

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor

Rev. Ross Burkhalter, Senior Associate Pastor

Rev. Joseph Sund, Associate

Deacon MJ Kersenbrock

Atkinson NE

402-925 2122 or Emergency 402-340-0277

stjosephatknson.org holtboydcatholic.org

September 5, 2021

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon NO MASS

Tue 10:00 AM + Eleanor Jones @ GOOD SAM.

Wed 8:15 AM + LaVern Krieger

Thu NO MASS

Fri 8:15 AM + Anton & Aloysia Tresnak

Sat 6:00 PM + Gordon Dvorak

Sun 8:30 AM In Stuart

10:30 AM - Pro Populo

*Confession 1/2 hour before weekend
Mass*

Altar Society Members...It's time for dues of \$10.00 per lady in the parish. They will be accepted @ church the Sundays of Sept. 19 & 26. If you're out of town, you're encouraged to mail your check to Diane Rentschler, 47691 883rd Rd., Atkinson, NE 68713.

THANK YOU!

The Harvest Is Great, Laborers Are Few
Vocation crucifix this week—Jozette Kozisek. The week of Sept. 12—Bev Cone.



Let Us Warmly
VISITING PRIEST *Welcome...* Fr Augustine Gama as he makes an appeal for Mission Co-Op this weekend. Some give by going to the missions. Others go to the missions by giving.



Calendar

Wed., Sept. 8—Adoration, 9am—3pm

Sept. 11/12—Energy collection

Sept. 12—RCIA begins, 5pm @ St. Mary's High School

Sept. 18/19—Haiti collection

Sun., Sept. 19—Birthday Blessings, Fr. Sund!

Wed., Sept. 22—CCD begins...IF teachers are in place

Sept. 27—OACCW Convention, Divot's in Norfolk

CCD TEACHERS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR GRADES 4, 5, 6&7-combined, (they will begin confirmation) and 10-12 grades. PLEASE contact Linda Wolf, 402.340.0741.

There will not be classes for kindergarten.

Looking at the potential starting date of Wed., Sept. 22.

*Many Thanks...*to all who are sharing their delicious produce with fellow parishioners!



WE PRAY FOR...those in need of special prayers: Emma Lou Gunther, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, Judy Steimle, Adalynn Bouska, Dan & Nancy Krysl & Sally Manzer.

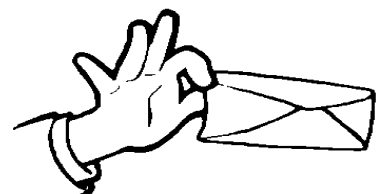


SEPTEMBER 11

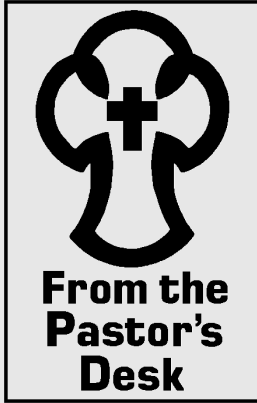
"WE WILL NEVER FORGET"

Twenty Years Ago

*The Energy Envelope...*found in your packet dated Sept. 4/5 will not be used until Sept. 11/12 as the missionary is here this weekend for the annual appeal.



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



In this weekend's gospel [Mark 7: 31-37], Jesus seems to make an involved and impractical journey into the Decapolis ("ten cities") that were previously under Jewish control but had become Gentile territory. Mark, however, is not concerned with geography but with announcing the boundary-breaking mission of Jesus, the Messiah for all nations. "They," the anonymous crowds that we can presume are Gentiles, bring to Jesus a man who is deaf and has an impediment in his speech, two obviously related disabilities. First-century Decapolis was not a world of computerized hearing aids or bionic ears, and in its predominately aural-oral culture a deaf person was at a severe disadvantage. So significant is hearing and speech to human relationships that, as we have heard in the first reading, the unsealing of the ears and the loosening of the tongue were considered by the prophets to be signs of the new, joyful, and healed creation that the messiah would herald. In the Scriptures, deafness and speech impediments are not just of physical concern. They are also symbolic of disciples in any age or situation who are deaf to the word of God and mute or incoherent in their response to and proclamation of it.

