



ST. JOAN OF ARC

Catholic Church

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Rite of Election: Saying Yes to Jesus

Last Sunday the RCIA celebrated the Rite of Election and entered the period of purification and enlightenment. This rite leads to the celebration of the Easter sacraments. Election comes from a word that means “choose.” The ceremony you saw last week reflects this theme: God has chosen and called us. Our candidates realize that yes God chooses them and now is the time for them to be saying YES to Jesus.

We have asked our candidates to reflect on their Journey of Faith thus far. Notice their intentions in the quotes below. The RCIA is an intense Journey. But they have been faithful and have attended every class and are experiencing the need to be a part of a Community of Faith. Does this mean they have no doubts? Doubts allow a person to ask questions and to ponder the response. After all some of the disciples of Jesus have said “What is Jesus saying. I find this saying hard, who can accept it?” (John 6:54-56) Together we learn to pray: “Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief!”

What is the period of purification and enlightenment? During the 40 Days of Lent all of us make a 40 day retreat. It is a time for us to purify our intention to live our Baptismal call with greater effort. Some of us have chosen practices to help us grow in our relationship with God. Our parish provides many ways to grow and do things differently. This year we will also pray the Sundays of Scrutiny. This is a time not only for the candidates but for all of us to intentionally make the 40 Days of Lent count!

Our candidates ask for your prayers of support as we make our final preparations to become Full Members of the Catholic Church.

~Sister Pauline Schwandt



“I am going through RCIA to become closer to God. While preparing myself for marriage, I aspire to be a better Christian for myself and for my future children.”

Eva Fowler—STM

“I want to become Catholic so I have a bigger purpose in life and to give my future children a better chance to grow closer to God at a young age.”

Grace Porter — SJA



“I am seeking to understand what Catholics believe and to build on my relationship With God for myself and my family.”

April Sain — STM

“I feel like I have made a lot of progress on my faith journey growing closer to Jesus but I am longing for more. I thirst for more knowledge of the truth and for my awareness of His presence in my life.”

Matt Sain — STM



“I love learning about God and reading the Bible. I want to become a child of God and continue to learn everyday.”

Lexee Meyer is in the 5th Grade at St. Thomas More School and is 10 years old. She is so excited to become a part of the Catholic faith.

FEBRUARY 28, 2021 - SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, March 3rd

7:00 pm - Deacon Tim's Lenten Group - Social Hall

Friday, March 5th

No School Today - Teachers at Evangelium Institute

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross - Fr. Lorig

Liturgical Minister

March 6th, 2021 and March 7th, 2021

EMHCs

5:00 pm - Renae Vorland
8:00 am - Georgia Goltl
10:30 am - Rick Koch

Lectors

Katie Hart
Anthony Manno
Rick Koch

Illumination of the Word

Captivating Images from a 700 year Russian Religious Tradition
"Luminous Presence: Icons from the Prosopeon School"

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St. Cecilia Cathedral's *Sunderland Gallery*
3900 Webster Street, Omaha, Nebraska

A Free Exhibit - February 14 - March 27
Gallery Hours - Tues-Sundays, 12-4 pm,
February 14 - March 27



Archbishop's Annual Appeal

We invite all those who have yet to make a gift to join their fellow parishioners in an expression of gratitude. Every gift, no matter how large or small, makes a difference. Our parish has a goal of \$39,385.51. Donations, as of February 22nd, are \$31,181.04 which is 79.2% of our goal. Help us reach our goal. You can donate online at archomaha.org.



500 Confraternity February 28, 2021 - Joan Piatt

February 28, 2021 - 2nd Sunday of Lent

"Here I am!" he answered." - GENESIS 22:11

It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbor needs our help, when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it is not convenient for us. Discipleship is not always easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Open Hours

Mondays: 2pm, 10pm - call Rachel, 402-658-8418
Tuesdays: 9am, 10am - call Rachel, 402-658-8418
Wednesdays: 1pm, 3pm - call Rebecca, 402-991-4497
Thursdays: 5am, 9am, 12noon - call Rachel, 402-658-8418
Fridays: 12noon, 1pm - call Rebecca, 402-4497
Saturdays: 2pm, 6pm - call Deacon Tim, 402-731-7474



The pandemic, the weather, and the aging of our parishioners have taken their toll on St. Joan of Arc. We now have 13 open hours which is the most open hours we have had in a long time. While we do have some of these hours covered temporarily during Lent, we are in need of full time commitments so we can keep this beautiful program going.

