



Congratulations 2017 Graduates!

We congratulate our 2017 graduates from St. Mary's, St. Patrick's, and St. Joseph's!

William Atkeson
 Victoria Claussen
 Logan Connot
 Joshua Cuddy
 Alexa Dougherty
 Jason Hahlbeck
 Bryce Heiser
 Kendra Kozisek
 Jacie Laetsch
 Emily Morrow
 Tyler Regan
 Conor Selby
 Alexis Stevenson
 Bailey Thompson
 Patrick Tomjack
 Zachary Wiese

Hattie Blumenstock
 Taylor Colman
 Jacob Crumly
 Corbin Dean
 Hailey Eiler
 Breanna Hedstrom
 Robyn Isom
 River Kramer
 Caleigh Miles
 Makayla Pardun
 Jack Reiman
 Chance Sholes
 Andrew Thompson
 Kenade Tomjack
 Cody Watson

*May God's blessing follow you all
as you find new journeys to travel.*

May you walk safely along the pathways of your dreams.

*May his gentle hand guide the decisions you will make
and the passions that you follow.*

*May your hearts and lives always reflect his love and truth,
And may hope be a light within you
that you carry into each new day.*

Amen.

Parish Office 402-336-1602
 Parish Fax 402-336-1533
 After Hours Emergency 402-336-5481

Pastor

Fr. Bernard Starman 402-336-1602 x305
 bgstarman@archomaha.org

Assistant Pastor

Fr. Marcus Knecht..... 402-336-1602 x306
 meknecht@archomaha.org

St. Mary's Catholic School Principal

Cody Havranek 402-336-4455 x101
 chavranek@smcards.org

Business Manager

Alice Marx 402-336-1602 x301
 afmarx01@gmail.com

Director of Development

Jennifer Wallwey 402-336-1602 x302
 jennifermwallwey@gmail.com

Youth Minister

Vitoria Wiese..... 402-336-1602 x308
 vitoria.wiese@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

Jane Kersenbrock..... 402-336-1602 x 303
 janekersenbrock@gmail.com

www.stpatoneill.org
www.stmarysoneill.org

Newsletter Sponsors

We thank the Catholic Daughters for sponsoring the cost of this month's newsletter! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Would you (or your business) be willing to sponsor the cost of a monthly newsletter? It costs us approximately \$175 to send out this monthly newsletter, and we would greatly appreciate sponsors to off-set these expenses. We have had very positive feedback regarding the monthly newsletter, especially from our home-bound folks who simply don't get to mass as often as they would like. Your support helps us to continue to stay connected with them on a regular basis! Please contact Jennifer at 402-336-1602 or jennifermwallwey@gmail.com. Thank you!

One Church:

Encountering Jesus, Equipping Disciples, Living Mercy

Dear Friends,

On Saturday, April 29, Archbishop Lucas ordained Dr. M.J. Kersenbrock a deacon. He is being assigned to our parish to serve in diaconal ministry. This is wonderful for our parish community. In this Easter season of Good News - it is good news indeed. You may wonder, but just what does a deacon do that cannot be done by a lay person in the parish?

The ministry of the deacon existed in the early church, but fell out of use during the 6th century. It always remained in use in the Eastern Church and was restored in the West by the Second Vatican Council. In the Acts of the Apostles, the ministry of deacon started because the apostles could not do everything being asked of them. They felt they had an important ministry of teaching and preaching, but the needs of widows and orphans and people who were poor or ill were being neglected. Therefore, they asked a group of men to focus their primary work on service to those in need. That is still the case today. The deacon's primary ministry is of service to those in need.

In the Archdiocese of Omaha a deacon goes through a four-year training program in theology and prayer so that they will be prepared to preach. They are ordained for service to the wider archdiocese and not just to the individual parishes. They work for the archbishop, not the local pastor. They are asked to have a broader view than just a parish view. Unlike a lay person in the parish doing some form of service, the deacon makes a lifelong commitment to the ministry. Once they are ordained a deacon, they are always a deacon. That commitment of permanence to service speaks loudly to the wider Christian community especially in an age when people do not make lifelong commitments. I also like to say that they have a ministry of "connecting the dots" - they link the Word of God with the work of service.

