



Welcome to the

Tri-Parish

Catholic Community
February 18th, 2024

*Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish - St. Mary's Ridge ~ St. Augustine of Hippo Parish - Norwalk
 Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish & School - Cashton*

Parish Clergy

Administrator: Fr. Matthew L. Bowe

mbowe@diolclergy.org

Deacon: Dcn. Sam Schmirler

deacon@smash3p.org

Tri-Parish Office

1205 Front Street

Telephone: (608) 654-5654

Hours: M, W & Th 8am-3pm

Tuesday & Friday Closed

Website: www.smash3p.org

Parish Staff

Director of Religious Ed:

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Sacred Heart School

710 Kenyon St.

Cashton, WI 54619

Telephone: (608) 654-7733

School Office Hours

7:30am-3:30pm M-F

Lead Teacher: Jayme Klinge

Teacher4-5K@smash3p.org

Secretary: Doreen Brueggeman

school@smash3p.org

From the Administrator

The First Sunday of Lent always recounts the temptation of Jesus in the desert. In Mark's Gospel, which we read this year, it is a brief snippet of what happened. The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, "and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him" (Mark 1:13, NABRE). In Matthew's and Luke's Gospel, there is a more detailed account of the event, including dialogue between Jesus and Satan. It is also fascinating to note that in all three Gospels the temptations follow Jesus' Baptism and precedes the beginning of Jesus' ministry.

In all things that Jesus did, our Lord is teaching us disciples how to live a holy life, that is, how to be holy as our Father is holy. Each of us has been baptized. Each of us has a ministry to which we are called. How do we do with the "between" part, that is, with the temptations?

The Devil hates that we are baptized because it means that we belong to God. We are His children through the spirit of adoption. The Devil does not want us to go to Heaven, so He tempts us to throw us off of our ministry. Our ministry is a way to sanctify ourselves. Satan even tempted Jesus thrice to throw Him off of His ministry.

Thus, our Lord prepared in the desert for forty days and forty nights. Time in the desert is a great way to learn more about oneself and to practice virtue. The desert is bare and silent. It opens one's heart, mind, and soul to prayer, meditation, and listening to God's voice. The desert penetrates to deeper levels of one's thoughts and even one's being. The barrenness even helps a person to resist temptation (because the temptations are not there) and to practice virtue (because what else is a person to do).

Thus, the season of Lent calls us to make space for our own desert. We must find a barren and silent place to listen to God and to do His will. The goal is always Heaven. Here are some words for this Sunday's Eucharistic preface:

"He consecrated through His fast the pattern of our Lenten observance and, by overturning the snares of the ancient serpent, taught us to cast out the leaven of malice...we might pass over at last to the eternal paschal feast."

Blessings,

Fr. Matthew

The Week at a Glance...

Tuesday, February 20th
 —Mass 8am SH

Wednesday, February 21st
 —CCD 3:30-4:45pm SH
 —CCD 7pm-8:15pm

Friday, February 23rd
 —Stations 2:30pm SH

Sacramental Life

Baptism: Because we believe in the ordinary necessity of Baptism for salvation, it is customary that newborns be baptized as soon as is practical, usually within a month after birth. Parents need to attend baptism preparation with Deacon Sam prior to scheduling a baptism. Please contact the parish office for details or to register.

Marriage: Couples should contact the Pastor at the time of formal engagement or at least eight months prior to the desired date of the wedding. In the case of a mixed marriage, the non-Catholic party must arrange to receive instructions about the Catholic faith prior to the celebration of the sacrament.

Penance:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Saint Augustine | Thursday after Mass |
| Sacred Heart | Friday 7:30am |
| Sacred Heart | Saturday 3:00 p.m. |
| Saint Mary's | Sunday 7:00 a.m. |

Anointing of the Sick: Those who are seriously sick, have been ill for a long period or are to undergo surgery should receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion. Please contact the Pastor or the parish office.

Visitation of the Sick: If you become hospitalized, institutionalized or homebound because of illness and would like communion brought to your home or just to be visited, please call the parish office.

Catholic Education: Sacred Heart School offers Christian formation to children in grades 4K through 8. Call the school, 654-7733, to visit or request an application for enrollment.

Bulletin Deadline: Please submit items for publication in the weekly bulletin before 8am Wednesday.

