

# Communicatio Nostri Nuntium

## Sharing Our News—March 2024—Newsletter

The Catholic Parishes of Western Holt & Boyd Counties

Assumption BVM ~ Lynch | St. Boniface ~ Stuart | St. Joseph ~ Amelia

St. Joseph ~ Atkinson | St. Mary's ~ Spencer | St. Patrick's ~ O'Neill | Ss. Peter & Paul ~ Butte

### MASS SCHEDULES

#### Weekend Masses

St. Boniface—Stuart—Saturday @ 5:00 p.m.

St. Joseph—Atkinson—Sunday @ 9:00 a.m.

St. Joseph—Amelia—Sunday @ 11:15 a.m.

St. Patrick—O'Neill—Saturday @ 5:00 p.m. and Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart of Boyd County:

Saturday:

Week 1: St. Mary's—Spencer @ 7:00 p.m.

Week 2: St. Mary's—Spencer @ 7:00 p.m.

Week 3: St. Mary's—Spencer @ 7:00 p.m.

Week 4: Ss. Peter & Paul—Butte @ 7:00 p.m.

Week 5: St. Mary's—Spencer @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday:

Ss. Peter & Paul—Butte @ 8:00 a.m.

Ss. Peter & Paul—Butte @ 8:00 a.m.

Ss. Peter & Paul—Butte @ 8:00 a.m.

St. Mary's—Spencer @ 8:00 a.m.

Ss. Peter & Paul—Butte @ 8:00 a.m.

#### Weekday Masses

Monday—5:30 p.m. @ St. Boniface—Stuart

Tuesday—5:15 p.m. @ St. Patrick's—O'Neill

5:30 p.m. @ St. Boniface—Stuart

Wednesday—\*School Masses subject to change

\*8:10 a.m. @ St. Patrick's—O'Neill

\*8:15 a.m. @ St. Joseph's—Atkinson

6:30 p.m. @ SHBC Rotation

Thursday—7:00 a.m. @ St. Patrick's—O'Neill

Friday—7:00 a.m. @ St. Patrick's—O'Neill

8:15 a.m. @ St. Joseph's—Atkinson

"Seek a relationship  
when you pray,  
not answers.  
You won't always  
find answers,  
but you will  
always  
find Jesus."

— Father Mike Schmitz







## MINISTRY OF PRAISE—A WORD FROM DEACON FILIPS

Greetings Fellow Prayer Warriors!

I recently read a conversation between Rod Dreher, who wrote the very influential book “The Benedict Option” from a Catholic/Orthodox perspective and Aaron Renn who wrote a similar book “Life in the Negative World” from an Evangelical Christian perspective. Both thinkers agree that the easy times for Christianity are over. Within living memory, Americans lived in a proudly Christian country. We were founded on Protestant principals, but eventually Catholics and Jews were brought into the tent and accepted as part of the culture. Attending church and living by the laws and morals of Christianity enhanced your social standing, but now if you take your faith seriously you may be branded as a “Christian Nationalist” or have FBI agents infiltrate your services. Christians who don’t take God and His Commandments seriously and champion progressive secular causes are mostly left alone.

We have gone from living in Christendom to being strangers in our own land in about two generations. When you are a stranger in a strange land, you must be careful about what you say so you don’t insult your hosts. It is a different world when you are no longer part of the majority culture. Renn explains: “Jews have to explain to their kids what Christmas is and why they don’t celebrate it. And it doesn’t have to be rooted in hostility. It’s like, *Okay, we’re in this Christmas-saturated culture. and that’s not us.* And so I think we were going to have to do that. We’re going to have to create our own sort of moral communities in which we uphold a different way of life, and a different standard for ourselves than the world...It’s like, look, we don’t smoke pot, we just don’t do that. Right? We don’t watch porn, we don’t do that. We don’t gamble on our phone, we don’t do it. We just don’t do that...We need to we need to build a moral community that is distinct.” In other words, we need to become the “indigestible minority” in our new culture.

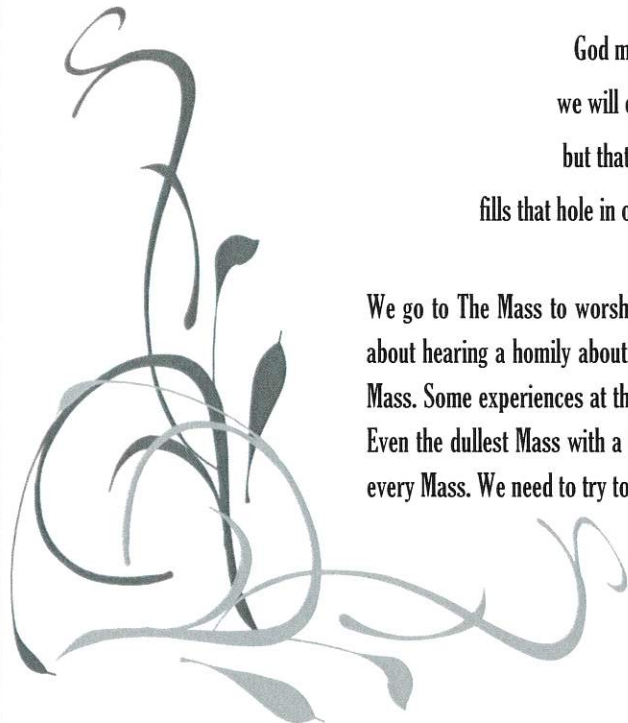
The survival of Christian faith in our country and in our families will require purposeful action on our part. Our children and grandchildren are no longer swimming in a clean, nutritious river. They are swimming in a sewer, and unless we intentionally build some type of shield around them, it will poison them. Unless you teach your children that they are Catholic and therefore we do certain things and we do not do other things, your grandchildren will never be baptized or raised in the faith. Start now to build up your family’s faith-shield so they are indigestible by our toxic culture.

