

PARISHES  
OF

ST. BONIFACE  
ELGIN

ST. BONAVENTURE  
RAEVILLE

# THE STUMP & AXE

OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2017

VOL. 27, NO. 10

It has been on my heart that we need some encouraging words of hope. We look around and see signs that our world, God's vineyard, is not being as fruitful as it could be: as we are looking at planning for the future, there is the sadness of parish numbers declining, so many are no longer interested in our Christian faith, the pressures of keeping our parishes and schools going in both financial burdens and people willing to help with events and ministries, and fewer priests to serve. Put on top of that the recent natural disasters and horrendous acts of evil in our country.

Instead of only seeing the bad, St. Paul says "whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (Philippians 4:8) Pope Francis has reminded us that we are to be missionaries of hope. Let me be a missionary of hope for you today.

I want to spend some moments sharing with you a vision of hope that I have for our parishes and schools. We have been given a vision for our Archdiocese: One Church, Encountering Jesus, Equipping Disciples, Living Mercy. What could this look like in our parishes? Even though we are small, even though we can't stop demographic change, we have the foundations for something amazing.

I dream that every single person in our parishes has a profound encounter with Jesus Christ. That he would break into our lives in a new way. Yes, I knew God loved me before, but now I know, I have met him in a way that makes everything different. I cannot go back to just doing things my own way, he is the center of my life now. I envision that our parishes focus, above all else, on providing opportunities that every person may meet the Lord in that way. That all would come to see the good, the bad, the joyful, the sad moments that happen to us each day in a different light, the light of Christ. That we would be renewed in our love for the Sacraments. Coming to experience the Mass as what it is, the place where heaven and earth meet, believing in a deeper way that this is Jesus himself, his Body and Blood that we receive. I dream that as our love for Jesus grows, our dissatisfaction with our own sinfulness would grow as well. We would be convinced that there is no place where we can experience God's love and mercy more than when we enter the confessional. That we get to hear the words of Jesus himself, through the voice of the priest - that you are loved and forgiven, O Child of God!

I dream that our longing for Jesus increases in our entire parish to the point that we make more time in our lives for prayer, especially time in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. Oh, if that would happen, having a lot of Eucharistic adorers, then the Lord could do even more amazing things! The more we love the Lord, the more we want to know him, so adult formation opportunities are asked for and attended. Parents look to our schools and Family Formation programs to help pass the faith on to their children. They choose our schools and Family Formation because they themselves are being impacted by Christ in their own life. They want their children to know the Lord the way they do. The parish provides and parents avail themselves of adult formation, knowing that only by living out the faith at home will their children truly grow in that faith as well. Our students challenge each other to grow as disciples, being witness to their peers to turn to Christ and avoid the empty temptations of the world.

Empowered by learning about our faith, being forgiven in frequent confession, reception of the Eucharist, and time in prayer before the Lord, God's love would overflow into the desire to introduce others to the One whom we now love above all else. Our parishes would begin even more to seek out those outside our parish communities, those in need: the poor, the sick, the elderly, the lonely. We would no longer fall into the trap of thinking the priest should do everything, or that's what parish staff is for, or some other volunteer will do it. Instead the love of Christ compels us to ask, God what is it that you want me to do? For example, walking with those who suffer, we can be Christ at their side, helping them understand the power of suffering united with Christ.

In the midst of serving our neighbor, we would learn how to naturally share our faith. How to gently invite others to experience the same Jesus who has changed our lives. We would want people to come to our parish to meet Christ, and not contact them only to try to get them to work or give money. We want Jesus to change their lives the way he has done so in our own.

Is this too much to hope for? Hope is not a misplaced optimism. Hope is confidence in the transforming power of God's Spirit at work in our hearts, in our parishes, and in our world. Even if we see signs that our world, God's vineyard, is not as healthy as it could be, God has a vision, a plan, for it to be renewed. Even the fact that when He sent his Son, he was killed, cannot stop God. In the words of Pope Francis, "We know that evil will not have the upper hand, and that God's love, revealed on the Cross, will ultimately triumph."

