



A Note from Our Pastor:

Construction update at NAM: Our new addition is being used by the school and CCD. It is a beautiful facility with numerous awesome features. Some of the building aspects we are blessed with are: geo-thermal wells (efficiency), improved storm sewer plans, LED lighting throughout, attractive color schemes, keyless door entry, enhanced security on school, new technology on fire alarm system, electronic blinds in the library and the list goes on.



Currently, they are painting, insulating and applying the hard finish to the exterior, doing casework and doors, and footings in courtyard. The following areas are still in progress but will hopefully be done within a month: library, rooms off the library, courtyard, Pre-K playground, amphitheater, grading, landscaping and seeding.

There have been numerous delays starting with the wet weather last fall. Currently, we are waiting for the arrival of the wood slat ceiling. Today, a tracking number was given which means it should be coming soon. Once it arrives and acclimates, it will be installed followed by the floorings and touch up work. On the back of the addition, we need new drainage off the roof. That is holding up the final concrete pours. The St. John Bosco statue we ordered two months ago, finally arrived broken. I hope the new one comes with better packaging protection. The soffit, fascia, gutters and downspouts will be done in the next week. Site grading, irrigation, plantings and seeding will occur in mid-September. The pre-K playground will be installed in November.

Overall, we are very blessed to have had an awesome Building Committee, excellent architects, talented construction generals and subs and a good working relationships all around. There are a lot of moving parts and ideas for improvement that various people have come up with and we've improved the scope in the process. I am grateful for this "working flexibility" to really give us a fully functional, attractive, technologically advanced addition that will really enhance our church and school in the future.

Fr. Brian Connor

Several years ago, Father Wehrs gave a surprisingly moving sermon, given the topic of contraception was irrelevant to me. At 39 years old I was nursing my youngest son, Milo, who I considered to be one of two miracles given my age and abysmal fertility prognosis by doctors. Birth control did not apply to me nor interest me in the least. Father Wehrs spoke about it in a way that connected for me for the first time, how our humanly choices can interfere with God's will and more profoundly, faith itself. That my choices could interfere with God's plans wasn't novel, but that my decisions could impact my personal faith in God seemed monumental. I can't do the sermon justice but it was a provocative idea to me; and made me want to pursue a better relationship with God in the most real way I could imagine. I was already in love with the Church but that sermon sealed the deal, and I wanted to join North American Martyrs. After years of walking up during Communion, holding fingers across lips and receiving a blessing, we finally got to receive the sacraments. The joy cannot be communicated, my oldest son Henry and I were Baptized, Confirmed and took our First Communion together, on July 22. My partner, Jason, and I first took RCIA together with Father Wehrs that year and I haven't stopped soaking up opportunities since. Light of the World has moved me twice and left me with an increased sense of connectedness to my wonderful small group of women. My second year with a Holy Hour in the Adoration Chapel is beginning now. Attending that Holy Hour with my boys as well as volunteering as a crossing guard for the school has helped me feel closer to my sons and God. Sharon Doran's Bible Study of Luke with Patty Krings starts up soon and happily it'll be my third year after studying John and Isaiah. Matt Simmons does a great teaching the Lectio Divino course, but even more powerful was Unbound. There is amazing healing to be found there and my experience was nothing short of mind blowing. It continues to help me process significant trauma and I've found myself using some principles in my parenting as well.

The gifts this parish makes available to us are plentiful and my gratitude for everything I have received over the last five years is ongoing. As excited as I was for our first Eucharist, I have to admit I was even more thrilled to partake the second week. I couldn't help but elbow Jason in anticipation and he chuckled, not really understanding my enthusiasm. "This is my new normal now! I get to do this all the time!! Receive the sacrament, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, actually have Jesus join my body!!!" He smiled back at me. The sacrament is a gift of the largest magnitude and I am blessed to receive it. My gratitude goes out to all of those events, the ones that I still get to explore, to Father Winter who reached out to me to join the Church, to Father Connor for his counsel and to fellow parishioners that I have met on my journey. Thank you!!

North American Martyrs Parishioner, *Avery Warren*

WELCOME to our new parishioners who registered in the month of August: **Chad & Sydnie Stull, Philip & Shaylee Kreutzer, Jeff & Alanna Crawford, Han & Ly Duong, Emily Martinez, Matthew & Erin Schepers, Spencer Klein, Raudel & Roxana Luna, Brandon & Kylee Chapek, Martha Dolezal, Ben & Sydnie Hochstein, Linda Malfait, Paula Powell, Nate & Dana Jurgensmeier, Buddy & Denise Huebner and Troy VanDyke.**

We hope you feel at home in our parish!

Join us for a special evening **concert** in the Church on **Fri., Sept. 28th.** **Martin Doman** is a recording artist with multiple albums, including *Lover of My Soul, Praying Twice,* and *God's Goodness so Far.* General seating tickets are just \$5 and may be purchased in the Parish Office or at the door. Don't miss this!

September 2018

October.....

North American Martyrs Parish

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Upcoming events: Sept. 15-18: Parish Mission, Fr. Declan Gibson Sept. 28: Martin Doman concert Oct. 20: Blessing & Celebration of the new addition and Mass with Bishop Conley			5	6	7 8:40 am First Friday Devotions	8 7:30 am Martyrs Men
9 1-4:00 pm Baptism Class 6:00 pm Film Showing: Paul Apostle	10 7:00 pm Knights	11 6:00 pm Altar Society	12 1:00 pm Be Healed 6:00 pm SVDP	13 7:00 pm RCIA begins	14 7:00 pm Aflame at Benes Farm 2100 W. Alvo	15 7:00 am Clean Church 7:30 am Martyrs Men
16 Pancake Breakfast PARISH MISSION Fr. Declan will speak at all Masses	17 7:00 PM PARISH MISSION	18 7:00 PM PARISH MISSION	19 1:00 pm Be Healed 6:00 pm -Bible Study	20 9:00 am Bible Study	21	22 7:30 am Martyrs Men 8:00 am Stewardship
23 6:30 pm ALPHA	24 5:30 pm Grief Support 6:30 pm -Martyrs Moms -Be Transformed	25 7:00 pm Parish Council	26 1:00 pm Be Healed 6:00 pm -SVDP -Bible Study	27 9:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm RCIA	28 7:00 pm MARTIN DOMAN CONCERT	29 7:30 am Martyrs Men
30 6:30 pm ALPHA	1 (October) 6:30 pm Be Transformed	2	3 1:00 pm Be Healed 6:00 pm Bible Study	4 9:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm RCIA	5	6 7:30 am Martyrs Men 9 am—3 pm CRAFT FAIR



Martyrs School News

Sept. 14 1:30 pm Dismissal
Sept. 20 Noon Dismissal
 Parent Teacher Conferences
 (1:30—8 pm)
Sept. 21 No School
Sept. 24 Pictures Half Day Preschool
Sept. 25 Picture re-takes—Half Day
 Preschool



CCD News

Sept. 5 CCD Begins with 6 pm Mass
Sept. 12 Class 6— 7:30 pm
Sept. 19 Class—Confessions 3, 4, 5
Sept. 26 Class—Confessions 6, 7, 8
Oct. 3 Class—6—7:30 pm
 New Server Training