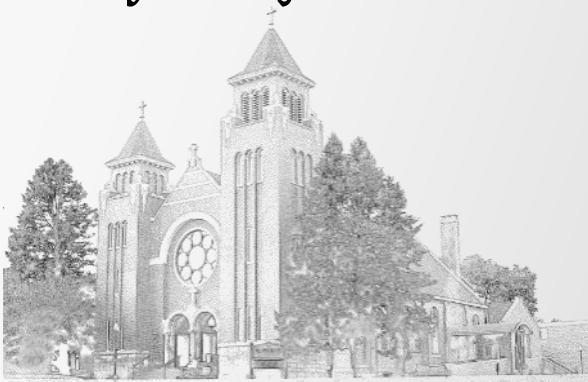


St. Patrick's Messenger

January 2019



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Fr. Bernard Starman
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Assistant Pastor

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Deacon

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St. Mary's Catholic School Principal

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Parish Office 402-336-1602

Parish Fax 402-336-1533

After Hours Emergency 402-336-5481

St. Mary's High School 402-336-4455

St. Mary's Grade School 402-336-2664

www.stpatoneill.org

www.stmarysoneill.org

One Church:

Encountering Jesus,
Equipping Disciples,
Living Mercy
Archdiocese of Omaha

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

St. Patrick's Parish is a vibrant community of faith that welcomes all people to encounter Jesus Christ. We are committed through prayer and action to form disciples to serve God and one another.



"Lend a Hand"

"Lend a Hand" was created by the Holm family to honor the legacy of George Frank Holm. Funding for this memorial comes from family, friends, friends of family and friends, and so very many caring individuals and organizations who made donations honoring the life and memory of George after he passed away on February 11, 2018. George lived a life of service. He believed strongly that every act of kindness given to others and received from others is the substance and core that make the world a better place for all.

George's family has chosen to use this fund to support local youth who may have experienced personal hardships as a result of being placed into foster care while their family situations were being worked on to improve and heal from certain difficulties. Every family has a story, and while we strive to understand the obstacles that keep families apart, we believe it is our imperative to show compassion to young people who have little control of their lives during this transitional period. Students or youth who are currently or have previously been in foster care in the Nebraska counties of Boyd, Cedar, Dixon, Holt, Rock, Knox or Wayne are eligible to apply for this funding. For more information about the "Lend a Hand" George F. Holm Memorial and how to apply visit www.buildingblocksforkids.org/lend-a-hand-1.html

St. Patrick's Parish Crest



St. Patrick's new parish logo mimics traditional heraldic crests or coats of arms. The upper left is a gold fleur-de-lis on a field of blue for Mary, representing the parishes historic connection to its primary apostolate, St. Mary's Catholic School. In the upper a true green shamrock on a cream background, symbolic of the legend of St. Patrick converting the pagan kings of Ireland by using the shamrock as a visual example of the Holy Trinity and in the lower sections a priest's hands holding up a host representing a Catholic church and the Eucharist as the source and summit of all that we believe and do.

The "crest" was commissioned by Fr. Starman from Fr. Pachomeus Meade, O.S.B a monk and iconographer of Conception Abbey in Conception, Missouri. Fr. Pachomeus submitted several potential designs from classic heraldic "Coats of Arms" to the less traditional logo. The parish pastoral council and parish staff were almost immediately unanimous in their selection. Fr. Pachomeus then painted the draft work as a permanent piece. It will be used as our letterhead, and as our "brand" on any number of articles and things we claim as our own. I hope soon to have it displayed above the entrances to the church and in other places.

Save
the
Date

Mark your calendars in advance for the annual "Vegas Night & \$10,000 Raffle" on Friday, April 26th. This year we are looking at an Old West theme. If you'd like to be part of the planning fun & preparation, please let Jennifer know!

From Father Starman

Happy New Year and may your 2019 be filled with much grace, many blessings, and many more “ups” than “downs.” I used to laugh at my parents and grandparents when they would talk about how fast time seemed to “fly by.” I’m not laughing at that anymore...the days, weeks, and months just seem to pass by in a blur.

In 2018 at St. Patrick’s and St. Joseph’s Parishes among the “ups” were celebrations of: 39 Baptisms, 25 First Holy Communions, 8 Confirmations (adults), 11 Marriages, 3 Adult Professions of Faith, and 4 Adult Baptisms.

