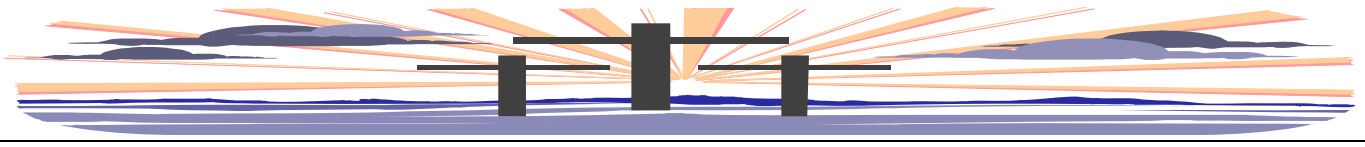


HAPPY EASTER



He rose, just as he said!

WOOHOO!!! This is the constant refrain of the church through the ages that the angel spoke at the empty tomb of Christ (Mt.28:6). "He is not here...HE HAS RISEN..." he is not dead and life does have meaning. Christianity really does have a happy ending and God has said it from the beginning.

It always amazes me how the little children with whom I have been privileged to work as a priest have that pure faith to take you at your word. So often when I go into a lunchroom full of them they say "sit here," and if I say I cannot they reply with an astonishing deep complaint: "BUT YOU PROMISED!!!"

God makes bigger promises than we ever can. And he comes through. How often in each Gospel do we find Christ hinting at or bluntly saying: "The son of man will suffer, die and rise." Nothing is to be omitted. He cannot rise if he didn't already go down into the dead. Just dying would make no sense either. We are all about the final end of our faith. *What is the point* is our big question! The end, the goal for us is glory. We were made to join in the unending glory of God. This glory, heaven itself, touches down at every Mass, in every tabernacle and each time we lift our mind and will to God in prayer.

Let us remember how faithful God is today. He never lies to us. Thus, when we go to hear his voice in regular silent prayer, when we look for his direction from the teaching of his church, when we are faithful to him amidst whatever suffering he may allow in our life...he promises Easter Sunday to us. He says it and he will do it.

Let us repeat the simple and powerful truth that our church has ever since that early morning angel's voice came to the women at the tomb: RESURREXIT SICUT DIXIT/HE HAS RISEN JUST AS HE SAID!

God Bless you and your family this Easter!

Fr. Adams

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.....EASTER BLESSINGS
Tuesday.....NO MASS, Fatima Rosary Group.
Wednesday...NO MASS, Religious Ed., Book Club
Thursday.....RCIA @ Holy Cross 7pm
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.

Thank you from the Christian Mothers and Ladies Guild!

Your generous contributions from bake sales, turkey bingo and other fundraisers enabled us to purchase new vestments for the church, which Fr. Adams will be wearing during the Easter masses.

Fr. Adams will be the first priest in the world to wear this symbolic vestment!

The vestment was made in England, and is semi-gothic. The red fabric contains the Fleur De Lis (Lily)- a French symbol for the Blessed Mother and the Trinity.

The white fabric has symbolic patterns containing doves representing the Holy Spirit, the Alpha and Omega (first and last letters of the Greek alphabet) and the IHS and CHI-RHO.

IHS is a shortened form of the Greek word for Jesus. The letters X and P are often used as another symbol for "Christ". The first two letters of Christ's name in Greek are X and P. In the Greek alphabet X equals CH and P equals R.

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.

Hello parishioners of St. Nicholas! This weekend and forward for the next few months we are inviting you to take a look at the Commitment to Parish Life Program. We hope to offer all current parishioners and those to come a deeper look into the life of the parish and an invitation to take a further step in your commitment of your whole life. Please join the leaders of the parish as we seek to serve you and the community by placing this and all our efforts under the protection of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, a title we as a parish have a long tradition of honoring. Here is our prayer we are praying in these first weeks with the intention of doing the best thing for this community at this time. Pray with me: *Mother of Perpetual Help, you continually sought the meaning of God's words and actions in your life. As we listen to God's Word as a parish family, may the Holy Spirit enlighten our understanding and give us the courage to put his Word into practice in our daily lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

-Fr. Adams

ATTENTION - ALL GRADUATING SENIORS and 10th GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS of ST. NICHOLAS PARISH

Please join us on Sunday April 25th at the 10am mass for a special sending ceremony in your honor! (All students should meet in the church basement at 9:50 to process into church with Father).



The KC's will be hosting a Pancake & Sausage Breakfast following mass in the church basement. **Everyone is welcome!!** This will be last Pancake Breakfast until Fall 2010. Thank you to everyone who supports the Knights of Columbus throughout the year!

Youth Teens in High School plan on coming to Sunday nights Dead-Theologian Society, starting April 25th at 6pm.

Adorers specially invited/needed – Sunday nights from 6-9 to pray during the Dead Theologian Society gathering – please sign-up with Lynne Soderlund 507-645-6012

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



Come and join us for Donuts, Coffee & Fellowship with your neighbors, friends and family on Sunday April 18th, following the morning masses.

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: Please call the parish office to register 952-461-2403.

Registration will open to outside the parish if not full by May 1st.

CHICKEN COOKOUT FUNDRAISER

BIG TICKET RAFFLE - This weekend we will begin to take donations for the our 41st Annual Chicken Cookout Big Ticket Raffle. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. We need many donations to make our Raffle a huge success – NO DONATIONS IS TO SMALL. You can donate money, prizes, services or whatever else you like, (be creative)!!

The sign up sheet is in the back of church. Simply list the item you wish to donate and that item will be printed on the raffle ticket. Any questions call LouAnn Wagner 461-3026.

Seasonal Clothing Drive for St. Joseph Coat is coming in April. Have all donations in the church basement by Monday, April 19th.

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

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.

