

**First Sunday of Lent - March 9th & 10th, 2019**

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

Collection February March 2 & 3	Collections Required Per Week	Weekly Collection + / -	Year to Date Collections + / -
\$ 4,040.66	\$ 3,905.00	+ \$ 135.66	- \$ 4,138.46

**Sharing God's Gifts**

Target Amount	Collected As of March 3rd	Year to Date + / -
\$ 19,610.00	\$ 3,821.75	- \$ 15,788.25



**SHARING GOD'S GIFTS** - We are happy to report that we have exceeded our parish Sharing God's Gifts goal for 2018. The amount of the overage was \$ 5,529.25. Thank you for your generous donations to Sharing God's Gifts.



**BUILDING FUND COLLECTION** - will be the second collection on **March 16 & 17**

**MARCH**

12	Lion's Prairie Manor Mass	2:00 pm
12	Youth Ministry @ Prairie Welcome House	7:00 - 9:00 pm
13	Liturgy Meeting	7:00 pm
15	Stations of the Cross	6:30 pm
20	M.D.C. Mass @ Westgrove Cafeteria	1:30 pm
20	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting <b>Note: change of date</b>	7:00 pm
21	Ministry of Hope	7:00 pm
22	Stations of the Cross	6:30 pm
23	El Shaddia	3:00 pm



All are welcome to come to the parish hall after Sunday Mass to enjoy a cup of coffee, the fellowship of other parishioners and a visit. **We are looking for a team to host a weekend for coffee.** Please contact Bernadette at the office if you are interested. Thank you.

**INCOME TAX RECEIPTS** - the income tax receipts have been mailed. **Sharing God's Gifts** receipts are mailed out by the Archdiocese.



**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Thomas Norman who passed away. Please remember him in your prayers. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

**Turn away from sin and  
be faithful to the Gospel.**



***Lenten Penitential Services***

- March 26<sup>th</sup> - St Charles Church 6:30 pm
- March 27<sup>th</sup> - St John XXIII 10:00 am
- March 27<sup>th</sup> - St Mary's Cathedral 6:30 pm
- March 28<sup>th</sup> - St Edwards the Confessor Church 6:30 pm
- March 29<sup>th</sup> - St John XXIII 7:30 pm
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> - St Paul the Apostle 6:30 pm
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> - Our Lady of Lourdes (Slovenian) 6:30 pm
- April 4<sup>th</sup> - St Francois Xavier Church 7:00 pm
- April 9<sup>th</sup> - Good Shepherd Portage 6:30 pm**
- April 9<sup>th</sup> - St Anthony (Hungarian) 6:30 pm
- April 10<sup>th</sup> - St Patrick Church 6:30 pm
- April 11<sup>th</sup> - Blessed Sacrament Elie 7:00 pm



***SALVATION ARMY***

Special Food For the Beloved  
Ones of Christ.



During the month of **March** we will be collecting, **canned vegetables**. At the back of the church, there is a list of items and for what month we will be collecting them. Please take one and put on your fridge as a friendly reminder. Your kind donations can help with the goal of putting an end to hunger. **Thank you very much for your generosity, in supporting this project.**  
**We collected 86 boxes of cereal.**



**PRAIRIE WELCOME HOUSE** - we are in need of some supplies: ICED TEA POWDER, SUGAR, SERVIETTES, PAPER TOWELS, TEA BAGS. As always, we appreciate the kindness of all who assist with Prairie Welcome

House, providing a warm, welcome to those who visit. Donations can be brought to Prairie Welcome House during open hours or placed in the bin at the church. Monetary donations can be marked PWH and placed in the collection basket.

**YOUTH MINISTRY** - is a casual gathering for curious youth wanting to explore the Catholic faith lived in everyday life. All youth aged 13 to 17 years old are welcomed to join an informal night of conversation, games, and snacks. No registration is required, come as you are and participate as you are comfortable. The next gatherings are Tuesdays, **March 12th, April 9th and May 14th** at Prairie Welcome House **7:00 - 9:00 pm.**

***So rather than seeing Lent in negative terms, we should see it as a beautiful spiritual experience that will strengthen us. Pope Francis***

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



## *Good Stewards Learn to Develop God's Gifts*

God has blessed each of us with many gifts and our task is to discover, acknowledge and develop those gifts. Some of our gifts we discover ourselves; other gifts have to be pointed out by others. One of life's greatest challenges involves discovering and developing all of our God-given gifts. Parents, siblings, teachers, coaches, scout leaders and friends play an important role in this journey. Once we know we have a gift, we have to believe in the gift and commit ourselves to developing it.

We have to work on our gifts and have the discipline to hone them to perfection. Blessed John Cardinal Newman once said, "Nothing would be done at all if one waited until one could do it so well that no one could find fault with it." Many people are afraid to test their gifts. Fear of failure, it seems, is pervasive. We are not born with a fear of failure. Fear grows on us. Fear wears many disguises – fear of failure, fear of success, fear of ridicule, fear of not belonging, fear of looking foolish – to name but a few of fear's disguises. All of fear's disguises lead to stagnant energy. Fear always brings with it inertia and inertia always leads to stagnation. No one develops their gifts responsibly without risk-taking, hard work and overcoming fear.

