



# THE BASILICA of ST. JAMES

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St. Mathias St. Michael

Windsor

Pingree

St. Margaret's

Buchanan

4th Sunday of Lent

VOLUME 58 #11

THE VOICE

March 14, 2010

**The church invites you to make your prayer scriptural.**

A good way to begin would be to use each week's Sunday Psalm Response at regular daily intervals:

**"The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."**

**Please pray for our Elect**, Alyssa Ost, Lindsey Crowston, Tyra Baumgartner, and David Baxter. During Lent they will continue to spend time in prayer and further study as they prepare for Baptism at the Easter Vigil.

**Second Scrutiny of the Elect - RCIA 4th Sunday of Lent ...** On the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent, the church celebrates the Scrutinies. Today this Rite is being celebrated at the 6:00 pm Eucharist. According to the Church's Rites, "the Scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good." Please keep all the Elect in your prayers as they make their final journey to the Easter Sacraments. Because we are celebrating the Scrutinies, the readings will be taken from Cycle A of the Lectionary for these Sundays.

**"Building Community in God's Kingdom"— Capital Campaign**

The Building Community in God's Kingdom Capital Campaign leadership is happy to share that an anonymous parish family has committed a gift of more than \$100,000 in support of our capital campaign! This extremely generous contribution is a significant step in our effort to raise the donations needed to fund our project. This gift provides us with a wonderful start in our fundraising effort.

We are currently soliciting our campaign leadership and they too are responding to our request for support. Soon every registered parish household of St. James Basilica and the outlying parishes will be asked to consider a sacrificial donation to the capital campaign. I am hopeful that one family's lead gift of \$100,000 will motivate everyone to prayerfully examine and give serious consideration to their commitment.

In 1 Corinthians 10:31, the Apostle Paul encourages "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

If we follow that advice in everything we do, we cannot help but be good stewards.

**Information on the Capital Campaign is now on the Basilica Website:** go to [www.stjamesbasilica.org](http://www.stjamesbasilica.org), click on Capital Campaign (coded in green) and then click on one of the four links.

**Deanery VII 2010 Reconciliation Services:**

St. George, Cooperstown  
7:00pm Sunday, March 14

Sacred Heart, Carrington  
7:00pm Sunday, March 28

St. Agatha, Hope  
6:30pm Thurs., March 18

St. Catherine, Valley City  
7:00pm Sunday, March 28

**St. James Basilica:**  
7:00pm Sunday, March 21  
7:00pm Monday, March 22

**NOTE:** We have the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) everyday before the noon Eucharist at 11:40am. We also celebrate it regularly on Saturday at 3:30pm. We invite you to make a special effort to do this during Lent.

**This Week's Liturgies - March 15-21, 2010**

**MON** 12:10pm † *Kevin Johnson* by EPYMD  
5:15pm † *Lorraine Wright* by Harriet & Kenny DeVillers

**TUE** 7:00am † *Jack Brown* by the Brown Family  
12:10pm (L) *Fr. Tim Johnson* by EPYMD  
12:15pm Eucharist @ North Dakota State Hospital  
(SE Corner of La Haug Building)

**WED** 10:00am † *Barb Falk* by Lloyd Falk @ Ave Maria Village  
12:10pm † *Amelia Endres* by Ted & Donna Endres  
5:15pm (L) *Pat McCommon* by Les & Gina Horgan Family

**THU** 7:00am (L) *Danya Hiltz* by Harriet Kartes  
12:10pm † *Rita Donegan* by a friend  
12:40pm Adoration  
5:00pm Benediction  
3:30pm † *Joan & Neal Floyd* by Delphine Prodzinski  
@ Rock of Ages  
7:00pm Eucharist @ James River Correctional Center

**FRI** 10:00am (L) *Jerry Zeilhofer* by Glory Ebertz @ Hi-Acres Manor  
12:10pm † *Mary Exner* by Pat McCommon  
5:15pm (L) *Larry & Judy Birger* by EYPMD  
7:00pm Stations of the Cross

