



Parish Calendar

- May 6** Widow's Support Group 6:30 pm
- May 10** Knights of Columbus meeting 7:00 pm
- May 11** Altar Society meeting 7:00 pm
- May 12** St. Vincent de Paul meeting 6:00 pm
- May 15** Stewardship Committee meeting 9:30 am
- May 15** Women of Grace meeting 9:30 am
- May 16** Knights of Columbus Breakfast
- May 16** New Parishioner Welcome after 9:30 am Mass
- May 16** Welcome Your Child Baptism Class 1:00 pm
- May 20** Parish Council meeting 7:00 pm
- May 22** Church Cleaning 7 am led by Gabriel Lalemant Group (Irene Rezac). Please join us!
- May 23** Evangelization Committee meeting 5:00 pm
- May 26** St. Vincent de Paul meeting 6:00 pm

School Calendar

- May 6** Confirmation 7:00 pm
- May 13** Ascension Thursday - No School
- May 14** Dismissal at 1:30 pm
- May 14** MayFair 6:00 pm—8:30 pm
- May 27** Last Day of School

CCD Calendar

- May 6** Confirmation 7:00 pm
- May 12** Class—Ascension Thursday Parish Mass 6:30 pm
- May 19** Last CCD Class—8th Grade Graduation

ASCENSION THURSDAY

MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, May 12; 6:30 pm

Thursday, May 13; 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 6:30 pm

St. John Bosco Chess Camp: Martyrs will host a Chess Camp on Monday—Friday, **July 19—23** from 8:00 am to 11:30 am. Join Father Connor and seminarian Michael Zimmer for a week of learning chess skills! Incoming 3rd grade to 8th grade children of **all skill levels** are welcome. Cost is \$25 for the first child, \$15 for the 2nd child from the same family, 3rd child is free. Registration forms are available at the Parish Information Center. Please drop completed forms with payment in the collection basket or Parish Office.



Fashion Show: The Altar Society will be having a Fashion Show on **June 3rd** at 6:00 pm. Women and children from North American Martyrs will be modeling fashions from the *Vickeridge* and *Once Upon a Child*. Please bring a salad per family or group. Dessert and drinks will be provided. We will have a free will donation and drawings for the centerpieces.

Budget Report to Date: Fiscal Year Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010

Received to date: July 1 - Apr.25..... \$ **769,083**

Needed to date for annual budget \$ **700,900**

Annual budget overage to date..... \$ 68,183

Building Fund Campaign April Report

(To finance our new Church and Parish Hall)

BOS Envelopes and plate.....\$ 13,719

BOS E-Tithe.....\$ 10,840

Pius X Campaign.....\$ 6,245

Concessions.....\$ 455

Recycling.....\$ 31

Total.....\$ 31,290

Amount Applied to Debt.....\$ 31,500

Debt as of April 30, 2010.....\$ 401,700

Martyrs School MayFair is Friday, May 14th from 6:00 to 8:30 pm. You are all welcome to join us for children's games and activities, good food and a chance to win raffle prizes!

Knights of Columbus Breakfast: The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a pancake, egg, and sausage breakfast in the Parish Hall on **Sunday, May 16th** following each Mass. Free will donations will be accepted and will be used to support the seminarians and the Year of the Priest activities.



Knights Youth Fishing Day: Please register at the Parish Information Center if you plan to attend the Martyrs Knights of Columbus Fishing Day on **Saturday, May 22nd**. Sign-up is **NOT** required in order to fish with the Knights, but it is helpful in planning the day. The event will take place at Pawnee State Recreation Area. No fishing or park permits are required. Equipment may be provided. Call Jerry at 613-0853 for more information.



Mark your calendars! The Martyrs Knights of Columbus invite all adult parishioners to a **Year of the Priest Dinner on Friday, June 11th** in the Parish Hall. The \$10 dinner will include steak, potato, salad, dessert and a drink. Please support this event and show our wonderful priests how much we appreciate them! RSVP by *June 1st* to Jerry Kane at 613-0853.

Tune-in to **your** Catholic radio station for the Heartland: Spirit 102.7 FM KVSS. Bringing Christ to people and people to Christ – www.KVSS.com.

