

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 25

The Conversion of St. Paul

No Mass

Tuesday, January 26

St. Timothy; St. Titus

6:00 PM Mass † Charles Hromidko

Eucharistic Adoration following 6 PM Mass

Wednesday, January 27

St. Angela Merici

7:15 AM Mass Tom Feye and family, Lvg

Thursday, January 28

St. Thomas Aquinas

9:00 AM School Mass † Family of Marie Peters

Friday, January 29

No Mass

Saturday, January 30

4:00 PM Mass † Father Carl Leveling

Sunday, January 31

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Mass St. Ludmila Parishioners

10:30 AM Mass Personal Intention

Pilgrim Statue in the home of:

Pat/Pam Geraghty - 2325 Springbrook Dr NE

Jan 25-29. Recitation of the Rosary 7:30 PM

Prayer Line: Let us pray for your needs 390.1277

Readings for the Week of January 24, 2010

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Monday: Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Mk 16:15-18

Tuesday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Mk 4:21-25

Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31--13:13 or 13:4-13; Lk 4:21-30

KOLACH FESTIVAL 2010 dates are again over the second weekend of June: the 10th through the 13th. There will be an initial **organizational meeting** on **Monday, January 25 at 6:00 PM in the Parish Center**. Bring your new ideas! We



Festival Meeting

have experienced Co-chairs; I already have indication from past leaders of the various parts of the Festival that they will help again, but we are always looking for new help and new leadership! If you can make some flexible time in April, May, and June, please give Todd Garrison a call at 265-3529. The Kolach Festival is St. Ludmila's "signature" event—please be generous in stepping forward to help make its 2010 version a wonderful success.



This weekend's Scripture includes St. Paul's metaphor of the Christian community as "the Body of Christ" with each of its members an equally important part. One of the most remarkable parts of our bodies is the skin. How it allows sweat to pass *through*, lotion to be *absorbed*, but keep body fluids *in*, and keep all manner of other things *out* is an amazing thing to me.

As a people and community of faith, we need an understanding of ourselves that is very like our skin. Our beliefs have to allow others into our life together, but they also have to be held firmly enough to hold us together in a common identity. In the first reading people returning to a destroyed Jerusalem are reminded of the identity the Word of God gives them. In the Gospel Jesus proclaims his role to be one of bringing greater inclusion of those left out of God's people: prisoners, the poor, etc. We are called to keep these values of welcome and identity in tension as we bring the Good News to the world.

As the week of prayer for Christian Unity comes to a close, the work of building that unity remains. The most helpful thing any of us can do to advance that unity is to grow in knowing my Catholic faith. Sort of like cooking: if I really understand how ingredients work together in a dish, I can confidently bring new things in, while not leaving out any of the essentials. So often I hear people say in situations of different faiths coming together in marriages, in ministries, etc., how "we are all praying to the same God." For Christians that is true to an extent, but a Christian faith-community's beliefs can describe a very different understanding of how God works in the world, and what leads to salvation. We are blessed with a Catholic faith that is reasonable, cohesive, and results in revealing the Kingdom of God in many ways. If we don't work to understand what we believe, we likely won't know what we can bring into our set of practices, and what we can't leave out if we are not going to become something different. We want to find common ground with other faiths, but we do so best by offering the genuine truths of what we believe.

The image of Christians being a Body wherein all parts need each other is certainly applicable to Haiti. Please continue to see those suffering there as part of ourselves that we cannot be whole without. They allow us to exercise the justice toward those less fortunate that Christ said is fundamental to living in the Kingdom of God. Thank you for the nearly \$3000 in assistance for them donated last week. That part of our Body is hurting most right now!

Please do plan on coming down to the Social Hall after Masses on Feb 13/14 for our parish ministry fair. The committees are the organs and limbs and skeleton of our parish body. They keep our life flowing within, and structure how we work in the wider world. If they are not in good health, then our parish cannot thrive, nor can we really bring the Kingdom of God to our neighbors. Be ready to come downstairs, find out what each committee does and who they serve, so you can find the ministry that most needs you, and most allows you to give your gifts back to God's work. Fr. Tom

ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

Each year Loras College in Dubuque makes available to each parish in the Archdiocese a scholarship of \$500 (renewable) for one new student. To be considered for this year's Loras Parish Scholarship, please submit to Fr. Tom a 250 word essay that answers the questions: 1) What has been my involvement in my faith and parish up to now? 2) What difference will a Catholic College education make in my life. Submissions must be received by March 22nd. The selection committee will inform you who was chosen to receive it by April 5. Loras has also added two additional scholarship opportunities for students wanting to enrich their Catholic faith life: the John Paul II Memorial Scholarship and the Breitbach Catholic Thinkers and Leaders program. Information on these two scholarships can be acquired by contacting Loras College at 800-245-6727 or julie.dunn@loras.edu

Religious Retirement Fund: A huge thank you to the parishioners of St. Ludmila for a donation of nearly \$5,000 to this fund, "Share in the Care", which benefits men and women in religious orders in the USA who have serious retirement needs. God Bless your generosity! Sister Mary will be giving this appeal on February 6-7 at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Waterloo.

The special edition of the Christmas bulletin may be shared with those who have been away from participation in a Catholic church. Alert them to the inside page written especially for them. After your conversation, please invite them to visit with Fr. Tom, Sister Mary, Deacons Jim or Dick. Those who have "left active practice for awhile" are invited to gather Tues, Feb 9 at 7P in the Parish Center. It may be possible to have a group continue during the season of Lent.

Appreciation

Thank you to all who assisted with the mailing of the year end financial statements: Mary Bentley, Chelo Collier, Don/Elaine Hensen, Virginia Homewood, Kathy Musel, Pete Kapfer.

Thanks to you Karen Doyle and Janet Hayek for reorganizing the church storage spaces.

Thank you all who helped transform the church from Christmas decorations to Ordinary Time.

Thank you to God's Housekeepers for the week **Jan 10:** Chet/Shirley Sheetz, Florence Moellers, Charity Schneekloth, Janann Anderson, Esther Benesh, Kris Chambers, Helen Cigrand, Janet/Carol Hayek, Bev Kotowske, Jane Milcoff, Sandy/Mark Serbousek, Marilyn Schulte, and Paula/Ted Fries.

Thank you to our parish volunteer secretaries for the week **Jan 10:** Jeanne Ross/Mickey Betz.

SUNDAY, January 24

9:00 AM Children's Catechumenate, SH-Multipurpose Room

9:05 AM RCIA, SH

4:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 6 PM

MONDAY, January 25

6:00 PM Kolach Festival Meeting, PC

TUESDAY, January 26

5:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, January 27

5:15 PM Early Session Religious Education, SC

6:45 PM Late Session Religious Education, PC-SC-SH

7:30 PM Confirmation Catechesis and Prayer, PC

THURSDAY, January 28

10:00 AM Legion of Mary, PC

FRIDAY, January 29

9:00 AM Church Cleaning, Leaders Hal/Betty Schulze

SATURDAY, January 30

No activities/meetings scheduled

SUNDAY, January 31

9:00 AM Children's Catechumenate, SH-Multipurpose Room

9:05 AM RCIA, SH

4:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 6 PM

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

LENT is around the corner. We invite adults to join in a faith sharing group during the 6 weeks of Lent. A booklet for reflection will be provided. Reflections will be shared during each weekly session. Sign up: Jan 30-31; Feb 6-7.



Palm "Braiding": If anyone knows how to make crosses, braids, roses, etc using Palm fronds, please contact Sister Mary: 362-7282. We are looking for "teachers" to pass on this craft to the next generation on Palm Sunday.

Rite of Christian Initiation

Future Catholics and their parish sponsors will meet Sundays, January 24 and 31 at 9:05 AM in the Social Hall. January 24th topic is the life and journeys of St Paul.

Children's Catechumenate meets Sundays, Jan 24 & 31 at 9 AM in Multipurpose Room - lower level of the Church.

New Catholic: Michael Sampson will make a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church and will receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist January 31 during the 10:30 AM Mass. Join us in welcoming him into our faith community.

Inquiring about the Catholic faith? You may know someone who is curious about the Catholic faith and would like to ask some questions. Contact Sister Mary for further information: 362-7282 or dbq029s@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us

Confirmation candidates are reminded your next required activity is Catechesis and Prayer session on Wed, Jan 27, from 7:30-9:00 PM in the Parish Center.

Catholic Schools Week

Don't forget the St. Jude Chili Supper and Open Classroom Night on Tues, Feb 2, from 5-7PM. Everyone, especially families with incoming pre-schoolers and Kindergarteners, is invited to the supper and encouraged to stop in the classrooms to view students' work and visit with teachers.

Questions? Call St. Jude office at 396.7818.

