

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 11/15/20

Monday NO MASS
Tuesday NO MASS @ Good Sam.
Wednesday 8:15 AM + KCs
Thursday NO MASS
Friday 8:15 AM + Gene Boes
Saturday 6:00 PM + Max & Agnes Hamik
Sunday 10:30 AM +All Souls

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

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Three Members...of the senior class need prayer partners. Please contact Linda Wolf, 402.340.0741, if you'd be willing to be a prayer partner for Jaxson Cadwallader, Nathaniel Ketteler or Reghan Kerkman.

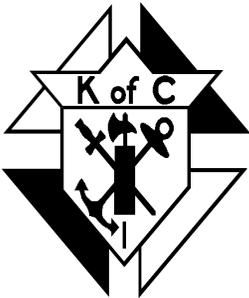
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We Remember...those in need of special prayers: Emma Lou Gunther, Kenny Fessler, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, & Andy Hoffman

Prayer For The Souls In Purgatory

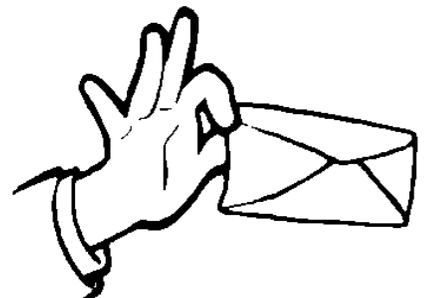
*O gentle Heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory, have mercy on them.
Be not severe in your judgments, but let some drops of Your Precious Blood fall upon the devouring flames.
And, Merciful Savior, send Your angels to conduct them to a place of refreshment, light and peace. Amen.*

As A Parish...we offer our sincere condolences to the Gant family with the passing of Todd Gant. Please know that our prayers & thoughts are with you today & in the days ahead. May perpetual light shine on Todd & all who have been called home by the Father.



NEWS-----Lotto-Ray Shaffer's name was drawn, he wasn't present. The lotto goes to \$100.00. The next meeting will be **Thu., Nov. 19** beginning with the rosary @ 7:15pm. Menu-chili & dessert. There will not be a Poultry Party this year. For Hall Rental---Wayne Baker, 402.340.0314; Insurance Needs---Mike Scholz, 308.991.6157

In Your Packet...of envelopes you'll find CCHD (Catholic Campaign for Human Development) dated Nov. 22. Your contribution will help support anti-poverty in the United States, particularly fighting poverty in America & defend human dignity. Thanks in advance for any amount you're able to sacrifice.



WE...CAN CHOOSE TO TRAVEL TEN THOUSAND TIMES TEN THOUSAND DIFFERENT ROADS IN LIFE, BUT AT THE END OF EACH ROAD, WE WILL FIND EITHER THE MERCIFUL FACE OF THE SAVIOR OR THE MISERABLE FACE OF SATAN. IT IS OUR CHOICE!



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

The parable in this weekend's gospel follows immediately upon the parable we read last week. Both the parable of the wise and foolish virgins and the parable of the talents speak to the coming of the Lord on the last day. In each case there is a delay or an intervening time during which different characters in the story respond and react differently. In this weekend's story [Matt 25: 14-20], the master entrusts money with three servants according to their ability. One receives five, another two, and the last, one. The first two invest the funds in a variety of activities and they both double the money entrusted to them. The third, however, buries the sole talent in the ground, depriving the master of the simple interest it would have earned if it had been deposited in a bank. Not surprisingly, the master is furious with the third servant.

PASTORAL SHARINGS

Jesus concludes the parable with some folk wisdom, reflecting common attitudes of the day (and even today), with a phrase akin to "the rich get richer and poor get poorer." It would be a mistake to read this parable as somehow endorsing a political and economic system whereby the wealthy receive most benefits while the poor suffer. Instead, that economic condition, which characterized the time of Jesus (and perhaps even our own!), becomes the folk wisdom reinforced by the parable.

The lesson from the parable has to do with the intervening time between the resurrection and the coming of Christ. How will the disciples (the servants) invest their own talents in service of the master? One must risk oneself to earn a reward. The investment of talent, skills, and gifts will generate returns. The miserable disciple who invests nothing of himself, but instead uses the time prior to the coming of the Lord merely to loaf around, will be punished. He is hardly worthy of the name servant (disciple). Interestingly, the reward for the first two is the same, "Come, share your master's joy." But the third is exiled.

Like last week's parable, and many before, this story is an echo of the Matthean church, which had both weeds and wheat in its midst. There were industrious Christians, investing their talents and skills in the service of the Lord, and there were freeloaders, who risked nothing of themselves for God. It would be a mistake to read this parable in economic terms, endorsing a particular system or class of people. Instead, this parable is speaking to life in the church prior to the coming of Jesus: Am I a disciple who invests myself, my skills, and my talents for God? Or am I content to let others do that work? To those who invest themselves, Jesus says, "Come, share your master's joy."

Life in a community can be a gift. We join others who share a common purpose. We combine effort to achieve a common goal. But in these cases, much like "group work" assigned to schoolchildren, there can be freeloaders who live off the largesse of others' efforts while contributing little to no effort of their own. The parable today reminds us that there will come a time when God will take stock of each person's efforts. This is not our work to do, but God's. When we hear this parable and others like it, we can be moved to action, investing ourselves more fully in the Christian life. And for the Gospel of Matthew that means service of others, especially the less fortunate. May this gospel motivate us to continue serving without counting the cost, investing fully of ourselves and our talents. There will be an accounting, and when there is, we want to hear the words, "Come, share your master's joy."

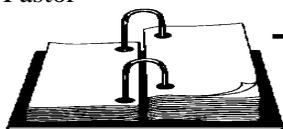
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Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor

DO THE ACTIONS OF OUR LIVES

REFLECT THE WORDS THAT WE SPEAK???



The Week Ahead

- **Wed., Nov. 18**—Adoration, 9am—3pm. CCD @ 6:30pm
- **Wed., Nov. 25**—NO CCD. Harvest Mass @ Stuart, St. Boniface, 7pm
- **Thu., Nov. 26**—Thanksgiving Day Mass, 9am
- **Fri., Nov. 27**—No Masses @ Holt-Boyd County Parishes

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...Nov 21/22

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC	Brian Mlady	Lindsey Nemetz
LECTOR	Madison Tunender	Patti Skrdla
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST	Jayne Fetherston	Diane Osborne
SERVERS		
<u>USHERS</u>		

THE LORD'S PORTON...11.08.20

Adult envelopes (15)	1,505.00
Loose checks (3)	285.00
Loose cash	35.00
All Saints (1)	20.00
Insurance (1)	100.00
Online Giving (5)	<u>655.85</u>
TOTAL	2,600.85

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God will whisper His secrets to anyone who will listen