

BEHOLD I AM DOING A NEW THING!

God has perfect timing! He encourages us with these words above in the first reading of this Fifth Sunday in Lent before Palm Sunday and Holy Week. I am not sure how your Lent is going, but possibly five weeks in, there may be temptation to discouragement that one is not perfect yet...or has not been on top of things. A huge truth that helps us in the face of all temptation to discouragement is to know that *discouragement is never from God*. Thus we know we are on the right track when we reject it and let the Lord encourage us with his word, his presence and his will.

We have come to the last line of the Pater Noster that we have been using as our guide this season: ET NE NOS INDUCAS IN TENTATIONEM, SED LIBERA NOS A MALO. Here we make the final petition our Lord instructed us to. The original Greek meaning of these words was: "do not allow us to enter into temptation" and "do not let us yield to temptation...but deliver us from evil." We are faced with the reality we have dealt with all Lent and indeed all our life. This is the fact of the battle that we are in between flesh and spirit.

The Lord constantly wants to buoy us up and is never the one in charge of what drags us down and saddens us to the point of discouragement and despair. Thus, he is inviting us again to call to mind the many reasons to be encouraged. Start with the Feasts and Solemnities we are celebrating across the whole church in these days: St. Patrick, St. Joseph, the Annunciation to name a few! And we are so darn close to Easter...the holiest week of the year, the central most powerful night in the galaxy...all the angels and saints are wanting to encourage us to keep our sights on the real joy of life...that Jesus rose from the dead. This is greater than any of our sufferings...it is the best news that gives light to all the horror stories of our day and all the gloom and doom that weighs us down.

If you find any reason right now or in this day to let discouragement be your guide and tempt you to take others down with you, I invite you to remember the GOOD news of the Gospel and that discouragement is never from God. Reject it in the power of Jesus and place your faith in him and his infinite love for you.

Fr.

St. Nicholas Emergency Food Shelf

If you would like to make a donation towards the food shelf or you or someone you know needs assistance please call 952-288-8101.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday..... Sunday School, Pancake & Sausage Breakfast, Used Book Sale, VBS Registration

Tuesday..... Fatima Rosary Group, Choir Practice 7pm, KC Meeting

Wednesday... Religious Ed. - 10th grade Interviews

Thursday..... Adult Faith Formation 9am & 7pm, RCIA @ Holy Cross

Friday..... LAST - Soup Supper 6pm, Stations of the Cross 7pm

Sunday..... PALM SUNDAY, Sunday School

ADVERTISERS WANTED - We are looking for several new advertisers to fill the back of our bulletin. Rates are cheap & your ad runs every week for a full year. Please call the parish office for more information. 952-461-2403.

150th Anniversary Books will continue to be available for purchase. Please contact the parish office to purchase one. 461-2403.



The following Confession times are in addition to the regular schedule:

Saturday, March 27 9-9:30am, Wed., March 31st 4:30-5:30pm, Thursday April 1st & Friday April 2nd 11am - 12pm

Holy Thursday: Morning Prayer 8am, Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm

Good Friday: Morning Prayer 8am, Stations of the Cross 3pm, Veneration of the Cross 7pm

Holy Saturday: Morning Prayer 8:30am, Easter Vigil 8pm (NO 5pm Mass)

Easter Sunday: Mass 8 & 10am

This Weeks Soup Supper is Hosted by.....

Christian Mothers & Ladies Guild - The purpose of CMLG is to offer corporal works of mercy under our patron saint "Mother of Sorrows" to promote the Christian education of our children, to aid and maintain certain projects of benefit for our parish, and to help the pastor fulfill his duties as he is our spiritual director.

Upcoming Events: Soup Supper, Hosting Marriage Enrichment Dinner April 24th, and Casino Trip April 10th.

This will be that last Soup Supper of this Lenten Season. Stations of the Cross will be held at 3pm on Good Friday

Vacation Bible School - 2010

PARENTS - ARE YOUR KIDS READY TO SINK THEIR TEETH INTO BIG FUN?

That's just what they will do at Crocodile Dock, where fearless kids shine God's light! Crocodile Dock Totally Catholic Summer Program is filled with incredible activities that allow kids to see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible, crafts, team-building games, cool songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the Crocodile Dock activities that help kids connect faith to real life. We will help kids discover how to see God in everyday life - something we call God sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!

Mark these dates on your calendar...

Monday, June 14th - Friday June 18th.

Time: 8:45 - 11:30am.

Ages 4 (must be 4 by June 1st) - Gr. 5th (fall of 2010)

Location: St. Nicholas Church Campus

Cost: \$15 per child with a family cap of \$45

Registration: Sunday, March 21st in the church basement, or by calling the parish office at 952-461-2403. Registration will open to outside the parish if not full by May 1st.

