

ST. BONIFACE
ELGIN

ST. BONAVENTURE
RÆEVILLE

THE STUMP & AXE

OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018

VOL. 28, NO. 2

I pray that you are having a fruitful Lent! The practice of spending 40 days of preparation prior to Easter goes back into the early centuries of the Church. Jesus proposes to us prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (works of mercy) help us turn to the God who loves us. Last year I reflected on prayer during my weekend homilies. (You can find recordings of these past homilies as well as my current ones on our parish website.) This year we are reflecting on Jesus' second proposal fasting, and even more specifically fasting from sin.

Usually when we think of fasting, we think of abstaining from meat on Fridays, or the fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Perhaps we may choose to give up certain things like chocolate, desserts, TV, etc. during Lent. The free choice to limit our indulgence of certain good things, is meant to help us grow in self-discipline. Ultimately we are trying to learn how to fast permanently from things that are bad - our habits of sin.

Two sacraments are especially emphasized during Lent: baptism and penance. We recall who we are from our baptism, that we are beloved children of the Father. But we also recognize many distractions of the world and our own sinful choices often make us forget who we are. We get drawn away by temptations and habits that seem at first to bring pleasure, but leave us feeling empty. As we examine our conscience during this Lenten season, we can recognize what is getting the way of our relationships with God and with others, and seek the Lord's help to turn from these ways to what will truly make us happy. The Sacrament of Reconciliation does so much to heal us from those spiritual wounds. I encourage you to meet Jesus and his healing mercy in the confessional this Lent. We are given 40 days to help us establish new and good habits, inviting our Lord to reveal himself in a new and deeper way in your life and in the life of your family.

May these days be a renewal and new beginning of our relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Fr. Vogel



Father Vogel is offering a Question and Answer section in future "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 moser@stbonparishes.com. Father will address as many as possible each month.

Question: There are many good Catholics that say, "Oh my G..!" when they have a conversation. Can this at times be meant as a prayer or is it always using God's name in vain?

Answer: All of us, as good as we may be, are still sinners. The second commandment says "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain" (Exodus 20; Deuteronomy 5). The sin of blasphemy includes failing to respect God in our speech, in misusing God's name. As the Catechism says, "we are never to introduce God's name into speech except to bless, praise, and glorify it" (2143). Some may think using "God" or "Jesus" in excitement or anger is not that big of a deal, after all they are not cursing God or uttering ill against Him. But think about it in this way: Let's say you are in conversation with someone and in excitement or anger or habit you begin to use the name of a friend. You say your friend's name, but without acknowledging that he/she happens to be right there with you. You say their name repeatedly but you are not talking to them, or even notice them. If this would be disrespectful on the human level, what about the divine? This is a big deal because when we call out to God, He comes! In this case, we use God's name, He comes, and we completely ignore Him. Can this habit be meant as a prayer? Prayer involves conversation with God, so there must be the intention that you are speaking with God for this to be prayer. If we have the vice of using God's name in vain, we can work against it by replacing the bad habit with a good one. When we catch ourselves using God's name, purposefully turn to God in a prayer, something like: "My Lord and my God, I am sorry for using your name in anger/without thinking. I know that you are always with me and hear me when I call out to you. This is what is going on right now ... I ask for your help and guidance, you who are all good and worthy of praise. Help me to turn to you sooner next time." Over time we can find ourselves more quickly turning to God in prayer.

