

Cardinal: Church Does Not Reject the Divorced

The Church has not forgotten nor rejected those who are divorced and have entered into another union, affirmed Milan's archbishop, Cardinal Dionigi Tettamanzi, in a recent pastoral letter directed to divorced and remarried couples entitled "The Lord Is Close to the Brokenhearted."

"The fact that these relationships are frequently lived with a sense of responsibility and with love among the couple and for the children is a reality that the Church and its pastors take into account," the cardinal wrote.

While those who are divorced and remarried cannot receive the Eucharist because of the objective sinfulness of their situation. "It is an error to think that the norm regulating access to Eucharistic Communion means that divorced and remarried couples are excluded from a life of faith and charity, lived within the ecclesial community."

Cardinal Tettamanzi asked divorced and remarried to "participate with faith in Mass," even though they cannot receive Communion. "The richness of ecclesial community life continues to be available to those who cannot receive Holy Communion," he affirmed.

The cardinal said that the Church hopes from these couples "an active presence and a willingness to serve those who need their help," beginning with the educational task they have as parents, who are the first teachers of their children.

"The Church has not forgotten nor rejected you," he wrote. "For the Church, and for me, as a bishop, you are my beloved brothers and sisters."

The cardinal added that when a marriage breaks apart, the Church suffers too: "When this link breaks, the Church, in a certain sense, is made poorer, and a luminous sign that should be a motive of joy and consolation is taken away from it."

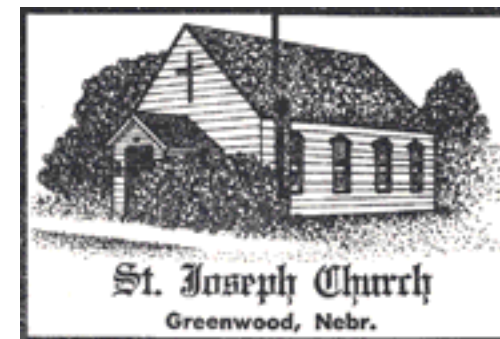
Catechism of the Catholic Church, on the Divorced and Remarried, Paragraph 1651:

Toward Christians who live in this situation, and who often keep the faith and desire to bring up their children in a Christian manner, priests and the whole community must manifest an attentive solicitude, so that they do not consider themselves separated from the Church, in whose life they can and must participate as baptized persons:

They should be encouraged to listen to the Word of God, to attend the Sacrifice of the Mass, to persevere in prayer, to contribute to works of charity and to community efforts for justice, to bring up their children in the Christian faith, to cultivate the spirit and practice of penance and thus implore, day by day, God's grace.

<p><u>Area Dinners</u> St. Mary Ashland Spaghetti Supper, Sun. Feb. 24, 4:00-7:00 PM. St John Prague Soup Supper, Sun. Mar. 2, 4-7 PM.</p>	<p>Sharon Schaub <i>Tax Return Preparation</i> <i>Bookkeeping Services</i> (402) 944-3907 St. Mary Parishioner</p>	<p>Thomas Dredging & Excavating Lake Development & Restoration 944-7852 Cell: 432-7852 www.thomasdredging.com</p>
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St. Mary & St. Joseph Catholic Churches



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

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

Pastor: Father Gary Coulter
 Rectory & Fax: 944-3554
 CCD/Hall: 944-7509
 Cell: 202-3782
 Email: stmaryashland@alltel.net

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

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

Mass Schedule for this week				
Sat.	Feb. 23	5:00 PM	Ashland	Special Intention - BN
Sun.	Feb. 24	8:30 AM	Ashland	Lois Whiteaker
		10:30 AM	Greenwood	For the People
Mon.	Feb. 25	9:00 AM	Ashland	+ Benazir Bhutto
Tues.	Feb. 26	9:00 AM	Ashland	Poor Souls
		6:30 PM	Greenwood	Priest's Intention
Wed.	Feb. 27	9:15 AM	Care Center	+ Valentine Meduna
Thurs.	Feb. 28	9:00 PM	Ashland	+ Arnold Vogler
Fri.	Feb. 29	9:00 AM	Ashland	+ American Soldiers
Sat.	Mar. 1	9:00 AM	Ashland	Pro-Life
		5:00 PM	Ashland	+ Margaret Becker
Sun.	Mar. 2	8:30 AM	Ashland	For the People
		10:30 AM	Greenwood	Poor Souls

February 24, 2008

Ministries for next weekend

Sat. Mar. 1 - 5:00 PM
Servers: Dea, Kresak, Holbrook
Acolyte: Tim Kirkpatrick
Lector: Dennis Holbrook

Sun. Mar. 2 - 8:30 AM
Servers: Campbell, Kasuskes
Acolyte: Gerald Fudge
Lector: Donna Nicholson

Sun. Mar. 2 - 10:30 AM
Lector: Ginny Hummel
Offertory: Weismann

Our Return to the Lord, Feb. 16-17

	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>St. Joseph</u>
Adult:	\$ 999.00	
Plate:	\$ 111.62	unavailable
Children:	\$ 4.00	
Catholic Press:	\$ 56.00	
Weekly Budget:	\$ 1,522.11	\$ 354.92

Please pray for this week's Seminarian:

Matthew Rolling, from St. Mary, Bellevue NE
Theology 2 at Mt St Mary's Seminary.