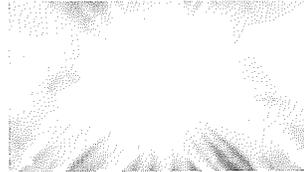
THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of February 18, 2024



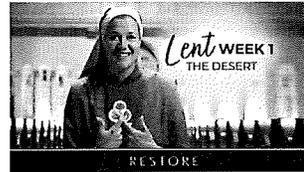
Saint Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.



The Afterlife | Eternal Rest | Episode 2

What happens after the moment of our death? Once the soul has been separated from the body, then what? What is heaven, hell, and purgatory? This session looks at the truth about what awaits the human person on the other side of death.



Week One | Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT

In the Week One video for the Restore Lent series, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, reflects on the theme of the week—the desert. She explains that Jesus is inviting you to move beyond your comfort zone and into the deepest places of your heart with him. It is Jesus who helps you root out the sin, sickness, and self-hatred in your life. Sr. Miriam assures us that we can look to him for comfort, love, and healing.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and OPUS DEI PRESS

Sponsor of the Week

ST. MARY'S RIDGE

*3-D Bow Shoot-3rd Sat in July

*Game Feed-1st Sat in Feb

P.O. Box 102, Cashton, WI 54619

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Feed My Lambs Book

We still have several copies of the Feed my Lambs book published by the Diocese a few years ago. Inside you will find beautiful pictures of all of the churches in our diocese as well as many historic facts. The suggested donation is \$37 a book but we would just like to get rid of them so any donation would be appreciated. They are located at the parish office or arrangements can be made with Kari to acquire one. Simply call the parish office.

Mite Boxes

With Lent beginning this week we have put out the mite boxes for families to use. Remember almsgiving is an important part of Lent and using the mite box with your family helps show our children an easy way to practice this part.

Join us for Brunch

A brunch will be held on Saturday, March 2, beginning at 9:30am with a coffee hour, at New Haven Manor Vacation Stay and Event Venue, 27708 Newhaven Road, Norwalk. The purpose is to introduce Catholics to a mission that I believe in. St. Augustine University Parish is a thriving Newman Center/Catholic community serving the students of UW-Platteville (a place with a beautiful Catholic community for those seeking higher education at a state school in Wisconsin) Fr. John and the staff are excited to present the mission and the future goals of St. Augustine's at this event. Is this something you would join me in attending? It would be a delight to have you join us. RSVP by February 25th. Paula Menn 608-343-2675 pemenn@gmail.com Call, Text or email.

Baby bottles for Birthright

The annual fundraiser for Birthright of La Crosse is here. Birthright is an international volunteer organization with a La Crosse chapter since 1976. Birthright is available to those with an unintended pregnancy to provide information, a listening space, and love, along with referrals and emotional and spiritual support when needed. The campaign will begin the weekend of January 20-21, 2024 and will conclude February 14, 2024.

Cabin Fever fest:

St. Peter's Parish in Middle Ridge will be hosting their annual Euchre tournament & Luncheon on Sunday, March 3rd. The doors open for lunch at noon and the card games start at 1:00 PM. The cost is \$15 per person which includes entry in the tournament, a variety of soups, snacks & beverages. Prizes will be awarded. Please call 608-452-4680 with any questions.

Healing Service

Are you suffering from physical, spiritual, or psychological distress? God's will is for you to be whole! A Healing Service will be held on March 4th at Sacred Heart Church-Cashton. The evening begins at 4:30pm with Adoration, devotions and confessions, with Holy Mass at 5:30pm followed by prayers for healing using exorcised and blessed salt, oil, and water, with intercessory prayers by our clergy and lay prayer teams.

STEWARDSHIP FOR THE OPERATION OF OUR PARISHES

February 4th, 2024

SAINT AUGUSTINE

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| ADULT ENVELOPES | \$993.00 |
| OFFERTORY | \$93.00 |
| TOTAL | \$1,086.00 |

SAINT MARY'S

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| ADULT ENVELOPES | \$1,363.00 |
| OFFERTORY | \$59.05 |
| TOTAL | \$1,422.05 |

SACRED HEART

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| ADULT ENVELOPES | \$3,266.00 |
| OFFERTORY | \$308.00 |
| FUEL | \$5.00 |
| SCHOOL SUPPORT | \$100.00 |
| EASTER FLOWERS | \$5.00 |
| TOTALS | \$3,684.00 |

For Youth and Young Adults

Blessed Jacinta and Blessed Marco were brother and sister who saw the Virgin Mary in Fatima, Portugal.