Family Formation

January 3, 2018

- Happy New Year!! We began our new year with Mass, Dan and Kim Zwingman family brought up gifts. Our Mass intention was for the soul of Wilfieda Shain. Mass collection was \$47.00, which goes to Seminarians in our Archdiocese.
 - Items collected for the Food Pantry: 8 lbs. 5 oz.
 - Classroom Topic: "The Call: Are You Listening" (Vocations and Holy Orders). One of the home lessons which is "The Call of Samuel", where in Scripture Samuel is called, Father showed how Samuel's situation is intertwined with the call to vocations and Holy Orders. If you would like to listen to Father's talk and know more, type into your browser: Fr. Kevin Vogel-YouTube channel at (<http://www.youtube.com/user/vogelkw>) and you can find this topic along with other topic's he has recently uploaded there.
 - Students class was held Wednesday, January 10, they will be bringing back posters they made to enter our St. Boniface/St. Bonaventure Vocation poster contest. The 3rd and 4th graders have the theme "How will I help others find Jesus?" and the 5th and 6th graders will design a T-shirt bringing the message of Jesus to others.
 - Wednesday, January 24, in the St. Boniface Church basement from 7-8:30pm will be the First Reconciliation Parent Retreat. The topic at this Retreat reflects on God's purpose for giving us the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the meaning of and a practical how-to for Confession.
 - Next Session will be February 7, starting with Mass at 6:30pm. You are welcome to join us after Mass in the church basement for Father Vogel's talk, starting at 7pm.
- Submitted by Cheryl Veik, Coordinator



Tintern Retreat Center Soup Luncheon

Sunday, April 29

10:30- 1:30 pm

Serving: Chili, Chicken Noodle and Cheeseburger Soup, Bread, Assorted Desserts, Coffee and Ice Tea.

Free Will Donation

Directions from Oakdale: 1 Block West of Post Office, 1.6 Miles South on the Oil Road, 1.1 Miles West on Gravel Road to Driveway. For more information contact Cheryl at 402-776-2188.

Family Formation

February 7, 2018

- Our evening began Wednesday, February 7 with Mass at 6:30pm. Our Mass intention was for the soul of Marie Legate. The Ben Schrad and Cassie Schrad family took up the gifts at Mass. Mass collection was \$57.00. Following Fr. Vogel's homily, our second grader, Ryden Renken made his *Profession of Faith*. Ryden is the son of Jason and Keri Koch-Koenig.
- Items for the Food Pantry was 12lbs 6oz.
- Classroom: Topic was "Sacrament of the Sick". Father Vogel's talk on The Sacrament of the Sick (Everything you always wanted to know). Father enlightened us with

information on this Sacrament that doesn't get talked about a lot. Important facts, only a priest can give the anointing of the sick. The three actions that are done 1. Call the priest. 2. Prayer over the sick and 3. Anointing with oil. Who can receive? When there is a danger of death, due to illness/old age, or before a surgery when serious illness.

- Students class time is February 14, 2018 5-6pm.
 - First Reconciliation will be February 28, 2018 at 7 pm at St. Boniface Church.
 - Next Mass/Parent/Student Session: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 6:30pm. Topic: "Written on Stone, Chiseled in your Heart" (The Ten Commandments) Anyone is WELCOME to listen in on Father Vogel's talk, or watch on his YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/vogelkw>)
 - Next Student-only Class: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 from 5-6pm with confessions.
- Submitted by Cheryl Veik, Coordinator

TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) Weekends are offered on two weekends in 2018: Saturday-Monday, March 17-19 near Crofton, and Friday-Sunday, August 3-5 at Tintern Retreat Center, near Oakdale (note date change). Weekends are specifically designed for second semester high school juniors to age 23. TEC costs \$75 and scholarships are available. To register, please talk to someone who has made a TEC to register or go to www.archomaha.org under Youth Ministry, Teens Encounter Christ, Rural TEC Registrations. If you have questions, contact Terry Reicks, 402-741-0165.

St. Boniface and St. Bonaventure Parishes have been invited to become part of Maria Regina Cleri - a Catholic group whose mission is to encourage support of priests and promote vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life through the power of prayer. Maria Regina Cleri (Mary, Queen of the Clergy) was founded under the guidance of Monsignor Peter Dunne in 2009 and began its mission in Omaha parishes. At Archbishop Lucas's recommendation, this ministry is being expanded into rural areas. If you are interested in joining other parishioners in this prayer initiative or would like more information, please contact Julie Dwyer at (402)843-0151 or email her at mjdwyer73@gmail.com. Even if you are not interested in becoming a formal member of this group, please pray for vocations and remember Fr. Vogel in your daily prayers.

