

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

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

09/13/20

Monday	NO MASS
Tuesday	10:00AM + No Mass @ Good Sam.
Wednesday	8:15 AM + All Souls
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	8:15 AM + KCs
Saturday	6:00 PM + MaryLou Troshynski
Sunday	10:30 AM – Special Int.-Duane & Elizabeth Neiman

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

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2020 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is beginning in our parish. You'll receive an invitation from Archbishop Lucas to support the work of the Church through a personal commitment. The Annual Appeal supports the parishes, schools and ministries across the archdiocese. Now, more than ever, I hope you'll join me in making a gift to the appeal. As disciples of Jesus, we are invited to trust, to let go of fear and open our minds and hearts to God's saving work. Please join me and thousands across our archdiocese in sharing your gifts, recognizing we are all One Church.

*We Remember...*those in need of special prayers:

Emma Lou Gunther, Blakely Bouska, John Gilg,
Michelle Bulau, Garrett Scholz & Andy Hoffman.



The Dues Are Most Welcome! The Altar Society is most 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...label your envelope "Altar Society".

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If you haven't heard from a SJ student about the Watkins fundraiser, please contact the school office, 402.925.2104. The promotion runs from Sept. 2 through Sept. 23. Thanks to all who support this event as it helps with school expenses.

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*The Parish Auction...*is scheduled for Sunday, October 25. If you haven't received a call for a donation, you soon will! Many thanks to Tyler & Megan Mitchell and Paul & Corinne Pistulka for acting as our chairmen & co-chairmen. You'll find the auction coupon on the bottom of this bulletin.

*At This Time...*woodcutting for the annual auction is not in the plans. If someone would like to chair this event, that would be great! Randy Schaaf would be happy to 'pass on the notes' from previous years. You can reach him at 402.925.2127 or 402.340.6054.

Another idea...if you have wood of your own, a load would be a great auction donation!



Take The Cook ...out for supper! A meal is planned for **Sun., Sept. 20** @ the KC Hall from 5pm-7:30. There will be carry-out containers available. Bring your neighbor & a friend!



Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties,

Chapter 13 in Matthew's gospel is commonly known as the "chapter of parables," because of the seven parables Jesus speaks in that chapter alone, however we do find parables in a few other places in the gospel; and this weekend's gospel reading [Matt 18: 21-35] is one example. The story of the unrepentant debtor is unique to Matthew. Though the opening verses of this weekend's gospel find an echo in Luke 17:4, the parable is unparalleled.

The story is simple but profound. One who owed the king an inordinate sum (10,000 talents is hyperbole equivalent to our saying "a hundred million dollars") has no chance of paying it off. He will never earn that much and therefore he is essentially placed in debtors' prison, after all his assets, his very person, and his family were sold for cash value. The king, hearing the pleas of mercy, relents and releases the man from his debts and from prison. The king was moved by pity.

Then, the same man finds one who is in debt to him (a denarius was about a day's wage for a laborer). This debtor appeals to the man who was just forgiven, using language that sounds eerily familiar. But rather than be moved by pity as the king was and emulate the forgiveness he was shown, the man who now finds himself in a position of power casts the poor debtor in prison.

The king's servants report all this to the king, who is infuriated at the abandoned forgiveness. "Should you not have had pity?" is the terrifying question that sends the man not merely to prison but to the torturer for what is effectively eternity.

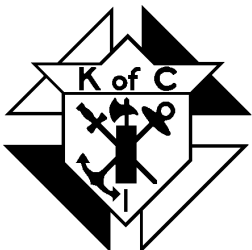
The lesson for us could not be clearer. We who have been forgiven are to forgive others. It is the Lord's Prayer that is found in this gospel as well: "forgive us as we forgive those . . ." The Lord's forgiveness is freely given, but it may be taken back if we do not emulate this same forgiveness in our own lives.

The final words of the gospel are a haunting reminder that we may face the same fate as the one handed over to torturers if we do not forgive "from the heart."

Grudges are awful things. They can gnaw away at the one harboring them. We may hear "forgive but don't forget" as a way to remind ourselves of past transgressions we've suffered. But this weekend's gospel calls us to a higher standard. The forgiveness we've experienced (worth a hundred million dollars—something we cannot repay) should motivate us to be free with forgiveness when others wrong us. We cannot dole out forgiveness in tiny pieces only to those we deem worthy once some alteration has been made. Instead, forgiveness ought to be given freely.

We must die to the grudges, slights, rudeness, and other transgressions we've suffered and rise to a sense of freedom that comes through forgiving as we've been forgiven. Jesus himself warns us in a negative way (via negativa) that if we withhold forgiveness, it will be withheld from us. And the consequences of that are severe indeed.

