

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 15

No Mass

Tuesday, February 16

6:00 PM Mass † Bob Ormsby

Eucharistic Adoration following 6 PM Mass

Wednesday, February 17

Ash Wednesday

7:00 AM Mass St. Ludmila Parishioners

9:00 AM School Mass † Alma Schaufenbuel

2:00 PM Mass at Silver Pines

7:00 AM Religious Ed Mass Personal Intention

Thursday, February 18

7:15 AM Mass John/Nancy Leefers and family, Lvg

Friday, February 19

7:15 AM Mass † Emma Konasek

Saturday, February 20

4:00 PM Mass † Dolores Villers

Sunday, February 21

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Mass St. Ludmila Parishioners

10:30 AM Mass Personal Intention

RCIA Rite of Sending during the 10:30 AM Mass

Pilgrim Statue in the home of:

Steve/Jacquie Udermann - 3316 Reston Ct NE

Feb 8-12. Recitation of the Rosary 7:30 PM

Prayer Line: Let us pray for your needs 390.1277

Readings for the Week of February 14, 2010

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20;
Lk 6:17, 20-26

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20---6:2;
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Born to a new life in Christ and joined to our faith community through the water of Baptism, we welcome:



Landon Michael Urell

son of Jason and Tracy Urell.



The Parish Community extends its sympathy and prayers to the family of Dolores Viller who recently passed away. May she rest in peace.



Blessings and Woes are on Jesus' mind in the Gospel this weekend. He speaks to them in the context of looking beneath the surface of one's experiences, and does so because Christ has changed the "heart of the matter." With God's selfless love in creation, what seems on the surface to be only painful and lacking, has at its heart a potential encounter with Him. Those who judge only what comes from the surface of things, who let their "skin" tell them what makes them happy or consoled or affirmed, will come to woe. In not attending to the heart of the matter—of oneself or of the events of one's life—they were left with only a passing joy. Such a loss!

Lent begins in just a few days. Isn't that so much what Lent is for: to get to the heart of our habits, attitudes, priorities, etc? Once there we can identify which offer lasting importance: which are more about feeling good, than being or revealing goodness? The insert in this bulletin offers us a "lesson of the heart" to ponder daily. For teachers, *lesson plans* lay out how an outcome is going to be explored and attained by a student. Each of these reflections invite us to explore our lives, and come to a heart knowledge about what is truly a blessing, and what will result in woe for us. Jesus shows us God has only blessings to share. Woe will be my own creation!

Catholic Charities is the organization in our diocese that extends God's blessing into situations of mourning, poverty, hunger, and many other hurts. They served over 18,000 clients in this archdiocese last year. 70% of those clients live in poverty as defined by our government. In today's Gospel Jesus' promises the Kingdom of God to the poor. Please help them experience a bit of the blessedness of the Kingdom **now** by generously responding to the Catholic Charities appeal letter mailed to you this past week. A most blessed and fruitful Lent to you! May we all find ourselves with wiser hearts and more Christ-like lives come Easter! Fr. Tom

Ministry Fair: Please do plan on coming down to the Social Hall after Masses this weekend for our parish ministry fair! If you missed it, I hope you will consider attending one committee meeting of interest to you this Lent as how you will embrace the traditional discipline of *sharing* to go with *prayer* and *fasting*. Fr. Tom

Parents of Religious Ed and Catholic School children! Back in December I mailed you a request asking that you help with Bingo a small number of times. I do hope you are planning to do your part for this parish program. Please respond soon and reserve which of the 100 Bingo sessions work best for your schedule! Thank you! Fr. Tom

Ash Wednesday is February 17th. We receive ashes on that day to express our shared sense of need for God's mercy, and desire for conversion of heart to greater faithfulness to the gospel. Those who would like to receive ashes may do so at Masses offered on Feb 17th at **7 AM; 9 AM (School Mass); and 7 PM (Religious Ed Mass)**. If you have relatives or neighbors who will have difficulty joining us, please invite them to ride with you!

Lent is the principle penitential season in the Christian year. As diocesan guidelines state: "Everyone is strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial (in addition to following the Lenten regulations), serious prayer, and a performance of works of charity and mercy."

