

Welcome To

St. Michael's Parish



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Harlan, IA 51537

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Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood Of Christ

June 14, 2009

We voice our homage
for this great sacrament!



Rev. Robert Hoefler
Pastor
(Emergency after hours: 755-2604)

Rev. Mr. Pat Davitt
Parish Minister
755-5244

Ms. Charlotte Willenborg
**Coordinator Religious
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755-5366

Ms. Sandy Wingert
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755-5244

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Principal
Shelby County Catholic School
755-5634
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FROM THE PASTOR...

Thoughts on two very different topics:

First, I would like to express my gratitude to the Women's Guild and to the Parish Endowment Board for purchasing the new tables and chairs for the parish hall. The old tables were original equipment from the time when the parish hall was constructed. The same was true for many of the chairs. They served us well, but it was time to let them go. The total bill for the 40 new tables, 300 new chairs, and 4 new chair racks comes to \$16,335.16. The Guild has agreed to pay \$11,000 of the total. The Parish Endowment has agreed to pay the remainder. The money that some of you paid to purchase the old tables and chairs has been put back into the Endowment.

Every year, the Guild sponsors the fall dinner. After almost every funeral, the Guild organizes a funeral lunch. Those are the sources of their income. What a wonderful gift to the parish—and what a wonderful reminder for everyone to support the fall dinner! It's also a wonderful reminder of how the Parish Endowment can benefit the parish. I don't know how many parishes could come up with \$16,000 for such a purchase and not need to do a fund raiser.

One final benefit: the new tables are as strong or stronger than the old ones, but weigh less than half!

Now, on to a very different subject. I received an e-mail from Ginny Stroschein this past week informing us that Louis has finally been moved to a federal prison. The prison is at Sandstone, MN, near Duluth. He is working as a teacher to those inmates looking to pass a GED exam. His new address is: Louis Stroschein Reg 09230 030 Unit H, FCI, PO Box 1000, Sandstone, MN 55072.

I'm sure that Louis would like to get some mail. He is now where he will be for the next 10 years, followed by 5 years of supervised probation. Before Mr. Stroschein's trial, I corresponded with the judge, Robert Pratt. I had written as a character reference for Louis. He responded that it was nice to hear from me, but federal law gave him no choice in the sentence. For that crime, the punishment is 10 years—and there is no opportunity for earlier parole. I'm sure that the federal law was passed because somebody got upset with a judge who gave a lenient sentence in some case. However, the current law allows for no judicial judgment. In corresponding with Judge Pratt, he informed me that in most cases, these are the factors to be considered: "1) the nature and circumstances of the offense and the history and characteristics of the defendant; and 2) the need for the sentence to be imposed: a) to reflect the seriousness of the offense, to promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment for the offense; b) to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct; c) to protect the public from further crimes of the defendant; and d) to provide the defendant with needed educational or vocational training, medical care, or other correctional treatment in the most effective manner." For those of us who knew Mr. Stroschein, at least for me, I have to wonder about the wisdom of 10 years in prison for this crime. For one thing, the government will need to spend about \$25,000 per year for his imprisonment (that's ¼ of a million dollars over 10 years). Mr. Stroschein had no record of any other offense of any kind prior to this. After his imprisonment, he will need to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life, which will keep him from any work related to children. By then, his children will be out of high school and moving out of the home. Until then, he will be living almost 400 miles from his family. His sentence would seem to be questionable as a deterrent to others contemplating the crime. Many of us have seen cases on TV of sting operations involving this crime. The most common response is not sorrow about what they were about to do—it is surprise that they got caught.

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**SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILIATION**
4:00 p.m. Saturday
or by appointment.

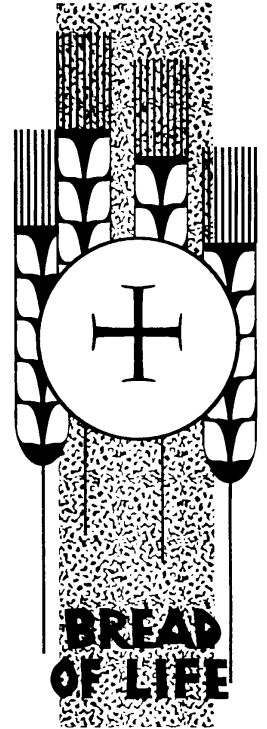
**SACRAMENT OF
THE SICK**
Is celebrated by request.
Notify the office when a loved one
is sick at home, or in the hospital.

**SACRAMENT OF
BAPTISM**
Contact the office to set a date and
to register for pre-baptism class.

**SACRAMENT OF
MARRIAGE**
Wedding dates are set after an
Initial interview with Fr. Bob. Our
diocese recommends a six month
period of preparation.