We rely on many volunteers to help with this weeklong fun program. We are looking for ADULT and Student volunteers. We have been very blessed in years past to have such fantastic help. If you are interested in helping please sign up on Sunday March 21st or by calling the parish office at 461-2403. Parents if you sign up to help and have children in the program, your fee will be waived. Any questions please call the parish office 461-2403.

Golden Hearts are sponsoring a used book and religious article sale TODAY after all masses. Proceeds go to buy new books for the Chapel.

The KC's are hosting a Pancake & Sausage Breakfast TODAY after all masses. All Proceeds will go to Peter & Lucy Simones for medical bills.

Inspirational Catholic CD's are now available at St Nicholas. Check out the display in the back of church. Lighthouse Catholic media presents CD's from Fr. Corapi, Scott Hahn, Matthew Kelly and many others. These CD's are only \$3.00 that can be dropped in the CD box. If you are not an avid reader or have a long commute – this is a great opportunity to learn and grow in your Catholic Faith. Titles will change around a couple times a year. Enlighten your mind and open your heart during Lent and throughout the Easter season.

ALL YOUNG ADULTS! If you are of college age or a bit beyond and still are interested to come on retreat May 9-14, I will lead the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius for those interested. There is still some room. Contact me by the end of this week for more information. -Fr.

Morning Moms' Group/Book Club will meet on Thursday, April 15 & 29 & May 13 @ 9:30am At Deb Streefland's home. Childcare provided! The current book is "Raise Happy Children: Teach Them JOY!" By Maryanne Budnik. Please contact Sarah Kuehl @ 952.461.4631 or Katherine

WE ARE CLOSE!! We have reached 89% of our goal as a parish! The Appeal goes on! Thank you to those who returned their pledges for the Catholic Services Appeal. For those of you continuing to prayerfully respond, we ask that you return your pledge form to Mass this weekend or next. As a reminder, our parish receives 25% of all gifts donated through the parish, before the telemarketing begins. If you have not done so, please consider a respond to the appeal. The need has never been greater and your response is greatly appreciated. "We are one body, one body in Christ."

BOOK CLUB

The St. Nicholas evening Book Club. We meet at Deb Streefland's home from 7:15 – 9pm. We read a variety of Christian books and enjoy lively and challenging discussions. The next gathering dates are April 7 & 28, May 12 and June 2. If you would like to join or would like more information call Deb at **952-652-2349.**

CHOIR

Practice for the holy week and Easter vigil masses will begin Tuesday March 2nd at 7:00 pm. Anyone interested in participating is welcome. **Choir Practice:** March 23 & 30th. All practices are Tuesday evenings at 7pm. **New members are always welcome!!**

Choir Mass: March 21, 28 (Palm Sunday), April 1 (Holy Thursday, April 2 (Good Friday), April 3 (Easter Vigil), April 4, (Easter Sunday, 10am)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

Jesus gave us the gift of His Body and Blood, the Blessed Sacrament, on the first Holy Thursday night. Pope John Paul II writes, "Remaining in silence before the Blessed Sacrament, it is Christ totally and really present whom we discover, whom we adore and with whom we are in contact" (Letter to Bishop of Liege, 1996). Through Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, we express our love and friendship to Jesus.

Holy Week and Easter Weekend Schedule

The Adoration Chapel will close on Holy Thursday, April 1st at 6 pm, will remain closed through the weekend, and will reopen on Tuesday, April 6th at 7 am.

MORE ADORERS ARE NEEDED FOR HOLY HOURS WITH JESUS. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING WITH AN HOUR.

Adorers are needed especially for the following hours:

Monday: 1 am, **Tuesday:** midnight, 1 am, noon (during the winter months),
Wednesday: 9 am, 4 pm, **Friday:** midnight,
Saturday: 3 am, 1 pm-(we are looking for adorers for once or twice a month.)

To sign up as an Adorer or for more information on Adoration, please contact Dan and Lynne Soderlund at (507) 645-6012.

RELIGIOUS ED.

March Calendar

10th Gr. Confirmation Interviews are scheduled for **Wed., March 24th**

No Class Wed., March 31st.

PARENTS – reminder to you – if your child is not going to be at religion you need to call the parish office or your child's teacher to let us know of your child's absence. If you are not reporting absences – they are marked unexcused.

