ST. JOHN’S PARISH NEWSLETTER
ePistle at www.creighton.edu\stjohns
Omaha’s Jesuit Parish located at Creighton University, 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE  68178
Cornerstone laid 1887—Established as a Parish 1897—Designated a City Landmark 1981

August 14, 2016  Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS/RECONCILIATION TIMES  402-280-3030
PARISH OFFICE  402-280-3031
Associate Pastor:  Fr. Phil Amidon, S.J.  402-280-2206
Assistant Pastor:  Fr. Kevin Kersten, S.J.  402-280-2810 kersten@creighton.edu

Eucharist:
Monday- Friday  7:00 a.m.  Main Church
No Mass during University Breaks
Monday—Friday  12 noon  Main Church
Monday—Friday  5:00 p.m.  Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ
   Monday 9:00 p.m.  Main Church**
   Tuesday  9:00 p.m.  Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ**
Saturday  7:00 a.m.  Main Church **
   12 Noon  Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ
   5:00 p.m.  Main Church
   (Anticipatory)
Sunday  8:00 a.m.  Main Church
   10:30 a.m.  Main Church
   4:30 p.m.  Main Church**
   8:30 p.m.  Main Church**
   10:00 p.m.  Main Church**

**Academic Year Only—dates @www.creighton.edu\stjohns

Adult Faith Formation (Fall and Lenten Series)
   Sunday  9:15 a.m.  Conf. Room, LSJ
Youth Religious Education
   Sunday  9:15–10:15 a.m. LSJ

Reconciliation:
   Mon–Fri  12:30–1:00 p.m.
   Saturday  4:00–5:00 p.m.

St. John’s Parish Pastoral Council
Rick Bellino, Co-Chair  402-699-6380
Laraine Conway  402-558-4105
Martha Lemar, Co-Chair  402-280-3068
Sean Malloy, Secretary  402-214-5572
Bill Mullen  402-508-3107
Jane O’Brien  402-551-7436
Richard Super, Trustee  402-551-9412
Helen Wanken  402-558-9209
Sandi Cihal
Michael Hoover  402-933-5024
Tin Tran  402-884-9961
Alyssa Beasley, CU Student
Brielle Kelley, CU Student

“I have come to set the earth on fire…”  
(Luke 12:49)

The message of Jesus is one of peace. Nevertheless, Jesus predicted it would cause division even within families. He also predicted that he, himself, would be put to death. From Lucifer’s primordial rejection of God to today’s martyrdom of Christians, Jesus’ message of peace has been met with rage and violence.

Jesus’ peace is not an absence of conflict. Rather, it is a dynamic inner peace of heart given by our indwelling God. We must choose this peace and allow God to enter our hearts. Sadly, some reject this peace, landing them to hatred and hostility.

Take a moment and open your heart to Jesus today. Invite the Prince of Peace to dwell within. You will not be spared conflict in this life. But you will know the eternal joy that only God can give.

Msgr. Stephen J. Rossetti
Living Faith, July, August, September 2016
Used with Permission
### Liturgical Ministry Schedule—August 20-21, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Saturday 5:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 8:00 a.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 10:30 a.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 4:30 p.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRESIDER</strong></td>
<td>Fr. Carlson, S.J.</td>
<td>Fr. Simonds, S.J.</td>
<td>Fr. Snow, S.J.</td>
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<td><strong>LITURGICAL ASSISTANT</strong></td>
<td>Mary Lee Brock</td>
<td>Bob Austria</td>
<td>Ann Cole</td>
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<td><strong>ALTAR SERVER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Matt Lemar</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LECTORS</strong></td>
<td>Eileen Wirth</td>
<td>Bob Austria</td>
<td>Christy Fast</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sean Joyce Whipp</td>
<td>Dick Cleary</td>
<td>Catrina Alexander</td>
<td>No Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PRAYERS</strong></td>
<td>Al Gould</td>
<td>Dick Cleary</td>
<td>Anna Nubel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</strong></td>
<td>G. Selk</td>
<td>B. Austria</td>
<td>R. Grimit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>M. A. McDonald</td>
<td>D. Cleary</td>
<td>J. Chiacchere</td>
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<td></td>
<td>S. Hansen</td>
<td>L. Hayek</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>C. Alexander</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>E. Wirth</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A. Nubel</td>
<td>C. Fast</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>J. O'Brien</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A. Haddad</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>T. Joyce Whipp</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>R. Wright</td>
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**Readings for the week**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
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**Mass Intentions August 15–20, 2016**

