

COUNTERING JES

St. Francis Humphrey | Holy Family Lindsay | St. Michael Tarnov | St. Mary Leigh

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Friends.

The older I get, the more I become convinced of the existence of the closet monster. Every four-year-old child knows that in the dark places of the world, places like hallway closets, basement corners and the underneath of beds, lurk dangers so terrifying that the mere thought of confronting them often leads to tears. The perceived danger sometimes seems so real to the child that they often think they would be better served to keep it hidden rather than risk confronting it.

Of course, adults know better. We know that the closet monster, the boogeyman, or any other strange creatures lurking in the dark spaces

of our world are merely figments of an overactive imagination.

Or do we? Sometimes I don't think so. It seems to me that most of us, if not all, certainly behave like closet monsters are both real and prolific. Of course, very rarely do we think that they inhabit the dark places of our house. But, we sure seem to believe that they inhabit the dark places of our hearts.

To see this, simply think for a minute about the sacrament of confession. We all know that going to confession is a lot like throwing up. Not only does it suck big-time while it's going on, but you feel so much better once it's done. And why is this? Well, for the same reason it happens when vomiting. Having purged all that is bad in you, confession makes room for the reception of God's grace. Not a bad deal when you think about it!

Kind of makes you wonder why the lines to the confessional don't stretch clear down the block. Maybe it's because people don't sin today like they did in generations gone by. Well, maybe, but I would guess that all of us agree that the general level of societal morality has plummeted during the past sixty years. Yet the use of the sacrament of confession has plummeted right along with society's moral decline. Think there might be a connection?

Perhaps there's another explanation. Maybe people don't go to confession today because we now realize that our sins aren't really all that bad. If so, they are wrong. For example, let's look at a fairly common sin -- cursing. Cursing is a relatively minor venial sin, and I would suspect most of us that commit this sin don't think it's that bad.

But, perhaps we should. After all, parents undoubtedly recall the horror they felt when they experienced their young child utter their first curse word. Well, if fallen parents are horrified at this behavior from their beloved child, how much more so is God horrified at the behavior of His beloved children, whom He loves infinitely more than any parent loves any child! Of course, this sin of cursing is only one little sin. Undoubtedly, all of us commit more and, unfortunately, most of us commit graver ones. I sure hope we don't think our sins aren't that bad. They are!

Of course, this leads to the obvious conclusion. We must not go to confession because we think the closet monster lives there. In other words, we are afraid; afraid that if we expose the darkness in our hearts to the light of the sacrament of confession, some dastardly hobgoblin is going to rear its ugly head and destroy us.

Yet the dastardly hobgoblin we fear is an illusion conjured up by the devil. The devil knows how important the sacrament of confession is. One of the devil's favorite methods of discouraging us from this sacrament is the use of fear. You see, when the devil first tempts us to sin, he pretends to be our buddy. He whispers things like, "It's ok, everybody's doing it," or "C'mon, you won't get caught," or "Don't worry, it's not that big of a deal." But, the instant we have sinned, the devil turns on us like a predator. "Look at how wretched you are," he says. "I can't believe what you did." "God will never forgive you for that." "For goodness sakes," he exclaims, "don't tell anyone!" "For then they will know how wicked you are." In tempting us into keeping our sins secret, the devil, the ultimate closet monster, tries to keep our darkness

Don't fall for it! Rather, tell that "closet monster" to go back to hell where he belongs and expose your darkness to the light of Jesus Christ. For the reality is that we have as much to fear from the sacrament of confession as the small child does from the boogeyman. In fact, if you do make use of this sacrament, especially if it has been a long time or there is something you are particularly ashamed to confess, I can guarantee you two things. First, just like the small child opening the closet door, opening the door to the closet of the confessional will be scary. But, second, you'll discover exactly what a little child discovers. There is nothing to fear. For basking in the light of Christ, we see that the devil is really a coward that flees like a frightened squirrel in the face of something more powerful; a child, a child Jesus died for, a child of God, which is what we all are.

