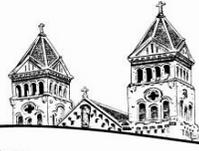




PARISHES
OF



ST. BONIFACE
ELGIN

ST. BONAVENTURE
RAEVILLE

THE STUMP & AXE

OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019

VOL. 29, NO. 1



January 22 marked the 46th Anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, which legalized abortion in the U.S. Thank you for your prayers for the students, chaperones and myself who were among those who made the pilgrimage to the March for Life in Washington D.C.

This year's theme for the March for Life was "Unique from Day One." This theme attests to the fact that being pro-life is not in opposition to science – quite the opposite! Medical and technological advancements continue to reaffirm the science behind the pro-life cause – that life begins at fertilization, or day one, when a new, unique, human embryo is created. From the moment of fertilization (conception) our DNA is present. The unique fingerprint that each of us has – distinguishing us from any other human on the planet, is determined by that DNA at day one! Right from the beginning of life, you are becoming the unique, incredible, unrepeatable person that you are!

If science so strongly supports the fact that conception is the beginning of a new human organism, how can ending that life be seen as acceptable through abortion? Once science has established that the unborn is indeed a new human organism, a philosophical question must be answered: When does a human organism have intrinsic value, a right to life, or becomes a person? The pro-life position is that we should treat all human organisms (human beings) equally regardless of what level of development they are currently at. Should all human organisms, regardless of how able-bodied they are, or how mentally developed they are, regardless of their age, race, sex, or any other factor, should all human organisms be treated equally and have a basic right to live? If someone says NO, they must give the reason why the unborn would be disqualified.

Every time in history a group of human beings has been disqualified from being considered people, the reason for the disqualification has turned out to be bogus. While on the March for Life pilgrimage this year, we also visited places that help us recall several times in history when a group of human beings were disqualified for false reasons.

One of our planned stops was Gettysburg National Military Park, but because of the incoming snow we left for home early. Gettysburg National Military Park is the place of the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg during the American Civil War. From 1776-1865 slavery of Black African people was justified by many, even using pseudo-scientific theories to claim that blacks were of a different species from whites. The Battle of Gettysburg was a turning point for the Civil War. Afterward when President Abraham Lincoln gave his historic Gettysburg Address, he honored the fallen soldiers and called the nation to embrace the principle of equality. These events, along with the earlier Emancipation Proclamation, reshaped the Civil War cause of preserving the Union into a crusade to make men free. Ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865 formally ended the legal institution throughout the United States. Slavery is a clear example of a group of human beings wrongly disqualified from being considered people with worth.

Second, we visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The Holocaust was the systematic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. Coming to power in 1933, the Nazis believed that Germans were "racially superior," and also used pseudo-scientific claims to argue that Jews were "inferior." Before Allied forces were able to put an end to their power, the Nazi regime exterminated nearly two out of every three European Jews as part of their "Final Solution." The Holocaust is another clear example of a group of human beings illegitimately being disqualified from being considered people with worth.

Third, we prayed at a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic. Praying for those unborn humans being disqualified from life, and for those feeling trapped into making such a choice. Just because the unborn are different from born children in terms of size, level of development, dependence, and the environment in which they live, none of these are legitimate reasons for disqualifying them from being considered people of worth. Just as the ending of the Holocaust and slavery required good people to engage in battle against evil, so too the ending of abortion will require our engaging in battle against evil. We do not take up weapons but prayer, for we are ultimately fighting not against people, but the "with the principalities, with the powers, ... with the evil spirits in the heavens" (Ephesians 6:12).

The pro-life position is simply this: All human beings have an equal right to live, regardless of how old they are or young they are, regardless of whether they live in a crib or in the womb. All humans are equally valuable so we protect them.

Fr. Vogel



St. Bonaventure
Spring Breakfast & Raffle
 Sunday, March 3
 9:00 am- 12:00 pm
 Raeville Parish Hall



NEWSLETTER SPONSORS NEEDED
 The Stump & Axe Newsletter serves both our parishes. If you wish to sponsor a future month, please place \$75 in the collection in an envelope marked "Newsletter sponsor". Help us to bring the parish news to you.

