

**First Sunday of Lent
February 18, 2024**

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

SUNDAY SCRIPTURES
Febr 25: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
 Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19
 Romans 8:31b-34
Mark 9:2-10

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Crossing triumphantly the 'Deserts' of Life

Dear Parishioners,

In the Gospel of today, we hear: "The Spirit drove Jesus out into the **desert**, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan." (Mk. 1:12)

Lots of circumstances in our life can be deserts: a crisis of faith, a life-threatening or serious illness, the death of a loved one, separation from a partner, loss of reputation, rejection of a friend, or an unbelieving spouse. During such critical experiences, we could become confused, frustrated, angry and question God's love and providence. As Satan did with Jesus in his desert experience, he will flash in our minds too all kinds of things that will appear to be good, attractive, and wonderful to destroy our fellowship with God and steal away our destiny and blessings. If we are to come out of our 'deserts' triumphantly, we must follow the example of Jesus.

How did Jesus defeat Satan - the evil?

First, he fully **submitted to God's Will** for his life. Second, he fully **trusted the word of God**. The only weapon Jesus used was **the Word** (Mt. 4:1-11). That should tell us that the only way the enemy's lies can be defeated is by way of the truth of the Word of God.

If we are going through the desert experience, there is no need to despair. We only need to trust God who is at work in our life. In the dark night of faith, we let God lead us on our journey to the promised Land even if we get there circuitously by the way of the desert. The experience of the desert opens up to a deeper and more profound faith in God and in His goodness even as we wander through the lonely desert. **The desert is not the end of the story**, because Scripture says that God always brings His people out of the desert to the promised Land: "**God brought us out** from wilderness in order **to bring us into** the Promised Land" (Dt. 6:23).

With love and prayers, *Fr. Lawrence*

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	02/17	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Fr Jim Murphy
SUN	02/18	7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S SACRED HEART ST THERESA'S	† Harold & Hazel Leslie † Patrick Ryan PEOPLE OF PARISH
TUE	02/20	5:30 p.m.	SACRED HEART	No Mass
WED	02/21	10:00 a.m.	ASSISTED LIVING	† Margaret Kelly
THU	02/22	5:00 p.m.	ST. CATHARINE'S	† Loretta McGowen
FRI	02/23	8:15 a.m.	ST. CATHARINE'S	† John, Robbie & Peg Scheef
SAT	02/24	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† James E. Murphy
SUN	02/25	7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S SACRED HEART ST THERESA'S	PEOPLE OF PARISH † Anne Rech † Frank & Mary Ballweg

COMMUNION SERVICES

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

Holy Father's Prayer Intention of the Month: FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL


We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Tuesdays, 12:00 noon.
 Please email information to both SM and SH. Email addresses on front of bulletin.

"Rite of Sending our RCIA candidates", Steve Barnett & Dale King, takes place during the "Vigil Mass" this Saturday, February 18th. What is the "Rite of Sending"? It involves "sending" of RCIA Candidates to the Bishop, who will exhort them to live in deeper conformity to the life of Christ. This will help them to begin their final preparation for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, and reception into full communion with the Catholic Church.


Knights of Columbus 1st, 2nd & 3rd Degree Exemplification is today, February 18th, at Greeley Sacred Heart Church following 9 a.m. Mass. Any questions, please call Allan Rolf 308-223-0477





**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:
FRIDAYS OF LENT**
SH—5:00 p.m.
SM—7:00 p.m.
ST— Friday, March 1 and Friday March, 8



