

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 19, 2023

St. Michael's, Spalding—St. Theresa's, Ericson—Sacred Heart, Greeley

SUNDAY SCRIPTURES
Nov. 26: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
 Psalm 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Matthew 25:31-46

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Stewards of Our Lives

This Sunday, through the parable of the 'Talents' Jesus teaches us a great lesson. We are reminded that one day we too will have to give an account of life, we received from God. God's grace and gifts can neither be wasted, nor can they remain static, nor be hidden. They have to be put to use for the purpose they have been given and should bear fruits. What is evaluated at the coming of the master is not 'how much' we have made but how committed we are to the gifts, given to us.

In the parable, the first and the second servants doubled the amount they received. No doubt, these two servants had to exercise considerable shrewdness and astuteness in investing their talents. The third servant, showing no interest, took an easy path and hid the resources given to him. He was found lazy and unproductive and was fired from his job.

For us this parable communicates the message that each one of us is given a share in the mission of Christ. I never thought about coming to "Families in Faith" community and serve you as pastor. I agreed to this call, having discerned that my Time and Talent was meant to be given as a priest, as long as my health permits, serving the Church and the people of God. It was a decision about Stewardship, which in simple terms, is the act of putting God's priorities before our own.

Good Stewards do four things: 1. **Receive God's gifts gratefully**, 2. **Nurture God's gifts responsibly**, 3. **Share God's gifts justly and charitably** and 4. **Return those gifts to God abundantly**. Dear parishioners, all of us who make up the community of "Families in Faith", we are all called to live as good stewards, to put God's priorities before our own. We are called to receive, nurture, share, and return the gifts which God gives so abundantly. It is a way of living in the world. It is a spiritual stance in the midst of our incredibly busy lives. Our failure to live up to the call and produce fruits for the kingdom will make us lose the everlasting life. Though the master does not specify how much we should produce, he does not compromise on anything less than the best from us. Let us try our best in building up the kingdom of God.

God bless us all, Fr. Lawrence

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	11/18	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Deceased CDA Members
SUN	11/19	7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S SACRED HEART ST THERESA'S	PEOPLE OF PARISH † Deceased Catholic Daughter Members † Rev. James O'Kane
TUE	11/21	5:30 p.m.	SACRED HEART	† Becky Kelly
WED	11/22	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	SACRED HEART ST. MICHAEL'S ST. THERESA'S SACRED HEART	No Mass † Shane Thome (School Mass) † Lois Swett † Orren Wood Jr family
THU	11/23	8:15 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Frank & Mary Ballweg
FRI	11/24	8:15 a.m.	ST. CATHARINE'S	Communion Service
SAT	11/25	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	Richard & Aggie Hinkle
SUN	11/26	7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S SACRED HEART ST THERESA'S	Joan Diessner PEOPLE OF PARISH Trevor & Michelle Nekoliczak family

COMMUNION SERVICES

SM at 8:00 a.m.
SH at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention of the Month: For the Pope. We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Due to Thanksgiving, bulletin deadline is Monday at 12 noon.
 Church office closed
 Nov. 23rd & Nov. 24th.

Happy Anniversary to Jim & Jean Ann Harrahill celebrating 53 years. May God Bless You.

Happy Birthday to Deacon Ron Glaser today, November 19! May God's blessings and kindness surround you, on your Birthday and all the days of your life.



Congratulations to St. Theresa's for meeting their Diocesan Appeal goal!

BLESSED AND GRATEFUL

Parish	\$ Goal	\$ Received	% \$ Goal	Household Goal	Household Total	% HH Goal
SH	\$15,103	\$13,226	88%	42	38	90%
ST	\$5,228	\$6,200	119%	15	15	100%
SM	\$15,557	\$14,643	94%	55	55	100%


