

# OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC CHURCH

#### **WEEKEND MASSES**

**Saturday**: 4:15 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

#### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Monday: 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 8:30 a.m.
1st Saturday: 8:30 a.m.

Consult bulletin for special Holy Day and holiday schedules.

#### SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Conversion & Reconciliation Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. Monday: 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Tuesday: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Wednesday: 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. First Friday: 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

First Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

*Tuesdays & Wednesdays:* 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. *Thursdays:* 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

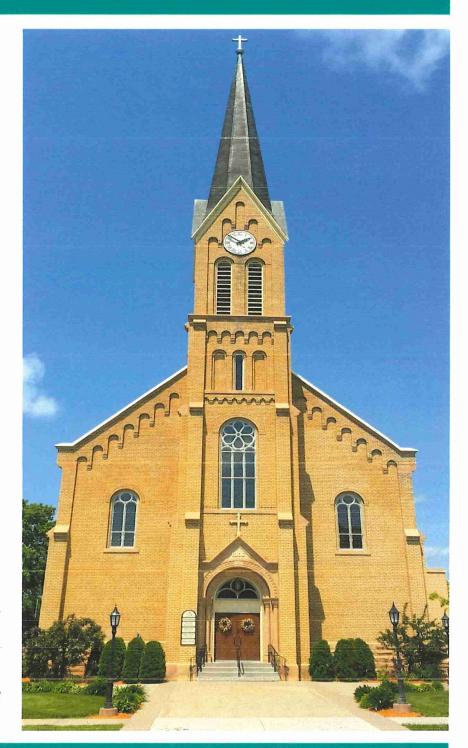
Weekdays: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### **CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE:**

Make arrangements with Parish Office six months prior to tentative date.

#### **BAPTISMS:**

Congratulations! Thank you for accepting and caring for one of God's greatest gifts. As part of Baptism preparation, expectant parents are required to attend Mass weekly. Please speak to Fr. Brian Lynch after Mass during the second trimester of pregnancy to begin the formal preparation process. We look forward to getting to know you and your baby.



#### THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of the Prairie:

We had a beautiful celebration of the Easter Triduum, the shortest season of the Church year, which begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and ends the evening of Easter Sunday. The most significant of the liturgical celebrations during this time is the Easter Vigil Mass, which began at 8 p.m. and ended at 10 p.m.

The Easter Vigil Mass is the first Easter Mass; it begins with the new Easter fire from which the large new Easter candle is lit. This year, rather than outdoors in the cold and wind, these preliminary events took place (for the first time) in our Gathering Space, and this seemed to work quite well. Once the Easter candle was lit we processed into the church holding candles that were lit during the procession. We soon settled into our places in church to hear about our salvation history by way of 9 readings from the Bible and a number of beautifully sung Psalms.

Following an amazing homily about our new icon of the Resurrection of Christ (thanks CCW), we had the blessing of holy water, the renewal of our Baptismal promises, and the sprinkling rite during which Deacon Bob and I threw holy water at the congregation as a reminder of their baptism. Our Baptismal promises are very important; those of us who were baptized as infants can benefit greatly from renewing and being reminded of the promises we have made to God. St. Louis de Montfort, who is perhaps best known for his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, insists that if each of us would just live all the consequences of the promises made in Baptism, we would be great Christians.

If we had prepared a non-baptized catechumen for becoming Christian, we would have baptized him or her during this Easter Vigil Mass. To have an adult baptism is a tremendous blessing for a community. Please pray that we will have someone to baptize at next year's Easter Vigil Mass, and please prayerfully consider attending on the evening of April 20th, 2019!