WELCOME to our new Parishioners who registered in the month of April: **Stacy & Janice Ayres, Frank Turek, Jeff Cisneros, Alyssa Reicks, Scott Enevoldsen, Nicole Asmus, Richard Koenig, Steven & Stacy Stewart, Joan O'Meara and Phillip Tran**, New parishioner welcome is **May 16th** after the **9:30 am** Mass in the Parish Hall. We look forward to meeting you!





A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR!

Dear Parishioners,

Over a year ago, we began putting together a Strategic Plan for North American Martyrs to help guide our efforts in the next five years. Our Parish Council members met each month (in addition to the regular Parish Council meeting) to discuss and write a Strategic Plan. We had Dr. Terrance Sebor from the University of Nebraska help lead our process. His experience of working in various aspects of the Catholic Church was very valuable.

We determined that the primary goal of the plan is to increase participation at Mass and parish activities. This is a measurable goal due to our annual count of people attending Mass for 2 weekends in October. We have authorized the Parish Council to give direction to parish organizations and review their progress. To this end, each of the six main objectives will have a team responsible for working to achieve the goal and they will report once a year to the Parish Council. We did a lot of brainstorming, dreaming, looking at other parishes, listening to each other and writing. We wanted to come up with something workable that would help us achieve our measurable goal. Eventually, we divided up into smaller groups to work on specific aspects of the plan. Our Plan was adopted at the April 2010 meeting and can be found on our website. Each target area is broken down into categories including: who, what, when, expenses and action items.

There are six main target areas:

- 1) Marriage Enrichment Program
- 2) Evangelization Program
- 3) Improve CCD Program
- 4) Campus Planning and Improvement
- 5) Facilities Maintenance Operation
- 6) Utilize Parish Leaders and Talent

I want to thank all the members of our Parish Council for their extra time and efforts this past year. Furthermore, I want to thank all those who will be helping us execute this plan in the years ahead. We are very blessed to have a lot of God given talent and dedicated individuals at North American Martyrs. May the Good Lord guide and direct all our efforts for His glory and honor.

In Jesus through Mary, *Father Connor*

Chaperone Needed: Youth Ministry is seeking a male chaperone for this summer's Chicago Mission Trip, June 26th through July 2nd. Spend a week setting a positive example for our youth and working with the Missionary Sisters of Charity. It is truly a life-changing experience! Call Steph with questions or if interested at 890-5599.

How do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? The Better Business Bureau offers the following advice:

If a U. S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions.

Census workers are knocking on doors to verify address information. **Do not** give Social Security number, credit card or banking information. You really only need to tell them how many people live at your address.

While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as salary range, you don't have to answer questions about your financial situation.

Be on the lookout for email scams impersonating the Census. The Census Bureau will **not** contact you by email. For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, visit www.bbb.org .

Faith and Finances with Phil Lenahan © www.VeritasFinancialMinistries.com

Is Giving Just for the Rich?

Two heartwarming stories about Catholic entrepreneurs provide an opportunity to convey important principles for living out the Gospel call to be a generous people. Peter Roche, an American, co-founder of the Roche Brothers supermarket chain in Massachusetts is making a \$30 million donation to a Boston College center to help reinvigorate Catholic grade school education. Albert Gubay from Britain made a pact with God after World War II was over: "Make me a millionaire and you can have half of my money." Starting from scratch, he founded Kwik Save, which has grown into a \$690 million business. He recently placed the entire business into a charitable trust.

It's heartening to see such examples of generosity, and even if we're not grocery store magnates, we can learn important lessons. The first, and most important is to remember that all we have comes from the Lord and belongs to him (Dt. 10:14). We have been entrusted with the gifts of life, time, talent, and treasure. As stewards of Providence, we are expected to use these gifts in ways pleasing to God.

A second principle is the Scriptural tenet of giving from our first fruits (Pr. 3:9). The Lord wants our first and our best, not our leftovers. Cultivating generosity isn't just for the rich. It's for all of us.

Finally, remember that the Lord promises to bless our generosity in ways He knows will draw us closer to Him. So be generous, and accept the blessings the Lord has in store for you. God love you!