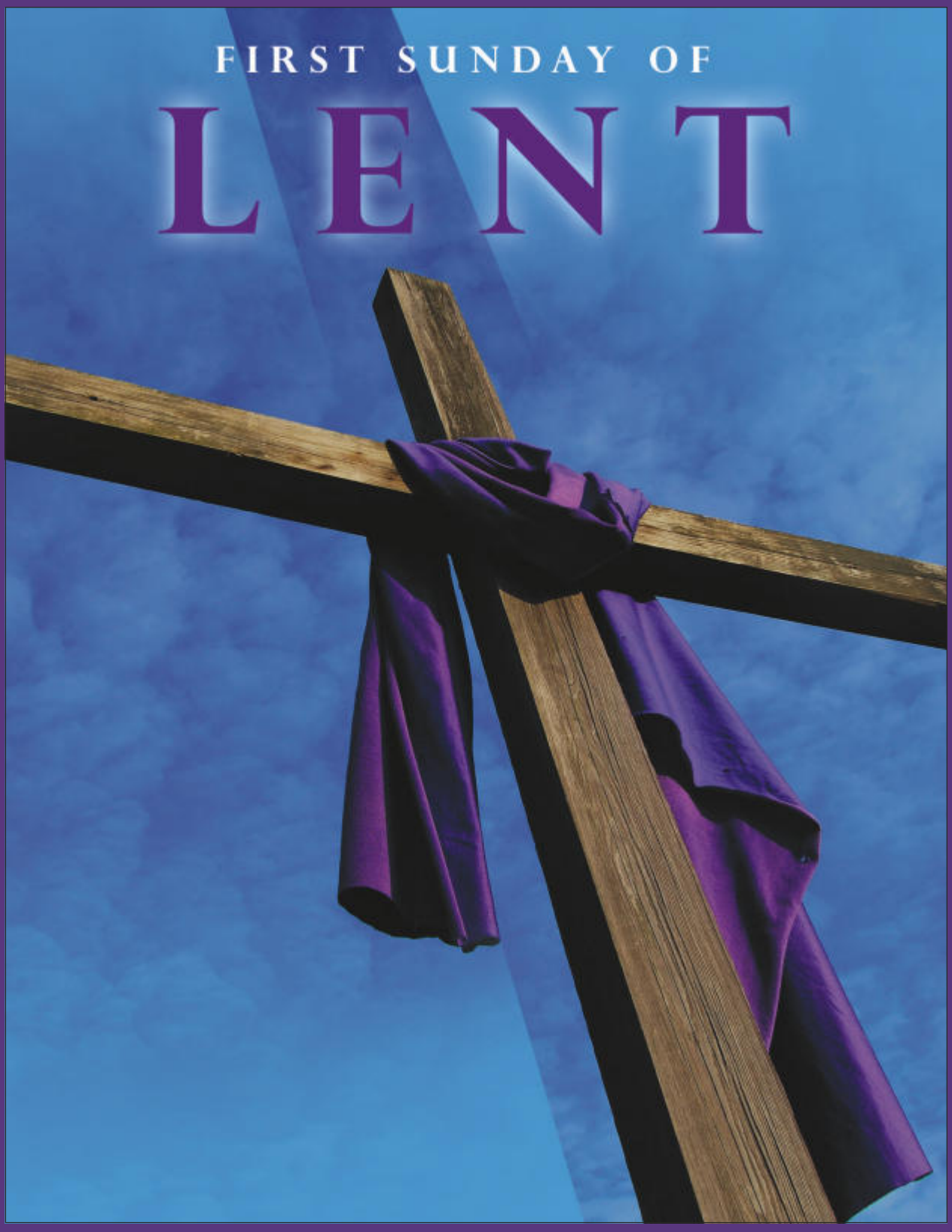
Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Community
"Bringing Christ into the World"



February 21, 2021 First Sunday of Lent

Ss. Peter and Paul Mission Statement

We are a Christ-centered faith community of love, service, and prayer.