The Lenten regulations remain:

- *Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.*
- *Everyone between 18 and 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday.*
- *Fast and abstinence means one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals sufficient to maintain strength, but that don't add up to a full meal, may be taken. Eating between meals on these days is not permitted.*
- *When health or ability to work would be severely affected, the guidelines do not apply.*

Abstaining from meat, and days of fasting, have been helpful for Christians for generations as a spiritual aid. Among the gifts abstaining and fasting offer is to mark with self denial in a physical way, a time of reflection on other aspects of life that need greater self-denial, so that we might be more available to our relationship with God. Please look at these guidelines not as just a burden, but rather as an invitation to come into closer touch with what we truly hunger for—the God who creates, sustains, and saves us.

Rice Bowls are in the Gathering Space to be taken home with you this Lent. Its purpose is to be a place to collect the money we would have spent on feeding ourselves, but that we save by fasting during Lent. It is a powerful way to not only be in solidarity with the poor, but also to help them as those funds are then shared with them. With higher food prices and global recession the suffering of the poor is all the more acute this year. Think of what \$1/day for 40 days of Lent from 1000 households could do!

The **Stations of the Cross** are recited on Fridays during Lent beginning February 19 at 5:30 PM in the Church. Please join us as we reflect on the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



There are several **Lenten Mission opportunities** at our local Catholic parishes. You are invited to contact these parishes for more information:

- St. Matthew** (363.8269): February 21 - 24
- All Saints** (363.6130): February 28 - March 3
- St. Jude** (390.3520): March 7 - 9

LENT is just around the corner. Several adults have already signed up for a faith sharing group during the six weeks of Lent. Won't YOU join a small group?? A booklet for reflection will be provided. Reflections will be shared during each weekly session. Sign up after Mass TODAY!

Palm "Braiding" can be a family activity: We invite those who know how to make crosses, braids, roses, etc using Palm fronds to contact Sister Mary: 362.7282. Two parishioners have offered to teach others this craft after Masses on Palm Sunday. We could use others!

Appreciation

Thank you to God's Housekeepers for the week **Jan 31:** Gary/Mary Stodola, Carole/Brian Palas, Brett/Tara Simonsen, Dalton/Dakota Simonsen, Mindy Kranig, Alan Zaehring, Robert/Loretta Claes.

Thank you to our parish volunteer secretaries for the week **Jan 31:** Laverne Fisher and Estherbelle Steinbach.

Thank you to Terry and Julie Schneekloth for their leadership of the Children's Liturgy of the Word In-service and to those who attended this informative session!

Thank you to:

John Pacha for the ongoing care of our Church heating system!

Tom/Jeanette Niccolai, Joyce Janovec, Emily Corcoran, and Estherbelle Steinbach for helping us back up our parish Sacramental records.

Gary, Zach, and Bryan Kotowske for mudding and texturing the stairwells in the Parish Center.

Bill, Drake, and River Whitters for all the parking lot snow removal of this past month!

Rite of Christian Initiation

Returning Catholics

Do you know someone who is an inactive Catholic? used to sit next to you? had a "falling out" with the Catholic Church? would return if they could talk to someone? Please invite them to an information session on Tuesday, **February 16, 7PM** at the Parish Center Contact Sister Mary (362.7282) for further info.

RCIA and Children's Catechumenate:

Sessions resume on February 21 at 9:30 AM.

RCIA: Rite of Sending on February 21 during the 10:30 Mass. The candidates & catechumens will be presented to the parish community and sent forth to the Rite of Election in Dubuque at St. Raphael Cathedral where Archbishop Hanus will receive them as Elect, chosen by God.

Are YOU called to be a Prayer Line Volunteer? We need



interested adults to help contact other adults for prayer intentions. There's perhaps no greater gift and service that we can offer one another than that of our prayers, especially for those who are in need. Interested? Call Darlene 390.1277.

Welcome To Our Parish Family!

George and Maria Hewitt and family
 Alex and Jennifer Meier
 Brian and Dacia Sieverding and family

Faith Formation

This summer set sail for **VBS** fun! We are venturing out on a **High Seas Expedition!** Feel the sea spray on your face as sails snap overhead while experiencing the deep, rolling waters of God's love! Vacation Bible School (for pre-school age 4 through grade 5) is Monday, Aug 2 through Friday, Aug 6. Interested in experiencing this great adventure? We are accepting volunteers in all areas to help us on this Expedition. Interested? Contact 362.8148.



