

November 27th, 2011

With the start of the Advent Season this weekend the **new translation** to the Mass begins! There are cards in each of the pews for your convenience to help you follow the new Mass prayers.

Traditionally the month of November is a time when we remember in prayer all who have died. Throughout the month, a **Book of Remembrance** will be placed in the sanctuary which will have names inscribed of all who have been buried from our parish from November 1st, 2010 to October 31st, 2011. Parishioners are also invited to add names of deceased loved ones to this list.

Time is running out! - If you are needing a Mass intention for a 25th, 40th, 50th, or 60th Wedding Anniversary in 2012 please contact the parish office before January 1st so it can be scheduled. After January 1st we will not be able to guarantee your desired date.

Welcome to the Christian Community, Ayn Mae Voracek, daughter of Jason and Megan (O'Keefe) Voracek, Burnville, MN. Godparents are Shawn and Michele O'Malley. Ayn will be baptized following the 11 AM Mass this Sunday.

Confessions will be heard the First Friday of each month for students and parishioners, in the church, following the 8 AM Mass.

The 2012 Lector **Workbooks** are in the sacristy of the church. Lector/Commentators are asked to please pick up their copy as soon as possible.

The Mass times for the Solemnity of the **Immaculate Conception of Mary** are Wednesday, December 7th, at 5:30 PM, and Thursday, December 8th, at 8 AM and 6 PM. This is a holy day of obligation.

In Memoriam - On Saturday, November 26th, the Rite of Christian Burial was celebrated for Florence Deters. Let us remember her and her loved ones in our prayers.

1st Week of Advent

The annual **K of C Pancake Breakfast** is this Sunday, serving pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee and juice from 7 AM 12:30 PM, in the parish hall. Free will offering.

SPPS Basketball is Monday, November 28th with B & B beginning at 4 PM.

Adult Choir practice this Tuesday, November 29th, at 7:30 PM, in the church.

Children's Choir practice on November 30th and December 7th at 6 PM, in the church. They will sing at 9 AM Mass on Sunday, December 11th.

CCD classes Wednesday, November 30th. K-8th students will meet at 6:45 PM, in the parish hall. HS students will meet at 6:45 PM, in the church for confession. Monitors this week: Sam & Dawn Feldkamp and Alan & Joan Meyer. *Parents, please inform your child's teacher if they are unable to attend class.*

The CCD K-12th grades will be collecting donations for the **Nemaha County Christmas Store** again this year. The Nemaha County Christmas Bureau is requesting the following donations: New clothing and shoes (children through adult), new toys and gift items for ages 0-18 years, non perishable food items, and toiletry items. Please bring your donations to class on November 30th, December 7th and 14th.

Needed - Things SPPS collects along with Best Choice and UPC Codes. Used cell phones, laptops, and I-pods, and empty printer cartridges are also collected. If you would like to donate any of these items, please leave labels in the drop boxes in church or school and bring other items to the school office.

Rehearsals for the **2011 Axtell Ecumenical Christmas Cantata** will be held each Sunday, at 7:30 PM, at St. Michael's Church in Axtell. This year's cantata will be "Carol of Christmas", and will be directed by Stan Murphy, accompanied by Owen Zinke. The cantata performance will be held on Sunday, December 11, beginning at 7:30 PM, in St. Michael's Church. For more info, please contact Amy Schmitz, 785-736-2226, or go online at schmitz@bluevalley.net.

Contributions for 11-20-11: Parish Envelopes - \$7,102.00; School - \$1,079.67; Plate - \$383.83; Thanksgiving - \$87.00; for a total of \$8,652.50. Your generous sharing of your treasure helps us meet our weekly budget of \$15,000. Thank you for accepting the financial responsibility for your Parish & School.

The yearly payment of \$18 for the Leaven is due:

Total amount due - \$10,224.00
Collected to date - \$ 4,776.00
(Still Needed) - \$ 5,448.00

If you have not paid for your subscription, please make your payment as soon as possible. The parish must cover the expense for those that do not pay.
Thank you!

Is the Lord calling you to one hour of prayer weekly? Adorers needed for Sunday, 4-5 AM; and Monday, 3-4 AM. Please call Sue, 336-2297, if willing to take an hour.

The Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT's) will begin the first of December! Those individuals that have already signed up will be notified shortly to inform them of the starting date. If anyone is still interested there are enrollment forms available at the parish office. If you have picked up a form and have not yet returned it please do so as soon as possible. Please call the parish office, 336-2128, if you need more information.

