



You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

Collection March 10 & 11	Collections Required Per Week	Weekly Collection + / -	Year to Date Collections + / -
\$ 3,237.70	\$ 3,860.00	- \$ 622.30	- \$ 2,836.80

 **BUILDING FUND COLLECTION** - will be the second collection on **March 17 & 18**.

MARCH

18	Community Breakfast after mass	
19	Seder Meal Meeting	7:00 pm
20	Lions Manor Mass	2:00 pm
20	Lenten Penitential Service	7:00 pm
21	MDC Mass	10:00 am
22	Knights of Columbus Social Evening	7:30 pm
23	Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm
26	Blood Donor Clinic	3:00 - 8:00 pm

@ Canad Inn - Ball Room

 **COMMUNITY PARISH BREAKFAST** - will be Sunday, **March 18th after mass**, in the parish hall, hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Menu will include **scrambled eggs, hash brown casserole, baked beans, baked ham & buns**. Suggested donation of \$7.00 per person or \$25.00 for family of 4 or more. Funds raised will go towards the building project. Everyone is invited! **Please come and join us.**

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES - for the Central Deanery are listed below. Our evening for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is **March 20th at 7:00 pm**. There will be four or five priests joining me that evening.

 **FLOWERS FOR EASTER** - if you would like to make a donation towards this years Easter Flowers please use a Visitor's Envelope and mark it "Easter Flowers". All donations are greatly appreciated. Donations will be added to your tax receipt at the end of the year.

 *For each petal on the shamrock. This brings a wish your way - Good health, good luck, and happiness. For today and every day.* 

2018 Target Amount	Collected As of March 11	Year to Date + / -
\$ 19,210.00	\$ 3,912.00	- \$ 15,298.00



Oils consecrated at chrisem Mass central to church's sacraments - Some of the church's most ancient traditions and rituals are witnessed during Holy Week, including the preparation, blessing and distribution of oils central to the Catholic Church's sacraments and rites. From Jerusalem to Rome to parishes around the world, the pope and local bishops will soon carry out the annual custom of preparing and distributing to churches the holy oils. **The chrisem Mass is celebrated on Monday March 26th, at 7:00 pm**, with the bishop gathered with his priests. The oils include the oil of the sick, used in the anointing of the sick; the oil of catechumens, which is for those preparing to be baptized, and the chrisem oil, which is consecrated and used for baptism, confirmation and holy orders.



"40 CANS FOR LENT" - Knights of Columbus - are sponsoring "40 Cans for Lent". Hunger knows no season and every day many people go hungry. The goal of this program is for each Council member and each Parishioner to contribute 1 non-perishable food item per day during the 40 days of Lent in order to help keep our local food pantries well stocked all year round. The items 'can' be dropped off in the baskets in the gathering area. Some items could be used at Prairie Welcome House, and the bulk delivered to Salvation Army and/or the soup kitchen. Thank you for your generosity. **Collected - 656 Last Years Total - 1,151**



PRAIRIE WELCOME HOUSE - The continued support of our community is very much appreciated. We are currently in need of **COOKIES and SNACK CRACKERS** for our visitors. Items may be left in our bin in the gathering area or dropped off at Prairie Welcome House at 133 Saskatchewan Ave. E.

SOLIDARITY SUNDAY - March 18th - We wish to thank you for your generosity on this **Development and Peace Solidarity** Sunday. Your donation will be used to help our sisters and brothers all over the world — from Lebanon to Cambodia, to Nigeria and beyond! The theme of our Share Lent campaign **Together for Peace**, invites us to build peace through dialogue and reconciliation and to consider mercy as a source of hope for the future. This is what Pope Francis underlined on the occasion of the Jubilee of Mercy: "Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope." Thank you for helping us create a future filled with hope! **There will be a collection next weekend for Development & Peace. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket.**

THOUGHTS ON CONFESSION

"Do you do all of the priest stuff?" - "Yep." "Even the Confession thing?" - "Yeah. All the time." One older lady gasped, "Well, I think that that would be the worst. It would be so depressing; hearing all about people's sins." I told them that it was the exact opposite. There is almost no greater place to be than with someone when they are coming back to God. I said, "It would be depressing if I had to watch someone leave God; I get to be with them when they come back to Him." The Confessional is a place where people let God's love win. The Confessional is the most joyful, humbling, and inspiring place in the world.

What do I see during Confession - I think there are three things. First, I see the costly mercy of God in action. I get to regularly come face to face with the overwhelming, life-transforming power of God's love. I get to see God's love up-close and it reminds me of how good God is. Not many folks get to see the way in which God's sacrifice on the Cross is constantly breaking into people's lives and melting the hardest hearts. Jesus consoles those who are grieving their sins . . . and strengthens those who find themselves wanting to give up on God or on life. As a priest, I get to see this thing happen every day.

I see a saint in the making - The second thing I see is a person who is still trying – a saint in the making. I don't care if this is the person's third confession this week; if they are seeking the Sacrament of Reconciliation, it means that they are trying. That's all that I care about. This thought is worth considering: going to Confession is a sign that you haven't given up on Jesus. This is one of the reasons why pride is so deadly. I have talked with people who tell me that they don't want to go to Confession to their priest because their priest really likes them and "thinks that they are a good kid."

I have two things to say to this:

1. He will not be disappointed! What your priest will see is a person who is trying! I dare you to find a saint who didn't need to God's mercy! (Even Mary needed God's mercy; she received the mercy of God in a dramatic and powerful way at her conception. Boom. Lawyered.)
2. So what if the priest is disappointed? We try to be so impressive with so much of our lives. Confession is a place where we don't get to be impressive. Confession is a place where the desire to impress goes to die. Think about it: all other sins have the potential to cause us to race to the confessional, but pride is the one that causes us to hide from the God who could heal us.

