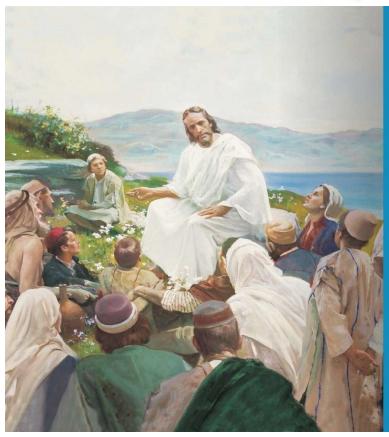


FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

610

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

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

@LF

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 18, 2024 1st SUNDAY OF LENT

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 3:30 p.m. St John Nepomuk Lastrup SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m. St. Michael's Buckman

<u>Confession Times:</u> *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

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR. FR. AARON NETT



Lent: A Season of Charity

Dear Friends, Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil,

and began new life in Christ. Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. Contemplate the meaning and origins of the Lent through silent prayer. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents.

St. Thomas Aguinas speaks about the value of fasting, "Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one's flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust, kindles the true light of chastity." And St. Peter Chrysologus speaks about the relationship of all three practices. "There are three things, my brethren, by which faith stands firm, devotion remains constant, and virtue endures. They are prayer, fasting and mercy. Prayer knocks at the door, fasting obtains, mercy receives. Prayer, mercy and fasting: Prayer, mercy and fasting: these three are one, and they give life to each other. Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. Let no one try to separate them; they cannot be separated."

We may discern, what are the ways God is calling each of us this Lent to grow in the virtue of charity? May our Lord bless and guide us in this great Lenten season to deny ourselves the pleasures of this earth, so that we may receive God's grace and be God's hands of charity for others. God bless you, Father Aaron

Here are the minimum Church regulations for fasting and abstinence during Lent:

- Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday, and is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. Common sense must prevail in regards to fasting.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20 – FEBRUARY 25

Tuesday, February 20

7:00 p.m. Lastrup Fr. Miguel Gonzalez-spiritual director of NCCW

Wednesday, February 21

8:00 a.m. Harding +Lois Roscoe

7-8 p.m. Buckman **Eucharistic Adoration**

Thursday, February 22

7:00 a.m. Buckman +Edward & Elaine Grittner

10:00 a.m. Villa +Ervin Maleski

Friday, February 23 - HT School Mass: Mrs. Miller's 4th Grade Class

8:30 a.m. Pierz +Bob & Shirley Happke, & +Karla Scheel

3-6:00 p.m. Pierz **Eucharistic Adoration**

6-8 p.m. Pierz Adoration & Stations of the Cross 6-8 p.m. Harding Adoration & Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 24

4:00 p.m. Lastrup For the People of the Parishes

6:00 p.m. Harding +Ronnie Gross

Sunday, February 25

8:00 a.m. Buckman +Evie Boser

10:00 a.m. Pierz +Jeanne, Martin, & Alan Stang



EUCHARISTIC 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

*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.

*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 for locations.

*Bulletin Announcement Deadline: The deadline for submissions of bulletin announcements is **Mondays at 3 p.m.**

*Weekday Masses When There is a Funeral: Going forward, when there is a funeral, the regular scheduled weekday Mass will still take place.

*Emergency Contact: If you have an emergency and need a priest, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.

Pierz & Buckman Office Hours:

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.

Lastrup & Harding Office Hours:

Call 320-360-9720

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



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 at 4:00 p.m.

<u>Lector:</u> Faye Diederich **Server:** Kimmans

<u>Ushers:</u> Ron Monson & Donny Schommer **E. Minister (Choir):** Dale Beierman

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.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, February 10th: Adult env. \$1,007.00, Adult loose \$153.00, Children env. \$2.00, Children loose \$16.00.

Mass attendance: 191

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.



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

29482 243rd Street Pierz, MN 56364 Phone: 320-360-9720

E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com Website: www.Hardingchurch.org



FRIDAY, FEB. 23 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: Elliot Carmona, Adam Woitalla & Maverick Woitalla

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Will Corbett

Servers: Maverick & Adam Woitalla

Ushers: Kevin Dembouski & Willie Rudolph

E. Minister (Choir): Doug Knopik Rosary: Phyllis Schmidtbauer

<u>CHURCH CLEANERS:</u> Nicki Corrigan, Doris Brisk, Karen Brisk, Kayla Brisk, Tabitha Brisk, & Denise Krych

HOLY CROSS WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, February 10th: Adult env. \$1,222.00, Adult loose \$80.00, Children env. \$6.00, Children loose \$31.00.

