



Sometimes as priests we are asked what we like to do for fun. Answers are as unique as the individual person, as the individual priest. Being summer time, I thought I would share one hobby that I have, one that has been of interest to some who have learned about it.

I became interested in genealogy several years ago. My grandmothers on both sides of my family had done genealogy, looking into the history of our families. After my grandmother on my dad's side passed away, I started taking her work and putting it into genealogy software to organize and preserve it. It became a way to better connect with my dad and with my grandparents and other extended relatives. I subsequently did the same for the work my grandmother on my mom side had done. This has given me a better appreciation for why we find genealogies in the Bible. God uses them to show how his plan is carried out over the course of history, a plan that extends even into our families today.

Through this work I discovered a genealogy website that collects cemetery headstone information called BillionGraves.com. They have a smartphone application by which volunteers can take images of gravestones and upload them to the website for other volunteers to transcribe. These records are available free on their website for people to search for their ancestors. One feature of the website is that the photos are GPS tagged, making individual headstones easier to locate, especially in large cemeteries.

Starting with the cemeteries where my ancestors are buried, I began taking photos of the headstones. I find it to be a relaxing pastime that gets me outside and away from the office on my day off. Over the past two years I have completed almost every cemetery within our general region, taking images of all the headstones. I especially enjoy finding the small cemeteries, almost hidden in various places in the rural areas. I get to explore areas I probably otherwise would never go to. I have been able to visit and document over 350 cemeteries so far.

When I visit the cemetery I also pray for the souls that have been laid to rest there, especially for those who may have no one to pray for them. Every name represents a soul, a person loved by God. It makes me glad to see how well most cemeteries are lovingly cared for, not only showing respect for those who have died, but also expressing for many people the hope we have for resurrection in Jesus Christ. I am saddened to find the occasional abandoned cemetery - overgrown with grass, stones broken and fallen over, names of the people disappearing by weather and time. That is why it is important to take pictures, especially of the older stones, before their names are gone. Through the BillionGraves.com website I have received a number of thank yous from people who appreciate the photos of their loved one's resting place, especially if they are unable to travel there in person. If you like genealogy or are interested in locating an ancestor's grave, you may want to check out this online resource.

Fr. Vogel



Gratia Retreat for Girls

Incoming 4-6th grade girls are invited to a retreat just for them, to be held at Tintern Retreat Center. It will be held Friday, July 13 at 9:00 a.m. until Saturday, July 14 with closing Mass at noon. Girls will learn how to be "full of Grace" with model, Mother Mary. Activities include confession and adoration, Mary crowning, bible study, crafts, skits, and a campfire with s'mores! Embrace your femininity while meeting new friends and growing closer in relationship to Mary and Jesus! For

Questions or Application, please contact: Chelsea Preister acpreister@gmail.com 402-270-7250 Cheryl Veik momveik@gmail.com 402-843-8023 Karen Eischeid karensuzyq@hotmail.com 402-843-5987. Application forms are also in the back of Church and at the Parish Office. Sponsored by the St. Boniface and St. Bonaventure Vocation Committee.



Question: Is it okay to be cremated?

Answer: Yes, but for the right reasons and in the right way. Historically, cremation was linked to pagan funeral practices, religions that had no hope of the resurrection. This led early Christians to instead bury their dead, honoring the dignity of the human body created in God’s image, and the belief that our bodies and souls will be reunited and glorified in heaven. Thus it was previously unlawful for Catholics to use cremation, since it expressed a denial of the resurrection. In more recent times very practical, non-theological reasons have lead people to consider cremation, usually having to do with expense, especially in places with dense population and lack of space for burial. While the Church’s preference remains full burial due to theological reasons, cremation is allowed for practical purposes. It remains the case that someone who chooses cremation for reasons contrary to the Christian faith may not have a Catholic funeral. Thus cremation may be done, but only for the right reasons.

Cremation must also be done in a way that shows utmost respect to the one who has died. Cremated remains must be given the same respect one should give to the body from which they come, including using a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner they are transported, and the final disposition. This means certain practices connected to cremation are not allowed by the Church. For example, cremated remains must be interred in a cemetery or columbarium, not in a family’s home. Cremated remains may not be distributed among family members nor scattered on the sea, from the air, or on the ground. Recent “creative” ideas of using ashes to make mementos or jewelry also fail to show proper respect to the deceased person and are not permitted by the Church. Thus cremation may be done, but in the proper way. (For more information on cremation see the Church’s 2016 instruction Ad resurgendum cum Christo.)

