

**March 14, 2010**

**Laetare Sunday**

**CELEBRATION OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST**

- 3/15 MON**      **Rectory Office Closed**  
**7:00 PM - HOVEN - Mass/Rosary**  
\*Dave Goebel+
- 3/16 TUES**      **5:15 PM - HOVEN - Mass/Rosary**  
\*Fred Stuwe+
- 3/17 WED**      **St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland**  
**5:15 PM - HOVEN - Mass/Rosary**  
\*Gary Ablert+
- 3/18 THURS**      **St. Cyril of Jerusalem**  
**7:20 AM - HOVEN - Mass/Rosary**  
\*John & Mary Rausch+ & Family
- 5:30 PM - ONAKA - Mass**  
\*Fr. Don Molumby+
- 3/19 FRI**      **Solemnity of St. Joseph**  
**7:00 PM - HOVEN - Mass/Rosary (Incense)**  
\*St. Anthony's Foundation
- 7:00 PM - ONAKA**  
**Communion Service/Stations of the Cross**
- 3/20 SAT**      **11:00 AM - HOSP. - Rosary/Mass**  
\*Frank+ & Agnes Rausch & Family
- 3:30 - 4:30 PM Confessions**
- THE LORD'S DAY MASS**
- 5:00 PM - HOVEN - Mass**  
\*Edwin Beitelspacher+
- 3/21 SUN**      **7:30 - 7:55 AM - Confessions - Onaka**
- 8:00 AM - ONAKA - Mass**  
\*People of our Parishes
- 9:15 - 9:45 AM Confessions - Hoven**
- 10:00 AM - HOVEN - Mass**  
\*Bernadette Arbach+

**This Sunday's Readings:**

Jos 5: 9a, 10-12; Psalm 34; 2 Cor 5: 17-21; Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

**CATECHISM PARAGRAPHS FOR THIS SUNDAY:**

- + 545 - Jesus invited sinners to table of the kingdom.
- + 588-589 - Scandal of Jesus' sharing with sinners and identifying God's attitude with His merciful conduct.
- + 604-605 - God's initiative of universal redeeming love.
- + 981-983 - Christ commissioned the Church to carry out the ministry of reconciliation.
- + 1430-1433 - Interior penance.
- + 1465-1467 - Priest as instrument of Christ's mercy and welcome in sacramental penance.
- + 2839 - Humble confidence of a sinner before God.
- + 1439 - Process of conversion like that of prodigal son.
- + 2794-2795 - Heaven: The Father's house, from which sin exiles us and to which conversion of heart enables us to return.

**DAILY READINGS FROM SACRED SCRIPTURE:**

**Monday:** Is 65: 17-21; Jn 4: 43-54

**Tuesday:** Ez 47: 1-9, 12; Jn 5: 1-16

**Wednesday:** Is 49: 8-15; Jn 5: 17-30

**Thursday:** Ex 32: 7-14; Jn 5: 31-47

**Friday:** 2 Sm 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22;  
Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24a

**Saturday:** Jer 11: 18-20; Jn 7: 40-53

**Sunday:** Is 43: 16-21; Psalm 126; Phil 3: 8-14; Jn 8: 1-11

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYERS:**

**FROM HOVEN:** Fr. Lance Oser, Helen Glodt, LaVonne Schumacher, Dyt Rundall, Marvin Schmidt, Kenny Kaup, Kay Klocker, Rick Karst.

**FROM ONAKA:** St. John's Parishioners, Bertha Tuchscherer, Phil Heintzman.

**OTHER:** Pope Benedict XVI, Bishop Paul Swain, priests, seminarians, Sisters of our Diocese, World Peace, sanctity of all human life, our military personnel, Jeff & Trish Simon, Laura Keller-Huber, Gene Ronke, Sandy Entringer, Dorothy Frost, Patrick Engel, Carmen Rausch+, Kristina Sevigny+.

**Names will remain on our prayer list for four weeks. Please contact Linda in the office to request continued prayers.**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS March 20-21, 2010**

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA - Saturday - 5:00 PM**

LECTOR:            Rachele Griese  
EUCH. MIN:        Marvin Schmidt  
GREETERS:        Joe Hartung Family  
MARY'S HELPERS:    Shelby Shaykett, Kalecia Hageman  
USHERS:            Please Volunteer  
SERVERS:           Dana Hageman, Jeff Hageman, Isaac Kaiser

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST - Sunday - 8:00 AM**

LECTOR:            Darin & Nathan Vetch  
OFFERTORY:        Celestine Barondeau Family  
USHERS:            Please Volunteer

