

**From the  
Pastor's Desk**

Dear Parishioners,  
As we are in the midst of the Annual Archdiocesan Appeal, this weekend Ken Patry, president of our parish finance council, will give us an annual report on our parish finances and an update on the Appeal. Our goal, given to us by the Archdiocese, for this year is \$11,084.85 that is similar to last year's goal, which our parish exceeded by donating \$17,034.95. I encourage us to be generous likewise this year.

This weekend the parish stewardship forms will also be distributed on which you can indicate the choices that you are going to make in regards to your contribution of time, talent, and treasure for the coming year. In terms of my own stewardship, besides contributing something to the Annual Appeal, I donate as my tithe to the parish (as well as to the Archdiocese in my role as director of the Catholic Faith Formation Office) by choosing not to be reimbursed for my mileage, which for the year can add up to \$2000 or more.

In regards to the choices that we make in regards to stewardship, our generosity is first and foremost done, not because we like the pastor, not because we like the parish, nor for some other reason that is to our liking, but for the glory and honor of God as our thank you back to Him for His blessings and graces. Sure, to operate the parish and the Archdiocese there is the need for funds to take care of the material needs of the Church, but our giving is fundamentally an act of love for God. Of course, second, it is an act of love for our neighbor, and even a caring for ourselves, because our stewardship makes possible the administration of the sacraments that we receive and the various ministries that provide for our spiritual and material needs, be these such things as the education in the

faith of our children and youth or providing for the needy in our midst, to name few. I know that there are many needs that we are called upon to support: such as next Sunday being the time for the collection for World Mission Sunday. Sometimes it seems that the appeals are endless, doesn't it? Ideally, though, the Archbishop or a pastor would not have to make an appeal for funds and for help in regards to other stewardship activities but, rather, all of us would continually take the initiative, coming to the Archbishop and pastor and asking what the needs are and what each of us can do to help: be it in monetary donations or the offering of our time and gifts in service of a need. Once we truly realize what Jesus has done for us by giving His life for us on the Cross, and thus revealing God's unconditional love for us, the sacrifices that we make in our stewardship are a spontaneous return of love to Our Lord. I pray that this is the attitude that all of us can come to have in our hearts: there is never too much that I and we can do in return to the Lord for all that He has done for me and for us in giving His very life for our salvation. He shed His very Precious Blood for us. For instance, shedding some of the green for Him is not buying salvation but is a dying for us that is an act of love in return that signifies our gratitude to Him.

I thank you for all of the ways that you have chosen to exercise stewardship in regards to the parish and the Archdiocese. I thank all of you who faithfully contribute week after week, month and after month, year after year for the sustenance of our parish. On behalf of Archbishop Lucas, I thank all of you who participate in the Annual Archdiocesan Appeal. May Our Lord bless you abundantly for your generosity. Have a wonderful week and God bless,  
Fr. Gutowski



## MASS INTENTIONS

**OCTOBER 18 THRU OCTOBER 24**

|           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Monday    | Ray Heimes           |
| Tuesday   | Conrad Kwapnioski    |
| Wednesday | Priest's Intention   |
| Thursday  | Priest's Intention   |
| Friday    | Ruth Osterman        |
| Saturday  | Edward Hayes         |
| Sunday    | People of St. Joseph |



### RE HAPPENINGS

There will be NO RE or Christmas Play practice on October 20 due to school parent/teacher conferences.

### ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER

The Ladies' Guild will hold their annual Soup Supper and Raffle on November 6. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church. Please start making or acquiring items for the raffle. More information to follow. Thank you.

### NEW OFFICE HOURS (clip & post)

Monday, Tuesday & Friday ...10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday...8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Church Website: [www.StJoSf.org](http://www.StJoSf.org).

Church e-mail: [Secretary@stjosf.org](mailto:Secretary@stjosf.org).

Bulletin items must be sent to the above e-mail address by Tuesday night.

Emergency Phone # 402-689-1708 (Sharon VanTassell)

### Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest

Here's a chance to win a Tom Osborne

and Bo Pelini autographed football! The Springfield Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest for any student in grades 3 through 6 who live in the South Sarpy School District #46 or who attend St. Joseph Catholic Church in Springfield. We hope everyone eligible will enter! Every entry received by November 15th will get a chance to win the football. Entry forms and 11x17 paper can be picked up at Springfield Elementary School, Westmont Elementary School, St. Joseph Church and Springfield Library.

### PLEDGE CARDS

You may have noticed that you did not get a pledge card for St. Joseph church in the packet you received from the diocese. We have them now and there is one in each bulletin. If you do not get one, there are additional forms at the back of the church. There is also a box labeled PLEDGE CARDS. You may return both, the card for St. Joseph and the one from the Archdiocese, in that box. Or you may opt to send your card from the diocese directly to them. Either way, your pledge cards will be properly recorded. Thank you!

### TODAY'S READING

Jesus exhorts us to pray without growing weary. We are invited to unite with communities all over the world. Think of it! In villages and great cities of every country on every continent, in every language known to humankind, people are worshipping God today: Let us join our voices to that great harmony of praise.