He is Risen! Happy Easter!! Fr. Brian Lynch

#### PARISH DIRECTORY

Pastor, Rev. Brian Lynch - blynch@olp.church Robert Raleigh - Deacon - 952-873-6688

#### **PARISH OFFICE, 952-873-6564**

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 - 3:00pm Kris Koehler - Business Administrator Kelly Pumper - Administrative Assistant

#### **OLP SCHOOL & LITTLE PRAIRIE PRESCHOOL,**

952-873-6564

Wendi Alessio - Principal of Parish School, Preschool Director

#### **FAITH FORMATION, 952-873-6564**

Patrick Schroers - Youth/Religious Education Coord. Loree Heinkel - Religious Education Assistant

#### LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:

Trustees
Charlotte Mulroy
Sue Schultz
Finance Council
Kevin Berger
Jerome Flaherty
Tammy Kottke
Lisa May
Dawn Skluzacek

#### **Parish Council**

Joan Bruggemeier Rick Morgan
Maureen Daly Joe Murphy
Jim Gerres Mike Pingalore
Randy Koepp Renee Schultz
Julie Lenz Chuck Valek

Prep Board

Rebecca Rupp Sarah Williamson **School Advisory Council** 

Michele Giles Rose Kolden Ashley Simons Kristen Strauss Joe Vandermark

#### PLEASE JOIN US!

The Catholic Church is the Church founded by Jesus Christ; it is the same Church mentioned in the New Testament of the Christian Bible. The term "Catholic" means "according to the whole;" it was used early in the Church's history to distinguish her from a number of other gatherings whose teachings and practices were not true to the authoritative teachings of Christ's apostles. All human persons are invited and encouraged to accept the salvation offered by Jesus through His one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church by living the sacramental life offered by the Catholic Church. It is the mission of Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church to offer this life to the people of Belle Plaine, Minnesota and its environs.

If you would like to become Catholic, please contact Fr. Brian Lynch in person or by email at Blynch@olp.church.

#### **OLP School News**

2018-19 Registration Information NOW Available!



We are now accepting registrations for the upcoming school year. Scholarships are available. Please call or stop in the office for more information.





## Craft Fair Saturday, April 14th 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Local Vendors, Crafts, Jewelry, Bake Sale

KingsPath Senior Living 125 Commerce Dr. W. Belle Plaine, MN

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<b>★ EVENT INFORMATION:</b>	※
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<b>*</b> The NoteablesSpring Concert,	米
* The NoteablesSpring Concert,  "Musical Memories"  Sunday, April 15, 2018	*
Sunday, April 15, 2018	*
4:00 p.m.	*
Le Sacut Heliaet Soil	**
※ Middle/High School ※ Auditorium	*
* 901 E. Ferry Street	※
Le Sueur, MN 56058	※
Admission FREE	
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### Mom's Group



Our Lady of the Prairie Mom's Group will be on Wednesday, April 18th at 9 am immediately following he 8:30 am Mass. All moms are welcome! Those attending will discuss ideas, topics, and activities for future meetings. Melissa Saxe is the group leader. You can reach her at melissa@saxechevybuick.com.

#### **Hearing Assistance Now Available**

Anyone who is having trouble hearing the Mass or homilies can now have clarity without your hearing aids.

Contact: Ralph J Schultz after Mass

Or Call: 952-873-6704 any time and just ask

about it. Thank you!

#### Ancient Order of Hibernian Founder's Day Celebration Saturday April 28th

Mass 4:00 pm Oratory of St Thomas Jessenland All are welcome to attend Reception ~ Edgewood Farms Tickets Required Social, Dinner and Irish Music Funds support the Hibernian Scholarship Fund. Contact Tony Hartmann to order your tickets at 612–245–9707

Area Separated/Divorced Support Group

St. Wenceslaus Parish in New Prague offers a support group for separated/divorced people. Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the church basement. Experience good support as you move through this time in your life. All faiths are welcome. For more information please call Deacon Bob Wagner, 952-758-0463 or Mary 952-873-6781.

Tuesday, April 3 & 17 - "Navigate Those Bumpy Roads"

**Tuesday, May 1 & 15** - "Name The Values That Guide Your Heart"

Volunteer Opportunities: We are in great need of individuals to help out at all Masses serving the Lord. Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Servers. Please Contact the Parish Office for more information. (952) 873-6564 THANK YOU!

#### Please pray for the sick of our Parish



#### **OLP Prayer Chain:**

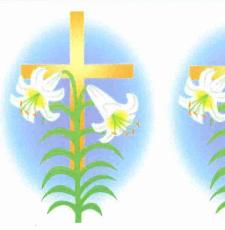
May we pray for your intentions? Please call Helen Bressler at (952) 873-6846. Thank you!

## COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

## THANK YOU

## EASTER SEASON 2018







#### **DONATED BY:**

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**Eleta Pumper** 

**Genny Mesenbrink & Daughters** 

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Johan & Patricia Miller

**James & Deborah Fogarty** 

Jerry & Irene Kirsch

Marlin & Ruth Pint

Pat Keup

Karen Brenke

Jim & Marilyn Witt

**Pat Kane** 

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Dan Murphy & Sheila Murphy Ferraro

Michael A. Fahey, Thomas W. Fahey & Richard S. Fahey

**Living & Deceased Bressler & Lynch Families** 

Lucy & Al Schaefer

Roger Pumper + Herb & Lucille Hirscher

**Richard Mesenbrink** 

Martin, Helen & Roger Schulte

**Guertin & Klehr Families** 

**Christine Carey** 

Paul & Edith Wanner + Joe & Betty Fogarty

Mark V. Kirsch

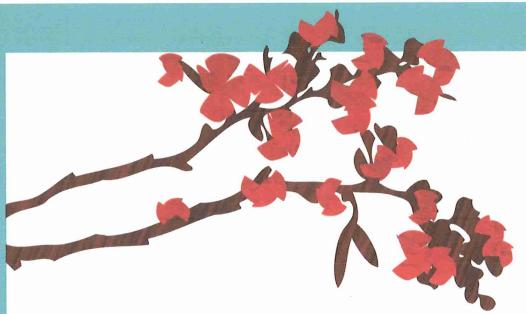
Joseph & Alma Pint Family Peter & Theresa Gregory Family

Paul Keup & David Keup

Kathy Twiek & Kevin Kane

Joseph & Blanche Fahey Sr. + Ed & Regina Witt

**Deceased Members of the J. Russell Kane Family** 



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPRING BANQUET

**RECOGNITION OF NEW & HONORED MEMBERS** 

SATURDAY APRIL 14, 2018
SOCIAL 6:00 PM - DINNER 7:00 PM
TICKETS - \$25.00

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Speaker Organization: Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency

Speakers: Trish Reimann and Father Brian Lynch Entertainment: Carolyn Gleason & Jason Paulson

## The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday!

How should we prepare for this great Feast of Mercy?



Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened". (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, on the Sunday after Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church.

Jesus promised that "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary 699) He went on to say "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy." (Diary 1109)

We want to encourage everyone to take advantage of this incredible promise and the additional Plenary Indulgence on this great Feast of Mercy "Divine Mercy Sunday". We want you to benefit fully from these promises, and we also want you to notify all of your family and friends about them too and urge them to return to the practice of their faith!

The Image of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord requested to be solemnly blessed and venerated on this day, will be on display in our church. Pope John Paul II said that the image portrays the Risen Jesus Christ bringing Mercy to the whole world. Our Lord said "I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish". (Diary 341, 48) Please take the time to visit with this Image of The Divine Mercy and venerate Jesus.

Jesus said to St. Faustina "I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You". (Diary 327) "The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the cross. ... Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him." (Diary 299)

About the feastday "Divine Mercy Sunday", Jesus said "...tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy". (Diary 699)

Our Lord said "When you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul..." and "Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy" (1602) Make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is... only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest that I am making use of; open your soul in confession to Me, and I will fill it with My light." (1725)

It is required of all Catholics to confess their serious sins at least once every year. If you haven't yet met this obligation then take advantage of this outstanding opportunity to receive an outpouring of an ocean of graces that Jesus promises on this day. Those who have already confessed their sins should make room for others.

The Church allows for one to go to Confession for up to about 20 days, before or after Divine Mercy Sunday.

Excerpts taken from the Diary of St. Faustina, copyright 1987 Marians of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge MA., USA Bulletin insert taken from the <a href="https://www.DivineMercySunday.com">www.DivineMercySunday.com</a> website and may be copied and re-produced without permission.