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA - Sunday - 10:00 AM**

LECTOR:            Chuck Simon  
EUCH. MIN:        Joel Rausch, Kurt Rausch  
GREETERS:        Shannon Rausch Family  
MARY'S HELPERS:    Brooke DeRouchey, Samantha Rausch  
USHERS:            Please Volunteer  
SERVERS:            Garrett Rausch, Tyler DeRouchey, Nathan Jager

Almighty and everlasting God, have mercy upon Thy servant, Benedict, our Supreme Pontiff, and direct him, according to Thy loving kindness, in the ways of eternal salvation; that, by Thy gift, he may always desire that which is pleasing unto Thee and may accomplish it with all his might. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Please pray for Pope Benedict XVI's General & Mission Intentions for March:***

(G) General intention; (M) Mission intention

(G) **World Economy.** That the world economy may be managed according to the principles of justice and equality, taking into account the real needs of peoples, especially the poorest.

(M) **Churches in Africa.** That the Churches throughout Africa may be signs and instruments of reconciliation and justice.

**FR. LANCE'S NOTE**

**Dear Family in Christ: Pax Christi!**

**The KC's will be having a short informal meeting in the Church basement on Monday, Mar. 15th at 8:00pm. They will then remove the cement flooring in the basement workroom. All extra help is welcome, including high school boys. Please bring shovels, crow-bars, 5-gallon buckets, or anything else you think may be needed to remove the flooring. Thank you for your generous gift of time and effort. God bless you!**

**Also remember the KC Breakfast next Sunday, March 21st.**

***Ad Jesum per Mariam!***

The Stations of the Cross is a popular devotion consisting of appropriate meditations before each of 14 stations representing successive stages in the Passion of Our Lord. The Way of the Cross is the most heavily indulgenced devotion in the Catholic Church; it is a devotion reputed to have been originated by Our Lady herself,

who, legend has it, set up the original Way of the Cross in Her backyard in Ephesus. Moreover, the great saints all affirm that prayerful meditation on the Passion and Death of Our Dear Savior is the most fruitful that one can engage in.

Brother Estanislao, a young Spaniard, at the age of 18 entered the Novitiate of The Brothers of the Christian Schools at Buggedo. He took the Vow of Regularity, Perfection and Pure Love. In October, 1926, he offered himself to Jesus through Mary. Soon after this heroic donation, he felt ill, and was obliged to rest. He died saintly in March 1927. He was, according to the master of novices, a privileged soul, who received Messages from Heaven. Confessors and Theologians recognized these supernatural facts. The spiritual director of Brother Estanislao (1903-1927) asked him to write down the promises that Our Lord had revealed to him for those who have a devotion to the Way of the Cross. The promises are as follows:

I will grant everything that is asked of Me with faith, when making The Way of the Cross.

I promise Eternal Life to those who pray from time to time, The Way of the Cross.

I will follow them everywhere in life and I will help them, especially at the hour of death.

Even if they have more sins than the blades of grass in the fields and the grains of sand in the sea, all of them will be erased by The Way of the Cross. (Note: This promise does not eliminate the obligation to confess all mortal sins, and this, before we can receive Holy Communion.)

Those who pray The Way of the Cross often will have a special glory in Heaven.

I will deliver them from Purgatory, indeed if they go there at all, the first Tuesday or Friday after their death.

I will bless them at each Way of the Cross, and My blessing will follow them everywhere on earth and, after their death, in Heaven for all Eternity.

At the hour of death I will not permit the devil to tempt them; I will lift all power from him in order that they will repose tranquilly in My Arms.

If they pray it with true love, I will make of each one of them a living Ciborium in which it will please Me to pour My grace.

I will fix My Eyes on those who pray The Way of the Cross often; My hands will always be open to protect them.

As I am nailed to the Cross, so also will I always be with those who honor Me in making The Way of the Cross frequently.

They will never be able to separate themselves from Me, for I will give them the grace never again to commit a Mortal sin.

At the hour of death I will console them with My Presence and we will go together to Heaven. Death will be sweet to all those who have honored Me during their lives by praying The Way of the Cross.

My soul will be a protective shield for them, and will always help them, whenever they have recourse.

"Next to the Mass, The Way of the Cross is the most beneficial of all devotions for the Holy Souls in Purgatory." Said a poor soul to a privileged nun. "Make the Stations of the Cross everyday". Our Lord said to Sr. Josefa Menendez.