**SAT** 8:00am † *Sally Soupir* by David Soupir  
4:30pm † *Edmund Fettig* by Elizabeth Fettig

**SUN** 8:30am † *Creighton Kettleson* by Diane & Arnie Strand  
10:30am *People of the Basilica and Outlying Parishes* by Fr. Bitz  
6:00pm † *Tom Brewer* by Frances Brewer  
7:00pm Parish Reconciliation Service

**Reconciliation 1/2 hour before daily Eucharists; Saturdays 3:30pm**

Scripture Readings: look on the websites: <http://www.nccbuscc.org/nab/http://www.lectorprep.org>. (Good for Proclaimers' preparation)

**This Week's Readings**

Sun	1st	1 Sam. 16:1b, 6-7 10-13a (31A)
	2nd	Eph. 5:8-14
	Gospel	John 9:1-41
Mon	1st	Is. 65:17-21
	Gospel	John 4:43-54
Tue	1st	Ezek. 47:1-9, 12
	Gospel	John 5:1-16
Wed	1st	Is. 49:8-15
	Gospel	John 5:17-30
Thu	1st	Ex. 32:7-14
	Gospel	John 5:31-47
Fri	1st	2 Sam. 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16
	2nd	Rom. 4:13, 16-18, 22
	Gospel	Mt. 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Sat	1st	Jer. 11:18-20
	Gospel	John 7:40-53
Sun	1st	Ezek. 37:12-14 (34A)
	2nd	Romans 8:8-11
	Gospel	John 11:1-45

**Liturgies at Outlying Parishes**

**8:30am Next Sunday at:**

St. Mathias, Windsor

† *Lorene Wanzek* by Marvin & Donna Wanzek

**10:30am Next Sunday at:**

St. Michael's, Pingree

† *Ben Neuharth* by Bob & Sonia Heinle

**The Christian Mimes will be presenting "A Walk With Christ" Friday, March 26**

at the Basilica at 7:00pm. The presentation is a combination of the Stations of the Cross and the Passion of Christ done in Mime with special lighting and music. Please join the Mimes for this Lenten Service.

**Assisted Hearing Units are available in the Sacristy of St. James.**

**Bible Study for Men:**

Monday's at 7:00pm in the St. Thomas Room. Good Lenten Study.

We will be studying the life of St. Joseph, Mary's spouse.

**We welcome the newly baptized:** Carson James Radtke, son of Starla. Grandparents are Liza and Randy Danielson and Bryan Radtke Sr., Jamestown, ND.

Kaeonna Jeannette Radtke, daughter of Bryan & Barbara, sister of Hunter & Dominic. Grandparents are Liza and Randy Danielson and Bryan Radtke Sr., Jamestown, ND; Joni Butterfield, Grand Forks, ND.

**Easter Environment...** We invite you to donate toward the environment for the Easter season in memory of a deceased loved one or in remembrance of someone special in your life. Please complete the form below, include it in your offering and drop in the collection basket. Thank you.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Deceased: \_\_\_\_\_ Living: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount donated: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bits of Bitz

Gift Giving. A culture of giving. I experienced this in my family, in my farming neighborhood, in my community as I was growing up. Different people had different gifts and they offered them to the community in different ways.

One of the things that continues to amaze me is my parents' openness to neighbors and cousins staying with us. Many of my 1<sup>st</sup> cousins often remember the times that they came to our farm for dinners, for visiting, for eating freshly and homemade ice cream. They remember staying at our place for days, some for weeks and even for years. My Dad was a handyman and he would always help neighbors if something needed to be fixed, overhauled or welded. He would go in the middle of the night if a neighbor had a cow that couldn't calve. He would be there if horses needed shoeing. He was there to serve the school district, the township board and county committees. Mom was always there for people because of her listening skills. She was there with her prayers. She was there in her compassionate heart always seeking to build unity. Together they were there when our parish decided to build a Catholic School

The neighbors in turn would be there for us and others in many different ways. Sometimes Mom would go grocery shopping and the store manager would say: "There's a box of groceries setting along the wall which an anonymous person left for you." They would be there in their inventiveness for farm equipment or new farming practices. They would be there to let my Dad know when some land would be coming up for rent.

