

## From the Pastors Desk:

Dear Friends:

Those who do not believe in God and in a God who cares for us are liable to be bogged down with worries more than others. We Christians who worship God as our Father should not needlessly worry. God is like a mother to us. "Does a woman forget her baby? Yet, even if these forget, I will never forget you" was God's own assurance. The basic cause of most of our worries is a failure to live our life on a day to day basis. The crosses we make for ourselves by a restless anxiety as to the future are not crosses from God. Of course, it is wise to be prudent and wise to plan for the future and take responsible actions to solve our problems. Providence of God does not assist the idle. But Jesus taught us that we should not be too anxious about the future because we have a heavenly Father who knows what we need and will provide; "I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat nor about your body and what you are to wear. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all". A person who believes what Jesus has said will agree with the hymn writer who wrote; "I know not what the future holds, but know who holds the future." In any case, it does not make sense to worry about the future, because why open an umbrella before it starts to rain?

Therefore, instead of getting worried about our material needs, Jesus asks us to seek God's kingdom first. "Set your hearts on God's kingdom first and God's saving justice and all these other things will be given you as well" (Mt 6:33). Everyone wants the kingdom of God but few want it first. But the divine promise is that if we give God our first priority in our lives, we can rest assured that our needs will be supplied and there will be no need to worry.

**God bless you!**

**Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION:

*In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us to look at how the birds and flowers are cared for. He reminds us that if God cares so much for the birds and the flowers, we can be sure that God will care for us even more. God knows what we need and provides for us. Enough with the worrying. Trust in God.*

++ There are **no classes** for the children in Grades K - 11 in Gilman and in Sheldon this **Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**. All are expected to be at the Ash Wednesday Mass to begin Lent with Our Lord Jesus Christ who sacrificed Himself for us. See you there!

++ Next **Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**, the students will receive a luminous rosary and a holy card of Our Lady of Lourdes and asked to pray at least one mystery of the rosary every day during Lent for their intentions and for peace. They will receive a Rice Bowl Box. Please place these on your table and bring them back on Good Friday.

Blessings on your Lent,

**Sister Marianna and Catechists**

## OUR WEEKLY GIVING

<b>Ss. Peter &amp; Paul</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,326.00
Loose	5 9.00
Total	1,385.00
Total from February 28, 2016	1,516.30
Building Fund	7 0.00
<b>St. Stanislaus</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 510.00
Loose	1 09.50
Total	6 19.50
Total from February 28, 2016	4 89.00
Building Fund	1 5.00
<b>St. John</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 626.76
Loose	5 4.00
Total	6 80.76
Total from February 28, 2016	5 91.80
<b>St. Michael</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 235.00
Loose	3 0.00
Total	2 65.00
Total from February 28, 2016	1 58.00

*(Totals include only the basic collection)*

## 2016/2017 Catholic Services Appeal

	Assessment	Amount Paid	Amount Due
<b>Ss Peter &amp; Paul</b>	<b>-\$11,078.00</b>	<b>7,990.00</b>	<b>\$3,088.00</b>
<b>St. John</b>	<b>-\$8,374.00</b>	<b>5,820.00</b>	<b>\$2,554.00</b>
<b>St. Stanislaus</b>	<b>-\$5,461.00</b>	<b>4,340.00</b>	<b>\$1,121.00</b>
<b>St. Michael</b>	<b>-\$2,323.00</b>	<b>2,323.00</b>	<b>Paid in Full</b>

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Contribution statements and envelopes will be available in the church office until April 15<sup>th</sup>.

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Koinonia, a community retreat experience, will be held March 24-26, 2017 at St. Joseph Parish, Hayward, WI. The retreat begins 4:30 p.m. on Friday and ends 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Koinonia is for all adults, 20 and up. Come and be renewed! Applications available from the parish office or Veronica Willand (715) 462-9259.

## OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

<p><b>Village Hair Designs</b> by Monica W15218 Hwy 64 Wed. 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Thurs. &amp; Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p>
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