*Fri. Vogel*



**Father Vogel has a Q & A Question and Answer section** in our monthly "Stump and Axe" newsletters. If you have a religious related question you are wondering about, just jot it down and put it in the collection basket marked "Q&A" or email it to Linda at [Imoser@stbonparishes.com](mailto:Imoser@stbonparishes.com). Father will address as many as possible each month.

**Question:** I'm not condoning liturgical dance but how come we can't do it if David danced before the ark of the covenant?

**Answer:** In some cultures, both today and in the past, certain kinds of dance were tied to prayer and worship. In our western culture, dance is tied to a number of meanings, none of which involve worship of God and some forms can be quite profane. Because of the cultural meaning of dance it cannot be introduced into the liturgy. Whenever attempts have been made in the past (contrary to church law) the effect has been to create an atmosphere of personal performance and entertainment rather than worship of God. David's dance (2 Samuel 6) is in the context of a procession of the ark to the temple. Today we still have processions, for example, at the beginning of Mass and Eucharistic Processions.

## Vocations Committee September 15, 2017

- Pennies from Heaven Report: Current Balance \$2,413.80.
  - Serra dues of \$100 will be paid.
  - It was noted that Luke Schmitt of Albion, along with Zach Eischeid, are in the seminary. Jacob Olson and Brynn Nelson of Albion are Focus missionaries. Will discuss funding for them at future meeting.
  - Priest card program: Fr. Kramper was happy to receive our cards that were left from the program.
  - The Missionary Benedictine Sisters will be invited to parish events to increase exposure for our youth: Raeville's Soup Supper, Elgin's Bazaar and Auction. They will also be invited to come to our school and spend time with the youth. If the day would be a Wednesday of Family Formation they will be invited to attend also. Dennis Wiehn will contact the Sisters and Anne Meis will coordinate with Betty Getzfred.
  - Promote the Call. The date had not been set and after discussion, Father Vogel plans to do a mini-series of homilies on the priesthood like he did for the sacrament of marriage. We will discuss further at next meeting.
  - "Toys that Inspire": Linda Kerkman shared the enthusiasm with which the Mass kits and priest/sister dress up clothes were received and the encouragement she heard to "go deeper"..... to produce more and sell on a bigger scale. Seamstresses and other help were talked about. The Spirit will lead.
  - Zach Eischeid: An idea was shared to encourage prayer for Zach and other seminarians. Judy Zegers will work with the office on this project. She will report at the next meeting.
  - Priesthood Sunday, October 29th: See note above about homilies that Father will give around this time. November 5-12 is Vocation Awareness Week.
  - Vision Magazine: We will order 100 copies, 65 for Pope John and others to send to our "promote the call" names.
  - Next Meeting: October 11th, 7 pm in church basement.
- Submitted by Linda Kerkman

## Family Formation October 4, 2017

- Our evening began Wednesday, October 4 with Mass at 6:30 pm. Our Mass intention was for the soul of Annemarie Prybylowski. The Jason and Kerri Koenig family brought up the gifts. Mass collection was \$81.75.
- Items for the Food Pantry: 25 lbs. and 6 oz.
- Topic for Father's talk was "Where Heaven and Earth Meet". This topic would be wonderful to have a sequel of. At St. Boniface/St. Bonaventure we have been blessed to have Father Vogel. Father's love for our Lord, is so enthusiastic in these presentations and it really shows in all the hard work he put into the slide presentation to give us all visuals. Along with our Family Formation parents, people attending Father's talks are increasing. Just to let everyone know that you are more than WELCOME to join us after Mass. Just proceed to basement and feel free to sit anywhere.
- This year we will have three students receiving their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion: Kaidynce Schrad, daughter of Cassie Schrad and Ben Schrad; Ryden Renken, son of Jason and Kerri Koenig; and Kahnen Pelster, son of Randy and Brenda Pelster.
- Along with Seminarian Kyle Loecker, we will be praying and also supporting with our Mass collections our home town seminarian Zach Eischeid.
- At this session parents were given information about an upcoming LoveEd Parent Seminars. One will be Thursday, November 2 in Omaha and another Sunday November 5 at Sacred Heart in Norfolk. LoveEd is a brand new program that helps empower parents to teach both the theology and science within the context of God's plan for love and life. Presented by well known speaker/radio personality/author of LoveEd, Coleen Kelly Mast.
- Next Mass/Parent/Student Session: Wed., November 8 at 6:30 pm. Topic: "I Believe"
- Next Student-only Class: Wednesday, November 15 from 5-6 pm.