A rosary will be offered for the intention of Fr. Vogel after Thursday daily Masses at St. Boniface Church. All are welcome.



Children's Choir Practice (to sing at First Communion on Sunday, April 8 at Noon).

Third grade and older can participate. Practices are from 3:50 - 4:30 pm in St. Boniface Church on the following Wednesdays: March 7, March 14, March 21 and Tuesday, April 3. Deb Baum and Julie Dwyer will be leading the Children's Choir. Please come join them!



**St. Boniface
Spring Benefit Auction
Sunday, March 11, 2018**
at St. Boniface Gym at 11:30 am
Lunch Stand open at 11:00 am

- Call committee if you need your item picked up.
- The only items that will be accepted the day of the sale are **BAKED ITEMS**. Baked items go over well and do not need to have the \$50 minimum value.
- Each parish household is asked to donate an item valued at \$50, or \$50 cash.
- All items will be tagged with donor's name.
- All items subject to committee's acceptance.

Committee Members: Matt Beckman 402-843-6045, Luke Beckman 402-843-0598, Craig & Jessica Niewohner 402-843-2247, Lee & Kara Shavlik 402-843-8816, Michael Moser 402-843-0391, Eric & Anney Beckman 402-843-5764, Ted & JoAnn Baum 402-843-8370, Jay & Kristen Evans 402-640-8622, Brian Beckman 402-843-8106, Jason Hoefler 402-843-8054, Macaib Hoefler 402-843-0133, Travis Eischeid 402-843-6680, Gary Dreger 402/649-9901

NOTE: The gym will be closed starting Thursday, March 8 after 6:00pm (for auction set up). **The gym parking lot will be closed** Friday- Sunday, March 9-11.

Drop off times for auction items:

Friday: Noon to 5pm

Saturday: 9am – 7pm

All Proceeds go to St. Boniface Parish

The Gift of Confession

Lord of all, we thank you for giving us Confession. Through it, give us the graces and especially the humility we need to recognize when our own way is not yours. 150 North American Martyrs You Should Know



Vocation Design Contest Winners

Congratulations to our recent winners of the Vocation Committee Design Contests.

In the 3rd/4th Grade Division students created an original poster with the theme, "How do I help others find Jesus?"

Winners are:

- 1. Jovie Vaisvilas**
- 2. Karson Kallhoff and Camry Kittelson** tied for 2nd place.

Winners will receive gift certificates to the Parish Store.

In 5th/6th Grade Division students created a design that brings the message of Jesus to others.

Winners are:

- 1. Ashlynn Charf**
- 2. Brooklyn Meis**

T-shirts will be made at Custom Sports with each winning design. Thank you to Sr. Pat and students at PJ High School for judging and to all the students who created amazing designs. ~Vocations Committee

**Pope John/St. Boniface Combined
School Advisory Board
February 5, 2018**

□ Administrator's Report: Reviewed the activities during Catholic Schools Week. St. Boniface School and the Nebraska Arts Council sponsored this year's artist in residency, Catherine Witt. Parent's day was successful. Each class was asked to do a promotional video on why they love attending a Catholic School. The video can be viewed on the school's website.

□ Old Business:

****Lighting bids** - it was determined that the bid is between two companies. The board felt more questions need to be asked of each person submitting the bid before a contract is awarded. The decision will be made at the March meeting. This will be a summer project. The school received a grant from *Ignite the Faith* also for the lighting project.

****The library will be carpeted** this summer, the money for this project was raised at the "Evening with Friends" event. Betty will contact and arrange for the carpet to be installed in June.

****The school facility agreement contract** was reviewed.

□ New Business:

****Discussion was held** on the correlation of the Pastoral Planning of parishes and our schools. What is the vision for the future of our schools? It was determined that as a school we will first need to be part of the parishes reorganization as the new clusters are formed and then start our school vision.

****The Bill 529 plan** has been passed by the federal government but has not yet been passed by the State of Nebraska. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act has expanded the use of 529 Plans – accounts that allow savers to accumulate money and pay for college on a tax-free basis – to include elementary and secondary school expenses at public, private or religious institutions.