Family Formation
January 2, 2019

- Happy New Year!
 - We gathered for Mass January 2, 2019 our Mass intention was for the soul of Dodi Mack. The Ron Bode family took up the gifts. Mass collection was \$75.00.
 - Food Pantry items collected was 13 lbs 5 oz.
 - Classroom lesson: A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN. Sacramental prep was to review for First Reconciliation.
 - Father Vogel's talk was: "On This Rock I will Build My Church". This was the time after Jesus. The formation of the church. Why be Catholic? We looked into the discovery of the Church Jesus founded. Father Vogel pointed out the Four characteristics of the Catholic Church. One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. One-One God, One Church. Holy-God is Holy, His body not all are Holy. Catholic-means Universal the Catholic Church is everywhere in the world. Apostolic-Jesus founded the Church on the twelve Apostles starting with Peter as the leader and his 266 successors that followed to our current Pope Francis.
 - January 9 was the student only class from 5-6 pm. January 23, 2019 will be the First Reconciliation Parent retreat at 7 pm in the church basement.
 - Next Mass/Class/Parent Session: Wednesday February 6, 2019 at 6:30 pm.
 - Next Student Class: Wednesday, February 13, 2019.
 - February 27, 2019 Sacrament of First Reconciliation
 - February 27, 2019 Sacrament of First Reconciliation at 7pm.
- Submitted by Cheryl Veik, Coordinator

Will you encounter Christ in 2019?

Christian's Encounter Christ (CEC) weekends for 2019 will be held in Norfolk on the following weekends:
March 15-17, 2019 (Men's)
April 5-7, 2019 (Women's)
September 27-29, 2019 (Men's)
October 18-20, 2019 (Women's)
November 1-3, 2019 (Men's)
Nov. 22-24, 2019 (Women's)
 Call Fr. Vogel or Michele at the Parish Office for more information

The SMALL STUFF

- You can contribute more to your marriage with an open mind than an open mouth.
 - Before marriage you should concentrate on finding the right person. After marriage, you should concentrate on being the right person.
- (foryourmarriage.org)

St. Boniface Altar Society
January 21, 2019

- Treasurer's Report:
 Beginning Balance: \$8,872.96
 Receipts: \$1,201.23
 Expenses: \$2,456.05
 Ending Checkbook Balance: \$7,618.14
 CD Balance: \$37,343.49
 - Money for "Penny and a Prayer" was collected and correspondence was read.
 - Circle letters for dues will go out soon. Leaders are reminded to keep track of the amounts received and keep a copy for themselves and turn in a copy and the money to Lori Beckman at the bank.
 - The Parish Auction will be on Saturday, March 9th this year. It will be held at the KC Hall. Since room will be an issue, it was decided to have a Hord'erves Bar instead of the usual food stand. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. It was also decided to give a \$75.00 gift basket for the auction. Bonnie Hoefler and Carmella Kinkaid will be responsible for getting the basket together.
 - It was decided to donate \$50 to Karissa Dicke for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.
 - It was decided to form a committee for the Nativity set up at church during the Christmas season.
 - **Work List:** *** encourage spouses and children to help out when calling parishioners***
 Clean Church - Circle 4- February 21
 Kookie Klatch- Circle 6 (The Willows Feb. 15 at 2:00 pm)
 Next Funeral - Circle 6
 Next Charity - Circle 6 (Cir. 5 is Coffee Rolls Feb. 3)
 Next Meeting - February 11 at 7pm (note date)
- Submitted by Connie Pelster



Circle Leaders are responsible to check out conditions of the walkways and drives for the Church, Rectory, Convent, Gym and Sister's House and call for additional help if needed.

St. Boniface
MEN'S CIRCLE SCHEDULE
for SNOW/ICE REMOVAL
for Parish Grounds

- Mondays CIRCLE 1 (Arehart-Buelt)
 - Tuesdays CIRCLE 2 (Busteed- Getzfred)
 - Wednesdays..... CIRCLE 3 (Gossman-Kinney)
 - Thursdays CIRCLE 4 (Kluthe- Payne)
 - Fridays..... CIRCLE 5 (Pelster-Schrage)
 - Saturdays..... CIRCLE 6 (Schueths-Zwingman)
 - Sundays..... ALL CIRCLES
- Ice Melt is located in Father Vogel's garage.*
You help is very much appreciated!!



**St. Boniface
World Marriage Day
February 2-3, 2019**



These are Masses for all married couples to attend and sponsored by the Vocation Committee. Special Anniversaries will be announced for all couples celebrating this year.