The Cedar Rapids area **Theology on Tap** Committee is hosting a new Lenten Series, meeting every Thursday in March at the Chrome Horse Saloon. All young adults ages 21-39 are invited to join us for faith discussions, fellowship, and your favorite beverages beginning at 7 PM. *Topics: March 4: is Why Can't Catholics cut out the Middleman? Sin and Reconciliation. If forgiveness comes from God, why should I tell my sins to a priest? And if I can be forgiven any time, why shouldn't I wait to be forgiven later? For Catholics, Lent is a season to reflect a little bit extra on our sins, so we'll talk about what it means to sin and how we can use confession to repair our relationship with God. Fr. Nick March will be our presenter. March 11: Angels and Demons – and we don't mean with Tom Hanks; March 18: The Bible, the Wall-Street Journal, and Hansel and Gretel: Where is the Truth?; March 25: War (on Terror): What is it Good For?*

Holy Family

New families interested in sending their child/children to Holy Family School for the 2010-2011 school year may begin registering on Monday, Feb 15. There are openings in all classes, from 3-year old preschool through 8th grade. Contact any Center: St. Jude (3 and 4 year old preschool and Kindergarten through 2nd grade): 396.7818; St. Ludmila (3 and 4 year old preschool and 3rd and 4th grade): 362.1943; or LaSalle Middle School (5th through 8th grade): 396.7792 for more information or go to www.cr-cath.pvt.k12.ia.us

ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS



SUNDAY, February 14

9:00 AM Ministry Fair
 4:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 5:30 PM

MONDAY, February 15

6:00 PM Social Concerns, PC
 7:00 PM Parish Council, PC

TUESDAY, February 16

5:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 6:30 PM
 6:45 PM Discipleship Council, PC
 7:00 PM Returning Catholics, PC

WEDNESDAY, February 17

7:00 PM Religious Education Mass, CH

THURSDAY, February 18

8:00 AM Church Cleaning, Leader Mary Brecht
 10:00 AM Legion of Mary, PC
 12:45 PM Rosary over Lunch, CH

FRIDAY, February 19

5:30 PM Stations of the Cross, CH

SATURDAY, February 20

6:30 PM St. Monica Circle, TJ's Steak House

SUNDAY, February 21

No Donut Sunday This Month
 10:00 AM RCIA and Children's Catechumenate, SH
 1:00 PM Credit Union Annual Meeting, SH
 4:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 5:30 PM
 6:00 PM Senior High Movie Night, PC

C/CH: Church, PC: Parish Center, SC: School, SH: Social Hall

Xavier

Xavier HS will host **freshmen registration** for all incoming 9th graders on Monday, February 15 at 7 PM with registration beginning at 6:30 PM. A \$50 scheduling fee is due that evening. Contact Janet: 294.6635 x390 or by e-mail jlukan@cr-cath.pvt.k12.ia.us for further info.

The **Xavier Foundation is looking for volunteers** to assist with the annual Alumni Phonathon. Volunteers needed to help contact alumni on Feb 22-25, Mar 1-4, and Mar 8-11. Shifts: 6:30–9 PM in the Novak room at Xavier. Pizza and refreshments provided. Contact Jessica at 378.4571 or jschneider@xavierfoundation.org to sign up or for more information.

The Catholic Community of Cedar Rapids has donated over 41,548 documented hours of volunteer labor. The number of volunteer hours continues to grow as we reach out to residents in the Block by Block Partnership. Working with other faith communities, Catholic Charities volunteers help in the rebuilding of flood affected homes. As a Catholic community, we can support flood survivors through prayer and volunteering our time on a rebuild or food team. Recovery is ongoing. There is time to volunteer to help those affected by the flood. You may contact your parish coordinator by calling the Parish Office 362.7282 or Catholic Charities 364.7121.



