

Church of St. Catherine

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The Presentation of the Lord

February 2, 2020

From: Fr. Christian Adike ***THERE IS POWER IN THE WORD OF GOD*** I was so happy when our Holy Father declared last Sunday as; "The Sunday of the Word of God". Let us examine the centrality and power of the Word of God in our lives as Christians. Why is God's word important? Must I read the Bible? Is the Bible still relevant today? How can I use the Bible to solve my immediate challenges? These are some of the questions we shall try to answer.

1. **Ignorance of God's Word is Darkness.** According to St. Ignatius: "Ignorance of Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." Jesus is the Word that was with God in the beginning. (Cf. John 1:1). No doubt, the word of God brings light into any form of darkness that we may be encountering in life. Are you confused about a certain decision to make? Read God's word. Are you troubled about life's predicaments? Read God's word. Do you wish to know what will happen in the future? Just read the word of God. Indeed, an encounter with God's word is an encounter with Jesus our light. You can only know God better and appreciate Him when you read the Bible and ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand what you read. The Holy Spirit is a great teacher that brings to our awareness what God wants us to know.

2. **God's Word is More Important than the Preacher.** Many Christians today do not take their time to read the Bible for themselves, they only hear God's word from the lips of preachers. As a result, they are more loyal to preachers than to God. Find out what is in the Bible yourself. Be loyal to God's word; not to any preacher. The way God speaks to me as I read the Bible is the way He will speak to you when you read it. Allow Him to speak to you as a Father advises, encourages and directs His sons and daughters. God always tells us what will help us be better and not what we want Him to tell us. I so much appreciate King David for asking God to teach him His laws. We can't please God if we don't know His likes and dislikes. Personally, I study the Bible to know what God expects from me or to know how our ancestors or forefathers in faith pleased Him. Some Preachers, in order not to lose people's friendships or favors, have been telling people what they would like to hear instead of what God wants to tell them; this is why God was mad with the ancient priests and lamented that His people were perishing because of lack of knowledge of His Will. (Hosea 4:6). **PRAY FOR ALL PREACHERS OF GOD'S WORD TO STAND FIRM IN PREACHING GOD'S WORD AND NOT PREACHING WHAT PEOPLE WOULD LIKE THEM TO PREACH.** Our world will be better if our ministers of the Gospel preach with faith and courage.

3. **God's Word Demands Immediate Response.** It is never enough that we read the Bible, we must also act on it. Failure to do what the word of God demands puts us in a far worse condition than those who never had the privilege of hearing the word. Hence, Jesus would say: "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock...(but)... everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it." (Matthew 7:24-27). In our Gospel passage last weekend, we saw how Peter and Andrew as well as the sons of Zebedee, James and John immediately left their nets and everything they were doing upon hearing the words: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Every time we encounter God's word, we cannot afford to remain where we are; something must change in us, there must be a movement from our former ways to a new life; movement from the darkness of sin to walking as children of light. The disciples followed Jesus leaving behind their means of livelihood, they trusted in Divine Providence. At times, God's word makes great demands on us. It seems like God is asking the impossible from us. We must learn from these disciples to just trust God and obey. The Psalmist sings: "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105). Imagine what your life would be if God's word is a lamp for your feet; imagine consulting God's word before any decision you take in life.

4. **God's Word Brings Us Healing; Spiritually and Physically.** What happens when we create time for God's words, when we listen attentively and make bold steps to apply God's words in our lives? Miracles follow. All through the Gospels, we notice this pattern: when a crowd gathers around Jesus, He begins with preaching and after he had spent a great deal of time preaching to them, He begins to work miracles, healing them of their sicknesses, freeing them from their burdens and casting out demons from those oppressed by the devil. Whatever we seek from God will come to us so long as we make His Word a priority in our lives. The secret of your happiness, your healing, your deliverance, your breakthrough in life et cetera is to allow God's word into your heart daily. Read God's word, use the word of God to pray. Speak God's words over any situation you may be facing in life and watch how great things would begin to happen.

SMILING:

Do you have a Bible? Do you really know how powerful it is? When last did you devote some hours of your day to reading and meditating on God's word? Could it be that you really do not have the time for God's word? The truth is that you always have time for anything you consider to be important to you. The word of God is more important than riches, fame, comfort, or anything you can think of. The word of God is life. *Read God's Word Every day.*

PLEASE SAY THIS PRAYER MEDITATIVELY MANY TIMES: "Lord Jesus, increase my love and appreciation for your word. Let no day pass without me spending time in prayerful reading of your word. Amen." Fr Christian Adike.



Parish phone #: 507-644-2278

(In case of an EMERGENCY and you need to reach Fr. Tony Hesse, call 507-616-1337)

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RECEPTIONIST/SEC.

Rita Curry

Extension 4

stcath@mystcatherines.org

Light of the World website: www.LOWAFC.org

BAPTISM

Contact your parish office to set an appointment for class and baptism.