Submitted by Cheryl Veik, Coordinator

## St. Boniface Altar Society Worklist

- Church Cleaning:** Circle 5 November (3<sup>rd</sup> week)
- Kookie Klatch:** Circle 3- Oct. 21 at The Willows- 2pm  
No Kookie Klatch during the months of Nov. & Dec.
- Next Funeral:** Circle 1 (Circle 5 & 6 had Peggy Schmitt)
- Next Charity:** Circle 5 - Clean Convent for Bazaar
- Next Meeting:** December 18, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

## Newsletter Sponsor



Many thanks to Bob & Phyllis Tharnish for sponsoring this months "Stump & Axe". Bob & Phyllis Tharnish have been St. Boniface Parishioners and active for many years in our parish. They have four boys, seven grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Many thanks for your support!

## Vocations Committee October 11, 2017

□ Pennies from Heaven: Current Balance \$2,426.50. We have received 20 books for "Praying for our Priests." We will send \$50 to Mary Queen of the Clergy, PO Box 540657, Omaha, 68154. We also agreed to send our seminarian, Zach Eischeid \$500 to help with expenses. We will send a letter with the gift.

□ New Member: Karen Eischeid accepted the call to be a new member on our committee.

□ Dennis Wiehn spoke with Sr. Celine about the sisters coming to Elgin and she will be working out the details with Anne Meis and Betty Getzfred for Catholic Schools Week. Dennis will also invite the sisters to attend our parish events to increase exposure for our youth.

□ Vision magazine: Anne Meis has developed the worksheets for the days when a substitute is needed for a theology class. In the past we could order so many copies for the youth to use. That is no longer available. The students will need to go to the website provided.

□ Promote the Call: Father Vogel will do mini-series homilies on the Priesthood beginning October 29th. The "Promote the Call" announcement will be in the bulletin for several weekends and then the cards will be in the pews.

□ New Adorers are needed. Father Vogel will speak about Adoration in his homily Oct 15th. The parish roster sheets were divided and handed out. The names should be submitted to Linda Kerkman by November 5th. Times needing more people will be emailed to the committee.

□ Mass for the deceased priests and religious will be November 5 at 10:00 am Mass.

□ Priesthood Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>. See note above about homilies that Father will give around this time. November 5-12 is Vocation Awareness Week. Several other ideas were discussed. Coffee and Rolls will be provided by the Altar Society on October 29 for Pastor Appreciation.

□ Next Meeting dates: February 22, 2018 and March 20, 2018 at 7 pm in the church basement.

Submitted by Linda Kerkman

## Stewardship & Evangelization Committee October 18, 2017

□ New Members are Scott Becker and Wanda Linnaus. They were welcomed and thanked for saying yes to serving on this committee.

□ Evangelization Efforts:

\*\*Grief Ministry is now underway.

See [goodmourningministry.net](http://goodmourningministry.net) for more information. The ministry started the first week of October and a small group has gathered for weekly sessions. This is the first grief ministry to be offered in the rural archdiocese. We appreciate Cheryl Veik and Karen Eischeid for facilitating the grief ministry group.

\*\*Bible Study - There was a request by participants that we hold off til after Christmas.

□ Members Registered - since our last meeting four new members have registered. The committee requested the parish office to resend the list of people for the committee to reach out to. Suggestions were to offer a session for prospective parishioners following weekend Masses of the expectation of our parish. Also suggested to have the registration form available online.

□ Pastoral Vision Conference / Divine Renovation – Members read "Making Missionary Disciples" that was emailed to them prior to the meeting. Father Vogel shared some highlights of Father Mallon presentation as well as the homily he gave October 8 of how the Archdiocesan Vision could look in our parish. Discussion was held to on how to proceed in "Making Missionary Disciples." The Archdiocese's Evangelization Office will give our parish guidance and assist in putting together a plan and program. Our committee, the pastoral planning committee, along with key members of other organizations of our parish will meet as a group with them to discuss how our parish moves forward.

□ Book Give Away at Christmas. The committee felt this was a very worthwhile program. Betty Getzfred will order the book "Quiet Place" to be given at Christmas.

