

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time —June 10, 2018

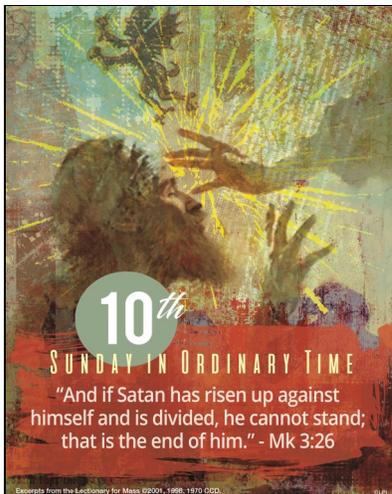
SAINT MARY'S & SAINT ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCHES

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VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON



“She gave me the fruit from the tree and so I ate it.”

In the familiar and tragic story of the Fall from the Book of Genesis, we have the classic example of the “Blame Game”. Adam blamed Eve for giving him the forbidden fruit and Eve blamed the serpent who tricked her into eating it. What is missing from this story . . . personal accountability. Rather than account for their great sin, they justified it by passing the blame onto someone else. Sounds familiar, doesn't it? We do it all the time. Want a cure for this . . . go to Confession. This Sacrament demands pure honesty and we have to personally account for our sinfulness. Stop the “Blame Game” of sin and come to the Sacrament of Penance. Admission of sin and the need for God's mercy to overcome sin is the foundation for holiness. To admit our sins is to admit our need for a Savior.

Faith & fun this summer

I know that summer can be a busy time for our youth, with summer jobs, farm/ranch work, sports camps, weeding the pastor's vegetable garden, etc., but I hope there is time for some faith and fun filled activities.

For the youth in grades 6-12, we plan on going to the State Fair in Minot on July 24th and 25th. We will stay one night (as it is a long trip for one day) and for a full day, we will enjoy the carnival rides, the fair exhibits, and the fair cuisine. I can't wait to have the deep-fried Twinkies. I wonder where I put my extra strength cholesterol pills? Please call Fr. Gary at 509-9504 or the parish office at 579-4312 if you wish to be part of this youth event. We need you to sign up by June 30th, so we can plan for a bus, the hotel, the diocesan parental release forms, etc. For the youth in grades k-5, we are planning for a two or three-day Vacation Bible School, sometime in early August. Unlike your traditional VBS, with the standard crafts, songs, and the like, we hope to go on some pilgrimages and insert our faith lessons into these pilgrimages. We are looking at a drive up the Enchanted Highway and a tour of Assumption Abbey one day and a prayer walk and lunch on the Rainy Buttes another day. I'm open to other ideas as well, including a pilgrimage to Dairy Queen . . . since God did create ice cream on the eighth day of creation (according to some Scripture accounts). We will keep you informed as planning continues.

Have a great summer to all, including our youth, and let's try to keep faith in the midst of our summer fun.

Difficult Moral Issues, “*Although abortion is abhorrent, shouldn't it be an option in cases of rape, incest, or serious deformities in the unborn child?*”

In poll after poll, the majority of Americans call themselves pro-life and they are opposed to abortion on demand. This is great news! Despite the fact that the media, academia, and the political establishment are largely behind the pro-choice cause, Americans are making up their own minds and are voicing their concern for innocent life in the womb. Yet, the majority of Americans believe there are circumstances when women should still have access to abortion, namely in cases of rape and incest when the likelihood is that the child will be born with serious deformities. For Catholics, abortion is always morally wrong, even in these difficult circumstances. In fact, contrary to the conventional wisdom, to abort in these circumstances does more harm to women, their unborn children, and our society as a whole. **(Continued on page 3)**

MASS & ADORATION SCHEDULE

Monday, June 11

7:30 AM SM—Communion Service

Tuesday, June 12

7:30 AM SM –Joyce Rettinger by family

6:00 PM SE Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM SE +Steve & +Bertha Anton by Duane & Kathy Schwab