Among the “downs” were: 19 Funeral Liturgies, resurgence of the Clergy Abuse Crisis, the August 8th Immigration & Customs Enforcement Raid on several local businesses, and the retirement of our long time parish business manager of 28 years, Alice Marx.

Additional “ups” were:

*The appointments of Paula Atkeson and Jennie Schneider as Vice-Principals for St. Mary’s Catholic School.

*The additions of Kayla Burdick, Cheleigh Sholes, and Stephanie Nemec to the parish staff.

*The matching gift of up to \$100,000.00 from an Omaha couple for Immigrant Relief. (We can still use donations to meet the goal!)

*The completion of the new grade school playground (paid in full).

*The replacement of the high school roof (paid in full).

*Our very fun and successful Parish Picnic.

*A very successful first attempt at “ALPHA”.

*The number of people who on short notice sacrificed their time to come and pray a rosary for those in serious need of our prayers at Community Rosaries.

*Another successful parish auction at both parishes.

*Amazing volunteers in all areas of our parish and school lives who deal with everything from answering phones, preparing mailings (like this newsletter), shovel snow, mow the grounds, decorate the church for seasonal celebrations, launder the altar linens, serving daily, weekend, holy day, wedding and funeral masses, lector, distribute the Eucharist, cantor, accompany, schedule practices, set up for masses in the parish churches and the nursing home, visit the homebound and those in the hospital, serve on the school advisory board, parish pastoral council, maintenance committee, finance council, and leadership team, help with the auction, Casino Night, and countless other things that we couldn’t accomplish without everyone pitching in.

As you can see, the “ups” far outweigh the “downs” at least in my reflecting on the past year. I’m very happy to serve as Pastor of St. Patrick’s and St. Joseph’s Parishes and as President of St. Mary’s Catholic Schools. My hope is to be here for several more years. I find it unfortunate that we have a reputation of being “priest killers” as I haven’t found that to be my experience at all. So THANK YOU!

We will have our challenges in 2019 to be sure. The soon to be announced Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning Proposal is bound to bring a lot of conversation and not only positive. Trust me when I say that I am working to assure that the needs of all are met in this process. However, there will be significant changes and challenges in how we operate as Church in Western Holt and Boyd Counties in the coming months and years.

Finally, Fr. Sund and I are extremely grateful for all that you our parishioners do for us throughout the year. Your cards, notes, kind words, advice, and your gifts at Priesthood Sunday, Christmas, Easter and other times are appreciated more than you know. Whether it’s cash, a gift card, beef, pork, garden produce, landscaping, lawn care, or volunteering to help with a project or committee, we are always grateful. Thank you and God Bless.

Happy New Year!



Wish List

School & Parish Offices (Jennifer Wallwey) Coffee, cappuccino, hot chocolate Kcups; individual creamers, sugar packets, sugar substitute packets.

4th Grade (Peg Wettlaufer) DVD-VCR combo.

Grade School (Peg Wettlaufer) Money for awards for Advanced Reading & Advanced Math.

Parish Office (Jennifer Wallwey) Paper shredder for copy room (\$75), electric stapler for Business Manager (\$45)

Newsletter Sponsors

Would you (or your business) be willing to sponsor the cost of a monthly newsletter? We hear over & over how appreciated this communication is to our parish members, especially those who may not get to mass as often as they would like. You could sponsor this from your business, or in honor of a loved one, or even in memory of loved ones. It costs us approximately \$175 to send out this monthly newsletter. Please contact Jennifer at jennifermwallwey@gmail.com or call 402-336-1602. Thank you!