Calendar for the Week of June 15-21

Monday	Note time	June 15	8:15 am	Mass in memory of Gene, Pat & Jack Smith and Archie Caddell
Tuesday		June 16	7:00 am 9:30 am 7:00 pm	Men's Prayer Group in Parish Office Meeting Room Mass in memory of Fr. Daniel Galas and Catherine Book <i>at Elm Crest</i> Knights of Columbus in Parish Office Meeting Room
Wednesday		June 17	8:15 am 7:00 pm	Mass for a special intention Finance Council in Parish Office Meeting Room
Thursday		June 18	7:00 am 12:00 noon	NO Women's Prayer Group — Fr. Bob has gone to camp! Mass in memory of Joe Schomer and Joe Rau
Friday	Note time	June 19	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Memorial Mass for John Carey Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday		June 20	2:30 pm 4:00 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Wedding Lisa Schechinger and Zachary Huff Confessions Rosary Mass in memory of Lawrence & Esther Gaul & Raymond & Sidonia Book
Sunday		June 21	8:30 am 11:00 am	Mass in memory of Alma Bissen and Debbie Rounds Mass for the people of St. Michael's



Sunday Mass is televised on cable TV (HMU Channel 23 at 4:00 pm on Sunday and Friday, on Mediacom Channel 18 and FMCTC Channel 48 at 4:00 pm on Monday and Friday.)

Most of Mr. Stroschein's education and talents will no longer be usable, since his background was as a teacher and administrator in a school. He will need to learn other skills, which may or may not happen in a federal prison. There are no easy answers to this case, but it seems that a set-in-stone sentencing law doesn't seem to help anybody. At the trial, Judge Pratt stated, "I would give a much different sentence were I allowed to do so. The dehumanizing and demonizing of offenders because they have committed an offense—and therefore are less than human and are not entitled to any form of consideration—is something that should be called to the attention of the public." In the DM Register article about the sentencing, I was quoted as saying, "People...are not so angry about what he did as they are saddened about what he threw away for the benefit of so many, given his talents as a school principal. What he did was a loss for us as well as for him and his family." That may or may not be your opinion.

I am obviously stating an opinion on a very touchy subject. If any of you feel that you would like to respond, just send me a note by e-mail or some other means. But from my perspective, I have always believed that we should err on the side of kindness, rather than harshness. Meanwhile, Louis now spends his life in prison. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Grant Eternal Rest, O Lord, to: Don Kloewer, brother-in-law of George Sonderman of our parish; Bob Goeser, brother of Colleen McLaughlin and brother-in-law of Gene Schmidt of our parish; Emily Koster, sister of Ray Book and sister-in-law of Dean Koster, Joyce Thraen, Betty Leuck, and Bonnie Klein of our parish; and Sister Marjie Anastasi, sister of Leroy Anastasi of our parish.

Memorial Mass In Memory Of John Carey — at St. Michael's this Friday, June 19, at 11:00. John is the son of Alice Carey and the late Phil Carey. Lunch will be served at the Rosman Parish Center following the Mass.

Remember The Sick In Your Prayers And By Your Notes Or Visits:

Sean Knott	Derek Ellerbeck	Rebecca Kloewer
Irene Blum	Jean Ethridge	June Schaben
Harvey Leinen	Pat Schmidt	Albert Bock

Please call the office with names of those who are sick, or in need of our prayers. And please call when their names can be taken off the list.

Readings for the Week

Mon.	15th	2 Cor 6:1-10	Mt 5:38-42
Tues.	16th	2 Cor 8:1-9	Mt 5:43-48
Wed.	17th	2 Cor 9:6-11	Mt 6:1-6,16-18
Thurs.	18th	2 Cor 11:1-11	Mt 6:7-15
Fri.	19th	Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9, Eph 3:8-12, 14-19	Jn 19:31-37
Sun.	20th	Jb 38:1, 8-11 2 Cor 5:14-17	Mk 4:35-41

Need A Ride To Church? — The St. Michael's van brings people to church every Sunday for the 11:00 Mass. Need a ride? Call Joe Sondag (755-2263) during June.

Thank You — to all who contributed to the food-pantry collection last week. The food products were down in number, but the cash total was way up--\$346.

Tithing June 7	\$ 8,150
Needed each week	6,865
Difference	1,285
	() if deficit
Year to date	\$ 15,527

St. Michael's Religious Formation



"I am the living bread that came down from heaven."

