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HOLY FAMILY PARISH
St. Gabriel
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St. Patrick
Parkersburg

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MARCH 6, 2016
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Cole North, Secretary
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Mass Intentions for
March 8 – March 13

Tuesday.....5:15 pm at Parkersburg
Wednesday....8:00 am at Reinbeck
Thursday.....8:00 am at Reinbeck
Friday.....7:30 am at Parkersburg
Saturday.....5:30 pm at Parkersburg
Sunday.....9:30 am at Reinbeck

Intention for
Shirley Halbach
Barbara Krebsbach
Paul J. O'Connor
Arnold Wagner
Marvin Ostwinkle
For the People

SOMETHING MORE – Both the Israelites and the Prodigal Son had come to realize their folly while they were in exile. Their reaction was to think that God was punishing them. However, God had not been out to get them. God accompanied them, and God sorrowed over their distress. The father in the Gospel story is a figure of God, who sorrows over the son's loss and yearns for the son's return and reunion with him and the family. The Israelites, too, in retrospect could see God's faithful mercy at work in their exile. "Look to the Lord that you may be radiant with joy and your faces may not blush with shame."

The scribes and Pharisees could not see the true face of God in their lives and in their dealings with others. They projected their preference for judgement and retribution on God, and tried to force that on struggling people. There's no "rejoice!" in that.

We also judge and dismiss those who are in trouble. Whether other people have problems because of their own choices, or because conditions beyond their control, our all-too-frequent response is to pass judgement and condemn them.

Jesus addressed this parable to the scribes and Pharisees and to us. We are all sinners. We are in need of God's loving kindness, God's ever available mercy. Like the father in the parable, the God of love and mercy is always waiting for our return. In gratitude, we share the mercy of God with others.

Just Ahead

- ❖ NO FF, Wed March 16, 6:30 – 7:45 pm, both sites
- ❖ Holy Family Circle Mtg After Mass, Sunday, March 13
- ❖ KC Mtg & Set up, Thursday March 17, 7:00 pm @ R

St. Patrick, Parkersburg location

Confession each Saturday beginning at 4:45 pm for 30 minutes
FF Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 – 7:45 pm @ P

Fourth Sunday of Lent *Focus: We are called to foster unity, peace and reconciliation in the world.*

Jesus, through his sufferings and death upon the cross, won forgiveness for our sins and reconciled us to God the Father. He calls us to go forth and share God's love and forgiveness with others by seeking to foster unity, peace and healing in our workplaces, local community, among our friends and family, and in our homes.

AND STILL MORE – A classic Charles Schulz "Peanuts" cartoon gives us a lesson in forgiveness. The cartoon opens with Lucy chasing Charlie Brown and shaking her fist at him. "I'm going to get you Charlie Brown," she cries.

Charlie Brown comes to a sudden halt and calmly turns his face to her. "Lucy, if we don't forgive each other as children, how will our parents learn to forgive each other? And how in turn will the world learn to forgive?" Exasperated by his question, Lucy hauls off and punches poor Charlie in the face. In the last frame, Lucy turns and looks at the readers. "I had to," she explains. "He was beginning to make sense."

Today's Gospel story is the familiar parable of the prodigal son. When we hear it, we are amazed at the enduring love of the father who gives us a powerful lesson on how to forgive. It makes sense.

Easter Lily donation envelopes for Easter will be on the table in the narthex. Please drop off in the office or in collection basket on Sunday's. \$15 per plant is requested.

Stations of the Cross and Soup! **St. Patrick:** Friday, March 11. Supper begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross at about 7:00 p.m. **St. Gabriel:** Tuesdays at Noon during Lent. Stations will begin at noon with soup luncheon following. There will be a time for discussion of Rediscover Jesus by Matthew Kelly during and after lunch. Everyone is welcome at both sites!

Income Weekend February 28, 2015

Adult Budget \$ 4,579.00 Needed \$ 5,154.00
Annual Adult Budget \$ 268,000.00

St. Gabriel, Reinbeck location

Confession each Sunday beginning at 8:45 am for 30 minutes
FF Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 – 7:45 pm @ R
Liturgy Mtg, Thursday March 10, 6:30 pm @ R
Parish Council Mtg, Thursday March 10, 7:00 pm @ R

Other Announcements

Let God Hear Our Prayer for Vocations! Please join us in a Holy Hour at St. Patrick, Clear Lake, on Friday, March 11 at 7:00 pm. This Holy Hour will be led by Archbishop Jackels and will provide an opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration, to hear the witness of a seminarian's experience of God's call, and to encourage those who may have a vocation to the priesthood. Please come help fill the church with our prayers!

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry – The second KC fish fry will be **March 18**, serving from 5:00 to 7:00 at St. Gabriel's church. Parishioners willing to assist by working at the event or providing bars may sign up on the sheet in the narthex at St. Gabriel or St Patrick. You may also contact Joe Becker ([319-989-2405](tel:319-989-2405) or bojecker@mchsi.com) on or before **March 13, 2016**. Thank you for your support.

