



Change

Time is the measurement of change. For those who have the most years, you have seen the most change. Since time marches on, so will change. Our parishes have changed. Remember there was a time not too long ago when our parishes didn't exist. St. Thomas More and St. Joan of Arc are only 60 some years old. Our parishes came into existence to accommodate the changes that were happening in Omaha. Our parishes exist because of change and they will continue to change as Omaha continues to change.

I read a book recently about change management titled *ADKAR*. *ADKAR* is an acronym that stands for Awareness, Desire, Knowledge, Ability, and Reinforcement. Today I'd like just to scratch the surface about the first step - Awareness. If you want change, you have to build awareness. In building awareness, several questions have to be answered.

What is the nature of the change, and how does the change align with mission of the organization?
Why is the change being made, and what are the risks of not changing?

What change?

There is a lot a change happening in general. Things break. We assess. We fix. In order to keep things running, we are constantly addressing change. We keep those things running because we believe they still have the potential to achieve the mission.

The change we see most evidently right here in front of us is the networking of parishes and schools under a common mission and leadership structure. While neighborhoods change and structures adjust, the mission remains - to go and make disciples. I prefer to keep our parishes and schools open within this new leadership structure because I still believe they have the greatest potential for achieving the mission. Whether they are currently achieving the mission is questionable, but we have to address these structural changes first.

Why change?

Most would suspect that this change is upon us because we have a shortage of priests. Is there really a shortage though? There are fewer priests, but there are also fewer active Catholics. When we look at our Mass attendance trends and the number of active priests over the last 50 years, we see an almost parallel decline.

In order to address this change, we can either close parishes or we can reduce the overall number of weekend Masses and redistribute where our priests serve. Our Archbishop is betting on the latter option.

Can these smaller parishes with fewer active Catholics afford to support our Catholic schools? Probably not. So, we can either close schools or team up with other parishes to ensure that Catholic education continues to be a viable option for families of any income level. Again, our Archbishop is hedging his bets that we can make this latter option work.

This is still not the biggest change in front of us though. The biggest change that awaits is how we go about achieving our mission in these new structures. We cannot continue with "business as usual. We will have to be a much more mission engaged Church with laser sharp focus on evangelization.

God bless,
Fr. Jeff Lorig

Interested in Joining the *Legion of Mary*?

The *Legion of Mary* is the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church, with well over 3 million active members in almost every country of the world. It has been in the United States since 1931, has been approved by 6 popes, and was endorsed by the Second Vatican Council. The main purpose of the *Legion of Mary* is to give glory to God through the sanctification of its members. We do Spiritual works of mercy each week.

We also have auxiliary members who say the rosary and Legion of Mary prayers every day instead of active work. You have the choice of being an auxiliary member or an active member.

If you are interested in joining the *St. Thomas More Legion of Mary* or for more info, please call Connie Johnson at 402-339-8253 or email her at rjohnson294@cox.net. We meet at 1pm on Wednesdays.



PARISH PERSONNEL

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Lorig
Cell 402-509-3909
Email: jlorig@archomaha.org
Senior Associate Pastors:
Rev. Greg Benkowski
Rectory 402-393-8918
Rev. Frank Baumert
Cell 402-677-1565

Deacon Ron & Julie Ryan
402-551-4330
Deacon Tim & Ruth Leininger
402-731-7474

Parish Business Manager
Martha N. Saettele
402-393-2005, ext. 4

Bulletin Editor: Linda Boyer
Email: bulletin@sjaomaha.org

School Principal: Kayleen Wallace
Secretary, Renae Vorland
402-393-2314, ext 3
Fax 402-393-4405

Religious Education: Jennifer Muckey
Email: jennifermuckey@gmail.com

Athletic Director: Dylan & Beth Biros
402-210-5407
Email: sjasports@yahoo.com

Prayer Assistance Line
Melinda Kenton 402-390-9470
Kim Large largekm@cox.net

Holy Communion to Homebound
Parish Office 402-393-2005, ext. 4

Food for The Francis House
Mary Kentch 402-593-8703

Funerals: Please call the Parish Office

SACRAMENTS

Baptism
Contact Fr. Lorig 3 months prior to baptism at 402-509-3909

Marriage
Please call Fr. Lorig at least 9 months in advance for date and instruction information. Always verify priest and church availability before reserving reception venue.

