

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

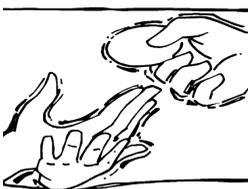
Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat, Feb 27 5:30 p.m. St. Mark's
(† Lloyd Jelleberg)
Sun, Feb 28 9:00 a.m. St. Andrew's
(† Herb & Ann Lesmann)
Sun, 11:00 a.m. St. Mark's
(Parishioners)
Tue, Mar 1 12 p.m. St. Mark's
(† Kenny Lansverk)
Wed, Mar 2 12 p.m. St. Mark's
(Veronica Saler)
Thurs, Mar 3 9 a.m. St. Andrew's
(† Jack Sandy)
Fri, Mar 4 8:00 a.m. St. Mark's
(Parishioners)
Sat, Mar 5 5:30 p.m. St. Mark's
(† Tom & Priscilla Fisch-
er)
Sun, Mar 6 9 a.m. St. Andrew's
(† Herb & Ann Lesmann)
Sun, 11:00 a.m. St. Mark's
(Parishioners)



HOME COMMUNION

Any St. Mark parishioners desiring Holy Communion at home, call Claudia Trebas (228-2339) by Saturday noon to be put on the list. To add or remove a name, please contact Deb Wyman 245-6538 or the parish office.



PrayerLine



PARISHIONERS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS: Military personnel & their families, Garth Saylor, Ernie Fontaine, Cindy Volk, Tammy Allard, Dwayne Thiel, Duane Sebelius, Jodi Bjellum, Lisa Middlebrook, Harvey Soland, Candace Fulsebaake, Karen Busch, John Smith, Matthew Laverdure, Amy Vandal, Donna Stratton, Margie Mehlhoff, Mike Bergeron, Cecilia Dolezal, Jim Atkinson, Frances Stanley, Judy Rudukuhr; a very special intention; a situation of domestic abuse.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun, February 28

St. Andrew—K-6 Religious Ed 10:30 am

Wed, March 2

St. Andrew—First Reconciliation & retreat 5pm

St. Mark—K-6 Religious Ed 3:30 pm

Quilters 1 pm
RCIA meeting
Soup Supper 5-6 pm



St. Mark & St. Andrew—Stations of the Cross 6pm

Fri, March 4

St. Mark— 8-12:30 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

KofC fish fry 4:30—7pm \$10 / serving



Sun, March 6

St. Andrew—K-6 Religious Ed 10:30 am

Wed, March 9

St. Mark—K-6 Religious Ed 3:30pm

Quilters 1 pm
RCIA meeting
Soup Supper 5-6 pm



St. Mark & St. Andrew— Stations of the Cross 6pm

DURING LENT, EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:00 P.M. THERE WILL BE STATIONS OF THE CROSS BOTH AT ST. MARK'S AND ST. ANDREW'S WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO BRING YOUR CHILDREN EACH WEEK.

There are still some OFFERING ENVELOPES on the table, PLEASE if you see a friend or neighbor and want to drop them off, that would be very helpful. Thank You.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.'" (Luke 13:7)

Are you like the barren fig tree? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called to develop and nurture our gifts and return with increase.



Report For February 14, 2016

St Andrew's: Adult envelopes \$ 418 plate \$ 83 and children \$ 13

St Mark's: Adult envelopes \$ 2015 Plate \$152 and children \$ 18



ST. MARK'S BOTTINEAU

& ST. ANDREW'S WESTHOPE



PARISH OFFICE: (701) 228-3164 RECTORY: (701) 228-5164

322 Sinclair St. • Bottineau, ND • 58318 - www.stmark-standrew.org



"SIR, LEAVE IT FOR THIS YEAR ALSO, AND I SHALL CULTIVATE THE GROUND AROUND IT AND FERTILIZE IT; IT MAY BEAR FRUIT IN THE FUTURE. IF NOT YOU CAN CUT IT DOWN"

LK 13:8-9

PARISH STAFF

Fr Michael Hickin, Pastor
Jen Nero, Director of Religious Ed
Valerie Hefth, Director of Religious Ed
Ursula Palmer, Secretary

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30 pm, Bottineau
Sunday 9:00 am, Westhope
And 11:00 am, Bottineau

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 4:30 pm, Bottineau
Sunday, 8:30 am, Westhope

