

WORDS FROM THE PASTOR
Solemnity of Ascension Thursday on Sunday
May 16th, 2021

Calendar:

- **05/15/21 Saturday:** 1:00PM Homeschool Graduation St. Michael's, Grand Forks, ND
- **05/15/21 Saturday:** 6:30PM Sts. Peter & Paul, Bechyne 40th Wedding Anniversary Celebration for Pat and Karen Restad
- **05/18/21 Tuesday:** 8PM Marriage Prep
- **05/19/21 Wednesday:** 7:30PM Marriage Prep
- **05/21/21 Friday:** Friday Men's Prayer Breakfast St. John's. 5:30 Breakfast; 6AM Discussion and Prayer; 7AM Eucharistic Adoration; 8AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
- **05/21/21 Friday:** 7PM Marriage Prep
- **05/22/21 Saturday:** 10AM St. Mark's Cemetery – Burial for Aldin Burris and Carol Burris-Mergner
- **05/22/21 Saturday:** 1PM St. Catherine's Cemetery, Lomice – Burial for Richard Balek
- **05/22/21 Saturday:** 6:15 PM Sts. Peter & Paul – Kaleb Hodny Graduation Ice Cream Social
- **05/23-26/21 Sunday Evening thru Wednesday:** Fr. Lefor absent from parishes to attend Ordinations and First Masses of Logan Obrigewitch and Paul Gardner in Bismarck, Beulah, and New England

Pastor's Notes:

- Many repairs were accomplished on St. John Nepomucene's physical structure this past week. All the windows' protective shields damaged by the wind storm were repaired. The rain gutters were repaired until they are replaced this summer. The GEO Thermal heater in the entry way that has been non-functioning for many years was re-plumbed and repaired and is working once again. We now have a source of economical heat in our entry way. The hot water to the kitchen sink and sacristy has been fixed. And new LED light fixtures were installed in all of the basement stairwells and hallways. A **HUGE THANK YOU** to Jerry Slinger for the use of his lift, to Joey and John Miller for the

use of their tractor trailer and flat bed, and to Gabe Carlson for the excellent work and donated labor.

- May 16 is the Feast Day of St. John Nepomucene. Since he is the patron saint of Pisek, ND, it is actually a solemnity for us. However, because the Ascension has been relegated to this Sunday (and it is already a Solemnity), it takes precedence over St. John's Feast Day this year. Still please make note that this Sunday is a very important spiritual moment for all who have Czech heritage. There is also an excellent article regarding St. John in this month's New Earth.
- In his early childhood, John Nepomucene was cured of a disease through the prayers of his good parents. In thanksgiving, they consecrated him to the service of God. After he was ordained, he was sent to a parish in the city of Prague. He became a great preacher, and thousands of those who listened to him converted to the Christian way of life. Father John was invited to the court of Wenceslaus IV. He settled arguments and did many kind deeds for the needy people of the city. He also became the queen's confessor. When the king was cruel to the queen, Father John taught her to bear her cross patiently. One day, about 1393, the king asked Fr. John to tell him what the queen had said in confession. When Father John refused, he was thrown into prison. A second time, he was asked to reveal the queen's confession. "If you do not tell me," said the king, "you shall die. But if you obey my commands, riches and honor will be yours." Again Father John refused. He was tortured. The king ordered him to be thrown into the river, where he drowned. At the place where he died a strange brightness appeared upon the water. He is known as the "martyr of the confessional." He is the Patron Saint of Czechoslovakia, where he is invoked against floods and against slander.
- Please go to our website plbnd.org to find all of the prayers necessary to fulfill the Novena to the Holy Spirit

In May of 2021 the Diocese of Fargo granted St. John Nepomucene an emergency loan for \$82,100 for the repair of its roof. \$79,100 plus 3% interest remains on this loan. \$3,000 has been received toward this loan. Thank you for this immediate and generous response!

St. John Nepomucene, St. Joseph, and Sts. Peter & Paul, Pray for Us!