

## FROM FR. MARK SEIKER ... Oct. 3, 2021

**NEW Parish Picture Directory** ... at the Parish Council meeting on August 12, 2021, it was decided that we would begin working with **Unique Church Solutions** (a Picture Directory Company from Mansfield Ohio) to produce a Parish Picture Directory for our Parishes.

Our dates for photography will be: **November 15 (taken at St. Joseph, Giltner), 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 2021.** The photograph times are **M-F 2:00pm – 8:30pm and Saturday 10:30am-4:00pm.** We need volunteers to help with the sign-up process for our families. Please contact: **Sharon Ousey (402-631-8915) this week** to volunteer to be a part of this project.

Universal Church Directories is widely known for top quality directories and photography. They will correct any glass glare (*if you wear glasses*). Their photographer will take pictures and you will view your proofs electronically immediately following your photography. **Please Sign Up ONLINE.** When you choose to schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to the Universal website, [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com), click on the yellow sunburst icon, enter **NEI43** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time.

There will **also** be **opportunities** for you to **Sign Up In Person after Mass** on: **Sat., Oct. 9 and Sun., Oct. 10; Sat., Oct. 16 and Sun., Oct. 17; Sat., Oct. 23 and Sun., Oct. 24.** Pictures will be taken at both St. Mary Parish Hall and St. Joseph Parish Hall. Please plan to be a part of our Parish Picture Directory.

**Bishop's Appeal for Vocations (BAV) ...** "We are servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God (1Cor. 4:1)". Last week Bishop Conley's letter for the Bishop's Appeal for Vocations was read & THIS week (10/2-3/21), there will be two Seminarians here to speak to us (*at announcement time*) about the Bishop's Appeal for Vocations. This year, the Bishop's Appeal for Vocations will be handled similar to the Charity and Stewardship Appeal, meaning that **every family in the Parish has a card** which will be **available on a table in the Parish Hall THIS Weekend** and **NEXT weekend.** **Our Parish Goals are: St. Mary = \$5,980.00; St. Joseph = \$940.00.** This is our share of the Diocesan goal of \$800,000 which has been established by Bishop Conley. Your gifts and your prayers for our seminarians are much appreciated! *Unlike CSA which is a Pledge, BAV is a One-Time Donation, NOT a Pledge. If you did NOT donate last year, would you please be able to donate something to the education of our future priests this year? Whether \$50.00 or \$20.00 or \$10.00. No gift is too small.* **Please support the Bishop's Appeal for Vocations.**

JOIN us Saturday, Oct. 2, after 5:00pm Mass, for a Husker football party in the Hall. Father Seiker is inviting all parishioners to come out Saturday night, and meet 2 seminarians who will share their stories at all of the Masses this weekend, as part of the Bishop's Appeal for Vocations.

Please bring your favorite tailgate snack to share. Lemonade and water will be provided. We'll project the game on the 2 west walls in the Hall (game starts at 6:30pm) and will cheer the Huskers on to victory!

Enjoy food, football and fellowship!

**RCIA Classes** ... Fr. Mark Seiker is leading an RCIA process (Inquiry class in the Faith) and will continue until a few weeks after Easter (mid May 2022). The classes are **Mondays in the Parish Hall, 7:00pm – 9:00pm.** These classes are open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. **For Catholics, it is a good opportunity to learn more about your faith.** Share your faith with a friend by coming with your friend to these RCIA classes. **It is not too late to join the classes. There is a great group of persons participating and more are welcome!**

It is always better to participate in the RCIA classes in person. However, if you have some challenging schedules, it would be possible to participate in the RCIA through the ZOOM software (either on a computer or your phone ... however, it will be easier to see the presentation on a computer screen than on a phone). **The ZOOM information will remain the same for the whole year of RCIA: Meeting ID: 629 734 5912; Passcode: RCIA2021.**

**"October Pro-Life Diaper Drive"** ... This is an opportunity for all of us to show support for the women that choose not to have an abortion and now need our help in supporting that baby. All diapers are helpful, however sizes 4, 5, 6, are most in need. Everyone's assistance is greatly needed and appreciated. You may also make monetary donations. Checks should be payable to LDCCW and mailed to LDCCW, 3600 W Wittstruck Rd, Martell, NE 68404.

**Repair and Painting of Two Walls in the Hall** ... a volunteer has repaired the dry wall (*which had tears or holes from things being hung on the wall over the years*) and has repainted the walls. Thank you very much! This is a great service to the Lord and to our Parish. Perhaps this would be a good time to refer to some words spoken to me decades ago by a Parishioner ... It has been suggested to me that a person should be appointed as the "Guardian of Beauty" to insure that little or big things will not be added to the Church which would clutter up the beauty of the Church. Until such a person is appointed, anyone who wants to put anything in or around the Church or the Hall should first ask permission of the Pastor, or members of the Parish Council, or Officers of the Knights of Columbus or Altar Society. **Really, we should all be "guardians of beauty"!**

**Pray for our Seminarians: Rev. Mr. Tony Clint Schukei**, from St. Teresa Parish in Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2016. He is in Theology 4 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

**National Life Chain** ... Please plan to participate the National Life Chain this year. Life Chain is the largest, peaceful, prayerful pro-life witness in the world. For 34 years, pro-life Christians across the United States and Canada have publicly, prayerfully, and peacefully stood each Fall in prayer and repentance on behalf of legalized abortion. These Life Chains have spread to more than 2,000 cities all over North America. See [www.LifeChain.org](http://www.LifeChain.org). The Hamilton County Life Chain will gather today, **Sunday, October 3, from 2:00pm-3:00pm** at **13<sup>th</sup> and Q Streets in Aurora.** Public parking is available between the swimming pool & tennis courts. Please join us and **Stand for Life** with us for one hour. Signs available in Parish Hall after Mass & at 13<sup>th</sup> & Q Streets, 1:30pm–2:00pm.

**Pray the Rosary during October for LIFE ...** EWTN, Relevant Radio, and Napa Institute announce joint effort to pray & promote the daily rosary during the month of October for **"the end to legal abortion in America and an outpouring of support for expectant mothers."**

With the Supreme Court of the United States taking up the Dobbs case in December that could lead to overturning Roe v. Wade, the justices will need the grace of wisdom and courage to confront the issues honestly. Hopefully many other Catholic organizations will join this effort by praying and promoting the daily Rosary in October for this intention, and thus mobilize millions of Americans in prayer.