**St. Boniface Altar Society
May 21, 2018**

- The St. Boniface Altar Society meeting was held Monday, May 21, 2018 with 13 members present. The meeting opened with prayer. Minutes from the last meeting and the Treasurer’s Report were read and approved.
- Treasurer’s Report:
Beginning Balance: \$20,638.05
Receipts: \$2,896.04
Expenses: \$743.66
Ending Checkbook Balance: \$22,788.43
CD Balance: \$26,846.18
- Money for “Penny and a Prayer” was collected.
- Thank you was read from Kamphaus family for the nice meal for funeral.
- Old business:
**Still need a Vice-president. Please prayerfully consider helping out your parish by saying yes.
**Induction Ceremony was a success, we had 12 new members inducted.
- New business:
**Weekly Vacuuming (1st, 2nd and 4th weeks of Month). starting in September will be Luke Henn. Thank you to Marie Meis for doing this in the past.
**Appreciation for Fr. Vogel - The month of July, once a week Circle 4 is in charge of doing some form of appreciation for Fr. Vogel. This is to extend Clergy Appreciation Month to all year.
**Totus Tuus - is June 10-15. Circle 3 is responsible for making lunches for the Totus Tuus Team Members. Circle 1 will offer coffee and rolls after Mass Sunday, June 10th to welcome the Team. A motion passed to donate \$400 to help with the Totus Tuus program.
- **Work List:** *** encourage spouses and children to help out when calling parishioners***
Clean Church - Circle 1 - Third week of July
Kookie Klatch- Circle 1 (The Willows- July 21 at 2pm)
Next Funeral - Circle 2
Next Charity: Circle 5 (Deacon Dennis & Rose Wiehn’s 35th Ordination Reception with Coffee/Rolls on July 15)
Circle 6 (Weed Landscape)
Circle 1
Next Meeting - August 20, 2018
Submitted by Kathy Beckman, Secretary

**St. Boniface School Advisory Board
May 17, 2018**

- Old Business:
- A memorial was given in memory of Mel Kallhoff in the amount of \$10,000 was put into a non-designated fund at this time. We have received quite a bit back from the Ignite the Faith campaign. We still have money left to receive from the campaign for technology use. The school has also applied for money through the Excellent Grant. Hopefully by the end of May, we will know how much we received from this grant. This coming school year is the last year we will receive the grant for the new teacher position, so that will have to be budgeted for the following year.
- The board reviewed the By-Laws and approved them. Betty Getzfred will send the changes to Dr. Ashton.
- New Business
- Betty Getzfred sent out an email to all St. Boniface families earlier in the week to vote on the board openings. 33 out of 40 families voted. Abby Lodge and Matt Pelster will be replacing Stephanie Stuhr and Joe McNally. There will be a meeting scheduled in June or July for the Security Committee.
- Administrator’s Report
**Report cards will hopefully be going out Friday, May 25th.
**The Mass schedule for the upcoming school year will be changing due to the school offering two preschool classes. Mass will be held at 8:15 a.m. twice a month and then at 2:45 p.m. twice a month.
**Grandparents Day is scheduled for November 14th. We will try and have the afternoon preschool class and their grandparents coming in the morning with the rest of the grandparents. Betty Getzfred will ask for assistance from a substitute to help Alexa that day.
- A combined board meeting with St. Boniface and Pope John XXIII followed.
- Next meeting: June 19th.
Submitted by Stephanie Stuhr, Secretary



The Aluminum Can Cart has been moved from behind St. Boniface Gym, to the east end of the school parking lot, to be easier accessed and noticed.