Third Sunday of Lent

Stewardship Thought

3rd Sunday of Lent

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well.

We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives!

Congratulations

Anniversaries:

Dana & Scott Allington 2/24

Birthdays:

Jamie Henningson 2/28

Theresa Nicholson 2/28

Joe Estey 2/29

Gene Kresak 2/29

Colleen Crnkovich 3/1

Josh McGinley 3/1

Janet Schrunk 3/1

Scott Douglas 3/2

Readings and Celebrations this week:

February
25 Mon 2 Kgs 5:1-15b / Lk 4:24-30
26 Tue Dn 3:25, 34-43 / Mt 18:21-35
27 Wed Dt 4:1, 5-9 / Mt 5:17-19
28 Thu Jer 7:23-28 / Lk 11:14-23
29 Fri Hos 14:2-10 / Mk 12:28-34
March
1 Sat Hos 6:1-6 / Lk 18:9-14
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Eph 5:8-14 /
Jn 9:1-41

Calendar for This Week

Sun. Feb. 24, 4:00-7:00 PM
Spaghetti Supper at Ashland
Tues. Feb. 26, 6:30 PM **Mass** at Greenwood
7:00 PM **Adult Education**
Wed. Feb. 27, 9:15 AM **Mass** at Care Center
7:00 PM **CCD** and **Youth Group**
Fri. Feb. 29 (Day of Abstinence)
6:30 PM **Confessions** at Ashland
7:00 PM **Stations** of the Cross

Parish Announcements

St Mary **Spaghetti Supper**: Sun. Feb. 24, 4:00-7:00 PM, sponsored by the CCD Classes to raise money for activities and supplies. Home-made sauces and desserts. Come hungry and invite a friend.

Today is the last chance to enter the **World Youth Day** raffle of a night stay for two at the Lied Lodge - drawing at the Spaghetti Feed.

Stations of the Cross at St Mary each Friday of Lent, 7:00 PM. Confessions at 6:30 PM.

Volunteer/Sign-ups in the back of St. Mary for 1. Sing up for our Easter choirs; 2. Volunteers for Greeters at St. Mary.

All ladies should have received their 2008 **Altar Society** packets. Dues, again \$20 this year, can be dropped in the collection.

February is **Catholic Press** Month. Consider a donation for the **Southern Nebraska Register**. Subscription price is a low \$13. Thank you to all who have given so far.

Thank You to all who donated **Aluminum Cans for World Youth Day**. Cans are due this Friday, so if you have any last minute donations call Danny at 944-7526 or Chaz at 944-7341.

Our two parishes received a **Thank You** letter from **Matt Talbot Kitchen** for the combined \$190.00 donated on Souper Bowl Sunday.

Community Announcements

Ashland VFW **Food Pantry** is in need of Sugar, Flour, and Spaghetti Sauce.

Blood Drive Tues. Mar 4, 12-6, Wed. Mar. 5, 11-5 at **Wahoo** First Presbyterian, 443-3326.

Diocesan Announcements

Lenten Adult Series on "Five Famous Catholics" each Monday of Lent, 7:30-8:30 PM at St Teresa Church, 36th and Randolph, Lincoln. Feb. 25: Fr. Kilcawley on Mother Teresa.

Men's Faith Group at St. Michael, Cheney Sat. Mar. 1, 9-11 AM. Mass, breakfast, talk.

"You can be **Pro-Life** and Love **Stem Cell Research**." Today Sun. Feb. 24, 7:00 PM, Chip Maxwell will speak at St. Patrick, Lincoln. Free educational event, open to the public.

Healing Mass Sun. Feb. 24, Blessed John XXIII Center, Lincoln. 3 PM Chaplet, 3:30 PM Mass, Eucharistic Exposition. Pray for spiritual, emotional, physical healing for self and others.

Spill the Beans Youth Event - Sun. Mar. 2 from 4-6:00 PM in Lincoln, State Senator Tony Fulton will speak followed by a question and answer period, refreshments and pizza. At Blessed John XXIII Center, 3700 Sheridan Blvd, and offered by the Diocese of Lincoln Youth Ministry Office. Open to any high school student interested in learning more about their faith and having fun with other youth. For more information, contact Fr Kurz at 488-2040.

Please join in **Prayer, Fasting and Sacrifices** for an end to abortion throughout the **40 Day for Life**. Please stop by for an hour of prayer at least once during Lent at the Lincoln Planned Parenthood (37th and South streets).

Interested in a full-time, faith-based volunteer opportunity? **Response 2008** is a guide to thousands of volunteer opportunities in programs worldwide. Access on the web at www.cnvs.org.

Pilgrimage to Italy lead by Fr. John Vakulskas of Alton IA, Nov. 11-21, 2008. \$2699 includes air, tours, hotels, meals and more. Contact 712-756-4224 or fjav@earthlink.net.

Pregnant and don't know what to do? There

Light of the World Retreat

St. Wenceslaus Parish in Wahoo is hosting a retreat Mar. 15-16. An excellent Lenten opportunity on Palm Sunday weekend: Sat. 8 AM-8PM, Sun. 8 AM-5 PM.

For more info or to sign up please call Sally at 443-4998 or Kris at 443-3625 by Mar. 5.