Penance
Saturdays, 4:00 - 4:50 pm.
Anytime by appointment

Annual Life Chain

The annual Life Chain will take place today, Sunday, October 4th, from 2-3 pm. This is a peaceful, prayerful, public witness of pro-life individuals across the US and Canada honoring the millions of lives lost to abortion, praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. Our parish location is on the south side of Dodge Street between 77th Street and the Papio Bridge (right in front of the McDonald's).

If you would like to carpool, meet in the SJA parking lot no later than 1:45 pm. Signs will be available at the site.



Newly Baptized

Boe Michael Fossenbarger,
son of Michael and Elizabeth Fossenbarger,
was baptized Saturday, September 26, 2020.
We welcome you, Boe,
into the Catholic Church at St. Joan of Arc Parish.



Newly Baptized

Helen Yvonne Gremm,
daughter of Curtis & Carissa Gremm,
was baptized Sunday, September 27, 2020.
We welcome you, Helen,
into the Catholic Church at St. Joan of Arc Parish.



Liturgical Ministers

October 10, 2020 and October 11, 2020

Lectors

5:00 pm - Carol Nish
8:00 am - Bill Bayer
10:30 am - Colleen Quinn Harper

EMHCs

Pat Grant
Marv Schulz
Rose Koch - Rick Koch (HB)

Calendar of Events

Thursday, October 8, 2020

6:30 pm - RCIA and Alpha meet at St. Thomas More
4804 Grover Street

Friday, October 9, 2020

NO School for students; Teachers attend School of Faith Formation

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition hours will remain 8am - 10pm
until notified otherwise. Watch your email!



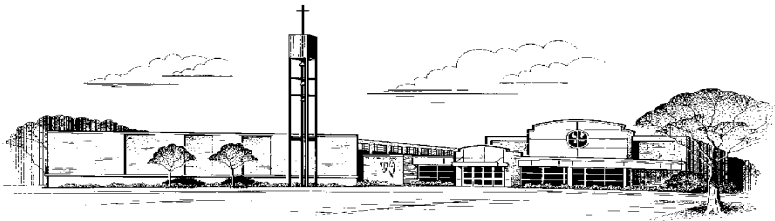
Mass/Confession Times at St. Thomas More

4804 Grover Street

Monday - Friday: 7:00 am
Saturdays: 8:00 am & 5:00 pm
Sundays: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Confessions on Saturdays
from 4:00-4:40pm





St. Joan of Arc School Highlights

I want to go on record and encourage everyone to get a flu shot this year, especially our students. The flu shots are thought to last about 6 months and since the flu can typically go into March this is a perfect time to get them. Some experts are really concerned about the impact on both infection and death rates when we are dealing with both COVID and the flu. Clinics and doctor's offices are already scheduling appointments and I would anticipate that you may have up to a two week wait. We have been very fortunate so far this school year in mitigating the spread of the virus. I want to thank all parents who continue to keep their kids home when they aren't feeling well. If you or someone in your family is quarantining because you are waiting for a test result, you need to keep your kids out of school as well. DCHD has put together a timeline to when students can safely return.

Kayleen Wallace
Principal

Dates to Remember –

Picture Day is Thursday, October 8th.

No school for students on Friday, October 9th.

No school for students on Monday, October 12th. This extra day will allow the teachers to also enjoy a day off from any school responsibilities.

