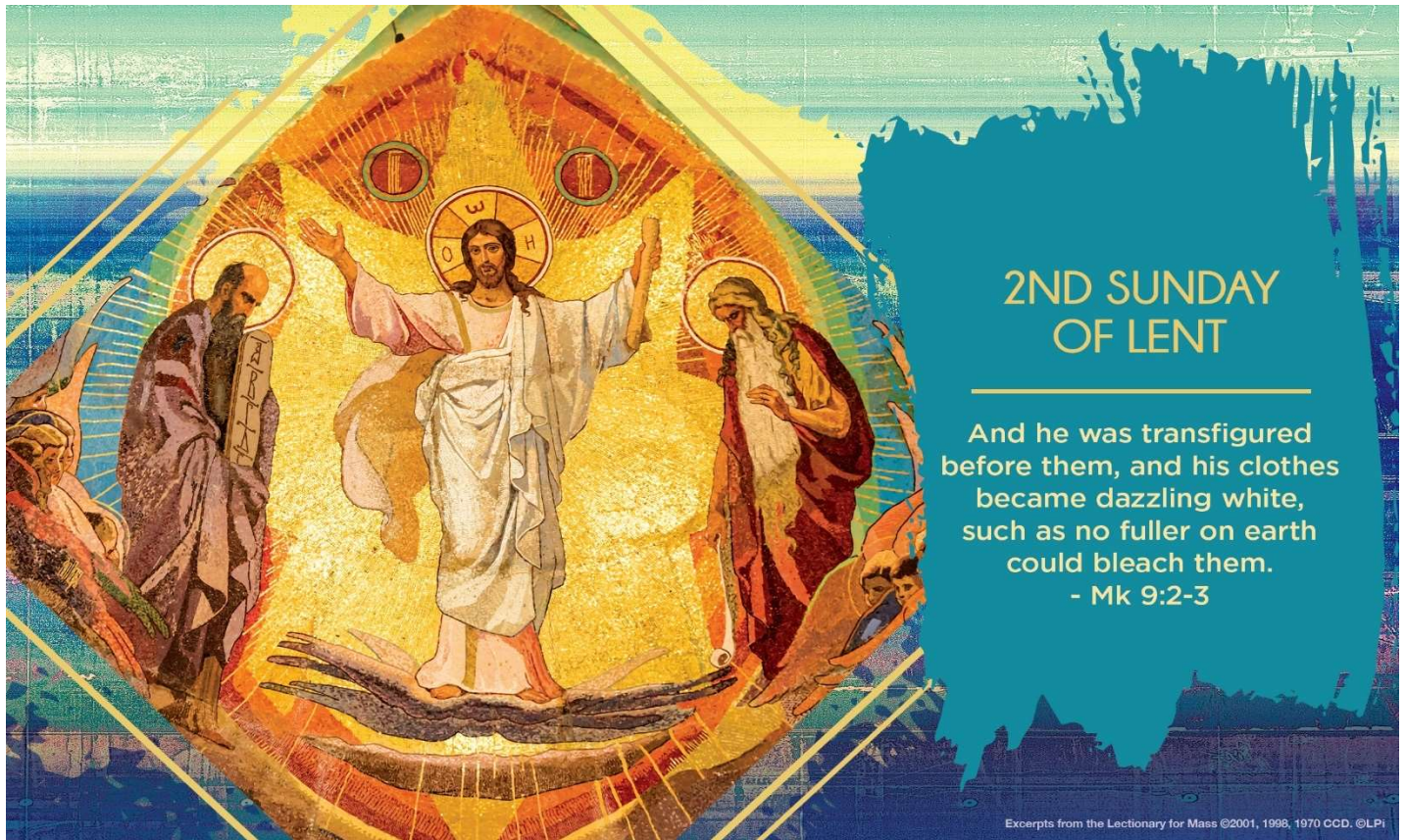




FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ
AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



**2ND SUNDAY
OF LENT**

And he was transfigured
before them, and his clothes
became dazzling white,
such as no fuller on earth
could bleach them.
- Mk 9:2-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

7:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. – Holy Cross Harding

THURSDAY

7:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

6:00 p.m. – Holy Cross Harding

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

10:00 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

**See inside cover for any changes for the upcoming week

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 3:30 p.m. St John Nepomuk Lastrup

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m. St. Michael's Buckman

Confession Times: *30 minutes before Pierz, Harding and Lastrup
weekday Masses, 30 minutes after Buckman Mass, and by appt.