What's Happening

January 7
School Resumes

January 10, 7 pm
Father Flanagan League

January 15-20
March for Life

January 27, 1 pm
KC Free Throw Competition

January 27-February 1
Catholic Schools Week

St. Patrick's Parish Council

10/17/18 Minutes Summary

- Parish Pastoral Survey results were passed out for review & discussion. New ideas & comments will be reviewed and potentially initiated in the future.
- Parish Council will sign up for shifts to help serve soup at the December 4th Christmas Closet.
- Wendell & Sharon Spencer will represent St. Patrick's at the clergy abuse listening session in Norfolk on October 20th.
- Alpha Kickoff was October 7, with 42 total people signed up. We are looking at offering this twice a year.
- Parish Crest & Logo will be rolled out October 17-18 & introduced with explanation to be included in the parish newsletter.
- Council continued to review viability statements:
 - Parents bringing their first child to be baptized meet with MJ for a 40 minute session to discuss the sacrament of baptism. The hope is that the parents continue to be full-time active parishioners.
 - Support & follow up with new couples preparing for marriage is done through FOCUS & weekend retreats, and are well-attended.
 - Music quality continues to improve. We continue to encourage participation & new ideas for mass. The children's choir is particularly well-received.
 - Decorating group for the parish does a great job & we will continue to encourage & work with them for fresh & new ideas.
 - St. Patrick's does a fine job in implementing RCIA & celebrating the rituals accompanying this at the proper times.

Parish Council: Bryan Corkle, Wendell Spencer, Sue Pongratz, Brenda Hupp, Becky Dean, Father Starman



One of my goals this year is to be better about sharing with all of you the special gifts that we have received at St. Patrick's, St. Joseph's, and/or St. Mary's. I like to think that I am pretty good about sending thank yous individually for gifts received, and even publicly for special things done. However, I don't always remember to share the many special gifts outside of "regular giving" that come to our parishes & schools! As I cannot go infinitely back, I ask that you will understand that my thank yous will begin with last month!

- ◆ K & M Telephone Company made an undesignated gift to St. Joseph's.
- ◆ Michael & Linda Hammond donated money for grants for students to attend St. Mary's.
- ◆ Gift made in honor of Ann Schneider to St. Patrick's.
- ◆ Wish list items were given by:
 - ◆ Jim & Pat Gokie, for 9th & 11th grade St. Mary's Theology curriculum
 - ◆ David & Margaret Fuchser, for the AR & AM rewards for grade school students.
 - ◆ St. Mary's Preschool in memory of John Newquist.
 - ◆ To the chemistry/science department of St. Mary's, from Ed & Hedy Winkelbauer & given from Cindy Brenneman & Terry Brown, in memory of their dear mother, Bonnie Hynes Brown, SMH Class of '46.
- ◆ Memorials were made to St. Patrick's in memory of Marilyn Mattern, Arlys Soukup, Duane & Dorothy Gray, and Beverly Jane McCarthy.
- ◆ Memorials were made to St. Mary's in memory of Bill & Marilyn Mattern & Arlyss Soukup.
- ◆ Gifts to St. Mary's (undesignated) were made from Mary Jean Gillette and Donald & Carolyn Pribil.
- ◆ Gifts to St. Mary's for upgrades to computer/technology were made from St. Mary's Home & School, and Kevin & Julie Barlow.

St. Joseph's Pastoral & Finance Council

11/14/18 Minutes Summary

- Financial statements were distributed & reviewed.
- Building & grounds—
 - We have gotten 3 quotes on replacing the shingles and will have more information at the next meeting.
 - Sheeting in bathroom being replaced.
 - Wooden steps are being built for sacristy entrance, and will go over the existing cement step.
 - Load of dirt was delivered to the church & used to fill holes in the church yard.
 - New carpet for the church & possibly tile in the sanctuary area were discussed. Vicki will contact Gaughenbaugh Flooring for samples & estimates.
- Update on centennial celebration plans.
 - Mary Pospichal donated a painting of the church on a leaf that will be used for a graphic.
 - Possible memorabilia ideas include t-shirts, wine glasses, beer mugs, coffee mugs, etc.
 - Discussion was held on how to get more information & pictures from present & past parishioners. An insert will be made for future bulletins.
- Archbishop Lucas will be at St. Patrick's & St. Joseph's the weekend of December 1 & 2. There will be a combined council meeting in O'Neill at the St. Patrick's Parish Center on December 1st, and the Archbishop will celebrate all the weekend masses.

Council Members: Daryl Tomjack, Vicki Tomjack, Kelly Cameron, Rick Doolittle, Ann DeVries, Sandra Homolka, and Father Starman.