They were there. We were there. We were Community. Openness to the needs of others was experienced not as a call to arduous sacrifice, but as an opportunity to welcome the "astonishing experience of gift" We knew that the purpose of education is to guide students to discover and develop their own gifts, finding their vocation to serve the community. Our culture of giving over and over reminded us that we were made for gift in our personal, social and economic life—a life that reflected the life of the Trinity. This is what Pope Benedict teaches so eloquently in his encyclical "Charity in Truth." You can read it by going to: [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/encyclicals/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_enc\\_20090629\\_caritas-in-veritate\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20090629_caritas-in-veritate_en.html)

**Annual Big Raffle:** Normally we start selling the \$100 tickets for the annual Big Raffle in March and have the drawing on Mother's Day. Because of our Capital Campaign we are moving the raffle. We will start selling the tickets in June and have the drawing in early August.

**Next Baptism Preparation Session** will be held on **Monday, April 5, 2010 at 7:00pm** at the **Zebedee Center**. Please call 252-0478 to register.

### Youth celebrating Baptismal Anniversaries this week

McKenna Jackson

Kathryn Ramlo

**Spiritual discernment** is a process in which we call upon and strive to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit to give direction on a matter. It is how the Spirit leads the church to what God is calling us to do and be. Our parish discernment for leadership will begin soon. To prepare for this process we ask all parishioners to reflect upon their experience of being a member of St. James Basilica. Think about your involvement in the parish. How does our parish give you a sense of God's presence or a sense of belonging? How might the Holy Spirit be calling you to share your time and talent with our parish community? See today's insert for a fuller explanation.

**Annulments:** If you know of anyone that needs an annulment, please tell them to see Sr. Michaeleen soon. Right now the diocese doesn't have many cases so we should be able to do them much quicker. There is no cost involved. Sr. Michaeleen can be reached at 269-2143 or email: [michaeleen@csicable.net](mailto:michaeleen@csicable.net).

**Cursillo weekends:**

March 25-28: **Women's Cursillo** weekend at Belcourt. Contact Jackie Delorme at 701-263-4636 or jcd2561@yahoo.com for more information.

**Our sympathy and remember in prayer** the families of those who died recently, *Fern Lauf*, grandmother of Dean (Wanda) Alber; *Michael Greff*, grandfather of Jacy (Michel) Burgess.

**In your prayers please remember our sick:** (new names are in parentheses and italics) To make things more personal, we include names for two weeks. Behind each name is the neighborhood or outlying parish with which they are connected. Thus we ask the neighborhood or outlying parish to continue praying for them. If you don't remember your neighborhood you can check the map at the church west entrance.

Casey Helmstetler (NE High School Neighborhood)  
Leader: Darlene Heintz

Steve Senger (NW Fairgrounds Neighborhood)  
Leader: Suzie Senger

Tyler Overby St. Michael, Pingree

Terry Lynn Wanzek St. Mathias, Windsor

Donald Schulte, brother of Jim (NE Tennis Neighborhood)  
Leaders: Carol Kachel, Dean & Carrie Kraft

**In your prayers** please remember our friends and relatives who are deployed in Iraq and overseas: (new names are in parentheses and Italics)

