

ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

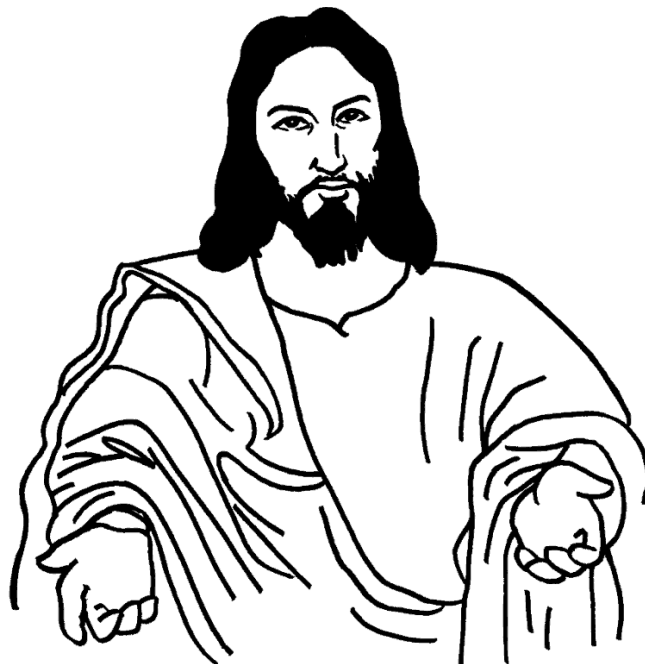
ePistle at www.creighton.edu/stjohns

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

September 4, 2016 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS/RECONCILIATION TIMES	402-280-3030
PARISH OFFICE	402-280-3031
Pastor:	Fr. Lorn Snow, S.J. 402-280-3262
Associate Pastor:	Fr. Phil Amidon, S.J. 402-280-2206
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.



“Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart”

(Psalm 90:12)

We will find wisdom, the psalm says, if we count our days correctly. I decided to follow the Psalm's advice. This is a fitting time to total up the days that I have been privileged to possess, since this week I celebrate my birthday. I did the math and discovered, as of today, I have lived 27,277 days. Some of these are clearly etched in my memory but most days have lost their individuality and are now remembered only as time gone by. Counting my days has made me much more appreciative of each new day as a precious gift. That is the wisdom, no doubt, which the psalmist promises. I know my current number is far into the second half of life, but I don't want to know the final count. However, Psalm 90 says we are given 70 years of life and 80 if we are strong. Wisdom advises me to fill each day with good works, prayer and kindness and to place all the days of my life in the hands of God who controls all time and eternity.

Thank you, Lord, for all the day of life.

St. John's Parish Staff

Julie Carlson	
Administrative Assistant	402-280-3031
Kathleen Denne	
Business Manager	402-280-2975
Molly Mattingly	
Music Director	402-280-2203
Sr. Barb Markey	
Pastoral Minister	402-280-1499
Tom Everson	
RCIA Coordinator	kkad25@cox.net
Vivian Amu	
Sacristan	402-280-2786
Jonathan Chiacchere	st.johnsreligious@gmail.com
Youth Religious Ed & Sacramental Prep	
Scott Quinn	
Youth Group	scottquinn@creighton.edu

For more detailed information please refer to Parish Brochure, located at all church entrances.

Fr. James McKarns
Living with Christ, September 2016
Used with Permission

Liturgical Ministry Schedule— September 10-11, 2016

This schedule can also be accessed at St. John's website—<http://stjohns.creighton.edu>

	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Sunday 4:30 p.m.
PRESIDER	Fr. Coelho, S.J.	Fr. Amidon, S.J.	Fr. Carlson S.J.	Fr. Simonds, S.J.
LITURGICAL ASSISTANT	TBD	TBD	TBD	
ALTAR SERVER			TBD	
LECTORS	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
PRAYERS	TBD	TBD	TBD	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	TBD	TBD	TBD	

Readings for the week

9/04	Sunday <i>Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	Wis Phlm Lk	9:13-18b 9-10, 12-17 14: 25-33
9/05	Monday <i>Labor Day</i>	1 Cor Lk	5:1-8 6:6-11
9/06	Tuesday	1 Cor Lk	6:1-11 6:12-19
9/07	Wednesday	1 Cor Lk	7:25-31 6:20-26
9/08	Thursday <i>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Mi Mt	5:1-4a 1:1-16, 18-23
9/09	Friday	1 Cor Lk	9:16-19, 22b-27 6:39-42
9/10	Saturday	1 Cor Lk	10:14-22 6:43-49
9/11	Sunday <i>Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	Ex 1 Tm Lk	32:7-11, 13-14 1:12-17 15:1-32

Mass Intentions Sept. 5-12, 2016

7:00 AM (Main Church)