Ministries of Support

Support for Divorced or Divorcing Catholics:

On Wednesday, February 10 there will be an informational meeting and registration for ***Divorce and Beyond***. This information meeting will be held from 6:30-7:30PM, at St. Ludmila Parish Center, 2107 J St SW, Cedar Rapids. *Divorce and Beyond* is a facilitated, small-group conversation; a 10-week process of self-healing and support. *Divorce and Beyond* sessions are held on Wednesday evenings, 6:30–8 PM, at St. Ludmila Parish Center. The first session is Feb 24. Flyers are available on the mobile bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

*For more info contact our parish representative:
Jeannie Waite waitejm@hotmail.com

Remembering Our Military

During certain times of the year: The season of Lent, May, July, September, November, and the Christmas season; you will find near the St. Ludmila statue votive area a table with the photos of parish family members in military service. We invite you to keep them in your prayers as they sacrifice their safety and time with family in service to us. If you have a direct family member you would like included in our memorial area, please contact:

Lori: lorimcmann@hotmail.com 721.6150 or
Sue: Susjmar@aol.com 366.1684

After 40 + years of service in the Cedar Rapids community, an appreciation reception will be held on Sunday, February 28th for **BVM Sisters John Thomas Hackett, Charmaine LeMaire, and Mary Janine Wolff**. The reception will be from 1-3PM at St. Jude Parish Center. A special invitation is extended to all graduates of LaSalle High School and their families. If you cannot attend, letters and cards may be sent to:

Sister John Thomas and Sister Mary Janine
1150 Carmel Dr, Dubuque, IA 52003
Sister Charmaine
1050 Carmel Dr, Dubuque, IA 52003



Save this date!
Sister Water Kolach Bake
Saturday, March 27

To benefit the Dubuque Franciscan Sisters
Water projects in Tanzania and Honduras

Youth Ministry

Lenten Food Fast Lock-in: Attention all St. Ludmila senior high youth! Do you want to learn more about the problem of world hunger and what you can do to stop it? Do you want to do something meaningful that will make a difference in your celebration of Lent? Then join teens from across the city for our special Lenten Food Fast Lock-in on Friday, Feb 19, 9 PM through Saturday, Feb 20, 11:30 AM at St. Pius X Parish. More details may be found in the info/registration flier which all senior high youth should have received. Call Bob 298.9525 with questions.

Community Happenings

Knights of Columbus #5677 Fish Fries every Friday in Lent ▪ Fish, Potatoes, Grilled Cheese, Coleslaw, Corn Bread, Pie, Coffee ▪ Corner of Mt Vernon Rd/Hwy 13 ▪ Serving 5:30-7:30 PM ▪ Ph# 247.2000.

The Knights of Columbus #909, 716 A Ave NE, will host their fish fry's every Friday during Lent from 5:30-8PM ▪ Dinners include Alaskan Pollock, salad bar, potato, & roll.

Knights of Columbus #5544 Fish Fries every Friday Feb 19 - Mar 26 from 5–7:30PM at St. Jude Parish Center ▪ Serving fish, grilled cheese, potato, slaw, roll, & applesauce ▪ \$8 Adults; \$6 Seniors (65+); \$4 Children 5-12 (under 5 free) ▪ Spouse or children of deployed military will receive a discount of \$5 per family.

Martha & Mary Women's Conference: Registrations are being accepted. Conference is Saturday, Feb 20th at The Grand River Center in Dubuque. Open to women, teens through seniors. To register: call 563.580.9373 or go to www.springtimeofhope.org Walk-ins welcome.

The annual meeting of **St. Ludmila Credit Union** is at 1PM on Sunday, February 21 in the Social Hall. Everyone is invited. Snacks and door prizes.

As we look ahead to Lent and the spiritual growth that season calls each of us to, I invite all to consider making a **CEW Retreat**—they have been a great experience for getting a new focus on Christ in one's life, and a sense of how one's fellow Christians can be a great support in following Jesus. Women's: Feb 26-28; Men's: Mar 19-21. I'll be working on the Men's retreat so it would be fun to do it with some parishioners! Fliers on the mobile bulletin board; call Carol or Len Steiner 366.6312; or go to: www.crcew.org/admin/docs/RegistrationFormSpring2010.pdf
Fr. Tom

Share Babi's Kitchen with your Children and Grandchildren: **"Cooking in Babi's Kitchen"** will be held on Saturday, Feb 27, 10 AM --Noon, at St. Ludmila Church Social Hall. The program is presented by the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library and is free and open to the public. This month's "Cooking in Babi's Kitchen" will reveal how traditional Easter egg bread, with colorful eggs baked right in and Listy ('leaves') are made. Recipe books will be available for sale onsite.