Knights of Columbus Fish Fry
SM & SH—Friday, February 23
5:30—7:00 p.m.
SM Ministry Schedules are available at Church.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION	WEEKLY	MONTHLY
St. Michael's (Dominican Center)	Thursdays, 6 p.m.--9 p.m.	First Friday, March 1 , 24 hr, 9:00 a.m. All other Fridays 9 a.m.—3 p.m.
Sacred Heart Chapel		First Tuesday, March 5 9:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.
St. Theresa's		Last Sunday of month for Vocations, 10 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S	SACRED HEART	ST. THERESA'S																																																			
<p>LECTOR Feb 24: Duane Seamann Feb 25: Philip Hanigan</p> <p>EMHC Feb 24: Jeremiah & Kara Seamann, Holly Carraher, Jean Herrera Feb 25: Dan Bauer, Bill Spelic</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Feb 24: Sharon Seamann, Ed & Mandy McCarthy, Joe Seamann Feb 25: Tom Asche, Allan Rolf, Marilyn Leslie</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS Feb. 23: Stations of Cross: Alexa & Brielle H. Feb 24: Brooklyn, Belle, Brynlee Weltruski Feb 25: Addyson & Brynn Seamann, Avery Molt</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY Feb 24: Denise & Kelly Feb 25: Denise & Therese</p> <p>SM CDA Rosary, Thursdays, before Mass, 4:30 in the chapel.</p> 	<p>LECTOR Feb 25: Larry Wood</p> <p>EMHC Feb 25: Matt Pfeifer, Susie Lammers, Mike Wood</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Feb 25: Scott & Paige Wood</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS Feb 25: Taylor McIntyre; Beka Wood, Suttyn Smith</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY</p> <p>ROSARY Feb 25: Chuck Sweeney</p> <p>SACRISTAN Feb 25: Patty Harris</p> <p>COLLECTION COUNTERS Feb 25: Tom & Jackie</p> <p>ASSISTED LIVING Feb 25: Susie Lammers</p>	<p>LECTOR Feb 25: Leslie Scott</p> <p>EMHC Feb 25: Helen Plugge, Judy Ita</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Feb 25: Jake & Shelby Kasselder</p> <p>CHURCH CLEANING February: Helen Plugge, Pauline Maker, Emily Norell</p> <p>PRAYER CHAIN Call: Helen Plugge, Sue Patrick</p> <p>ROSARY For Vocations—Sundays 10:00 a.m. prior to Mass.</p> <p>Thursday morning Communion Service 9:00 a.m. followed by Rosary and Adoration.</p>  <p>Religious Education Sundays, 10:00 a.m. before Mass</p>																																																			
<p>THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>February 11</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 4,723</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ACH/online</td> <td>\$ 125</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 387</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Children's</td> <td>\$ 31</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 5,266</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td><u>\$172,757</u></td> </tr> </table>	February 11	Envelopes	\$ 4,723		ACH/online	\$ 125		Plate	\$ 387		Children's	\$ 31		Weekly total	\$ 5,266	Total	July 1st to date	<u>\$172,757</u>	<p>THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>February 11</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 1,137</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ACH/online</td> <td>\$ 430</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 655</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Children</td> <td>\$ 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 2,231</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td><u>\$ 96,326</u></td> </tr> </table>	February 11	Envelopes	\$ 1,137		ACH/online	\$ 430		Plate	\$ 655		Children	\$ 9		Weekly total	\$ 2,231	Total	July 1st to date	<u>\$ 96,326</u>	<p>THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>February 4</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 5,190</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 76</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Children's</td> <td>\$ 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly Total</td> <td>\$ 5,272</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td><u>\$36,178</u></td> </tr> </table>	February 4	Envelopes	\$ 5,190		Plate	\$ 76		Children's	\$ 6		Weekly Total	\$ 5,272	Total	July 1st to date	<u>\$36,178</u>
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"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God...." - Mark 1:14

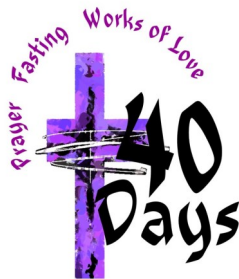
SH—Anyone interested in using the Sacred Heart Rectory in Greeley, please contact Matt 308-737-6468 or Angie Pfeifer, 785-410-7285


Catholics Encounter Christ Weekends

The Women's Weekend will be held March 8,9,10 - 2024 and The Men's Weekend will be held March 22,23,24- 2024. Both events will be held at Camp Comeca in Cozad. To register go to: [CEC Women's Weekend \(jotform.com\)](http://CEC Women's Weekend (jotform.com)) or [CEC Men's Weekend \(jotform.com\)](http://CEC Men's Weekend (jotform.com)) .

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.



	SA HAPPENINGS
Mon Feb 19	Presidents Day; Greeley Co. Spelling Bee @ Central Valley; 3:30-5:30 Lego League Practice; HS Boys Charger BB Sub-Districts
Tue Feb 20	UNL Math Day; HS Boys Charger BB Sub-Districts
Wed Feb 21	Golden Conference Speech Meet at Elba; 3:30-5:30 Lego League Practice; 5:30-6:00 Open House
Thur Feb 22	George Washington's Birthday; Feast of Chair of St Peter; 12:30 Lions Club Hearing & Sight Screening; HS Boys Charger BB SubDistricts.
Fri. Feb 23	8:15 Mass; FFA District CDE at GI CCC (Tentative); HS Girls Charger BB Districts
Sat. Feb 24	Centura Speech Invitational; Tentative Lego League Mini Play at David City

PRAYERS for our Seminarian: James Beran, Noah Huddleston, Samuel Ogden, Kaelob Marx, Trevor Fisher, Juan Pablo Ramirez-Estrada and David Hauk. Lord, we thank them for their call to the Priesthood as they boldly follow you with courage and joy.

LUCKY DAY CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNER

Our Sunday, February 18th winner of \$250 is Owen Seamann of Spalding. Congratulations!!



SM/St. Anne
February Church Cleaning: Circle of Joy
Side B: Lori Carraher-Prefect
Rotation: Trust, Peace, Faith
February Men's Club Team #5: Ed Bauer, Troy Kleffner