Ss. Peter and Paul Parish

PO Box 238, Hortonville, WI 54944

Weekend Mass Schedule

Thursday: 3:00 PM, Saturday: 4:30 PM, Sunday: 9:00 AM

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Friday: Closed

Phone: (920) 779-6133 Fax: (920) 779-0166

E-Mail: sspeterandpaul@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.ssppp.org

Faith Formation: Phone: (920) 779-0551

Pastoral Leader—Greg Layton

Phone: (920) 779-6133 Cell: (920) 538-3049

Priest Celebrant/Moderator.....Father Jim Jugenheimer
Priest Celebrant .....Father Kyle Sladek
Outreach & Discipleship Coordinator.....Deacon Joseph Lehman
Parish Council Chairperson.....Paul Steinbrenner
Finance Council Chairperson.....Bonnie Miller
Secretary Trustee.....Terri Batzler
Treasurer Trustee.....Tom Brunner
Faith Formation Coordinator.....Lori Pugliese
Faith Formation Assistant.....Vicki Tank
Faith Formation Special Events.....Jane Hackstock
Parish Secretary/Business Assistant.....Mary Vanevenhoven
Music Director.....Larry Manley
Custodian.....Mary Meverden
Groundskeeper.....Alexander Bodoh

Parish Registration.....Call Parish Office

Baptisms: Call Lori at the Faith Formation Office (779-0551) early in pregnancy. Class required for first time parents

Marriages: Whether you are getting married at Ss. Peter & Paul or in another faith, call the Parish Office 6 months in advance

Stations of the Cross/Video

Deacon Joe will be having Stations of the Cross on Monday evenings at 6:30 PM during Lent followed by a short video presentation for the following dates: **February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29.**

BORN INTO *Eternal Life*

May the following parish members rest in peace. Please keep their family in your prayers.

Charlie Knuppel

Ken Thyssen

Stewardship — A Way of Life

Next financials will be provided in February 28 bulletin.

A Word From Our Pastoral Leader

The following are excerpts from Pope Francis for the 1st Sunday of Lent:

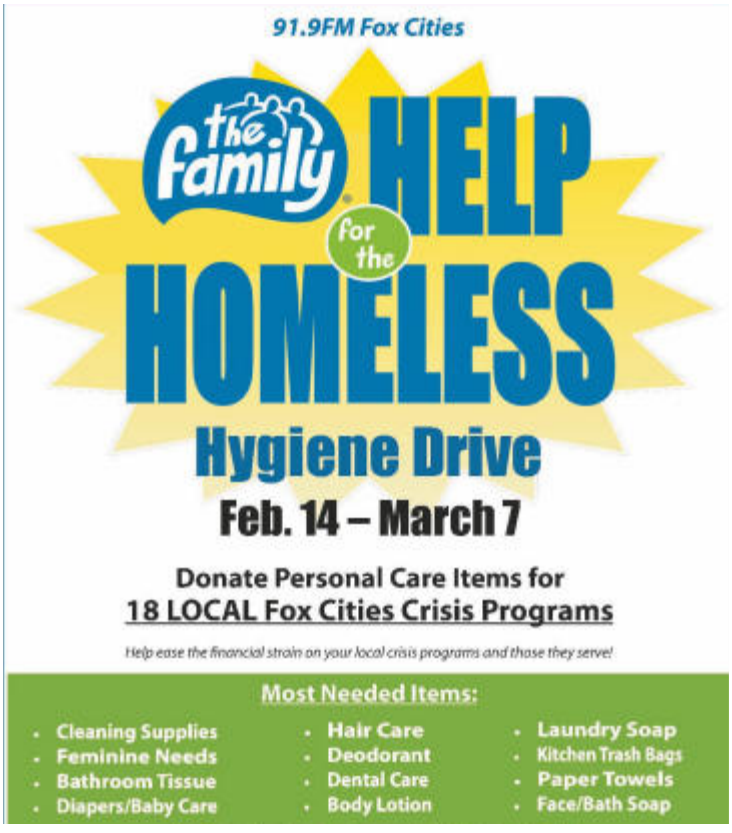
"Repent, and believe in the gospel," that is, believe in this Good News that the kingdom of God is at hand. In our lives, we always need to convert–every day! We must continually direct our minds and our hearts towards him.

Lent is a time of repentance, yes, but it is not a time of sorrow! It is a time of penance, but it is not a time of sorrow, of mourning. It is a joyous and serious commitment to strip ourselves of our selfishness, and to renew ourselves according to the grace of our baptism. Only God can give us true happiness: it is useless to waste our time seeking it elsewhere, in wealth, in pleasure, in power, in a career.

On this First Sunday of Lent, we are invited to listen carefully and to hear Jesus' appeal to convert, and to believe in the Gospel. We are exhorted to begin the journey towards Easter with commitment, to embrace evermore the grace of God, who wishes to transform the world into a kingdom of Justice, peace and fraternity.

May this Lenten season strengthen your personal relationship with Jesus.