Upcoming Date

June 22 Junior High Club- Adventureland Day
Leave St. Michael's at 9:00,
arrive home at 8:00.
(Deadline to sign up is June 15th)

Vacation Bible School — We had a fun week learning about God during Crocodile Dock Vacation Bible School. A big thank you to all the volunteers, parents, grandparents, parishioners, junior high and high school youth who helped make it happen.

Adventureland For JH Youth — Deadline is this weekend if you are interested in going to Adventureland on Monday, June 22nd. Call the parish office to put your name on the list. Tickets will cost \$20 per student (a savings of \$10). We need at least 15 students to get this price and we will need a few parents to drive. We will leave at 9:00 am, provide a sack lunch for everyone, which we will eat before we enter the park, and return home around 8:00 pm that evening. Students will need a little money to spend in the park during the day and we will stop for supper before we come home. Permission forms need to be picked up at the parish office and returned with the \$20 ticket cost. Call Charlotte at 755-5366 for more information.

Long Shot Request — There were no local requests for the power chair that belonged to my parents. However, I have a cousin who lives in northeast Colorado with his wife who is largely immobile after a stroke. They would love to have it. However, they live in northeast Colorado. By any chance, would there be somebody planning to travel west on I-80 to Wyoming or beyond or on 176 to Denver some time over the next few months? If so, would it be possible to transport the chair to either Sterling, CO, or Sidney, NE—where my cousin could meet you to pick it up? Just call the office.

Hope And Healing Ministries — is a ministry that offers healing retreats with counseling services, counseling referrals, toll-free hotline, support groups, mentoring, and educational seminars to women and men (including family members) who are struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion or sexual abuse. Hope and Healing Ministries is sponsoring a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion. The retreat will be held in Rock Island, IL, July 24-26 and Newton, IA, November 68. The confidential, supportive retreat is for anyone hurting inside after an abortion. Call (563) 322-1645, or email hopeandhealingtoday@gmail.com. Scholarships are available. You can also visit www.rachelsvineyard.org or call a toll-free hotline at 1-877-896-HOPE.

Shelby County Catholic School

SCCS needs to hire a fundraising coordinator to be responsible for the organization and coordination of fundraising activities. Previous experience is a plus. For information, contact the school at 712-755-5634 or www.shelcocath.pvt.k12.ia.us

Parish Elections — Next weekend, we will have the election for three members of the pastoral council and one member of the SCCS Board of Education. The insert provides information about the candidates. If you will not be around next weekend but would like to vote, please stop by the office this coming week to vote by absentee.

Area Events

- **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day** — this Monday, June 15, 1:30 pm at the Harlan Senior Center. There will be a brief presentation on elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation, as well as a brief overview of Power of Attorney and Living Wills. Attorney Kathleen Kohorst and notary Rose Klein will be on site to assist with completing power of attorney forms and living wills.
- **St. Mary's Church in Panama** — will be sponsoring a walking tour on June 17, 18, and 19 at 10:00 am and again at 2:00 pm each day. The tour will begin at the church and continue to the historic one-room School House Museum and Main Street. Panama will be celebrating Panamania 125 on June 19, 20 and 21.



Ministry Schedule

June 20-21	Saturday 5:00 pm	Sunday 8:30 am	Sunday 11:00 am
1st Lector	Kathy Hull	Sarah Devine	Rosemary Klein
2nd Lector	Jane Klein	Alice Buman	Jan Kloewer
Communion Ministers	Pat Lee (T) Michelle Lee Helen Schmitz Janice Stowe Joyce Thraen Gary Weihs Diane Weihs	J.C. Salvo (T) Betty Leuck Cheryl Long Betty Markham Amanda Monahan Steve Reid Mary Jane Swanson	Joyce Rodenborn (T) Breann Lehr Ella Mae Staiert Ed Reinig Mike Schmidt Donna Schmidt Collin Schmidt
Servers	Allyson Jones Bradley Jones James Klein	Cassie Irlmeier Deann Irlmeier Zach Osborn	Teresa Esquivel Lucia Esquivel Lorenzo Esquivel
Musicians	Peg Lantz	Rachel Goedken	Peg Lantz
Cantors	Orv Roecker	Sarah Schumacher	Konnie Schechinger
Ushers	Ramona Peterson Joe Klein Joseph Klein Justin Schechinger	Cletus Schmitz Ernie Schnack Dale Swanson Tonya Goeser	Barb Schmitz Joe Schmitz Karen Sullivan Makenzie Sullivan
June 21	C.M. Hospital & Private Homes Bob Kramer Marge Kramer	C.M. Elm Crest Leo Gaul Tim Sullivan	Money Counters Bruce Carl Kathy Carl Shelly Schmidt