

## PASTOR'S NOTES

Dear Friends,

What's on your mind?

Work? Health? Family? The Future? All of these and more?

Let me ask you another question, one a seminary professor would ask us when we disagreed with one another: "Will it matter in eternity?"

Will the thing that bothers you, the event, person, disagreement or worry that preoccupies, matter in eternity?

I don't know what your particular answer will be, but this is a question I continue to ask myself to put things in perspective.

Whatever may preoccupy us personally, Lent can be a time to return everything to their proper context: eternity. We are made for eternity, to live with God forever in his glory.

Lent can be like a pair of glasses that, when worn, helps us see, as St. John Vianney said, "deep into eternity." The great Christian writer and speaker, C. S. Lewis, puts a remarkably helpful twist on this, saying,

"It may be possible for each to think too much of his own potential glory hereafter; it is hardly possible for him to think too often or too deeply about that of his neighbor.

The load, or weight, or burden of my neighbor's glory should be laid daily on my back..."

Lewis' point: our relationship with God is never exclusively our own. It's never for our own benefit. Being a disciple means being concerned for another's eternity and glory more than our own.

If we work towards that, then perhaps our own personal preoccupations will resolve themselves.

With Gratitude and Joy for the days ahead!

Fr. Seth

## OUR GIFTS TO GOD

### THE WEEK OF 2/11/18

St. Mary's \$805	Budget (\$1,900) -\$1095
Sacred Heart \$1087	Budget (\$900) +\$187
Visitation \$364	Budget (\$400) -\$36
St. Sebastian \$209	Budget (\$400) -\$191

### Catholic Times - as of 2/11/18

St. Mary's \$583	Billed: \$1,819
Sacred Heart \$445	Billed: \$962
Visitation BVM \$280	Billed: \$391
St. Sebastian \$136	Billed: \$327

## LONGITUDE

2018 Feb 18 SUN:

11:00am, Lenten Speaker: Vicki Compton, St. Mary's Church, New Berlin, donuts to follow in Parish Center.

1-5pm, Passion of Christ Strengthen Me, afternoon of prayer for women 13-19, St. Francis Convent, Alton.

2018 Feb 20 Tues:

6-8pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Visitation BVM, Alexander

2018 Feb 23 Fri:

7:00pm, Stations of the Cross, St. Sebastian, Waverly

2018 Feb 25 SUN:

Second Collection: Catholic Charities.

2018 Feb 27 Tues:

6-8pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, St. Sebastian, Waverly

2018 Mar 2 Fri:

7:00pm, Stations of the Cross, Sacred Heart, Franklin

2018 Mar 4 SUN:

11:00am, Lenten Speaker: Carlos Tejeda, St. Mary's Church, New Berlin, refreshments to follow in Parish Center.

2018 Mar 6 Tues:

6-8pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Sacred Heart, Franklin

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Vernon & Mary Hemberger, Jack Glisson, David Hermes, Charles & Alice Walk, Nancy Flach, Cecelia Peters, Roseanne Hartley, Calyssa Richie, Dale Fitzpatrick, Mary McCray, Carl Bertolotti, Heather Boudreau, Don & Margaret Laughery, Jane Ryan, Jean Knight, Tina Green, Sy & Judy Haber, Donna Reichart, Presley Kerber, Joyce Henn, Olivia Loving, George Eck, Opal Sutera, Theresa Yates.