

Heroes and Saints by Donald DeMarco

It is a truism that **children need role models**. Parents, surely, are solemnly obliged to fill this role. But children also need models that are larger than life. Hence, the enduring place of myths and fairy tales. Their only glaring weakness, however, is that their robust and immortal characters are not real.

When we look to real people who are larger than life, we are confronted with a choice between secular heroes and genuine saints. The usual problem with the former is that they are seriously flawed, particularly in their personal lives. Their shortcomings inevitably come to light, no matter how much their images are sanitized and propped up by media hype.

Heroes are significant. But the hero is praised for some specific, though extraordinary, achievement. It is Bill Mazeroski hitting a home run against the Yankees in the seventh game of the 1960 World Series to give the Pittsburgh Pirates a championship. Or it is Joe Namath leading the underdog New York Jets to a stunning victory in the 1969 Super Bowl. It is Eddie Rickenbacker, America's top flying Ace in World War I, shooting down 26 enemy planes. Or it is Charles Lindbergh in 1927, being the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Such heroic accomplishments will not fade, though their heroes may do nothing to add to their heroism and may retire in comfort to rest on their laurels. **Heroism is episodic; sanctity is a lifetime occupation.**

Sainthood, unlike heroism, is a constant and undiminishing display of love for God and neighbor. It **includes overcoming great obstacles and accepting the Cross of Christ**. Moreover, no person is declared a saint until he has passed from this earth. Heroes are canonized immediately upon their heroic accomplishments. In fact, it is their accomplishments that are venerated, not the excellence of their lives. In this sense, **it is within the capacity of each one of us to become a saint**, since we already possess the substance of sainthood, which is our humanity.

The saint, because he is real, fully faithful, permanent, and transcultural, is the best role model for children. He is a model who cannot fail them. As Phyllis McGinley tells us, the saint is as "obsessed by goodness and by God as Michelangelo was obsessed by line and form, as Shakespeare was bewitched by language, Beethoven by sound." The extraordinary life of the saint should make him appear to a child as anything but remote. **The saint is you and I as real, personal, and human as we can possibly be.** He speaks to our heart, our hopes, and our humanity from any place in the world and from any point in history.

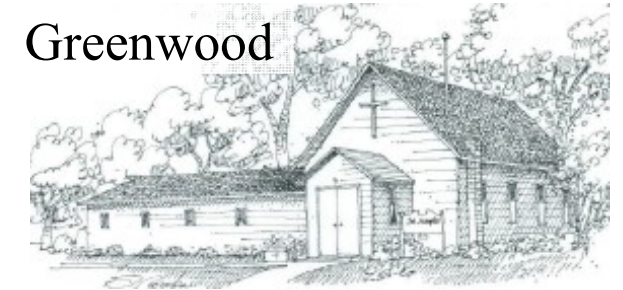
St. Mary & St. Joseph Catholic Churches

Ashland



1625 Adams Street, Ashland NE 68003
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM

Greenwood



7 Oak Street, Greenwood
Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM

Pastor: Father Gary Coulter

Rectory & Fax: 402-944-3554, Preschool & Hall: 402-944-7509

Cell: 402-202-3782, stmaryashland@windstream.net

View the weekly bulletin & monthly calendar at our **website:**

home.windstream.net/stmaryashland

Confessions a half hour before Masses

Saturday 4:00-4:50 PM St. Mary

Sunday 8:00-8:20 AM St. Mary

10:00-10:20 AM St. Joseph

Any time by calling the rectory.

Welcome to new parishioners,
 please call the rectory to register or
 for information on any of our parish
 activities and organizations.

Mass Schedule for this week

Sat.	May 18	8:00 PM	Ashland	+ Billy Schuelke
Sun.	May 19	8:30 AM	Ashland	For the People
		10:30 AM	Greenwood	Special Intention
Mon. May 20 - Thurs. May 23 No daily Mass				
Fri.	May 24	9:00 AM	Ashland	+ Joe & Dolly Groller
Sat.	May 25	9:00 AM	Ashland	
		5:00 PM	Ashland	+ Gerhard Groenjes
Sun.	May 26	8:30 AM	Ashland	+ Wolk & Wemhoff Family
		10:30 AM	Greenwood	For the People

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May 19, 2013

Pentecost Sunday

Ministries for Next Weekend

Sat. May 25 - 5:00 PM
Servers: Craven, Lyons
Acolyte: Tim Kirkpatrick
Lector: Donna Nicholson
Sun. May 26 - 8:30 AM
Servers: Adams, Stander
Acolyte: Tom Spears
Lector: Rita Smits
Sun. May 26 - 10:30 AM
Lector: Kevin Fuller
Offertory: Aguirre

Our Return to the Lord, May 11-12
Table with columns for St. Mary and St. Joseph, listing Adult, Plate, Children, Holy Day, Weekly Budget, and Masses.

Stewardship Corner
One miracle of Pentecost was that, despite their diversity, each listener heard God's word in his or her own language.
The meaning for stewardship is that, by sharing the gifts poured out on us by the Holy Spirit, we will be empowered to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters, whatever they may be.