"Many Thanks" - Over 10 ton of newspapers and magazines were collected at our school's November paper drive. **Special Thanks** to all workers, Seneca Wholesale, Bruna Implement, Stan Feldkamp, for the donuts and generous donation to help cover the freight. Our next paper drive will be in March. Please continue to save your papers and magazines.

A Big **"Thank You"** to all of our merchants, donors, patrons, parents, students, teachers & administration for your generous contributions. *With your help our PTO Soup Supper was a huge success!*

Our sincerest **gratitude** to Deb Haverkamp for the time and effort of making the delicious chicken noodle soup; to John & Mary Rottinghaus, John & Mary Beth Kohake, and Wayne & D'Ann Hermes for your donation of the cheese; to the SPPS 5th grade class for making the great table decorations and to Cynthia Haugsness for making our chili dog sauce. *Your generosity and help is greatly appreciated!*

Sts. Peter & Paul School would like to **thank** everyone who donated to their annual Holiday Food Drive for the Seneca Food Pantry. Over 1500 items were donated this year. *Thank you for your generosity!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Dominic Church, Holton, **Christmas House** is Sunday, December 4th. A bake and craft sale start at 8 AM. The roast beef meal will be served from 11 AM til 1:30 PM in the parish hall. Free will offering. Raffle drawing at 12:30 PM.

The 21st annual Horton Christmas **"Festival of Lights"** will be on Sunday, December 4th, from 5:30 to 8 PM. Ten city blocks lined with 1400 glowing luminaries outlining the route, will be transformed into 20 living scenes of the life of Christ. There is no charge for this event, but a free will donation may be given to benefit an emergency fund to help those in need. Please listen to KNZA for cancellation due to bad weather.

The 15th Annual Worldwide **Candle Lighting Vigil** for the Compassionate Friends will be held on Sunday, December 11th. Everyone is invited to light a candle in their home from 7 - 8 PM in memory of all children who have died, but are not forgotten. Please remember those families that have experienced such a devastating loss that evening in your prayers and honor their children by lighting a candle in their memory.

The SPPS Council is busy preparing for their annual **Pancake Breakfast** to be held Sunday, January 1st. Local merchants are being contacted to see if they would like to donate an item for the raffle drawing which helps to increase monetary support to the students of SPPS. If you would like to donate an item please contact the school office, at 336-2727. Please have your donations We want to print chance books so we would appreciate hearing from you by Saturday, December 10th. Thank you for your continued support of SPPS!

If you would like to donate a **poinsettia** to the church in memory of a loved one during the Christmas season please order from the Seneca Florist by Friday, December 16th.

The SPPS PTO will again sponsor the **Memory Tree** in our church this Christmas season. This provides a way to remember a loved one, living or deceased, that's unable to be with you during the holidays. The cost is \$2 per name, with the money to be given to the school to purchase needed items. Please call Gloria, at 336-3691 (H), or 336-2128, (W), by Wednesday, December 21st, to include a loved one.

FYI - On December 31st, the special tax-code provision that allows donors to make a tax-free gift from their IRA account to not-for-profit organizations will expire. With the lawmakers in Washington focused on saving money wherever they can find it, the likelihood that this tax will be extended is remote. This special tax break allows donors to make a direct distribution from their IRA account to a qualified charity - *tax free*. You must be 70½ years of age or older and you may give up to \$100,000 (married couples can give \$200,000). Sts. Peter & Paul Church and School will qualify for your tax breaks. Please contact Fr. Arul, 336-2128, for details.

Year End Contributions: Sts. Peter and Paul Parish is in the initial preparations for a possible renovation of the Church. We are exploring different possibilities to repair and decorate the church. There will be a presentation to the parishioners as the plans come to a final stage. Please consider making your year end contributions for the possible church renovation project. Please pray for the realization of this project.

Do you desire more out of your faith? Are you interested in becoming Catholic and looking for a way to learn? If you said yes to these questions please join us for the **Catholicism Adult Faith Formation Series** that will begin on Sunday, January 8th, 2012, at Annunciation Church, Frankfort. Join other Catholics seeking to deepen their faith and grow in holiness. Fr. Pat Sullivan will lead the study sessions which will revolve around the Catholicism DVD series. For more info., or to register, please visit www.annunciationfrankfort.org (click on Catholicism Series), or contact Fr. Pat Sullivan, 785-562-6055.

Plans are being made for the **March for Life**. This is the 39th year we have relentlessly traveled to Washington D.C. to demand action on behalf of the unborn. Buses will depart from Kansas on Friday, January 20th and arrive home on Wednesday, January 25th. The cost is \$390 per person. If you are interested in attending this pilgrimage, please contact the parish office at 336-2128 or Donna Elder at 336-2523.

