

WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

Sixteenth Sunday Ordinal Time

July 18th, 2021

Calendar:

- **07/18/21 thru 07/22/21 Sun thru Thur:** Fr. Lefor gone from Parishes teaching at St. Benedict Youth Camp
- **07/18/21 thru 07/22/21 Sun thru Thur:** NO DAILY MASS
- **07/22/21 Thursday:** 5PM Daily Mass
- **07/23/21 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
- **07/23/21 Friday:** Randall Construction delivers heavy equipment for St. John's Roof Repair
- **07/23/21 Friday:** 5PM Wedding Rehearsal Warsaw
- **07/24/21 Saturday:** 8AM Mass for Azalea Weinand Baptism
- **07/24/21 Saturday:** 2PM Wedding Young/Waskom – Warsaw
- **07/26/21 Monday:** St. John's Roof Repair begins

Words from the Pastor

- Sometime on Friday afternoon/evening a south window on St. John's Church was broken. I suspect that the person who did it is not even aware that it happened. It could have been from the mowing or from an All-Terrain Vehicle driving by. There has been a heavy amount of off road vehicles speeding around the Church and doing cookies in the parking lot. The loose gravel shatters the siding on the church and breaks windows. I ask people to spread the word to drive with caution around the church. And as much fun as doing cookies can be, please refrain from doing them in the parking lot or on the south road between the cemetery and the church. Thank-You.

Jesus and Loneliness: A key aspect of the Gospel of Mark is Jesus' solitude and silence. Continually Jesus withdrew from people, daily life activities, and the demands of his ministry to be alone with the Father and pray. His ongoing, intimate relationship with his Father was the source of his compassion, wisdom, and power. The priority of Jesus' solitude and silence is everywhere in the Gospels. It's how he began his ministry. It's how he made important decisions. It's how he dealt with troubling emotions like grief. It's how he dealt with the constant demands of his ministry and cared for his soul. It's how he taught his disciples. It's how he prepared for important ministry events. It's how he prepared for his death on the cross. Jesus invites us to join him in his solitude so we can experience God as a loving Father. Here is a chronological list of Bible verses from Mark that highlight Jesus' solitude and silence:

“At once the Spirit sent [Jesus] out into the desert, and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.” (Mark 1:12)

“Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee... ‘Come, follow me,’ he said.” (Mark 1:16)

“Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” (Mark 1:35)

“Despite Jesus’ plea that his miracles be kept secret the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.” (Mark 1:45)

“Once again Jesus went out beside the lake.” (Mark 2:13)

“One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grain fields, and his disciples walked along.” (Mark 2:23)

“Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the lake, and a large crowd from Galilee followed.” (Mark 3:7)

“Jesus went out to a mountain side to pray, and spent the night praying to God. When morning came, he called his disciples to him.” (Mark 3:13)

“Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables.” (Mark 4:1.)

“Because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, [Jesus] said to [his disciples], ‘Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.’ So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.” (Mark 6:31-32)

“After [Jesus] had dismissed [the crowds], he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was [still] there alone.” (Mark 6:46)

“[Jesus] entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret.” (Mark 7:24)

“Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, ‘Who do the crowds say I am?’” (Mark 8:27)

“Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them.” (Mark 9:2)

“They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid.” (Mark 10:32.)

“When [Jesus and his disciples] had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.” (Mark 14:26).

“They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Sit here while I pray.’” (Mark 14:32)

“They crucified [Jesus]... Darkness came over the whole land... Jesus called out with a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.’” (Mark 15:25, 33;)

In May of 2021 the Diocese of Fargo granted St. John Nepomucene an emergency loan for \$82,100 for the repair of its roof. \$71,350 plus 3% interest remains on this loan. Thank you for everyone’s immediate and generous response to this unforeseen need! **Thank You!**

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