Pope John Advisory Board May 17, 2018

- Director of Advancement Report by Anna Meis was given.
 - **Annual Fund currently at \$63,200 of its \$70,000 goal. 130 reminder letters were sent out to people.
 - **Vetch Day parade entry – minivan with banner & students.
 - **Alumni Softball Tournament & Mass (no banquet) July 28, the school will be open following Mass.
 - **Plans to change reunion from yearly to all school reunion every 5 years.
 - **Quad-Lum will be sent out in June.
 - **\$4,400 outstanding tuition balance for the 2018-2019 school year, letters have been mailed to the families with tuition still due. Anna Meis is currently looking into offers for a potential automatic payment program.
 - Administrator's Report was presented by Betty Getzfred.
 - **Senior trip/retreat went well.
 - **Appreciation to those who helped with the Crusader JAMs.
 - **\$750 donation will be given for Fr. Patrick Moser for his ordination gift.
 - **Motion passed to approve a bus route to Clearwater for the 2018-19 school year.
 - **Rope needs replacing on flagpole during next workday.
 - President's Report – No report separate from combined board meeting.
 - Old Business:
 - **Board will go over by-laws after Dr. Ashton has reviewed them.
 - **Fire alarms need updating and one pull station needs replacing. Waiting on bids from D&M Security. Suggestion was made to look into replacing system through a different company.
 - **Board members: Paul Bartak will replace Paul Dicke. Jennifer Blackburn-Nielsen will be staying on. Steve Kerkman and Gini Seier terms are up.
 - New Business:
 - **Discussion was held to no longer pay the membership to NHS (National Honor Society) or to form a school society. It was the consensus of the board to continue to be part of the NHS.
 - **Requested parish assessments be changed to a 10 month scheduling rather than 12 month.
 - Next meeting scheduled for June 19, 2018.
- Submitted by Kelly Starman, Secretary

Pope John/St. Boniface Combined Boards May 17, 2018

- The board decided to address the item listed under old business first to allow the guests to speak to the board.
- Old Business- Formative Assessment Accountability Policy: Eric and Jenna Lordemann had questions and expressed their concerns with the policy. Their objection was the late assignment grades, 69% for first day late and then a zero. Discussion was held. The recommendation from the board was to add a communication and teacher accountability to the policy. The teacher committee will

address this and the revised policy will be sent out to the board for approval.

- Director of Advancement: Anna Meis asked the opinion of the board on putting together a school family photo directory. She will have more information at the next meeting.
 - Administrator's Report was presented by Betty Getzfred.
 - **Changes on calendar- the spring musical was moved to March 29th and 30th and prom to April 6th due to other conflicts on the calendar.
 - **Report cards and a letter explaining science class rotation and the splitting of the 5th/6th grade will be mailed out by May 25th.
 - **Archdiocese is hosting a conference on "Customer Service" on June 12th. Father John talked to the board about attending this workshop. Interested people should let the school know by June 1st.
 - President's Report: Father Vogel gave an update on the pastoral planning happenings.
 - Old Business:
 - **Lighting- will have work schedule set up in two weeks.
 - **The Safe and Secure Committee will meet this summer to review and revise policy. Committee members are Joe McNally, Adam Veik, Denis Henn, Kelsey Selting, Kristen Evans, Julie Schiltmeyer, Joan Stuhr, Brenda Kuhlman and Betty Getzfred.
 - **Review and approve handbook. A motion passed to approve the changes in the handbook with the exception of the Assessment Accountability Policy.
 - New Business:
 - Summer projects:
 - **Lighting
 - **Carpet (library and Room 2)
 - **Sink in Pre K Room
 - **Painting of library and Room 2
 - **Moving furniture after lighting project is completed.
 - Facility use agreement- signed by board presidents.
 - Next Meeting: June 19 at 7:00 pm.
- Submitted by Betty Getzfred

2018 Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) Weekend is scheduled for Friday-Sunday, August 3-5 (note dates) at Tintern Retreat Center. TEC Weekends are specifically designed for second semester high school juniors to age 23. TEC cost is \$75 and scholarships are available by emailing Ruth Bloedorn, Rural TEC Leadership, at ruralnetec@yahoo.com for information before you register. To register, go to www.archomaha.org under Youth Ministry, Teens Encounter Christ, Rural TEC Registrations, or seek a paper registration form there.