Allow me to offer an example. Do you remember what it was like to learn how to ride a bicycle? We start off with a tricycle and for a while that is enough but soon we want more. We want a bicycle and the day comes when we get our first bicycle but our joy quickly fades when we realize that the bicycle comes with training wheels. So instead of going from three wheels to two wheels we go backwards to four wheels. Finally the fateful day comes when the training wheels are taken off. A person we thought loved us, usually a mother or a father, puts us on the bicycle, puts one hand on the back of the seat and the other on the handlebar, tells us we can do it and pushes us off to fend for ourselves. The result is always the same – we fall to the ground. Then the person we thought loved us picks us up and repeats the process. Eventually we get the hang of it but not before we have fallen and picked ourselves up more often than we choose to remember.

The gift of balance is key to being able to ride a bicycle; the process of discovering that gift is repeated many times in our lives. Life is a series of failures that morph into successes sometimes without our realizing it or knowing how it happens but it does. We had to learn how to be brothers and sisters, we had to learn how to be husbands and wives, and we had to learn how to be friends and neighbors. We need to learn how to be good stewards of the many gifts God has given us; to discover them, cherish them and not be afraid to develop them. By Rev. Joseph D. Creedon, pastor *emeritus*, Christ the King Parish, Providence, Rhode Island

## *S E D E R M E A L*

On **Palm Sunday, April 14th beginning at 6:00 pm**, our parish will be having a Christian Seder Meal. The purpose is to understand with greater clarity the celebration of Passover – its meaning and significance, and to celebrate the Passover meal which Jesus celebrated at the Last Supper. It will also provide us greater understanding of the signs and symbols of the Old Testament and its connection to our celebration of the Eucharist.

Passover is the oldest and most important religious festival in Judaism, commemorating God's deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and his creation of the Israelite people. Passover is actually composed of two festivals, The Feast of Unleavened Bread and Passover (which is sometimes used to refer to the single day and sometimes to the entire span of both festivals). The festival of Passover, known as Pesach, begins at sunset on the 14th of Nisan (usually in March or April) and marks the beginning of a seven day celebration that includes the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The focal point of Passover is a communal meal, called the Seder (meaning "order," because of the fixed order of service), which is a time of rejoicing and celebration at the deliverance for the Hebrews that God accomplished in the Exodus.



Preparing for the Seder Meal is important if the service is to run smoothly. The preparations are not complicated but do need to be given some consideration ahead of time. Participants will be required to bring food and table settings for the Seder Meal.

Therefore, those who are interested in participating in the **Seder Meal MUST register by Sunday, March 31st** by signing up on the sheet at the entrance of the church or calling the parish office.

A necessary planning meeting for all registered for the Seder meal will be held on **Thursday, April 4th at 7:00 pm** in the parish hall.

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

<b>First Sunday of Lent</b> Saturday, March 9th Sunday, March 10th	7:00 pm 10:30 am 1:00 pm	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd St. Ambroise	†Lillian Huberdeau by Pierre & Family †Jim Hewitt by the Catholic Women's League For the Parishioners
Tuesday, March 12th	2:00 pm	Lions Prairie Manor	†Shirley O'Neil by Friends
Thursday, March 14th	9:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Dave Samolesky by Lorraine & Family
Friday, March 15th	9:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Cathy Lenting by Bernadette Page
<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b> Saturday, March 16th Sunday, March 17th	7:00 pm 10:30 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	For the Bullock Family by Friends †Caron Jeppsese by Bryan & Family

***Friendly Reminders***

**Saturday, March 16th**

**Greeters** - Cliff & Lorene Lafreniere  
**Ushers** - Mary Bolton, Paul Seguin  
 Norbert & Donna Rey  
**Gift Bearers** - Masson Family  
**Lectors** - Lorna Malana, Helena Kot  
**Eucharist Ministers** - Rosemary & Dave Barney,  
 Bernadette Gnanapragasam, Doris Nichol, Tara Ryzner,  
 Donna Rey

***Friendly Reminders***

**Sunday, March 17th**

**Greeters** - Armand Tanguay, Richard Pastershank  
**Ushers** - Richard Fraser, Michel Dufault  
 Dawson Lernowicz, Stela Ayoedji  
**Gift Bearers** - Wermie Family  
**Lectors** - John Chudzik, Gary van der Zweep  
**Eucharist Ministers** - Joe & Marie Wermie, Paulyn Appah,  
 Suzanne Borisenko, Lidia Garcia de Garcia,  
 Gary & Dawn Lernowicz



**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. **Starting March 8th** and each Friday evening of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be led by various ministries of our parish, beginning at **6:30 pm.**, with Adoration to follow at 7:00 pm. All parishioners are encouraged to attend this special Lenten devotion.



***Music From Four Churches***



A Lenten Concert Series  
 Join us for a Series of Four Noon-hour Concerts  
 this Lent hosted by  
**St. Mary's la Prairie Anglican Church**  
 Concerts from 12:10-12:30  
 A Soup and Sandwich Lunch is available following  
 the Concert - \$8.00  
**March 13** - Julie and Jennifer Baker  
 Trinity United Church  
**March 20** - Helen Roy & Lorraine Samolesky  
 Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church  
**March 27** - First Presbyterian Church Choir  
**April 3** - Audrey MacFarlane  
 McKenzie United Church

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** - The second reading from Saint Paul to the Romans is a favorite of those involved in the ministry of evangelization. There are no "secret" disciples of the Lord. Those who exercise good stewardship of their faith realize that publicly identifying themselves as followers of Christ has a cleansing effect on their lives. Openly confessing Christ makes them more conscious of how they live their daily lives. Are we content to privatize our faith or are we good stewards of a faith that we share, make public, and regularly identify as a life in Christ?

 **Entrance Chant - First Sunday of Lent - My trust is in you, O God! Save me in my distress.** 

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