

News for the Pews

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Please pardon the belated release of this month's issue of *News for the Pews*. I was busy prepping for last Saturday's Trivia Night contest. One thing I learned was that Chuck Norris was born on May 6, 1945. It's also a fact that Nazi Germany surrendered the next day. Make up your own mind as to whether that was a coincidence. Anyway, trivia night went very well despite relatively light attendance. Thanks to all who attended & helped. If you haven't attended, speak with those who have, and they'll tell you that it's a fun evening.

The Knights of Columbus held their usual meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. That fell on Ash Wednesday, so no meat for the meal, but Buff served a good dinner highlighted by beans and cornbread. At the meeting we covered a good deal of ground, but had no major new developments. We hope to complete construction of the parish playground equipment in April. We did want to remind the parish that our efforts to help the Council of Churches food bank managed by the Methodist church are ongoing and that the quarterly collection for it will be held on March 30-31.

That was followed by last night's (March 8) fish fry at Lawrence hall. All proceeds went to the parish's new HVAC system. It was a great success, with one estimate indicating we had served around 200 guests. Attendees and donors have our most sincere thanks. We also had a stretch raffle, most graciously run by James Dahlem. You know, despite his unprepossessing appearance, he's a pretty good guy. (It's a joke James, I swear! You're really good looking.) Mackenzie Gatewood won the split-the-pot prize. Sonita Pledger was also selling parish t-shirts. Those feature a low-profile parish logo and have a very nice look. Best of all, they are super-comfortable and the \$10-\$12 price is right by comparison to those from many sources.

We won't be having fish fries the next two Friday's (3/15 & 3/22) since many families will be on spring break. But we will host them on March 29, April 6 and April 13. We greatly appreciate your support and promise the funds raised will go to some very good causes.



It's time to play "Where In The Church Is It?" This is one of two examples of this 'decoration' in the church. Do you know what it is? Do you know where they're located? Answer at the end.

Be sure to attend the March meet-n-greet after Sunday morning Mass tomorrow (3/10).

Come, have a doughnut and talk to folks about Trivia Night and the fish fry [and the Chamber of Commerce Tea Cup Auction tonight (3/9)] and how great they were. Also, thank Megan and Matthew Mayeux for running the event. You might also discuss how I found a barber to transform me from long-haired hippie at Trivia Night to a conservative country boy at mass the next morning. Then, you can take the rest of the day off in honor of the Lord.

You could also discuss the parish-wide adult education effort, in which we'll be studying the Gospel of St. John. This entails an introductory session and 8 sessions on incidents in John. Those start tomorrow afternoon, tentatively at 3:30 pm, at Joseph and Debra Lynn's Post's home. That will be followed at 7:00 pm Monday at Tom & Amy Sexton's, at 7:00 pm Tuesday at Estella (The Star!) Conatser's, at 7:00 pm Wednesday at Jim and Mary Jane Rofkahr's, and at 10:00 am Thursday in the northwest classroom in the school. The Tuesday night meeting will shift to Greg and Rosemary Warden's after the first two sessions at Estella's.

Remember that Father Pius will be leading a Stations of the Cross service at 7:00 pm each Friday in Lent. The later start should give most folks, except those Knights assigned to post-fish-fry clean-up, the opportunity to attend. I assume we'll hold a service at 3:00 pm on Good Friday (4/19). Also, next weekend (3/15-16), we'll be holding "24 Hours with the Lord" via Eucharistic adoration, starting with Benediction after Stations of the Cross. Thus, it's more like 22 hours with the Lord, but we like to think our merciful God will forgive us the difference. Please sign-up for an hour or two this weekend. The time really does pass quickly.

The monthly St. Joseph's Society meeting is slated to start at 5:30-6:00 pm on Monday, March 18. We'll review Trivia Night and maybe set a tentative date for the next event. I plan to make a much greater publicity effort for it. So, all you smart parishioners (is there any other kind?) please forgive me if I bug you about getting up teams. Try to recruit other folks from the surrounding area. We'll also talk about other issues. All parish men are welcome. And, as Po the Kung Fu Panda says, "There's no charge for awesomeness."

The quilters will be having their usual Tuesday morning meetings and Scripture study will take place normally after Wednesday night mass.

The Daughters of MARY will meet after Sunday morning Mass on March 31. They'll be discussing 2019 events, volunteering, dues and contact info. Also, they're seeking the names of graduates for the usual spring celebration. All women of the parish are urged to attend. Remember March 25 is the feast of the Annunciation.

March 31 will be a busy day. That's a fifth Sunday, so the Knights of Columbus (and all) are invited to arrive at mass at 8:30 to say the Rosary. It's also the day for Singspiration at the Ozark Presbyterian Church at 6:00 pm. In addition, Myca Elmore will be hosting a baby shower at 2:00 pm ahead of the planned April arrival of Cecelia Gatewood, daughter of Justin and Trudy.

Parish youth should remember the CYM church camp is set for July 12-14. Those entering the 9th grade to recent high school graduates are invited, while college age youth are invited to help as counselors. Contact Debra Lynn Post.

At the February Parish Council meeting we discussed a parish notification system similar to that operated by many schools. We could spread news and events (e.g. deaths, closures, prayer chain requests) quickly & efficiently.

The picture is of the seal of St Benedict. One is placed in the center window of each of the triptych windows above the entrances to the sacristy and the bell tower. Bob Conrad has a hoodie with it on the chest. I'm tempted to steal it from him and he might not notice if I start wearing it around. However, since the seal holds an exorcism and all sorts of protections against evil, which, obviously, is why the seals are placed on either side of the altar, I'm afraid I might spontaneously combust if I put it on. I may have to make the ultimate sacrifice and buy something of my own. See www.osb.org/gen/medal.html for an explanation of the various letters on the seal. It is missing the PAX at the top. The church makes up for that with the PAX at the top of the arch over the sanctuary.

Daniel "Herb's other brother" Vaught