

**SECOND SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for March 7th Third Sunday of Lent**

*Exodus 20:1-17*

How have you shown wickedness to your children? Mercy?  
Which of the commandments is your greatest challenge right now?

*1 Corinthians 1:22-25*

What is your greatest folly or weakness?  
How do you wish God would use his power/wisdom for you now?

*John 2:13-25*

How has your own household been over cluttered or misused?  
What part of your life do you wish Jesus to enter and cleanse?

**WEEKDAY MASSES March 2 - 5**

Tues: 5:00 pm +Mavis & Fred Bonas  
Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Justin Kruk  
Thurs: 5:00 pm +Fr. Charles Leute  
Fri: 10:30 am **Maple Manor** +John B. & Julianna Kram (No Public is Allowed)

**WEEKEND MASSES March 6 - 7**

**Sat: St. Edward's - Nekoma NO MASS AT NEKOMA TODAY**

**5:00 pm St. Alphonsus** +Mike Gellner  
**Reader:** Corey Stremick  
**EMHC:** Carol Hoffarth

**Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus** +Wayne Gendreau & The People of the Parishes  
**Reader:** Carleen Schill  
**EMHC:** Alan Schill  
**Musicians:** Bob & Cantor

**St. Michael's - Wales NO MASS AT WALES TODAY**

**10:30 am St. Alphonsus** +Young Ja Kim  
**Reader:** Zach Schaefer  
**EMHC:** Bev Otto  
**Musicians:** Bob & Cantor

**Fellowship Hall Host:** Duane & Bev Otto

**Fr. Michael Hickin's cell phone: 701-891-1238**

**Website for St. Alphonsus Parish - <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>**

**Confessions: Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays after Mass or  
by appointment**

**Weekly Reflection for February 21 & Ash Wednesday, 2021:** This week's  
reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$3,328.00
Intentional Givers	\$650.00
Plate	\$412.00
Children	\$50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,440.00</b>

## Second Sunday of Lent

One day, Abraham is told by God to take his son Isaac to a place where he is to sacrifice the boy as a burnt offering. Abraham is distraught, but prepares to obey God. The journey is long and its account is painful to read. Isaac starts to ask why there is no animal for the sacrifice. Abraham evades the issue by saying that God will provide the sacrifice. The tension builds up until the point that Abraham is prepared to kill his son on the stone altar. Eventually Isaac must know what his father intends to do. Then God acts. An angel stays Abraham's hand and the boy is freed. A ram caught in a thicket is sacrificed instead.

What are we to make of the story? Did God really want Abraham to kill his son? Had Abraham misunderstood God's instructions? The Hebrew word for a burnt offering sacrifice is also the word for "ascending" – a sacrifice where the victim went up in smoke, towards God. So is it possible that God wanted Abraham to give up his son, in other words to let him go free? Was Abraham, who waited so long for this son, so protective that, instead of Isaac being the means for God's promise to be fulfilled, he was hampered by his father's protective action? We can imagine that Isaac needed to be freed from his father's overpowering attention if he was to carry out his part in God's plan.

Taken from The Living Word

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

"Here I am!" he answered." - GENESIS 22:11

It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbor needs our help, when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it's not convenient for us. Discipleship is not always easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.

**GOD'S GIFT APPEAL** - Our theme this year is *Steadfast in Faith, Joyful in Hope*. You can watch the video shown in church 2 weeks ago by visiting <https://fargodiocese.net/godsgiftappeal>.

In 1958, the Fargo diocese leadership moved away from assessing each parish a 'tax' to fund the activities of the bishop. They then adopted a model of diocesan funding called *God's Gift Appeal* - gifts freely given by parishioners in support of their bishop and the diocese. This annual effort not only supports the ministry of Bishop Folda but also more than 40 other ministries that reach across our diocesan community.

The Knights of Columbus would like to announce the winners of their "Keep Christ in Christmas" coloring contest. Kindergarten – Aiden Chaput, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Ryker Domres, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Brianna Wild, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Danilynn Thompson.

**The Knights of Columbus are planning a men's retreat Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> of March** for any brother knight that would want to attend. Admission is free, all you need to do is stop by the cafeteria after 10:30 Mass. There will be a breakfast, a rosary to follow, and then a presentation by Fr. Hickin. They are always enlightening, so please feel free to attend.