Mass Intentions			
Sat	20	5:00 pm	Floyd Hartmann+
Sun	21	8:00 am	Marlys & Jerry Schilz+
Sun	21	10:00 am	For the Parish
Tues	23	8:00 am	Bishop Piche
Wed	24	8:00 am	Father Thomas Gordon Leander
Thurs	25	8:00 am	
Fri	26	8:00 am	Special Intention
Sat	27	8:30 am	
Sat	27	5:00 pm	Donald Kremer+
Sun	28	8:00 am	David & Ruth Stencil+
Sun	28	10:00 am	For the Parish

Daily Scriptures			
Mon	Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62	John 8:1-11	
Tue	Numbers 21:4-9	John 8:21-30	
Wed	Daniel 3:14-20,91-92,95	John 8:31-42	
Thu	Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10	Luke 1:26-38	
Fri	Jeremiah 20:10-13	John 10:31-42	
Sat	Ezekiel 37:21-28	John 11:45-56	
Sun	Isaiah 50:4-7/Phillippians 2:6-11/Luke 22:14-23:56		

Liturgical Stewardship			March 27 & 28
5pm	Lectors:	Pat Biren	
	Ministers:	Bill Vogel-Ch-H, Jan Freeman-H	
	Servers:	Justin Biren & Josh Chlan	
	Ushers:		
8am	Lectors:	Matt Damiani	
	Ministers:	Kathy Chlan-H, Mike Moeller-Ch-H	
	Servers:	Nik & Jakob Friedges	
	Ushers:	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	
10am	Lectors:	Tom Michaud	
	Ministers:	Tom Streefland-H, Deb Streefland-Ch-H	
	Servers:	Sam & Max Kjos	
	Ushers:	Tom Wagner, Pat Theisen	

Sacrificial Support Week 37 / March 14, 2010			
Budget	\$4900	Budget-to-date	\$181300
Received	\$3998	Received-to-date	\$169086
Capital Improvement	\$228		

Please show your appreciation by supporting those advertisers who help make our bulletin possible. This week we thank...

FREDRICKSON LUMBER & CONSTRUCTION, INC.

952-461-2666, 26300 Dodd Blvd, Lakeville

CMLG

CMLG is hosting a **Marriage Enrichment Dinner** on Saturday, **April 24th, 2010**

5 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass

6-7 p.m. Wine & Cheese Social Hour

7 p.m. Dinner Menu includes salad, breads, pork loin, potato, vegetable, dessert and refreshments.

8 p.m. Guest speakers Renewal of marriage vows

*Daycare provided – please sign-up when tickets are purchased.

\$15.00 per person Get your tickets early!

Tickets will be on sale after all masses or contact: Kathy Chlan 652-2286, Deb Streefland 652-2349, Denise Anderson 461-5019 or the parish office.

The purpose of the CMLG is to offer corporal works of mercy under our patron saint "Mother of Sorrows," to promote the Christian education of our children, to aid and maintain certain projects of benefit for our parish, and to help the pastor fulfill his duties, as he is our spiritual director.

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Tickets are now on sale for the Holy Cross Silent Auction event. This year's activities will take place on Saturday, April 17 beginning at 6pm. Tickets are \$20 each and include: starting chips for the casino games, food, 1 drink ticket and admission to the silent & live auctions. We have the pleasure of having "Elvis" perform at this year's event. Tickets can be purchased by calling the school office at 952-652-6100 or you can find order forms at the back of church.

Holy Cross is again selling **annual flowers and vegetables**. We are taking orders now through April 19. The plants will be available for pick up at the school on May 22. Order forms can be found at the back of church.

Summer Stretch is back! For students entering grades 6-9 in the fall. Six Wednesdays in June and July, you will spend from 8am-5pm with the Summer Stretch Group. Mornings will begin with a brief prayer service and then you will be off to your community service project for the remainder of the morning. After lunch, students will enjoy a fun activity such as a trip to a water park, Cleary Lake, bowling and much more. We will end the summer on August 5th with a trip to Valleyfair. Registration forms can be found at the back of church and are due March 31. This program is open to all school students, parishioners and their friends.

Holy Cross Annual Rummage Sale will be on Saturday, March 27 from 8-11am in the school gym. Donations can be dropped off on Friday, March 26 from 3-7pm in the school gym. We are looking for the following gently used items: baby, kids, clothing, household and furniture. We cannot accept TVs, computers or other electronic equipment. All unsold items will be donated to a local charity.

The **Holy Cross Silent Auction Event** will be on Saturday, April 17 beginning at 6pm. New this year, Elvis will entertain us following the Live Auction. To purchase tickets or donate an item to the auction, please contact the school office at 952-652-6100.

