

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

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

06/28/20

Monday	NO MASS
Tuesday	NO MASS
Wednesday	8:15 AM + All Souls
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	8:15 AM + SJ Memorial Society
Saturday	NO MASS
Sunday	8:30 AM + Francis & Mildred Fritz

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

+++++

Fr. Gonderinger is retiring July 1. There will be no fan-fare due to the virus. His siblings don't want this milestone to go without recognition, therefore they are requesting a card shower to mark this special event. He'd appreciate hearing from his hometown folks!

*Fr. Gerry Gonderinger
64 Lakeshore Dr.
Columbus, NE 68601*

+++++

As Christians we must be spiritually prepared to meet our death, our judgment and our Lord. The Sacrament of Reconciliation must be a regular part of every Catholic's life. The scriptures tell us: "The just man sins seven times a day." Who is the just man? Joseph, the apostles and all the saints were just men.

If the saints sinned seven times a day in thought, word and deed, in what they have done and failed to do, then we sin as much. Over time we know that these sins can accumulate, build up and weigh us down.

Go with sorrow to the God who loves you, confess your sins, receive absolution and be freed from the accumulation of sin, hurts, mistakes and disappointments that weigh you down.

Pope Francis moved the date of the annual Peter's Pence Collection from June 28 to October 4, due to the Covid-19 pandemic

The seemingly paradoxical saying "Youth is wasted on the young" is attributed to George Bernard Shaw. Deep wisdom is conveyed in this short statement, and it causes us to ponder not only our past but even our present, and none of us will be younger than we are today. The comedian George Carlin asked the paradoxical question, "If you try to fail and you succeed, which have you done?" The Christian life is marked by paradox, the greatest of which is the person of Jesus who is both human and divine in his nature. But many more paradoxes abound: death leads to life, to give is to receive, and emptying oneself is the means to fulfillment.

The gospel reading this weekend [Matt 10:37-42] reflects some of these fundamental Christian paradoxes as well: "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." This kind of teaching is fairly common among religious wisdom figures, and we shouldn't be surprised to hear it on the lips of Jesus. Prior to this saying, Jesus claims that anyone who loves father or mother more than Jesus is not worthy of him. This may sound off-putting to modern ears. It's interesting to note that Matthew seems to have modified his source material for this passage, which likely read something like

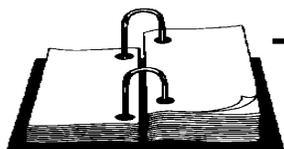
what we find in Luke (14:26): “If any one comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” The term “hate” is much stronger than the “love more” we find in Matthew. The point of course is that Jesus ought to be the center and focus of one’s life. Not even family relations should come first.

Those worthy of Jesus are the ones who take up their cross and follow him. This does not mean to seek out suffering and place oneself in harm’s way merely for the sake of it. It certainly does not give license for Christians to act in obnoxious ways so they can consider the consequences of that behavior “suffering for Christ.” Rather, taking up one’s cross refers to managing any and all of the difficulties and challenges that come with following Jesus. The image of the cross calls to mind Jesus’ violent and public execution at the hands of the state. Moreover, it foreshadows Jesus’ own end on a cross. His followers should not shy away from such duties that flow naturally from being a Christian. As Jesus did, to gain life we must give it away. This is the ultimate paradox.

The paschal mystery is a paradox par excellence. Suffering and death lead to new life and resurrection. There can be no resurrection without death. There is no new life without casting aside the old. When we listen to the words of Jesus in this weekend’s gospel, we might be especially attuned to the notion of paradox expressed in the saying about finding our lives—for to find our lives, we must lose them. We surrender ourselves to the will of God and thereby find ultimate meaning and purpose. As St. Augustine said, “Our hearts are restless until they rest in you Lord.”

When we busy ourselves with projects, deadlines, and goals that give us a sense of urgency and meaning, we might be missing the quintessential meaning of our lives, which may be found in stillness and quiet. It’s the paradox reflected in the U2 song “Running to Stand Still.” During this Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we might pause to consider our ultimate purpose and meaning. Are we running to stand still? Are we restless until we rest in the Lord? Only by giving over our very selves will we receive even more. By embracing the cross, Christ experienced exaltation and new life, showing us the way to the same. Ad multos annos! -----Fr. Bernard Starman, Pastor

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.



The Week Ahead

- Wed., July 1—Adoration...9am–3pm

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...July 5

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC		Linda Wolf
LECTOR		Jack Wolf
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST		Terri Vrooman
SERVERS		
<u>USHERS</u>	FOR TWO WEEKS	Dennis Hytrek Tim Laible

THE LORD’S PORTON...06.21.20

Adult envelopes (14)	895.00
Loose checks (3)	185.00
Peter’s Pence (1)	20.00
Online Giving (6)	<u>1,010.00</u>
TOTAL	2,110.00

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
IF GOD SEEMS FAR AWAY.....GUESS WHO MOVED?