□ Next Meeting: Monday, March 13 at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by Betty Getzfred

What is CEC?

Christians Encounter Christ (CEC) is a Catholic movement within the Archdiocese of Omaha. The CEC Method is introduced in highly structured three-day weekend experience, beginning on Friday evening and ending on Sunday night. CEC Movement believes that Christianity can penetrate all areas of the secular world, living, growing, and transferring Christ's values to society. The CEC Weekend is a personal and communal encounter with Christ through the Holy Spirit which leads to a lifelong relationship with God by living a method of ongoing spiritual growth and evangelization of our Catholic faith.

Contact Fr. Vogel or Michele Reicks for more information.

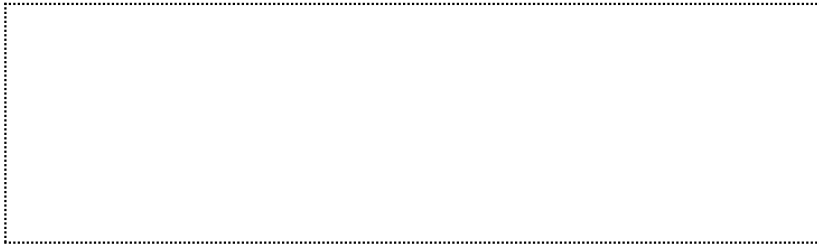
March 16-18, 2018 (Men)

April 20-22, 2018 (Women)

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


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St. Boniface Calendar Lottery Winners


2-01-18	Henry & Marilyn Ketteler	Euch. Day	\$75.00
2-02-18	Larry & Pamela Kirkpatrick		\$60.00
2-03-18	Sandy Hanna		\$60.00
2-04-18	Bobbi Kennedy		\$75.00
2-05-18	Jeremie & Jaime Kerkman		\$60.00
2-06-18	Marcella Schiltmeyer		\$60.00
2-07-18	Anne & Jim Meis		\$60.00
2-08-18	Noah Schmidt		\$60.00
2-09-18	Fr. Don Cleary		\$60.00
2-10-18	Connie Henn		\$60.00
2-11-18	Keith & Diane Schomacher Family		\$75.00
2-12-18	Fr. Steven Boes		\$60.00
2-13-18	Alice Kallhoff		\$60.00
2-14-18	Merle Sehi	Ash Wednesday	\$80.00
2-15-18	Warren & Merry Snodgrass		\$60.00
2-16-18	Bart & Bobbie Moseman		\$60.00
2-17-18	Dolores Brown		\$60.00
2-18-18	Nicholas & Emily Pelster		\$75.00
2-19-18	Lee & Kara Shavlik		\$60.00
2-20-18	Jerry & Jan Heithoff		\$60.00
2-21-18	Charles Borer		\$60.00
2-22-18	Henry & Marilyn Ketteler		\$60.00
2-23-18	Pat Starman		\$60.00
2-24-18	Alyssa Burenheide & Skylar Reestman		\$60.00
2-25-18	Doris Kluthe		\$75.00
2-26-18	Amy & Chipper Chips		\$60.00
2-27-18	Larry Zegers		\$60.00
2-28-18	Dolly Schindler		\$60.00



St. Bonaventure
Spring Breakfast & Raffle
Sunday, March 4
 8:30 am- 12:00 pm
 Raeville Parish Hall

Menu: Pancakes, French Toast, Ham, Sausage,
 Desserts and Beverage. A raffle will also be
 held during the breakfast.

Free Will Donation



TAKE NOTE

If you wish to have a special date on the Mass Intention calendar, please contact Linda at the Parish Office at least 6-9 months prior, if it is on a weekend. We are almost filled up on the calendar.

Another note of interest: each family is allowed only three Masses, per year. For example: if someone passes away, you may line up three for the first year, and three for the next couple years if you wish. We just do not have enough Masses each week to accommodate multiple Masses for the newly deceased, and others who wish them to be said as well.



St. Boniface School is now saving the UPC's from any and all "Best Choice" products at the grocery store. Also please remember to save your Box Tops for Education labels.