RELIGIOUS ED.

April / May Calendar

April 14th – Last day of religion for 10th graders. All Confirmation Journals must be turned in to you teachers.

April 19th – Confirmation @ Divine Mercy in Faribault 7pm

April 21st – 1st Communion Interviews (Mrs. Bertram's Class)

April 28th – 1st Communion Interviews (Mrs. Brake's Class)

May 1st – First Communion Practice 9:30am

May 2nd – First Communion 12pm Mass / Professional Pictures Before Mass

May 5th – Mass At St. Nicholas @ 6pm, followed by Pizza Party in the church basement.

Mass Intentions

Sat	3	5:00 pm	For the Parish
Sun	4	8:00 am	Matt Simones
Sun	4	10:00 am	Marie Busch+
Tues	6	8:00 am	NO MASS
Wed	7	8:00 am	NO MASS
Thurs	8	8:00 am	Special Intention
Fri	9	8:00 am	
Sat	10	8:30 am	Special Intention
Sat	10	5:00 pm	For the Parish
Sun	11	8:00 am	Bob Devine+
Sun	11	10:00 am	Special Intention

Daily Scriptures

Mon	Acts of Apos 2:14, 22-33	Matthew 28:8-15
Tue	Acts of Apos 2:36-41	John 20:11-18
Wed	Acts of Apos 3:1-10	Luke 24:13-35
Thu	Acts of Apos 3:11-26	Luke 24:35-48
Fri	Acts of Apos 4:1-12	John 21:1-14
Sat.	Acts of Apos 4:13-21	Mark 16:9-15
Sun	Acts of Apos 5:12-16/Rerelation 1:9-11a,12-13,17-19/John 20:19-31	

Liturgical Stewardship

April 10 & 11

5pm	Lectors:	Tom Wagner-W
	Ministers:	Jan Freeman-H, Gail Mathews-W, Bill Vogel-Ch-H, Chuck Mathews-Ch-W
	Servers:	Justin Biren
8am	Lectors:	Leander Wagner-H
	Ministers:	Ralph Wagner-W, Jolene Pierson-W, Ken Thomas-Ch-H, Margo Theisen-Ch-W
	Servers:	Mike Cole, Joseph Knight
	Ushers:	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
10am	Lectors:	Justine Panka
	Ministers:	Amy McDonad-H, Jackie Devine-W, Chris Kuehl-Ch-W, Larry Caduff-Ch-H
	Servers:	Robert Devine, Patrick Kuehl
	Ushers:	Ron Chlan, Mike Chlan

Sacrificial Support Week 39/ March 28, 2010

Budget	\$4900	Budget-to-date	\$191100
Received	\$5087	Received-to-date	\$178878
Capital Improvement	\$45 / School \$20 / Endowment \$10		

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

SOUTH METRO DANCE ACADEMY

Megan Anderson – owner & Parish Member

Classes for ages 3 & up – Ballet-Tap-Lyrical-Jazz-

Kick team and more

www.southmetrodanceacademy.com

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 DeWall @ 952-797-2359.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

Jesus lives today in the Blessed Sacrament, Alleluia! The Eucharist is Our Risen Lord! The power of His resurrection flows out to all who come into His Eucharistic Presence, transforming us into His image!

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, **Wednesday:** 9 am, 4 pm, **Friday:** midnight, **Saturday:** 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.

CMLG

CORRECTION – There will be no Treasure Island Casino Trip this year!

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

Holy Cross Spring Athletic Breakfast will be held on Sunday, April 11 from 8am-12pm at the school. You will enjoy a scrambled egg and ham breakfast, cinnamon rolls, fruit and coffee. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children over 5 years.

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.

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.

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

A Collaboration of parishes has formed the Respect Life Groups of South Central Minnesota. The combined group is sponsoring a series of speakers and homilists in an ongoing educational effort in order to motivate, inspire and inform Catholics to address critical life issues. The next speaker is Fr. Tad Pacholczyk, director of education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center. He will speak on stem cells and cloning at the Church of St. Dominic in Northfield on April 22 at 7pm. Watch the bulletin for future speakers! For questions, call Dr. Richard Weiland at 507-645-2633 or Anne Fredrickson at 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

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. Any questions e-mail Tammy @ TAMMYWWLEADER@YAHOO.COM

Catholic Youth Camp, on Big Sandy Lake in McGregor, MN offers resident camp programming for youth in 1st – 12th grades. Currently taking registrations at www.cycamp.org or call 651-636-1645 for information.

St. Patrick Men's Club is sponsoring a Euchre Tournament on Friday evening, April 16th, 2010 at the Social Hall in St. Patrick. Registration begins at 6:30pm. Tournament begins at 7:30pm. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 4 teams. Food & Beverage will be available. Cost is \$20 per team.

A Mass of Remembrance for Babies who died before or after birth will be celebrated at the Church of St. Dominic's in Northfield on April 13th, 2010 at 6:30pm. If you have lost a child, come join us. Write a note entrusting your child to God to place before the altar and receive a special pin in memory of your child. Call 507-645-8816 for directions or more information

Southwest Suburbs – Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration – April 11th, 1:30-3:30pm – St. John the Baptist, Jordan. Join in celebrating with the universal Catholic Church the incredible gift of God's infinite mercy to all sinners. Take advantage of the innumerable graces Jesus wants to give you on the Feast of His Mercy! For more information call Mary Kay 952-447-3970.

St. Maron Church – Taste of Lebanon Authentic Lebanese Dinner – Sat. April 18th Noon – 6pm. Cedars Hall, 602 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis. Tickets: \$15 Adult, \$8 per child (3-12). Order tickets on line at www.stmaron.com Ticket sales end April 11, no tickets will be available at the door.

3rd Sunday of Lent,

March 7, 2010