**7:00 AM (Main Church)**
- Monday: No Mass, Summer Break
- Tuesday: No Mass, Summer Break
- Wednesday: No Mass, Summer Break
- Thursday: No Mass, Summer Break
- Friday: No Mass, Summer Break
- Saturday: No Mass, Summer Break

**12:00 Noon (Main Church)**
- Monday: Elizabeth & Howard Schutz—deceased
- Tuesday: Pierce Gibson S.J.—intention
- Wednesday: Michael C. Culhane—deceased
- Thursday: Eileen Pille—deceased
- Saturday (LSJ’s): No Mass, Summer Break

**5:00 PM (Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ’s)**
- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday: Colleen Davies—prayers

**Prayer Requests**

Colleen Davis  
Zach & Family  
Jake & Family  
Chris B.  
Barbara B.  
Michael & Family  
Doug Morris  
Richard Grimit  
We prayerfully remember Dr. Robert Heaney, who passed away this past week. May Jesus Christ console his family and friends during this difficult time.

**Weekly Offering Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Budget Goal</td>
<td>$7,067.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Budget Goal</td>
<td>$367,500.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekend 8/6-7/2016</td>
<td>$4,849.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiscal Year-to-Date Goal</td>
<td>$42,403.86</td>
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<td>Above (below) weekly goal (2,217.51)</td>
<td>$33,461.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Above (Below) YTD Goal</td>
<td>($8,942.57)</td>
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Thank you for your generous support for:

**Human Needs**

The special collection last weekend raised $1,739.50
A Message from Fr. Lorn Snow, S.J.
I need to inform everyone that Keith Kozak, Liturgist and Campus Ministry Director of worship is moving on from his responsibilities and position of employment at St. John’s Parish and Creighton University. The parish community is deeply grateful to Keith for his years of service to our Jesuit Parish and the University. We wish all the best to Keith in his future endeavors.

Parking on East Side of St. John’s
Beginning August 1 – August 15 the Swanson lane will be closed for repairs. The drive running north and south between Swanson and Kiewit Fitness Center will completely closed to all traffic. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

RCIA
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
A Faith Journey for those discerning the call to become a member of our Catholic Church family.
Please join us on September 11, 2016 @ 11:45 a.m. in Lower St. John’s
Inquiries—please email Tom Everson at Tom@kkad25.org or call 402-334-1391

Pilgrimage to Spain & Portugal
Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Apparitions at Fatima
St. John’s is offering an exciting opportunity to visit Portugal and Spain. In this unique pilgrimage we will celebrate the lives of St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Francis Xavier and St. Theresa of Avila. We begin at the Shrine of our Lady of Fatima in Portugal, then continue to the sacred sites of Avila, Madrid, San Sebastian, Burgos, Loyola and Barcelona. The pilgrimage will prove to be exciting, joyful and fun! There will be plenty of time to explore Portugal and Spain and celebrate our faith in the company of fellow travelers.

11 days, March 3—13, 2017 $3,099 per person includes airfare from Omaha, taxes and surcharges, first class hotels, most meals, all admissions and comprehensive sightseeing and much more. Hosted by Fr. Lorn Snow, S.J.
Please contact Julie in the parish office for more information or a complete itinerary. 402-280-3031 or juliecarlson@creighton.edu

Healing and Anointing Mass
On August 16 at the 5:00 p.m. Mass the Parish will gather in the main church to celebrate a Healing and Anointing Mass. The entire community is invited and encouraged to pray and support the sick of our parish. The anointing with the oil of the sick strengthens the person living with illness and the healing and courage to overcome the burdens associated with illness. The community gathered together at Mass and supporting all those who suffer the burdens of life draws us into communion with Christ and unity with one another. Please join us.

Parking Permits
Parking Permits for the 2016-17 year were mailed out to parishioners this week. If you did not receive parking tags and are in need of them please contact Kathleen Denne at 402-280-2975 or by email, kdenne@creighton.edu.

Live Streaming 10:30 a.m. Mass from St. John's beginning late August. More information to follow.

