From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

The common theme of today's readings is a challenge to our Faith in the living presence of the risen Lord. That Faith should strengthen our Hope in His promises, call us to true repentance for our sins and lead us to bearing witness to Christ by our works of Charity. Does our Faith do that for us? The readings also remind us that the purpose of Jesus' death and Resurrection was to save us from our sins. Hence, they invite us to make our bearing witness to the risen Lord more effective by repenting of our sins, renewing our lives, and meeting Jesus in the Word of God and at the Eucharistic Table. The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles describes how Peter fulfills the mission of preaching Jesus. In this second sermon, Peter goes on with the preaching mission begun on Pentecost in Jerusalem, and again presents Jesus as the fulfillment of all the Messianic prophecies of the Old Testament. He also asks the Jews to turn toward God so that their sins may be wiped away. In the second reading, John tells us that true knowledge and love of God consist in acknowledging that Jesus is the expiation for our sins. We make that acknowledgment daily by bearing witness to Him in our lives and by obeying His commandments. Today's Gospel leads us to reflect on Faith, doubts and crises. It shows us how Jesus convinced his disciples of his Resurrection and how he commissioned them to be his witnesses throughout the world. He prepared them to receive God's power through the coming descent of the Holy Spirit upon them, and he commanded them to preach repentance and the forgiveness of sins.

Jesus needs Spirit-filled followers to be his eyes, ears, hands and feet so that we may bear witness to his love, mercy and forgiveness. The Church badly needs dedicated witnesses: priests, deacons, Brothers, Sisters, parents, teachers, doctors, and nurses – all of us. The essence of bearing witness is to testify by our lives that the power of the risen Jesus has touched and transformed us. In other words, Jesus is to speak to other people through us.

God Bless You!
Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS:
CCD - Catholic Christian Disciples

Just as we can accept greater responsibility for everyday tasks as we grow up, the Church recognizes that we can accept greater responsibility as witnesses to Jesus as we mature. But what kinds of tasks are we called upon to do as disciples of Jesus? Jesus shared a meal with his disciples and then asked them to be witnesses by preaching forgiveness of sins in his name. We not only go to confession but tell others about the forgiveness of sins.

+Classes: Wednesday - April 18th

Gilman: Grades K - 5: 3:40 - 5:00 p.m.
Grades 6 -11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Sheldon: Grades K-11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

+There will be a Religious Education Committee meeting on Saturday, April 21st at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Hall at Ss. Peter & Paul and at on April 22nd at St. John's after Mass. New members are encouraged to join us!

+Thank you to the CCD parents who brought refreshments for Sunday, April 8th after Mass in Gilman, and the sponsors who brought snacks for the retreat in Sheldon. Thank you to St. John's CCW for the meal provided.

+The CCD year is quickly coming to a close. Let's have everyone in attendance until the closing which is on Sunday, May 6th.

Blessings & Peace! ~ Sr. Marianna

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul		
Adult Envelopes	$	930.00
Loose		352.00
Total		1,282.00
Total from April 9, 2017		1,423.00
Building Fund		467.00
Good Friday-Holy Land		20.00
Easter		210.00
St. Stanislaus		
Adult Envelopes	$	418.00
Loose		93.05
Total		511.05
Total from April 9, 2017		575.00
Building Fund		716.00
St. John		
Adult Envelopes	$	1,677.00
Loose		303.00
Total		1,980.00
Total from April 9, 2017		1,312.50
Building Fund		384.00
Good Friday - Holy Land		5.00
Easter		70.00
St. Michael		
Adult Envelopes	$	175.00
Loose		109.00
Total		284.00
Total from April 9, 2017		313.00
Building Fund		57.00
Easter		20.00

(*Totals include only the basic collection*)

2017/2018 Catholic Services Appeal

Contributor Status Report as of 4/3/18

	Assessment	Received	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul	$ 11,179.00	$ 8,685.00	$ 2,494.00
St. John	$ 8,721.00	$ 4,840.00	$ 3,881.00
St. Stanislaus	$ 5,249.00	$ 2,790.00	$ 2,459.00
St. Michael	$ 2,509.00	$ 2,302.00	$ 207.00

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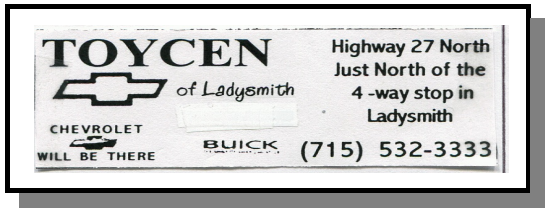
OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK



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4th Annual Teen Rally - Wednesday, April 18th - Ladysmith HS

4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Activities

5:30 - 6:20 p.m. Pizza

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Speaker - Bryan Cole & Door Prizes

Plan on attending and bring your friends! Bryan Cole has an amazing story. After years in Satanism, incarcerations, and a life without Christ - Bryan is now a pastor!