You are not asked to walk in together, sit together or come forward for anything.

Coffee & Rolls will be served following the 10am Mass, by the Altar Society. *Special congratulations to the couples.*

St. Boniface Parish

10 Years: Craig & Jessica Niewohner, Brian & Kelsey Selting, John & Samantha Stoltz

25 Years: Terry & Mary Bauer, Dave & Fran Baum, Brent & Susan Kallhoff, Chris & Tracy Stamp, Stan & Wendy Voborny

40 Years: Larry & Julie Borer, Randy & Connie Henn, Jerry & Betty Kallhoff, Bob & Linda Moser, Jim & Carol Schiltmeyer, Jack & Joanie Stoltz, Pat & Cheryl Veik

50 Years: Bob & Carole Getzfred, Mark & Margaret Jensen, Joe & Connie Seier

51-54 Years: Duane & Sandy Kerkman, Bernie & Diane Kluthe, Marvin & Jodine Meis, Larry & Nancy Shavlik, Vince & Sandy Kallhoff, Leonard & Judith Orłowski, Dennis & Rose Wiehn, Ron & Linda Eischeid

55 Years: Phil & Barb Stuhr

56-59 Years: David & Juanita Benson, Clayton & Darlene Dozler, James & Joan Childers, Allan & Doris Kluthe, Larry & Helen Borer, William & Phyllis Camp, Bob & Phyllis Tharnish, John & Lorene Stuhr, Gayle & Judy Zegers,

60 Years: Dan & Raedean Henn, Don & Donna Mackel, Lyle & Betty Mackel

61 Years: Bernadine & Eugene Coleman

62 Years: Eugene & Mary Jane Boes, Louis & Darlene Heithoff

63 Years: Dean & Mary Jane Henn, James & Shirley Meis

68 Years: Lee & Marie Smith (Longest Married)

St. Bonaventure will honor their couples in the Spring.



**St. Boniface School
Valentine Breakfast
Sunday, February 10th
9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
at St. Boniface Gym**



Serving: Texas French Toast, Pancakes, Baked Eggs, Sausage, Ham, Fruit, Coffee & Juice.

Free Will Offering
BINGO & GAMES OF ALL KINDS
9:00 a.m. til Noon

Wristbands for games are \$5.00 each to play as much as you want and turn in later for a prize. *Join the students for a great time!*

Trust- in His Timing
Rely- on His Promises
Wait- for His Answers
Believe- in His Miracles
Rejoice- in His Goodness
Relax- in His Presence
Come near to God and He will come near to you.

~James 4:8

Spiritual Resolution

The month of January has come to an end, and you may be taking stock of your New Year's Resolutions. The beginning of a new year can be seen as a chance to begin again, whether that be reconnecting with someone, exercising more, or giving up a bad habit.

Maria Regina Cleri, a group of parishioners whose mission is to encourage support of Fr. Vogel, would like to suggest an alternative – a commitment to prayer – particularly praying for our pastor Fr. Vogel.

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 remember Fr. Vogel in your daily prayers.

Your resolution to pray more may be one of those you keep throughout 2019 and beyond.

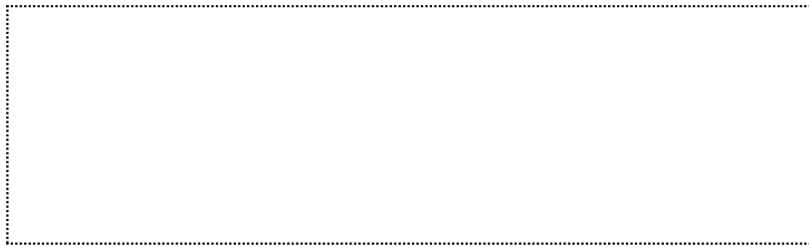


-WINTER-

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

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Elgin, Nebraska
Permit No. 7**



