



FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ
AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10

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

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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

MARCH 3RD, 2024

3RD 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

**March 3, 2024
3rd Sunday of Lent**

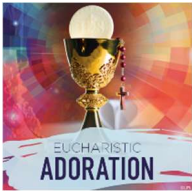
I am the Lord your God ... You shall not have other gods beside me. —Ex 20:2-3

One of the greatest golfers of all time — if not the greatest — was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well. In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments. Consider the first, to “**have no other gods besides me.**” This is our “grip.” Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship? Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God? Once we say “yes” to this fundamental question of our spiritual “grip,” then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshipping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this “idol” to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics. ~Father John Mui

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 5 – MARCH 10	
<p><u>Tuesday, March 5</u> 7:00 p.m. Lastrup +Elvira Stumpf</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 6</u> 8:00 a.m. Harding +Oliver Rudolph 7-8 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Thursday, March 7</u> 7:00 a.m. Buckman +Lucy Kelzenberg 10:00 a.m. Villa +Edward Stangl</p> <p><u>Friday, March 8 - HT School Mass: Ms. Scholl's 1st Grade Class</u> 8:30 a.m. Pierz +Mary Ann Kimman Pierz No Eucharistic Adoration (40 hour Devotion in Buckman) 6-8 p.m. Harding Adoration & Stations of the Cross 6-8 p.m. Pierz Adoration & Stations of the Cross</p> <p><u>Saturday, March 9</u> 4:00 p.m. Lastrup +Joe Faust 6:00 p.m. Harding +Marian Sauer</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 10</u> 8:00 a.m. Buckman St. Michael's Catholic United Financial Members 10:00 a.m. Pierz For the People of the Parishes</p>	<p>*Note: There will be no adoration in Pierz on Friday, March 8th due to 40 hour devotion in Buckman from 3pm Friday, March 8 through 8am Sunday, March 10.</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> <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.</p> <p><u>Lastrup & Harding Office Hours:</u> Call 320-360-9720</p>
 <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>	

“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

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, MARCH 9 at 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Julie Laney

Servers: Duncan & Freyja Wipper

Ushers: Alan Welle & Colin Boser

E. Minister (Choir): Barb Specker

UNCLE FRED FAITH TALK: March 3rd at 2 p.m. in Lastrup.

REMINDER: You can still sign up for the 40 hour devotion in Buckman in the back of our church. It starts March 8.

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 24th:** Adult env. \$943.00, Adult loose \$197.00, Children loose \$8.00. **Mass attendance:** 185

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

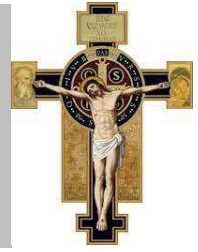
***Sunday, March 3rd 2-3:30 p.m. in Lastrup** "What is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass? How should we pray the Mass? What are the greatest spiritual benefits of the Mass?"

***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



FRIDAY, MARCH 8 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: Erin & Tyler Thesing & Elliott Carmona

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Tim Schubert

Servers: Erin & Tyler Thesing

Ushers: Andy Weitalla & Dave Skwira

E. Minister (Choir): Leonard Thesing

Rosary: Ted Boser

UNCLE FRED FAITH TALK: At Holy Cross Church Basement on Sunday, March 10th at 2 p.m.

REMINDER: You can still sign up for the 40 hour devotion in Buckman in the back of our church. It starts March 8.

HAM BINGO: The Holy Name will host a ham bingo on March 17th at 1:00 PM in the church basement. A free lunch will be served afterwards. Join us for a fun-filled afternoon

FOOD SHELF: There is a box in the entrance of Harding and Lastrup for donations to the Pierz Area Food Shelf. March is Food Share Month. We will also take up a second collection for this on March 9th at the Masses.

HOLY CROSS WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

***Saturday, February 24th:** Adult env. \$1,368.00, Adult loose \$100.00, Children env. \$7.25, Children loose \$52.00.

Mass attendance: 143

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR LASTRUP & HARDING: Father Greg Poser, 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



SUNDAY, MARCH 10 at 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Nathan Gruber

E. Ministers: Connie Kieffer & Cindy Scholl

Servers: Logan Janson & Lydia Janson

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

AT PEACE WITH GOD: *Leander Motschke* passed away on Thursday, February 22nd. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, February 27th at St. Michael's Church in Buckman with burial in the parish cemetery. We extend our sympathy to the families and assure them of our prayerful support.

