



FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ
AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the good shepherd,
and I know mine and mine
know me, just as the
Father knows me and I
know the Father; and I will
lay down my life for the
sheep." - Jn 10:14-15

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

APRIL 21ST, 2024
4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR FATHER AARON NETT



Good Shepherd Sunday

Dear Friends,

In this Sunday, “Good Shepherd Sunday,” Jesus says, “I am the good shepherd... I lay down my life for my sheep.” We take comfort in the firm and steady love of our Lord who knows us and leads us where our hearts find rest. I have used St. Augustine’s famous quote many times. “You have made us of yourself O Lord and our hearts are restless in until they rest in you .” The world attempts to lure us in many different directions, but we find our true peace in Christ, the shepherd of our souls. May we let the love of Christ always lead us to where he wants us to go.

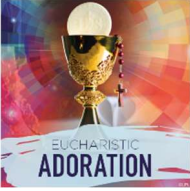
Notes:

I would like to thank all those who helped out with our First Holy Communion services in the past two weekends. What a blessing it was to see the excitement the children had to receive Christ for the first time in the Eucharist. May we all be so inspired and eager to receive at each Mass where he is just as present. What an incredible gift we have been given.

Please keep our confirmation candidates in your prayers as they prepare to be confirmed on April 28th at 2pm. Bishop Patrick will come to confirm and also have a few guest priests at the Mass. Let’s pray for a day filled with the Holy Spirit and an out-pouring of God’s love over our candidates.

May God bless you,

Father Aaron

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 23 – APRIL 28		
<p>Tuesday, April 23 1:30 p.m. Pierz +Tina Brill (<i>All School Mass</i>) 7:00 p.m. Lastrup +Fr. Greg Poser</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>Wednesday, April 24 8:00 a.m. Harding +Cel Gall 7-8 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration</p>		
<p>Thursday, April 25 7:00 a.m. Buckman +Bernard Haberle 10:00 a.m. Villa +Butch Maleski</p>		<p>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</p>
<p>Friday, April 26 – HT School Mass (Mrs. Gangl’s 3rd Grade Class) 8:30 a.m. Pierz +Bob & Shirley Happke & +Karla Scheel 3-6:00 p.m. Pierz Eucharistic Adoration</p>		
<p>Saturday, April 27 4:00 p.m. Lastrup For the People of the Parishes 6:00 p.m. Harding +Oliver Rudolph</p>		<p>*Emergency Contact: If you have an emergency and need a priest, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.</p>
<p>Sunday, April 28 8:00 a.m. Buckman +Marvin & Lydia Hoheisel 10:00 a.m. Pierz +Arvin Litke 2:00 p.m. Pierz Confirmation Mass</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>		<p>*Bulletin Announcement Deadline: The deadline for submissions of bulletin announcements is Mondays at 3 p.m. You can email stjoes@midco.net, mail PO Box 428, Pierz MN 56364, or call 320-468-6033.</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>

“When you are before the altar where Christ reposes, you ought no longer to think that you are amongst men; but believe that there are troops of angels and archangels standing by you, and trembling with respect before the sovereign Master of Heaven and earth. Therefore, when you are in church, be there in silence, fear, and veneration.” ~St. John Chrysostom

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, APRIL 27 at 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Julie Laney

Servers: Kimmans

Ushers: Ron & Barb Specker

E. Minister (Choir): Traci Schommer

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.

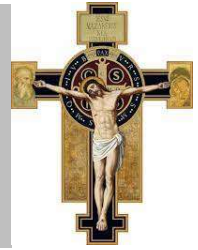
RAFFLE: Our parish raffle is coming soon on May 4. Tickets are still available. Many great prizes including a \$5,000 top prize! Get your tickets now from any parish member or call the parish office 320-360-9720 and we will get some for you. The drawing & fellowship supper will be held after 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 4.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, April 13th: Adult env \$1,323.00, Adult loose \$278.66, Easter \$125, Children env 4.00, Children loose \$97.00.
Mass attendance: 225

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

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



SATURDAY, APRIL 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Tim Schubert

Servers: Maverick Weitalla & Elliott Carmona

Ushers: Allen Weitalla & LeRoy Weitalla

E. Minister (Choir): Leonard Thesing

Rosary: Phyllis Schmidtbauer

HOLY CROSS WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, April 13th: Adult env. \$1,078.00, Adult loose \$33.00, Children env. \$5.00, Children loose \$2.00.
Mass attendance: 108

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR LASTRUP & HARDING: Ayden

Boser, Joe Weitalla, Jeremy Girtz, 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.