The "connecting the dots" is best seen in their ministry at Sunday Mass. The deacon is required to proclaim the gospel. There are other actions he might do during the liturgy that could be performed by others. However, there is a logic to the deacon doing them, especially the general intercessions. Why? Because it ought to be the deacon who really knows the needs of the community and knows the needs of the people. If the deacon is perceived as the servant to the community in every sense of that word, then when you see the "servant" in action liturgically, it should speak of the connection between prayer and service. People should see the deacon and think, "That's also the guy who visits the sick and those in jail," or, "This is the guy who goes out and works at the shelter, and now he's challenging the rest of us, in his homily, to join him." There ought to be something in the way a deacon preaches that is different from the way I preach. They live in the world, they are husbands and fathers, they go to work each day...they can answer questions like: How do I bring the message of Jesus to my workplace? How do I talk to my neighbor about joining us at church? How do I find God in my marriage?

Deacons are also able to baptize, witness marriages, preside at funeral liturgies without a Mass, celebrate wakes and preform the graveside rites at a burial.

I think it is significant that the deacon gets the last word at Mass. The Latin ending of the Mass is "Ite, missa est" and that does not mean, "Go, the Mass has ended." It is a bit hard to translate, but Ite is a Latin word that a Roman commander would use to address his troops. It means "march." And missa est meant that the Eucharist had already been sent to the sick, now we are being sent, the church is being sent. The deacon is saying, "We've got to link this Eucharist with mission. Let's go do that."

Please, welcome Deacon Kersenbrock to his new ministerial role in our parish. If you are aware of some need that is not being attended to, bring it up to him. And, following his diaconal example, I invite the rest of us to think about our own service to those in need.

There will be a coffee and donuts reception after the 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday, May 7th in the St. Mary's Commons. Please stop and offer a word of congratulations to both M.J. and Jane!

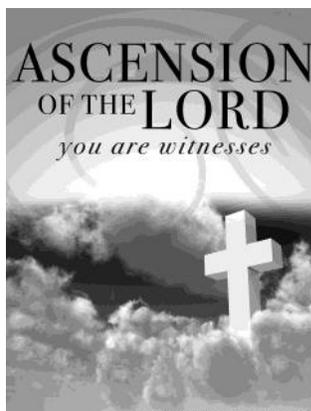
Ad Multos Annos!



Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor/President

Registration Form

A big thank you to those who have taken the time to fill out the registration form we included in our parish newsletter last month. However - many of you have not done so yet! Please fill this out & drop it off with us at the parish office. A form can also be downloaded from our website for you to fill out.



Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, May 24
Vigil of Ascension
7 pm St. Patrick's
7 pm St. Joseph's

Thursday, May 25
Ascension Mass
7 pm St. Patrick's



Just a few ideas on some 'wishes' that maybe you could fulfill for some of the classes at St. Mary's &/or Parish Office at St. Patrick's.

Mrs. Cole (3rd Grade)

3Doodler Start Mega Box Set 3D Printing Pen
Kids First Robot Engineer Kit and Storybook
Lego Education Simple Machines Set # 9689

Mrs. Wettlaufer (4th grade)

Portable CD Player
Heavy duty playground balls & soccer balls
New set of Advent candles
Money/gift cards for AR prizes

Mrs. Schneider for Elementary Library:

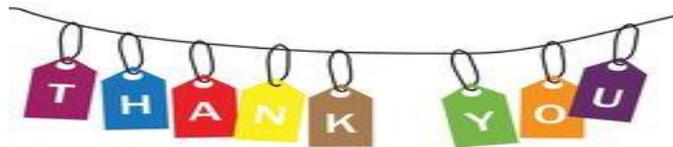
Set of 9 "Rookie Biographies" (lower elementary readers)
Cost from Perma-Bound \$105.18
Set of 7 "If You Were a Kid" Social Studies books
Cost from Perma-Bound: \$94.41
Set of 8 "You Wouldn't Want to..." Social Studies books
Cost from Perma-Bound: \$116.47
Set of 12 "Mighty Machines in Action" books (K-2nd grade)
Cost from Perma-Bound \$224.52

Note--Perma-Bound books are heavy-duty hardcover books that are guaranteed for life. In the 10 years I have been the librarian, I have had to replace 2 Perma-Bound books, and they sent me replacement copies for free.

Parish Office

Hot Chocolate K-Cups
Small Liquid Creamers
Desktop Scanner
Envelope Sealer
Double-sided Wall Sign Holders
Brother Labeler & 12 mm label tape

Please contact the staff person listed for more details. You can drop off donations at the Parish Center & we will get them where they need to go, as well as making sure that they are taken OFF the wish list!! Thanks so much!