They saw her together with their cousin, Lucia. Some of the students in both the school and CCD program are learning about these saints as part of the virtue for the month of February - honesty.

So, what does honesty have to do with these two blessed? Well, quite a bit actually. After the Blessed Virgin started appearing to the three children, they tried to tell people what she had said. But, the people did not believe them. At one point, the people even had the children thrown into jail because they thought the kids were being dishonest and lying about the appearances.

Throughout all of the criticism and ridicule they faced, the children never stopped. They were honest (trustworthy and true) despite it all. Are we honest no matter what we might face? Or do we change depending on the circumstances? Do our actions reflect honesty? And when they don't, are we quick to apologize?

As we journey through Lent, maybe we can focus on honesty and also look honestly at those areas in our lives that we need to change so that we can grow closer to Christ. Are there aspects of our lives that take up too much time? What parts do we need to adjust so Christ can take center stage in our days?

Religious Ed News

First Communions will be held the following dates:

April 20th 6pm Saint Augustine's

April 21st 10am Sacred Heart

April 28th 8am Saint Mary's

Our Chastity Project Kiosk has been restocked. Take a look and see what we have!

First Communion Retreat/First Confession

Will be April 14th after the 10am Mass. A light lunch will be provided. Please plan for one adult to attend with your first communicant.

Sacred Heart School News

4K & 5K with Mrs. Klinge

Abraham Lincoln was very honest and brave. He liked to do what was right. What do we know about Honest Abe?

- He helped people and animals.
- He really wanted to help free the slaves.
- He would read books every day and everywhere he went.
- He was always poor.
- His mom died when he was a boy.
- He did not like cheaters!
- He had a very little house and the snow came through the cracks and ruined a book he borrowed.
- His bed was made of leaves and the floor was dirt.
- He only got to go to school one and a half years.
- He practiced spelling with rocks and sticks in the dirt and the trees.
- He became a lawyer and then the 16th President of the United States

1st & 2nd with Mrs. Balk

- Valentines Day gave us a chance to ponder the question "Why do you love Sacred Heart School?" We got some really great responses! Here are just a few...
- I have really great friends here.
- We have really good hot lunch.
- We get to go to mass two times a week.
- I love watching the children grow and learn.
- I love our teachers.
- Each day is something new.
- The faith of our staff and parents is humbling.
- We get to go to Adoration every week.

Art with Mrs. Leis

This week the students were required to create and use hearts of varying sizes and colors to create things found in the natural world. The assignment was challenging but should be helpful for our upcoming 3D projects. Additionally, several students completed their hot air balloons.

3rd & 4th with Miss Santas

In third and fourth grade this week, the third graders started working on fractions in math, while the fourth graders have been working on graphs in math; on Friday for math fun day, we played multiplication and division fact bingo. In science, we are learning all about our solar system. For social studies this week, we finished up the chapter reading about the Revolutionary War.

5th-8th Math & Science with Mrs. Flock

This week we are working on writing equations using the slope intercept form in eighth grade math. Seventh grade math is evaluating areas of parallelograms, triangles, trapezoids, and complex figures. In 5th grade we are finishing our unit on decimals by using conversion factors in the metric system. Sixth graders find themselves in a unit of area also. We are starting out by learning how to substitute values into the formulas to solve area problems. Science finds the 7th and 8th graders learning about protists while 5th and 6th graders are continuing their study of matter by examining the atomic theory.

5th-8th Literature & Spelling with Mrs. Slattery

5th & 6th grade students are looking forward to making gardens like the one in The Secret Garden. Our main character, Mary Lennox is beginning to come alive through the wind, the moor, the garden & the robin. 7th & 8th grade students just got Edward on the throne after his mistaken identity forced him to experience poverty, injustice & deceit. The lessons he learned will not be forgotten as England's new king in The Prince & the Pauper.

Religion with Mrs. Steger

7/8 dove into the gifts of the Holy Spirit this week. Did you know there are 7 gifts? Did you also know that 7 is considered a perfect number? How amazing that God gave us 7 gifts at our baptism and increased these gifts at our confirmation! We also learned about the fruits of the Spirit. Do you know what the fruits are?

5/6 continued talking about John 6. "This is a hard saying." Many people didn't understand what Jesus was talking about when He said we needed to eat His flesh and drink His blood. And they left. The Apostles didn't really understand this either but they stayed because they knew Jesus had the words of eternal life. Which one are you?