St. Boniface Calendar Lottery Winners

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| 01-01-19 | Gene & Angie Selting | Holy Day | \$75.00 |
| 01-02-19 | L & J trucking | Larry Feik | \$60.00 |
| 01-03-19 | Tami Schrage | Eucharistic Day | \$80.00 |
| 01-04-19 | Emily Mlnarik | | \$60.00 |
| 01-05-19 | Catherine Meier | | \$60.00 |
| 01-06-19 | John Brown | | \$75.00 |
| 01-07-19 | Cordell Waterbury | | \$60.00 |
| 01-08-19 | Christal (Parks) Wilthuhn | | \$60.00 |
| 01-09-19 | Leon Arens | | \$60.00 |
| 01-10-19 | Todd & Kelly Bode | | \$60.00 |
| 01-11-19 | Arlene Nissen | | \$60.00 |
| 01-12-19 | Gary & Bonnie Dinslage | | \$60.00 |
| 01-13-19 | Mike & Julie Kielty | | \$75.00 |
| 01-14-19 | Sue & Clayton Miller | | \$60.00 |
| 01-15-19 | Tom & Annette Snodgrass | | \$60.00 |
| 01-16-19 | Kayden, Nolan, Callie Thompson | | \$60.00 |
| 01-17-19 | Ann Simmons | | \$60.00 |
| 01-18-19 | Brecken Childers | | \$60.00 |
| 01-19-19 | Loven Paquette | | \$60.00 |
| 01-20-19 | Bonnie Dinslage | | \$75.00 |
| 01-21-19 | Tom & Joyce Diedrichsen | | \$60.00 |
| 01-22-19 | David & Joyce Sullivan | | \$60.00 |
| 01-23-19 | Kason Schindler | | \$60.00 |
| 01-24-19 | Kendra & Chris Warren | | \$60.00 |
| 01-25-19 | Dennis & Jan Henn | | \$60.00 |
| 01-26-19 | Deb Baum | | \$60.00 |
| 01-27-19 | Bob & Linda Moser | | \$75.00 |
| 01-28-19 | Kasi Stoltz | | \$60.00 |
| 01-29-19 | Janice Bolling | | \$60.00 |
| 01-30-19 | Larry & Joan Luettel | | \$60.00 |
| 01-31-19 | Sharon Lilli | Eucharistic Day | \$80.00 |

2019 St. Boniface Altar Society Officers

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President | Connie Pelster |
| Vice President | Emily Borer |
| Secretary | Kathy Beckman |
| Treasurer | Lori S. Beckman |

WOMEN'S CIRCLE LEADERS

- Circle 1: Emily Borer, Lindy Borer, Deb Baum
Circle 2: Mary Alice Dwyer, Connie Dvorak, Connie Dvorak
Circle 3: Carmella Kinkaid, Bonnie Hoefler, Sandi Henn
Circle 4: Anne Meis, Lynell Morgan, Anna Meis
Circle 5: Michelle (Alan) Reicks, Jessie Pelster, Janice Pelster
Circle 6: Deb Tharnish, Deb Warren, Kelsey Selting

MEN'S CIRCLE LEADERS

- Circle 1: Ted Baum, Scott Becker
Circle 2: Travis Eischeid, Duane Esau
Circle 3: Duane Hoefler, Gary Hoefler
Circle 4: Bill Mescher, Randy Mitchell
Circle 5: Alan Reicks, Terry Reicks
Circle 6: Andy Starman, Larry Starman

2019 St. Bonaventure Christian Mothers Officers

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| President | Joan Stuhr |
| Secretary | Gini Seier |
| Treasurer | JoAnn Mattner |

Your Leadership is Valuable!

**St. Boniface Pastoral Council
January 8, 2019**



**St. Boniface
Spring Benefit Auction
Saturday Evening, March 9**

□ Old Business:

****Bleachers** - Discussion was held on repairs to the bleachers in the St. Boniface Auditorium. Eric Meis suggested doing a work day to fix the "pull out" mechanisms. Someone has found the company that manufactured the mechanisms and they are still in business. He would look into getting replacement parts if possible.

****Highway 14 work** - The NDOR will be working on Highway 14 in the near future. According to Fr. Vogel, their repair work will affect a small section of the fence and sidewalk along the highway. The State has allowed \$600 towards repairs. Discussion was held on how much the work could cost the parish and what other repairs that could be done at that time period (broken concrete corner by the 2nd and Elm intersection, broken up sidewalk sections on the east-west sidewalk).

****Tarps** - It was brought up as to whether the tarps needed replacing. Eric Meis says they still appear to be in fairly decent shape, so at this time, they will not be replaced.