This month, lets pray for a revival of the Catholic, and even the other Christian denominations to resist the secular sewer. Following is the next selection on the Mass from my book “Pearls of the Universal Church” available from [www.spiritualworkspress.com](http://www.spiritualworkspress.com).

God made us with a God-shaped hole in our heart so that  
we will crave Him. Some try to fill this hole with worldly junk,  
but that never works. Mass is not fun in a worldly way, but it  
fills that hole in our heart and it is ultimately satisfying (Blaise Pascal, Pensees).

We go to The Mass to worship and give glory to God, not to be “entertained.” It is not a “fellowship meal”. Nor is it just about hearing a homily about how to be nice to each other and singing hymns. It is not about us and what we “get out of ” Mass. Some experiences at the Mass are more inspirational than others. Those experiences are a gift but are not necessary. Even the dullest Mass with a terrible homily and off-key singing gives us powerful graces because heaven touches earth at every Mass. We need to try to develop a proper attitude of reverence for what actually happens at Mass.

Until next month . . . Deacon Roger Filips





### In Loving Memory . . .

#### RICHARD FLANNERY

August 4, 1945—January 27, 2024

St. Joseph—Atkinson

#### GARRY LOCKMON

May 12, 1938—February 1, 2024

St. Boniface—Stuart

#### BETTY WOLF

November 5, 1925—February 7, 2024

St. Patrick's—O'Neill

#### JEAN TRUMAN

May 29, 1933—February 7, 2024

St. Patrick's—O'Neill



*Day by day we will let go of this loss,  
but we will never let go of our love.*



### Welcome to the Newly Baptized . . .

#### COEN TYLER COLE

Son of Tyler & Jessica Cole

February 3, 2024

St. Patrick's—O'Neill

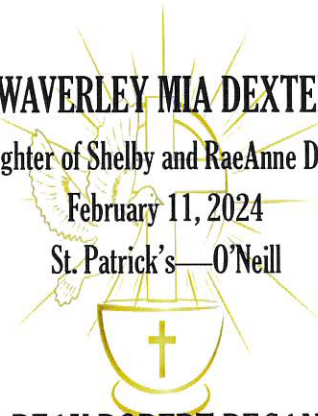


#### WAVERLEY MIA DEXTER

Daughter of Shelby and RaeAnne Dexter

February 11, 2024

St. Patrick's—O'Neill



#### BEAU ROBERT REGAN

Son of Kyle & Shelby Regan

February 17, 2024

St. Patrick's—O'Neill

*"You are a child of God. You are wonderfully made.  
Dearly loved and precious in His sight."*

*~ Psalm 139*

*"The sacraments are the manifestation of the Father's  
tenderness and love towards each of us."*

*~ Pope Francis*



#### 2024 RCIA—CANDIDATES & CATECHUMENS

- Jacob Birch—St. Patrick—O'Neill—Catechumen
- Chelsea McIntosh—St. Patrick's—O'Neill—Candidate
- Sara Morrow—St. Patrick's—O'Neill—Candidate
- Michael Shaffer—St. Patrick's—O'Neill—Catechumen
- Renee Timmerman—St. Joseph's—Atkinson—Catechumen
- Benjamin Walnofer—St. Joseph's—Amelia—Candidate

#### CHRISM MASS—March 25, 2024

Archbishop Lucas will celebrate the Chrism Mass at St. Cecilia Cathedral on March 25 at 11:00 a.m. The Holy Chrism will be consecrated, the Oils of Catechumens and of the Sick will be blessed, and the Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service will be made by all the concelebrating priests.





## MARCH—THE MONTH DEDICATED TO SAINT JOSEPH

“Glorious St. Joseph! Here, here is your place as “Protector of the Universal Church.”... Always be our protector. Let your inner spirit of peace, silence, work, and prayer in the service of the Holy Church always cheerfully enliven us, and we rejoice in union with your Holy Spouse, our sweet and Immaculate Mother, the most steadfast and gentle love of Jesus, the glorious and immortal King of ages and peoples. Amen!” ~Pope John XXIII



The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. As the head and protector of the Holy Family and a humble carpenter, St. Joseph is the perfect role model for men as a father, husband and worker. He is rightly venerated and loved for his deep faith and heroic virtues of pious humility and charity, perfect obedience and submission to the will of God and his chastity and holiness. As Patron of the Universal Church, he is also a role model for the interior life of priests and the religious.

All that we know about St. Joseph and his role in the Holy Family has been revealed through the Gospels. Though the Gospels are silent on the remainder part of St. Joseph’s life, it is believed that he died peacefully in the loving arms of Jesus and Mary in Nazareth before Jesus began His ministry at the age of 30. Thus he became the patron of a happy death.