Blessings, F. EJA

GENERAL INFORMATION MASS SCHEDULES & INTENTIONS

SACRAMENT PREP

CONFESSIONS:

DAILY: 7:30 AM-7:50 AM (Before All Daily Masses)

SATURDAYS: Lindsay: 4:00 PM-4:45 PM

Humphrey: 4:30 PM-5:15 PM

SUNDAYS: Lindsay: 7:00 AM-7:45 AM

Leigh: 8:00 AM-8:20 AM Tarnov: After 10:30 AM Mass

BAPTISMS: To schedule, please contact Rev. Eric Olsen at

(402) 923-0913.

MARRIAGE: Please contact the priest six months before wedding in order to fulfill required wedding prep classes.

CONTACTS

Pastor:

Rev. Eric Olsen	402-923-0913
	esolsen@archomaha.org
Rev. Wayne Pavela	402-923-0913

To Submit Bulletin Information:

St. Francis Parishioners	.kmorfeld@hsfschool.org
Holy Family Parishioners	
St. Mary Parishioners	

St. Michael Parishioners stmichaelstarnov@gmail.com

(For other parish contacts, please see the following pages.)

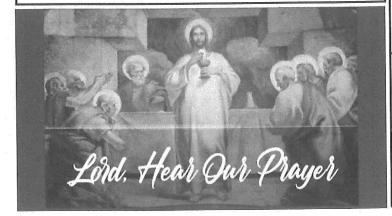
PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRA

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Julie (Werner) Frauendorfer

KEEP IN PRAYER AS THEY SERVE OUR COUNTRY:

John Babl, Patrick Washburn, Craig Prather, Jedd Taff, Brent Kendall, Mitchell Preister, Cody Ramaekers, Eric and Michelle Oberhauser, Ben Borer, Nicole Thompson, Aaron Wallin, Steve Bender, Jacob Williams, SFC Van Dyke, Joshua Sprunk, Codi Rose Fehringer, Fr. Curt Dwyer, Bryce Bartholomew, Calvin Wiese, Doc Schumacher, Dylan Preister (Please call your parish office to add a name.)



ST. FRANCIS CHURCH, HUMPHREY:

Sat, 02/29:

5:30 PM-+For the People of the Cluster Parishes

Sun, 03/01:

10:00 AM-Delores Boesch-CDA, & +Doris Boesch

Mon, 03/02:

8:00 AM-+Ed & +Florice Boesch

Tues, 03/03:

8:00 AM-Tina Sachau-CDA, & +Francis Sand

Wed, 03/04: 8:00 AM-Philomae Foltz

6:40 PM (PRE)-Ryan & Sheila Goetsch Family

Thurs, 03/05:

8:00 AM-+Eddie Kresha

Fri, 03/06: 8:00 AM-Souls of the Faithfully Departed 7:00 PM-Stations of the Cross & Adoration (During Lent)

5:30 PM-For the People of the Cluster Parishes

Sun. 03/08:

10:00 AM-L/D +Bill Heesacker Family

(WA): Wedding Anniversary

(A): Anniversary of Death

(B): Birthday

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, LINDSAY:

Sat, 02/29: 5:00 PM-L/D Swede & Arlene Kurtenbach Family

Sun, 03/01:

8:00 AM-L/D Ray, Mildred & Tom Oberhauser Family

Mon, 03/02:

8:00 AM-L/D Jeff Jarecki Family, L/D Bob & Lois Pfeifer Fam.

8:00 AM-Leon Haschke

Wed, 03/04:

6:30 AM-L/D Novotny Family 8:00 AM-Purgatorial Society

Thurs. 03/05:

8:00 AM-L/D Jim Klassen Family

Fri, 03/06:

8:00 AM-Lee Pinger

Sat, 03/07: 5:00 PM-L/D Maynard Geilenkirchen Family,

L/D Garry Thompson Family

Sun, 03/08: 8:00 AM-L/D Bud & Lori Bender Family,

Holy Family Parishioners

ST. MARY, LEIGH:

Sun. 03/08:

8:30 AM-Loretta Bahns

ST. MICHAEL, TARNOV:

Sun. 03/08:

10:30 AM-St. Michael Parishioners

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH LITURGICAL MINISTERS MAR. 7-8

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday - 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