Mark your calendars; Holy Cross Athletic Association will hold its **Spring Breakfast Fundraiser** on Sunday, April 11 from 8am-12pm in the school gym. Please join us for a breakfast of scrambled eggs & ham, fruit, cinnamon rolls and beverages. All proceeds benefit Holy Cross Athletics

Holy Cross Catholic School K-8 registration for the 2010-2011 school year has begun! Registration packets can be found at the back of church, on the school website (www.holycrossschool.net) or by calling the school office at 952-652-6100. If you would like to schedule a tour of our school, please contact the school office.

Pre-Kindergarten Registration Starts Now! We have begun the registration process for our 3-5 year old Pre-K Program. Registration packets and brochures about our program can be found at the back of church. We offer full day and half-day options of two or three days per week. For more information, please contact the school office at 952-652-6100 or visit www.holycrossschool.net.

KNIGHTS CORNER

If you are a catholic male in good standing with the church and have some time and talent to give, then see what the Knights of Columbus can do for you. Contact Mike Kaderlik at 651-210-8644 or makaderlik@mchsi.com.

PRO-LIFE

Mark your calendars! Several excellent speakers are lined-up throughout the coming year--you won't want to miss them! The Respect Life Groups of South Central Minnesota are sponsoring the following presentations:

Fr. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, director of education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center (April 22, 2010, Church of St. Dominic, Northfield)

Archbishop Raymond Burke, Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura at the Vatican (Aug. 8, 2010, Divine Mercy, Faribault)

Kalley Yanta, former KSTP TV news anchor and pro-life activist (Oct. 21, 2010, Divine Mercy, Faribault)

With questions, call Dr. Richard Weiland, 507-645-2633, or Anne Fredrickson, 507-645-2348

YOUTH GROUP



Please pray for all of our youth as they consider taking the pilgrimage to Madrid, Spain in 2011.

World Youth Day is a great opportunity to learn more about your faith as a young person. This is also a wonderful way for the whole parish to support our youth. Consider coming on this pilgrimage if you are a freshman this year in high school or up to 30 years of age. So many of us have heard God calling us through his voice and presence of the Holy Father. This is a wonderful time to grow in your faith and your role in the church. -Fr. Adams

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

There will be an hour of prayer at Planned Parenthood in St. Paul in some Fridays of Lent. The prayer is from 5 - 6 p.m. You are welcome to attend. **March 5, 12, 19, 26 - Lenten Vigils**, Planned Parenthood, 1965 Ford Parkway, 5 - 6:00 p.m.

During this modified "40 Days for Life," we strongly encourage you to pray outside Planned Parenthood anytime on the Fridays in Lent. We will conduct a formal time of group prayer from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. each Friday, except Good Friday

Archbishop Nienstedt will be at Planned Parenthood (1965 Ford Parkway) on Good Friday @ 8:30am

Southern Valley Alliance For Battered Women is in need of additional volunteers to answer its 24-hour crisis line, facilitate its women's support group and provide childcare for those groups. Free training for crisis line and group facilitation volunteers will begin March 27th. No training is required for childcare volunteers. For more information, please call Martha or Lori at 952-873-4214.

Certificates for Couples Married 50+ Years

The Archdiocesan Office for Marriage, Family & Life is once again honoring couples in the Archdiocese who have been married 50 years or longer. An attractive Certificate of Recognition, signed by Archbishop Nienstedt, will be mailed to all couples married 50 years or longer in the calendar year 2010. The longest married couple will be honored on June 26th at the Marriage Day Mass and Celebration at the Cathedral of St. Paul. **Requests need to be made in writing and received by April 1, 2010.** The letter should include the following information: First and last names of the couple, number of years they've been married, the address that the certificate should be sent to. Please send your requests to: Office for Marriage, Family & Life, c/o Marriage Certificates, 328 West Kellogg Boulevard, Saint Paul, MN 55102

The Institute for Pastoral Theology of Ave Maria University is accepting applications until April 15th for their Masters of Theology program beginning this fall in Minneapolis. This Masters Degree program has a unique and *Catholic* curriculum, a *pastoral* orientation, and a *one-weekend-per-month* format. This graduate programs has student of all ages, employed, retired or raising a family and they all come seeking a deeper knowledge of their faith. The program provides a systematic study of the Catholic faith and theology and has the non-traditional student's schedule in mind. If you would like to find out more contact Rachel.McCauley@avemaria.edu or if you would like to talk to a local student in the program you can contact Kathy Chlan at 952-652-2286.

Weight Watchers. Look and feel your best this summer – join us today! Meetings are held every Thursday, in the Bari Meeting room (in old school) weigh in is at 6pm & meeting begins at 6:30pm.