2024 STAR OF THE NORTH
Eucharistic Congress
MAY 17-19, 2024
 TRAVEL ORGANIZED BY JERICO CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS
 ESCORTED BY FR. JEREMY PLOOF

Conference
 Friday - Bishop Barron, music, Holy Hour, Confessions available, Benediction, exhibits
 Saturday - Mass, Sr. Jude, Bishop Cozzens, Fr. Mike, breakout sessions, music, fireworks
 Sunday - Mass, Eucharistic Procession

Transportation
 Meet the bus at St. Peter's (930 31st Ave N) in St. Cloud at 12:00 pm. Travel to Bemidji in comfort on a coach bus. Bus will take the group back and forth to the conference each day.

Sleeping Accommodations
 Sleeping arrangements nearby in Walker, MN on beautiful Leech Lake. Hotel space is based on minimum double occupancy. Call for quote on single occupancy.

Meals
 Light breakfasts and full dinners included. Lunch on your own. Water and snacks provided on the bus.

Cost
 \$495.00/person based on a group of 40 minimum. Cost includes transportation, lodging, 5 meals and conference registration. Deadline is April 15 based on first come first serve basis.

BOOK NOW
 424 Wood St. N. Mora 55051
 1-877-453-7426
 www.jericochristianjourneys.com

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 Christian Journeys

CATHOLIC Q&A: What is a pilgrimage?

Question: What is a pilgrimage? Why do people go on them?

Answer: A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey to visit a holy site, such as the shrine of a saint, a place where the Blessed Virgin Mary has appeared, or an historic church or chapel. What makes a pilgrimage different from a vacation and a pilgrim distinct from a tourist is the spirit in which the journey is made. Pilgrimages are really a symbol of our spiritual journey in life, reminding us that this world is not our true home and that we spend our lives journeying to our homeland, which is the Kingdom of God. Pilgrimages-which can be as involved as a trip to Rome or the Holy Land or as simple as visiting the Blessed Sacrament in a local parish church-are also an opportunity for us to step out of the rhythms and limits of our daily lives to seek out connection with God in a special way, by visiting a holy place. At times, such as on a special feast, a jubilee, or the anniversary of the dedication of the church, special graces (called "indulgences") can also be offered to pilgrims, helping to enrich our experience of the celebration. In the end, pilgrimages are an ancient act of devotion and something that each of us can put into practice, helping us to discover how God is present in the world around us, in places both near and far.

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, APRIL 28 at 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Janice Janson

E. Ministers: Cindy Scholl & Nicole Lochner

Servers: Noah & Cole Solinger

Ushers for May: Mick Gruber, Frank Hoheisel & Steve Kahl



New Life in Christ

Archer Adam, son of Adam & Kelsy Poster, was baptized on April 13th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

CM/W MEETING: The next CM/W meeting will be Wednesday, April 24th at 6 p.m. at the parish center in Buckman. Group 5/6 to bring bars.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES: There are copies of the parish council meeting minutes located at the entrances of the church.

PRAYER LINE: If you are in need of prayers, please call Mary Brenny at 320-393-2781 or Mary Malinowski at 320-223-9783.

ST. MICHAEL WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (April 14)

Adult	\$ 3,971.00
Easter	\$ 820.00
High School	\$ 9.00
Elementary	\$ 10.00
Plate	\$ 266.00
	\$ 5,076.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance April 14th Sunday: 368

Holy Trinity Catholic School CAMP FOLEY

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Fundraiser

Sunday, April 28
8:30 am - 12:00 pm

St. Michael Parish Hall
Buckman, MN

Adults...\$10
Kids 5-12...\$5
Kids 4 & under...FREE
Family max of \$30

Breakfast also includes
coffee, milk, juice, eggs,
fruit, sausage, and rolls

*ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARD HTCS 6TH GRADE CAMP FOLEY TRIP



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



SUNDAY, APRIL 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Karen Gross

E. Ministers: Keith Marshik, Matt Kessler & Chris Young

Servers: Lance Litke and Zajacs

Sacristans: Jan Kimman

Ushers for May: Jim Gerwing (Lead), Caleb Koch, Mike Stangl & Steve Maus



New Life in Christ

Berkley Marie, daughter of Bryant & Jamie Johnson, was baptized on April 13th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!



I. BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Wedding May 10th

Susan Kimman & Jeffrey Puskaric

CEMETERY CLEANUP: Save the date for our community cemetery cleanup day on Wednesday, April 24th starting at 4 p.m. Please make sure to have everything out of the cemetery that you wish to put back up when the cleanup is finished. Call the parish office with any questions (320) 468-6033. Thank you for your cooperation. We hope to see you there!

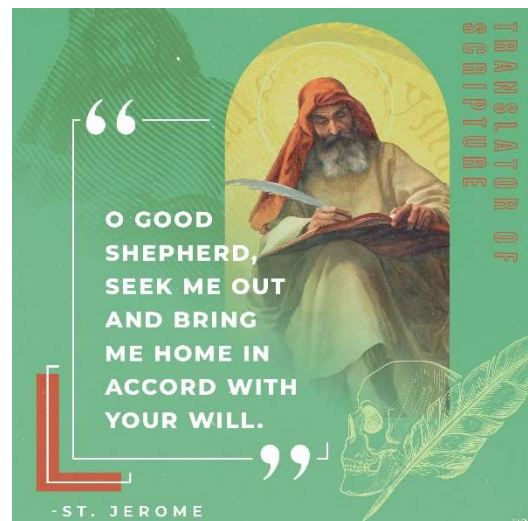
PRAYER LINE: If you have a prayer line request, please either call Karen Gross at 320-468-6818 or email Rachel Young at rjyoung0521@gmail.com.

ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (April 14)

Adult	\$ 6,116.60
Easter	\$ 860.00
High School	\$ 11.00
Elementary	\$ 56.00
Plate	\$ 932.00
	\$ 7,975.60

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance April 14th Sunday: 565



- ST. JEROME

GENERAL NEWS

FAMILY ROSARY NIGHT: *The next Family Rosary Night will be Saturday, April 27th 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. 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.

ALL SCHOOL MASS: An All School Mass will be held on Tuesday, April 23 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz. All Father Pierz School of Religion students in grades 1-6 will be attending. Everyone is invited!

BLESSING OF SEEDS FOR PLANTING SEASON: It is not far-fetched to say that our health and our very lives, depend on the sprouting of seeds. The planting of seeds and nurturing through harvest, we receive God's choicest blessings when we break from our labors and enjoy a simple meal. Saving some of the new seeds allows us to continue this miraculous cycle of nature. Besides planting in the good earth, seeds cannot grow without fresh water. Through giving of rain God blesses us, and water stored in the ground is our true treasure.

**If you would like to have seeds blessed bring a small bag of seeds and place them in the marked basket in the back or entryway of one of the four churches by May 4th. They will be blessed at the end of the Mass on the weekend of May 4th & 5th.

CENTRAL MN KOINONIA: Central Minnesota Koinonia is a weekend Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese and is designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. Retreats are held at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. The next English retreat will be held May 17-19, 2024, cost of the weekend is \$70.00.

SPRING MISSION RALLY: April 25th from 8:00am-1:00pm at St. Rose of Lima Parish in St. Rosa, Minnesota. We would love to have you join us for a great day of fellowship, food, fair trade, and exploring our missionary vocation with Fr. Rodrigo Ulloa-Chavarry, M.M., Vocations Director for Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers. Registration forms are found on our website: stcloudmissionoffice.com.

CDL TRAINING: Little Falls Community Services is offering a course to earn your CDL. To register or learn more, call (320) 632-7900. Offered on Mondays and Wednesdays starting April 29 - May 15 from 3:30-6:30pm. You must be 18, hold a class D or higher and pass a drug test.