Join our parish online discussion group! During Lent we will share comments, ask questions of each other and reflect on the book "Rediscover Jesus" by Matthew Kelly. Participating is easy. From your computer or iPad go to <http://rediscoverjesus.boardhost.com> and register. To register from a phone go to the website and click on the 3 horizontal bars and chose Desktop format. TO REGISTER, simply provide the information that is asked. Note: We recommend using your first and last name together as a username as a way for people to get to know one another.

Couples of Faith Our next date night will be a special presentation by Deacon Mark & Rosann Sandersfeld – "Living a Scripture Based Marriage" on Sunday, March 13th from 5 – 7 pm at St. Gabriel. Come and hear what it means to love your spouse as Christ loves. Learn how a man and woman can truly live out their vows and God's plan for marriage. All married & engaged couples are welcome as we enjoy food, fun and fellowship! **Couples of all ages and faiths are welcome!** Meal, beverages, child care and door prize all provided. Please RSVP to cnorth3412@gmail.com or call, text or message to 319-215-6118.

Fair Trade Coffee Reminder that Holy Family Parish is selling Fair Trade coffee for cost to help create opportunity for small-scale farmers of underprivileged countries make a living. As followers of Christ, we are called to demonstrate special concern for the most vulnerable members of our human family. By purchasing this coffee, we are providing a chance to help other humans make a living for themselves as well as creating a safe work environment for them. You can consider buying this coffee as a donation to charity!! Chocolate and tea are two other items that will be for sale in the future. Coffee is for sale the 1st Sunday of the month but you can contact any member of the Social Justice committee to buy it any time. This coffee is also used after Mass every 1st Sunday.

The 20th Annual Catholic Men's Conference is Saturday, March 12th at Xavier High School in Cedar Rapids. The keynote speaker is Fr. Scott Courtney from the Lincoln, Nebraska diocese. The conference includes breakout sessions, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation and concludes with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Jackels. **Register in advance by February 27th and save \$10!** Advance registration is \$35 for adults, \$5 for students and \$50 for one adult and three or more students. For more information and to register go to www.catholicmenonline.org Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Dubuque Catholic Men's Fellowship.

American Martyrs Retreat House Men's Retreat March 18 – 20, 2016 Title: "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord" As our families become more under attack, we want to make conscious decisions of whom we will serve...the world or the Lord. **Director: Fr. James Starbuck**, Fr. Jim was ordained a priest for the Oakland Diocese of California. He served in the military as a surgical nurse and later, after his ordination and a time in parish work, as a Chaplain. Fr. Jim lives in Cedar Falls. He gives retreats, missions, renewal days, is a spiritual director, and he has a healing ministry. He speaks from his heart sharing his own relationship with Jesus and the work of the Spirit The retreat begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday and concludes after lunch Sunday. The cost of the retreat is \$135.00. A \$25.00 deposit secures your reservation and is credited to your offering for the retreat. Questions or to register call 319-266-3543 or email dbqamrhsec@dbqarch.org

D.E.W. (Disciple Experience Weekend): How does one become a more deliberate disciple? How does a disciple live out the Joy of the Gospel? How does Catholic Social Teaching inform discipleship? Come and explore these questions from April 8-10, 2016, Immaculate Conception School, Gilbertville. This spiritual growth opportunity is open to both men and women. Participants may stay overnight onsite or make arrangements elsewhere. The fee for DEW is \$ 50.00 to cover materials and meals. For more information and to register, please visit www.dbqarch.org/dew

	March 12	March 13
Accompanist	Lyndsay	Susan Halbach
Cantor	Kathy	Steve Tschertter
Extraordinary	Greg Lievens	Greg Lievens (D), Patty Jacobi*, Rose Kramer*
Ministers	Marti Hall*	Ann Lebo*, Bobbi Ann Peterson, Mike Williams
Of Holy		Pat Brown, Michelle Brown, Ben Dall
Communion		Amy Dall, Linda Williams
Greet	Gary & Mary Wolfe	Paul O'Connor Family, Helen O'Connor, Mike & Linda Williams
Gifts	Marty & Kate Petersen	Paul O'Connor Family
Reader 1	Tamara Tingle	Don Davidson
Reader 2		Amy Dall
Server	Jaycee Ellis	Rachael Kauffman
Server	Cooper Hoff	Alayna Kollasch, Devon Kollasch
Usher	Larry & Vi Kisner	Agnes Biersner, Brian Corwin, Richard Benson
Usher		Ethan DeWall, Roger Dostal, Dean Eslinger
Video		David Martens
Sacristan / MC /Announcements	Becky Lievens	Rose Kramer / Mary Linder / Amy Dall
Collection Counters	Bob & Peg Neavins, Richard & Cam Coy	Greg & Brenda Snider, Helen O'Connor, Larry Krebsbach