

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

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 08/16/20

Monday NO MASS
 Tuesday 10:00AM +Tim Manzer & Good Sam.
 Wednesday 8:15 AM + KCs
 Thursday NO MASS
 Friday 8:15 AM + John & Marilyn Wenner
 Saturday **6:00 PM** + Mike Tasler
 Sunday **10:30 AM** + Special Intention---Duane & Elizabeth Neiman

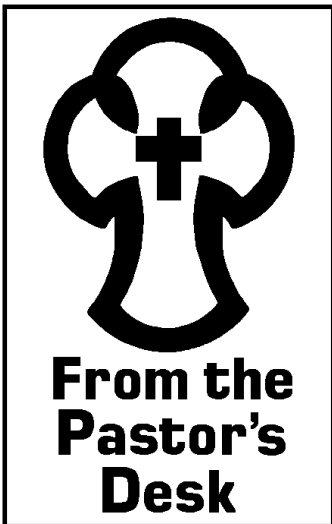
Sacrament of Reconciliation: One half hour prior to Sunday Morning Mass

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EMHC/Lector Training & Mandation...will happen this fall. Due to limitations on large gatherings & the variety of local liturgical solutions, the process will differ from previous years. Those interested in being trained & mandated as an **EMHC** or **Lector** can call the parish office & submit their names to be registered **no later than Sept. 9**. You will be provided the necessary forms & links for the virtual meetings. Upon completion of the session, candidates' pastors will be notified & be responsible (or delegate responsibility) for the practical instruction in their current local procedures. The customary mandation Masses in Norfolk & Omaha **will not be held**, but resources for the mandation will be provided to pastors to facilitate local ceremonies during weekend Mass.
Virtual Meeting Dates & Times:
Sunday, 9/20: 3-4:30pm (English)
Monday, 9/21: 6-7:30pm (Spanish)

We Remember...those in need of special prayers:
 Emma Lou Gunther, Blakely Bouska, John Gilg, Michelle Bulau, Garrett Scholz, John Mathis & Andy Hoffman.

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The Altar Society...is so grateful for all the ladies in the parish who are remembering to pay their dues of \$10.00. If you haven't paid yours, you are encouraged to mail a check to Diane Rentschler, 47691 883rd Road, Atkinson, NE 68713 or St. Joseph Church, PO Box 220. Lastly you are welcome to drop it in the wooden box in the middle aisle of church...labeled "Altar Society"
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Join Fellow Community Members...at a pancake & sausage breakfast today from 8am—12 noon at the KC Hall. The free will offering event is sponsored by the Knights.
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Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties, "We're not going to play with you!" the kids on the playground said to the new student. It was a shocking thing for the teachers to hear, as they had been speaking to the students about welcoming and creating an environment where we all "get along." The taunts certainly did not conform to the mission of the Catholic school. Clearly, more work would need to be done before the new student would feel welcome. The teachers hoped they could address the situation before the new student left and found a different school. In this weekend's gospel [Matt 15:21-28], a Canaanite woman comes up to Jesus and asks for his mercy, not for her but for her daughter. Now, Canaanites were people displaced a millennium before the time of Jesus, when the Israelites took possession of the land. The Israelites even enslaved some of the

Canaanites in those early years. It was "easy" to look down on a Canaanite, as they were not considered part of God's chosen people. Jesus' behavior, like that of the disciples, can seem a bit shocking. Jesus initially refuses to acknowledge the woman, and the disciples seek to have her dismissed. Jesus finally does speak, only to say that he was "sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." That is, he was not sent for a Canaanite, even if her daughter was suffering. At this point in the story, it's good for us to pause and not attempt to explain away this type of attitude. In fact, other times in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says that

he was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. In this gospel, the message of Jesus goes out to all nations only after the resurrection (Matt 28:16-20). But during the earthly ministry of Jesus, it seems non-Israelites, non-Jews, were not part of his mission.

Even so, the woman persists. She does not back away. Jesus replies, effectively reiterating what he had said initially, though using a rather insulting term: “dogs.” No matter, the woman continues, accepts the insulting metaphor, and says even dogs get the scraps. Finally, Jesus relents, and with a word the woman’s daughter is healed. Many commentators focus their attention on Jesus’ words and actions in this scene. But we may also consider this from the point of view of the woman—the outsider, the excluded. She persists and she ultimately receives what she sought, not something for herself but for her daughter. Today, we are living in the post-resurrection world. Therefore, when we are in a position to include, to welcome, to invite, let us do so. This might mean welcoming a new child on the playground, an outsider who has moved to the neighborhood, or even a non-citizen or one who does not share our ethnic identity. The inclination to exclude and not to help is strong. It’s overcome in the resurrection.

The resurrection gives power and new life. After the resurrection, Jesus tells his disciples to go to all nations, teaching and baptizing. The scene from today’s gospel lets us know that the earthly ministry of Jesus was not characterized in that way, at least not as Matthew presents it. But now that Christ has been raised from the dead, all are welcome, and all may be disciples. No longer is God’s chosen people limited to one group. Instead, by what God has done in Christ, all are chosen and called to be children of God. The suffering and death of Jesus put an end to a way of thinking that saw God’s favor bestowed on a limited group of people. With the resurrection, there has been a metanoia, a new way of thinking that embraces inclusion and invitation. Let us be guided by a resurrection way of life that seeks to welcome rather than create divisions. In so doing, we will be living the paschal mystery.

Ad multos annos!

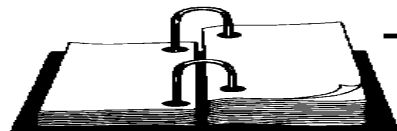
Fr. Bernard Starman

→ Did You Know? →

The Golf Tourney Was A Hit! We are grateful to all who had a part in the success of the tourney last Sunday. Thanks to Clay & Nicky Cadwallader who chaired the event and kudos to all who donated, golfed or came to enjoy the wonderful meal! God bless all of you!



NEW Technology Needed...Will You Help?!?! The goal is \$3,200. for a possible match of funds raised. Please mail your donation to St. Joseph School, PO Box 69, Atkinson, NE 68713. Thank you for any amount you are willing to sacrifice to this most worthy project.



The Week Ahead

- **Wed., Aug. 19**—Adoration, 9am—3pm
- **Wed., Aug. 19**—St. Joseph School begins with ½ day
- **Thu., Aug. 20**—KC NEWS.....Rosary will be prayed @ 7:15pm with meeting to follow. Menu—grilled cheese & ?????? Lotto goes to \$70.00 as Gary McClanahan wasn’t present. Hall Rental-Wayne Baker, 402.340.0314. Insurance Needs-Mike Scholz, 1.308.991.6157.
- **Fri., Aug. 21**—School Mass @ 8:15am

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...Aug. 22/23

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC	Kenny Tunender	Lindsey Nemetz
LECTOR	Tim Hamik	Harry Morgan
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST	Terri Vrooman	Volunteer
SERVERS		
<u>USHERS</u>	Volunteer	Volunteer

THE LORD’S PORTION...08.09.20

Adult envelopes	1,170.00
Loose cash	40.00
Loose checks (1)	25.00
Online Giving (6)	<u>705.85</u>
TOTAL	1,940.85

Thought For The Day
WHEN WE FORGET
OURSELVES, WE DO
THINGS THAT ARE
REMEMBERED