*First Weekend of the Month: After 6 p.m. Mass at Holy Cross
Harding and after 10 a.m. Mass at St Joseph's Pierz

Fr. Aaron Nett, Pastor: 320-468-6033, frnett@midco.net

Deacon Craig Korver: ckorver@molschool.org

Deacon Leo Wehseler: leowehseler@gmail.com

St. John/Holy Cross Office: 320-360-9720, ltthesing@hotmail.com

St. Joseph/St. Michael Office: 320-468-6033, stjoes@midco.net

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

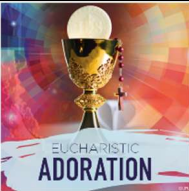
February 25, 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent

As a college student, my prized possession was an after-market car stereo. It was my pride and joy: glorious audio, eye-catching display screen, and multi-disc CD changer. It drained my hard-earned dollars, but it was totally worth it. It drenched me in music everywhere I drove. On Ash Wednesday of my senior year of college, Father Tom, the Jesuit priest at my university said, “Pray for God to tell you what he wants you to sacrifice for Lent.” I did. In my heart, the answer came: “Give up listening to your car stereo for forty days.” I winced. Not possible, I thought. Can’t do it. I made other plans. The next morning, I was stunned to find that my car had been broken into, and my fancy stereo ripped out and stolen.

God’s command to sacrifice what we love is no joke. This week in Genesis 22, God says: “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love — Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.” Believe me, I know. We like to be in control. It chafes us that God sets the terms of what we must sacrifice, and how. But this is no impersonal, tyrannical process. Remember that God uses their names, Abraham and Isaac. God knows each one of us and the precious gifts He commands us to offer. Finally, our sacrifices are for our own good. Do we trust this enough to do what Father Tom asked me to do?

Lenten challenge: This week, I dare you to ask God: “What do you want me to give up?” He may ask for that which you love most. It will be something precious to you: time, money, a relationship, a dream, an opportunity. What matters is we trust Him and act sacrificially in line with His command. Whatever we sacrifice will of course come back to us as surely as the Risen Jesus — but that doesn’t make it easy. ~Father John Mui

**This is a message taken from our online bulletin library*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 3	
<p><u>Tuesday, February 27</u> 7:00 p.m. Lastrup +Leon Weiss</p> <p><u>Wednesday, February 28</u> 8:00 a.m. Harding +Celestine Gall 7-8 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Thursday, February 29</u> 7:00 a.m. Buckman The Recipients of Prayer Blankets 10:00 a.m. Villa +Marcella Flicker</p> <p><u>Friday, March 1 - HT School Mass: Mrs. Lanner’s 2nd Grade Class</u> 7:30 a.m. Pierz Prayers for Our Nation (Prayer Service) 8:30 a.m. Pierz +John Pohlkamp 3-6:00 p.m. Pierz Eucharistic Adoration 6-8 p.m. Buckman Adoration & Stations of the Cross 6-8 p.m. Lastrup Adoration & Stations of the Cross</p> <p><u>Saturday, March 2</u> 4:00 p.m. Lastrup +Bob & Shirley Happke, & +Karla Scheel 6:00 p.m. Harding +Danny Skwira</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 3</u> 8:00 a.m. Buckman For the People of the Parishes 10:00 a.m. Pierz +Janice Hoffman</p>	<p>*Going forward the weekday Mass in Buckman will be at 7:00 a.m. **Please note: Confessions will now be heard after Mass on that day.</p> <p>*Stations of the Cross: On Fridays during Lent, there will be Adoration w/ Benediction at 6 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. Please see bulletin Mass schedule for locations.</p> <p>*Bulletin Announcement Deadline: The deadline for submissions of bulletin announcements is <u>Mondays at 3 p.m.</u> You can email stjoes@midco.net, mail PO Box 428, Pierz MN 56364, or call 320-468-6033.</p> <p>*Weekday Masses When There is a Funeral: Going forward, when there is a funeral, the regular scheduled weekday Mass will still take place.</p> <p>*Emergency Contact: If you have an emergency and need a priest, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.</p>
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION St Joseph Pierz – Fridays 3-6 p.m. St. Michael Buckman – Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. and the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Holy Cross Harding – Adoration chapel always open</p> </div> </div>	<p><u>Pierz & Buckman Office Hours:</u> Located in Pierz. Mon, Tue, Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fridays closed. <u>Lastrup & Harding Office Hours:</u> Call 320-360-9720</p>
<p>“Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the most tender of friends with souls who seek to please Him. His goodness knows how to proportion itself to the smallest of His creatures as to the greatest of them. Be not afraid then in your solitary conversations, to tell Him of your miseries, fears, worries, of those who are dear to you, of your projects, and of your hopes. Do so with confidence and with an open heart.” – St. Damien of Molokai</p>	<p>*If you are seeking information on baptism, marriage, or RCIA preparation or would like to sign up as a new member of the parish, please call 320-468-6033 (Pierz and Buckman) or 320-360-9720 (Lastrup & Harding).</p>