Very likely, the man in Mark's gospel had been the butt of jokes and unsympathetic mimicry as he stuttered his life away in his small, isolated world. Yet some of his acquaintances are compassionate enough to bring him to Jesus, begging Jesus to speak to the man in the only language he can understand—the language of touch. Jesus takes him away from the crowd, and even from his helpful companions. Perhaps this is because of Jesus's delicate consideration for the man, lest the amazed babble of the crowd at his cure is too overwhelming as his first hearing experience; or perhaps it is to ensure that the first words the man hears are the words of the Word.

The actions of Jesus are unusual and described in detail. Instead of the simple taking by the hand or laying on of hands in the miracles he worked in Jewish territory, there are fingers in the man's ears, touching of the man's tongue with Jesus's spittle, looking up to heaven, and sighing. Such folkloric actions resemble those of first-century faith healers and seem to be an "inculturation" of Jesus's miracle working in non-Jewish territory, a considerate translation into gestures that would have been familiar to a Gentile. Then Jesus speaks a single word: "*Ephphatha!*" and speaks it in his Aramaic mother tongue. Mark courteously translates it for us: "*Be opened!*" but the fact that he retained the Aramaic adds a note of privilege and respect to the human words of Jesus. It would not have been such an unintelligible word or a magical incantation in the Decapolis where many spoke a kind of Aramaic dialect. But it is more important that not only the deaf man hears this word, but that all who come to Jesus recognize this as the command to us of the most open One—open to God's will, open to healing of the suffering of our brothers and sisters.

What happens next is a new creation, such as that hoped for by Isaiah in the first reading. With open ears and unshackled tongue, the man speaks plainly—to Jesus, for they are on their own. Here is a model of discipleship that is recalled in the baptismal rite of every Christian. As the child's or adult's ears and mouth are touched by the minister of the sacrament, these words accompany the action in what is still called the *Ephphatha* rite: "*May the Lord Jesus, / who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak, / grant that you may soon receive his word with your ears / and profess the faith with your lips, / to the glory and praise of God the Father*" (Order of Baptism 65). Throughout our lives we need to come to Jesus or be brought to him by the compassion of others, for the healing of whatever is an impediment to our baptismal commitment.

Have a safe and happy Labor Day!

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor

THE LORD'S PORTION—08.29.21

Adult Env (28)	1,094.00
Loose Checks (4)	145.00
Loose Cash	73.00
Midweek Donations	50.00
St. Augustine's- Winnebago	191.00
Online Giving (4)	359.70
TOTAL	1,912.70

LITURGICAL MINISTERS — SEPT 11/12

MASS TIMES	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
EMHC	Landyn Mlady	Lindsey Nemetz
LECTOR	Kenny Tunender	Heather Slaymaker
GIFTS	Brian Mlady Family	Dennis Hytrek
ORGANIST	Terri Vrooman	Volunteer
SERVERS	Emersyn Mlady	A Cadwallader
	Mason Troidl Volunteer	Marek Dvorak Berkleigh Dvorak
USHERS (SEPT)	Gary Thurlow	Rylan Olson
	Jim Ramm	Braydon Olson
	Joe Schaaf	Chris Jelinek
	Volunteer	Tyler Jelinek



If You Or Someone You Know... is interested in joining the Catholic Church, RCIA classes will be beginning Sun., Sept. 12 @ 5pm at St. Mary's High School. Call the parish office for more info.

The Benedictine Peace Center in Yankton, SD... is offering two online Scripture Studies, using the Little Rock Scripture Study created by the Catholic Diocese of Little Rock in Arkansas. Both groups begin Sept. 29, with registration deadline of Sept. 22. S. Doris Oberembt will facilitate The Book of Exodus, part 1, online Wednesdays, 9:30 –11am for 5 wks. The Gospel of Luke, part 1 will meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm for 6 wks., also online. For more info, call 605.668.6292.