Ad multos annos!
Fr. Bernard



Monthly Meeting... will be held on Thu., Sept. 17. The rosary will be prayed @ 7:15pm & meeting to follow. The lotto will be \$80.00 as Chris Skrdla was not present. On the menu is pancakes, sausage & dessert. The group will be discussing the upcoming fish fry. For hall rental-Wayne Baker, 402.340.0314; insurance needs-Mike Scholz, 1.308.991.6157.



Our Parish... offers sincere sympathy to Harlan & Sandra Schrunk with the passing of Harlan's mother, Evelyn Schrunk and Fr. Joseph Sund with the loss of his cousin's small son, JJ Sund. May God welcome them and all who have died into His kingdom.

Happiest Of Birthdays... to Fr. Sund as he celebrates his special day on Sat., Sept. 19. Thank you for your giving spirit & may God bless you with many more years of serving God's people!

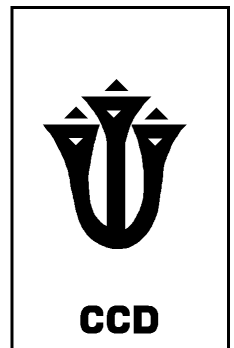


If You... or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, there will be an informational meeting about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) at **5pm on Sunday (today) @ St. Joseph School** in Atkinson. This is for all those in the Western Holt and Boyd County Parishes. Please call the parish office or visit <https://holtboydcatholic.org/> for more information to register.

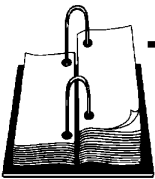
Classes... are scheduled to begin on **Wed., Sept. 16 @ 6:30pm**. Parents and their children should plan to meet in the church where Fr Weeder will lead them in prayer and introduce a tool to help families grow in faith together. After this introduction students will meet their teachers, locate their classrooms, address questions/concerns, and the parents will be asked to fill out an information form or fill it out online at <https://stjosephatkinson.org/religious-education>.

We ask that parents also pay a \$20 fee for each student's materials.

Unfortunately, at the present time we are short teachers for **3rd, 5th, 6th grades**. This is truly NOT a difficult job! Many teachers have found that they have learned right along with the students about their religion and strengthened their Christian faith. PLEASE consider sharing your time & talents with our children....you'll be glad you did!!! You may contact Linda Wolf, CCD Coordinator, with ???, concerns, or to **VOLUNTEER**. ...402.340.0741. Thank you very much for your consideration in this very worthy, faith-filled ministry.



Would You Consider... being a part of the Senior Prayer Partner Program this year? The list of 2021 Catholic seniors will be in next week's bulletin. Think about if you would like to commit to this program of remembering a senior throughout the school year with special notes of encouragement, a birthday, etc. You will remain anonymous to whom you choose until the first week of May when names will be revealed, so shhhhhhhhh...secrets are FUN!!!!



The Week Ahead

- **TODAY!** —RCIA Informational Meeting, 5pm @ SJ School
- **Wed., Sept. 16**—Adoration, 9am—3pm
- **Wed., Sept. 16**—CCD begins, 6:30pm
- **Thu., Sept. 17**—KC meeting
- **Sun., Sept. 20**—Fish fry sponsored by the KCs
- **Sun., Sept. 27**—Priesthood Sunday..let our priests know how much they are appreciated & pray for them!!!
- **Sun., Oct. 25**—Parish Auction....Mass in Atkinson will be @ 8:30am; therefore St. Boniface - 10:30am



We'd Like To Say... congratulations to all grandparents! You are a gift to your grands and thank you for passing down the faith to your loved ones! May God bless you & have a great Grandparents Day!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...Sept. 19/20

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC	Chris Nemetz	Cheleigh Sholes
LECTOR	Brian Mlady	H. Krumwiede
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST	Terri Vrooman	Volunteer
SERVERS		
<u>USHERS</u>	Volunteer	Volunteer

THE LORD'S PORTON...09.06.20

Adult envelopes (15)	940.00
Loose checks (2)	225.00
Holy Land (2)	25.00
Energy (13)	1,080.00
Assumption (1)	40.00
Online Giving (5)	<u>655.85</u>
TOTAL	2,965.85

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
 He will never overlook me & will
 never cancel my appointment in His
 book

AUCTION COUPON
OCTOBER 25, 2020

NAME _____

ITEM _____

FAIR MARKET VALUE _____

Please place coupon in the wood box @ church, drop off or mail to parish office (PO Box 220) or contact:

Megan Mitchell: 402.340.3056
Tyler Mitchell: 402.340.1745

Corinne Pistulka: 308.320.1232
Paul Pistulka: 402.961.0503