

# SAINT WENCESLAUS PARISH

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 19, 2017

## Parish Announcements:

### Coffee & Rolls

Join us after this Sunday's Mass for food, drinks, & fellowship in Msgr. Baer Hall.

### Catholic Life Envelopes

This month, special contribution envelopes appear in our boxes for our diocese's *Catholic Life* magazine. No second collection will be taken at Mass, but please consider dropping a freewill donation in the collection basket to support its evangelistic and catechetical work.

### Free Ultrasound Screenings

Free ultrasounds are available in PdC from February 27<sup>th</sup> to March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Contact Heather Kramer (at 874-4057 or 306-0147) for details.

### Dennis Rosenbaum Memorial Fish Fry

Our Knights of Columbus invite you to their Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> fish fry from 5 to 8pm in Msgr. Baer Hall. The meal will feature all-you-can-eat deep fried fish, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls, and desserts. Adults are \$9 and children (12 years and under) eat for \$3. Buy raffle tickets for great prizes and invite a neighbor to come.

### Roger Harvat Benefit

Friends of the Harvat family invite you to a benefit meal on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 5pm in Msgr. Baer Hall. The proceeds will help pay for Roger Harvat's cancer treatment bills. There will also be an auction, gun raffles, and games. Donations of items for auction are still needed. Call Adam Trautsch (412-0683) or Roger Slama (874-4631) for details.

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### Bishops Grant Dispensation in Honor of the Feast of St. Patrick

The bishops of Wisconsin announce a special dispensation for Catholics statewide from adhering to the law of abstinence for Friday, March 17, 2017. This Lenten dispensation will allow the faithful to celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick. Those who utilize the dispensation should perform another act of penance (self-denial, charity, prayer, etc.) in observance of the day.

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### Papal Prayer Intentions for February

#### **Comfort for the Afflicted:**

That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, & marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.

#### **Sacredness of Life:**

We pray for the children who are in danger of the interruption of pregnancy, as well as for persons who are at the end of life— every life is sacred! — so that no one is left alone and that love may defend the meaning of life.

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Father Victor Feltes, Pastor  
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Saturday Evening Mass 4PM - Sunday Mass 10AM  
Confession Available Before Every Mass

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### Contributions from February 11-12:

Adult Envelopes	\$945.00
Collection Plate	\$281.46
Youth Envelopes	\$3.50
Votive Candle Donations	\$101.00

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### Mass Schedule:

Mon, Feb. 20 – 8am (Weekday) for:  
**Krissey Colson by Ron & Ruth Ann Colson**

Tue, Feb. 21 – 8am (Weekday) for:  
**Bernard Boylen by Teresa Sharp**

Wed, Feb. 22 – 8am (The Chair of St. Peter) for:  
**Blessings on John E. Walz**

Thr, Feb. 23 – 8am (St. Polycarp) for:  
**Jack & Norma Slama**

Fri, Feb. 24 – 8am (Weekday) for:  
**Larry Pelock by Dennis & Cathy Pelock**

Sat, Feb. 25 – 4pm (8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time) for:  
**Frank Pintz by the Family**

Sun, Feb. 26 – 10am (8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time) for:  
**The Living & Deceased of  
St. Wenceslaus & Sacred Heart**

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### Upcoming Liturgical Roles:

#### **Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> : 4pm**

**Lector:** Roger Wall  
**Ushers:** Ron Colson & Charles Linder  
**Servers:** Any Available Servers

#### **Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> : 10am**

**Lector:** Jane Achenbach  
**Ushers:** Sam Tesar & Dan Sprosty  
**Servers:** Group A: Isaac, Samuel, & Ben  
Kramer, Nicholas Liedtke

#### **Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> Rosary Leaders:**

*The Bill & Mary Turner Family*

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### February Hospitality Activities:

Church & Hall Cleaning	Group #5
Coffee & Rolls (Feb. 19)	Group #6

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## **Jesus as the Anti-Cain**

A Reflection on Genesis 4:1-15

*Adam had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced a man with the help of the Lord."* Through Eve, Cain is the firstborn of man. Through Mary, the new Eve, Jesus is firstborn of God.

*Cain brought an offering to the Lord from the fruit of the soil, while Abel, for his part, brought one of the best firstlings of his flock.* This implies that Cain is not offering his very best. Jesus' sacrifice offers everything to God.

*Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let us go out in the field." When they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.* Jealousy and a hardened heart leads Cain to murder his brother in the countryside. Similar wickedness leads to Jesus being murdered by his own outside Jerusalem's gates.

*The Lord asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He answered, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"* Cain is not a keeper of animals, but Jesus says: *"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me."* (John 10:14)

*The Lord God then said to Cain: "What have you done! Listen: your brother's blood cries out to me from the soil!"* The blood that Cain shed cried out to Heaven for vengeance, but *"the sprinkled blood [of Jesus] speaks more eloquently than that of Abel."* (Hebrews 12:24) The blood of Jesus outpoured begs mercy, for the forgiveness of sins on earth.

*Cain said to the Lord: "My punishment is too great to bear. Since you have now banished me from the soil, and I must avoid your presence and become a restless wanderer on the earth, anyone may kill me at sight." "Not so!" the Lord said to him. "If anyone kills Cain, Cain shall be avenged sevenfold." So the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest anyone should kill him at sight.* Cain is given a protective mark (perhaps a tattoo, common in violent nomadic cultures.)

Jesus enjoys no protective distinction: *"There was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him, nor appearance that would attract us to him."* Cain was not executed for his crime, but Jesus *"was pierced for our sins"* and *"the Lord laid upon him the guilt of us all."* (Isaiah 53:2,6) Killing Cain would have returned *"seven fold revenge,"* but Jesus' death brings forth multitudes of mercy, as through the seven Sacraments.

Jesus Christ is the anti-Cain. Praise God!

## **Holy Matrimony "In Brief"**

Catechism of the Catholic Church #1659-1666

● St. Paul said: *"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the Church.... This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the Church."* (Ephesians 5:25, 32)

● The marriage covenant, by which a man and a woman form with each other an intimate communion of life and love, has been founded and endowed with its own special laws by the Creator. By its very nature it is ordered to the good of the couple, as well as to the generation and education of children. Christ the Lord raised marriage between the baptized to the dignity of a sacrament.

● The sacrament of Matrimony signifies the union of Christ and the Church. It gives spouses the grace to love each other with the love with which Christ has loved his Church; the grace of the sacrament thus perfects the human love of the spouses, strengthens their indissoluble unity, and sanctifies them on the way to eternal life.

● Marriage is based on the consent of the contracting parties, that is, on their will to give themselves, each to the other, mutually and definitively, in order to live a covenant of faithful and fruitful love.

● Since marriage establishes the couple in a public state of life in the Church, it is fitting that its celebration be public, in the framework of a liturgical celebration, before the priest (or a witness authorized by the Church,) the witnesses, and the assembly of the faithful.

● Unity, indissolubility, and openness to fertility are essential to marriage. Polygamy is incompatible with the unity of marriage; divorce separates what God has joined together; the refusal of fertility turns married life away from its *"supreme gift,"* the child.

● The remarriage of persons divorced from a living, lawful spouse contravenes the plan and law of God as taught by Christ. They are not separated from the Church, but they cannot receive Eucharistic communion. They will lead Christian lives especially by educating their children in the faith.

● The Christian home is the place where children receive the first proclamation of the faith. For this reason the family home is rightly called *"the domestic church,"* a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian charity.

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*"In this entire world there is not a more perfect, more complete image of God, Unity and Community than marriage."*

—St. Pope John Paul the Great

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