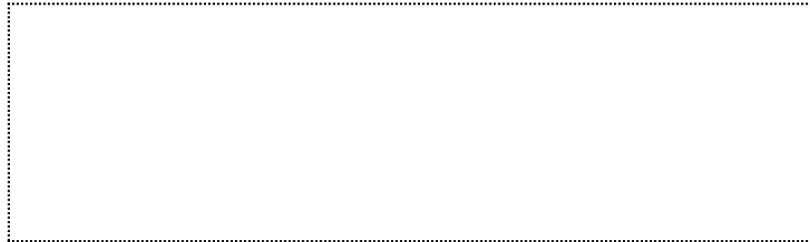


Please, call the parish office with your cell phone number(s) if you've done away with your landline, or would prefer to be contacted by cell phone. We are having trouble contacting people when we have changes in the liturgical schedule, someone needs to trade, or emergencies. This is just one example. Please let us know how to contact you!

St. Boniface Church
St. Bonaventure Church
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Elgin, NE 68636

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St. Boniface Calendar Lottery Winners

6-01-18	Jan Merrill	\$60.00
6-02-18	Barb Lorenz	\$60.00
6-03-18	Dennis Blair	\$75.00
6-04-18	Fr. Tom Bauwens	\$60.00
6-05-18	Rita Schrage Feast of St. Boniface	\$80.00
6-06-18	McKenna Morris	\$60.00
6-07-18	Fr. Steven Boes	\$60.00
6-08-18	John & Jeanne Knievel	\$60.00
6-09-18	Kaitlyn & Natalie Pelster	\$60.00
6-10-18	Louise Schindler	\$75.00
6-11-18	Sage Stoltz	\$60.00
6-12-18	Helen Jazwick Archbishop Lucas Birthday	\$80.00
6-13-18	Marcella Schiltmeyer	\$60.00
6-14-18	Gini Seier	\$60.00
6-15-18	Morgan Henn	\$60.00
6-16-18	Lyle & Betty Mackel	\$60.00
6-17-18	Gini Seier	\$75.00
6-18-18	Ron & Linda Eischeid	\$60.00
6-19-18	McKenna Morris	\$60.00
6-20-18	Grandkids of Helen Preusser	\$60.00
6-21-18	J.R. & Jane Brown	\$60.00
6-22-18	Ann Simmons	\$60.00
6-23-18	John & Lynne Schuller	\$60.00
6-24-18	Julie Jochum	\$75.00
6-25-18	JoAnn Dinslage	\$60.00
6-26-18	Kathie Chance	\$60.00
6-27-18	Bob & Teresa Heying	\$60.00
6-28-18	Celine Filsinger	\$60.00
6-29-18	Tom & Sue Mlnarik	\$60.00
6-30-18	Billy & Linette Pelster	\$60.00

ATTENTION! ST. BONIFACE CHURCH
LIGHTING PROJECT
WILL BE JULY 1-13.
THERE WILL BE NO MASSES OR SERVICES
HELD DURING THIS TIME.

Weekend Mass Schudule for July 7-8, 2018

Saturday, July 7: 5:30 pm Mass
at St. Bonaventure, Raeville
(Confessions 4:45-5:15 pm in Raeville)

Sunday, July 8: 8:00 am Mass
at St. Bonaventure, Raeville
(Confessions 7:30-7:50 am in Raeville)

10:00 am Mass will NOT be held
Communion to home-bound will NOT be held

Pope John Alumni Softball Tournament will be held July 29-29 at Petersburg. A reminder that there will not be an alumni banquet this year, but after Mass on Saturday night the school will be open.

St. Boniface Parish Council

May 30, 2018

□ Auction Committee Members: Michael Moser, Kara Shavlik and Matt Beckman shared thoughts on the 2018 auction and possible changes to the 2019 auction to have it better attended.

□ Lighting work in the church is scheduled from July 2nd to the 13th, with the church closed the entire time. It was decided that the weekend Masses on July 7th and 8th will be held in Raeville on Saturday night at 5:30pm and Sunday morning at 8am. There will not be a 10:00am Mass.

□ Parish Work Night will not be held until the end of July or early August because of the lighting work and the screening of the gym floor. Before and after the church lighting, men will be asked to help remove and reinstall the pews under the main pendant lights, as the electrician needs access.

□ Budget: Michele Reicks and Finance Member Betty Kallhoff presented a revised 2018/2019 budget to the council which included adjustments because of changes to school income and expenses, due to an increase in students. A motion passed to accept the 2018-19 budget totals of \$901,290 (includes St. Boniface Parish and St. Boniface School).

□ Gym Tarps: Discussion was held on replacing the gym tarps. Nothing new to report. A suggestion was made to replace with the same kind of tarp.

□ Pastoral Planning. Father Vogel reported that there is “nothing to report” on the pastoral planning, except that the transition will not be taking place this summer or fall for sure.

□ Archdiocesan Evangelization Update: The workshop that was scheduled in Elgin for June 23rd may be postponed until July.

□ Dedication of Ministry Room will be the night of the parish picnic (date to be announced). Again, thanks to Karen Eischeid and Cheryl Veik for all their work.

□ Council Membership. Nominations were made, and individuals will be contacted to see if they will run on the election ballot.

□ Cemetery Cleanup will take place Wednesday, June 6th at 7:30 p.m.

□ New EMHC or Lector Training is Sunday August 26 and Mandation Mass is Wednesday, August 29th. Father Vogel will make a plea from the pulpit, as volunteers are needed.

□ Appreciation. Members Mark Schmitt, Matt Beckman, Emily Borer and Becky Kerkman were thanked for their years served on the council.

□ Next Meeting will be the Bazaar Meeting at 7:00pm, and the regular meeting to follow at 8:00.

Submitted by Linda Mitchell, Secretary



Congratulations

Deacon Dennis Wiehn and Rose
**on the 35th Anniversary of
Deacon Ordination.**

July 17, 1983

**We appreciate all the ways you
bless our parish with your vocation!**

*A Coffee/Roll Reception in Deacon Dennis' honor
will be held on July 15th after the 10 am Mass.
Come help celebrate this special milestone with
Dennis & Rose!*

St. Bonaventure Parish Council

May 29, 2018

□ Steve Lordemann, Finance Committee chairperson, presented the 2018-2019 Parish Budget in the amount of \$111,575. Council moved to approve the budget with all in favor.

□ Cemetery. A concern was brought forward about the headstones and markers in the cemetery that need to be fixed. Some of the wording and plates are missing on the old markers. Some of the stones have fallen over completely. Steve Lordemann, of the Cemetery Committee will check into this.

□ Evangelization Update – Evangelization mentoring – Monday, July 23, Tuesday, July 24, and Wednesday, July 25 for the smaller group. The team from the Archdiocesan Office of Evangelization and Catechesis will host these gatherings in the St. Boniface Church Basement.

□ Pastoral Plan Update – Father Vogel met with some pastors and Deacon Luna. The Archdiocese office has not given the final go ahead for any changes yet.

□ Old Parish Hall – Options of what to do with the Old Parish Hall were discussed.

□ Council Membership- possibilities for replacements for Rose Bode and Ken Schmitz were discussed. The council agreed on several names, and those people will be contacted by members of the Parish Council. Elections will be in June.

□ Pope John Advisory Board Representative for St. Bonaventure parish- to replace Gini Seier -possibilities were discussed. [Following the meeting, Gini decided to run another term, so thank you, Gini].

□ New EMHC or Lector Training is Sunday, August 26, 2018 from 1:30-4:30pm and Mandation Mass is Wednesday, August 29 at 7:00 pm, all in Norfolk. We are in need of more EMHC's and Lectors for our parish. Please call the parish office to register prior to July 30.

□ Upcoming Events: Corpus Christi will be on Sunday, June 3. Father will process outside for Benediction.

□ Maintenance: Sidewalk on the North side of the church is starting to lean in and crack. This needs to be broken up and filled in. Paul will talk to Jerry Schrage as he is on the Maintenance committee.

□ Next Meeting: July 21st, 2018 at 7:45 P.M.

