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From the Pastor



The 2nd Precept of the Catholic Church: Annual Confession: Receiving the Sacrament of Penance is a signal act of cooperation with God’s salvific will. It is also, where serious sin is present, a prerequisite for the reception of the Eucharist, which we shall encounter in the third precept. It would seem presumptuous to assume that any of us could get through an entire year with nothing significant to confess. If we think we can, then our consciences are not very sensitive! So, the requirement can hardly be considered either onerous or superfluous. But let us put two and two together. Here we are, obedient to the first precept, attending Church at least weekly, plus a little more often when a holy day occurs. Now, could we possibly think that we ought to do this regularly without receiving Communion, which is the chief means by which Our Lord assimilates us to Himself, and by which the Church is built up into the One Body of Christ? I ask because we are not to receive Communion unworthily (see St. Paul in 1 Cor 11:27). And if we are to take advantage of Christ’s gift of Himself in the Eucharist with reasonable frequency, then we must be serious about overcoming our faults, gradually living the Christian life more deeply, and in general escaping the slavery of sin in favor of the freedom of the sons and daughters of God. Now it is precisely the Sacrament of Penance which is the single greatest help in this process, the very means of specific grace which Christ Himself ordained to be used to overcome our sins and remain firmly in His friendship. As St. Paul put it, “For freedom Christ has set us free; stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery” (Gal 1:5). The occasional sin is not a full submission to the yoke of slavery, but a refusal to take advantage of Confession is clearly an acceptance of this sinful yoke. Here again we have a requirement which must, if we are serious about Christ, become the pattern and the work of a lifetime, and which will over time transform our lives in Him, making us with Him a light to the world. – Dr. Jeff Mirus

Imaculee Ilizibagia will be at St. Francis Cabrini in Hoxie on Saturday, November 19th. Registration is at 8:30 and the retreat is from 9am – 3:30pm, ending with mass. She is the author of many books, her first being “Left Behind” which tells her incredible story of her family’s executions in Rwanda, how she was hidden for months, and her path to forgiveness through the Rosary. Register online at www.immaculee.com. Scroll down to Retreats. Cost is \$76, but if you register with a friend, it’s only \$38 each. If you have any questions, please call Chris Niblock at 785-675-8703.

RCIA - If you or someone you know are or might be interested in joining the Catholic Church, please contact Fr. Luke or Deacon Dennis to begin the process.

St. Joseph News:

St. Joseph Bible Study: Hebrews: The New and Eternal Covenant on Tuesday mornings following the 8:30 St. Joseph School Mass in the church basement. Hebrews: The New and Eternal Covenant is an 8-session study that takes us on a guided tour of what is considered the “Holy of Holies.” The 30 minute video presentations by Dr. Andrew Swafford and Jeff Cavins will help us to understand the book of Hebrews and a variety of aspects of the Catholic faith including the Creed, the Sacraments, salvation, judgment, heaven, hell, morality, and prayer, how much is expected of those who much is given, the power of the Holy Mass, and more. Our group discussions offer a deeper understanding of the bible studies. You should give it a try; just come. This week we will meet on THURSDAY, not Tuesday, after Mass.

Holy Land Pilgrimage: They often refer to it as the 5th Gospel. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land opens the eyes of the Christian to a new view of the life of Christ. Join Fr. Brian Lager and Fr. Scott Bailey (from Denver) on an 11 day pilgrimage to the Holy Land. September 4-14, 2023. Please email Fr. Brian Lager: pastor@sacredheartcolby.com for more information. Spots are filling up fast!

St. Paul News:

St. Anne Altar Society will meet in the church basement this Monday, September 12 at 7:30pm.

The Grinnell Fire Department will be serving a breakfast at the Fire Station on Sun., Sept 11 from 8-11am. A free will donation can be given! Thank You for your support!!

Our Tithes from Last Week:
 Oakley: \$3073.00 Angelus: \$750.00

DAILY SCHEDULE

Sat 10 – 5pm Mass + Reynold Moellering
 Sun 11 – 8am Mass (Angelus) + Myla Dawes
 10:30am - Parishioners
 Mon 12 – No Mass
 School Council at 6:15pm, Finance at 7 and Parish at 8pm
 Tues 13 – 8:30am Mass + Lila Jones
 Wed 14 – 7:00pm Mass (Angelus) + Leila Ostmeyer
 7pm CCD Classes
 Thur 15 – 8:30am Mass + Clyde Blair
 Angelus Parish Council at 7:30pm
 Fri 16 – 7am Mass + Mary Ann Porter
 Sat 17 – 5pm Mass - Parishioners
 Sun 18 – 8am Mass (Angelus) + Wilfred & Donna Engel
 10:30am + Bill Goetz

Confessions 30 minutes before Weekend Masses, by appointment, or if indicated on the schedule.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL

Mr. Darin Munk Mrs. Aimee Zimmerman - Vice-Chair
 Mr. David Manhart Mrs. Kerri Sheetz - Chairperson
 Mr. Jim Halbleib Mr. Ethan Schwarz
 Mrs. Dana Charles Mrs. Bridgit Bockwinkel
 Mrs. Micheline Huffman

ST. JOSEPH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mrs. Betty Hockersmith Mrs. Delores Lockhart
 Mr. Darin Munk (Par. Co. Rep.) Mr. Mark Campbell
 Mr. Chris Halbleib - Chair Mrs. Linda Plummer - Vice-Chair

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL COUNCIL

Mrs. Katie Chrisler Mrs. Ashley Smith
 Mrs. Janie Harrel Mrs. Sarah Samuelson
 Mr. Russ Kahle Mr. Jeff Kuhlman
 Mrs. Bridgit Bockwinkel (Par. Co. Rep.)

ST. PAUL PARISH/FINANCE COUNCIL

Mr. Bernard Dickman Ms. Diane Solomon - Vice-Chair
 Mr. Bob Schwarz Mr. Gary Ostmeyer - Chair
 Mrs. Kim Robben Mrs. Kristy Fellhoelter

Saturday, Sept 17 th 5 pm	Servers	Volunteers	Sunday Sept 18 th 10:30am	Servers	CYO
	Lectors	Cecilia Brungardt		Lectors	CYO
	EMHC's	None needed		EMHC's	None needed
	Gifts	P.D. & Micheline Huffman		Gifts	CYO
	Hospitality	P.D. & Micheline Huffman		Hospitality	CYO

Sunday, Sept 18 th 8 am	Servers	Nick Robben
	Lectors	Nancy Schwarz & Barney Dickman
	EMHC's	Steve Fellhoelter
	Gifts/Hosp.	Bob & Nancy Schwarz
	Ushers	Joe Rehmer, Ron Rietcheck, Jay Rietcheck & Ray Schroeder