The students, faculty and staff of St. Ludmila School invite all of you to the Chicken Noodle Soup/Kolach Supper and Open Classroom Night on Thursday, Feb 4, from 5-7PM. Visit the classrooms and see what the pre-school, 3rd and 4th graders have been working on. Then have supper, where you can enjoy chicken noodle soup, Maid-rite sandwiches, kolach and a drink for \$5; children \$3. Kolaches can also be ordered (before Tuesday, Feb 2) by calling the St. Ludmila office 362.1943; Mary 533.3072; or Karen 364.8665. Apricot, Cherry, Poppy Seed, Prune, and Strawberry are available.

Ministries of Support

Support for Divorced or Divorcing Catholics: On Sunday, February 7, there will be an informational meeting and registration for **Divorce and Beyond**. D&B is a facilitated, small-group conversation; a 10-week process of self-healing and support. The informational meeting will be from 1:30-3PM, St Ludmila Parish Center, 2107 J Street SW, Cedar Rapids. *Divorce and Beyond* sessions are held on Sunday afternoons, 4-5:30PM, at St. Ludmila Parish Center. The first session is Feb 21. Flyers are available on the mobile bulletin board and the Parish Office. *For more info contact our parish representative Jeannie Waite: waitejm@hotmail.com

Catholic Charities Jail and Prison Ministry occasionally receives requests from ex-offenders looking for Volunteer Mentors or Circles of Support and Accountability. These men/women are working to restore their relationships within the community, and would appreciate someone to walk with them on their journey back to full membership in society. Requirements: an open mind, a caring heart, a couple of hours a month, and a desire to learn more. Catholic Charities provides training for Mentors and Circles of Support and Accountability, and welcomes the opportunity to speak with anyone who might be interested in this important ministry.



Contact Coordinator of Jail and Prison Ministry:
Dan Martinek 270.0003 or e-mail:
Marticedar@aol.com for more information.

Xavier

The Xavier community is grateful to St. Ludmila Parish for raising \$16,307, for the 2009 Xavier Foundation Parish Appeal. Thank you to Leah Roberts and Nancy Pitlik for serving as chairpersons. Thanks to the many donors and volunteers who participated in this year's appeal to benefit Xavier. Your prayers and generous support helped raise more than \$380,000 to support Xavier High School. Would you like to support Catholic secondary education? Send your tax-deductible gift to: Xavier Foundation, PO Box 10956, Cedar Rapids, IA 52410-0956. Thank you for your generous support.

On January 30, Xavier will hold its annual Mini-Dance Marathon. Xavier's Mini-Dance Marathon will begin at 6:00 PM and last until Midnight. Each dancer is required to raise a minimum of \$25 to be able to participate. The pledge forms must be turned in to the office by Wednesday, Jan 27. Krystal DJ will provide the music and a student band will perform. All money raised will be presented to Tanager Place, in support of Camp Tanager. Donations can be sent to Xavier High School. Any questions, contact Beth Globokar: 294.6635 x304 or by e-mail: bglobokar@cr-cath.pvt.k12.ia.us

On Friday, Jan 29, pre-registration for next year's sophomores, juniors and seniors will be held. **This is a regular school day.** Students are provided with a course description booklet, as well as related information prior to pre-registration. Parents are to review course offerings with their students. A non-refundable \$50 scheduling fee is due on this day. Pre-registration will take place throughout the school day.

Community Happenings

Join us for a free forum to learn where Iowa's second Congressional district candidates stand on key issues. We've invited all declared candidates, including: Mariannette Miller-Meeks, Steve Rathje, and Christopher Reed. Since this is a forum rather than a debate, we hope to keep the event focused on positive solutions and understanding how the candidates approach issues. It's important to learn about the candidates before the June primaries. You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates. The forum will take place Sat, Feb 6 from 1:30-3:30 PM on Mt. Mercy College campus in Betty Cherry Heritage Hall. Linn Area Pro-Life United and Mt. Mercy Political Science Club will host the event.

Married and engaged couples of the area CR parishes are invited: **Celebration of Marriage! Sweetheart Dinner & Dance Saturday, Feb 6, at 6:30 PM in Pius Hall** Fine dining, catered by Monty's. Music provided by Faythe Kubik Productions. \$35/couple (to: St. Pius X), reservation by Feb 1. Contact Anne: 393.4445 or annej@crpiusx.org for more info. Send your check for \$35 along with your names; e-mail address; and name of your parish to: St Pius X-COM, 4949 Council St NE, Cedar Rapids IA 52402