Devotion to Saint Joseph is evident in the early Church through the dedication of churches and a feast dedicated to the Saint, in the East, as early as the 4th century. However, the celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph on March 19th began sometime in the 15th century through the efforts of Saints Vincent Ferrer and Bernardine of Siena and the French theologians Pierre D’Ailly and Jean de Charlier de Gerson. It was declared as a day of obligation by Pope Gregory XV. On the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1889, the Pope spoke publicly about the devotion to Saint Joseph. In his Encyclical, *Quamquam Pluries*, Pope Leo XIII stated that it was of “high importance that the devotion to Saint Joseph should engraft itself upon the daily pious practices of Catholics” and that the faithful should be urged to it by “our words and authority”. In 1870, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Pius IX declared Saint Joseph to be the Patron of the Universal Church. Later in 1909, on the vigil of the Feast, Pope Pius X approved the Litany of Saint Joseph for both private and public devotion throughout the Catholic world. In 1955, Pope Pius XII abolished the Feast of the Patronage of Saint Joseph and replaced it with the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker which is celebrated on May 1 every year.

This month we are also in the Season of Lent — a time marked for deep reflection into our lives and amending our relationship with God. Our time on earth is all we have to decide on how we want to spend our eternal life. It is in the here and now that we need to make a choice about our eternal life.

This Lent, let us truly examine our hearts and make a sincere attempt to recollect all our sins, recognize our weaknesses that are the root causes of our sins and seek grace from God to overcome them. Conversion of heart is a work of grace of God who makes our hearts return to Him. We need His grace to humble ourselves, reflect on our past ways, recognize our sins and admit them with true remorse of having offended a loving Father. This Lent let us focus more on a conversion of heart and seek pardon and more grace through our penances rather than just engage in outward acts of penance without any remorse or change of heart.

In 1989 Pope John Paul II published his Apostolic Exhortation on the person and mission of Saint Joseph in the life of Christ and of the Church called *Redemptoris Custos*. His Holiness wrote that Our Lady and her Blessed Spouse are “the summit from which holiness spreads all over the earth” and that “what is crucially important here is the sanctification of daily life, a sanctification which each person must acquire according to his or her own state, and one which can be promoted according to a model accessible to all people.”

Let us seek the intercession of Saint Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary to help us receive the grace to make this Lent more fruitful and amend our relationship with God so that we may be restored in holiness. Amen.

Source: <https://www.afcmmedia.org/Prayer-editorial-03.html>

### Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*  
 Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*  
 Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*  
 Jesus, hear us. *Jesus, graciously hear us.*  
 God, the Father of Heaven, *Have mercy on us.*  
 God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, *Have mercy on us.*  
 God, the Holy Spirit, *Have mercy on us.*  
 Holy Trinity, One God, *Have mercy on us.*  
 Holy Mary, *pray for us.*  
 St. Joseph, *pray for us.*  
 Renowned offspring of David, *pray for us.*  
 Light of Patriarchs, *pray for us.*  
 Spouse of the Mother of God, *pray for us.*  
 Chaste guardian of the Virgin, *pray for us.*  
 Foster father of the Son of God, *pray for us.*  
 Diligent protector of Christ, *pray for us.*  
 Head of the Holy Family, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most just, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most chaste, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most prudent, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most strong, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most obedient, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most faithful, *pray for us.*  
 Mirror of patience, *pray for us.*  
 Lover of poverty, *pray for us.*  
 Model of artisans, *pray for us.*  
 Glory of home life, *pray for us.*  
 Guardian of virgins, *pray for us.*  
 Pillar of families, *pray for us.*  
 Solace of the wretched, *pray for us.*  
 Hope of the sick, *pray for us.*  
 Patron of the dying, *pray for us.*  
 Terror of demons, *pray for us.*  
 Protector of Holy Church, *pray for us.*  
 Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, *spare us, O Lord.*  
 Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, *graciously hear us, O Lord.*  
 Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world. And prince over all his possessions.  
 He made him the lord of his household.  
 Let us pray, — O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother; grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector: You who live and reign forever and ever.  
 Saint Joseph, pray for us.



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Keep in touch with us via email and text. Text the number of the parish you'd like notifications for below:

St. Patrick—O'Neill  
68763

St. Joseph—Amelia  
68711

Sacred Heart of Boyd Co.  
68722

St. Boniface—Stuart  
68780

St. Joseph—Atkinson  
68713

OR

**HOLTBOYDCATHOLIC**  
(for information from ALL parishes)

TO

**84576**

or connect online at:  
[holtboydcatholic.flocknote.com](http://holtboydcatholic.flocknote.com)

**QUEST RETREATS—TINTERN**

March 23-24 or April 6-7

Contact info: 402-776-2188 or [tintern670@gmail.com](mailto:tintern670@gmail.com)

**ST. PATRICK'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION**

Here is the schedule for the March:

3/6— Regular Class

3/13— NO Class

3/20— Regular Class

3/27—Attend the Passion Play

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION—ST. PATRICK'S—O'NEILL**

Wednesdays from 2:00—6:00 p.m.  
until April 24, 2024

Call the Parish Office at 336-1602 if you are interested in being a guardian for an hour slot or if you'd like to be on the substitute list.

EVERYONE is welcome and encouraged to attend Adoration at any time from 2-6 p.m. for whatever amount of time you would like.

**ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL—2023-2024**

The overall goal for this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal is \$5 million. The financial resources generated through the Annual Appeal fund more than 30% of the archdiocesan budget (which helps our parishes to not see dramatic increases in our AAF assessment) and ensures that programs, personnel and services are available in all of our parishes and schools.

The financial contributions to date (as of Feb. 20th)

		AAA 2023-24 Goal	Participation Goal
Sacred Heart Parish-Boyd County	\$10,221.64	\$13,172.50	54%
<b>St. Joseph — Amelia</b>	<b>GOAL EXCEEDED</b>	<b>Congratulations!</b>	
St. Joseph — Atkinson	\$10,840.00	\$12,084.74	29%
St. Patrick — O'Neill	\$44,275.66	\$47,022.39	30%
<b>St. Boniface — Stuart</b>	<b>GOAL EXCEEDED</b>	<b>Congratulations!</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$77,877.30</b>	<b>\$84,484.72</b>	

As always the sooner we meet our goal the sooner we can stop talking about it! Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**Northeast Nebraska March for Life**

2024

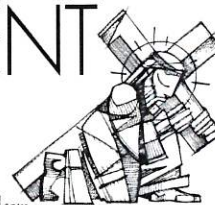
Saturday, March 23rd  
Knights of Columbus Hall  
105 Elm Ave in Norfolk

1:00pm - 4:00 pm - Prolife Fair  
1:30 pm—"Defending the Right to Life in Nebraska"  
by Marion Miner (NE Catholic Conference)  
2:00 pm - March to Downtown Norfolk  
3:00 pm - Refreshments



Sponsored by: Norfolk Area Right to Life, Knights of Columbus Council #79, and Heart of Jesus Family of Parishes

**TAKING UP something for LENT**



[catholicALLYEAR.com](http://catholicALLYEAR.com)





## RED CARPET GALA—MARCH 23, 2024

You are invited to bask in the glitz and the glamour of the 2nd annual Red Carpet Gala on Saturday, March 23rd at the O'Neill Community Center. Enjoy a complimentary champagne and charcuterie cocktail hour starting at 5pm, enjoying the music of the Ren and Red Show. The dinner service will commence at 6pm, followed by a brief program and short live auction. The evening will conclude with dancing to a live band - Something Blu. An online silent auction is available online now and will end during the night of the gala.

Check out the website to buy a gala ticket to attend the event, be a sponsor or underwriter, participate in the silent and live auction by bidding on items or donating items, or make a donation! Visit the site at: [events.handbid.com/auctions/2024-red-carpet-gala](https://events.handbid.com/auctions/2024-red-carpet-gala) or call the parish office at 402-336-1602 for more information. You can also follow the Facebook page for more information at /O'Neill St. Mary's Red Carpet Gala/

### ST. MARY'S—SPENCER



MARCH 24, 2024

5:00—7:00 PM

St. Mary's Social Hall—Spencer

Free Will Donation



### SWEET DELIVERY IN SPENCER

St Mary's CYO students from Spencer prepared and delivered Valentine Treats to the widowed parishioners for Valentines Day.





## A BABY'S HUG

We were the only family with children in the restaurant. I sat Erik in a high chair and noticed everyone was quietly seated and talking. Suddenly, Erik squealed with glee and said, "Hi there." He pounded his fat baby hands on the high chair tray. His eyes were crinkled in laughter and his mouth was bared in a toothless grin as he wriggled and giggled with merriment.

I looked around and saw the source of his merriment. It was a man whose pants were baggy whose toes poked out of would-be shoes. His shirt was dirty and his hair was uncombed and unwashed. His whiskers were too short to be called a beard, and his nose was so varicose that it looked like a road map.

We were too far from him to smell, but I was sure he smelled. His hands waved and flapped on loose wrists. "Hi there, baby; Hi there, big boy. I see ya, buster," the man said to Erik. My husband and I exchanged looks, "What do we do?" Erik continued to laugh and answer, "Hi, hi there." Everyone in the restaurant noticed and looked at us and then at the man. The old geezer was creating a nuisance with my beautiful baby.

Our meal came and the man began shouting from across the room, "Do ya patty cake? Do you know peek-a-boo? Hey, look, he knows peek-a-boo." Nobody thought the old man was cute. He was obviously drunk. My husband and I were embarrassed. We ate in silence but not Erik, who was running through his repertoire for the admiring skid row bum, who in turn, reciprocated with his cute comments.

We finally got through the meal and headed for the door. My husband went to pay the check and told me to meet him in the parking lot. The old man sat poised between me and the door. "Lord, just let me out of here before he speaks to me or Erik," I prayed. As I drew closer to the man, I turned my back, trying to sidestep him and avoid any air he might be breathing. As I did, Erik leaned over my arm, reaching with both arms in a baby's "pick-me-up" position. Before I could stop him, Erik had propelled himself from my arms to the man's. Suddenly, a very smelly old man and a baby expressed their love and kinship. Erik, in an act of total trust, love, and submission, laid his tiny head upon the man's ragged shoulder. The man's eyes closed, and I saw tears hover beneath his lashes. His aged hands full of grime, pain, and hard labor, cradled my baby. No two beings have ever loved so deeply for so short a time. I stood, awestruck. The old man rocked and cradled Erik in his arms and his eyes opened and set squarely on mine. He said in a firm commanding voice, "You take care of this baby." Somehow I managed, "I will," from a throat that contained a stone. He pried Erik from his chest lovingly, as though he were in pain.