Monday	No Mass, 9:00 a.m. only for Labor Day
Tuesday	Jack & Shirley Doran Marcil—deceased
Wednesday	
Thursday	Nicholas Pitch—intention
Friday	
Saturday	

12:00 Noon (Main Church)

Monday	No Mass, 9:00 a.m. only for Labor Day
Tuesday	Judy Slominski—deceased
Wednesday	Louis Nantkes—deceased
Thursday	Kenneth Salts—deceased
Friday	Elizabeth & Howard Schutz—deceased
Saturday (LSJ's)	

5:00 PM (Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ's)

Monday	No Mass, 9:00 a.m. only for Labor Day
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	Colleen Davies—prayers



Colleen Davis
Doug Morris
Richard Gemit
Tyson Candow & family

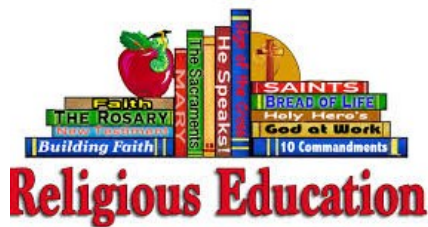
Weekly Offering Report

Weekly Budget Goal	7,067.31	Annual Budget Goal	367,500.12
Weekend 8/24-25/2016	4744.03	Fiscal Year-to-Date Goal	63,605.79
Above (below) weekly goal	(2,323.28)	Amount Collected YTD	54,984.83
		Above (Below) YTD Goal	(8,620.96)

Thank you for your generous support for:
St. John's Building Fund
The special collection last weekend raised \$1,829.19

Registration is now open for the **St. John's Youth Religious Education**

Program for the 2016-2017 academic year. Youth ages 3-14 are invited to join the program which meets on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:15 am.



Religious Education

Creighton students teach the classes (there are still volunteer openings for the upcoming year) and the core components of the program are religious education, faith formation, sacramental preparation and community building, which seek to educate the mind and heart in the Ignatian tradition. A Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level One Atrium is offered for our 3-6 year olds. Sacramental preparation is offered during 2nd grade for First Reconciliation and Holy Communion and 7th & 8th grades for Confirmation. For more information please contact Jonathan Chiacchere at StJohnsReligiousEd@gmail.com.

Leadership Night/Pastoral Council

September 13, 2016

6:00 p.m. Lower St. John's

Reminder to all Commission Members that we will have our first meeting of the year on September 13, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.

Administration, Outreach, Faith formation, Worship, Community Life commissions will meet to discuss the implementation of the goals for the Parish Community.

If you are unable to attend, please contact the chairperson of your commission or Fr. Snow, S.J.



From St. John's Social Justice Committee

Learn Why Nebraskans should vote to RETAIN the repeal of the Death Penalty

Join leaders of OTOC on Wednesday, September 7 or Monday, September 19 from 6:45 to 8:00PM at Urban Abbey (10th and Jackson) to learn the facts about the Death Penalty in Nebraska. You will learn why the death penalty is a costly, immoral and impractical sanction for those who have taken a life. Come so you are able to teach our community why we should vote to RETAIN the repeal of the Death Penalty.

Ignatian Spirituality Opportunity at Creighton Prep

CP Parents Praying with St. Ignatius invites Prep student parents, grandparents, alumni parents and friends of Prep to participate in a unique adaptation of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. Father Kevin Schneider, SJ, and the Facilitator Team will lead you in prayer and discussion of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius and share ways to apply this very practical, Catholic spirituality to everyday life. Periodically,

members of the Prep Jesuits, faculty, staff and administration serve as guest speakers, sharing their spiritual journey and how they integrate their faith with their work. We meet on the second Monday of each month from 7 to 8:30 pm in the Chapel at Prep, 7400 Western Ave., (accessed through the east doors to the building).

Scheduled prayer meetings are: Sep 12, Oct 10, Nov 14, Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 6, Mar 13, Apr 10 and May 8. You are welcome to join us for any or all of the meetings. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Lisa Scherer (lscherer3885@gmail.com/402-630-6171).



RCIA

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

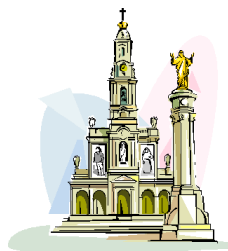
Inquiries—please email Tom Everson at Tom@kkad25.org or call 402-334-1391

Informational Meeting

11 Day Pilgrimage to Spain and Portugal

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima

Learn more about this exciting opportunity visit Spain and Portugal with parishioners and friends in March, 2017. This meeting will discuss the itinerary and activities surrounding our travels. Please join us to learn more about this exciting pilgrimage!



Sunday, September 18, 2017 @ 9:00 a.m.

(between the two morning Masses)

Do you hear anything different?