THANK YOU: Thank you to funeral group 12 for your help with Leander Motschke's funeral. *Job well done!*

BAZAAR BREAKDOWN: Copies of the bazaar profit breakdown are located in the entrances of the church.

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. 25)

Adult	\$ 2,894.00
High School	\$ 5.00
Elementary	\$ 16.00
Plate	\$ 286.00
	\$ 3,201.00

January Electronic Contributions: \$ 1,625.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance: 233

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

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 8 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: Addison, Joel & Luke Marshik

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 at 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Gwen Gruber

E. Ministers: Beth Fischer, Dan & Lois Waytashek

Servers: Brady Pohlkamp & Ty Boser

Sacristans: Jan Kimman & Pat Hartmann

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

ST. JOSEPHS QUILT CIRCLE: We will be quilting on Monday, March 4th at 1 p.m. and Thursday, March 7th 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.

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.

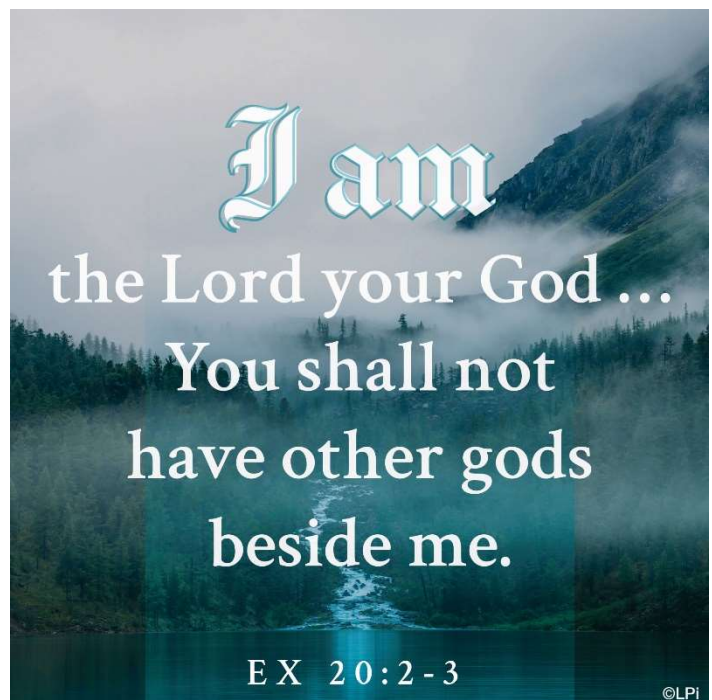
ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (Feb. 25)

Adult	\$ 4,316.11
High School	\$ 7.00
Elementary	\$ 10.00
Plate	\$ 136.36
	\$ 4,469.47

January Electronic Contributions: \$ 3,710.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance: 269



GENERAL NEWS

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

FOOD SHELF COLLECTION: There will be a second collection taken up at next weekend's Masses, March 9th & 10th, at all 4 parishes for the Pierz Food Shelf.

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 260thAvenue, Pierz MN 56364) All are welcome, bring your family. Questions, call Janice at 320-630-6190.

40-HOUR DEVOTION: There will be 40 Hour Devotion at St. Michael's Church on March 8, 9, and 10. We will start at 3 p.m. on Friday and conclude at 8 a.m. Sunday. There are sign-up sheets available in all the parishes.

ROSARY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS: On the 2nd Sunday of the month, everyone is welcome to pray the Rosary of Seven Sorrows at the crucifix in St. Michael's cemetery in Buckman after 8 AM Mass. The next rosary will be on March 10th. The purpose of this Rosary is to promote union with Jesus through union with the sorrows that His Blessed Mother endured.

ALL DAY ADORATION: From 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13th at St. Michael's Church in Buckman. Call Patty at 468-2487 with questions or to sign up.

CONFESSION SERVICE: Thursday, March 14th from 6 to 8 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz, beginning with a prayer service. There will be extra priests to hear confessions. You can come anytime during those 2 hours.

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.

PIERZ COMMUNITY ED: The Pierz HS Archery team is offering a couple of sessions for adults in our community to come and learn about this competitive sport. No experience is necessary and all equipment is provided. Proceeds will go to the archery team for future competitions and equipment. March 12 or 14 from 5:45-6:45 or 7:00-8pm for just \$10. Learn something new and support our new youth program. Call 320-468-6458 ext 7 to register.