Atrium students worked on more gestures and parables in anticipation of Lent starting. As always they worked on other materials they have been shown previously.

Phy Ed with Mr. Steger

We've taken advantage of the nicer weather to get back outside for PE class. We are focusing on team workouts (generally 2 teams) consisting of rotations of shuttle runs, alternating lungs, burpees, and rest. Teams work together to rotate and transition between the movements and keep track of their team's total reps.

First Sunday in Lent

Reading Reflections

Today's readings remind us why we partake in this 40-day Lenten journey — to prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Christ on Easter. St. Peter reminds us in our Second Reading of the blessings we receive from Christ's passion, death, and resurrection — "Christ suffered for sins once... that he might lead you to God." And again, "[Baptism] is... an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ." To receive the blessings more readily from Christ's passion, death, and resurrection, we, too, must endure 40 days "in the desert." In our Gospel, the Spirit led Jesus into the desert, where Satan tempted him. Jesus was to face trials and to confront evil. During this time, He committed to intense prayer and fasting. Jesus did not need to go into the desert so that He might be purified but rather to endure the temptations of man for our sake. He was fully man and experienced temptations like us, yet responded perfectly, never falling into sin. We should strive to fully participate in this Lenten season by mirroring Jesus, the model steward by Whom we are to imitate. Through our time in the desert, we will confront evil by weeding out the roots of sin in our lives through fasting. And we will be sustained and nourished in the desert by prayer. Let us strive to purify our hearts so that we might be ready to receive the glorious gift of Christ and partake in the riches that pour forth from this Gift.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

Saint Mary's & Saint Augustine have both hit their goals and went a bit over. Congratulations and Thank you! Sacred Heart is at the point now where all the money sent in will come back to our parish tax free! This is an important income needed to sustain the budget. If you have not sent in your pledge yet, or can give a bit more, yes, there is still time. Simply make your check out to DAA and place it into the collection. Thank you to everyone's attention to this matter.

| | Sacred Heart | St. Mary's | St. Augustine |
|------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Goal | \$37,070 | \$17,465 | \$10,050 |
| Pledged | \$30,810 | \$17,520 | \$10,885 |
| Donors | 75 | 46 | 20 |
| Over/Under | -\$6,260 | +55.00 | +645.00 |

Looking for a Family Lenten idea?

Tune in to Catholic Sprouts, a Catholic podcast, to hear 40 stories of 40 martyrs. There will be a new episode Monday-Saturday. Also available is a download with each martyr and you can make a paper chain or other work with the strip as you journey through Lent.

A Minute with Jesus:

Jesus wants us to know He is continually with us. Oftentimes, our mind begins to wander at Mass because we only see bread and wine. What contributes to our distractions is the bombardment of noise and images in our minds that come through our physical senses (hearing, seeing). Therefore, we are much less attuned to the world of the spirit and the much deeper spiritual realities that are right here, all around us. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, help me to learn to be quiet and reveal to my heart the truth that the Eucharist is really You present under the appearance of bread and wine. This week, read about Jacob in the desert, who was very much afraid, and came to realize that God was present right there with him. As with Jacob, we can say as we pray before the Blessed Sacrament, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." (Genesis 28:10-17)

Big Hearts Little Minds

is a project to help support Sacred Heart School. Attached to the board in the narthex at Sacred Heart are envelopes with a dollar amount for a specific need for the school. If there is a need you'd like to support, take an envelope, put your check or cash inside for the amount on the front, and drop it in the collection basket. Feel free to take one or more envelopes!

Special Thanks

To the men of St. Mary's parish who helped clean the ceiling fans and to Flock's Heating and Air-conditioning for the use of the scaffolding.

Eternal Rest Grant Her, O Lord

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Bernice Dickman. Your prayers are asked for the repose of her soul. May perpetual light shine upon her.

