



**Thanksgiving Day Mass Schedule**  
**Thursday, November 22**  
**7:30 am & 9:00 am**

A special Thanksgiving collection will be taken up for our Parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**Holy Day of Obligation**  
**Mass Schedule**  
**Friday, December 7 - 5:30 pm**  
**Sat., December 8 - 7:30 am &**

Family, Faith, Future

*Building Campaign Update*

<b>Campaign Goal</b>	\$4,500,000
<b>Pledged to Date*</b>	\$4,495,544
<b>Percentage of Goal</b>	99.9%
<b>Cash Received to Date</b>	\$3,384,481
<b>Total Families</b>	1,443
<b>Total Gifts to Date*</b>	712
<b>Average Gift</b>	\$6,314

**WELCOME** to our new parishioners who registered in the month of October: **Ron & Kathy Casper, Dylan Winter, Joseph Lucas, Casey & Chloe Nabb, Jacob & Kylee McCord and James Pieper.**

*We hope you feel at home in our parish!*

FREE Catholic family movies, audio talks, and more; FORMED, [namartyrs.formed.org](http://namartyrs.formed.org) Code: ca823d

\*Note: We have reduced our "pledged to date" by \$228,548 (64 write-offs & 4 reductions) for those families who have moved out of the parish and/or reduced their original pledge.

Thanksgiving

November is the month of Thanksgiving. I certainly hope and pray that all of our parishioners have a place to celebrate Thanksgiving this year. I pray you have some family/ friends to be with no matter where your family is from or how old or young you are. God willing you have some good food like turkey or ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, fresh rolls, and pumpkin pie. And, that you can bow your head in prayer and thanksgiving to God, for all your blessings on that day of celebration.

At North American Martyrs, we have a lot to be thankful to God for. We just had Bishop James D. Conley here on October 20<sup>th</sup> to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Feast of our Patrons, the North American Martyrs. I thought the liturgy and music was beautiful, every person attending was precious, the Bishop gave a lovely homily and the Blessing of our new addition was a significant moment in our parish history. I was disappointed with the number of those at Mass. I realize the Huskers were in the final quarter of their big win against Minnesota, but I was still expecting a much larger crowd (return to that soon).

I am very relieved and feel a load off my shoulders now that the construction of our new addition is 99% complete. They worked hard in the final week and have been doing dirt work, sprinkler systems and the punch list since the blessing. It is a blessing to have the construction done and to be able to use the space entirely. We are so fortunate to have had such generosity towards this major Capital Campaign, **Our Faith, Our Family, Our Future**. I cannot adequately thank each of the 766 families who have donated to make this possible. I hope you picked up a nice booklet put together for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration that allowed us a more complete way of commemorating and thanking people. If not, you can pick one up in the Narthex or Parish Office.

In this mailing is our financial summary from the prior year and our new budget. I want to thank you for your generosity towards the support of our parish and school. We had what ended up being a very good year end. In the end, we can thank God for inspiring this generosity and pray that He continues to bless us. Thanks to our Finance Committee for their oversight.

In my mind and heart, the most important numbers of all is what is below and it is not good news.

These numbers reflect the numbers of people who attend Mass at NAM on the first and second Sunday in October over the past six years. The registered # is how many people are counted in our computer base. So, numbers tell is 63% of our registered parishioners are not coming to Mass. It is also very troubling to see how we have declined over 10% in the past 6 years and 4.5% in the past year. We all need to pray and do something about this. Those who don't attend, need to get back to the discipline of making God a priority.

You can also see that roughly 50% of our people do not support the church financially. While I could take them off the books, and make our numbers look a lot better, I don't want to do that, because we lose touch with them (you), perhaps forever. I would rather they come home to God, know his mercy and love and enjoy the beauty of the Mass and the Holy Eucharist with the people of God on Sunday. We have hired a full time Evangelization Director for the parish and we have a good Evangelization Committee with young and old faithful people. Each of us needs to "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord". Please pray for the fallen away and listen to how God can use you. Lastly, if you do not have somewhere to go for Thanksgiving, your parish welcomes you on Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please call, email or stop by to let the office know and we will have a place for you with all the trimmings.

Number of People in Church					
Year	1st Sun.	2nd Sun	Ave	Regis	Ave%
2013	2010	1993	2001.	4165	48.1%
2014	1805	1856	1830.	4353	42.1%
2015	1857	1888	1872.	4342	43.1%
2016	1976	1914	1945.	4394	44.3%
2017	1899	1776	1837.	4463	41.2%
2018	1641	1667	1654.	4510	36.7%

God love you all, *Father Brian Connor*

# November 2018

December.....

## North American Martyrs Parish

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Good Counsel Retreat House:</b> <b>Nov. 16-18</b> <i>Learning to Love from the Beloved Disciple</i> , Fr. Sean Kilcawley <b>Nov. 30—Dec. 2</b> <i>Marriage and Intimacy: How God Wants to Secure Your Love</i> , Deacon Keating Visit <a href="http://www.goodcounselretreat.com">www.goodcounselretreat.com</a> for more information and to register.			7 6:00 pm Bible Study	8 9:00 am Bible Study  7:00 pm RCIA	9 7:00 pm AFlame	10 7:30 am Martyrs Men
11 6:00 pm ALPHA	12 6:30 pm Be Transformed  7:00 pm K of C	13 6:00 pm Altar Society	14 6:00 pm -Bible Study -SVDP	15 9:00 am Bible Study  7:00 pm RCIA	16 7:00 pm Bunco Night	17 7:00 am Clean Church 7:30 am Martyrs Men 9:30 am Stewardship
18 Coffee & Rolls 1:00 pm Baptism Class  6:00 pm ALPHA	19 6:30 pm Be Transformed	20 7:00 pm Parish Council	21	22 <b>Thanksgiving Masses</b> 7:30 am, 9 am	23	24
25 6:00 pm ALPHA	26 12:30 pm Grief Support	27	28 6:00 pm -Bible Study -SVDP	29 9:00 am Bible Study  7:00 pm RCIA	30	1 (December) 8:30 am First Saturday Devotions
2 3:00 pm Exposition & Confession  6:00 pm ALPHA	3	4	5 6:00 pm Bible Study	6 9:00 am Bible Study  7:00 pm RCIA	7 8:30 am First Friday Devotions  5:30 pm Holy Day Vigil Mass	8 7:30 am 9:00 am Immaculate Conception Holy Day Masses



### Martyrs School News

**November 9** 1:30 pm Dismissal  
**November 14** 6 pm Confirmation/ Parent Meeting  
**November 21-23** Thanksgiving Break  
**November 26** Classes resume  
**December 7** No School



### CCD News

**November 7** Class 6-7:30 pm  
 Rosary 6:15 pm  
**November 14** Confirmation mtg. 6 pm  
 Class 6-7:30 pm  
**November 21** No Class—Thanksgiving  
**November 28** Class 6-7:30 pm  
**December 5** Class 6-7:30 pm