I received my baby, and the man said, "God bless you, ma'am; you've given me the most wonderful gift." I said nothing more than a muttered thanks. With Erik in my arms, I ran for the car. My husband was wondering why I was crying and holding Erik so tightly and why I was saying, "My God, my God, forgive me." I had just witnessed Christ's love shown through the innocence of a tiny child who saw no sin, who made no judgment. The child saw a soul, and his mother saw a suit of clothes. I was a Christian who was blind holding a child who was not. I felt it was God asking, "Are you willing to share your son for a moment?" when He shared His for all eternity. The ragged old man, unwittingly, had reminded me,

*"Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."  
(Matthew 18:3)*



### SS PETER AND PAUL—BUTTE—CYO HAPPENINGS

The Butte CYO kids have been busy preparing for lent. They chose to visit the Butte Nursing Home for their February volunteer projects. They spent the evening of February 7th sharing stories with the residents and winning prizes at bingo.

On February 11th they spent the morning serving and chatting with the parish at their annual Super Bowl Brunch.

On February 21 they traveled as a group to O'Neill and attended the Tall Truth Sexual Education Rooted in Truth assembly.

As we head into March the students will be leading Stations of Cross and continue to learn about Jesus' 40 days with in the desert and how to prepare their hearts just and Jesus did.



# March

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st—Mass @ Parkside—2:00 p.m.—Stuart  
 1st—Area KC Fish Fries  
 3rd—Divine Mercy Chaplet—3:00 p.m.—O’Neill  
 3rd—RCIA @ 4:00 p.m.—O’Neill (SMHS)  
 4th—KC Meeting—7:30 p.m.—Stuart  
 5th—Catholic Daughter Meeting—7:00 p.m.—Evergreen—O’Neill  
 6th—Eucharistic Adoration—2-6 p.m.—St. Patrick’s—O’Neill  
 6th—Religious Ed Classes/Youth Group Meet  
 6th—Finance Meeting—7:00 p.m.—O’Neill  
 7th—RNW Deanery Meeting/Lunch—12:00 p.m.—Creighton  
 7th—Ss Peter & Paul CCW Meeting—7:00 p.m.—Butte  
 8th—Area KC Fish Fries  
 10th—Daylight Savings Starts  
 10th—Divine Mercy Chaplet—3:00 p.m.—O’Neill  
 10th—RCIA @ 4:00 p.m.—O’Neill (SMHS)  
 10th—Banish the Darkness—6 p.m.—Assembly of God Church  
 11th—15th—Catholic Schools Week Celebration—O’Neill  
 11th—KC Meeting—7:30 p.m.—Atkinson  
 12th—Mass @ Good Sam—10:00 a.m.—Atkinson  
 12th—Parish Council Meeting—7:00 p.m.—Atkinson  
 13th—Eucharistic Adoration—2-6 p.m.—St. Patrick’s—O’Neill  
 13th—Religious Ed Classes/Youth Group Meet  
 13th—KC Meeting—8:00 p.m.—O’Neill  
 14th—Altar Society Meeting—6:30 p.m.—O’Neill (SMC)  
 15th—Area KC Fish Fries  
 17th—St. Patrick’s Day  
 17th—Divine Mercy Chaplet—3:00 p.m.—O’Neill  
 17th—RCIA @ 4:00 p.m.—O’Neill (SMHS)  
 19th—Parish Council Meeting—7:00 p.m.—Stuart  
 20th—24th—Man of the Shroud Panel Exhibit in Spencer  
 20th—Man of the Shroud Presentation—6:30 p.m.—Parish Hall—O’Neill  
 20th—Religious Ed Classes/Youth Group Meet  
 23rd—2nd Annual Red Carpet Gala  
 24th—Divine Mercy Chaplet—3:00 p.m.—O’Neill  
 24th—RCIA @ 4:00 p.m.—O’Neill (SMHS)  
 24th—St. Mary’s CCD Potato Bar—5:00 p.m.—Spencer  
 25th—St. Mary Altar Society Meeting—7:30 p.m.—Spencer  
 26th—31st—Man of the Shroud Panel Exhibit—Stuart  
 27th—Passion Play—8:10 a.m. And 7:00 p.m.  
 27th—Eucharistic Adoration—2-6 p.m.—St. Patrick’s—O’Neill  
 27th—Religious Ed Classes/Youth Group Meet  
 27th—Finance Council Meeting—7:00 p.m.—O’Neill  
 28th—Ladies Guild—2:00 p.m.—Stuart  
 29th—Passion Play—3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
 31st—EASTER SUNDAY  
 31st—Divine Mercy Chaplet—3:00 p.m.—O’Neill



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

[holtboydcatholic.org](http://holtboydcatholic.org)

You will find . . .

- ◆ websites for individual parishes
- ◆ a detailed calendar of Masses and events
- ◆ live stream of the Mass
- ◆ St. Mary’s & St. Joseph’s Catholic Schools information

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St. Patrick’s—O’Neill

5:00—6:00 p.m.