Wednesday, June 13

7:00 PM SM– Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

7:00 PM SM– +Eugenia Stagl by a friend

Thursday, June 14

7:30 AM SM– +Raymond Mellmer by Ruth Fitterer

Friday, June 15

7:30 AM SM– Bonnie Jung by a friend

12-3:00 PM—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, June 16

8:30 AM SM– Joan Madler by Mike Madler

5:00 PM SM— Herberholz families by Harvey & Vickie

Herberholz

Sunday, June 17

8:30AM SE +Keith Herold by Cary & Cheryl Ridl

10:30AM SM-Pro Populo

Please Keep in Your Prayers:

Nate Hernandez, Duane Dobitz, Andy Prokop, Henley Johnson, Duane Grundhauser, Pete Schaefer, Alice Candrian, Marilyn Jacobs, Leo Heck, Ross Thomas, Arlene Rohr, Brenda Barton, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz,, Linda Reisenauer, Rose Krebs (SE), Russ Lefor, Lori Lefor, Herbert Emmil, Reggie Gentz, Cindy Martin, Tim Theil, Howard Schiwal, Theresa Decker, Alyssa Binstock, Yvonne Fettig, Dale Reindel, Kim Kuhn, Don Miller, Katherine Splichal, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick, Dorothy Kohl, Colleen Churchill, Thresiamma (Fr. Biju's mom)

Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents: Aggie Wandler, Ken Stagl, Charlotte Krebs, Harvey Herberholz, Archie Jalbert, Benny Benz, Joan Binstock, Joe Wandler, Sylvia Koppinger, Leona Gordon, Joan Madler, Cecelia Jung, Donnella Koppinger, Marilyn Jeske, Willie Emmil, Frances Heck, Dale Schroeder

Our Deceased Loved Ones + Darwin Schaefer, +James Gatzke, + Ed Koppinger +Eleanor Keck +Ardelle Kovar, +Eugenia Stagl, + Nick Lenhardt , + Mike Urlacher , + Keith Herold, +Carla Rohan +Alvin Rotering +Jeanne Kovar +Bridget Urlacher, +Laura Grundhauser, +Florian Urlacher +Paul Schiwal, + LeRoy Jacobs +Victor Roller +John Herold, + Viola Martin

On the Lighter Side

A traditional Mormon once pushed Mark Twain into an argument on the licit nature of polygamy (multiple spouses). He gave one Scripture passage after another to justify the practice. He then challenged Mark Twain to offer at least one passage of Scripture forbidding polygamy. “Nothing easier”, Twain replied, “No man can serve two masters.”

SE Parish church cleaning will be Tuesday, June 26th, after Mass

Our Lady of Grace parish in Minot invites you to join in the celebration of **Fr. Bruce Krebs' 40th anniversary of Ordination** to the Priesthood on Wed July 11. Fr. Bruce will celebrate Mass at 5:00 pm at Our Lady of Grace, 707 16th Ave SW, then we will have a catered meal at the Sleep Inn at 6:30 pm. Fr. Bruce grew up at St. Mary's in New England and was ordained there on July 7, 1978, by Bishop Hilary Hacker. Tickets for the dinner are \$10 for adults and teenagers (age 13+), \$5 for children (ages 3-12), and free for children under age 3. There is a maximum cost of \$25 per family (parents and children under 18, living at home),. To reserve your tickets, please call the Our Lady of Grace parish office at 701-839-6834.If you have special memories or pictures of Fr. Bruce that you would like to share, please email them to church@olgminot.org or mail them to Our Lady of Grace Church, by June 25, if possible.

St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments June 16 & 17, 2018

MINISTRY	Saturday 5PM	Sunday 10:30AM
Lector	Lori Fitterer	Jim Gardner
Mass Servers	Katie S./Molly W.	Paige E./Addison F.
Eucharistic Ministers	Martina S./Richard W.	Gordon S./Susan S.
Gifts	Connie Jalbert	Larry & Betty Heck
Rosary Leader	Martina S.	Mary F.
Greeters	Nicholas D. & Eileen L	Jake Wolf
Homebound Minister	David & Vivian H.	David & Vivian H.