MARRIAGE

Contact the parish office at least nine months before intended marriage.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELING

1-866-670-5163

PRAYER NETWORK

Contact Bev Passe
637-5967
bpasse60@yahoo.com

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY— February 2

The Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4(524), Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

8 AM Mass - *St. Mary - Seaforth*

d. Henry & Arleen Groebner

8:30-9:15 AM Sunday School - PRE-K

9:30 AM Mass - *St. Catherine*

d. Clifford & Lillian Molitor

CCW-Mission/Valentines for San Lucas-SC

10 AM Mass - *St. Anne*

d. Andy Schiller

11AM-2PM - *St. Anne School Carnival*

4-5 PM Holy Hour - SC

MONDAY – February 3

St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr

St. Ansgar, Bishop

2 Sm 15:13-14,30;16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20

No Mass

6 PM Flame of Love Rosary-SC

7 PM Adult Ed-Divine Mercy #3-SC

TUESDAY - February 4

2 Sm 18:9-10,14b,24-25a,30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43

No Mass - Clergy Days

7 PM Young Women's Bible Study-SC

7 PM Adult Ed-Evangelization #3-SA

WEDNESDAY – February 5

St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

2 Sm 24:2,9-17; Mk 6:1-6

No Mass - Clergy Days

6 PM Pizza w/Padre-GR 7-9-SC

5:30-6:30 PM RE GR 1-6

7-8 PM RE-GR 7-12

7-8 PM Adoration - SC & SA

8-8:45 PM Youth Group-SC & SA

THURSDAY - February 6

St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs

1 Kgs 2:1-4,10-12; Mk 6:7-13

8:30 AM Mass - *St. Anne - Wabasso*

d. Pat Goblirsch

9 AM-6 PM Adoration/12 Rosary-SC

10 AM Mass - *Garnette Gardens*

d. Margi & John Altmann

10 AM Mass - *Healthcare - Wabasso*

d. Ken & Shirley Heiling

7 PM Choir - SC

FRIDAY – February 7

First Friday

Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29

5:45 AM -7 AM This Man is you - SA

8 AM Mass - *St. Catherine*

d. Wencel & Catherine Kojetin

Coffee & Rolls - following Mass

8 AM Mass - *St. Mathias - Wanda*

d. Deb Mathiowetz

SATURDAY – February 8

St. Jerome Emiliani

St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34

8:30-9:30 AM - Confessions & Adoration-SA

9-10 AM Confessions-SC

4 PM Mass - *St. Mathias - Wanda*

Christmas Blessings

5 PM Mass - *St. Catherine*

People of our Parishes

CCW-Mission/Valentines for San Lucas-SC

6 PM Mass - *Our Lady of Victory - Lucan*

Christmas Blessings

SUNDAY— February 9

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 58:7-10 (73A), 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

8 AM Mass - *St. Mary - Seaforth*

Christmas Blessings

8:30-9:15 AM Sunday School - PRE-K

9:30 AM Mass - *St. Catherine*

Christmas Blessings

CCW - *Coffee & Rolls*

CCW-Mission/Valentines for San Lucas-SC

10 AM Mass - *St. Anne*

Christmas Blessings

CCW International Concerns Dinner-SA

1:30 PM KC Valentine Bingo-SC

4-5 PM Holy Hour - SC

MASS SERVERS: FEBRUARY 8/9, 2020

5:00 PM Saturday

Griffin Evans

Julia Lang

Justus Probst

9:30 AM Sunday

Isaac Louwagie

Ethan Louwagie

Jack Frank

Our Gifts to God and to His Church

Adult Contribution	4,355.00	Adult for Week	4,355.00
Students	13.00	Adult Budget	4,808.00
Loose Plate	435.17		
Maintenance	38.00		
All Saints	25.00	YTD Actual	129,096.23.
Total	4,866.17	YTD Budget	144,240.00

St. Catherine - Diocesan Ministry Appeal

112 Donated as of January 28

Goal	Total Received & Pledged	Amount Due	Parish 20%
\$23,261.63	\$33,980.80	(\$10,719.17)	\$6,183.16

Prayer Blankets meeting

Anyone interested in helping with the prayer blankets, please join us on Monday, February 3rd at 1 PM at St. Catherine's. This is carrying on the making of the St. Johns beautiful blessed prayer blankets that they have shared over the years. These blankets will be used as an encouragement gift for those in need.

Young Women's Bible Study

On Tuesdays at 7pm we are having a Young Women's Bible Study for all the young women ages 18-24 in our area. This is being held at St. Catherine's church.

ADORATION TIME



Adoration is in the church on Thursdays from

9:00 AM - 6:00 PM with Rosary at 12 noon.

Also there is Adoration in the church on

Wednesday evenings from 7-8 PM.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Classes February, 2020

Sunday, February 2

- 8:30-9:15 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, February 5

- 5:30-6:30 PM GR 1-6

- 6 PM Pizza w/Padre GR 7-9-SC

- 7-8 PM GR 7-12 with Adoration & youth group

Sunday, February 9

- 8:30-9:15 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, February 12

- 5:30-6:30 PM GR 1-6

- 7-8 PM GR 7-12 with Adoration & youth group

Sunday, February 16

- 8:30-9:15 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, February 19

- 5:30-6:30 PM GR 1-6

- 7-8 PM GR 7-12 with Adoration & youth group

Sunday, February 23

- 8:30-9:15 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, February 25

- Ash Wednesday Mass



You are Invited!