□ New Business:

****Mowing Grounds/Cemetery** - The Council will ask Duane Esau (cemetery) and Duane Hoefer (grounds) to submit bids for mowing. Michele Reicks will contact them so bids will be available for one of the next meetings in February or March.

****Spring Benefit** - The exact date is not known as of now. The committee is considering moving the benefit to a Saturday to the Knights of Columbus Hall. The Parish Council will again donate a steak package to be auctioned off. Each member of the Council will give \$20.

****Men's Circle Assistants** - The men's circle assistants have "moved up" alphabetically for the year. Everyone agreed that they appear to be men who would be able to do the job so no changes were suggested.

****Pastoral Planning/Cloistering** - Fr. Vogel was asked about progress on the Pastoral Planning. Frs. Vogel, Nields (Neligh/Tilden) and Norman (Ewing/Clearwater/Rural St. John's) have been meeting weekly. He reported that representatives from all eight parishes are planning meetings for every two months (beginning in January). There will also be some meetings concerning the

school (PJCC) from the parishes involved. Fr. Vogel said that they have collected the data from the survey on Mass times/locations — as to be expected, not everyone will be happy with how Mass times and locations will have to be changed. On July 1st, Petersburg will become part of Fr. Vogel's duties. Beginning soon, Fr. Vogel said priests will be trading off some weekends in order for parishioners to get to know these other neighboring priests. He said this is being done - not in competition but in cooperation - to help the transitions go smoothly. Looking ahead, Fr. Vogel said a large number of priests are set to retire in the next five years. Fr. Vogel might be able to talk about some of the details by the Total Parish Leadership Meeting in February (13th).

Submitted by Lynell Morgan, Acting Secretary

**Elgin KC Hall
(viewing of items all afternoon)**

First Bid: 6:30 pm

The KC Bar will be open and our Altar Society will have a Hors d'erves Bar available.

Wanted!

- *Consignment Items (Minimum \$50 Value)
- *Fair Commission Rates
- *Homemade/Homegrown/Handcrafted Items (No Minimum Value)
- *Quality Items (Minimum \$50 Value)

Suggested Items Include: Antiques or collectibles, sporting event tickets, weekend getaways, quilts, grain/hay, gift certificates, theme gift baskets, dinners, tools, services, machinery, services for working women (such as doing their church cleaning/working at funeral/making their rolls or pies). ****Please refrain from donating old indoor furniture and exercise equipment as these items do not sell****

Each household in the parish are encouraged to donate something. Families may group together for larger items. Each group of the parish is being asked to contribute something, from its members. Please let the committee know what you are giving. All items will be tagged with donor's name. All items subject to committee's acceptance. Items can be picked up and stored.

Let's be creative!

Let a committee member know what you can give:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Matt Beckman | 402-843-2254 |
| Luke Beckman | 402-843-0598 |
| Craig & Jessica Niewohner | 402-843-2247 |
| Lee & Kara Shavlik | 402-843-8816 |
| Eric & Anney Beckman | 402-843-5764 |
| Michael Moser | 402-843-0391 |
| Ted & JoAnn Baum | 402-843-8370 |
| Jay & Kristen Evans | 402-640-8622 |
| Jason Hoefer | 402-843-8054 |
| Macaib Hoefer | 402-843-0133 |
| Travis Eischeid | 402-843-6680 |
| Gary Dreger | 402-649-9901 |

All Proceeds go to St. Boniface Parish
The KC Bar will be open and our Altar Society will have a Hors d'erves Bar available.

Spring Benefit Auction

*Donation Envelope enclosed in this Newsletter
Please return to St. Boniface Parish*

Thank you for considering a donation!

St. Boniface Bazaar Committee January 10, 2018

The St. Boniface Bazaar Committee met on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. Members present: Connie Pelster, Emily Borer, Sandy Kallhoff, Duane Hoefler, Brian Selting, Deb Beckman, Gary Beckman, Linda Mitchell, Lynell Morgan, Eric Meis, Bill Camp, Jeremy & Lauren Borer, Julie Borer, Jim & Mary Baum, Bonnie Hoefler, Michele Reicks and Father Vogel. Members not present: Gina Moser (exc.), Dennis Wiehn (exc.). The minutes from the previous minutes were provided to members with their agendas.

