our parish. Won't you join me? To learn more, please feel free to call or stop and visit with me anytime!

Blessings on your Lenten Journey. May this time of preparation bring you to a deeper understanding of God's great love for you! Nicole Fuhrer J - M - J

AREA HAPPENINGS

TODAY, Sunday, Feb. 21st: Holy Spirit Church, Mitchell, SD – BINGO – 3:00 to 5:00 PM – Cards 2 for a quarter – Free will Lunch to follow – Menu: Baked potatoes w/choice of toppings, dessert bars, juice & coffee – Parish Hall.

Saturday, Feb. 27th: Kiwanis Spaghetti Feed – John Paul II Elementary School – Tickets available at County Fair Foods or from any Kiwanis member.

Friday, Mar. 4th: Sacred Heart Parish, Parkston, SD – Catholic Daughters 11th Annual All You Can Eat Fish Fry - serving 5:00 to 7:00 PM – Adults: \$10, Child: \$4.50, 2 and under: Free – Menu: Pollack fish deep fried or baked, baked potato or potato wedges, coleslaw, buns, Jell-o Dream Cake.

Sunday, Mar. 6th: Holy Trinity Parish, Huron, SD – 50th Anniversary of Ordination for Fr. Bill Osborn – 10:30 AM Mass, Reception to follow – Free will offering meal of pulled pork sandwiches and fixings. RSVP by Feb. 21 to Deacon Roger Puthoff, 605-352-5596, Jamie Nemmers, 605-352-4736, Michelle Doll, 605-352-3490.

Thursday, Mar. 10th: First Lutheran Church, Mitchell, SD – USD Chamber Singers In Concert – 7:00 PM – Free will offering will be collected.

Sunday, Mar. 13th: Catholic Family Services 16th Annual *Gift of Hope Concert*, O+Gorman Performing Arts Center, Sioux Falls, SD – 2:00 to 6:00 PM – Featuring *Up With People* – All proceeds benefit the Gift of Hope Fund which provides support for people of all faiths, ages and walks in life who have experienced grief, despair, abuse, loss or pain of separation. For tickets or information call 605-988-3765 or on-line at cfesd.org or purchase at a local SF HyVee store.

Friday, Mar. 14th: Sacred Heart Parish, Parkston, SD – Catholic Daughters March Madness Salad Luncheon - serving 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM – Adults: \$7.50, Child: \$3.50 – Menu: Large assortment of salads, chicken salad or ham sandwiches. Quilt raffle and prizes.

Pick up your SCRIP and RAFFLE TICKETS that will be for sale in the gathering space after Mass today!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

There will be **NO Masses Tuesday - Friday (Feb. 23 - 26)** as Fr. Stevens will be away.

02/27 5:00pm d. Sharon Fockens
02/28 8:30am d. Jarold Gebel
10:00am For Holy Family Parish
11:30am Anniv. of d. of Henry Kunkel

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers

02/27 5:00pm L-M Pecenka; EM-Deacon Graves, R Wuertzer, J Schreiner, V Weber, K Rubendall
02/28 8:30am L-M Ommen; EM-W&K Schoenfelder, M Ommen, B&E Sullivan
10:00am L-D Uher; EM-D Price, R Kriese, T&K Harrington, J Heemstra
11:30am L-J Van Oort; EM-D&S Heesch, P&J Paulson, S Peschong

Mass Servers

02/27 5:00pm A Fergen, K&K Fridley
02/28 8:30am C Singrey, 2 Volunteers
10:00am G Rubendall, G Hempel, C Trisco
11:30am A&K Mika, A Moller

Ministers of Hospitality

02/27 5:00pm B&J Freeman, S Grosz, C Janzing
02/28 8:30am T&V Zens, B&D Everson, R&S Heying
10:00am M Alexander, J&C Beatch, L&V Boehmer
11:30am H&L Andersen, T&M Day, Volunteer

WEEKLY BULLETIN BOARD

2/20-21 **Cross Catholic Outreach** – Fr. Charles Smiech
02/22 **Our Lady Rosary Makers** – 1pm – Conference Rm
2/23-26 **No weekday morning Masses while Father is away**
02/23 **Finance Mtg** – 12 noon – Conference Rm
Adult Lenten Study – 7pm – Church Bsmt
02/24 **Faith Formation Classes** – ES 5:30pm/ LS 6:45pm – JP II School
02/25 **RCIA** – 7pm – Conference Rm
02/26 **JP II School Mass** – 9am – Holy Spirit Church
02/27 **No Confessions while Father is away**
02/28 **Lenten Movie** – "I Kept Looking For You" – 2-4pm – JP II School
SCRIP sold after all Masses

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The MARILYN PESCHONG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP and The JOHN PAUL II PTO SCHOLARSHIP application period is now open. To be eligible you must be a high school graduating senior and have attended John Paul II School for a minimum of three years, and have graduated. Applications can be found at www.mitchellfce.com

BISHOP HOCH SCHOLARSHIP 2016-2017 - The Diocese awards a \$1,000.00 scholarship in each of the seven deaneries, to enable a student to attend either Mount Marty College in Yankton or Presentation College in Aberdeen. Scholarships are available to new students, students already in college and non-traditional students interested in attending or already attending Mount Marty and Presentation Colleges. Application deadline Mar. 15, 2016. Contact Mary Andersen at mandersen@sfcatholic.org

PRESENTATION SISTERS CATHOLIC SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP 2016/2017



In keeping with the Presentation Sisters commitment to Catholic education, we will once again be accepting applications for Presentation Sisters Catholic School Scholarships. We will be awarding 40 K-12 \$750 tuition assistance scholarships and 3 \$1500 high school tuition scholarships for the 2016-17 school year. To print application forms, visit www.presentationisters.org. Applications must be postmarked by March 4, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Sister Phyllis Gill, Vocation Director at 605-229-8414 or pgill@presentationisters.org.