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FROM THE PASTOR

From a homily on the Epiphany of the Lord by Pope St. John Paul II: "On today's Solemnity of the "Epiphany", a word for "manifestation", we are struck by the theme of the light. The Messiah who showed himself in Bethlehem to the lowly shepherds of the region continues to reveal himself as the light of every people of every time and place. To the Magi, coming from the East to adore him, the light of the one "who has been born king of the Jews" (Mt 2,2) appears in the form of a heavenly body, so bright as to attract their attention and guide them to Jerusalem. Thus he sets them on the trail of the ancient messianic prophecies: "a star shall come forth from Jacob, and a sceptre shall rise from Israel..." (Nm 24,17). How striking is the symbol of the star that recurs in all the images of Christmas and Epiphany! It still gives rise to deep feelings although, as with so many other sacred signs, it risks becoming common place because of its commercial overuse. Restored to its original context, the star we contemplate over the crib also speaks to the mind and heart of the man of the third millennium. It speaks to secularized man, awakening in him the nostalgia of his condition as pilgrim in search of the truth with a deep desire for the absolute. The etymology of the word "desire" reminds us of the experience of sailors who find their way at night by observing the stars called in Latin the "sidera". Who does not feel the need for a "star" to guide him on his earthly journey? Individuals and nations both feel the need. To satisfy the universal yearning for salvation, the Lord himself chose a people to be the guiding star for "all the families of the earth" (Gn 12,3). With the Incarnation of his Son, God then expanded his choice to every people, no matter what their race or culture. Thus the Church came into being, formed of men and women who, "united in Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, press onwards towards the kingdom of the Father and are bearers of a message of salvation intended for all men" (Gaudium et spes, n. 1)."

His Excellency Gerald L. Vincke has released his statement on the latest document from the Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith signed by Pope Francis. It is available on both the diocesan website <https://salinadiocese.org/news-and-updates/> or on the parish website.

Pizza with Padre – Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30pm in St. Joseph’s School. It was a great turnout the last time, and the discussions were enlightening. Question buckets can be found at the entrances of the church to place questions in or ask them that evening. Hope to see you there!

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

Coffee and Conversation will be held on Sunday, January 7th at 9am in the Annex. The D of I ladies will be serving rolls, coffee and juice. Come join us and get to know your parish family! Everyone is welcome!

K of C Free-throw Contest will be held at 1pm, January 14th (Doors open at 12:30pm) at St. Joseph School. This is for all boys and girls ages 9 to 14, as of January 1, 2024. Participants are required to furnish written parental consent. Entry forms will be available at the site the day of the competition.

The Pizza Hut Fundraiser will be held on Monday evening, January 22nd with the Kindergarten parents delivering.

St. Catherine's Circle D of I meeting will be held at 1:00 on Thursday, January 11, at the parish annex. The meeting will begin with praying the rosary! Hostesses are Janice Huelsman and Melany Maurath.

ST. PAUL NEWS

K of C meeting Jan 8th at the Hall in Angelus starting at 7:00 pm

Ron and Linda Lager of Angelus, KS celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on January 5, 2024. The family is having a card shower in their honor. Cards can be sent to 8004 W Rd 90 S, Grinnell KS, 67738. There will also be a coffee and donut reception after 8:00 am Mass on January 14, 2024, at St. Paul Church in Angelus. Please come and celebrate with Ron and Linda.

Capital Campaign Update: \$638K pledged and \$345K in the bank. Thank you for your continued support!!!!

Our Tithes from Last Week
 Oakley: \$2,289.00 Angelus: \$854.00

DAILY SCHEDULE

Sat	06 – 8am Confessions 9am Mass 5pm Mass + Brenner/Kuhlman Families
Sun	07 – 8am Mass (Angelus) + Anthony Feldt 9am Coffee & Conversation at the annex 10:30am Mass + Parishioners
Mon	08 – 7am Mass (Fr. Tony Stephens) 6:15pm School Council, 7pm Finance and 8pm Parish 7pm K of C Meeting in Angelus
Tues	09 – 8:30am Mass + Pat Moeder
Wed	10 – 7:30am Mass (Angelus) + Donna Haffner 7pm CCD Classes
Thur	11 – 8:30am Mass + Fr. Roger K. Meitl 1pm D of I Meeting in Oakley at the annex
Fri	12 – 7am Mass + Ron Kuhlman
Sat	13 – 5pm Mass + Special Intention for Jake Zimmerman
Sun	14 – 8am Mass (Angelus) + Special Intention for Ron & Linda Lager 10:30am Mass + Parishioners

Confessions 30 minutes before Weekend Masses, by appointment, or if indicated on the schedule.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL

Mr. Darin Munk	Mrs. Aimee Zimmerman - Chair
Mr. David Manhart	Mr. Mason Sheetz
Mrs. Penny Pfeifer	Mr. Ethan Schwarz
Mrs. Bridgit Bockwinkel	Mrs. Dana Charles – Vice Chair
Mrs. Micheline Huffman	

ST. JOSEPH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mrs. Betty Hockersmith	Mrs. Delores Lockhart
Mr. Darin Munk (Par. Co. Rep.)	Mr. Mark Campbell
Mrs. Susan Glassman	Mr. Tom Halbleib

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL COUNCIL

Mrs. Kim Munk	Mr. Courtland Osborne
Mrs. Casey Zerr	Mrs. Mary Urrego
Mr. Russ Kahle	Mr. Jeff Kuhlman
Mrs. Bridgit Bockwinkel (Par. Co. Rep.)	

ST. PAUL PARISH/FINANCE COUNCIL

Mr. Bernard Dickman	Ms. Diane Solomon - Chair
Mr. Clem Fellhoelter	Mr. Mark Rueschhoff
Mrs. Kristy Fellhoelter - Vice Chair	Mrs. Kim Robben

Saturday Jan 13 th 5 pm	Servers	Volunteers	Sunday Jan 14 th 10:30 am	Servers	Bryn & Kambrie H., Brecken H.
	Lector	Nolin Kuhlman		Lector	Brandon Maurath
	Gifts	Casey & Brandy Anderson		Gifts	Brad & Vicky Joseph
	Hospitality	Alice Lindeman & Donita Sparks		Hospitality	Brad & Vicky Joseph

Sunday, Jan 14 th 8 am	Servers	Natalie Bixenman
	Lectors	Gary Ostmeyer & Nancy Schwarz
	EMHC	Ron Lager
	Gifts	Jim & Kristy Fellhoelter
	Hospitality	Joe Rehmer, Mark Rueschhoff, Ron Lager & Joy Rietcheck