CONTACTS

Deacon Dennis Anderson(402) 920-1380	
Deacon Kent Sachau(402) 369-1750	
Deacon Tim Howard(402) 841-3434	
Parish Council: Dave Krings(402) 992-1376	
Ken Classen(402) 923-0313	
Finance Board: Bryan Reichmuth(402) 340-6429	
School Board: Todd Preister(402) 454-1302	
Lindsey Kosch(402) 910-3303	
Home & School Association: Suzanne Beltz(402) 640-7360	
Sarah Classen(402) 923-0131	
Religious Ed Director: Lori Classen(402) 923-0987	
Daycare Director: Brandi Eisenmenger (402) 923-0585	
Server Coordinator: Deb Herchenbach(402) 923-0320	
Bulletin Submissions: Katie Morfeld (402) 923-0913	
kmorfeld@hsfschool.org	
Finance Office: Lisa Krings(402) 923-0913	
Parish Office Secretary: Karen Wieser(402) 923-0913	
Alumni Relations Coordinator: Missy Braun (402) 923-0818	
Prayer Line: During Office Hours - Parish Office (402) 923-0913	
After Office Hours - Connie Foltz(402) 920-3222	
Pastoral Minister: Diane Zach(402) 920-0617	
Gift Shop: Julie Krings(402) 992-4151	
CT FDANCIC COLLOGIA	

ST. FRANCIS SCHOOLS:

all limited actions.	
Principal: Jennifer Dunn	jdunn@hsfschool.org
Jr./Sr. High School:	402-923-0818
Elementary School:	

PARISH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sun, 03/01: *12 PM-5 PM-QUEST Planning

*7 PM-"Rosarv for Peace" in Church

Wed, 03/04: *6:30 PM-PRE

Thurs, 03/05: *8:30 AM-7 PM-Adoration Following 8 AM

Fri, 03/06: *8 AM-Lenten Mass Followed by Adoration

*7 PM-Stations of the Cross & Adoration

Sun, 03/01: *DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

(Spring Forward)

*12 PM-5 PM-QUEST Planning

*7 PM-"Rosary for Peace" in Church

SERVING QUILTERS

It's Your Turn To Bring A Dessert: 3:30 PM in the parish hall. When preparing your dessert, you can plan to serve eight to twelve ladies. Thank you!

Friday, March 6: Ron & Jeanette Sjuts Monday, March 9: Alan & Julie Huettner

Sat. 5:30 PM

Lector-Mary Helen Fuchs Servers-Gage Braun, Cael Classen EMHCs-Deacon Kent Sachau, Sally Classen Greeters-Karen Werner, Betty Brockhaus Gift Bearers-Larry & Jeanette Frauendorfer

Sun, 10:00 AM

Lector-Sharlene Hamling Servers-Whitney Wegener, Lexi Morfeld EMHCs-Deacon Tim Howard, Mark Brockhaus Greeters-Ken & Jane Backes Gift Bearers-Barry & Radell Tasa

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION REPORT

Church/School 19/20 Fiscal Year Budget \$1,979,168.63

Fiscal YTD Church/School Total Income \$1,361,285.76 Fiscal YTD Church/School Total Expenses \$1,356,187.79 Surplus/(Deficit) 5,097.97

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS: Restoration & Building - \$10, Youth - \$53.64, 4-in-1 - \$70, Loose - \$418.53, School Support - \$2,465, Church Support - \$3,572

COLUMBUS RESCUE MISSION 2nd COLLECTION: \$390

2nd COLLECTION: Next weekend's 2nd collection will go toward the Restoration & Building Fund.

CHURCH CLEANING

WEEKLY CHURCH CLEANING CHAIRMEN:

Michelle Cash - 402-454-3524

Spencer & Brandi Eisenmenger - 402-920-0688 Mark & Sally Korth - 402-920-2966 Tim & Shelia Hassenstab - 402-923-0716 Terry & Cheryl Sjuts - 402-923-1825 Dan & Christina Hastreiter - 402-920-3774

SACRISTY & FLOWERS CHAIRMEN:

Paul & Jodie Eisenmenger - 402-923-1002

Chris & Amy Slama - 402-276-6703 Chad & Crystal Harper - 402-885-0599 Brent & Kelli Reichmuth - 402-920-3784 Jerry & Donna Kyncl - 402-920-0457 Greg & Kim Sjuts - 402-920-0306 Steven & Miranda Svitak - 402-841-4500

VACUUMERS: Roger & Rita Baumgart, Stacie Baumgart







PRAY FAST