

# 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](http://www.stjosephatkinson.org)  
[www.holtboydcatholic.org](http://www.holtboydcatholic.org)

## *Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe 11/22/20*

Monday NO MASS  
Tuesday NO MASS @ Good Sam. Wednesday  
8:15 AM + Don & Marilyn Gokie  
Thursday 9:00 AM + Lawrence, Evelyn & Judy  
Skrdla  
Friday NO MASS  
Saturday 6:00 PM + Art & Dolores Pacha  
Sunday 10:30 AM + Frank & Rosemary Kilmurry

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

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*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 Madison Tunender or Jaxson  
Cadwallader.*

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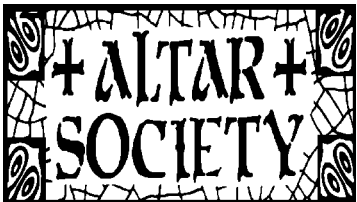
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*We Remember...those in need of special  
prayers: Emma Lou Gunther, Kenny Fessler,  
John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish,  
Andy Hoffman & David E. Leiding*

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*Jesus will not be impressed if we have many  
possessions, and he will not be disappointed  
if we have just a few. What matters is  
whether we have let him soften our hearts so  
that we feed the hungry, forgive those who  
have sinned against us, and reach out to the  
lonely. Because his kingdom is not a  
kingdom of wealth and power; it is a  
kingdom of humility, love, and service.*

*"JESUS, MY KING AND MY JUDGE, TEACH ME  
TO LOVE AS YOU LOVE."*



*Bright Horizons Says...Thank you very much for your kind donations to our  
organization. Your thoughtful generosity is much appreciated and will be utilized to  
better serve individuals and families.*

*Taking The...cross this weekend—Beverly Cone. The weekend of Nov. 29—Don  
& Brenda Wedge.*



*Many Have Inquired...if there will be a poultry party by the Knights, a  
soup supper by the Altar Society the evening of Parade of Lights, or a SJ School  
Christmas Program. We regret these events won't be happening due to caring  
about all of you. We want everyone to remain safe & healthy as possible.*

*Archbishops Annual Appeal...Our parish's financial goal is \$9,098.00, we've had 5,700.00  
committed, (62.7%) our participation goal this year is 27%.*

*"FATHER, YOU HAVE GIVEN ME PRECIOUS GIFTS. HELP ME TO MULTIPLY THEM  
BY SHARING THEM."*



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

## PASTORAL SHARINGS

Like climbing to the top of Mt. Everest, this weekend's gospel reading is the pinnacle of Jesus' teachings in the Gospel of Matthew [Matt 25: 31-46]. This is not a parable, but instead the interpretive key to Jesus' teachings earlier in the gospel. Now what Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount (7:21-23), that "not all who call Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom of heaven," becomes clear. This story also foreshadows his resurrection appearance and promise in the closing line of the gospel, "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age" (28:20).

In the gospel story, we are two days from Passover when Jesus will be handed over to be crucified (26:1-2). All that remains between this teaching and the Passover meal Jesus will celebrate with his disciples is his anointing at Bethany by the woman with an alabaster jar of perfumed oil (26:6-13). So, this teaching about how we will be judged is the crescendo of Jesus' message.

Jesus' promise to be with us always is fulfilled in that he is present in the hungry, thirsty, naked, ill, imprisoned, and in the stranger. Though some who claim to know Jesus are surprised that they did not see him in the face of the poor, this is to their own perdition. Even more, those who did not or do not know Jesus receive their heavenly reward precisely because they did the will of God; they fed the hungry and in so doing they were feeding Jesus. They gave drink to the thirsty and in so doing they were giving drink to Jesus. Jesus does not say that it is as though he is present in these people. No, he is them: "I was hungry and you gave me no food." "What you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me." Again, Jesus does not say, "It's as though you did not do for me." He identifies with the poor and the lowly, for he is them.

There are no excuses on the part of those who claim to have known Jesus. They cannot say that the poor were not working, or they deserved to be poor, or they should get a job. Those who claim to know Jesus but have not acted on behalf of the poor are sent off to eternal punishment. "Depart from me, you accursed." We now see clearly how not everyone who cries Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom, but only those who do the will of my father (7:21-23). Indeed, this chapter and this particular teaching is at the root of the Catholic Church's "social gospel." It is why the church established hospitals, schools, food pantries, social services, and so many other ministries. Faith in action, rather than faith alone, is the church's credo. And it is not enough to rely on others, the church at large, to perform this ministry. It is the obligation of anyone who dares to call himself or herself a disciple of Christ. Indeed, those who do not know Christ but still perform these actions will inherit eternal life. These sober words conclude Jesus' teaching ministry and are a clarion call to all who would seek to follow him.

It is a bold thing to identify with Christ. From the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes, to this concluding teaching of Jesus on judgment, being a follower of Christ is not for the faint of heart. Self-sacrifice, love of the other, and service are central to the identity of a Christian. How mortally dangerous it is, then, to call oneself Christian, to claim the role of disciple, without performing the actions required by one. It would be better not to claim the title at all. Essential Matthean themes are expressed in this story: doing versus merely saying, is one. Doing the will of God—caring for the poor and for the stranger—is not merely about performing kind acts but is the basis of salvation, for Christian and non-Christian alike. As we live the paschal mystery, let us keep before us the awesome call and responsibility to express our faith in action, not merely words.

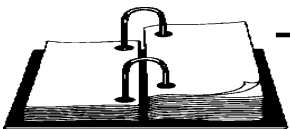
I hope all of our parishioners and friends have a safe, and Happy Thanksgiving!

Ad multos annos! Fr. Bernard Starman, Pastor

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Thanksgiving Mass-9am.....Lector-Patti Skrdla

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### The Week Ahead

- Wed., Nov. 25—Adoration, 9am—3pm. NO CCD. Harvest Mass @ Stuart, 7pm

#### LITURGICAL MINISTERS...Nov 28/29

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC	Kenny Tunender	Chris Nemetz
LECTOR	Tim Hamik	Dan Kramer
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST	Terri Vrooman	
SERVERS		
USHERS		

#### THE LORD'S PORTON...11.15.20

Adult envelopes (12)	1,020.00
Loose checks (1)	25.00
All Saints (2)	60.00
World Mission Sunday (1)	10.00
Online Giving (3)	<u>511.94</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,626.94</b>