You can either give them to any St. Boniface student or drop them in the box in the west entrance of church.

Pope John School Advisory Board February 5, 2018

- Director of Advancement Report given by Anna Meis.
- **The Evening with Friends went well. A special thank you to the committee who planned, organized and worked the event. They did a wonderful job. A lot of people commented on the changes that were made with the silent auction items upstairs and the area between tables for serving and visiting.
- **The PJ Development Committee has met and the Development Dinner will be held on Palm Sunday, March 25th.
- **Currently working on setting up new student visitation day.
- Old Business: The Pope John Finance Committee will meet on March 13th at 7:00 p.m. to review the budget, salary increase etc. Betty reported that all staff members plan on returning.
- New Business: Gym rental agreement. The question was asked why Pope John pays for some of the phones that could be covered under the facility fee. Betty will gather more information for the next meeting. Motion passed to approve and sign the rental agreement.
- It was asked why our students have not participated in earlier speech meets. Betty stated that she would visit with our speech coach, but thought it had to do with scheduling practices and time for preparation.
- Next Meeting: March 13, 2018.

St. Boniface School Advisory Board February 5, 2018

- Old Business:
- **Preparations for the Valentine's Day Breakfast which is scheduled for this Sunday, February 11th were discussed. Board members will meet on Friday evening to put down tarps. Groceries have been ordered, advertising is complete.
- **Recommendations were given to the St. Boniface Finance Committee last week regarding salaries, budget, etc.
- **Next school year there will be a fundraiser increase due to the recommendations made by the school board to the Finance Committee. Parents will be asked to sell 200 spring raffle tickets instead of 150 in 2019.
- Administrator's Report: Our Artist in Residence for Catholic Schools week was Catherine Witt. The school did receive the Nebraska Archdiocese grant for \$772 which was half of the cost. The school pays half the cost plus lodging for her. Catholic Schools Week went well. Each class made

videos for CSW which are available to view on the Pope John website. Parents day was held on Friday and the book fair did well.

- A combined board meeting with St. Boniface and Pope John XXIII followed.
 - Next Meeting: March 13th.
- Submitted by Stephanie Stuhr, Secretary



KC Fish Fry
Friday: March 16
from 5-7:30 pm
at Elgin KC Hall

Serving: Fish (Breaded and Non-Breaded), Potatoes, Salads, Roll and Desserts.
Adults \$ 9.50; Child age 6-12: \$5.00
Child age 5 & under: Free.
Cash bar is available.

FIRST COMMUNION items are on display at the Parish Office. Some are: Many crosses, rosary boxes, rosaries, various size picture frames, angels, banks, rosary book sets, photo albums, locket, rings, cross necklaces and various bracelets, saints book, prayer books and Children's Bibles, as well as a few First Reconciliation items. We also have gifts for joining the Church, items for baptism and confirmation, plus rosaries, bibles, St. Christopher Medals, St. Peregrine Medals for cancer and gifts for all ages. Check out our supply before going elsewhere – our selection and prices are great.

For Relatives Who Have Lost The Faith



Merciful Lord, who prayed that there be one flock and one shepherd, I ask the light of faith for those who are related to me and do not know You in Your Eucharistic presence. Give them the joy of Your protecting presence. Bring them into the one fold of which You are the master and Lord. Forgive them their sins and teach them the way of repentance. In the end bring them into the larger circle of Your family, to God our Father, to Mary our Mother, and to You our beloved Brother. Amen.



The St. Boniface Choir will beginning rehearsals soon, for Holy Week and Easter. New members are welcome! Rehearsals will be in the choir loft on the following evenings: Tuesday, February 27 @ 7:30 pm
Thursday, March 8 @ 7:30 pm
Wednesday, March 14 @ 7:30 pm
Thursday, March 22 @ 7:30 pm

St. Boniface Altar Society February 19, 2018

□ Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance: \$15,529.34

Receipts: \$630.39

Expenses: \$422.51

Ending Checkbook Balance: \$15,737.22

CD Balance: \$26,846.18

□ Money for "Penny and a Prayer" was collected.