Fridays through March 22nd



## Easter Egg Hunt

Following 8:00 am Easter Mass

at Ss. Peter & Paul Church

in Butte

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The newsletter will be available on the last weekend of each month in the entryway of each parish. It will also be available on-line. If you or someone you know would like the newsletter mailed please contact Jan Kunz @ 402-340-2303 or call the Parish Office.

If you have any parish news that you would like in the newsletter, please email Jan Kunz @ [jkunz@holtboydcatholic.org](mailto:jkunz@holtboydcatholic.org) or [jankunz9@gmail.com](mailto:jankunz9@gmail.com).



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Dcn MJ Kersenbrock ~ Director of Operations

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Jan Kunz ~ Director of Evangelization & Catechesis

jkunz@holtboydcatholic.org

Dcn Roger Filips

rfilips@archomaha.org

**St. Patrick—O'Neill & St. Joseph—Amelia**

Office: 301 E Adams, O'Neill, NE 68763

Phone: 402-336-1602

Fax: 402-336-1533

Hours: Monday—Friday—8 a.m.—4 p.m.

After hours emergency number: 402-340-0277

Parish Receptionist: Nancy Tomjack—nmtomjack@archomaha.org

Business Manager: Cheleigh Scholes—crsholes@archomaha.org

Director of Stewardship & Development:

Jennifer Wallwey—jmwally@archomaha.org

Youth Director: Bridget Bulau—bbulau@smcards.org

Religious Ed. Coordinator:

Whitney Shaffer—whitney.shaffer7@gmail.com

**Sacred Heart of Boyd County**

Office: PO Box 8, Butte, NE 68722

Phone: 402-775-0067

Hours: Monday—Thursday 8 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Secretary: Marge Nolan—mnolan@archomaha.org

Youth Minister/Religious Ed. Coordinator:

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**St. Joseph—Atkinson**

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Secretary: Gayle Jungman—stjoechurchatkinson@gmail.com

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**St. Boniface—Stuart**

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Secretary: Deb Kramer—stbonifacestuart@gmail.com

Director of Ministries/Religious Ed. Coordinator:

Jan Kunz—jankunz9@gmail.com 402-340-2303

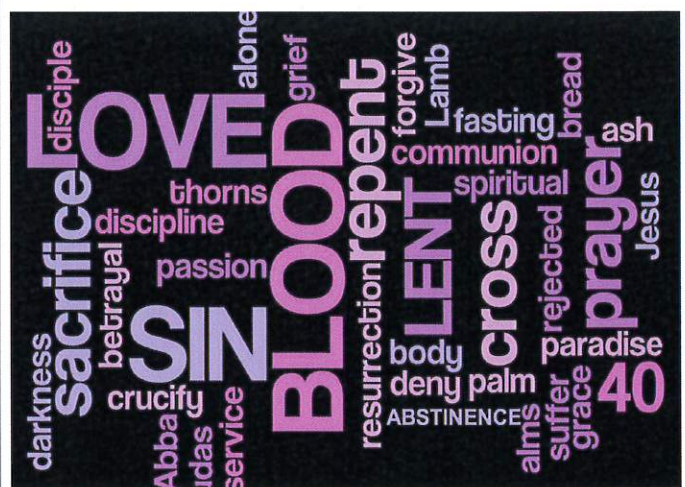
## THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM

Two traveling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family. The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guest room. Instead, the angels were given a small space in the cold basement. As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it. When the younger angel asked why, the older angel replied, "Things aren't always what they seem."

The next night, the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor, but very hospitable farmer and his wife. After sharing what little food they had, the couple let the angels sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest. When the sun came up the next morning, the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears. Their only cow, whose milk had been their sole income, lay dead in the field. The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel, "How could you have let this happen? The first man had everything, yet you helped him," she accused. "The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let the cow die."

"Things aren't always what they seem," the older angel replied. "When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall. Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn't find it." "Then last night as we slept in the farmer's bed, the angel of death came for his wife. I gave him the cow instead. Things aren't always what they seem."

Sometimes, that is exactly what happens when things don't turn out the way it seems they should.





**WEDNESDAY—March 27**

8:10 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.—Passion Play  
St. Patrick's—O'Neill

**HOLY THURSDAY—March 28**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper**

7:00 p.m.—St. Boniface—Stuart

7:00 p.m.—St. Patrick—O'Neill



**GOOD FRIDAY—March 29**

**Service of the Lord's Passion**

3:00 p.m.—St. Patrick's—O'Neill  
Passion Play

3:00 p.m.—St. Mary's—Spencer

3:00 p.m.—St. Boniface—Stuart

7:00 p.m.—St. Patrick—O'Neill

7:00 p.m.—St. Joseph—Atkinson

**HOLY WEEK**



**GOOD FRIDAY—March 29**

**Stations of the Cross**



7:00 p.m.—Ss. Peter & Paul—Butte

7:00 p.m.—St. Boniface—Stuart

7:00 p.m.—Assumption BVM—Lynch

**HOLY SATURDAY—March 30**

**Easter Vigil Mass**

8:45 p.m.—St. Boniface—Stuart

8:45 p.m.—St. Patrick—O'Neill



**EASTER SUNDAY—March 31**

**Easter Mass**

8:00 a.m.—Ss. Peter & Paul—Butte

9:00 a.m.—St. Joseph—Atkinson

10:30 a.m.—St. Patrick—O'Neill

11:15 a.m.—St. Joseph—Amelia

**The  
MAN  
of the  
SHROUD**



Presentation by Shroud expert, Jim Bertrand, M. Ed., includes a full-size replica of the Shroud of Turin

In collaboration with the Turin Shroud Center of Colorado

**SHROUD OF TURIN EXHIBIT**

A CRITICAL SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS, DATA AND HYPOTHESIS

You're invited to an up-close experience of the most studied artifact of all time - *The Shroud of Turin*. Witness this powerful display of the history, science, and mystery behind what many believe to be the *authentic burial cloth of Jesus Christ*. Then, you can ask YOURSELF - who is this *Man of the Shroud*?