The committee reviewed the 2018 Bazaar, with the chairperson and bazaar committee comments as their guideline. The 94th Thanksgiving Bazaar went well. We served 1092 plus 233 carry-outs for a total of 1325 meals (227 less than last year). There were so many positive comments about the great food. Also, we love our leadership and our young help!

Financial Report. The 2018 bazaar grossed \$65,169.94, with \$19,263.39 in expenses, for a net profit of \$45,906.55, which was \$906 more than budgeted, but \$2,538 less than last year. Net profit for the following was: meals \$13,288, food solicite \$9,888, sausage sales/solicite \$6,135, raffle \$13,668, quilt raffle \$985, bingo \$436, ping pong game \$1,288, horse race game \$149, game wrist bands \$345, country store \$361. Costs such as advertising, or supplies not assigned to any one area, totaled \$635. Areas that made more than last year were: Sausage sales/solicite, and Raffle.

Solicitation. We received \$9,888 cash donations, instead of food, versus \$10,383 last year. We received \$4,150 sausage/hog fund donations, versus \$3,750 last year. The number of households that gave nothing was 33, compared to 32 last year. This compares to the number that didn't pick up their raffle tickets.

Set-up/Equipment/Supplies. On Thanksgiving Day, the cake walk boards need to be put with the pie boards over at the gym, and not left outside, as in years prior. Make sure to connect with the provider to see if we deliver them back on Friday or if they will pick them up. It was noted that a better quality masking tape be purchased next year, for Tuesday evening set up. Chairpersons of each station are reminded that they are responsible for setting up their area.

Jobs for Circles the Week of Bazaar. There was enough help on Wednesday morning in the gym kitchen, but not enough help in the church basement. From now on the group at the gym will contact the church basement to see if they need help, before all the ladies leave. There will be a list compiled of the tasks needing done by the Men's Circles following the bazaar, that will be given to the head leaders.

Parking. Parking chairperson needs to make sure the playground gates are closed after everyone has gone, so the gate won't freeze down.

Dinner. Many positive comments were heard that the food was delicious. One notation on chairperson sheets was that long hair needs to be tied back by both the girls in the dining room and the ladies helping with food handling jobs.

Carry-Outs. Carry-outs need pie tins and more take-out containers next year, and requested liners for 7 roasters. Ran short this year on supplies because the number of carry-outs was so high. It is hard to plan for. There were only 4 meals that were truly "homebound" and paid the \$12 and the rest paid the \$15, meaning the cost of containers is being covered. The question was asked "Are we becoming a catering service?" It was originally meant for homebound. Should we have a "maximum" number for carry-outs we can fulfil then cut it off there? There is concern that food needed for carry-outs is being taken from the food line, thus causing shortages there. That was said not to be true as carry-outs are finished by 1:00 usually. Final decision was to not limit carry-outs, as they are our guests, just like the others that eat in the gym. Many are big families taking food out so they can dine at home with an older family member who cannot handle dining in the gym. There were also a number of carry-outs that were taken to care centers by spouses, so they could eat together on Thanksgiving.

Prices. Prices will be discussed this summer at our next meeting.

Sausage. Sausage went over very well again this year, and we sold out the day of the Bazaar. There were no negative comments heard about the sausage. It was good to have rings closer to the 1lb. size. We processed same number of hogs as last year, but they were heavier than last year. There was 588 pounds of sausage fried in the morning. There was 1 ½ roasters of cooked sausage left at the end of the day, but had we had the number of guests like last year, we would of ran out. Next year Jim said he might have a few more patties made for resale the day of the bazaar as we always run out and have requests. It was noted that we do not allow Wausa Locker to sell our sausage, but that we cannot control what others do with it once it is sold to them. It was noted however, that we want to keep it a special thing, only available at Thanksgiving time.

Games. Lauren & Jeremy Borer reported that the games went well, however we were down a lot of children. With the nice weather it was felt more people were outside enjoying it, plus the games are not the draw they used to be because children have more opportunities for entertainment than they did years ago. It is felt the games are something we offer to keep people around, giving them a way to socialize. They said that they had very little activity after 2:00. The new basketball game donated was a nice addition, and having younger kids down for games works well.

Continued on next page→

Bingo. Even though we worked to even out the shifts, some workers had to work two shifts, since only 4 showed up for the second shift.