PARISH MEETINGS

SM Cemetery: moved to Tues, Nov. 21, 7pm



Note: Wednesday, November 22, Eucharistic Adoration in St. Michael's Church 2pm to 3pm after the 1:00 pm Mass. No Eucharistic exposition over the Thanksgiving holiday. Please feel free to make a visit anytime.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION	WEEKLY	MONTHLY
St. Michael's (Dominican Center)		First Friday, 24 hr, 9:00 a.m.
Sacred Heart Chapel		First Tuesday, 24 hr, 9:00 a.m.
St. Theresa's		Last Sunday of month for Vocations, 10 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S	SACRED HEART	ST. THERESA'S
LECTOR Nov 22: SA Nov 23: Duane Seamann Nov 25: Robert Ballweg Nov 26: Troy Kleffner EMHC Nov 22: SA Nov 23: Volunteers Nov 25: Rich Rist, Jean Herrera, Jeanie Seier, Shelly Houtby Nov 26: Jeff & Janelle Pritchard HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Nov 22: SA Nov 23: Volunteers Nov 25: Ed & Mandy McCarthy, Maureen Seamann, Sharon Seamann Nov 26: Bill Spelic, Tom Asche, Marilyn Leslie, Joe Seamann ALTAR SERVERS Nov 22: SA Nov 23: BJ Molt family Nov 25: Seamann boys Nov 26: Haylee Peregrine-Ray, Nolan Carraher, Preston Glesinger MUSIC MINISTRY Nov 22: SA Nov 23: Matt, Linda, Kelly & Addie Nov 25: Leslie & Kelly Nov 26: Therese & Denise SM CDA Rosary, Thursdays, before Mass, 4:30 in the chapel.	LECTOR Nov 22: DW Holley Nov 26: Larry Wood EMHC Nov 22: Mike & Janet Wood, Teresa Kehler Nov 26: Piper Shepard, Matt Pfeifer, Susie Lammers HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Nov 22: Lincoln Nekoliczak, Turner & Max Freeman Nov 26: DW Holley family ALTAR SERVERS Nov 22: Canon Holley, Katlyn Oakley, Kain Wood Nov 26: Kendra Cargill, Breckyn Straka, Krestyn Cargill MUSIC MINISTRY ROSARY Nov 22 & 26: Chuck Sweeney SACRISTAN Nov 22 & 26: Patty Harris COLLECTION COUNTERS Nov 22 & 26: Tom & Jackie ASSISTED LIVING Nov 26: Matt Pfeifer	LECTOR Nov 22: Audrey Miller Nov 26: Julie Landgren EMHC Nov 22: Sandy Miller Nov 26: Helen Plugge, Judy Ita HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Nov 22: Youth Nov 26: Jake & Shelby Kasselder CHURCH CLEANING November: Joyce Bos, Jessica Reich, Teresa Smith PRAYER CHAIN Call: Helen Plugge, Sue Patrick ROSARY For Vocations—Sundays 10:00 a.m. prior to Mass. Thursday morning Communion Service 9:00 a.m. followed by Rosary and Adoration. Religious Education Sundays, 10:00 a.m. before Mass 
THE LORD'S PORTION November 12 Envelopes \$ 2,754 ACH/online \$ 2,075 Plate \$ 498 Children's \$ 35 Weekly total \$ 5,362 Total July 1st to date \$77,405	THE LORD'S PORTION November 12 Envelopes \$ 1,774 ACH/online \$ 1,500 Plate \$ 936 Children \$ 20 Weekly total \$ 4,230 Total July 1st to date \$ 50,658	THE LORD'S PORTION November 5 Envelopes \$ 1,065 Plate \$ 149 Children's \$ 13 Weekly Total \$ 1,117 July 1st to date \$ 14,120

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." - MATTHEW 25:21



Thank You, LORD!

You are invited to Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 23, 1pm, 201 E O'Conner Ave, Greeley, NE. Please RSVP by Nov. 20. Contact Heather at 308-750-1365 (Meal is free)

Sacred Heart Pastoral Council:
Anyone interested in being on Parish Council beginning in January 2024 please contact a current member.

SM Pastoral Meeting 11-9-23 Summary: The loose step carpeting at the south entrance will be removed for safety reasons. The main entrance door is not working properly and will be fixed. The part has been ordered at a cost of \$900. Scott Herley will reconstruct the end of the west ramp. More contributing households and donations are needed to make the Diocesan Appeal goal. The council is looking for more nominees to replace an out-going member. There are 2 candidates in the RCIA program. The rectory garage wiring has been redone. The rectory kitchen flooring will be replaced in January, 2024.

	SA HAPPENINGS
Mon Nov 20	3:30-5:30 Lego League Practice; State Football Championship
Tue Nov 21	8:00 am Goldenrod Conference; One-Act Play Contest at Central City; HS Charger BB Jamboree at Anselmo-Merna (Merna)
Wed Nov 22	Feast of St. Cecelia; 1:00 All School Mass (7) followed by All School Dismissal
Thur Nov 23	Thanksgiving Day
Fri. Nov 24	No School

SM Fall Drive to date:
\$30,150
SH First Fruits:
\$6,404.25



SM Music Jam,
Sunday,
November 19th,
5:30pm.

SM/St. Anne
November: Church Cleaning: Circle of Hope
Side A: Cheryl Ray-Prefect **Rotation:** Faith, Hope, Joy
November: Men's Club Team #3: Dan Mailander

LUCKY DAY CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNER

Our Sunday, November 19th winner of \$250 is Jean Hitchler of Norfolk, NE. Our \$50 winner for Thanksgiving Day is Tim Reilly of Spalding. Congratulations!!



FOUR PILLARS OF STEWARDSHIP: HOSPITALITY, PRAYER, FORMATION, AND SERVICE

The first pillar is Hospitality.