The last several weeks some reprogramming and adjustments have taken place with our sound system. This is the beginning of continued improvements to the system. New Listen devices for those who are hearing impaired are available for use. The devices are located the table by the west confessionals. Stay tuned as we continue to work on



improving the sound quality in our space.

COMING SOON!

St. John's Fall Adult Faith

Formation Series: November (6, 13, 20) and December (4, 11, 18) from 9:15-10:15 am in LSJ.

All are welcome!



Food For Thought

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 9:13-18b

Phlm 9-10, 12-17

Lk 14:25-33

The chapter from which our First Reading comes for this liturgy opens with a direct prayer from the heart of King Solomon who experiences the tremendous weight of being King of Israel. He begs God by first praising God for being the Creator of all things. He then acknowledges his personal frailty and absolute dependence upon God's gift of Wisdom. He knows the difficulties of governing the Jewish people and the prospects of building a new temple in Jerusalem.

What we hear from this chapter are the verses which follow this prayer. It is a meditative musing upon God's ways and the problems humans have in figuring things out, both on earth and about God in heaven.

"The deliberations of mortals are timid." Solomon is wondering how will he ever know how to do what is right in God's plan if he, as with other humans, can hardly know what is right to do on earth. As King Mongkut reluctantly cries in the play, *The King and I*, "Tiz a puzzlement!"

Our human spirit so strives to intellectually capture what our senses bump into. As I write this, there is a space capsule landed on Mars. Its name is "Curiosity" and it is digging up little stones and analyzing the stones for hints of its history of life on that distant planet. Curiosity is our wanting to, needing to, know "What's up Doc" out there, in there, over there. With great difficulty and expense we reach, not because we have a right to know, we have a thirst and hunger for possessing the earth. We stumble and with frustration seem to demand that we should also be able to send "Curiosity" rockets to God and figure that Planet out as well. Solomon kneels down in surrender and gratitude to God for the spirit of Wisdom that guides him in living with his own curiosity.

Solomon, at the end of this passage does surrender to the history of God's having sent a spirit of holiness to assist our timid ponderings. It is not so much a "puzzlement", but an ongoing relationship between our insufficiency and God's loving care. Solomon rests from his worries, by reflecting that God has given the gift of Wisdom which does assist the straightening of what seems impossibly crooked.

Our Gospel reading is the conclusion to a major section of Luke's presentation of Jesus' teachings about who belongs at the wedding feast of heaven. Jesus has just told a parable about such a feast, to which many who were invited did not come and so the doors were opened to the physically injured and outcasts. When he finished this story someone at table said that the ones who eat at the heavenly banquet will certainly be blest. What we hear today is Jesus' reply.

The first challenging statement involves hating the very closest relationships we have. We are to "hate" them all, and our very own lives, in order to follow him. Then Jesus ups the bar a little higher by saying that those who will be his disciples will have to carry their own crosses. Woe is me!

Jesus relates two little parables to finish off the discussion. If you are going to build a tower, you'd better have enough to finish or else. If you are going to wage war then you'd better have enough soldiers to win, or else. The chapter ends with two verses we do not hear today. Jesus talks about salt losing its flavor and when it does it gets thrown out. Jesus ends all this by reminding all who have ears to be listening.

Hating those we love and carrying our crosses is not real attractive. "Hating" is the exact Greek word Luke uses though. Jesus did put great emphasis on loving and being loved by parents and friends. Next Sunday's Gospel will relate a great story about family love. So what can this "hating" mean?!!

That to which we are invited by Jesus is a wisdom about which we heard in the First Reading. All relationships of love are gifts from God and they are not meant to make gods out of those whom we love. How are we ever going to build our relationship with Jesus by loving God above all other relationships and also carrying crosses?! It is the "puzzlement" question; and the answer is "wisdom".

How are we going to build a tower successfully or be on the victorious side when we feel so insufficient? Very early in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, we pray for "big-souled" generosity so as to be able to find and love the will of God. A temple in Jerusalem, a tower in the Gospel, a war waged against perhaps over-whelming odds; will we have enough, do enough, pray enough, so as to win!

It is about "salt" from the last verse which is not included today. Keeping our flavor lest it be lost and so we too. To follow Jesus is not a quantifiable, gradable thing. Each of us is given a salty wisdom which allows us to keep our ears and hearts open to the invitation. This involves not keeping our eyes on how we are doing and perhaps that very thing is what is the nature of the crosses we are to carry. Not any of us can love well enough. We do not do enough, feel enough, forgive enough, but we keep living, loving as we can and that keeps our salt from being thrown out. We cannot follow Jesus well enough, but we don't throw ourselves away either, because we are not doing that well enough. "Large-soulness" is the gift of Wisdom which builds and wins and keeps us salty.

"Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God."

Fr. Larry Gillick, S.J. 2013

Taken from Creighton University's Online Ministries web site:

www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html