Mass Intention Schedule

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sat. Feb. 17th | 4pm at Sacred Heart | Carlton & Dorothy VonRuden & Family |
| | 6pm at St. Augustine | For the People |
| Sun. Feb. 18th | 8am at St. Mary's | † Mary Marquardt |
| | 10am at Sacred Heart | † Norman & Bernice Brueggen |
| Tues. Feb. 20th | 8:00am at Sacred Heart | † Donald Pieper |
| Saturday Feb. 24th | 4pm at Sacred Heart | † Joseph & Thomas Leis |
| | 6pm at St. Augustine | For the People |
| Sunday Feb. 25th | 8:00am at Saint Mary's | † Robert Brueggeman |
| | 10am at Sacred Heart | † Bob & Marie Geier |

Weekly Readings

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15 (23)

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46 (224)

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15 (225)

Wed. Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32 (226)

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19 (535) Pss Prop

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26 (228)

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48 (229)

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10 (26)

Please pray for these Intentions

- 
- Pope Francis
 - +Rosie Dahl
 - +Bernice Dickman
 - Bishop Callahan
 - Corey Janzen
 - Sheila Vukovich
 - Ardella Leis
 - Louis Zanon
 - Jeanne Allen
 - Ed Schreier
 - Jerome & Margaret Leuck
 - Glen Miller
 - Wesley Clements
 - Louise Melby
 - Special Intention
 - Gene Degenhardt
 - Jeff Mullenberg
 - Grace Fowler
 - Margaret Jothen
 - Nancy Karis
 - David Schwarz
 - Sandy Von Ruden
 - Alice Schmitz
 - Mary Leuck
 - Bobbi Baker
 - Dennis Hemmersbach
 - Mike Metzler
 - Joshua Mack
 - For Vocations to Holy Orders and the Consecrated Life and all the seminarians of the Diocese of La Crosse including our own seminarian Thomas Cummings.

Pope Francis releases his prayer intention for the month of February 2024, and invites everyone to pray for the **terminally ill** and their families.

Lector/Serving/Usher Schedule February 24th & 25th

| <u>St Augustine</u> | <u>Lector</u> | <u>Servers</u> | <u>Ushers</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 6pm Saturday | Patricia Doll | | Volunteers Appreciated |
| Sacred Heart | | | |
| 4pm Saturday | Jack Herricks | | Volunteers Appreciated |
| 10am Sunday | Rod Smith | Ben Harris & Dominic & Gerge Knutson | Volunteers Appreciated |
| St. Mary's | | | |
| 8am Sunday's | Paul Klinkner | Thaddeus Slattery & Jeffery Menn | Volunteers Appreciated |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Klinkner Lawn Care "A Cut Above The Rest" Residential ~Commercial Lawn and Shrub Care</p> <p>608-487-4182 (Arnie) 608-632-0805 (Mike)</p> | <p>Dave Flock Electric, LLC.</p>  <p>We'll Find & Fix Your Shorts! Call for all your electrical needs! (608) 654-7401</p> | | <p>Coulee REAL ESTATE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC</p>  <p>Brian C. Schroeder 608-487-5534 schroederbrian17@gmail.com</p> |
| |  <p>Torkelson</p> <p>608-654-7764</p> <p>Email: torkelsonfuneralhome@yahoo.com www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com</p> | <p>MDS Mlsna Dairy Supply Inc.</p> <p>Cashton, WI 608-654-5106</p>  | <p>CFS Specialties, Inc Cashton Farm Supply, LTD</p> <p><i>Organic Specialists</i> Organic Poultry, Organic Feed and Fertilizer, Organic Grain Brokerage</p> <p>Phone: (800) 822-6671 Or (608) 654-5123 Fax: (608) 654-5696 Email: organic@cfspecial.com</p> |
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| | <p>Ray's Gas & Goodies Full Service Gas Station (608) 487-4472 Cashton</p> | |  <p>608-486-2851 www.middleridgeventures.com</p> |
| <p>Craig Steger Attorney 724 Front Street 608-716-7150</p> <p>askcraig@craigsteger.com</p> | | <p>CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS www.catholicforester.org</p> <p>COF General Agent Roger H Klein, Sr. 800-985-5036</p>  <p>Mailing Address W23802 American Heights Lane, Arcadia, WI 45612</p> <p>19-01-020Q RKN458 (9/19)</p> | |
|  <p>Sacred Heart Catholic School 4K - 8th Grade Education in the Classical Catholic Tradition</p> <p>For registration information or to arrange a visit call or email (608)654-7733 / school@smash3p.org Now Registering for the 2023-2024 School Year</p> | | | <p>ST. MARY'S RIDGE</p> <p>*3-D Bow Shoot-3rd Sat in July *Game Feed-1st Sat in Feb P.O. Box 102, Cashton, WI 54619 Join us on Facebook @stmaryssportsmen26400</p> <p>SPORTSMEN INC.</p> |