Nothing will transform your life so completely, absolutely, and forever like really learning how to pray. That's why this year's BEST LENT EVER journeys through Matthew Kelly's latest book, *I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit*. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through all forty days of Lent, you will receive a daily email with a short video to help you reconnect with yourself and your God. If you choose to throw yourself into this experience, we promise you that you will be surprised by what God can do in your life with just an email, a short video and an open heart. So this year, don't just sign up for BEST LENT EVER, have your best lent ever! Sign up at [dynamiccatholic.com](http://dynamiccatholic.com). Journals are also available for ordering on the website.

**Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages** – Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program that has helped hundreds of thousands of hurting married couples turn the tide, find a new hope, and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. Surveys have shown that 3 out of 4 couples who complete the entire program are still married five years later with stronger, healthier marriages. Retrouvaille will be held locally March 5 – 7 in Fargo. For more information visit [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or contact us at 701-356-7962 or via email at [RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org](mailto:RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org).

## **PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS**

**Our Sympathy** to the families of Alice Metzger who was called home last week. May she rest in the love of the Father.

**Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday's at 7:00pm in the church during lent.**

**Knights of Columbus will have a Fish Fry every Friday during lent.** Serving from 5:00 – 7:00pm in the cafeteria. Everyone welcome. Takeout available and Delivery is available by calling 256-2354 extension 115

Catholic Daughters meeting will be on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm in the KC Room

Altar Society meeting will be on Monday, March 8 at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall.

**Cavalier County Friends for Life will not be holding their annual Friends for Life Brunch this February 2021, due to the pandemic.** We ask for your support to meet our monthly commitments in support of the Pregnancy Help Center in Park River, St. Gianna Home in Warsaw, the Women's Pregnancy Center in Grand Forks, the Perry Center in Fargo and Women's Care Clinic in West Fargo. Your contribution also pays for abortion alternative listings for help in the Durum Triangle and United Communications telephone directories. If you wish to renew your \$10 membership or become a new member, you may also do so at this time. Membership fees and/or donations in support of our mission may be made out to Cavalier County Friends for Life and mailed to Duane Otto (Treasurer) at 1114 5th Street, Langdon, ND 58249. Your continued support is greatly appreciated, thank you so much!!

**PARISH MISSION** - Thank you to all who participated in and contributed to our Parish Mission to kick off the Lenten Season. Special thanks to the Altar Society and the excellent job they did hosting the gatherings afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

We were a little concerned that Fr. Metzger was leaving for Fargo in blowing snow. Thanks for sending him off with a warm blessing. His mother called the following day looking for how to access the live-streamed conferences. She shared our concerns about the weather but spoke that common parental refrain, "No news is good news."

**ST. MICHAEL'S, WALES - MARCH 3,** All-Parish meeting, 7:00pm, at the Parish Hall, Wales.

**ST A'S PARISH COUNCIL** met last Tuesday, Feb 23. Excellent meal of salad and chicken alfredo catered by the Bread Pan. We welcomed Susan Brandjord from EllieAnn's Designs, Bottineau. She brought tile samples and had photos of carpet samples. As soon as we get in numbers for the various parts of the project we will be ready to make some decisions.

Doug Henning of Henning Restorations, Forest Lake, MN, had to cancel last week and is supposed to attempt another visit on Thursday, Feb 25. He did some renderings for Fr. Bill back in 2003. He's to look at our church and see if there's a possible working relationship here.

Patrick Ratigan of Ratigan-Schottler Manufacturing, Beatrice, NE is still due to pay us a visit soon to inspect our church pews.

Please pray to Saint Joseph during this Year of Joseph for the work ahead.

**PHOTOS OF ST A'S** - We've had some good fortune with a few people contacting us with old photos of the church. So our appeal remains ongoing. The photos give us an idea of how things once looked and fill in some of our many unanswered questions about the history of our church. Please keep sending them and keep the conversation going.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Fridays at 7:00pm. Holy Week comes and goes so quickly. This centuries old devotion is training for our minds and hearts. Walking the Way of Suffering and Love with Jesus sets the tone for our Lenten journey. He coaches by example.

**LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE,** Thursday, March 25, 5:30pm. We welcome Fr John Kizito, Fr William McDermott, Fr Brian Moen who will be for us channels of God's Infinite Mercy.

**Fellowship Hall Cleaning for March** – 6 – Julie Fisk & Jaime Zeis; 13 – Megan Overby & McKinzie Sivertson; 20 – Marie Mack & Lia Olson; 27 – Lori Roy & Mauri Roy