GREG



Mass Intentions:

Tuesday, February 23	8:15 AM Communion Service
Tuesday, February 24	8:15 AM Communion Service
Thursday, February 25	**3:00 PM Mass** Butch Bowers
Saturday, February 27	**3:30 PM Confession** **4:30 PM Mass** Irv & Gen Partika, Dave, Tim & Fr. Richard Partika
Sunday, February 28	**8:00 AM Confession** **9:00 AM Mass** JoAnn & Ed Schwarz

Hello fellow parishioner:

We have been for some time now, furnishing meals, 1 week a month for the homeless shelter, (the Mission of Hope House) in New London. We have had a great team working on this project, taking turns, 1 day per week and I try to rotate them so that it's not always the same people every time. But we've lost a few of our volunteers. Two of them moved away from the area and there are the snow birds, gone for the winter and so a few more new helpers would be very nice. If your are interested, please contact me at 757-1668 and I will answer any questions you may have about the project.

Hope to hear from you soon. Abundant blessings upon you and yours. Deacon Joe Lehman

Dear parishioners of Ss. Peter and Paul:
In the past, we have hosted a grief support group that met every other week, here at the parish school. With the COVID19 situation we haven't met for almost a year. With many of our parishioners losing loved ones since then, we feel that it is time to begin having these meetings again, (as safely as possible)

Grief is a reaction to any kind of significant loss, not just the loss of a loved one. It could be the loss of a job, relationship, or a home, etc. And it is not just designed for widows. It is available to one and all. If you feel that you could benefit from sharing your story of loss with others who are grieving, along with the assistance of a professional grief counselor, please give me a call at 757-1668 and we'll try to set up a reasonable meeting time for everyone. Come let us walk with you on your journey through grief.

May God's blessings and consolation be with you.
Deacon Joe Lehman

Message from our Celebrant—Fr. Kyle Sladek

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Praised be Jesus Christ! Welcome to Lent!

As we continue our look at the Holy Mass, and why it looks the way it does, we continue to remember that the Eucharist is the most important Thing in the world, because It is Jesus! Lent is a great time to refocus our prayer and our whole life on Jesus and the Eucharist.

One question I commonly get is, “Father, why do you watch me receive Holy Communion?” or “Father, why do you look at people who receive in the hand?”

Well, as we keep saying, the Eucharist is the most important Thing in the world. As a priest (and, more basically, as a Catholic), I have an obligation to make sure that Holy Communion arrives at Its destination, namely, your mouth. Some of us receive Holy Communion on the tongue, and, thus, no “watching” is needed. Others of us receive Holy Communion in the hand, and the priest takes care to make sure Jesus is consumed, and not carried off or tucked in a pocket or dropped.

It is important to remember that the priest is not looking at you. He is looking at the Host. The priest’s gaze is always on Jesus. It is important to protect the Blessed Sacrament from profanation. Believe it or not, there are those who come to Catholic Mass to try to obtain Hosts to use for sacrilegious purposes. (Paradoxically, even they believe It is Jesus!)

Alas, once in a while, someone forgets or is unaware of the need to consume Jesus immediately upon receiving Him in their hand, and so the priest has to track down Jesus and the person and ask them to consume Him, or return Him to the priest if they are not Catholic. While it can seem awkward, this is done out of love for Jesus and for the person, as we strive together for unity of worship of the most important Thing in the world.

Reception of Holy Communion is a beautiful topic, and I hope to write more about it. We can explore the history of receiving on the tongue as compared to receiving in the hand, as well as the posture of receiving kneeling versus standing. Some of you might remember the Communion rail, or the Communion paten, that gold plate with a handle that the altar server holds beneath your mouth when the priest gives you Communion. All part of our beautiful Catholic liturgy, steeped in tradition and pointing us toward Heaven.

May God bless you!

Fr. Kyle
920-733-0575 ext. 306
assocpastor@stpiusxappleton.com

Join us as we

Encounter the Power of the Gospel

This program includes an inspirational journal and engaging videos featuring reflections by presenter Fr. Mark Toups. Join us and experience real spiritual formation and growth, finding yourself changed from the beginning of Lent to Easter.

DATE | TIMES | LOCATION	FOR MORE INFORMATION
Tuesday Mornings beginning February 16 9 Am (after Communion Service) Conference Room in the New Addition Fee: $7 for the journal	Lori Pugliese lpsspeterandpaul@sbcglobal.net 920/779-0551

Visit **ascensionpress.com** for more details.

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Order by Sunday, February 28

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16 pc., 24 oz. fries, coleslaw, & 8 rolls	25.00
20 pc., 32 oz. fries, coleslaw, & 10 rolls	30.00

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Vande Walles Candy bars

Youth are selling candy bars for $1.00. If you interested in supporting our youth with this fundraiser, there are candy bars on the counter in the café area of the Gathering Space (self serve) or at the Parish Office.