**March 20, 2024**

**ST. PATRICK'S—O'NEILL, NE  
Presentation @ 6:30 p.m.—Parish Hall**

Full exhibit and details  
[spiritcatholicradio.com/shroud](http://spiritcatholicradio.com/shroud)



**MAN OF THE SHROUD PANEL EXHIBIT**

St. Boniface Parish (Stuart) and St. Mary's Parish (Spencer) will have an up-close experience of the most studied artifact of all time – The Shroud of Turin, what many believe to be the authentic burial cloth of Christ. The Man of the Shroud exhibit will include 42 beautifully-designed panels on display in the churches from March 20—March 24 in Spencer and March 26—March 31 in Stuart. This exhibit will raise the questions, *“Could the Shroud be the most important archaeological artifact ever found? Does it provide clues to what happened during the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus?”*

**MAN OF THE SHROUD PRESENTATION**

On March 20 at 6:30 p.m. in O'Neill at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Shroud expert, Jim Bertrand, M.Ed. of the American Confraternity of the Holy Shroud, will give a special presentation and a rare viewing of a Shroud replica, as well as replicas of the Crown of Thorns, whips, nails and Holy Sponge used in the Passion of Our Lord. For more information on this exhibit, visit:

[spiritcatholicradio.com/shroud](http://spiritcatholicradio.com/shroud)





### ST. JOSEPH—AMELIA

The Religious Education students participated fully in the liturgy on February 4th. They did the readings, offertory, and sang a song at the end of Mass.



St. Joseph—Amelia's 5th/6th Graders (L. to R.—Daniel O'Malley, Bentley Dexter, Aubrey Smith) wrapped in the blankets they made at craft night.



### SS. PETER & PAUL BRUNCH FUNDRAISER

The brunch was held on Feb. 11th following the 8:00 am Mass. The kids jumped right in and took care of things! Parishioners commented on how helpful and polite the kids were. Thanks to everyone for making the fundraiser an amazing success!



### GIRLS RETREAT

## \*\*GRATIA\*\*

for upcoming girls in  
4th—6th grades  
**JULY 9th-10th, 2024**  
at Tintern Retreat Center  
in Oakdale, NE

←  
**SAVE  
THE  
DATES**  
→

### BOYS RETREAT

## \*\*LEGION OF JOSEPH\*\*

for upcoming boys in  
5th—7th grades  
**JULY 17th-18th, 2024**  
at Tintern Retreat Center  
in Oakdale, NE



## CURING THE MYSTERY FLU

You're driving home from work next Monday after a long day. You tune in your radio. You hear a blurb about a little village in India where some villagers have died suddenly, strangely, of a flu that has never been seen before. It's not influenza, but three or four people are dead, and it's kind of interesting, and they are sending some doctors over there to investigate it.

You don't think much about it, but coming home from church on Sunday you hear another radio spot. Only they say it's not three villagers, it's 30,000 villagers in the back hills of this particular area of India, and it's on TV that night. CNN runs a little blurb: people are heading there from the disease center in Atlanta because this disease strain has never been seen before.

By Monday morning when you get up, it's the lead story. It's not just India; it's Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, and before you know it, you're hearing this story everywhere, and they have now coined it as "the mystery flu." The President has made some comment that he and his family are praying and hoping that all will go well over there. But everyone is wondering,

"How are we going to contain it?"

That's when the President of France makes an announcement that shocks Europe. He is closing their borders. No flights from India, Pakistan, or any of the countries where this thing has been seen. And that's why that night you are watching a little bit of CNN before going to bed. Your jaw hits your chest when a weeping woman is translated into English from a French news program. There's a man lying in a hospital in Paris, dying of the mystery flu. It has come to Europe.

Panic strikes.

As best they can tell, after contracting the disease, you have it for a week before you even know it. Then you have four days of unbelievable symptoms. And then you die. Britain closes its borders, but it's too late. South Hampton, Liverpool, North Hampton, and it's Tuesday morning when the President of the United States makes the following announcement: "Due to a national-security risk, all flights to and from Europe and Asia have been canceled. If your loved ones are overseas, I'm sorry. They cannot come back until we find a cure for this thing."

Within four days our nation has been plunged into an unbelievable fear. People are wondering, "What if it comes to this country?" And preachers on Tuesday are saying it's the scourge of God. It's Wednesday night, and you are at a church prayer meeting when somebody runs in from the parking lot and yells, "Turn on a radio, turn on a radio!" And while everyone in church listens to a little transistor radio with a microphone stuck up to it, the announcement is made. Two women are lying in a Long Island hospital, dying from the mystery flu. Within hours it seems, this disease envelops the country.

People are working around the clock, trying to find an antidote.

