

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

Why does the love of God and the love of one's neighbor go together? The commandments of God (Ex 20:1-17; Dt 6:6-21) concern two realities; the relationship between people and God, and the people themselves. Israel was conscious that one cannot love God without loving other people who are created in his image and likeness (Gen 1:26). The love of God was especially to be shown to the poor and the needy. The prophets insist that the only sacrifice and fasting pleasing to God is to behave justly especially to those whose rights have been denied. In the New Testament, several passages speak of how God cares for the poor in a special way (Lk 1:46-55). He identifies himself with the persecuted. Matthew himself gives one of the most famous parables of the New Testament about the last judgement where Jesus identifies himself with the hungry, the stranger, the sick, the homeless, and so on (Mt 25:40, 45). John states plainly in his epistle that to claim to love God whom we do not see and not to love one's neighbor whom we do see is to be nothing but a liar. 'Neighbor' was understood to be a fellow Jew. But Jesus abolishes this narrow understanding of neighbor, as he breaks down many other man made barriers. He challenges us to take the first step and become real neighbors to those in need (Lk 10:29-35). Jesus shows that the love of God comes first but that love of one's neighbor has necessarily got to accompany it if it is to be authentic. They are really two sides of the same coin and cannot be separated from each other. We can also fall into the trap of trying to show our love of God through long prayers and spiritual activities while refusing any practical involvement with the poor in our neighborhood. Praying to God who is invisible is not as disturbing to us as the poor and excluded who live among us. Our faith as Christians, however, will always challenge us to see God in each other and to acknowledge that we cannot obey the first great commandment without obeying the second.

God Bless You!

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CCD - Catholic Christian Disciples

Children learn about love from real, concrete examples witnessed in family life. We can help children to love God and love their neighbors by showing everyday acts of love, generosity, and kindness - our own expressions of our love of God. These acts, small and large, are the expression of what Jesus identified as the two greatest commandments: love God and love neighbor.

+ We are grateful to Carrie Kraucyk, Lee Ann Ricca of Abiding Care and Chief Deputy Larry Woebekking for facilitating the Human Trafficking discussion with the adults after the film. The teachers conducted a discussion after the film with the young people. We applaud all the parents and adults who took time to learn more about protecting our young people.

+ Fr. Lourdu, Sr. Marianna and seven catechists attended the Diocesan Fall Conference held at St. Joseph's in Rice Lake on Friday. Mass was presided by Bishop Powers with concelebrating priests and a packed church.

+ This past Sunday, seven candidates signed their pledge to continue their journey toward receiving the **Sacrament of Confirmation**. The candidates from Ss. Peter & Paul are: Sarah Olson, Mikel Podolak, Trevor Schmitt, Dayne Tallier and Ryan Webster, and St. John are: Luke Geist and Daniel Kopacz. Let us pray for them during this special year.

+ **All Saints Day** is a day to attend Mass and **Sunday, November 5th** is the day we look forward to **Family Sunday** when children Grades K-5 will come dressed as the saint they chose to imitate. Please be in the church hall by 8:00 a.m. to process into Mass.

May your week be filled with many blessings! ~ Sr. Marianna

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul

Adult Envelopes	\$	847.00
Loose		2 00.00
Children		3 5.00
Total		1 ,082.00
Total from October 23, 2016		1,333.00
Building Fund		1 00.00
Energy		5 0.00
World Mission		3 87.00

St. Stanislaus

Adult Envelopes	\$	470.00
Loose		1 16.00
Total		5 86.00
Total from October 23, 2016		5 90.00
Building Fund		1 80.00
Energy		5 0.00
World Mission		9 57.50

St. John

Adult Envelopes	\$	516.65
Loose		5 7.60
Total		5 74.25
Total from October 23, 2016		6 34.50
World Mission		232.50

St. Michael

Adult Envelopes	\$	259.00
Loose		3 9.00
Total		2 98.00
Total from October 23, 2016		1 79.00
World Mission		1 11.00

(Totals include only the basic collection)

2017/2018 Catholic Services Appeal

	Assessment	Cash/Pledges Received	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul -	\$ 11,179.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 9,129.00
St. John -	\$ 8,721.00	\$ 580.00	\$ 8,141.00
St. Stanislaus -	\$ 5,249.00	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 4,124.00
St. Michael -	\$ 2,509.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 859.00

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St. Bernard's-St.Hedwig's Parish in Thorp will hold their annual **Fall Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, November 5th** from **8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**. Adults & High School Students: \$7.00 Elementary Students: \$4.00 Pre-school: Free. Sponsored by the Catholic Order of Foresters, St. Vincent's Court #1336. All proceeds to benefit Thorp Catholic School.
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OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

Plombon Funeral Service

Dan Plombon

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www.director@plombonfh.com