

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

May 16, 2021
7th Sunday of Easter

Mass Intentions for the Week

- Mon NO MASS
- Tue 10:00 AM + Clara Straka @ G Sam
- Wed 8:15 AM + Anton & Aloysia Tresnak
- Thu **8:15 AM** + Lawrence, Evelyn & Judy Skrdla
- Fri 8:15 AM + KCs
- Sat 6:00PM **in Stuart**
- Sun 8:30 AM + Frank & Rosemary Kilmurry
10:30AM **in Stuart**

Confession 1/2 hour before weekend Mass

*Names Are Being Accepted...*for school board election. Please call the school office, 402.925.2104, if you'd like to be a candidate.

*The Harvest Is Great,
Laborers Are
Few...* Taking the vocation crucifix this week—Joe & Patti Skrdla. The week of May 23—Roger & Gayle Jungman.

IS IT YOURS???
Found @ church...a pair of sunglasses & a John Deere cap. Please claim at the parish office.

WE REMEMBER...those in need of special prayers:
Emma Lou Gunther, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, Judy Steimle, Carolyn Anderson, Ron Schaaf, Adalynn Bouska, Leo Seger, Carleigh Jackson, Dan & Nancy Krysl, Phil Keating.

KC Meeting—Thu., May 20. Rosary prayed @ 7:15pm. Lotto-\$60. as Seth Miller wasn't present. Menu-turkey, stuffing & pie. Insurance needs-Mike Scholz, 308.991.6157. Hall rental-Wayne Baker, 402.340.0314.



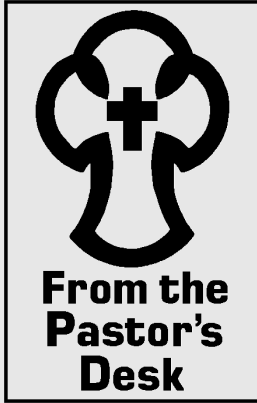
- Wed., May 19—Adoration, 9am—3pm
- Thu., May 20—KC meeting
- Sun., May 23—KC Breakfast, 8am—11
- Sat., May 29—Alumni Mass, **5pm**. There WILL NOT BE Mass that evening in Stuart.
- Sun., May 30—KC Breakfast, 8am—11
- Mon., May 31—8:30am Mass, SJ Cemetery

Sincere Condolences...
to the family of Marjorie Johnson. Marge was called to eternal life on May 7. May perpetual light shine on her.

Pillow cleaning on Tue., June 1 from 9—3:30 @ the KC Hall.



On Sunday, June 13...our parish will have a farewell party for Fr Weeder @ 5pm at the KC Hall. Everyone is invited to bring a meat dish and a salad, vegetable or a dessert. Tableware & drinks will be provided.



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

The first reading captures the meaning of this weekend's liturgical celebrations. Matthias, not one of the original followers of Jesus, is chosen to be "a witness to his resurrection." From Easter to Pentecost all the readings in effect present different aspects of what it means to be such a witness.

The gospel concludes the Johannine farewell discourses with a selection from what has been called "the Testament of Jesus," or his "high priestly prayer," one long prayer to his Father, so powerful and so poignant that it should be read in its entirety. The Lectionary excerpt is poorly chosen, since the prayer has three units: Jesus's prayer for himself (17:1-5), for his disciples (vv. 6-19), and for future believers (vv. 20-26). Among nonbiblical Jewish writings slightly earlier or contemporary with the New Testament, there is a collection called *Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs, or of Moses, narratives of the deaths of the great founding figures of Israel. These bid farewell to their loved ones, speaking of how God touched their lives and warning them of dangers they face. This literary genre has clearly influenced John 17. We are invited to listen as Jesus, whose death is imminent, gives voice to his deepest hopes for his loved ones.*

Jesus prays that the disciples may experience that unity he shares with his Father, that they may share in his joy, and that they will be consecrated in truth. Jesus also prays for their protection in a hostile world. His own life is a paradigm for the lives of believers. He comes from above, from presence with God, to an alien world that does not accept him, and then returns to the Father. The believer, in John, is born from above (1:12-13; 3:3), lives in a hostile and alien world (15:18-19; 16:33; 17:14, 16, 18); and, as Jesus returns to the Father, the destiny of his followers is to be with him (12:26; 14:2-3, 13).

The ambiguity of "the world" echoes throughout John. It was made "through him" (the Word) but did not recognize him (1:10-11). Jesus takes away the sin of the world, and God so loved the world that he gave his only Son; he is the living Bread that will be the life of the world (6:51). Yet "the world" often symbolizes the power of evil organized against Jesus and his followers (see especially 3:19; 15:18-19). Though other New Testament writings have a more positive attitude toward the world, and though the contemporary church is summoned to be engaged in the world and to discern the manifestations of goodness among non-Christians, in John, Jesus and the disciples come to the world not to change it but to challenge its values.

The mission should not be lost amid the contemporary change of attitude. Jesus asks his Father also to "consecrate them [literally 'make them holy'] in the truth." Holiness in the Bible is not primarily a moral category but is a way of speaking about living in the presence of God. It is more similar to a "zone" or "marked-off area," than a personal disposition. Disciples are to operate in this zone, which is also "in the truth." The Greek term for "truth," *aletheia*, means "unconcealment" or "revelation," removal of a veil, and in John refers principally to the unveiling or revelation of God in the life and teaching of Jesus (1:14, 17; 14:6, "I am the truth"). Jesus prays that the disciples will live in a zone of God's presence (holiness) as they faithfully witness to the truth of his life. The readings this Sunday before Pentecost provide a bridge between the continued celebration of the resurrection and yearning for God's Spirit, which will come only after the departure of Jesus. Jesus's prayer anticipates the coming of the Spirit of truth (14:7; 15:26). Today—after years of deplorable accounts of sexual and financial abuse in the church—this final wish of Jesus that his Father make the church holy in truth has a dramatic relevance.

Ad multos annos! Fr Bernard Starman, Pastor

From now until June 20 we'll be collecting \$\$\$ for Beginning Pregnancy Center in O'Neill. Each family is encouraged to take a baby bottle home, collect money & pray for the Center & its ministry. Bring your filled bottle back & we'll collect & take them to the Center. Direct ?? to Heather Slaymaker, 308.530.8827

THE LORD'S PORTION—05.09.21

Adult Env. (28)	1,657.00
Loose Checks (3)	550.00
Loose Cash	5.00
Easter (1)	100.00
Insurance (1)	100.00
Online Giving (6)	720.85
TOTAL	3,132.85

LITURGICAL MINISTERS — MAY 23

MASS TIMES	Sat.	SUNDAY
EMHC		Joe Skrdla
LECTOR		Don Slaymaker
GIFTS		
ORGANIST		Diane Osborne
SERVERS		Ezra Sholes Noah Sholes Mason Troidl
WEAR YOUR RED	IT'S PENTECOST!	THE BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH



Lectors

Are You Interested... in becoming an EMHC or Lector? High school juniors and seniors are also eligible for the training. ZOOM training will be available on Sun., Aug. 8, 2—3:30; Wed., Aug. 18, 6:30—8. Training will be done virtually over ZOOM.

Formación también en español de Agosto 18, 6:00-8:00pm. Llame a la oficina parroquial para obtener más información.



**Eucharistic
Ministers**