



Dear North American Martyrs parishioners,

In this mailing is our "State of the Parish" information from the past year during the Covid-19 Pandemic. This is our annual effort to give our faithful some numbers and information about the parish. I will also speak at all the Masses on November 13-14 about our "State of the Parish".

Our Mission is "Witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and living the Sacramental life." Jesus said, "I have come to set a fire on the earth and how I wish that it was ablaze." Our main purpose is to proclaim the Gospel in season and out of season so people can hear how much God loves them, sending us His only Son, Jesus Christ, who taught, healed, walked, prayed, called, blessed, instituted, sacrificed and ultimately lay down his life out of love for us. We seek to keep proclaiming this Good News and all of Salvation History. We want to foster living out our Baptismal faith as we were immersed into the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and are made as children of God for the frequent reception of the Sacraments. We offer the Holy Eucharist at least twice a day (four times on Sunday), confessions daily, and all the other Sacraments when the faithful are either prepared or in need of those particular graces.

You can see how many Baptisms and other Sacraments were offered. We had at least 1,000 Masses offered last year (more than normal with a third priest here for much of the year). I am very happy that we had 31 weddings at NAM. These brides made extra sacrifices having their weddings during the pandemic, but never complained; it was all about the sacrament. Last weekend, a visiting priest commented on how nice it was to have lovely Church, a wedding coordinator, an acolyte and servers at the wedding. You would have thought he died and went to heaven. I want to thank our dozen couples who help us with marriage prep by reviewing the FOCCUS instrument with the engaged couples.

We have updated our *Active Parish Organizations*. Each of these is a big help in uniquely fostering greater faith, community, ministry, education and effective parish life. Every organization is a huge blessing: music ministry, RCIA, Pro-Life, Knights of Columbus, Women of Martyrs..... right on down the line. Two committees meet with me each month and help with the operation of the parish: Parish Council and Stewardship. I can only say *THANK YOU* to each person in these organizations for your loving commitment to helping our parish be alive and on fire.

In this mailing is our financial report. I want to *THANK YOU* for the many ways you give of your time, talent and treasure. We have been very blessed financially and are in a good position; I hope this remains. *I ASK GOD TO CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU for your good stewardship.* We try to be good stewards of each gift to the parish. In the financial summary are ten reasons we had such a good year. Not mentioned are things like the many people who make sacrifices to work here for wages that could be higher elsewhere. For example Sr. Janelle, our devoted principal works for about 1/4 of what she is worth. We have tried to give a decent raise to our faculty and staff this year as we have increased tuition. Our grounds and snow crew save us about \$100,000 by their dedication of time and talents. *Volunteers are our greatest asset, and we appreciate every one of you.* Please continue to give back to God as he has given to you. We are blessed by God and Our Lady as we persevere through this Pandemic.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Brian Connor, Pastor

Thanksgiving Day Mass Schedule
Thursday, November 25th
7:30 am & 9:00 am

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

NAM Catholic School is selling Calendar Lottery tickets through December 10th! This is an annual fundraiser for our school. Each \$50 ticket is entered for a chance to win a daily prize based on our "Catholic Calendar". The top prize is \$1,000! Winners go back into the drawing for a chance to win each of the 365 days of 2022! Please contact a NAM school family or email tracy-plautz@edoline.net for more details. Thank you for your support!

We welcome our new parishioners who registered in the month of October: *Matthew & Jennifer Deroche, Jeffrey & Regan Downey, Tate Schutt & Kaylee Hanway, Patrick & Katherine Lowe, Benjamin & Teresa Richard, Chris & Heather Sloma, Pio and Paulina Tayphen, Michael & Whitney Vandervort, and James & Kayleah Witter.* We welcome you to our family of faith.

Women of Martyrs invites all families in the parish to

Breakfast in Bethlehem

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5
10:30 AM - 1:00 PM
PARISH HALL

Enjoy a pancake breakfast (free will offering), take photos with Santa and leave with reindeer food to guide Santa's sleigh to your home on Christmas Eve.

A special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for serving breakfast!

November 2021

North American Martyrs Parish

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------|--|--|---|--|
| 7 | 8 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus | 9 | 10 5:30 p.m. Alpha 5:30 p.m. CCD (8th grade) Parent Mtg 6:00 p.m. Bible Study | 11 6:30 p.m. RCIA | 12 1:00 p.m. School Dismissal 7:00 p.m. Pitch Tournament | 13 7:00 a.m. Church Cleaning 9:30 a.m. Stewardship |
| 14 1:00 p.m. Baptism Class | 15 | 16 | 17 5:30 p.m. Alpha 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. CCD Parent Mtg. | 18 6:30 p.m. RCIA | 19 | 20 |
| 21 10:30 a.m. Women of Martyrs Meet-up (Nativity Peg Doll Exchange & Fill Thanksgiving Baskets) | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Thanksgiving Masses 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. | 26 | 27 |
| 28 First Sunday of Advent | 29 6:00 p.m. Grief Support | 30 | 1 (December) 5:30 p.m. Alpha. 5:30 p.m. SVDP 6:00 p.m. Bible Study | 2 6:30 p.m. RCIA | 3 8:30 a.m. First Friday Devotions | 4 8:30 a.m. First Saturday Devotions |
| 5 Second Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m. Breakfast in Bethlehem | 6 Bed Making at Waverly | 7 | 8 6:00 p.m. Bible Study | 9 6:30 p.m. RCIA | 10 | 11 |

School Calendar

November 12 1:00 p.m. Dismissal
November 24-26 No school (Thanksgiving Break)



CCD Calendar

November 10 8th Grade Parent Class Mtg.
November 17 Parent Meeting
November 24 No Class (Thanksgiving Break)