Mass attendance: 118

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR LASTRUP & HARDING: Mark,

Becker, Olivia Waldorf, Pat (Rod) Boser, Jane Weiss, Alice Matlock, Kurt Lucking, Sally Lentner, Lois Woitalla, Rhys Boser, Glen Anderson, Carmen Britz, Doris Weiss, Mary Ann Schomer, Justin Lindgren, Eric Halbert, Aaron Boser, Ione Hoskins, Gerard Virnig, Serena Truskowski, Gina Virnig, Donny Schommer, Scott Bednar, Jerod Bursch.



2024 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

May this season of Lent provide you added time for prayer and reflection. We ask you to please take a moment to pray for the Bishop's Annual Appeal and the vital ministries it supports. There is still time to turn in your envelope in the collection, mail, or parish office drop box!

Hello Father Francis Xavier Pierz Catholic Community,

We're thrilled to announce our Catholic Fundraiser happening from Now to Divine Mercy Sunday April 7th! Together, let's support 9-12th graders to attend a Catholic Conference, Steubenville, at the end of July and achieve something special.

Shop Catholic-Inspired Goodies: Explore our diverse selection of Sock Religious socks and faith-inspired stickers, and I would love to raise \$5000 to support our youth.

Spread the Word:

https://stores.inksoft.com/father_pierz_school_of_religion/shop/home with friends and family to expand our reach.

Why join our Catholic Fundraiser?

Making a Difference: 50% of profits go directly to our ministry, changing lives for the better.

Join Now:

https://stores.inksoft.com/father_pierz_school_of_religion/shop/home

For any questions, reach out to Julie Langer @ julieihmlanger@gmail.com or call 320-630-5927. Thank you for being part of our incredible community!

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



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 at 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Jane Funk

Communion Ministers: Jill Hoheisel & Nicole Lochner

Servers: Nathan Posch & Ashlee Dingmann

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

New Life in Christ



Andrew Jay, son of Daniel & Samantha Wimmer, was baptized on Sunday, February 11th. 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.

DISH TOWELS: Dish towels are stamped and ready to be embroidered for the 2024 Bazaar. Please sign out a set on the sign-up sheet placed in the "pew break" on the south side of the church. This is a fundraiser for the church; the Christian Mothers buy and stamp the towels but anyone can do the embroidering. Thanks for all you do!

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. 11)

Adult	\$ 2	2,618.00
High School	\$	3.00
Elementary	\$	6.00
Plate	\$	130.00
	\$ 2	757 00

Thank you for your generosity! Mass attendance February 11th Sunday: 241

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 KFML 94.1FM KLTF AM960 WYRQ 92.1FM

** 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

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, FEB. 23 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: TBD

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Karen Gross

E. Ministers: Tarynn Dorn, Keith Marshik & LeRoy Swanson

Servers: Gross/Thomas children

Sacristans: Mary Kimman & Doris Thyen

Ushers for March: Jeremy Virnig (Lead), Allan Kroll, Mathew Stumpf & Andy Kapsner

ST. JOSEPHS QUILT CIRCLE: We will be quilting on Monday, February 19th at 1 p.m. and Thursday, February 22nd 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.

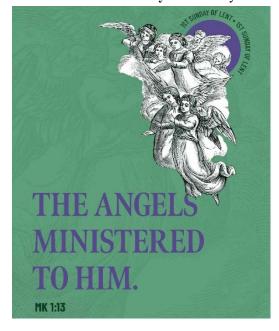
REMINDER: St. Joseph's Christian Mothers/Women would be honored to pray a rosary at the wake of any parishioner or their family member. Contact Teresa Thesing at 320-360-9720 to request, when making funeral arrangements.

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. 11)

Adult	\$ 6	5,906.10
High School	\$	28.75
Elementary	\$	29.75
Plate	\$	332.00
	\$ 7	7,296.60

Thank you for your generosity! Mass attendance February 11th Sunday: 352



GENERAL NEWS

<u>NOTES:</u> 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).