Jeffery Andersen  
Ryan Carroll  
Rob Falk  
Scott Gainsforth

Tyrel Gion  
Fr. Jack Herron  
Nick Kluck  
Joseph Nasset

Leah Nasset  
Christopher Olsen  
Michael Pommerer  
Philip Pommerer

Daniel Shealy  
Abby Tews  
Jerod Tufte

**(If you know of new people, please let us know).**

**This Week Around the Parish**

Mon. 12:45pm Brown Bag Bible Study, Holy Spirit Room	Basilica
Mon. 6:30pm Parish & School Committee Meetings,	Zebedee Center
Administrative Finance - Conference Room	St. John's Academy - Youth Room
Faith Formation - Shirley's Office	Tabernacle - Music Room
Liturgy & Human Concerns - Library	
Mon. 7:00pm Men's Bible Study, St. Thomas Room,	Parish Center
Mon. 8:00pm Pastoral Council, Conference Room,	Zebedee Center
Tue. 7:00pm Capital Campaign Meetings,	Parish Center
Wed. 11:30-12:50pm Lenten Lunch/Worship Service, First United Methodist	
Wed. 6:30pm Reconciliation Faith Formation grades 2-5,	Zebedee Center
Wed. 6:30pm K-6 Faith Formation	Zebedee Center
Wed. 6:30-7:45pm, Middle School	Zebedee Center
Wed. 6:45pm Lenten Bible Study	Parish Center
Wed. 7:00pm Basilica Choir Rehearsal,	Basilica
Wed. 7:45-9pm High School	Basilica
Thu. 9:00am Reconciliation, St. John's Academy Students,	St. John's Academy
Thu. 1:30pm Parish Staff Meeting, Conference Room,	Zebedee Center
Thu. 6:30pm College Bible Study, L-2 Nafus Center,	Jamestown College
Thu. 7:00-8:30pm Youth Choir Rehearsal,	Basilica
Sat. 9:00am Confirmation Eucharist Mini-Retreat, Parish Center	Basilica



**CD of the Week: "Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality" - Matthew Kelly**

Have you ever felt disillusioned about your faith and filled with doubt? Matthew Kelly will take you on the adventure of a lifetime designed to help revitalize your spiritual life. Bold, practical, and inspiring, he will help you rediscover the true meaning of life as expressed in the seven pillars of authentic Catholic spirituality.

**For Lent:** If you are not yet receiving Communion under both species, maybe you would consider doing this especially for Lent and the Easter Season, thru the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) on June 6. In the latest edition of the U.S. Bishops' "Committee on Divine Worship" they say: "Numerous liturgical documents recommend the distribution of Holy Communion under both species....the Church recognizes the value of the sign of sharing in Holy Communion under both species in response to the Lord's command to 'take and eat' and 'take and drink'." The General Instruction of the Roman Missal offers this encouragement: "Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it is distributed under both kinds." In Pope John Paul II's "Eucharistic Life of the Church," he says: "The saving efficacy of the sacrifice is fully realized when the Lord's body and blood are received in communion"

### **Search Weekend-April 9-11, 2010 at Maryvale Convent, Valley City.**

Search is a peer-to-peer ministry, allowing youth to minister to youth. Young people will share bits and pieces of themselves; their joys and struggles in everyday life. They will share how Christ fits into their busy schedules and why it is important to have Christ as a part of your life.

The weekend begins at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and concludes around 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. There is time for prayer, Eucharist, fellowship, and fun.

Applications are now being taken for the April Search at Maryvale. New Searcher Deadline is March 17.

For more information or to pick up an application, please contact the Faith Formation office at 252-0478 or e-mail [faithformation@csicable.net](mailto:faithformation@csicable.net).

### **Jr. High Youth Rally-Saturday, April 10, 2010 at Larimore High School, Larimore**

Students in grades 6-8 are invited to attend the youth rally. This year's theme is "U R RCK". Join with other youth from throughout the Diocese of Fargo in this day-long event, beginning with registration at 9:00 a.m. and closing with prayer at 9:00 p.m. Keynote speaker and evening entertainment is DJ Bill Lage. The cost is \$10. Registration deadline is March 24, 2010. For more in-

formation or to pick up a registration form, please contact Sr. Shawna at 252-0478 or e-mail [faithformation@csicable.net](mailto:faithformation@csicable.net).