□ Thank You's were passed around from participating students that went to the March for Life.

Old Business:

**Still need a Vice-president. Please prayerfully consider helping out your parish by taking on this endeavor.

**Circle Leader for circle 2 is Connie Dvorak. Thank You for saying yes.

**Christian Mothers Induction Mass will be held on April 10, 2018, with a reception to follow. Circle 5 will be responsible for the reception.

**A discussion was held on helping local people. A motion passed to donate to two families to help them in their time of need.

**Church Cleaning: A discussion was held on people not showing up for church cleaning and the burden it puts on the circle leaders when no one shows up. It was decided to combine circle 5 & 6 together for church cleaning since these two circles were having the most problem getting help. We will try this for a few months and see how it goes. A discussion was also held on vacuum cleaners and the importance of keeping the filters clean and the dirt collection container empty and clean or the collection bags changed. It is the circle leaders responsibility to keep these cleaned. It should be on the cleaning checklist, to remind leaders to do this. Connie Pelster will look into the purchase of 3 new vacuum cleaners because some do not work.

□ New Business:

**Parish Auction will be held on March 11th. Work list as follows: Circle 1 - 26 dozen wrapped bars

Circle 2 - work 10 - 12:30

Circle 3 - work 12 - 2:30

Circle 4 - work 2 - 5 and cleanup

Circle 5 - 65 pounds of sloppy joes

Circle 6 - 5 buckets potato salad

**Insurance Payment of \$3,000 will be given to the parish.

**Ministry room carpet- Cheryl Viek showed us the ministry room and the need for carpet and window treatments. After a discussion a motion passed to pay for the carpet, window treatment and needs for this project.

□ **Work List:** *** encourage spouses and children to help out when calling parishioners***

Clean Church - Circle 3 - March

Kookie Klatch- Circle 3(March 17th - 2pm at The Willows)

Next Funeral - Circle 4

Next Charity - Circle 4 - Parent retreat

(refreshments on March 21)

Circle 5 - Reception following Induction Mass April 10

□ Next Meeting: Monday, March 12th, 2018 at 7pm (note date change).

Submitted by Kathy Beckman, Secretary



The Stewardship & Evangelization Committee decided at a previous meeting to instead of having a Volunteer of the Year, that it will become Parishioner Spotlight. Each quarter, Pope John students will interview and write a short article about a parishioner and their involvement in the parish.

PARISHIONER SPOTLIGHT Doris Baum

Q) When and where were you born? Do you have any siblings?

A.) I was born in the country near Elgin, NE on November 15, 1928. I have three brothers and two sisters: Gene, Denis, Kenneth, Marleen, and Lilah.

Q) Can you tell me about your childhood?

A.) I grew up in the 1930s. They were tough years, but our childhood was good and we never went hungry.

Q) What was your first job? What was your favorite job?

A.) I was a school teacher for two years in a school house outside of Petersburg. Teaching was my favorite job.

Q) How did you meet your spouse?

A.) I met Florian at a dance in Raeville.

Q) How many children do you have?

A.) I have eight children: Chris, Ted, Dave, Dan, Chuck, Marla, Susan, and Denise.

Q) Did your children attend a Catholic school?

A.) Yes, all of my children attended Pope John.

Q) What was one of your most profound spiritual moments in your life?

A.) I am always moved by the Christmas Spirit. Christmases are full of fun and family.

Q) How do you picture heaven?

A.) It is a place where nothing matters except that you are in the presence of Jesus.

Q) What is one of your happiest memories?

A.) My mother was able to attend my 80th birthday. She was 100. Also, Christmas was always fun. We would always go on sleigh rides around where we lived.

Q) Do you remember any of the priests or sisters in our area?

A.) I went to the school in Raeville. When I was in grade school, I remember some of the Lordeman nuns and Fr. Kluthe, and there were many others that I can still remember.

Q) How has your faith helped you throughout your life?

A.) It helps me through the tough times in my life. You just have to go to church and just be in the presence of the Lord. I like to pray my own thoughts, ask him for help, and say what is in my heart.