Nothing is working.

California, Oregon, Arizona, Florida, Massachusetts. It's as though it's just sweeping in from the borders.

And then all of a sudden the news comes out. The code has been broken. A cure can be found. A vaccine can be made. It's going to take the blood of somebody who hasn't been infected, and so, sure enough, all through the Midwest, through all those channels of emergency broadcasting, everyone is asked to do one simple thing: Go to your downtown hospital and have your blood analyzed. That's all we ask of you. When you hear the sirens go off in your neighborhood, please make your way quickly, quietly, and safely to the hospitals.

Sure enough, when you and your family get down there late on that Friday night, there is a long line, and they've got nurses and doctors coming out and pricking fingers and taking blood and putting labels on it. Your spouse and your kids are out there, and they take your blood and say, "Wait here in the parking lot, and if we call your name, you can be dismissed and go home." You stand around, scared, with your neighbors, wondering what on earth is going on, and if this is the end of the world.

Continued . . .



... Continued ... Curing the Mystery Flu ...

Suddenly, a young man comes running out of the hospital screaming. He's yelling a name and waving a clipboard. What? He yells it again! And your son tugs on your jacket and says,

"Daddy, that's me."

Before you know it, they have grabbed your boy. "Wait a minute, hold on!" And they say, "It's okay, his blood is clean. His blood is pure. We want to make sure he doesn't have the disease. We think he has the right blood type."

Five tense minutes later, out come the doctors and nurses are crying and hugging one another — some are even laughing. It's the first time you have seen anybody laugh in a week, and an old doctor walks up to you and says, "Thank you, sir. Your son's blood is perfect. It's clean, it is pure, and we can make the vaccine."

As the word begins to spread all across that parking lot full of folks, people are screaming and praying and laughing and crying. But then the gray-haired doctor pulls you and your wife aside and says, "May we see you for a moment? We didn't realize that the donor would be a minor and we need... we need you to sign a consent form."

You begin to sign and then you see that the box for the number of pints of blood to be taken is empty. "H-h-h-how many pints?" And that is when the old doctor's smile fades, and he says, "We had no idea it would be a little child. We weren't prepared. We need it all!" "But... but... I don't understand. He's my only son!" "We are talking about the world here. Please sign. We... we... need to hurry!"

"But can't you give him a transfusion?" "If we had clean blood we would. Please, will you please sign?"

In numb silence you do. Then they say, "Would you like to have a moment with him before we begin?"

Could you walk back? Could you walk back to that room where he sits on a table saying, "Daddy? Mommy? What's going on?" Could you take his hands and say, "Son, your mommy and I love you, and we would never ever let anything happen to you that didn't just have to be! Do you understand that?" And when that old doctor comes back in and says, "I'm sorry, we've got to get started. People all over the world are dying," could you leave? Could you walk out while he is saying, "Dad? Mom? Dad? Why... why have you abandoned me?"

And then next week, when they have the ceremony to honor your son, and some folks sleep through it, and some folks don't even bother to come because they have better things to do, and some folks come with a pretentious smile and just pretend to care, would you want to jump up and say, "EXCUSE ME! MY SON DIED FOR YOU! DON'T YOU CARE? DOES IT MEAN NOTHING TO YOU?"

I wonder, is that what God wants to say? "MY SON DIED FOR YOU. DOES IT MEAN NOTHING? DON'T YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I CARE?"

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## The True Story

How often do we really stop to think about the sacrifice God the Father made in sending Jesus? It's easy to think about Jesus' life and death as a story. But we know it is so much more than that. It's the Gospel, the Good News, the very reason we are saved!





## May God Give You ...

For every storm, a rainbow,

For every tear, a smile,

For every care, a promise,

**and a blessing in each trial.**

For every problem life sends, a faithful friend to share,

For every sigh, a sweet song,

**and an answer for each prayer.**

*"He who kneels the most,  
stands the best."*

*~D.L. Moody*

### THE "U" IN JESUS

Before U were thought of or time had begun,  
God had stuck U in the name of His Son.  
And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,  
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.  
You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,  
For U, he was born; that's why He came.  
And His great love for U is the reason that he died,  
It even takes U to spell crUcified.  
Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand,  
He rose from the dead with U in His plan.  
The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,  
and this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.  
When Jesus left the earth at His upward ascension,  
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.  
"Go into the world and tell them it's true,  
That I love them all-Just like I love U.  
So many great people are spelled with a U,  
Don't they have the right to know JesUs too?  
It all depends now on what U will do,  
He'd like them to know, but it all starts with U.  
Will U pass it on?  
JesUs Loves U!!!



## LENTEN FISH FRY

### ATKINSON & STUART KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### Stuart

Dates: 3/1—3/15

Location: St. Boniface Church Basement

Time: 5:00—7:30 p.m.

Dine-in or Carry-out

#### Atkinson

Dates: 3/8—3/22

Location: KC Hall

Time: 5:00—7:30 p.m.

Dine-in or Carry-out

### O'NEILL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Dates: 3/1—3/8—3/15—3/22

Location: KC Hall

Time: 5pm-7pm

Info: Dine-in, Carry-out and Drive-thru will be available.

Food: Fried Fish, Baked Fish, French Fries, Baked Potatoes,  
Coleslaw, Buns, Mac and Cheese and Dessert Bars