THANK YOU: Thank you to everyone who helped out for the Knights of Columbus Buffalo Feed and Raffle and also thank you to Nick & Crystal Ratke at the Pierz Ballroom for hosting!

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.

<u>DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:</u> Sunday, April 7th from noon-3p.m. We will have Adoration, confessions, speakers, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We are looking for people who would be willing to share their faith story. If you would be willing to give a short talk, call the office at 468-6033.

<u>PICTURE FRAMES:</u> 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!

<u>PIERZ SENIOR DINING CENTER:</u> 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.

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.

<u>CENTRAL MN KOINONIA:</u> 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 RETREAT: St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women - Open to all women: Join the Annual Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 9th from 9a – 1p at St. Martin Parish, in St. Martin, MN. Journey of a Women's Life "Using the Sacraments to Grow Our Faith." Registration begins at 8 a.m. Cost is \$20 by March 1st, 2024, \$25 Late or Walk-ins. Make Checks payable to ST. CLOUD DCCW. Mail to: Lora Knafla, 11719 16th Ave. NW, Rice, MN 56367. Phone: 320-393-2701. WEBSITE: stclouddccw.org for more information.

<u>LENTEN FISH FRY:</u> St. Joseph's Parish- Morrill, 33018 Nature Rd. Foley, MN. Friday, February 23rd & March 15th. from 4:30 p.m. to 7p.m. Adults- \$14 Children 6-10- \$7 Kids 5 & under- FREE. DINE IN or TAKE OUT Take out: 320-355-9401.

BEST LENT EVER: BEST LENT EVER is a short, inspiring daily email program presented by Dynamic Catholic. It will take you, your family and our whole parish on a one-of-a-kind spiritual pilgrimage through 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory—the first ever guide to Eucharistic Consecration. When you sign up, each day of Lent you will receive a short video right to your inbox with spiritual coaching from Matthew Kelly. Sign up for free at BestLentEver.com.

2024 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE: Saturday, February 24, 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Sartell. Speaker, Father Tim Donovan, who was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Orange, CA in 2017. Workshops presented by Father Matthew Crane, Deacon Mike Benda and Deacon Ed Shoener (from Scranton, PA.) Bishop Patrick Neary, C.S.C. will join us for the day and celebrate Mass with us. Cost: \$35. For more info/ to register, www.stcdio.org/2024mensconference or call (320) 258-7615. Contact the parish office or Dale Beierman at 320-360-7100 for possible carpooling.

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 CHANGE

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

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



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 02/21, 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:

2/11 \$75 Tony Lattimer, 2/12 \$35 Cassey Talberg, 2/13 \$35 Billie Michaels 2/14 \$35 Garrett Doucette, 2/15 \$35 Lori Boser, 2/16 \$35 Drew Villnow & Katie Talberg, 2/17 \$35 Lloyd Cherne

Father Pierz School of Religion

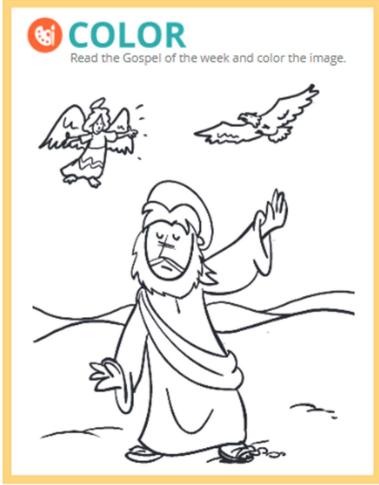


320-468-2640

*Wednesday, February 21st – JH/SH Ice Skating at the LF Exchange Arena 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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







SPIRIT

JESUS

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

ANIMALS

ANGELS

FORTY

SATAN

E S Y T U O I G U F E R A N I M A L S J O R I T G S Y N O E A R I S A L O F G D N S T N T N E T A E S J I Y O E M S B E L I E V E S S U O J T S R S O S U T S P I R I T U P A T E L A D L U N S E D Y D E S E R T M I R O N



Memorize Proverbs 1:3, "You will learn what is right and honest and fair." Practice writing it and saying it every day, until you know this verse by heart.

