

March 19, 2021 Update to Parishioners of Sacred Heart, St. Mary's and St. Philip's

This update is long overdue, but better late than never. I have listed items in some ranking of priority. Lent is coming to its harvest time and fulfillment in Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. Even if you feel that you have not experienced or sought that hard to be open to the renewal or deepening of your faith, any awareness of spiritual need that you have is itself a grace of God. Any longing for something more in your relationship with God is the first and necessary step that opens the door to Christ who has been standing outside waiting to come in and renew his friendship with you. Give God praise and thanks for any desire for something more, and then bring that desire to God.

1. **Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession** -- If you have not experienced the spiritual healing of this sacrament yet this Lent or in a while, please make use of this grace that the Lord is offering to all members of his family. **Roseau** has a communal service **this coming Monday, March 22 at 6:30 PM** (three priests) and **Greenbush** has a communal service **this coming Wednesday, March 24 at 6:00 pm** (three priests). If you want inspiration and help in preparing for the sacrament do a "search" for the program "Forgiven" on the Formed website.

****Simple Process to get registered with Formed on our parishes' subscription**

1. Visit www.FORMED.org (use either **Edge** or **Chrome** as your internet browser)
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "Sign up as a parishioner"
4. Enter "56751"
5. Select "Sacred Heart"
6. Enter your name and email address - and you're in!

For help with any computer related issues call Joe Roseen. 452-0756
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2. **Holy Week Schedule** -- (Check out lists at the church entrances and the need for ministry help for all the celebrations in Holy Week.) **Palm Sunday** is just a week away. We need additional lectors for the Gospel of the Passion. **Holy Thursday** (7:00 pm Roseau). **Good Friday** (3:30 pm at Roseau). **Easter Vigil** (8:30 pm Sat. evening at Roseau). **Easter Sunday** (regular schedule of Masses at 7:15 am, 9:00 am and 10:30 am). --- For help to get focused on the celebration of the new life that we received in our Baptism, please check out the excellent Lighthouse audio tape titled "Holy Week" at the Formed website.

3. **Go Forth as Disciples** – We are one of ten parish clusters joining in this 5-year process of helping people of our parishes deepen and be more comfortable with living and sharing our faith. **Deacon Aaron Kaiser** from Bagley will speak with us **this Sunday at all of the Masses** about the work he will be doing with us. One of the first things we will all be asked to do is to fill out a faith survey sometime between April 4 and 19. More info coming on that.

4. **Keep in Prayer** – All who are ill in our parishes, especially Ken (Theresa) Sylskar who is now on hospice care and David Schafer and Randy Kostrzewski in their struggles with cancer.

5. **Men's Spirituality Groups** – Check them out at Roseau (9:00 am Sunday) and Badger (8:00 am on the first Saturday of the month. We are also open to other or additional times.

6. **Year of St. Joseph** – Many are checking out the material about St. Joseph at the **Formed** website (do a search of “St. Joseph”) or visiting the **diocesan website** www.crookston.org which has a **new parenting series based on the example of Joseph**. There will be a special Mass at 10:00 am May 1 (Feast of St. Joseph the Worker) at the cathedral that will include the opportunity to make a consecration of yourself to the intercession and guidance of St. Joseph. We have a couple of **extra books at Roseau that offer a process of preparation (\$15)** but one can also just make the consecration by way of personal preparation.

7. **Diocesan Annual Appeal – DAA** – I encourage all parishioners of all our parishes to take care of getting in their pledge or gift to the diocese for the support of the many ministries of our diocese including the education of seminarians and deacons for the pastoring of our parishes. We need everyone’s help large or small to meet our parish goals. Thank you to all who have sent in their pledge or gift.

8. **Minnesota Bishop’s Advocacy Website** -- Please visit to keep informed about the most critical issues that our state and national legislators are dealing with. Our contact with our legislators is a serious responsibility in the way of working for the common good. You can visit or sign up for monthly emails at: www.mncatholic.org One of the current critical issues is the proposed “Equality Act” at the federal level which would force upon all more support for abortion and immoral sexual behaviors.

9. **Diocesan Summer Youth Camps** -- The diocese will have youth camps again this summer for Grades 7-8 and 9-10. If you have any interest in participating in these I encourage you to get registered as these camps fill up fast. Information has been sent or given to youth and parents.

10. **Esto Vir vocation camp for high school and young adult men** – Check the bulletin boards for information about this excellent 3-day camp that helps young men discern where God may be calling them – whether it be marriage, single life, or religious life and priesthood. It is now about in its 6th or 7th year of being offered and has received high reviews from participants.

11. **Permanent Diaconate Discernment Process** -- The diocese will be starting another class in the fall. At this time, it is visiting with persons and their families about what this calling means and requires. The help of a deacon in a parish is such a blessing both to the pastor and the parish communities they serve. For more info call Dn. Mark Krejci at 218-281-4533 – ext. 425.

12. **Virtual Tour of the Pope John Paul II Center in Washington, DC**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcdG92WHZHU&feature=youtu.be>

13. **Scam organization: Minnesota Right to Life** -- If you have received a letter from a group calling itself Minnesota Right to Life please be warned that this group is a scam. [Exposing the Dorr Brother Scams](http://www.dorrbrotherscams.com/) -- <https://www.dorrbrotherscams.com/>

Blessings! --- Fr. John --- 463-2441