Newly Baptized

Lexa Mae Kohlmann

Daughter of Aaron & Sandy Kohlmann

Newly Married

Mitchell & Breanna (Jakubowski) Nissen

December 29, 2018

In Loving Memory

Leona Hershiser

2/13/33–11/27/18

Beverly McCarthy

1/30/28–12/03/18

St. Mary's Advisory Board Update

10/10/18 Minutes Summary

- All JH/HS students will attend the Jason Evert presentation "Love or Lust" in West Point on 10/15.
- One of our school buses needs to be replaced. Options are being considered. Contracting with Meyers was discussed, but it would cost roughly \$10,000 more than purchasing.
- Architects are making recommendations to update/fix the heating system in both the grade school & high school, possibly including adding air conditioning. They are developing bids/proposals for 3 different options. There are funds remaining in the capital campaign for this.
- St. Mary's JH/HS are holding a rosary on Mass days at 3:05 pm.
- Students completed standardized testing with 3rd-8th graders taking the Terra Nova, 9th & 10th grade taking the PreACT, and Juniors taking the PSAT.
- Paula & Jennie, Vice-Principals, shared options for publishing a "state of the school" report, to include all standardized test scores as well as other measures of success. This could be run in the local newspapers as well as church & school newsletters.
- We are considering renting billboard space for St. Mary's ad.
- Traci Berg, Whitney Abbott, Abby Hedstrom, & Abby Everitt shared their experience with "Life of an Athlete." Abby & Abby will look into getting this program started at St. Mary's.
- Some Chromebooks are needing to be replaced. Discussion was held regarding pros/cons of 1:1 devices for students as well as other options for updating our available computers & laptops for student usage.
- As spandex shorts are not allowed at the high school level for volleyball at St. Mary's, elementary coaches for club volleyball will be asked to have their players follow the same regulations as the high school. Cross Country participants at St. Mary's are also asked to follow the same regulations (Coach Hilker at OHS said spandex is not required.)
- Reminder: there is an appropriate chain of command to follow for students/parents who have concerns with coaches about playing times & other issues, as well as with teachers in the classroom.

Members: Nancy Berg, Ann Krotter, Dave Pongratz, Cameron Everitt, Ann Crumly, Ranelle Otte, Nate Kelly, Father Starman, Cody Havranek.

DID YOU KNOW



Father Jeffrey Lorig, director of pastoral services for the archdiocese, assumed additional duties Dec. 1, replacing Deacon Steve Luna as director of pastoral planning. To lead that planning process, Father Lorig is now working with parishes and deaneries (regions of the archdiocese) as they assess demographic trends, facilities, funding, staffing and the organizational structures needed to achieve the archdiocese's pastoral vision and priorities while adjusting to the declining numbers of priests and lay faithful. That means enabling pastors to equip their parishioners to be disciples, helping in the task of evangelization, Father Lorig said. Fr. Lorig served as an associate priest with us some years ago.



Living Legacy Circle

The Archdiocese of Omaha has created the Living Legacy Circle as a special way to recognize those who have made a provision in their estate plans for the Archdiocese of Omaha or a parish or school within the archdiocese, such as St. Patrick's, St. Joseph's, or St. Mary's.

The logo for the Living Legacy Circle is a leaf of an Oak Tree. The mighty Oak tree - a magnificent reminder of God's constant presence in our earthly world - is known for its strength and endurance, much like God's love for us. It grows, gives shade and shelter in life. Its acorns are tossed about by the wind to settle into new, fertile ground. With just one seed its legacy is established for future generations. Like the majestic tree, your legacy tells your life story. It must be carefully cultivated through thought and planning, and often starts with creating an estate plan. It can help clarify priorities and decide who and what is truly most important. Many people are called to include the Catholic Church in their estate plans as a lasting testament to their faith.

Upon notification of a planned gift or future bequest to the archdiocese, or one of its parishes or schools, a memento is presented to the individual or family. In addition to this:

- The name of the individual or family is inscribed in the **Living Legacy Circle** framed print that is displayed at various archdiocesan events.
- Twelve times through the year, **Living Legacy Circle** members are remembered at a mass.
- The names of **Living Legacy Circle** members are published each year in the Archdiocese Stewardship & Development Office's Annual Report.

I ask that if you have made a planned gift or future bequest to St. Patrick's or St. Mary's, please let me know. I am working on to ensure that we recognize our families & individuals who are part of our own "Living Legacy" locally. Please watch for further information as we are looking at scheduling an estate planning seminar in the near future, as well as getting more information about your options. Feel free to call or email me at the office to discuss this further.

Thank you!

Jennifer Wallwey, Development Director