**COMING EVENTS - HOVEN**

**Sun., Mar. 14th @ 3:00 p.m.** - Hospital Musical Fun Day at the Hoven Legion Hall. A Soup and Sandwich Supper will be held following the program. *Please join in the fun and support our Holy Infant Hospital.*

**Mon., Mar. 15th @ 8:00 PM** - KC Meeting in **Church basement.**

**Tues., Mar. 16th @ 7:00 p.m.** - St. Anthony's Church Foundation meeting in the Church basement.

**Sun., Mar. 21st - KC Breakfast** @ KC Hall. Serving from 8:00am to 12 noon.

**Treasure Hut 1/2 Price Sale**

**~ Running 2 Weeks ~**

**Starting Saturday, March 27th - 9am - 4pm**  
Shop **BEFORE** the sale and be registered for a chance at one of two \$25 gift certificates to the Treasure Hut!! For each \$10 purchase at the Hut, your name will be put in for a drawing to be held on March 27th, the first day of the 1/2 price sale!

**PENANCE LITURGY**

**Sunday, March 14th @ 7:00 PM**

at St. Anthony's Church with four priests available for Confessions.

**COMING EVENTS - ONAKA**

**Tues., Mar. 16th @ 7:00 p.m.** - Altar Society Meeting in Community Hall.

**CFSA:** If you mail your CFSA pledge cards, please change the mailing address on the white pledge card to PO Box 98, Hoven, SD 57450. When the diocese mailed these cards to you, they put on the physical street address for St. John's instead of St. Anthony's mailing address. You may also just drop your CFSA pledge card in the collection at church and the rectory will receive it that way. If you have any questions, please contact the rectory at 948-2451. Thank you!

**NOTES**

**Our Parish Community Extends Prayerful Sympathy** to the family of Carmen Rausch. May Carmen and all those who have gone before us marked with the Sign of Faith rest in peace.

**A new parish giving option:** Plains Commerce Bank customers now have the option of making automatic contributions to the parish from their savings or checking account. **Please call Linda at the rectory for more information.**

**Notice** - There are daily spiritual readings and reflections at the following website **www.apostleshipofprayer.org**.

**Anniversary Mass Celebration** - If you will be celebrating 25, 50, 60, and 65 or more years of marriage, **please call the rectory by Mar. 19th** so your name can be submitted to the diocese. A special Mass in your honor will be celebrated at either of these locations: June 6th in Sioux Falls or July 11th in Aberdeen. For those who submit their names, an invitation will be sent to you by the diocese to attend this celebration.

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING - ST. ANTHONY'S**

*March 6-7, 2010*

Amount collected for weekend.....\$2,085.13

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING - ST. JOHN'S**

*March 7, 2010*

Amount collected for weekend.....\$203.00

*God bless you for your continued support of our parishes*

**CATHOLIC FAMILY SHARING APPEAL 2010**

|               | <b><u>Goal</u></b> | <b><u>Paid</u></b> | <b><u>Balance</u></b> | <b><u>Responding</u></b> |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| St. Anthony's | \$22,100           | \$10,300           | \$11,800              | 80/247 or 32%            |

St. Anthony's \$1,788.48 - Seminarian Education Assessment  
St. John's \$4,200 \$2,730 \$1,470 9/27 or 33%  
St. John's \$332.50 - Seminarian Education Assessment

Please fill out your card soon regardless of whether you are participating or not. The average donation needed per family at St. Anthony's to reach our goal is \$96.00. Any amount raised above the goal will stay in the parish. To those who have returned their cards, thank you for your generous response!

#### Geothermal Update

**Project Cost: \$495,000**  
**Pledge Goal: \$300,000**  
**Pledge Total: \$201,033.62**  
**Pledge Income Received: \$177,849.82**  
**Outstanding Pledge Balance: \$23,183.80**

#### ST. ANTHONY'S ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

**Next Funeral Luncheon:** Circle 1

**Special Activity:** Circle 8 cleans Church in March

**Thurs., Mar. 18th @ 4:00pm** - Circle 8 cleans Church.

In a dynamic new book, a medical doctor, Dr. Jeffrey Long, documents the experiences of 1,600 people who "died" and returned -- concluding from the scientific standpoint (in his words) that "there is life after death."

Notice the period at the end of his comment.

"By studying thousands of detailed accounts of near-death experiencers, I found evidence that led to this astounding conclusion: near-death experiencers provide such powerful scientific evidence that it is reasonable to accept the existence of an afterlife. Yes, you read that correctly. I have studied thousands of near-death experiences. I have carefully considered the evidence near-death experiencers present regarding the existence of an afterlife. I believe without a shadow of a doubt that there is life after physical death." The 1,600 cases were in one formal collection of evidence that Dr. Long, of Houma, Louisiana, conducted through a special research website, in addition to others more informally studied.

"Millions of near-death experiences happen worldwide every year to people who are unconscious and may be clinically dead with a loss of breathing and heartbeat," he writes. "Yet they are still having highly lucid experiences at the time of death, experiences that are clear, logical, and well structured."

In fact, it's estimated that a hundred billion people have died since the beginning of history.