### **Single Adult Ministry-Thursdays, March 25 at First United Methodist.**

Single Adults, 18 and older are invited to join with others in this ministry. The next gathering is March 25 at 8:00 p.m. at First United Methodist. There will be time for prayer, fun and fellowship. For more information please contact Sr. Shawna at 252-0478 or e-mail [faithformation@csicable.net](mailto:faithformation@csicable.net).

### **Praying with the Labyrinth**

Labyrinths have been around for many years. The Chartres Labyrinth was constructed in 1201 in the floor of the Chartres Cathedral, France. Medieval Christians visited Chartres and other cathedrals, walking the labyrinth as an alternative to taking a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to walk "in the foot steps of Christ." Come and experience a modern labyrinth. A labyrinth will be available in the Youth Room at the Zebedee Center March 22-26. Watch next week's bulletin for times available. For more information please contact the Faith Formation office at 252-0478 or e-mail [faithformation@csicable.net](mailto:faithformation@csicable.net).

### **Question of the Week: 4th Sunday of Lent - Week of March 14, 2010 ... 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41 Source of light**

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light-for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. (Ephesians 5:8-9)

**Question for Adults:** What are you doing in your life right now to move toward light rather than darkness?

**Question for Children:** How can you let the light of your faith in Jesus shine for others to see?

### **OUTSIDE THE PARISH:**

**Ministerial Lenten Series** this Wednesday, March 17 at First United Methodist. Lunch will be served from 11:30-12:20 with worship following from 12:20-12:50. This year's theme is "I am..." *sayings of Jesus: "I am the Bread of Life."* Maj. Harold Baugh from Salvation Army will be preaching this week on John 11:17-27, "I am the Resurrection". Lunch will be served from 11:30-12:20.

**Bishop Aquila to Lead Good Friday Stations of the Cross** Bishop Aquila will lead the faithful in the Stations of the Cross at the state's only abortion facility, 512 1st Avenue North, in Fargo, on Good Friday, April 2, 10:30 am. Please join us in prayer and petition in reparation for offences against the dignity of the human person as we venerate our Lord's Passion and Death.

**New Life for Your Church** ... A Workshop With PAUL NIXON :Author of "I Refuse to Lead A Dying Church".

**March 22 - 23 at Quality Inn - Jamestown.** Sponsored by the North Dakota Conference of Churches. This workshop will challenge church leaders (lay and clergy) to refuse to accept the status quo for our churches and our faith, and to intentionally move to rebuild the church, its membership and its faith. You can also register online at: [http://www.ndconferenceofchurches.com/up\\_coming\\_events](http://www.ndconferenceofchurches.com/up_coming_events) or by calling Elisha at 701-226-8037.

### **Courageous Women Celebrating Breast Cancer Survival**

Help for Hope and Healing (HHH), Jamestown's Cancer Support Network, along with the Zonta Club of Jamestown, is hosting a Breast Cancer Brunch entitled "Courageous Women Celebrating Breast Cancer Survival." The brunch will be at **10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Jamestown.** Anyone who has had breast cancer in the past or is currently being treated for breast cancer is considered a survivor. All current and former breast cancer patients, their friends, family members and care givers are welcome and encouraged to attend. A panel of speakers will share inspiration and information. The brunch is free of charge, but tickets are required. **Tickets may be obtained by calling Eileen at 251-1280.** Help for Hope and Healing (HHH) is a branch of the Jamestown Area Grief Support Team that deals with meeting the practical needs of cancer patients and their families. For more information, visit our website at [www.jamestowncancersupport.org](http://www.jamestowncancersupport.org).

**8th Annual Pro-Life Quilting Event,** Saturday, March 27, 9:00am-4:00pm in St. Catherine's gym basement, Valley City, ND. Free fabric kits & lunch provided. Must Pre-register by March. 22. For more information call Lela Grim, 845-4067 or Anne Wuolu, 845-5242.