If you have any questions or if you want to share an hour of your time in silent prayer with Jesus, please call Rachel Burns at 402-658-8418.

PARISH PERSONNEL

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Lorig

Cell 402-509-3909

Email: jplorig@archomaha.org

Senior Associate Pastors:

Rev. Greg Benkowski

Rectory 402-393-8918

Rev. Frank Baumert

Cell 402-677-1565

Deacon Ron & Julie Ryan

402-551-4330

Deacon Tim & Ruth Leininger

402-731-7474

Parish Business Manager

Martha N. Saeltele

402-393-2005, ext. 4

Bulletin Editor: Linda Boyer

Email: bulletin@sjaomaha.org

School Principal: Kayleen Wallace

Secretary, Renae Vorland

402-393-2314, ext 3

Fax 402-393-4405

Religious Education: Jennifer Muckey

Email: jennifermuckey@gmail.com

Athletic Director: Dylan & Beth Biros

402-210-5407

Email: sjasports@yahoo.com

Prayer Assistance Line

Melinda Kenton 402-390-9470

Kim Large: prayer@sjaomaha.org

Holy Communion to Homebound

Deacon Tim 402-731-7474

Food for The Francis House

Mary Kentch 402-593-8703

Funerals: Please call the Parish Office

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Contact Fr. Lorig 3 months prior to baptism at 402-509-3909

Marriage

Please call Fr. Lorig at least 9 months in advance for date and instruction information. Always verify priest and church availability before reserving reception venue.

Penance

Saturdays, 4:00 - 4:50 pm.

Anytime by appointment

Si necesita alguna información o tiene preguntas acerca de la iglesia por favor comuníquese con Martha Nevárez Saeltele al 402-393 2005 ext. 4

Mass/Confession Times at St. Thomas More



Monday - Friday: 7:00 am

Saturdays: 8:00 am & 5:00 pm

Sundays: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Confessions on Saturdays: 4pm-4:40 pm

Live Streamed Mass

Don't forget, we live stream the St. Thomas More 10:30 am Sunday Mass. You can access it through the St. Joan of Arc website at www.sjaomaha.org.



SJA Financial Report - January 2021

Results in January were generally good, though influenced by a one-time event. Overall, our operating results were net positive for the month by \$9,850, which was favorable to our plan by \$31,399. The good performance was driven by an anonymous \$30,000 gift to our maintenance fund, meaning that without this gift our operations were essentially on plan. Our investments were essentially flat for the month: there was a small decrease in market value, but this was offset by dividend receipts. Our overall cash position (investments plus current cash) improved by \$10,256.

Operating Results

As noted above, we were fortunate to receive a gift from a generous parishioner, who wishes to remain anonymous, in the amount of \$30,000. The donor requests that the gift be used for facility maintenance and improvements. To honor this request we will retain these funds in our Major Repairs Fund, which is a current cash account reserved for facility improvements. After recording the gift the balance in this account will be slightly more than \$65 thousand. Because the Major Repairs Fund is a current cash account (i.e., not one of our investment accounts), we are recording the gift as income in January. This will slightly distort year-over-year comparisons of our operating results, but we will try to annotate our reports accordingly.

January results include some notable variances in individual revenue and expense accounts. We were unfavorable to plan in weekly collections by \$8,178. As noted in earlier reports, we have seen a trend toward monthly gifts. Because the budget was constructed assuming weekly gifts, this trend works unfavorably in months with five Sundays, as was January. Revenue for school lunches was unfavorable in January by \$2,290, largely due to a delay in receipt of funds from the State. These unfavorable events were offset by a favorable variance in salaries and benefits of \$8,693 and lower-than-expected utilities by \$2,103. (We suspect the current cold snap will cause an unfavorable utility variance in February.)

Year-to-date our operations are in the black by \$18,992, of course due to revenue from the first round of the Paycheck Protection Program (\$49,074) and the one-time parishioner gift (\$30,000).

Cash and Investments

Our cash and investments increased by approximately \$170 thousand since July 1. This is excellent news, but markets do not always go up.

Special Projects

In January we incurred maintenance charges from Ray Martin for boiler and plumbing expenses in the amount of \$2,206.57. These are "ordinary" expenses in the context of our facility. We are \$2,947 under budget for the first seven months of the year.

PPP

The administration of the second round of PPP has been streamlined since the first round. We submitted our application to FNBO for a loan amount of \$152,194 on January 20, and finalized our submission on February 6. The requested amount was deposited into our FNBO account on February 8.

We expect to report these funds as revenue in the months of February, March, and April, roughly offsetting our staffing expenses. The receipt of these funds allows us to avoid our planned withdrawal of funds from our investment accounts to cover the cash losses we expect through the remainder of this fiscal year.

We expect to receive instructions from FNBO later in the spring regarding the procedures to request forgiveness of the loan. We foresee no issue.

Dennis Smid

Finance Committee Chair

Catholic Cemeteries Offer Stations of the Cross

All are invited to Stations of the Cross in Holy Angels Mausoleum in Resurrection Cemetery Wednesdays in Lent at 6:00 pm. Weather permitting, we will walk the Stations in Calvary Cemetery on Good Friday at 3:00 pm. For further information, please contact Deacon Jim Tardy at 402-391-3711 or jtardy@catholiccem.com.



Mass Intentions

Monday,	March 1, 2021	Requested by
8:30 am	† Michael Pistillo	(Les Focht)
	<i>School Mass for Christendom Academy*</i>	
Tuesday,	March 2, 2021	
8:30 am	† Magdaleno Nevarez	(Saettele Family)
	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena after Mass	
	<i>School Mass for SJA Kindergarten through 2nd Grade*</i>	
Wednesday,	March 3, 2021	
8:30 am	† Sr. Charlene Stuczynski	(Joe & Luetta Stuczynski)
	Litany of St. Joseph after Mass	
	<i>School Mass for SJA 3rd thru 5th Grade*</i>	
Thursday,	March 4, 2021	
8:30 am	† John Farrell	(Leone Farrell)
	<i>School Mass for SJA 6th thru 8th Grade*</i>	
Friday,	March 5, 2021	
8:30 am	† Nadine Schmid	(Jane & Joe Mentlick)
	Litany to the Sacred Heart of Jesus after Mass	
	<i>School Mass for Christendom Academy*</i>	
Saturday,	March 6, 2021	
5:00 pm	† Dorothy Gappa	(Jim Gappa & Family)
	Fr. Lorig	
Sunday,	March 7, 2021	
8:00 am	SJA Parishioners	
	Fr. Lorig	
10:30 am	† Harlan & Vera Mueller	(Mueller Family)
	Fr. Greg	

*Students will use the entire section of pews to the right of center aisle.

Please remember those who are sick in our parish, and those we have been asked to pray for: Vince Stanesick, Jim Caniglia, Josynne Sherlock, Eileen Annin, Anna Maria Leo, Jill Elston, Jerry Hogya, Bev Sladovnik, Shirley Bardsley, Connie Wade, Anto Kinsley, Maxine Kantor, Maria Menjivar, Steve Hamill, Nadine Hansen, Ken Renkenberger, Andrew Ascherl, Bob Mercier, Sam Marchese, Grace Fascianella, Roger Pedroza,

40 Cans for Lent Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be conducting a Lenten Food drive to help the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. The food drive will run from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday. We encourage you and/or your family to try and contribute one pantry item for each of the 40 days of Lent. Please place your items in the collection boxes in the gathering area. Monetary donations will also be accepted. We thank you in advance for your support and generosity!



2021 is the Year of St. Joseph

With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" (With a Father's Heart), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed 2021 a "Year of Saint Joseph." As a result, the Litany of St. Joseph will be said after the 8:30 am Mass every Wednesday.

The **Human Needs Committee** is sponsoring the "Bare Necessities" Drive for the Siena/Frances House homeless shelter during the month of February. There will be a tub and sign in the Gathering Area for your donations of essential items such as socks, underwear, and personal care items. New or gently used winter clothing and coats are also needed. Please see website for a list of items in critical need. <https://sienafrancis.org/how-to-help/donate-items/needs-lists/critical-needs-list.html> Thank you



Saint Joan of Arc give us strength
in our time of need.
Help us bear our trials with honor.
Help us hold firm in our faith.
Saint Joan of Arc, Pray for us. Amen.

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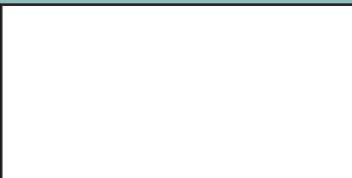
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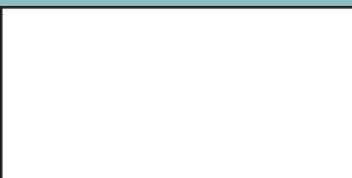
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