Do I remember your sins? No! - So often, people will ask if I remember people's sin from Confession. As a priest, I rarely, if ever, remember sins from the confessional. That might seem impossible, but the truth is, sins aren't all that impressive. They aren't like memorable sunsets or meteor showers or super-intriguing movies... they are more like the garbage. And if sins are like garbage, then the priest is like God's garbage-man. If you ask a garbage-man about the grossest thing he's ever had to haul to the dump, maaaaaybe he could remember it. But the fact is, once you get used to taking out the trash, it ceases to be noteworthy, it ceases to stand out. Honestly, once you realize that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is less about the sin and more about Christ's death and resurrection having victory in a person's life, the sins lose all of their luster, and Jesus' victory takes center stage. In Confession, we meet the life-transforming, costly love of God... freely given to us every time we ask for it. We meet Jesus who reminds us, "You are worth dying for... even in your sins, you are worth dying for." Whenever someone comes to Confession, I see a person who is deeply loved by God and who is telling God that they love Him back. That's it, and that's all. Gracious thoughts from a friend.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION - The Gospel story of Jesus inviting his disciples into a great mystery with curious pronouncements: Those who love their lives just as they are will lose them. If a grain of wheat dies, it will bear much fruit...What does Jesus mean? The climactic event of Jesus' passion and death is drawing closer; a time when the great confrontation between Jesus and the powers of darkness take place. When Jesus is lifted up, he will draw all to himself. The Christian steward knows life can't be lived in complacency. We are called to die to self, bear more fruit, be raised up with Jesus. Jesus brings discomfort to those who are comfortable. Jesus urges us to give witness in his name. How will we respond!

5th Sunday of Lent - March 17th & 18th, 2018

"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." John 10.14

The rosary is recited before every Saturday evening mass starting at 6:20 pm

5th Sunday Of Lent Saturday, March 17th Sunday, March 18th	7:00 pm 10:30 am 1:00 pm	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd St. Ambroise	✠Susan Durston by the Family ✠Alfred Ammeter by the Lupkowski Family ✠Alma Ostendorf by Shirley Allard & Family
Tuesday, March 20th	2:00 pm	Lions Prairie Manor	Special Intentions by Betty Conrad
Wednesday, March 21st	10:00 am	M.D.C.	Special Intentions for Deacon Stephan Bilynsky And Family
Thursday, March 22nd	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	Special Intentions by the Knights of Columbus
Friday, March 23rd	9:00 am	Good Shepherd	✠Rita Wheeler by Dave & Rosemary Barney
Passion (Palm) Sunday Saturday, March 24th Sunday, March 25th	7:00 pm 10:30 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	✠Evan Jones by Linda Jones All Deceased Members of the Verwey Family by Donald & Shirley Verwey

Friendly Reminders

Saturday, March 24th

Greeters - Louis Lasson
Ushers - Raymond Smith, Mary Bolton
 Norbert & Donna Rey
Gift Bearers - Don & Cecile Scott
Lectors - Terry Giercke, Jo-ann Voesenek
 Nar - Rosemary Barney
 Jesus - Father Gerald
 S1 - Helena Kot
 S2 - Rick Ryzner
 S3 - Dave Barney
Eucharist Ministers - Jane Hebert, Ron O'Neil,
 Audree Peech, Bob Dionne, Zennia Semchyshyn

TRIDUUM "THE THREE HOLY DAYS"

Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 pm
Good Friday	Passion of Our Lord	3:00 pm
Holy Saturday	Morning Prayer	10:00 am
Easter Vigil	Resurrection of Our Lord	8:00 pm
Easter Sunday	Good Shepherd Parish	10:30 am
	St. Ambrose Parish	1:00 pm

Friendly Reminders

Sunday, March 25th

Greeters - Marilyn Spence, Jo Laurans
Ushers - Arthur Rey, Sinto Sebastian,
 Bill & Elaine Vint
Gift Bearers - Lubkiwski Family
Lectors - Mary Hinagpis, Gayly Reniendo
 Nar - Kerry McGowan
 Jesus - Father Gerald
 S1 - Youth
 S2 - Youth
 S3 - Youth
Ministers - Mickey Cuthbert, Guy & Sylvia Gauthier,
 Rose Marie Neault, Margaret Whiteley, Jacklin Jackson,
 Irv Wegleitner, Arthur Rey



STATIONS OF THE CROSS - the stations of the cross is a popular devotion used by individuals or groups who wish through prayer and reflection to follow Jesus Christ on His way to Calvary. It is one of the most important devotions honoring the passion of Jesus. What matters most in the stations of the cross is to follow Jesus Christ in his passion and to see ourselves mirrored in him. To face life's dark side in ourselves and in our world, we need images of hope, and Jesus offers images of hope in his passion. Each Friday evening of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be led by various ministries of our parish, beginning at 7:00 pm. Holy Hour with adoration of the **Blessed Sacrament will precede at 6:30**. All parishioners are encouraged to attend this special Lenten devotion.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - With the anticipation of Lent around the corner, **we may offer an evening session after Stations of the Cross on some Friday evenings in March**. Please note that people are not always free to attend the weekly sessions, therefore you do not need to commit to being at every session. The discussion has been very good, and each person has an opportunity to speak as they are comfortable to participate. All are welcome.

"From the Eucharist, this sacrament of love, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness." (Pope Francis)