Raffle. Ticket sales were only slightly more than last year, but down a couple thousand dollars from just a few years ago. Suggested more top prizes. It is understood that we need to give away more merchandise/gift certificates than cash on our raffle because of the Calendar Lottery going the same time which is strictly cash prizes. We must stay within the rules of the State of Nebraska Charitable Gaming Division. If each parish family does its part in selling tickets we will get our profits up again.

List of Jobs handled by Committee. For Sausage pre-sales it worked well to have one man and one woman to assist the chairperson in carrying and packaging on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. It was noted that for the gym set up we have enough cardboard for next year and it will be stored in Sister's south garage. We should continue to collect cardboard throughout the year since the kind we want isn't always easily available.

Worklist / Jobs for Circles the week of Bazaar. The worklist committee will note all comments on comment sheet for specific suggestions. Most shifts are short workers. When work station chairpersons retire, they need to show or communicate with new chairperson how they do their job. Dining room supervisors said their shift can "start" at 10:30am. Workers need to be aware that we need them to arrive at the time they are assigned.

Equipment. Sausage Sales needs the large heavy paper sacks and they will be added to the grocery list from Dean's Market-but they are needed by Saturday before the bazaar, when pre-sales take place. The large pitchers for every table and coffee carafes worked well on the tables. It was decided that roaster liners will NOT be used in any of the roasters.

Suggestions for future: One suggestion was to stop Bingo and Games at 2:30pm, have the raffle then and clean up immediately instead of Friday. This idea didn't go over well, as far as the cleaning up on Thanksgiving Day. We will revisit at the next meeting, and also revisit whether the space in the lobby is worth what money the Country Store brings in. One suggestion was to have police presence because of the crowds and, once again, no one thought that was necessary. A Turkey Trot in the morning was suggested, and someone came forth and said they would organize it if we decided to do it (we need more information before decision can be made in July). For supply purposes, the question looming was "how many more years will the bazaar last?" The 2019 Bazaar is our 95th year so everyone said we would shoot to getting to our 100th and re-assess at that time. We will find ways we can promote our 95th. One promotion tool is our raffle tickets as they have our information on them.

The next meeting of the Bazaar Committee will be held late in July.
Submitted by Michele Reicks

A Light in the Darkness

"When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped."

Being a prison guard was a tough and dirty job. Paul and Silas were placed in an inner prison with their ankles shackled. You can close your eyes and picture the dark and dirty place, where the prisoners considered the worst of the worst were kept. No sanitation, no light, no food, the stench alone would have been enough to scramble our modern sensitivities.

The reason the guards went to such lengths? Because if the prisoners escaped, the guards were likely to receive a severe punishment; perhaps even paying with a public death of their own. Rather than endure the embarrassment and humiliation, this guard quickly considers suicide the moment he thinks he failed at his assigned task.

We can imagine him, standing in the dark following the earthquake, wondering what happened, what cost he would have to pay.

Yet, when Paul calls to him, the guard immediately calls for light and falls at Paul's feet asking, "What must I do to be saved?"

How many people do we know who are standing in the dark, wondering what is happening and ready to draw their own swords rather than face the humiliation they think is ahead? How many are facing their own earthquake in the dark and are waiting for a voice to call out?

Paul simply calls out to the jailer, "We are all here." The jailer drops his sword, calls for a light and looks for his salvation. So many times we want to be the light to someone else. Our intentions are good but the minute we try to be the light in the dark, our ego gets all involved and we decide we know exactly what help someone else needs. We get frustrated when our solution doesn't fit their problem.

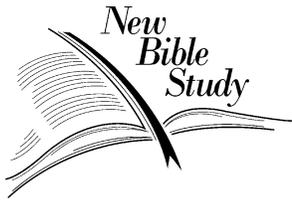
Sometimes, like Paul, we just need to call out that we are here. We just need to let others know that we are waiting for them in the darkness, whatever their darkness may be. Sometimes we don't need to do, we just need to be, be present in the dark. Once they know they are not alone, they find the voice to call for The Light that shines even in the darkest darkness.

This is part of the joy of being in a community of believers. We can encourage one another to listen, really listen. We can practice being present to one another and then use those skills to be present with others. We can pray together and ask for the grace to simply accompany those we meet on the journey. If there is help we can provide, the Holy Spirit will guide us. If not, at least for that amount of time, whoever we are ministering to is able to experience being heard.