Throughout that time, there have been consistent reports no matter the culture or religion of near-death glimpses.

But those episodes have exploded with the advent of modern medical techniques of resuscitation, especially of heart-attack victims -- ten to twenty percent of whom have near-death glimpses, according to Dr. Long's exciting research.

"The EEG measures electrical activity in the cortex, or outer part of the brain, which is responsible for conscious thought," writes the doctor, who specializes in oncology radiation. "Following cardiac arrest a lucid, organized, and conscious experience should be impossible." Yet, exactly this occurs. There are long, lucid accounts of the other side. And the consistency -- no matter the culture -- is astonishing. As many as five percent of Americans as a whole may have had the experience, says Dr. Long -- which would tally to *fifteen million*.

The problem: such experiences are usually ignored by doctors.

"I have heard many heartbreaking stories from near-death experiencers who shared highly accurate observations of their own resuscitations, only to have physicians dismiss their experiences as insignificant," he says in a swipe at his own profession.

The book is *Evidence of the Afterlife* -- not only a fascinating, insightful, uplifting read, but a book to pass on to skeptics (for sure). Do you have family members struggling with their faith?

Dying is not frightening, emphasizes Dr. Long; it is the opposite; there is no terror (except perhaps for those cases, we might add, where there is condemnation).

And many involve reunions with deceased family members -- which, he notes, "are almost always joyous reunions, not horrifying ones like what might be seen in a ghost movie.

"Also, although many deceased loved ones prior to death were elderly and sometimes disfigured by arthritis or other chronic illnesses, the deceased in the near-death experience are virtually always the picture of health and may appear younger -- even decades younger -- than they did at the time of death.

"Those who died as very young children may appear older. But even if the deceased appear to be a very different age than when they died, the near-death experiencers still recognize them."

As Dr. Long points out, that's the opposite of a typical hallucination -- during which the person usually sees someone who is still alive and on earth, not dead people.

In some cases, he says, those going through clinical death encounter people they didn't know were dead, but later find were deceased at the moment of the experience.

Especially intriguing: how those glimpsing across the threshold of death often encounter a "boundary" through which they cannot pass. If they did, they would not be able to return. A gate. A fence. A river. A hedgerow. A *valley*? "There was this door in front of me with this music coming out and people celebrating with utter joy that I knew and recognized as home," said one. "Once I crossed, I couldn't come back. I reached the point where I felt I had to make the choice whether to go back to life or onward into death. My best friend (who had died of cancer two years before) was there, and she told me that this was as far as I could go or I would not be able to turn back. 'You have come to the edge. This is as far as you can go,' she said. 'Now go back and live your life fully and fearlessly.' I wasn't allowed to cross that boundary."

Said a man named Brian who nearly drowned: "I approached the boundary. No explanation was necessary for me to understand, at the age of ten, that once I crossed the boundary, I could never come back -- period. I was more than thrilled to cross. I intended to cross, but my ancestors over another boundary caught my attention. They were talking in telepathy, which caught my attention. I was born profoundly deaf [but] I could read or communicate with about twenty ancestors of mine and others through telepathic means. It overwhelmed me. I could not believe how many people I could telepathize with simultaneously."

Again, this is all coming to us from a medical professional. In fact, many recent books on the subject are by doctors who are changing their tune. Dr. Long logs reports from children that are extremely similar to those of adults. "What I saw was Mother Mary," said a witness named Paul who was five when he was hit by a van. "She wore a blue and pink dress with a crown. I felt very comfortable in her hands." "My relatives (all deceased) were there, all at their prime in life," said a man named Bob who fell three stories out of a building. "They were dressed, I would say, 1940s style, which would have been prime years for most: Relatives I knew of, such as my grandfather, but never knew in life were there,

as well as uncles/aunts who passed before I knew them." And so the accounts go on -- bolstered by Dr. Long's scientific statistics and observations. When it comes to the supernatural, it is always good to be questioning, but many are now reaching the point of concluding that near-death experiences cannot be explained by normal means; they offer compelling proof of eternity. It was fifteen centuries ago that Pope Gregory the Great logged them. "I spent many years serving on the board of directors of the International Association for Near-Death Studies," argues Dr. Long. "During our meetings I heard far too many stories of the problems near-death experiencers encountered when they tried to tell their near-death experiences to the medical staff.

"One of the classic stories was a patient who told his doctor about his near-death experience in front of several nurses.

"When the patient finished telling his story, the doctor looked up from his clipboard and said, 'Don't think too much about it. It was just fantasy.' "When the doctor left the room, the nurses closed in around the crushed patient and said, 'It's not fantasy. We hear about these events all the time from patients. Doctors like him live in fantasy. They never hear these because they don't listen to their patients."