

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCD: Catholic Christian Discipleship

There will be a **St. Andrew DINNER** at Immaculate Conception in New Richmond on **Wednesday, May 25th from 5:30pm - 8:30pm**. This event will include talks for both discerners and their parents, time for socializing, dinner and prayer. This event is open to any middle school, high school, college student and young adult as well as their parents. Contact Fr. Adam Laski at fatheradamlaski@gmail.com or call him at (715) 817-6031

ALTAR / ALTAR STONE

Today we will talk about the altar in church. The altar is the holy table on which the sacrifice of the cross is made present and truly re-encountered. It is also the table of the Lord to which God's people gather to share the Eucharistic meal and celebrate Mass. The altar is the central focal point in a church and a symbol of Christ. At the Mass, people come together as a "mass", a group, to pray together in public to tell all the world that they are grateful for Jesus' sacrifice and to celebrate being Jesus' friends. The altar is the meeting point between God and Mankind. Altars are positioned at the heart of the sanctuary, raised up on a few steps so the architecture is drawn toward it. The word altar is derived from the Latin adjective *altus*, meaning "high".

During the dedication of churches, relics of a saints are sealed inside the altar in order to mark the continuity between Christ's sacrifice and that of his faithful. The altar is then consecrated with an anointment of holy chrism. After that, it is illuminated by the burning of incense, which is the sign of the Holy Spirit's taking possession of it. Finally, it is laid with altar cloths.

In the early church, altars were always made of stone. Today they may be made of other things BUT most of them have an altar stone - and both the altar and the altar stone are given special blessings before they are put into a church. The altar itself is about the size of a dining-room table, but the altar stone is only about eight by ten inches - about the size of a large book - and it's inserted into the center of the altar or attached in the center underneath the altar. The altar stone is a solid slab of stone that has four crosses carved in the top - one on each corner and one in the center. On the bottom side of the stone, there is a small space like a secret spot where you would hide something special - and that's what it is for! Sealed inside this space, are two relics - usually small bits of things that once belonged to or were touched by a saint or a fragment of a bone of a saint. Of course, you may never see the altar stone because it is covered by an altar cloth - but now you know it's there, just like you can't SEE God but you know he is there and he loves you!

Peace be with you!

~Georgi Whelan

| | COLLECTED | *NEEDED* |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|
| May 14-15 | | |
| Ss. Peter & Paul | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 1,100.00 | 885.00 |
| Loose | \$ 66.25 | 77.00 |
| Total | \$ 1,166.25 | *962.00* |
| Month of May | | |
| Building Fund = | \$ 1,452.00 | *1,500.00/mo* |
| St. Stanislaus | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 235.00 | 423.00 |
| Loose | \$ 96.00 | 67.00 |
| Total | \$ 331.00 | *490.00* |
| Month of May | | |
| Building Fund = | \$ 215.00 | *417.00/mo* |
| St. John | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 657.00 | 750.00 |
| Loose | \$ 57.00 | 48.00 |
| Total | \$ 714.00 | *798.00* |
| Month of May | | |
| Building Fund = | \$ 210.00 | *667.00/mo* |
| St. Michael | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 190.00 | 250.00 |
| Loose | \$ 28.00 | 30.00 |
| Total | \$ 218.00 | *280.00* |
| Month of May | | |
| Building Fund = | \$ 140.00 | *100.00/mo* |
| <i>*The weekly Envelope & monthly Building Fund totals needed are based on the fiscal year budget set by each Parish Council.</i> | | |

*Christ has no BODY
but YOURS*

Catholic Services Appeal 2021-2022

| | Assessment | Payments & Pledges | Amount Due |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Ss. Peter & Paul | \$ 10,960.00 | \$ 4,620.00 | \$ 6,340.00 |
| St. John | \$ 8,639.00 | \$ 4,025.00 | \$ 4,614.00 |
| St. Stanislaus | \$ 5,436.00 | \$ 4,590.00 | \$ 846.00 |
| St. Michael | \$ 2,953.00 | \$ 3,212.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| ***** | | | |

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