Collection Report St. Mary's June 2 & 3, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 2581.00	Envelopes	\$ 32.00
\$ 123.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 2736.00	Total	\$
\$ 12, 225.00	God's Share Total	\$28,759.00 God's Share Goal

St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments June 17, 2018

Lector	Dustin Kuhn
Mass Servers	Elizabeth
Eucharistic Ministers	Darrell & Dorita
Gifts	Curt & Michele
Greeters	Marsha & Greg
Ushers	Arlen & Lenny

Collection Report St. Elizabeth's June 3, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 175.00	Envelopes	\$ 9.00
\$ 55.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 239.00	Total	\$
\$	Month	\$
\$ 2,220.00	God's Share Total	\$6,970 God's Share

Difficult Moral Issues, “*Although abortion is abhorrent, shouldn’t it be an option in cases of rape, incest, or serious deformities in the unborn child?*” (Continued from page 1)

In cases of rape and incest, the Church has great sympathy for the woman who was violated. No woman should have to suffer such cruelty and violence, especially at the hands of a man, for men are supposed to care for and protect women. Indeed, there is no doubt that pregnancies in these situations cause great difficulty and anxiety for any woman. Yet, despite the great suffering and pain, the woman must be reminded that the child in her womb is a person, deserving of respect and having fundamental dignity. The mother may not end her distress by ending her child’s life. The fundamental moral principle at stake is that evil may not be done so that a perceived good may come from it. Intentionally killing a human life, even for the supposed best of reasons, can never be a moral option. Considered from another angle, abortion often increases the mental distress women experience. Women already suffer from the violation of rape or incest and with the abortion of their child, the mental distress is compounded. Despite the horrible way in which their child was conceived, the maternal instinct is still present as they carry their child. When they abort their child, they know deep down that they have done great violence to the life they were supposed to love and nurture. Violence was done to them and they in turn allowed violence to be done to their baby. Abortion does not heal the mental distress of rape or incest. Sadly, it merely intensifies it. Though difficult, many victims of rape or incest have found the strength, through God’s abundant grace, to raise their children. Once their child was born and they saw the beauty of the gift of human life, they were able to love their baby, despite the painful memories of the violence done to them. God was able to heal their memories and they now function as loving devoted parents. Others could not overcome the pain and decided to give their children up for adoption, thus allowing them to be loved and raised by parents who could not have children of their own. Despite the agonizing circumstances of their pregnancies, they have found healing in knowing that by not choosing abortion, their child is being loved by people who received the gift of parenthood through their heroic decision. Indeed, when abortion is not an option, the healing for victims of rape and incest can begin and it is more likely to be long-lasting.

As for children in the womb who have deformities, the Church encourages mothers to always chose the beautiful option of life. Although every parent hopes for a healthy child, this hope is not always realized. A prenatal diagnosis can reveal that a child has severe mental or physical disabilities. Although this can provide for a wonderful opportunity to initiate treatment for the “second patient” (the child within the womb), using it as a tool to select who will live and die is immoral. Abortion is always intrinsically evil, even in cases where medical opinion indicates the that the child will be born with a disability.

Some people are tempted to turn to abortion as a solution for what they perceive to be “the problem”: the disabled infant. The real problem, however, is not the unborn person, but his or her condition. We should seek to alleviate the problematic condition, not get rid of the child who suffers from it.

Human dignity does not depend upon one’s physical condition or health. To be sick or handicapped does not determine the intrinsic dignity of a human being. To chose to kill an innocent human being because of his or her disability is to undermine the foundation of all human dignity, which is based not on how we function, but on who we are: human beings. Many adults with disabilities oppose aborting children with disabilities. They insist that their own value is diminished and their rights are threatened if the lives of the disabled unborn are threatened. Those in need are precisely those to whom we owe the most care and concern. The weak, the sick, and the “unproductive” are those in whom we find the suffering Christ and through whom we have a chance to serve God.

While caring for a disabled child sometimes brings challenges requiring heroic sacrifices, it can also bring incredible gifts. I know many families with a Down’s Syndrome child. People pity them, but these families are the first to say, “No, you have it all wrong. We are not to be pitied, but envied.” These families are filled with so much love and cohesion, for God blessed them for welcoming human life, when the culture said it was life not worth welcoming.

Every child is a gift from God and is to be treasured. Sometimes these children come into the world as a result of rape or incest. Sometimes these children will be beset by disabilities, great or small. Yet, each one is a child of God and has an inherent dignity that must be respected. Abortion is never an option . . . period. We live in a world marked by the effects of original sin. We are to heal the original wound, not broaden it.

A Point to Ponder

There are no idle rumors. They are all busy.