

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

2/07/21

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon NO MASS
- Tue NO MASS
- Wed 8:15 AM + Harvey & Loretta Grof
- Thu NO MASS
- Fri 8:15 AM + Keating/Schaaf Families
- Sat NO MASS
- Sun 8:30 AM + Ries Family

Sacrament of Reconciliation: One half hour prior to Weekend Mass

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Taking the vocation cross this week — Karen Thompson. The week of Feb. 14— Brian Mlady Family.

God our Father, You made each of us to receive our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire young people whom You call to the priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the Sacraments. Amen.

*We Remember...*those in need of special prayers: Emma Lou Gunther, Kenny Fessler, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, Andy Hoffman, David E. Leiding, Lois Tunender, Mary Jo Closson, Tracy Nelson, Reese Keating & Judy (Kaup) Steimle.



LAST CHANCE!!!

The Book Fair will end today after Mass.

Thank you to all

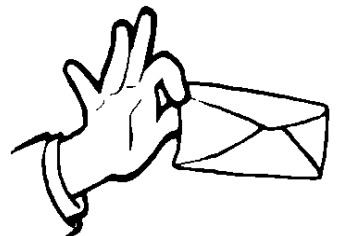
who made purchases to benefit our school.

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Mass Servers----You are invited to serve @ Sunday morning Mass. There will not be a schedule made at this time; however, you are more than welcome to serve at the table of our Lord.

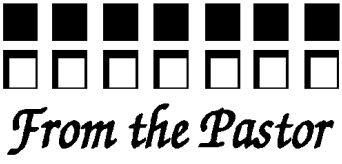
The Annual 4-IN-1...(Home & Foreign Missions) collection will take place THIS weekend. Today over 40% of dioceses in the U.S. & its territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support of this appeal helps them meet these faith formation & sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. **If you forgot your envelope today, there is always next Sunday!** Thank you.



FISH FRY SCHEDULE

**ATKINSON: February 19
March 5
March 19**

**STUART: February 26
March 12
March 26**



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

In this weekend's gospel [Mark:1: 29-39], God's remembrance of and compassion for suffering humanity comes most tangibly and radically in the healing presence of Jesus. From the religious service in the synagogue Jesus moves immediately into the house of Simon and Andrew, accompanied by James and John, disciples who are having a busy apprenticeship. In the healing of Simon's mother-in-law, we have a vignette of the mission of Jesus, the free man, who cares nothing for taboos that prohibited the touching of a woman not one's wife, and especially on the Sabbath. Jesus has healed the tormented man in the synagogue, and he will make no discrimination between male and female, even though to hold the hand of the sick woman could earn him the accusation of ritual uncleanness. Compassion has a more urgent hold on Jesus, and his raising of her is by the same power that God will manifest in raising Jesus from the dead. The response of Simon's mother-in-law to her healing is to serve (diēkonei, which the Lectionary translates as "she waited on them") Jesus and his companions. The last use of this word in Mark's gospel is in Mark 15:41, and here it is again with reference to women who followed and served him, so framing the mission of Jesus from its beginning to his death with the service of women. It is a reminder, too, that all who have experienced the healing power of Jesus, in the flesh and in the Spirit, should respond with service of others.

Even though Jesus did not subject himself to Sabbath restraints, the crowds wait until "after sunset" when the Sabbath was over to bring those who are sick in body and mind to him. Jesus responds to the universal longing for wholeness and healing, vanquishing the reign of evil, yet commanding the evil spirits not to speak of him because not until his death will his true messianic identity be revealed. Before that, such a revelation, especially by the proclamation of the formerly possessed, could be manipulated by Jesus's enemies into false charges of his being on the side of the kingdom of evil (see Mark 3:22-27).

The one to whom Jesus is first accountable, however, is not the sick or possessed person, not Simon or his companions. Jesus's life is above all directed to God who is acting in him and through him, so early the next morning he seeks a place where he can be alone with God in prayer. Simon and some of his companions are described not as Jesus's "followers," but as those who "pursue" Jesus. There is a note of accusation and misunderstanding in Simon's words: "Everyone is looking for you" (including us!). There is no appreciation of Jesus's own need to search for his God in prayer. What Jesus has heard in his prayer is the call to proclaim the reigning presence of God in other towns, to move on from the enthusiastic reception of yesterday, because that is why he came. How often are we tempted to stay with the "yesterdays" of success and acclamation and hesitate to go forward to the largely unknown "tomorrows" to which God is calling us? And how important is prayer in our discernment of God's call?

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor



- **Wed., Feb. 10—NO ADORATION...due to predicted cold weather**
- **Feb. 17—Ash Wednesday...Adoration, 9am—3pm. NO CCD CLASS-STUDENTS ATTEND MASS... Atkinson @ 8:15 am & 7pm; Stuart @ 7pm**
- **Fri., Feb. 19—Lenten Fish Fry @ KC Hall-Atkinson**

LITURGICAL MINISTERS...FEB. 14

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC		Shirley Rossman
LECTOR		Patti Skrdla
GIFT BEARERS		
ORGANIST		Jayne Fetherston
SERVERS		
USHERS		

THE LORD'S PORTION...01.31.21

Adult envelopes (18)	1,331.00
Loose checks (3)	100.00
Seminary (1)	25.00
4-IN-1 (1)	10.00
Initial Offering (2)	21.00
Donation-Alumni (1)	200.00
Online Giving (1)	85.00
TOTAL	1,772.00