Mary Ann McQuillan of Sacred Heart Parish has shared an excerpt from 'Stewardship Starts at Home'.

Using God's gifts to grow as disciples of Christ in our domestic church.

Lisa McArdle is an author and co-founder of Catholic Stewardship Consultants. In her book, *Stewardship Starts at Home*, she talks about the many ways we can practice stewardship, i.e., hospitality at home. Many of her suggestions harken back to the "good old days" when family life was simpler and spending time together was as common as watching Lawrence Welk on Saturday nights. With so many places to go and so many things to do, we are often "bumping into ourselves" and blaming others for our bruises. To make our home lives more peaceable, McArdle suggests the following:

- **Employing a *Hospitality at Home Attitude*:** This includes things as simple as sitting down to a meal together and talking about each other's day.
- ***Focusing on People (Not Screens)*:** While this is pretty sensical, it's not so easy to do. The truth is time is fleeting; we will never get back the hours we waste staring at our cell phones and iPads instead of taking part in the lives around us.
- ***Special Meals*:** In a nutshell, McArdle says we should keep special days like holidays, birthdays, and even Sunday dinners as blessed opportunities to gather and "recharge" with members of our family.
- ***Building Up Inside the Walls*:** McArdle cautions families to avoid trying to outdo one another and instead to work on building each other up. As we all know, there are enough things in our everyday lives to wear and tear us down.
- ***Mind Your Manners*:** Remembering to practice simple mannerisms such as "please" and "thank you" can foster an air of goodness in the house, McArdle notes. It also helps establish kindness in our actions toward others outside the home. Even more important, she points out, is finding the humility to know when to say, "I'm sorry."
- ***Hospitality Towards Guests in the House*:** If you're lucky enough to have company come visit, treat them as you would family. Welcome them and treasure their visit so that when they leave, they feel valued and appreciated.
- ***Hospitality when Out and About*:** Finally, McArdle says to practice these same kindnesses when you leave your home and go out in public.

At a time when there's so much dissention and disagreement all around us, let's all do our best to be our best. As McArdle says, in the "give and take of hospitality... we have the opportunity to grow and become more and more like Jesus."

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 19, 2023



We want to extend a heartfelt invite to those that may need a place to gather this Thanksgiving, our community has supported us, now we want to show that love in return

Thursday, November 23rd at 1pm

201 E O'Conner Ave

For more informatoin and to RSVP by November 20th, contact Heather at 308.750.1365 (Meal is free of charge)

"Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day, we bow our hearts to You and pray. We give You thanks for all You've done, especially for the gift of Jesus Your Son ...Let us always be aware that all gifts come from You, and may we serve Your heavenly will in everything we do. Amen"

ALTAR TABLECLOTH update: Thank you to those who have purchased an altar tablecloth in memory of loved ones. They have all been purchased.

Sacred Heart:

In memory of Fr Ted Nekoliczak,

In memory of Jr Wood family,

In memory of Catholic Daughter members, Our Lady of Good Counsel #2039.

Note from the Parish Office:

Please call the parish offices directly if needing Sacraments of Baptism or Marriage.

SH: 308-428-2855 (Wednesdays) or

SM/ST: 308-497-2662 (M-F, until 1 p.m.)

What has passed our lips as food, O Lord, may we possess in purity of heart, that what has been given to us in time may be our healing for eternity.

If you are not registered with Families in Faith, please contact the SH or SM church office. It is important to keep your local church thriving and always there when you need it. In times of joy and in times of struggle, it is comforting to have the support of a faith family.

Theology on Tap- Young adults: Theology on Tap will be meeting once again at Kinkaiders in Grand Island December 3 beginning with a social gathering at 6:30 pm. Presenter Michael Haverkamp from Young Life is the guest speaker begins at 7:00 pm. All young adults 19-39 are welcome.. This is the last event of 2023 so come and enjoy the evening.

**2023 SM Fall Auction
Raffle Winners:**

John Deere Zero

Turn Lawnmower: Mary Berney

\$200 Scrip Gift card: Pat Mahony

Big Joe bean bag chair: Teresa Short



THANK YOU everyone for your help with St. Michael's Fall Auction this past Sunday. Once again, many hands worked together to make it successful. We are very appreciative of the many donations, gift items, buyers, St. Anne's dinner, the auctioneers volunteering their time, volunteers who helped set up tables, and all the work behind the scenes. Totals to follow soon. Thanks again.

CHURCH ENVELOPE

CONTRIBUTIONS may be sent to the office weekly or monthly. St. Michael's & St. Theresa's may be sent to

PO Box 310, Spalding. Sacred Heart may be sent to **PO Box 99**, Greeley. Automatic withdrawal (ACH) from your bank account can be set up for SM, ST, or SH. Contact the parish for details.