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK

28520 Church St., PO BOX 38
Lastrup, MN 56344
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.stjohnlastrup.org



FRIDAY, MARCH 1 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: Ellie Thomsen, Zach Gall & 1 Volunteer

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 at 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Dale Beierman

Server: Ellie Thomsen

Ushers: Cory Loidolt & Roy Boser

E. Minister (Choir): Carol Welle

BAR BINGO NEWS: Come to the Fisch House in Lastrup to play bingo every Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. Please come and join us for a fun evening. The jackpot numbers will be posted online and at the Fisch House and also on their Facebook page. St. John's gaming #02115.

MEAT RAFFLE: We now have a meat raffle at the Fisch House every Sunday at 5:00 PM. Please join us for some fun and try and win some meat. St. John's Gaming #02115.

PARISH RAFFLE: Our annual Parish Raffle will take place Saturday, May 4th after the 4PM Mass at the Parish Center. Anyone who would like donate to the raffle, please write your check out to St John's Raffle and send it to Colin Boser- 27227 193rd St. Pierz MN 56364. If you would like to remain anonymous let us know -Thank you for your generosity and support. ~ Raffle Committee

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

***Saturday, February 17th:** Adult env. \$1,345.00, Adult loose \$162.00, Children env. \$1.00, Children loose \$20.00.

Mass attendance: 156

Faith Talks With "Uncle Fred"

"Increase your love and devotion to the Eucharist this Lent."

Lenten Series with Frederick Blonigen, a member of St. Anthony's parish in St. Cloud. He recently retired from St. Agnes High School, St. Paul, where he was chairman of and instructor in the theology department for thirty-two years. He is currently teaching adult education at St. Anthony's in St. Cloud and St. Agnes in St. Paul. The past 2 years he has also been teaching adult religious education classes at Watkins and Eden Valley. Mr. Blonigen was a longtime board member of Catholic Parents Online, an organization supporting Catholic education, and is the author of many articles and book reviews on Catholic topics.

Please join us as we welcome Fred (Fr. Aaron's uncle) to our Area Catholic Community on the following Sundays during Lent:

PLEASE NOTE LOCATION CHANGES

***Sunday, Feb. 25th 2-3:30 p.m. in Buckman** "The Eucharist: The Greatest Antidote to the Culture of Death"

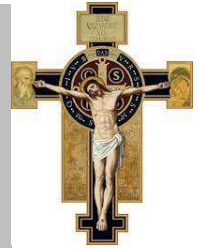
***Sunday, March 3rd 2-3:30 p.m. in Lastrup** "What is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass? How should we pray the Mass? What are the greatest spiritual benefits of the Mass?"

***Sunday, March 10th 2-3:30 p.m. in Harding** "Eucharistic Adoration: Essential for Growing in Holiness"

***Sunday, March 17th 3-4:30 p.m. in Pierz** "Understanding the Biblical and Patristic Basis for the Eucharist"

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

29482 243rd Street
Pierz, MN 56364
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.Hardingchurch.org



SATURDAY, MARCH 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Lynn Dukowitz

Servers: Maverick & Adam Weitalla

Ushers: Kevin Dembouski & Allen Stuckmayer

E. Minister (Choir): Diane Virnig

Rosary: Gloria Weitalla

HOLY CROSS WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

***Saturday, February 17th:** Adult env. \$637.00, Adult loose \$76.00, Children env. \$7.50, Children loose \$8.00.

Mass attendance: 107

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR LASTRUP & HARDING: Diane Schirmers, Mark, Becker, Olivia Waldorf, Pat (Rod) Boser, Jane Weiss, Alice Matlock, Kurt Lucking, Sally Lentner, Lois Weitalla, Rhys Boser, Carmen Britz, Doris Weiss, Mary Ann Schomer, Justin Lindgren, Aaron Boser, Ione Hoskins, Gerard Virnig, Serena Truskowski, Gina Virnig, Donny Schommer, Scott Bednar, Jerod Bursch.