The bonus is we get to experience the joy that comes with listening, with just letting people know that we are here, ready to help when they need it. It is amazing how often that is enough! We may get left feeling like, "But I didn't do anything!" Yet, we did, we did what Jesus did, we met another person and were present to them, honoring their inherent dignity and reflecting the light on how they are made in the image and likeness of God. The first step is to be like St. Paul and say in the darkness, "We are all here."

--Sheryl O'Connor, Diocesan Catholic Life Every Day





REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

St. Boniface Parish invites you to take part in the WISDOM bible study series by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith. In this study, *Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith examine biblical wisdom as it relates to daily life. Drawing on the wisdom literature of the Bible, they will teach you how to actively seek out sound guidance and increase your sense of peace in navigating life.* It will start on Wednesday Morning,

February 6 from 9:00-10:30am at their convent (following the 8:15am Mass) and continue each Wednesday morning for 8 weeks. Please register by calling Mary Baum, 402-843-5802 or the Parish Office, 402-843-2345, and provide your name, phone number and email address. Materials are \$20 per individual or couple. *Invite a friend!*

St. Bonaventure Parish invites you to take part in the **UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE** series. *Presented by Jeff Cavins, he will help us understand the "Big Picture" of the Bible and show us HOW to read and make something very complex, simple.* It will start on Wednesday evening, February 20 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at their parish hall and continue each Wednesday evening for 8 weeks. Purchasing the materials is optional for this study, however, please register by February 8, by calling JoAnn Mattner, 402-386-5358 or Kim Fangman, 402-386-5727, and provide your name, phone number, email address, and whether or not you want us to order the materials (\$20 per individual or couple). Any questions, feel free to ask!

Immaculee Ilibagiza Retreat:

Immaculee Ilibagiza, a survivor of the 1994 Rwandan Genocide and author of the book "Left to Tell", will bring her message of forgiveness, healing, and hope to all who attend her retreat at St. Mary's Catholic Church 343 N Monitor St. West Point, NE, March 22-23, 2019. Doors open at 4:00 pm on Friday, with retreat beginning at 5:00 pm and ending at 9:00 pm, continuing again at 9:00 am on Saturday and concluding at 12:30 pm. All that will be required of attendees of all faiths is a listening ear and an open heart, as Immaculee will be giving four separate talks throughout the two-day period. Cost is \$57 for one, or \$76 for two people. For details, tickets, and registration information, visit www.immaculee.com and click on "next retreat", or contact RaNae O'Brien at ranaeobrien1@gmail.com.

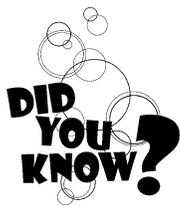
The St. Bonaventure Hall description, photos and contract, can be found on the parish website, stbonparishes.com under the "about" tab. To reserve a date for rental, you need to speak directly to Mary Ann Fangman, 402-386-5350.

Retrouvaille **Feb 15-17, 2019**

Stress in Your Marriage? - Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register call 1-888-317-5654 or visit HelpOurMarriage.com

The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) will hold its next Meeting for ALL our Catholic women on February 12, 2019, at St. Patrick's Church, 3400 E. 16th St., Fremont, NE. The Omaha Urban (OU) Deanery will be hosting. Registration begins at 9:30am and the General Meeting will begin at 10:00. Order of business includes: Holy Mass, report from Executive Board Meeting of 1-29-19, Catholics at the Capitol, speaker from Catholic Charities and presentations will be given by Leadership, Service and Spirituality. (There will be NO Executive Board Meeting.) All ladies of the Archdiocese are invited to attend the newly formatted day of fellowship, spiritual nourishment and blessings. Please contact OU President, Lauren Bopp, 402-553-7163, if you have any questions.

For Your Information



****Federal Guidelines state that hospitals cannot give out a list of parishioners even to Fr. Vogel if he asks, so if you or someone in your family is hospitalized, please contact the Parish Office, so Fr. Vogel may pay you a visit. (If you reside in a care center and would like a visit, please call also).**

****If you are homebound and unable to come to Mass and want to have Communion brought to you on Sundays contact Deacon Dennis Wiehn at 402-843 5808. For Fr. Vogel to bring communion on First Fridays, please call the Parish Office at 402-843-2345 and we will see that you are added to the list.**