

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, FEBRUARY 18, 2018

Sat. 2-17 5:30 p.m. *The First Sunday of Lent* (St. Francis) + Ray Carter
 Sun. 2-18 8:00 a.m. *The First Sunday of Lent* (St. Ambrose) People of the Parish
 Sun. 2-18 10:00 a.m. *The First Sunday of Lent* (St. Francis) + Jim VanLeeuwen
 Mon. 2-19 7:30 a.m. (St. Francis) + Darold Coomes
 Tue. 2-20 7:30 a.m. (St. Francis) + Fr. Joe VanLeeuwen C.P.
 Wed. 2-21 6:25 p.m. (St. Francis) + Charlotte Carter
 Thur. 2-22 8:30 a.m. *The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle* (St. Ambrose) + Harold Smith
 Fri. 2-23 7:30 a.m. (St. Francis) + Sara Grosdidier
 Sat. 2-24 7:30 a.m. (St. Francis) For loved one's return to the faith
 Sat. 2-24 5:30 p.m. *The Second Sunday of Lent* (St. Francis) + Charles Steinbacher
 Sun. 2-25 8:00 a.m. *The Second Sunday of Lent* (St. Ambrose) People of the Parish
 Sun. 2-25 10:00 a.m. *The Second Sunday of Lent* (St. Francis) + Delia Seiwert

CONFESSIONS: Sat. 4:30 p.m.—5:20 p.m. at St. Francis & 30 minutes before daily & Sunday Masses

St. Ambrose Church

Extr. Minister of Holy Communion: Ed Spielbusch

Lector: Donna Bohrer

Server: Bill & Nancy Schoenhofer

Gifts: Asa & Donna Bohrer

Ushers for February: Brian & Carol Schoenhofer

Donuts and Coffee for February 25th: Mary Jo, Maria, Carol

2018 CONFIRMATION UPDATE

Wednesday, Feb. 21st is practice for Confirmation at 7—8 p.m. You need to invite your sponsor to come if possible, if not, please have a parent or grandparent with you. There will be time for discussion with sponsors and their responsibility.

Saturday, Feb. 24th is the Confirmation Mass at 5:30 p.m. at St. Francis Church. There will be a catered chicken dinner afterwards in the Parish Hall for your family and guests along with all parishioners from both parishes.

RICE BOWLS are on the back table in the Church. Please pick one up for your family and help those in need.

St. Francis Church

Lector & Song Leaders:

Sat. Confirmation Class & Mary Smith

Sun. Brian Carlson & Bob Schoenhofer

Extr. Minister of Holy Communion:

Sat. Keith Smith, Connie Spielbusch

Sun. Nohemy Brewer

Altar Servers:

Sat. Brenden, Colton, Anna, Katelin,

Emily, Mason, Austin

Sun. Ava, Chloe, Gennie

Gifts:

Sat. Confirmation Class

Sun. Seth Born Family

Rosary Leaders:

Sat. Confirmation Class

Sun. Jean Diskin

Church Cleaners for February 23rd:

Jennifer Salazar, Cheryl Smith, Kathleen Westhoff, Kayla West

Ushers for February:

Sat. Dan Spielbusch, Jeff Gard, Richard Ewan

Sun. Clarke Westhoff, Mark VanLeeuwen, Mark Venneman

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, FEB. 19TH.

ST. FRANCIS CYM “*SENIOR CITIZEN VALENTINE DINNER*” will be held today, Sunday, February 18th after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at the St. Francis Parish Hall. All Senior Citizens and disabled persons are invited to attend.

ST. AMBROSE PARISH COUNCIL will meet tonight, Sunday, February 18th at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Ambrose Rectory.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND is the feast of The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held during lent at St. Ambrose every Thursday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass and at St. Francis every Friday at 6:00 p.m.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Carter Roberts. Carter is the 7 year old son of Brice and Katie (Westhoff) Roberts who was diagnosed with DIPG, (a form of childhood cancer) in May and passed away Sunday, February 11th. Please keep the this young family in your prayers.

ST. FRANCIS PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: will be held this Wednesday starting with a Mass at 6:25 p.m. followed with classes in the classrooms at 7 pm.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE for our 2nd graders will be Wednesday, February 28th. Parents, please make sure your child knows how to say the “Act of Contrition” prayer, and studies the “How to go to confession” form at home.

IMPROVEMENTS TO ST. FRANCIS CHURCH GROUNDS In order to make our church garden and grounds even more beautiful and safe, a lighting project is under way! Approximately 14 lamp posts will line the sidewalks of the garden including the sidewalk to Prairie Mission Retirement Village. Additional lighting will also be added between the church and the church rectory to ensure the safety of our PSR children on Wednesday evenings. Please consider a donation to help complete this project. The estimated cost is \$15,000. Donations may be mailed to the church rectory or left in the weekend collections. Be sure to earmark your donation for the “lighting project”. Envelopes for the project may be found in the back of the church. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

STEWARDSHIP OUR GIFTS: WHO ARE YOU FOLLOWING?

Over the next few weeks, we will see the development of the covenants God established with His people, in an effort to build an ongoing relationship with them. In the time of Noah, God sent a great flood to “clean up” the Earth. Afterward, he made a covenant -- a promise -- to never do so again. He left Noah and the remaining survivors as the new caretakers (stewards) of His creation. This great flood can be viewed as a massive “baptism” for the Earth -- a removal of sin/impurities. As such, our own baptism ties us into Noah's covenant, and requires that we act as stewards of our bodies and our souls, keeping them free from sin/impurities.

LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday are days of FASTING Catholics, from the 18th birthday up to the 59th birthday (the beginning of the 60th year) are obliged to fast, that is, take only one full meal and two lesser meals, with nothing to eat in between meals. Drinking fluids would not be contrary to the practice of fasting.

Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday, are days of ABSTAINING from meat. All Catholics, beginning with the 14th birthday, are obliged to abstain from eating meat. People who are unable to practice bodily penance, due to pregnancy, illness, or hard physical labor may choose another form of penance or charity. The Church urges that works of penance be linked to works of charity – for example, using the money saved on less expensive meals or giving up snacks to feed the poor.

Prayers are asked for the following: Kathy Westhoff, Justin Venneman, Sue Shively, Pat Moore, Vence Segraves, Sheri Bell, Adrienne Smith, Bailey Shaw, Billy Brown, Adam Westhoff, Stephanie Thompson, Don George, Lisa Edwards, Janey Beachner, Bryan Whelan, Ron Lallemand, Donna Little, Gary Brown, Teresa (Boone) Neff, Sue Baldwin, Susie Coeme, Rosie Brogan, Pat Diskin, Mary Ann Dougherty, Janice (Ward) Norris, Jane Anne Beachner, Dalton Noakes, W.W. Holland

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please call the parish office at 449-2224.

Stewardship of Treasure

St. Francis \$3,885.37

St. Ambrose \$487.00

Please remember your parish in your will.