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

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.

JOB POSTING: PASTORAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Father Francis Xavier 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 the Marriage 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).

ST. JOSEPH'S CUSTODIAL POSITION OPEN

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, repairs and overseeing in the parish. Those interested should contact St. Joseph's parish office by email (stjoes@midco.net) or phone (320-468-6033).

"Spirit of wisdom and understanding, enlighten our minds to perceive the mysteries of the universe in relation to eternity. Spirit of right judgment and courage, guide us and make us firm in our baptismal decision to follow Jesus' way of love. Spirit of knowledge and reverence, help us to see the lasting value of justice and mercy in our everyday dealings with one another. May we respect life as we work to solve problems of family and nation, economy and ecology. Spirit of God, spark our faith, hope and love into new action each day. Fill our lives with wonder and awe in your presence which penetrates all creation. Amen."

BISHOP'S INVITATION TO DIOCESAN SYNODAL

LISTENING SESSIONS IN MARCH: Bishop Neary has indicated that one of his priorities is to engage in "synodality" -- a process of encountering, listening to, and walking with one another, that he has shared "is rooted in the life and ministry of Jesus". Pope Francis is encouraging all of the dioceses in the US -- and around the world -- to engage in conversations about key questions that emerged in the Synod gathering at the Vatican this past October. Our diocese is offering a couple of in-person synodal listening sessions -- Sat, March 9th (9:30 am -- 1 pm; at Immaculate Conception parish in Rice), and Sat, March 23rd (9:30 am -- 1 pm; at Our Lady of Victory parish in Fergus Falls). There are also two Zoom sessions -- Mon, March 11th (7-9:30 pm) and Wed, March 13th (7-9:30 pm). These are opportunities to share your thoughts, experiences and concerns of Church life, leadership and structures -- in small groups, then in the larger group. Bishop Neary has shared that "these listening sessions will help to inform our Holy Father, but -- most importantly -- they will provide essential information for me and our diocese." Please join us! (Registration is required -- go to: www.stcdio.org/listening2024)

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

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

***STATIONS OF THE CROSS-** Our students will be leading 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.

***KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE-** Thursday, March 21, 6:00-7:00 pm. Current ECE families, as well as families interested in our Kindergarten program should attend this event.

***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:

2/25 \$75 Susie Gall, 2/26 \$35 Amanda Gjerde, 2/27 \$35 Carol & Lon Johnson, 2/28 \$35 Bob Pohlkamp, 2/29 \$35.00 Natalie Gruber, 3/1 \$35 Janice Athman, 3/2 \$35.00 Duane Meyer

Father Pierz School of Religion



320-468-2640

- *Wednesday, March 6th** – SH March 4 Life at Planned Parenthood/Buffalo Wild Wings 5:30-9:00 p.m.
- *Friday, March 8th 11:59 p.m. to 6 a.m.**
- Saturday, March 9th Adoration
Buckman Church**
- *Wednesday, March 13th** – JH Skating Place 5:15 p.m. to 9 p.m.

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE B

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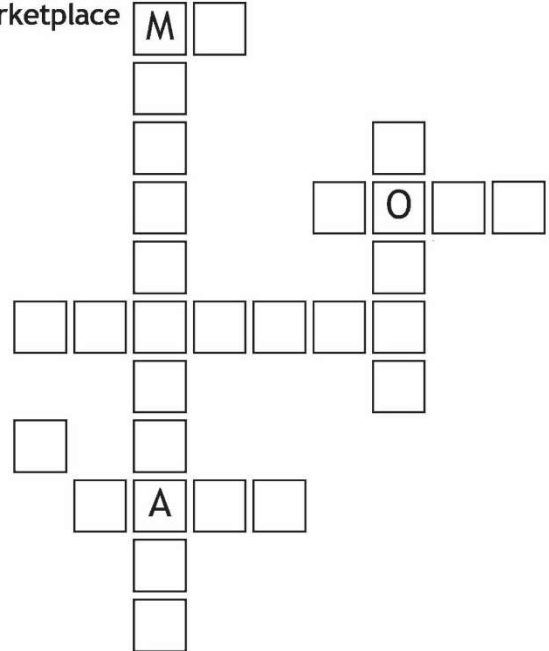
Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Don't make my Father's house a marketplace



MISSION

Read John 2:13-25 with your family. Ask God to help you keep your church clean. Church should never be a store or a barn. It should be a special place to pray.