**Census:** Be counted in 2010. Complete the Censuses form as soon as you get it. It's easy. It's important and it's safe. Return your form by mail. you should be getting the forms in the mail this week.

### St. John's Academy News:

**PTO BOOK NIGHT:** PTO will be sponsoring a Family Fun Night/Reading Night and Book Swap, March 23. Please be on the lookout for more information to follow.

**HOPE DINNER 2010:** It's not too early to start thinking about the HOPE Dinner 2010. We would like to have the class project chairs in place by May so that you have the summer to think of ideas and gather materials. There will be a meeting in May explaining guidelines, ideas from other schools will be available and financial assistance will be made available for the projects. If you are interested in participating in a class project for your child's class or any other class please call Deanna Weiser at 952-9049.

**HOPE VOLUNTEER SOCIAL:** If you are curious about HOPE Dinner or simply love to volunteer for SJA functions, plan to attend the HOPE Dinner Volunteer Social Monday, March 22 at the KC Hall from 7:00pm - 9:00 pm. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and booths will be set up to explain what role each committee plays with this wonderful event. There will be drawings and prizes. **PLAN ON ATTENDING!** See the invitation on the following page.

**MUSICAL TOUR-MEXICAN STYLE:** Manuel Delgado will be performing at SJA Tuesday, March 23, at 8:45 am. Manuel Delgado studied music and theory at the Musical Institute of Mexico City. With his deep, rich, voice, Manuel has entertained thousands all over the US and Mexico. He will take our students on a musical tour from Spain to Peru, Mexico to the US.

**FACE Fact:** The Foundation for the Advancement of Christian Education (FACE) has received memorials for: Tillie Buckman, Kay Miska and LaVon Humes. FACE thanks family and friends for these memorials. May God Bless these people.

### Saint of the Week: Joseph, Husband of Mary

Joseph, we know, was engaged to Mary. Upon learning that she was pregnant, he resolved to divorce her. Described in Matthew as a righteous man, Joseph did not want to expose Mary to public disgrace; therefore he intended to dismiss her quietly. An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream to tell him, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife for the child con-

ceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." (Mt 1:20). He remained her faithful husband and helped raise Jesus. Joseph worked as a carpenter. We know that he taught his trade to Jesus, as was the custom of the times. We can also assume that Jesus, like most boys, picked up the mannerisms and speech of Joseph.

### The Year of Priests

#### March 14

Troy Simonsen  
Seminarian -  
Theology I



#### March 15

Fr. Duaine Cote  
Retired



#### March 16

Gregory Evinger  
Seminarian - College II



#### March 17

Fr. Robert Unger  
Park River



### Pray for the following priests (March 14-20, 2010)

#### March 18

Bishop Samuel Aquila  
Succession to  
Fargo See  
3/18/2002



#### March 19

Msgr. Joseph  
Huebsch  
Retired



#### March 20

Fr. Joseph Okogba  
Drayton - Pembina



### A Prayer for Priests

Lord Jesus, you have chosen your priests from among us and sent them out to proclaim your word and act in your name. For so great a gift to your Church, we give you praise and thanksgiving. We ask you to fill them with the fire of your love, that their ministry may reveal your presence in the Church. Since they are earthen vessels, we pray that your power shine out through their weakness.

In their afflictions let them never be crushed; in their doubts never despair; in temptation never be destroyed; in persecution never abandoned. Inspire them through prayer

to live each day, that mystery of your dying and rising. In times of weakness send them your Spirit and help them to praise your heavenly Father and pray for the poor sinners.

By the same Holy Spirit, put your word on their lips and your love in their hearts, to bring good news to the poor and healing to the broken-hearted. And may the gift of Mary, your mother, to the disciple whom you loved, be your gift to every priest. Grant that she who formed you in her human image may form them in your Divine image, by the power of your Spirit to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

**Basilica - Fridays during Lent**, 7:00pm Stations of the Cross.

**Basilica - Tuesdays & Thursdays during Lent**, 7:00am Eucharist will be offered in addition to the 12:10pm Eucharist. This should allow working people to attend & still get to work.