Holy Family Fest – Sunday, September 4 at the Pro Sanctity Retreat Center
Come and enjoy a day of family fun without leaving God behind! The day will commence with Holy Mass with Deacon Tom McNeil as the homilist. Speakers include: Father Chris Kubat and Father Scott Hastings with Father Michael Voithofer conducting a program for the teens. There will be children’s programs for those 4-12 years old and family fun time in the afternoon. Music will be provided by the Danny Leger Music Ministry throughout the day. There will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with praise and worship music in the afternoon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during the day and the day will conclude with a campfire Rosary. Meals are included in the registration. To register go to Eventbrite.com and enter Holy Family Fest in the search box or visit our Facebook page, Omaha LET. Sponsored by the Omaha Apostolate for Family Consecration, the Pro Sanctity Movement with appreciation to Spirit Catholic Radio. For additional information e-mail us at omahalet@gmail.com.

From the St. John’s Social Justice Committee
Elders for the Earth: A Retreat in the Spirit of Chautauqua is October 3-6, 2016 at Mahoney State Park. Folks 50 years and over are especially encouraged to participate in this multi-disciplinary gathering including fellowship, lectures, music, the arts, being in nature and even some fun in the midst of the climate crisis. Community and state leaders will address our changing climate and there will be a variety of workshops/playshops including: Nebraskan Life magazine's Alan Bartels teaching nature photography, mindful walking on the earth, green business practices and more. Details about registration, costs and schedules are at: Elders4theearth.com or call 402/431-2338.
Down-in-the-mud Jeremiah has been at it again. There is a war going on and Jerusalem is surrounded with the army of Babylon. Jeremiah, in our First Reading, is experiencing the consequences of the burning-word of God within him.

He has been telling everybody to surrender and all will go well. This does sound strange to the soldiers and officials who complain to King Zedekiah who turns Jeremiah over to them. They put him out of commission temporarily as a prophet by dropping him into a dried-up well. Upon hearing this, an official of the court relates to the king that the Prophet will die therein. So the king relents and has Jeremiah raised and brought to him for a chat. We do not hear this conversation in today’s reading, but I can tell you now that Jeremiah tells the king exactly what he has been saying in the city. Surrendering to the enemy will result, not in death, but life to the king, his family, and the city of Jerusalem. The king, well you read the rest of the story yourselves.

The Gospel is the conclusion to the chapter from which we have been listening these past few weekends. We have heard about the dangers of greed and about the followers of Jesus who must stay awake, attentive, and responsive as servants of the serving-Lord. These verses have been dramatic and hard to hear. Well, get set for the dramatic climax.

Jesus, again speaking to his disciples with the crowd hanging around, tells them that he, who proclaimed the blessedness of the peacemaker, has come “not to establish peace on earth.” “Division” is his blazing, heart-driven desire. He refers to this as a “baptism” with which he wishes to immerse the earth.

Our reading concludes with examples of family unity which will be split. This does not sound very appealing and who would want to follow such a prophet as Jesus. As with Jeremiah, Jesus is calling for a decision to surrender which might—no will—cause separation even within loving families.

I know of a family whose teenage member has declared that he is an atheist. Atheism is a God-given right. What is probably going on is that the mother and father are no longer to be considered gods and lords of this young person’s life. Jesus is asking for a little more thought and a decision to follow him and his ways. King Zedekiah had to make such a decision and the followers of Jesus have all had to do the same. The big decision is to move outside the city-walls of our senses and the security of those walls. Trusting, walking into the dark, going without knowing; these are tremendous violations of our present-day cultural ways.

Making decisions is the natural process for us humans; we make thousands of them each day. Our senses take in all kinds of information some of which we accept, some discard and much, we are not aware of. Our minds move us to a yes or no that is what the will does. We can eat peanut butter and our minds would still say that peanut butter ice cream is a big “no”. So our imaginations can present data to our minds for a choice as well. So a faith-decision to walk the ways of Jesus needs some information which Jesus gives his disciples, but some information has to be provided by our memory and imaginations. We are invited to live less dominated by greed and possessiveness. This is pretty clear, but we would have to imagine what that would mean and our memories would remind us of times when we had nothing. Faith is not easy. Deciding for the unknown future is not easy. Being an atheist is not easy either, because it also demands an act of faith.

It is a puzzlement why some believe in a God and others find that impossible and even humorous. The faith to which Jesus invites his followers moves them past the impossible to lives which reflect the very person and mission of Jesus. It is much easier to follow from a safe distance and not have our lives changed by his relationship with us. The good things about this is that Jesus keeps attentively calling all outside the comfort-walls and into the life of real living, which in truth can be quite humorous. Marital love and commitment is a tremendous leap of faith. Love is a faith act, and faith is a love act. It is the commitment that costs and results in insecurity; and who desires that?