500 Confraternity
October 4, 2020 - Linda Boyer

Ladies of the Parish

As we embark on what will certainly be a challenging year, the Ladies Guild is committed to the health and safety of the parish. Although we are not meeting as a group yet, annual dues of \$10 during these trying times is more important than ever. Not only does it help cover unexpected costs resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, but it also helps St. Joan of Arc manage the costs of the parish and the education of each child. Your dues allows the Guild to provide textbooks and technology needed for learning, tuition assistance to those families that have been impacted by lost jobs or reduced work hours, and resources for any unexpected expenses for both the parish and the school. Your \$10 can be mailed to the parish office or dropped in the Sunday collection basket. Please mark the envelope "Ladies Guild." As the writer Max Lucado says, **"No one can do everything, but everyone can do something."**

LADIES GUILD



Please prayerfully consider remembering St. Joan of Arc with a provision for a bequest in your will. Contact your attorney to set this up or contact Tony LaMar, Legacy Planning Officer, Archdiocese of Omaha at 402-557-5650 or ajlamar@archomaha.org.

October 4, 2020 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The stone the builders rejected has become the corner stone..." (Matthew 21:42) Jesus was rejected by the religious and political leaders of his day, as well as ordinary citizens. Living a stewardship lifestyle may cause you to be "rejected" by others in today's society. For example, saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract some strange looks from some. But to others, it is a sign that God is alive and well.

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 5, 2020	8:30 am † Phillip Baumberger School Mass for Christendom Academy*	Requested by (Sue Thomas)
Tuesday, October 6, 2020	8:30 am † Gabriel Scalise Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena after Mass School Mass for SJA Kindergarten thru 2nd Grade*	(Scalise Family)
Wednesday, October 7, 2020	8:30 am † Arline Kwasniewski School Mass for SJA 3rd thru 5th Grade*	(Sandra Benkowski)
Thursday, October 8, 2020	8:30 am † Richard Grote School Mass for SJA 6th thru 8th Grade*	(Assmann Family)
Friday, October 9, 2020	8:30 am † Dorothy Olechoski School Mass for Christendom Academy*	(Olechowski Family)
Saturday, October 10, 2020	5:00 pm † Paul Dworak Fr. Frank Baumert	(Mary Anne Dworak)
Sunday, October 11, 2020	8:00 am SJA Parishioners Fr. Greg Benkowski	
	10:30 am † Maxine Kratky Fr. Frank Baumert	(Gary Kratky)

*Students will use the entire section of pews to the right of center aisle.

Please remember those who are sick in our parish, and those we have been asked to pray for: Shirley Bardsley, Connie Wade, Ken Renkenberger, Anto Kinsley, Rose Romano, Maria Menjivar, Jerry Hogya, Georgia Gohl, Bill Dineen, Steve Hamill, Bev Sladovnik, Grace Fascianella, Sam Marchese, Roger Pedroza, Nadine Schmid, Andrew Ascherl, Maxine Kantor, Eileen Annin, Nadine Hansen, Bob Mercier, †Merlin McRoberts, †Theresa Holman

Diaper Drive



Once again the St. Joan of Arc Ladies Guild will be sponsoring a diaper drive to benefit the families of the Omaha/Winnebago Indian Reservation. These people have next to nothing and jobs in the area are scarce. This has forced mothers to wash and reuse disposable diapers! We will be collecting baby diapers and baby supplies (baby shampoo, diaper cream, baby lotion, etc.) No clothing or food, please. Other parishes are supplying those. The mothers are especially in need of larger sized diapers (size 4-6) as there are fewer in a box. Won't you help and spread the love of God to those less fortunate? There will be a large box in the Gathering Area to collect donations throughout the month of October. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Fr. Lorig sends out a weekly email to those Who wish to stay connected beyond the bulletin. If you would like to be added to that list, just email him at jlorig@archomaha.org.

New Parishioners

St. Joan of Arc welcomes the following new parishioners:

AJ Hurtado
Roxana Lechtenberg
Annie Riley
Miguel and Kimberly Rodriguez



OCTOBER 4, 2020
THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME