



ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH



Over a Century of Service to the Lord 1899 to 2020

Rev. Bernard Starman Pastor, Rectory 924-3262 After hours:(402) 340-0277

Associates: Fr. James Weeder & Fr. Joseph Sund - Deacon M.J. Kersenbrock

OUR WEBSITE - www.stbonifacestuart.com
Also "Like" St. Boniface on Facebook for
Announcements, reminders and cancellations.
Email: stbonifacestuart@gmail.com
www.holtboydcatholic.org
You can find mass times, links to websites and
bulletins on this page for all the Parishes.

Schedule of Services/Mass Intentions

March 23 - March 29, 2020

Mon. 3/23-

Tues. 3/24 - + Carol Helenbolt

Wed. 3/25 -

Thurs. 3/26 - +Jim Schaaf

Fri. 3/27 -

Sat. 3/28 - +Kathleen & Francis Steinhauser

Sun. 3/29 - +Amelia Kaup



NOTICE



**MASSES WILL BE OFFERED PRIVATELY
BY OUR PRIESTS**

Events/Meeting

LECTOR		
EMHC' S		
SERVERS		
GIFT BEARERS		
USHERS		
MONEY COUNTERS		

March 15, 2020 Collection

Envelopes (32)	\$1185.00
Loose	82.00
Mid week	100.00
Catholic Relief	50.00
Total	\$1417.00

 Mass Schedule	Atkinson, St Joseph	Saturday	Sunday
	St. Boniface, Stuart		
	St Patrick, O'Neill		
	St Joseph, Amelia		
	Ss. Peter & Paul, Butte		
	St Mary, Spencer		
	Assumption, Lynch		
			

Remember in your Prayers -

Kirstine Chvala, Lee Ann Maher, Margaret
Smolik, Garrett Scholz, Kate Steinhauser,
Blakely Bouska, John Hladky, Coralie Thomas,
Isaac Schultie, Dick Steinbach
& Kathryn Shald

**May God's healing hands
Bless them..**



Prayer Against Corona Virus

Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from
Corona virus COVID-19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, have
mercy; for those that are ill now, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy,
enlighten them; for medical helping the sick, strengthen and shield them.

For those working to contain the spread, grant them success; for those afraid, grant peace.

May your precious blood be our defense and salvation.

By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease into moments of consolation and hope.

May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness.

We abandon ourselves to your infinite mercy. Amen.

Pedro de la Cruz

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS

Rosary -

Next meeting - in the school @ 7 pm

Group 4 - Next funeral/function

KC NEWS

Notice - KC members please pay your 2020 dues to Rick Shearer.

Notice - 4th Degree members to please renew dues for 2020, the \$25 dues can be sent to Larry Butler.

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties:

My hope and prayer is that all are adapting well to this process of “social distancing” . Fr. Sund, Weeder and I along with Deacon Kersenbrock, continue to explore opportunities to help our parishioners to remain at least re-motely connected to their faith lives and spiritual homes. All our churches currently remain open for individuals to stop in for private prayer and adoration. We simply ask that people not congregate by the governor's order in groups larger than ten and maintain the 6-foot distance between individuals. We've created an additional Facebook page for our realigned parishes, which we will use to live-stream Masses, daily reflections and potentially the rosary, and possibly even Eucharistic Adoration. Please like and follow “The Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties” on Facebook.

For those who may be getting a little case of the cabin fever. Here are some ways to stay connected.

1. Make a couple of phone calls to elderly family members, friends and neighbors to check in on them and see if they need groceries, prescription pickup, or just conversation.
2. Some extra time praying for healthcare workers, medical researchers, and government leaders as they lead us through the pandemic.

Fourth Sunday of Lent in Cycle A gives us the second gospel reading from John [9:1-41] in as many weeks. This week we have Jesus healing the man born blind. The story is masterfully and artfully complex yet succinct. Drama abounds and intrigue develops with each verse. Fundamental themes and metaphors such as light versus darkness, sight versus blindness, knowing versus not knowing, and more, including willful ignorance in the face of demonstrable evidence, all are woven together in this gospel passage that is the source of tremendous insight and wisdom.

The story opens with popular wisdom of the day expressed by the disciples. Basically, they ask, “Whose fault is it?” that the man is blind. Jesus rejects such attribution, which parallels the attitudes he expresses in the Gospel of Luke. It is not that bad things happen to bad people. Such thinking, which infects many religious and non-religious people, is not new in our day. Jesus is far removed from any “prosperity gospel” (good things happen to those who are good), as it might be understood today.

After Jesus heals this blind person, those who knew him could not believe their own eyes! Indeed, they said it was not the same person. Only when the man who was formerly blind says that he is one and the same do the onlookers ask how this happened. The situation escalates quickly to the Pharisees when the reader is informed that all of this took place on a Sabbath, a holy day on which no work is to be done. This theological riddle puzzled the Pharisees, who viewed Jesus as a sinner because he did not keep the Sabbath. Yet how could a sinner make the blind see? When faced with such testimony from the man who had been blind, who proclaimed Jesus a prophet, it seems best to deny the testimony! The story continues unfolding, as those who are considered learned deny straightforward evidence that is presented to them. Believing in Jesus would upend the worldview of those who profess to know the Scriptures and the ways of God.

Rather than see this only as an account of a sign that Jesus performed, we would do well to ponder its application to us. How often do we reject plain evidence because it does not reconcile with what we “know” to be true? It is difficult to change one's mind, especially if that means changing many other attitudes and thoughts as well.

In this weekend's gospel story, as in so many, Jesus takes the initiative. He creates cognitive dissonance in the minds and hearts of many, demanding that they make a decision for or against him. When do we face such encounters with Christ? What is our response? Do we deny what everyone can plainly see? Or do we undergo a change and enter into a new life with Christ?

Giving up habits and ways of thinking can be difficult. Imagine making a change to something simple, such as a banking account with direct deposit and automatic bill-pay. Once a structure has been established, linking accounts, deposits, and debits, it can be cumbersome to make a change, close the account, and open a new one. If we encounter such difficulty with a matter as simple as a bank account, imagine what we encounter—even at a subconscious level— when we change a way of thinking about something as central as religion, meaning, and purpose.

Ad Multos Annos, Fr. Bernard Starman Pastor