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2021 Fr. Justin Werner Scholarship

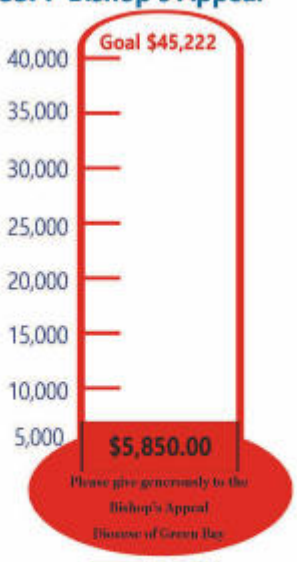
The Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications from graduating High School students for the 2021 Knights of Columbus Fr. Justin Werner Scholarship.

Students that are interested in reviewing the requirements or receiving an application should contact Craig Cummings at crcummin@yahoo.com. Applications have also been made available through the local High School Guidance Offices. The final deadline for accepting applications is **March 15, 2021**.

In 2020, our local Knight's council awarded a total of $3,000 in scholarships. In 2021, the amount of the award will be $4,000 or more based on this year's available scholarship funds. If you know of any student graduating HS this spring and is within 3 generations of an active or deceased #7895 council member, please reach out for an application.

Fathers, Grandfathers & Great-Grandfathers are strongly encouraged to become a new member of our local Monsignor Gehl Council #7895. Becoming a Knight is FREE and by doing so your graduating student can meet the biggest hurdle of the application requirements. Contact Craig Cummings at 920-572-5036 for questions on the scholarship or becoming a Knight.

SSPP Bishop's Appeal



FIRST READING

I will establish my covenant with you,
that never again shall all bodily creatures
be destroyed
by the waters of a flood;
there shall not be another flood to devastate
the earth. (Gn 9:11)

PSALM

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those
who keep your covenant. (Ps 25)

SECOND READING

Christ suffered for sins once,
the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,
that he might lead you to God. (1 Pt 3:18)

GOSPEL

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for 40 days,
tempted by Satan. (Mk 1:12-13)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the "quality" of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING to the Call

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

The Unlikely Suspects

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God's creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God's creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living "among the wild beasts?" Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God's sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikeliest suspects?

Let's go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don't forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we're not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you're craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It's a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question:
Does it matter what leg you kneel on when genuflecting?

Answer:
Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means "to bend the knee." For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection. The practice of "bending the knee" is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

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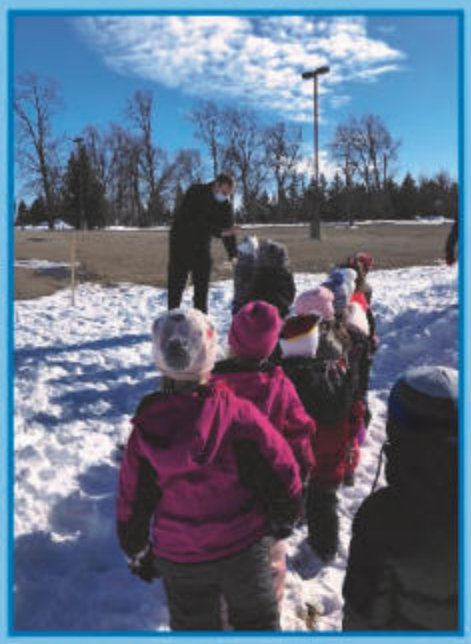
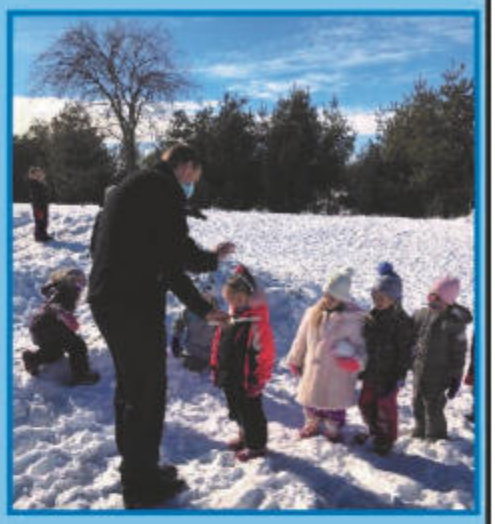
St. Mary Catholic School

St. Mary students drop everything and pray!



Fr. Michael blessed throats during recess for the Feast of St. Blaise.



"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up." Luke 18:1

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