There are so many of you that we wish to thank, that I hope that we don't miss any of you! Special thanks go out to those who decorated for the Easter season, and for those who donated towards those decorations. We thank those who launder our Altar Linens on a weekly basis, and hope you know how much we appreciate your 'unseen' ministry among us. Thank you to the many many people who served as part of our masses throughout Holy Week. Your presence was a very important part of our Holy Week experience. Thank you to those who donated to our Vegas Night & \$10,000 Raffle, whether financially or through helping in one of a thousand different ways. Thank you to the St. Mary's students & St. Patrick's Youth Group who served in so many different capacities in this last month. To all of you – THANK YOU for all that you do!

Vegas Night & \$10,000 Raffle

Our 2nd annual "Vegas Night" & \$10,000 Raffle was a success! Every ticket was sold, and we received many business and personal donations to help cover our expenses. After expenses, we have an estimated profit of about \$14,800 for St. Mary's Schools! Congratulations to our winners of the cash prizes, as well as the "ticket" drawings. Cash winners included: Jan Chvala, Charlie & Coni Dowd-Molvig, Leo O'Malley, Alice Krotter, Nick & Kelli Dannenbring, Holy Boeka, Brit & Daren Lorenz, and Ryan & Bri Kelly. The winners for our ticket drawings were: Ron Anderson (Patio heater), Cathy Givens (cooler full of meat & grilling items), Kay Breiner (Lottery tickets box), and Randy Hupp (smoker & wood chips.)

Finance Committee Update

3/22/17 Minutes Summary

- Development Report was distributed & reviewed.
- Investment Policy was reviewed & approved. A foundation subcommittee will be formed.
- Updates were given on current bequests, or bequests that are in progress.
- Council unanimously approved a 2% salary increase for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Discussion was held on the \$5000 annuity given to full time staff in lieu of taking insurance. Father Starman will contact the Archdiocese legal representative to discuss. Council approved a motion to begin phasing this out by NOT offering the \$5000 to new hires, but current full-time employees who are receiving this now will continue to receive it.

What's Happening

Wednesday, May 3

6:30 pm Teacher Appreciation Dinner at KC Hall

Friday, May 5

Grade School Track Meet at St. Mary's

6:00 pm St. Mary's Activities Banquet

Sunday, May 7

MJ's Diaconate Reception after 8 & 9:30 am mass

Sunday, May 14

1 pm St. Mary's Graduation

Monday, May 15

7 pm St. Mary's Grade School Spring Program

Wednesday, May 17

8:10 am High School Mass & Awards

7:00 pm 6th Grade Promotion

Sunday, May 21

11:15 am First Communion Mass at St. Joseph's

Wednesday, May 24

7 pm Vigil of Ascension Mass
at St. Joseph's & St. Patrick's

Thursday, May 25

7 pm Ascension Mass—St. Patrick's

Monday, May 31—Memorial Day

Parish Office Closed

9 am Mass at Calvary Cemetery

(St. Patrick's for inclement weather)

In Loving Memory

Leland Auen

05/09/1938 – 4/20/2017

Norman Hale

11/19/1964–4/05/2017

RCLA

Montana DeVries

Melanie S. Peetz

Jason David Schindler

Shay Spady

Hailey Turpin



National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

St. Mary's will recognize our National Day of Prayer by meeting at 9 am on Wednesday, May 3rd at St. Patrick's. All are welcome to attend & join us in prayer.

If you would like to watch a live-streaming event on Thursday, May 4th, from 6:30 to 8 pm, log in at www.nationaldayofprayer.org/2017_media.

EMHC/LECTORS

For those wishing to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and/or Lectors for St. Patrick's Catholic Church, information is now available! You may attend any of the training dates or mandations listed below.

Training Dates:

Urban

Sunday Aug. 6, St. Columbkille Papillion 1:30-4:30 pm

Tuesday Aug. 8, St. Leo Omaha 7-10 pm

Monday Aug. 21, St. Vincent de Paul Omaha 7-10 pm

Rural

Sunday Aug. 20, St. Mary Norfolk 1:30-4:30 pm

Sunday Aug. 27, St. Mary West Point 1:30-4:30 pm

Mandations:

Rural

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at St. Mary's Church in Norfolk at 7:00 P.M.

Urban

Thursday, September 7, 2017 at St. Cecilia's Cathedral in Omaha at 7:00 P.M.

If you are interested in participating in Church service in this way, please submit your name to the St. Patrick's Parish Office at 402-336-1602 no later than **July 23, 2017.**

Totus Tuus

Families with 1st graders—Senior High: Save the dates June 10th-16th for Totus Tuus summer programming! You won't want to miss out!