Submitted by Clarissa Stuhr, Secretary



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Pope John Central Catholic School Board June 19, 2018

- Director of Advancement Report by Anna Meis:
 - **Annual Fund currently at \$65,550 of its \$70,000 goal.
 - **Vetch Day parade entry – Thank you to the faculty and students who walked in the parade. A special thanks to Anna for organizing the entry.
 - **Alumni Softball Tournament & Mass (no banquet) on July 28 with the school open following Mass.
 - **An All School Reunion will be held every 5 years.
 - **Quad-Lum was mailed on June. 6. The board gave Anna Meis the approval to check with area banks on their interest rates for a CD that is up for renewal.
 - Old Business:
 - **Kelly Starman submitted a resignation letter. She will not be completing her final year on the board. The resignation was accepted.
 - **The school's by-laws were sent to Dr. Ashton for approval.
 - **Board members -Gini Seier will serve another term. Board members needed are representatives from St. John the Baptist and St. Boniface parishes.
 - **Wolfpack coaching assignments: Joyce Wemhoff will be the cheerleading sponsor.
 - **It was asked if two adults need to be present for wrestling practices. Trey Rossman will be the head coach for the program.
 - New Business:
 - The transportation contract with Elgin Public School was presented. The rate is \$72 per day and our cost will be \$36 per day for a total amount of \$6,480.00. This is for the Neligh-Oakdale route. Discussion was also held concerning the route to Clearwater. Betty Getzfred will check with Scott Becker to make sure he is still willing to drive.
 - **Eakes representative will meet with the administration to discuss upcoming renewal of contract.
- Next Meeting: August 2, 2018.
Submitted by Betty Getzfred

Pope John XXIII/St. Boniface Combined School Advisory Board June 19, 2018

- **Director of Advancement Report: Anna Meis stated that Father Norman had sent her information about an online family directory. It will cost \$80.00 per school year. It was decided to go with the online directory. This will be a secure site. Anna Meis will get an account for the school. Our parents will be given more information at the back to school night.
- Administrator's Report :
 - **Betty Getzfred read a message of thanks and appreciation from Father Christopher.
 - **Betty Getzfred gave an exit report on a family that will not be returning to St. Boniface School. She also reported two new families have enrolled at Pope John and St. Boniface.
- President's Report:
 - Old Business: Parent/Student Handbook: Assessment policy: changes which the board recommended were made; communication piece, formative/summative accountability.

Other changes; list of standardized testing program, Code of Conduct Policy and minimum required credits from 250 to 280. Faculty Handbook- addition- Concern Report Form. Reviewed and approved handbooks. Motion passed to approve the changes in the handbook.

- New Business:
 - **It was decided to wait to set the date for a school planning meeting until August. The priests will have a pastoral planning meeting in late July.
 - **The Safe and Secure Committee will meet on Tuesday, July 17th at 7:00 pm.
 - **Two work nights for all parents will be scheduled for June 27th and 28th starting at 6:00 p.m. Ceiling tile to be replaced, furniture to be moved out of library and carpet pulled up in library and room 2.
- Next Meeting: August 2, 2018
Submitted by Betty Getzfred

Pope John: All junior high students as well as students involved in any athletic activity, cheerleading, dance, physical education classes, etc. must have a physical before their first practice or class. Forms were given to families and are available at the school or from the AMH Clinic, Elgin Veteran's Medical Clinic or Faith Regional Physicians Clinic. Be sure to complete all the needed information and sign both sides before turning in to the school office.

There will be a Quest weekend for all incoming Sophomores and older at Tintern Retreat Center. It will be held July 7-8 beginning at 9:00 on Saturday and closing with Mass at noon on Sunday. Quest centers on the three circles of love: Jesus, Others, and Yourself. It is a fun weekend full of great food, talks, games, Confession, Adoration, and more! Applications can be found on Facebook "Quest - Northeast Nebraska" or from Chelsea Preister at acpreister@gmail.com, 402-270-7250, or at St. Boniface Parish Office.

Have You "Insured" Your Parish?

Did you know that there are different ways you can use a life insurance policy to make a very special planned gift to our parish?

You can name your parish and school as the full or partial beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy which is no longer important to the financial stability of your family. This can make good use of a life insurance policy that has "outlived" its original purpose. For example, insurance policies originally purchased to cover a mortgage, provide for a spouse or dependent children may no longer be needed and could now be designated to help your parish and school, and continue your support of it beyond your lifetime.

For more information on how to give the gift of a life insurance policy, talk to your financial planner, attorney or insurance representative. You can also contact Tony LaMar, Legacy Planning Officer, Archdiocese of Omaha at 402-557-5650 or ajlamar@archomaha.org

