

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor

Rev James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates

Deacon MJ Kersenbrock

Atkinson NE

402-925 2122 or Emergency 402-340-0277

stjosephatknson.org holtboydcatholic.org

March 07, 2021

Third Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon NO MASS

Tue NO MASS

Wed 8:15 AM + Ray Keogh

Thur No Mass

Fri 8:15 AM + Tom & Sharon Welsh Family

Sat NO Mass

Sun 8:30AM + Harvey & Loretta Grof

Confession 1/2 hr before weekend Masses

Fr. Weeder... will be offering a teaching on prayer along with adoration & confession on Sundays from 7—8pm during lent in church. The teachings will be different at the two locations in each region, but it won't be necessary to attend both in order to understand each teaching.

March 7—St Mary, Spencer

March 14—St Joseph, Atkinson



Taking The Vocation

Cross This Week—Brendan

Borer Family. The week of Mar.

14—Brian & Marie Welborn.

WE REMEMBER...those in need of special prayers:

Emma Lou Gunther, Kenny Fessler, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, Andy Hoffman, David Leiding, Lois Tunender, Mary Jo Closson, Tracy Nelson, Reese Keating, Judy Steimle, Carolyn Anderson & Harold Krumwiede.



Our Congratulations... to Bree Slaymaker who was cleansed in the waters of baptism on 2.27.21. Bree is the daughter of Bryan & Amber Slaymaker.



Tue., Mar. 9—Parish Council, 7pm, school lunch-room

Wed., Mar. 10—Adoration, 9am—3pm, CCD

Fri., Mar. 12—NO stations with school children due to spring break. **STUART**...Stations of the Cross @ 5pm & fish fry

Sat., Mar. 20—**ATKINSON**...Mass will be @ 5pm due to prom @ West Holt. No Sat. evening Mass in Stuart

Sun., Mar. 21—Poultry Party @ KC Hall...come win a turkey or a ham

Confession Schedule

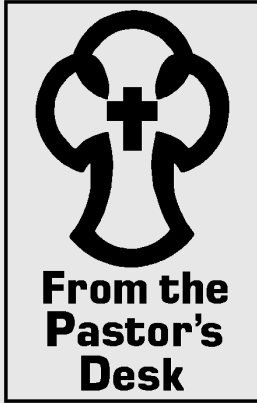
St Joseph—Atkinson

Thu., Mar. 18 & 25 from 7—8pm

St Boniface—Stuart

Tue., Mar. 23 & 30 from 6—7pm

A Second Collection. Catholic Relief Services will be next weekend. You are welcome to put your donation in the basket in the church vestibule. Your donation will help a hungry child eat, a war-torn nation build peace, and a refugee make a new life. Thanks in advance for any amount you are able to sacrifice.



**From the
Pastor's
Desk**

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

We find it easy to admire—even if we do not always imitate—the compassionate Jesus, but an angry Jesus armed with a corded whip, driving traders and moneychangers out of the Jerusalem temple, and overturning their tables, may shock us. This weekend’s gospel [John 2:13-25] does not actually use the word “angry,” but Jesus’s actions are played out against the backdrop of the “zeal” of Psalm 69:10, and the burning passion of the psalmist for God and the house of God, the Temple, that Mark places in the mouth of Jesus. This is the zeal that will consume Jesus in the hot noon of Calvary.

The cause of Jesus’s anger is not so much the money exchange or animal trading in the outer court of the temple. Foreign coinage that bore pagan or imperial images could not be accepted for the half-shekel tax for the upkeep of the temple sanctuary, and so it had to be exchanged for acceptable temple currency with which to pay this tax and buy sacrificial animals. John writes that “the Passover of the Jews was near,” and so those flocking to Jerusalem to celebrate this feast from all over the Roman Empire needed to buy the animals required for participation in the temple worship and the domestic rituals. They could do this most conveniently at the temple. Jesus is not unaware of the need for the money exchange, nor so naïve as not to know that petty pilfering and profiteering can be involved in these transactions. Something much more radical is happening: the reclamation of the holy place from marketplace to his Father’s house; from empty, atrophied ritual to living worship.

By his “parable in action,” Jesus momentarily terminates the temple worship, reclaims it from chaos and commerce, and cleanses the privileged piece of creation that is his Father’s house of prayer. No doubt a few hours later the tables were again in place, animals led back in, coins exchanged—with plenty to talk about! Yet the disturbing Jesus does not disappear from the scene; he has more “table turning” to do. He stays to answer the criticism of his opponents who can see no further than the temple built over forty-six years by human hands or who refuse to imagine or tolerate any alternatives to the religious practices and institutions that they consider faultless and unchangeable. In this Jesus stands in the line of the Hebrew prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, and Amos, who angrily and zealously denounced triumphalism and absolutism in worship (e.g., Isa 58:6-9; Jer 7:4-7; Hos 6:6; Amos 5:21-24). Jesus, too, will suffer the fate of so many prophets before and after him: rejection, persecution, even death. Jesus dares to name himself as the new and living temple in which the divine presence dwells. Ultimately, the sanctuary of his body will be destroyed in his passion and death, only to be raised again in three days. It is only after these events that his disciples will remember and understand Jesus’s words. The contemporary church cannot consider itself beyond the reach of Jesus’s whip or overturning hands. When church leaders connive with unjust and tyrannical civil leaders, when fundraising takes precedence over faith raising, when we refuse to tolerate or even imagine alternatives to religious practices and institutions (even when some of these are obviously in their death throes), when nostalgia for past liturgical practice resists the leading of the Holy Spirit into the future envisaged by Vatican II, then ecclesial “cleansing” is needed by prophets driven by that Spirit of Jesus. And like Jesus, these men and women may often be torn down and destroyed—but ultimately raised up by him. For us who are living stones in the temple of Christ’s Body, Lent is also a time for cleansing the deep personal sanctuary of our hearts, for driving out of our lives whatever clutters our discipleship, blocks our ears to the word of God and the prophets, and distracts us from trading justly and lovingly with the gifts God has given us.

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor

THE LORD’S PORTION—2.28.21

Adult Envelopes (21)	1,422.00
Loose Checks (1)	50.00
Loose Cash	5.00
Energy (14)	720.00
Online Giving (2)	40.00
TOTAL	2,237.00

LITURGICAL MINISTERS —MARCH 14

MASS TIMES	SAT (Stuart)	SUNDAY
EMHC		Shirley Rossman
LECTOR		Erin Jelinek
GIFTS		
ORGANIST		Diane Osborne
SERVERS		VOLUNTEERS
USHERS		

JESUS...IN YOU I AM NEVER ALONE, EVEN AT DIFFICULT MOMENTS, EVEN WHEN MY LIFE’S JOURNEY COMES UP AGAINST PROBLEMS AND OBSTACLES THAT SEEM INSURMOUNTABLE, AND THERE ARE SO MANY OF THEM! I ACCOMPANY YOU, I FOLLOW YOU, BUT ABOVE ALL I KNOW THAT YOU ACCOMPANY ME AND CARRY ME ON YOUR SHOULDERS. THIS IS MY JOY, THIS IS THE HOPE THAT I MUST BRING TO THIS WORLD