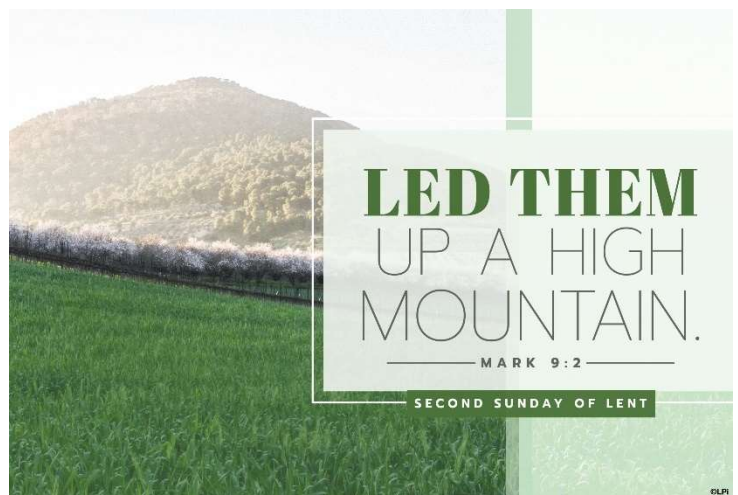
ACC Faith Study Groups

*Bible study is being offered every other Sunday evening for the young female youth (9th grade and older) of our ACC. This is held in the St Joseph Church basement at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please call Jenny (320-360-6650), Kari (320-412-6164), or Rebecca (320-360-7004).

*Man Accountability: Men of all parishes, give us the honors of joining us on Saturdays from 6:45-8AM at the Pierz parish office for Gospel prayer, Acts 2:42, and accountability. Iron sharpens iron! Questions/reminders please text/call Mark Loidolt, 701-388-2323.

*Women's Group meets on Saturday mornings from 8:15-9:30 a.m. We'll meet in St. Joseph's church at 8:15 to pray a rosary followed by discussion in the parish office until 9:30. All women are welcome! Call or text Cari Stumpf with any questions, 320-761-6336.

*The Sunday Night Adult Education Group meets on Sunday night at 7PM in the Pierz parish office meeting room. We watch a short video on a variety of Catholic topics followed by a discussion. For more information, call Al Pekarek at 468-0220.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9251 Hwy 25, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

68 Main St N, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



FRIDAY, MARCH 1 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: William Stangl, Logan Janson & William Dehler

SUNDAY, MARCH 3 at 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Mary Kay Zilka

E. Ministers: Deb Hall & Janice Janson

Servers: Ellie Hoheisel & Maddy Kahl

Ushers for March: Grant Stangl, Nathan Gruber & Shane Zilka

New Life in Christ

Charlotte Mary, daughter of Jordan & Anna Schutz, was baptized on Sunday, February 18th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!



New Life in Christ

Caspian Paul, son of Jesse & Cassandra Zajac, was baptized on Sunday, February 18th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

PALM BRAIDING: If anyone is interested in braiding palms for Palm Sunday, they can come to the parish center on Friday, March 22nd at 9:00 a.m. Also, if anyone is already good at braiding, come teach others.

ST. MICHAEL'S CEMETERY: To purchase St. Michael's Cemetery plots or columbarium niches please contact the parish office in Pierz (320)468-6033.

PRAYER LINE: If you are in need of prayers, please call Mary Brenny at 320-393-2781 or Mary Malinowski at 468-6148.

ST. MICHAEL WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (Feb. 18)

Adult	\$ 3,075.00
High School	\$ 5.00
Elementary	\$ 11.00
Plate	\$ 226.00
	\$ 3,317.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance: 302

AT PEACE WITH GOD: **Floyd Mathiowetz** passed away on February 2nd. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, February 16th at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz with burial in the parish cemetery. We extend our sympathy to the families and assure them of our prayerful support.

ST. JOSEPHS QUILT CIRCLE: We will be quilting on Monday, February 26th at 1 p.m. and Thursday, February 29th at 9 a.m. Come and go as is convenient for you. **We are again asking for pieced quilt tops.** Just a reminder we have kits done up with directions and ready to go for tops. Feel free to stop down and observe. We are always looking for new quilters. Questions call Eileen 360-2434 or Chris 630-0606.