Congratulations
Anniversaries: Joanna & Ryan Torpy, Mary & Gene Roncka, Amy & Scott Douglas, Debi & Scott McNealy
Birthdays: Kellie Alley, Rose Bergerson, Blake Isaacson, Nick Carroll, Abby Oborny, Dorsey Curtis, Clayton Allington, Rita Smits, Don Brudny

Readings and Celebrations this week:

May 20 Mon [Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest]
May 21 Tue [Saint Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs]
May 22 Wed [Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious]
May 23 Thu Sir 5:1-8 / Mk 9:41-50
May 24 Fri Sir 6:5-17 / Mk 10:1-12
May 25 Sat Sir 17:1-15 / Mk 10:13-16

[Sts. Bede the Venerable, Priest; Gregory VII, Pope; Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin; BVM]

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Prv 8:22-31 / Rom 5:1-5 / Jn 16:12-15

Calendar

Happy Mother's Day!

Sun. May 19, 7:30 PM Totus Tuus planning mtg
May 18-19, Knight's Sausage/Brat sales
Mon. May 20-Thurs. May 23 No Daily Masses
Tues. May 21, 9:30 AM Bible Study

Note: Fr. Coulter is gone Mon.-Thurs. (no daily Masses) if you need a priest in an emergency call a nearby parish such as St. Wenceslaus, Wahoo 402-443-4235.

Sign-up to lead the rosary before Mass in May

Parish Announcements

Thank You to Jim and Cathy and all who help with the yard work and landscaping at St. Mary. Many thanks to the Tejada-Morales family for mowing at St. Joseph.

Welcomes and Goodbyes: Bishop Conley has transferred Fr. Coulter to become the director of Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House near Waverly, effective June 17. Be sure to give a warm welcome to Fr. Thomas Au.

Volunteers and Helpers needed: a Totus Tuus planning meeting is tonight Sun. May 19, 7:30 PM in the Education Center.

Thank you for the gifts and pledges to the 2013 Charity and Stewardship Appeal, helping 17 diocesan programs and apostolates. St. Mary has: 47 pledges, \$10,700 (over goal!); St. Joseph is still short of our goal: 7 pledges, \$1,075. Please help us wrap-up by calling or emailing the rectory if you haven't yet made your pledge.

St. Mary Preschool is accepting registrations for the 2013-2014 school year: pick up a packet from the school or rectory.

Thank you St. Mary Altar Society for the many Baby Shower items for Birthright.

Totus Tuus: Summer School VBS

Mark your calendars for Totus Tuus to be held June 9-14 at St. Mary. Totus Tuus means "Totally Yours" and is a Catholic summer youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through teaching, prayer, Eucharist, activities and fun. There are three programs:

Totus Tuus: Age 4-Kindergarten, 9-11 AM Mon-Fri, \$10 per student; Entering 1st-8th Grades, 9 AM-3 PM Mon-Fri. Bring a sack lunch. 1 student: \$25, 2 students: \$40, 3 or more: \$50; Entering High School, 8-10 PM Sun-Thurs, \$15 per student

To register for Totus Tuus contact Tanya Keith, 402-944-2167, bghkeith@hotmail.com. Volunteers are also need to assist with preschool, provide cookies, lunches and dinners for the team.

Youth Group Rummage Sale to support our trip to World Youth Day Brazil this summer will be June 6-8. Donations are now being accepted in the Church basement throughout May.

Diocesan Announcements

Adult Volunteers are Needed to help as a cook or nurses at SKY Camps taking place at McCool Junction between May 28 and June 13. If you are interested in volunteering for a 48 hour camp, please contact Michele at 402-488-2040 or catholicflo@cdolinc.net.

Diocese of Lincoln Natural Family Planning Creighton Model Introductory Session: Thurs. May 23, 7 PM. For info call 488-2040.

BVM Open Golf Tournament at Firethorn to benefit Lincoln Right to Life, Sat. June 8: www.catholicbusinesswomen.org

14th Annual Midwest Catholic Family Conference, Aug. 2-4, Wichita, KS. See info at: www.catholicfamilyconference.org

Mark your calendar: Catholic Social Services Golf Classic is Fri. Aug. 9, www.cssisus.org

Trappist monks support their abbey with handmade caskets: www.trappistcaskets.com

Tune in to Spirit Catholic Radio, 102.7 FM KVSS for top local and national Catholic programming, online at spiritcatholicradio.com

Summer Camps 2013

See www.dioceseoflincoln.org or call 488-2040

- Leadership Camp: for boys entering grades 6-9, July 14-20 or July 21-27
SKY Camps: for all student entering grades 6-9, nine 3-day camps in May and June.
Marian Camp: for girls entering grades 6-9, June 27-30th, contact: 402-786-2750.

Please pray for Religious Vocations

Sr. Mary Gabriel (Camp Point, IL) and St. Marie Caritas (Omaha, NE) in First Vows with the School Sisters of Christ the King.