OFFICE HOURS

Tue-Fri 12:30pm-5:00pm



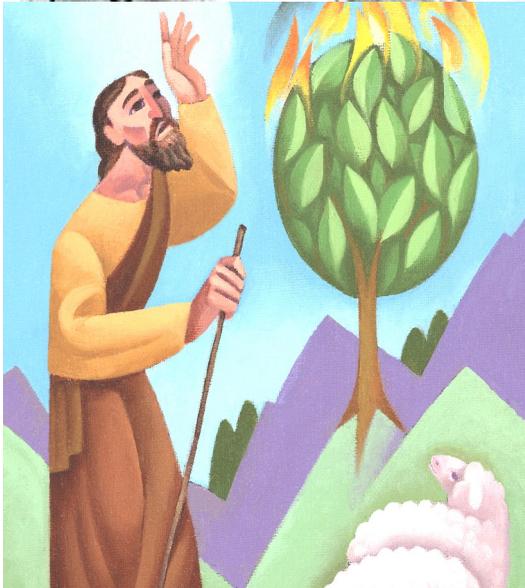
REPENTANCE. Jesus does not blunt his words in the Gospel. He is very clear that if you do not repent you will die. Can we sit with that for a moment? What thoughts or feelings come to mind? Is it alright that Jesus' words sometimes disturb us? Would we rather a spineless Savior?

Let's give him permission to be rather harsh. It doesn't take anything away from the fact that, like Moses who led the Israelites out of slavery, Jesus frees us from our slavery and rejoices to give us life. But on whose terms?

Both the psalm and the parable about the fig tree remind us that God is kind and merciful. God does not give up on us or abandon us, but waits patiently for us to bear fruit. What is necessary for one to bear fruit? Repentance! During this season, we have the opportunity to take a look at what might keep us from being fruitful.

As both a sinner and a confessor (one who hears the sins of others), I realize it is not always easy to know what to repent of. Catholics have these things, *Examinations of Conscience*. They help. They're lists of various forms of wrong-doing that can spark our

imagination, 'Oh yah, sounds like me...'. Other times the connection is not as clear. What then?



Sometimes we don't agree with Church teaching. What is taught to be a sin doesn't feel like a sin. Certainly something to take to God. If the Church is led by the Holy Spirit and you are leaning on the Holy Spirit, you will eventually be led to some form of mutual understanding. The Church does indeed change, but gradually and for very good reason. She does not heed to human whims. She works hard to keep the human family in all its wild diversity on the same page, a right relationship with Our Father in Heaven.

Today's 1st Reading from Exodus and the Gospel give us a tale of two trees. One represents the sinner in need of repentance. The other represents the God who is a Consuming Fire. If we let down our guard and take off our shoes, the Holy Ground of God's Presence will make sure our tree bears much fruit.

In other words, sometimes Confession can be as simple as saying, I'm not sure where I'm at, but I know I want to be with YOU.



GOD'S GIFT APPEAL, combines the charity of our Diocese's 133 parishes. **LET THE CHURCH ALWAYS BE A PLACE OF MERCY** These words of Pope Francis capture the theme of this year's

appeal. The God's Gift Appeal ensures 44 Catholic outreach ministries will continue helping bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to Eastern North Dakota and beyond. This takes the cooperation of every parishioner in every parish of our Diocese of Fargo. Together we can do great things for Christ's Church. We thank you for your ongoing support.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS— WEDNESDAYS EVENINGS, 6 PM

Simultaneously at St Mark's and St. Andrew's

Mar 2—Extraord Ministers

of Holy Communion

Mar 9—Altar Society

Mar 16—Teens

Mar 23—K-6 students

ST MARK'S SOUP-SUPPER, WEDS, 5-6 PM. Free-will offering to fund fees for Trinity Youth Camp.



Rummage Sale

ST. MARK'S PARISH RUMMAGE SALE will be held on April 9th, from 8 am to 2:30 pm, at St. Mark's Parish Hall thanks to Joan Bertram who will take care of the organization. If you want to donate, you can drop off your items in the Parish basement from March 7th to April 5th. We will not accept large electronics such as tv's or computers. More information to come soon!



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

AREA COMMUNAL Penance SERVICES

- Towner—Mon, March 7, 7 pm
- Bottineau—Sun, March 13, 7 pm
- Rugby—Wed, March 16, 3 pm & 7 pm
- Dunseith—Sun, March 20, 7 pm
- Belcourt—Wed, March 23, 7 pm

The **2016 World Day of Prayer** will be hosted by the United Church on March 4 at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. If you want to participate as a reader or with special music, please contact Dorothy Beyer at 228-3384



NEXT FISH FRIES



St Mark's social hall, Mar 4, & Mar 18. Serving from 4:30-7:00 p.m.



SOUP AND BINGO March 13th at **St. Andrew's, Westhope** at 11:30, after Sunday school. Donations for prizes are welcome and a sign-up sheet for food is available in the basement.