THANK YOU: We would like to extend a big Thank You to everyone who helped make the quilt bingo a huge success. Thanks to Desiree and Brad Bednar for heading up the committee, Bob's Lumber for loaning us supplies every year, Steve Boser and all the workers who helped set up, the families who made and served the lunch and helped the day of the bingo. And also Bill Athman who calls the numbers every year, all the ladies who made the quilts and of course all who came to play bingo. *Thank you!*

PRAYER LINE: If you have a prayer line request, please either call Karen Gross at 320-468-6818 or email Rachel Young at rjyoung0521@gmail.com.

ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (Feb. 18)

Adult	\$ 5,395.00
High School	\$ 25.25
Elementary	\$ 19.25
Plate	\$ 189.00
	\$ 5,628.50

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance: 314

BUCKMAN FIREARMS SAFETY CLASS

Mondays 6:30-8:30 PM March 4—April 8, 2023

Buckman Parish Center

PIERZ FIREARMS SAFETY CLASS

Mondays 6:30-8:30 PM March 4—April 8, 2023

Eastern Morrison County Sportsman Club

4 miles west of Pierz on Highway 27



- **Must be 11 years of age by the first night of class**
- **Adults are welcome to take the class.** If you were born AFTER December 31, 1979, you must have a firearms safety certificate to purchase a license to hunt with a firearm in Minnesota.
- **A parent or guardian MUST be present to register their child the first night of class and pay the \$7.50 fee for the class**
- **If class is cancelled it will be announced on the Little Falls radio stations**
KLTF AM960 WYRQ 92.1FM KFML 94.1FM

**** Pre-registration is REQUIRED for the Pierz Class ONLY**
Shelly Boser shells291970@gmail.com

Registration for the Buckman Class takes place the first night of class
Questions about the Buckman class contact Ron Kahl (320)360-0986



GENERAL NEWS

NOTE: The weekday Mass on Thursdays in Buckman is at 7 a.m. Confessions will now be heard **after** Mass those days.

ST. JOSEPH'S CUSTODIAL POSITION OPEN: The St. Joseph's Church is seeking to hire a custodian for general building and maintenance work in and around the church. Applicants must have sufficient knowledge and abilities in cleaning, maintenance, repair and overseeing in the parish. Those interested should contact the St. Joseph's parish office by email (stjoes@midco.net) or phone (320-468-6033).

FAMILY ROSARY NIGHT: Family Rosary Night will be held on the first Saturday of each month. Gatherings start at 7:00pm with a potluck-style meal & fellowship. Fr. Aaron will join in after the 6:00 mass in Harding to lead the rosary. If you would like to volunteer to host an evening, please call or text Cari Stumpf at 320-761-6336.

***The next Family Rosary Night will be Saturday, March 2nd** at 7:00p.m. at Roger & Janice Janson's residence (9093 260th Avenue, Pierz MN 56364) All are welcome, bring your family. Questions, call Janice at 320-630-6190.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: Looking for something to do this lent? Join our weekly Lenten Bible study at St John's Parish Center in Lastrup starting Monday, March 4th at 8 pm. We will meet Mondays at 8 pm. If interested or want more information, contact Mark Loidolt at 701-388-2323 or mark.loidolt@gmail.com. Bring friends.

ROSARY AT HARMONY HOUSE: Everyone is welcome to join us pray the rosary every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Harmony House in Pierz (weather permitting). Sponsored by St. Michael's Christian Mothers/Women. Questions, call 468-2487.

40-HOUR DEVOTION: There will be a 40 Hour Devotion at St. Michael's Church on March 8, 9, and 10. We will start at 4 p.m. on Friday and conclude at 8 a.m. Sunday. There are sign up sheets available in all the parishes.

PICTURE FRAMES: We would like 5x7 and 4x6 picture frames. If you have any you do not need you may bring them to the parish office in Pierz. Thank you!

PIERZ SENIOR DINING CENTER: We are looking for volunteer drivers to deliver meals on wheels. Call 468-2160 with any questions or if you are interested. Thank you!

QUILT BINGO/RAFFLE: Sunday, March 17, at St Michael's Parish Center, Buckman, at 1 pm. Coffee cakes for sale, free lunch and door prize, in addition to many tied and stitched quilts for winners to choose from.

SERVERS PARTY: The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a party for all Mass servers for our ACC on Thursday, April 4th from 3:00 (after school) until 5:00pm at Pierz Lanes. Free bowling, shoe rental and food provided. Students should be picked up at Pierz Lanes at 5:00 pm.