AREA NEWS:

*Ramey Morrill Lions will be having a French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, April 21 at St. Joseph's Hall in Morrill from 8:30 to 12:00. Please join us and have French Toast, Thielen's Sausage, Scrambled Eggs and Hashbrowns. KidsEyeSight Screening will be available, crafters and recycling of old eyeglasses.

*Sisters of Life Mission: St. John in Foley is hosting the Sisters of Life on April 24th from 7-8:30pm. Come and enjoy a talk by a Sister, Adoration with music, and a social to follow. The Sisters of Life is a contemplative/active religious community of women founded for the protection and enhancement of the sacredness of every human life. All are welcome to attend!

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).

Prayer for the hiring of staff positions in the ACC:

"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."

Thursday, May 23rd National Eucharist Procession:

National Eucharistic Procession coming to Little Falls! A bus will leave St. Joseph's Church parking lot 6:45am & return 10:30am, Senior Center donuts for the bus ride :) drive to OLOL Church in LF, rosary on bus ride: adoration 7:00am-8:00am at OLOL, 8:00-8:45am Eucharistic Procession (walking from OLOL Church to St. Mary's Church through town (1 mile walk) 9:00am-10:00am Mass @ St. Mary's. Back to Pierz by 10:30am! Let's fill a bus! Adults if you want to ride the bus contact Hilde Flicker at 468-2649 & sign up by Tuesday, May 21st. High School Students will sign up in Religion class.

Plenary Indulgence for National Eucharistic Pilgrimage:

A plenary indulgence will be granted to the Christian faithful who participate in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at any point between May 17 and July 16, 2024. It will also be granted to the elderly, infirm, and all those who cannot leave their homes for a serious reason and who participate in spirit with the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, uniting their prayers, pains, or inconveniences with Christ and the pilgrimage. This indulgence is granted under the usual conditions of sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father.



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

***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.

***CAMP FOLEY PANCAKE BREAKFAST-** Sunday, April 28, 8:30am-12:30pm, St. Michael Parish Hall. Proceeds help cover the cost of Camp Foley for our 6th Grade students.

***HTCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS-** Holy Trinity is looking for 2 new members for our Board of Directors; one from the Lastrup parish and one member at large (from any of the four parishes). The three-year term will start in August 2024. Expertise in the areas of finance and/or facility/maintenance preferred. Belief in the mission of Holy Trinity and Catholic education is a must. The position requires monthly meetings as well as committee assignments/meetings. This is a volunteer position. Please call/email the school office by May 1st if you are interested. (320) 468-6446 office@holytrinitypierz.org

***HTCS HIRING-** If you, or someone you know, is interested in a year round, part-time (25 hours per week) custodial position, please contact the office: office@holytrinitypierz.org.

Raffle Calendar Winners:

4/14 \$75 Aaron Gall, 4/15 \$35 Brittney Boser, 4/16 \$35 Chris Banick, 4/17 \$35 Deacon Leo & Maggie Wehseler, 4/18 \$35 Bethany Gryskiewicz, 4/19 \$35 Diane Scott, 4/20 \$35 Beth Gruber

*Father Pierz
School of Religion*



320-468-2640

- *Wednesday, April 24th** – 11th Grade Confirmation Mini Retreat 6-8 p.m. at St. Joseph’s Church in Pierz.
- *Cemetery Cleanup** at St. Joseph’s in Pierz at 4 p.m.
- *Sunday, April 28** – Confirmation at 2 p.m. at St. Joseph’s Church in Pierz
- *Wednesday, May 1st** – Steubenville Meeting at 5:30 p.m. 10th Grade Confirmation Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

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

*Bottom Left: Students continue to enjoy Mass before school at 7am in Buckman! It is a beautiful way to start your day!

*Bottom Right: Divine Mercy Sunday

*Top Right: At the Lincoln Homeless Shelter in St. Cloud praying with the residents, giving out blessing bags, bouquets of roses, & miraculous medals. One of the residents, Tim, taught the students how to make a soccer ball out of foam, he was so thankful to the students for giving him their time. Time is the most precious gift you can give to others! Also, the bouquets of roses that the students gave to the homeless ladies.