....Pork Loin Dinner at St. Michael's in Milroy, MN on Sunday, Feb. 2nd serving from 11 AM—1 PM.

....Tom Webb, Head Women's Basketball Coach at SMSU is speaking at St. Michael's Church in Milroy, MN on Wednesday Feb. 5th at 7 PM., everyone is welcome.

....Church of the Japanese Martyrs in Leavenworth, MN Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 9th from 9:30 AM—12:30 PM in the Church Social Hall.



Hot Dish Supper

Thursday, February 13, 2020

5:00-6:30 PM

All are Welcome!!

Sponsored by the CCW

Ladies please sign up in the Gathering Space to bring a hot dish, salad, dessert, or to work.



Proceeds will help fund the CCW Scholarship Fund



Catholic Hearth Work Camp in 2020

Are you interested in attending the Catholic Heart Work Camp in Fremont, Nebraska on June 21-27, 2020? Please contact Katie or David at 644-2278 or email katie@mystcatherines.org or wickdav9413@gmail.com.

Youth in 9th grade and up to adults are welcome to attend camp.

St. Anne's in Wabasso School Carnival

Sunday, February 2nd from 11 AM-1:30 PM join St. Anne's for games, prizes, raffle, silent auction, cakewalk, bingo, cards & refreshments. Meal served from 11 AM- 1PM.

Adult Formation Series

A new series of Adult Formation started on January 20th and 21st. They are at 2 locations, with two different studies. St. Catherine's is on Mondays at 7pm with the Divine Mercy study, and St. Anne's is on Tuesdays at 7pm with Lectio: Evangelization. Everyone is welcome at either location.

San Lucas Coffee

We have San Lucas Coffee you can buy at St. Catherine's church. Ground coffee, whole bean coffee, dark whole bean coffee for \$10 a bag, proceeds will go to San Lucas Mission.

Meals on Wheels

Volunteers needed to help deliver Meals on Wheels in February. If you are able to help, please call Patsy Evers at 507-644-6464

Valentine Bingo!

Sunday, February 9, 2020
at 1:30 PM

Prizes & Door Prize
Refreshments served

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus
All are welcome!



CCW Scholarship Program

The New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (NUDCCW) Scholarship Program gives scholarships to volunteers in parish ministry. If you are planning to attend, or have attended a workshop, conference, seminar or class that helps you in your parish ministry, you can apply for a scholarship.

The February 13th Hot Dish Supper is our Scholarship fundraiser, some of the proceeds will go toward this Scholarship fund. Scholarship applications are available in the parish office and are due to the Diocesan Scholarship Coordinator by March 1, 2020.

Reject Assisted Suicide

The US Conference of Catholic Bishops is asking us to contact our representatives to support the resolution H. Con.Res.79 which urges the Federal Government to reject assisted suicide. Assisted suicide is a "deadly, discriminatory and non-compassionate practice." The Federal Government should ensure that every person facing the end of their life has access to the best quality and comprehensive medical care tailored to their needs and the Federal Government should not adopt or endorse policies that support, encourage or facilitate suicide or assisted suicide, whether by physicians or others. Some addresses, phone numbers:

US House of Representatives, Congressman - 202-225-2165

Collin C. Peterson: www.collinpetererson.house.gov/contact

#220 Rayburn House Office Bldg Washington DC 20515

Senator Amy Klobuchar: www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public

302 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington DC 20510 - 202-224-3244

Senator Tina Smith: www.smith.senate.gov/contact-tina

60 Plato Blvd Suite St. Paul, MN 55107 - 651-221-1016

LAST CHANCE TO BUY 2020 ST. CATHERINE'S RAFFLE TICKETS

Tickets should be purchased and turned in by Feb. 13th as the drawing will be on Feb. 14th, 2020. If you would like to purchase some additional tickets, please stop in the parish office. After the drawing on Feb. 14th the winners will be posted in the bulletin weekly.



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Strength and New Thoughts"
~ Eleanor Roosevelt

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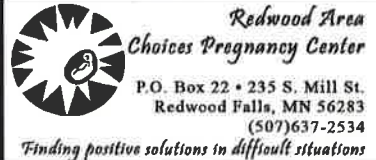



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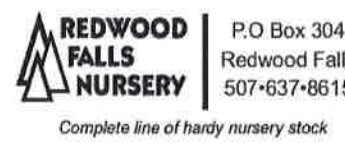
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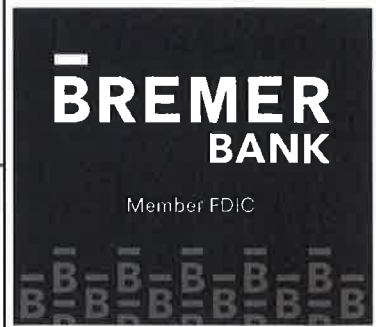


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DECLARES THE LORD
"Plans to PROSPER you and not to harm you
Plans to give HOPE and a FUTURE."
Jeremiah 29:11

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