□ Stewardship Efforts:

\*\*Christmas Appeal -The parishes will participate in the Antelope County Christmas appeal this year. Betty will provide the ornaments for the trees and collect the donation left under the trees each weekend. The Appeal will begin the weekend of November 25 and run through December 10. Abby Lodge and Kari Schindler will get the trees ready on Saturday, November 25th.

\*\*Interviews of older parishioners -Mrs. Payne's junior class will work on this project. The class will have interviews ready for the November newsletter.

\*\*Parish Picnic - There was a good turn out for the parish picnic. Committee felt it was a good evening of fellowship.

□ Election of Officers - Scott Becker was elected Vice President and Abby Lodge as Secretary.

□ Next Meeting: January 2018.

Submitted by: Betty Getzfred



**St. Boniface School Book Fair** is fast approaching. Dates this year are November 13-17. It will be held in the Pope John/St. Boniface Library Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from 7:45 am- 4:15 pm, Thursday 7:45 am-1:30 pm and Friday 7:45 am-3:00 pm. Grandparents Day will be held on Wednesday, November 15 and Parents will have a special coupon event on Thursday from 12:30-1:30 pm.



## Congratulations

*Deacon Bill Camp and Phyllis*  
**on the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your  
ordination.**

**November 7, 1998**

We appreciate all the ways you bless the parish!

**St. Boniface Church  
 St. Bonaventure Church  
 PO Box B  
 Elgin, NE 68636**


Address Service Requested

**Non Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 Paid  
 Elgin, Nebraska  
 Permit No. 7**



**St. Boniface Calendar Lottery Winners**

10-01-17	Roxanna & James McNally		\$75.00
10-02-17	Patty & John Thiele		\$60.00
10-03-17	Chris Lewis		\$60.00
10-04-17	Denis & Jan Henn		\$60.00
10-05-17	Susan Vanis	<b>Eucharistic Day</b>	\$80.00
10-06-17	Connie Kinney		\$60.00
10-07-17	Fr. Bernard Lorenz		\$60.00
10-08-17	Dale & Kathy Buelt		\$75.00
10-09-17	Hunter Bode		\$60.00
10-10-17	Susan Mickelson		\$60.00
10-11-17	Claire Tieszen		\$60.00
10-12-17	Tom & Diane Borer		\$60.00
10-13-17	Moser Farms		\$60.00
10-14-17	Susan Young		\$60.00
10-15-17	Marcella Schiltmeyer		\$75.00
10-16-17	Kathy Young		\$60.00
10-17-17	Bob & Teresa Heying		\$60.00
10-18-17	Rob & Renee Rose		\$60.00
10-19-17	Janet Dozler		\$60.00
10-20-17	Pat & Cheryl Veik		\$60.00
10-21-17	Cheryl Veik		\$60.00
10-22-17	Madeline Beckman		\$75.00
10-23-17	Joe Stuhr		\$60.00
10-24-17	Katie McGuire		\$60.00
10-25-17	Kevin & Monica McMahon		\$60.00
10-26-17	Berton C. Dozler Jr.		\$60.00
10-27-17	Jim & Anne Meis		\$60.00
10-28-17	Alyssa, Natalie & Brayden Burenheide		\$60.00
10-29-17	Brandon & Ann Nielsen		\$75.00
10-30-17	Adam Veik Family		\$60.00
10-31-17	Mary Klein		\$60.00



**St. Bonaventure  
 SOUP SUPPER  
 & Quilt Raffle  
 Sunday, November 12  
 4:30-7:30 pm**

**Serving:** Chicken Noodle, Chili, and Vegetable soups, homemade bread, crackers, relish, pie or desserts and beverages. Take outs will be available. Free Will Donation. *There will be a quilt raffle too. Always a great event, so don't miss it!*



**St. Boniface 93<sup>rd</sup>  
 THANKSGIVING BAZAAR  
 Thanksgiving Day  
 November 23**

**Dinner: 11:00 am - 2:30 pm**

**Bingo & Games- 11:30am-3:30pm  
 (in Church Basement)**

**Raffle Drawing at 4:00 pm**

*If you have never dined at our Thanksgiving dinner, we invite you to do so.*