

## FROM FR. MARK SEIKER ... Sept. 26, 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. (Please note: dates changed two weeks ago! The representative for Unique Church Solutions met with our Parish Picture Directory Committee on Monday, Sept. 13 for the first time. We learned that another parish cancelled their scheduled time with Unique Church Solutions, & thus we are able to have one full week.) 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)". This week Bishop Conley's letter for the Bishop's Appeal for Vocations will be read & next 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 NEXT Weekend and for two weekends. 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.

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). It is not too late to join the classes on Mondays (which began Sept. 13) in the Parish Hall from 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. If you are interested call the Rector or see Father Mark Seiker. Our faith is to be treasured, preserved, and lived, but it is also to be shared ... share your faith with a friend by coming with your friend to these RCIA 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.

MAGNIFICATS for CCD Teachers ... are available on the table outside Classroom D (Navy's Office) with your name on a label!

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"!

## Fr. Mark Seiker Gone from the Parishes ...

Cursillo International ZOOM Meeting ... on Friday (Sept. 17) evening & Saturday (Sept. 18) all day, was a very good opportunity to pray, talk and interact with Cursillistas from across the country and other countries, even though it was virtual.

Cursillo Grand Ultreya ... on Sunday, Sept. 19, was also very good. All persons are invited to continue to encourage each other "Onward" in living our Catholic Faith!

## Monthly Jesus Caritas Meeting (Monday, Sept. 27)

... For almost 20 years, I have been meeting once a month with 5 other Priests in a Jesus Caritas Group (that means, the love, the heart, the charity of Jesus) to pray, share our lives, and enjoy each other's company. I will be leaving around 1:00pm, & return for 7:00pm RCIA.