SENIOR CITIZEN BINGO: At St. Michael's Parish Center on Thursday, March 14th after the 7 a.m. Mass.

JOB POSTING: PASTORAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Father Pierz Area Catholic Community has a full-time salaried position open to assist the pastor in serving the pastoral needs of the four communities. Qualifications for this position are as follows: A love for Christ and his Church, a solid prayer life, skills in personal communication and evangelization, a hunger to bring others to Christ, organized, an ability to collaborate and be flexible to serve the mission of the Church.

Job Duties Include:

- Meeting with families and planning funeral liturgies.
- Coordinating and teaching OCIA or those searching in their faith life.
- Overseeing Homebound ministry.
- Coordinating Marriage the preparation program.
- Collaboration with the pastor and staff on daily operation, evangelism and general planning for the parishes.

Interested individuals may submit a letter of interest and resume to the parish office. For any questions regarding the position please contact the office or Father Aaron by phone (320) 468-6033 or email (frnett@midco.net).

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Sunday, April 7th noon-3p.m at St. Michael's Church-Buckman. Adoration, confessions, speakers, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We are looking for people who would be willing to share their faith story. If you are willing to give a short talk, call the office at 468-6033.

2023 MN FoodShare Campaign: March is FoodShare Month and the Pierz Area Food Shelf is requesting area churches to help our local families in need since many of these people are from our own neighborhood. Please help us to promote FoodShare Month by providing opportunities for donations of money and/or food to be collected and delivered to the Pierz Area Food Shelf located at 220 South Main Street in Pierz. If you are unable to make deliveries during the hours of Hours are 9-11 AM and 5-7 PM on Mondays, please call 320-468-7134 to arrange an alternate delivery time. Thank you for joining in the efforts to end hunger in our community.

PIERZ VILLA IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS: Assist taking residents to and from the Chapel- (Mass every Thursday at 10am and Communion Service Fridays at 10am). Helping residents play Bingo, assisting on outings when we go shopping, out to eat, picnics, etc. Bring in your pet for visits. Help painting fingernails. Assisting to serve coffee and baked goods during community coffee/when musicians come to play. The list goes on. If you have special talents, skills, or just love to visit, we would love to have you share that with our residents. Contact: Joanie Vogtlin at 468-6405 or joaniev@pierzvilla.com.

CENTRAL MN KOINONIA: A weekend Catholic retreat sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. March 1-3, 2024, cost of the weekend is \$70.00. www.centralmnkoinonia.org.

Lenten Healing Mass at the National Shrine of St. Odilia: The Crosier Fathers and Brothers invite you for a Lenten Healing Mass at the National Shrine of St. Odilia in Onamia on Sunday, March 10, at 9:00 a.m. (coincides with the onset of daylight savings time). Mass includes the Anointing of the Sick and a ritual blessing with the relic of St. Odilia. Coffee and rolls will be served in Holy Cross Center following the Mass. Info call 320.532.3103. Reservations not required. All are welcome!

Learning with a Faith Foundation
HOLY TRINITY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Pierz, MN EST. 1991

80 Edward St. N., Pierz MN 56364, 320-468-6446

***STATIONS OF THE CROSS-** Students will be leading our school's Stations of the Cross on 03/06 and 03/20 at 8:25am at St. Joseph Church. On 03/28 our students will lead Living Stations at 8:45am.

***COFFEE-** Guatemalan coffee is always available for purchase at the school. Holy Trinity makes \$3 on each bag sold and the rest goes to pay the farmers in Guatemala for the coffee beans. Regular (ground or bean) \$13.00, in French, Dark, or Medium Roast. Decaf (ground or bean) \$14.00.

Raffle Calendar Winners:

2/18 \$75 Chris Banick, 2/19 \$35 James Russell, 2/20 \$35 Cindy Enger, 2/21 \$35 Jennifer & Richard Roach, 2/22 \$35 Laura Reyes, 2/23 \$35 Jennifer & Kurt Monson, 2/24 \$35.00 Joseph & Jennifer Caughey

*Father Pierz
School of Religion*



320-468-2640

***Wednesday, February 28th** – SH
Pizza Ranch 4:30-7:30 p.m. (11th & 12th
Graders)

***Wednesday, March 6th** – SH March 4
Life at Planned Parenthood/Buffalo
Wild Wings 5:30-9:00 p.m.

**LOOK WHAT'S NEW
IN THE ACC!**

**Palm burning tradition
at Holy Trinity School**