#### Our Gifts to the Lord

Weekly Collection Goal for April 1st 2018	\$11,600.00
4/1/18 Collection Week 40	\$10,338.77
Holy Land	\$857.00
Seminarian Fund	\$753.85
Total Contributions July 2017 – to date	\$321,136.64
Contribution Goal for July 2017 – to date	\$322,345.00
Budget Deficit	\$1,208.36
Number of registered Families	552

Did you know your contributions can be automatically deducted from your checking, saving or credit card account? For more information call the parish office 952-873-6564 or check out our website ourladyoftheprairie.com

Please remember Our Lady of the Prairie in your will & other estate planning.

#### Calendar of Events

#### Sunday, April 8, 2018

- **Divine Mercy Celebration**
- Confirmation Meetings 6:00pm
- Marriage Encounter Meeting 7:00pm

#### Monday, April 9, 2018

G.I.F.T. Night 6:30pm

#### Friday, April 13, 2018

Freaky Friday Bingo Night-Bingo starts at 6:30pm - 8:30pm

#### Saturday, April 14, 2018

Knights of Columbus Spring Banquet at Ridges Tickets Available \$25.00 \*See Flyer for Details

#### Sunday, April 15, 2018

Confirmation Meeting 6:00pm

#### Monday, April 16, 2018

G.I.F.T. night 6:00pm

#### Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Church Night Meetings 6:00pm

#### Wednesday, April 25, 2018

PREP Grades 7-9 Last Class

#### Saturday, April 28, 2018

First Communion Workshop 8:30am - Noon

#### Sunday, April 29, 2018

- PREP K-6 Family Day
- Confirmation Parent Meeting 7:00pm

#### Welcome Visitors and Guests

If you have just moved into our community, we encourage you to register as members of our parish. To do so, please call the office during normal business hours 952-873-6564 or visit our website at www.ourladyoftheprairie.com and go to \*Register on the home page.

#### Ministry Schedule

#### **April 14-15**

	4:15 p.m.	8:00 am.	10:00 am.
<b>SERVERS:</b>	Heinkel	J. Teal	M. Tracy
	Heinkel	B. Teal	E. Tracy

**USHERS:** J. Fogarty P. Guertin J. Miller J. Hartmann T. Halloran P. O'Brien A. Hennen P. Turmes

J. Jeurissen Troy W.

J. Vandermark **LECTORS:** L. Heinkel M. Kottke

#### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**.

TICIDATE MITTAI	OTTINO.	
Deacon Bob	Deacon Bob	Deacon Bob
L. Heinkel	D. Flynn	M. Daly
K. Heitkamp	T. Koenig	M. Turmes
J. Hartmann	S. Schmitz	P. Covington
B. Weldon	L. Doheny	K. Vandermark
	·	Nora W.

#### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTER FOR SHUT-INS:**

Lisa Schatz 952-873-4264 Georgine Gansen, Jean Hayden, & Janice Teal

#### **Greeter Ministry**

#### April 15th

8 AM - Eric & Lisa May 10 AM - Pat & Sandy Schroers

#### **Mass Intentions**

Mon. (9) 11:00 am - d. Matt Tholkes

Tue. (10) 8:30 am - liv. & d. Mem of the Herold Gray-Family Moved to 4/27/18

Wed. (11) 8:30 am - d. Scott Walerius Moved to 5/1/18

(12) 8:30 am - d. Wayne Bohlke Fri.

(13) 4:15 pm - d. Ray, John, & Jerry Connolly Sat.

Sun. (14) 8:00 am - d. Joseph Shaughnessy

10:00 am - For the Parish 6:00 pm - Fr. Brian's Intention

#### Readings For The Week Of April 9, 2018

MONDAY Isa. 7:10-14;/Heb. 10:4-10;/Luke 1:26-38 TUESDAY Acts. 4:32-37;/John 3:7b-15 WEDNESDAY Acts. 5:17-26;/John 3:16-21 THURSDAY Acts. 5:27-33;/John 3:31-36 FRIDAY Acts. 5:34-42/John 6:1-15 **SATURDAY** Acts. 6:1-7;/John 6:16-21 **SUNDAY** Acts. 3:13-15;/1 John 2:1-5a;/ Luke 24:35-48



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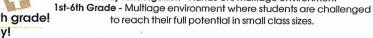
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