**Basilica - Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays during Lent**, 5:15pm Eucharist will be offered in addition to the 12:10pm Eucharist. This should allow working people to attend after work.

***The Art and Environment of the Basilica:** In the early 1990's, when there was the discussion about renovating the Basilica, The Liturgy Committee studied the Church Documents on the various elements of a church. They then printed a statement on each element which guided the architects development of the Plan for Renovation which was executed in 1993. It is now 17 years since that happened. It is good that every so often we go back to those foundational documents and refresh our understanding of the Art and Environment of St. James Basilica. We will be printing one of these every week. We trust they will help us renew our appreciation of the Liturgy even as we are preparing to receive the new translation for the celebration of the Liturgy. By doing both of these, we will be led to a deeper participation of all the people in the celebration of the Eucharist and other Sacraments.*

## **THE TABLE OF THE WORD OF GOD**

### **The AMBO, (Lectern or Pulpit)**

#### **The Ambo:**

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican Council II mandated that "The Treasures of the Bible are to be opened up more lavishly so that a richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the Table of God's Word."

The Liturgical Celebration, based primarily on the Word of God and sustained by it, becomes a new event and enriches the Word itself with new meaning and power.

The Ambo is the symbol of the table of God's word that provides the first and necessary nourishment for our Christian life.

The dignity of the Word of God requires a place suitable for the Proclamation of the Word. It should be somewhat elevated, fixed, and of suitable design and nobility.

The Ambo is both dedicated and blessed. It is noted in both the Rite of Dedication and the Rite of Blessing that it is the actual proclamation of the word from the Ambo that dedicates the Ambo.

#### **Praxis: (Practice that flows from understanding the Theology)**

"The Ambo reflects the dignity of God's Word" and reserved for the readings, the responsorial psalm and the Easter Proclamation. The homily and general intercessions may also be delivered from the Ambo.

The Ambo should be stationary, located for visibility and audibility.

The Ambo should be beautifully designed and constructed of fine materials. It is to be rather large, but in harmony with the altar.

Adequate lighting for the reading of the text and a good sound system enabling the faithful to hear them must be provided.

Only one Ambo is to be present in a church. At stake is the unity of the one word of God. All Scripture (both old and new testament) and those proclaimed by a deacon or priest are read from the same Ambo.

Proper measures must be taken to ensure that qualified laypersons are trained to proclaim the Word.

The Ambo is not a place to hang a banner. On occasions of greater solemnity, the Ambo can be decorated simply and in keeping with its design. Flowers, plants, trees and nativity scenes in front of the Ambo create a psychological blockade, and do not foster respect for the dignity of the Ambo.

The Ambo stands free, approachable from every side.

It is appropriate to incense the Ambo as well as the Book of Gospels on Sundays and other festive occasions.

#### **Conclusion:**

The Ambo reflects the dignity of the Word of God. The reverence shown the Table of the Word of God flows from the Theology of the Word and the Technology of the Ambo as found in the documents of the Church. In his or her relationship to the Ambo, every Christian must remember that in the readings...God is speaking to his people, opening up to them the mystery of redemption and salvation, and nourishing their spirit; Christ I present to the faithful through his own word.

**This week our expressed thanks (these are taken from the back of the offering envelopes) are:** God's blessings, military & families, kids, good friends, nice weather, family, successful surgery, my blessed life, safe traveling, recovery from cancer, time spent with family, memories, that I have, good home, the church, forgiveness of sins, daily Eucharist and sunshine.

**UNISON Bank...[www.unisonbank.com](http://www.unisonbank.com) - 253-5600**

Our business of the week. Please support them and all who advertise in our bulletin.

**Bulletin can be found on  
Basilica Website:  
[www.stjamesbasilica.org](http://www.stjamesbasilica.org)**