

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor
Rev. James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates
Deacon M.J. Kersenbrock
Atkinson, Nebraska

402-925-2122 or Emergency/After Hours, 402-340-0277

www.stjosephatkinson.org

www.holtboydcatholic.org

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST 06/14/20

Monday	NO MASS
Tuesday	NO MASS
Wednesday	8:15 AM + KCs
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	8:15 AM + All Souls
Saturday	NO MASS
Sunday	8:30 AM + Kenny Lane

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: One half hour
prior to Sunday Morning Mass*

**DON'T EVER COME TO
CHURCH WITHOUT
COMING AS THOUGH IT
WAS THE FIRST TIME, AS
THOUGH IT COULD BE
THE BEST TIME, & AS
THOUGH IT MIGHT BE
THE LAST TIME...**

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as Corpus Christi, which is Latin for "Body of Christ." What the church intends to celebrate at this feast is not the corpse of Jesus on the cross, his body during his earthly ministry, or even the Pauline sense of the church itself as the body of Christ. Instead, as we can tell from the gospel reading, the church celebrates the presence of Christ in the eucharistic species. The Body and Blood of Christ we celebrate is the consecrated bread and wine that has become Christ himself.

The gospel reading this weekend is not from the Last Supper as we might expect. Instead, the reading is from part of the "bread of life discourse" of the Gospel of John [6:51-58]. The eucharistic theology is up-front and paramount. Jesus proclaims that he is the living bread come down from heaven. And to be certain that his listeners understand, he states clearly that this is true food and true drink. The imagery is so stark that many stumble over this teaching. Still Jesus maintains that those who consume this bread will live forever.

Later theologians build on this to say that it is precisely because Christians consume the Eucharist that we have the hope of eternal life. The Eucharist is the guarantor or the seed of eternal life that will come to fruition on the last day. Irenaeus, for example, who flourished in the latter half of the second century, says that when we receive the Eucharist, our bodies are no longer corruptible but have the hope of the resurrection to eternity (Irenaeus, Against Heresies, 4.18.5).

Thus, the church gives us this feast day to reflect on the sacramental life by which we participate in the divine life. Our consumption of the Eucharist is itself a promise of eternal life. But rather than a mere magical elixir, the Eucharist nourishes us so that we may live as followers of Jesus and emulate the life he led. By our reception of the Eucharist we, too, are called to become bread for the world and nourishment for those in need. The Eucharist is a call to Christian action.

The eucharistic species (the bread and the wine) is more than a thing to be reified; it is a eucharistic process, a self-giving of Christ himself so that he is bread broken and wine poured out in service and in love. It is not enough merely to admire the eucharistic species, though there is certainly a history of eucharistic adoration in our church, and it has a place. To truly celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi, we must become an alter Christus (another Christ) in the midst of the world today, so that we are bread broken and wine poured out for the needs of humanity.

The challenge of the Eucharist is not about spending time in private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, though that is certainly good. Rather, the Eucharist demands that, as followers of Christ, we, too, allow ourselves to be broken for others, to be poured out. In so doing, we will be emulating Christ and living the paschal mystery.

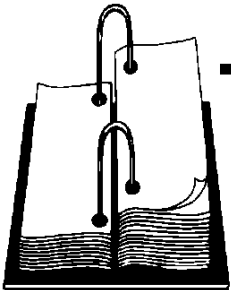
Ad multos annos! Fr. Starman, Pastor

The Harvest is Great, Laborers Are Few! Taking the vocation crucifix this week—Bev Cone. The week of June 21—Don & Brenda Wedige.

We Pray With Special Love & Concern For All Those Who Are Ill... Emma Lou Gunther, Darrin Wedige, Gianna Slaymaker, Lois Tunender, Nathan Boyle, Miranda iJames, Blakely Bouska, John Gilg, Phil Fritz, Michelle Bulau, Garrett Scholz, Marilyn Morrison, John Mathis, Jerry Schaaf, Phil Schmaderer, Sandra Maybon.

CLOSE TO HIS HEART...is a guide for Nebraska Catholics on Medical Decision-Making and Advance Directives- the Catholic Church affirms the sanctity and dignity of every human life as the precious gift of a loving God. All men and women must respect the lives of others while accepting the duties of responsible stewardship for their own lives and for the lives in their care. **“Close to His Heart: A guide for Nebraska Catholics on Medical Decision-Making and Advance Directives”** is a resource to help you and your loves ones feel confident in Catholic teaching on end-of-life decision-making and learn how to make your wishes known. You can download the packet, including a sample advanced directive, at: necath.org – under the *Resources* tab.

Our Parish...offers sympathy to Beverly & Todd Cone family with the passing of Todd’s sister, Debbie Cone of Lincoln. Please know that our prayers & thoughts are with you during this time. May perpetual light shine on Debbie & all whom the Lord has called to eternal life.



The Week Ahead

- **Wed., June 17**—Adoration...9am—3pm
- **Thu., June 18**—Healing Mass, 7pm @ Clarkson, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church



KCs: Thu., June 18. Rosary will be prayed @ 7:15 pm with meeting to follow. Lotto-\$50.00, menu-ham sandwiches, beans & dessert.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...June 21

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC		Lindsey Nemetz
LECTOR		Don Slaymaker
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST		Jayne Fetherston
SERVERS		
<u>USHERS</u>	FOR TWO WEEKS	Troy Schaaf Allen Tooker Dan Ziska Bernard Ziska

THE LORD’S PORTON...06.07.20

Adult envelopes (17)	2,071.00
Loose cash	1.00
Loose checks (3)	580.00
Catholic Communications (5)	175.00
Peter’s Pence (1)	50.00
Online Giving (5)	<u>655.85</u>
TOTAL	3,532.85

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Worry is the darkroom in which negatives can develop