



FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

7:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. – Holy Cross Harding

THURSDAY

7:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

6:00 p.m. – Holy Cross Harding

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

10:00 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

**See inside cover for any changes for the upcoming week

MARCH 24th, 2024

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 3:30 p.m. St John Nepomuk Lastrup

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m. St. Michael's Buckman

Confession Times: *30 minutes before Pierz, Harding and Lastrup weekday Masses, 30 minutes after Buckman Mass, and by appt.

*First Weekend of the Month: After 6 p.m. Mass at Holy Cross Harding and after 10 a.m. Mass at St Joseph's Pierz

Fr. Aaron Nett, Pastor: 320-468-6033, frnett@midco.net

Deacon Craig Korver: ckorver@molschool.org

Deacon Leo Wehseler: leowehseler@gmail.com

St. John/Holy Cross Office: 320-360-9720, ltthesing@hotmail.com

St. Joseph/St. Michael Office: 320-468-6033, stjoes@midco.net

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR FATHER AARON

Holy Week



Dear Friends,

As we begin the most solemn week of the year, “Holy Week,” we enter into the pascal mystery of Jesus Christ, our suffering Savior. We again learn to die and rise with Him in a deeper way. Easter is the pinnacle of the entire year as we celebrate our Savior Jesus Christ who rose from the dead, as he promised, and won redemption for all those who seek salvation through him.

We begin the week with both triumph and tragedy on Palm Sunday as we process with palms, which are a symbol of peace and victory. As Jesus entered Jerusalem some of the same people who waved palms and mistook him as a military king, would later shout “crucify him!” as our Savior handed himself over to death. “Spy Wednesday” is the day that Jesus was betrayed for thirty pieces of silver by one of His own disciples for personal wealth and gain. Holy Thursday is the beginning of the Sacred Triduum (or three days) in which one continuous liturgical service is stretched over three days until the Easter Vigil. We have the beautiful Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, where Christ pledges his gift of love and lays down His life, instituting the Holy Eucharist. His own Body is given for us as food for the soul. On Good Friday, we chant, “Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom,” as we mourn our own sinfulness and remember the love that Christ has for us, even onto death on a cross. Then, the finale of the Triduum, and the height of the entire year is the Easter celebration. The “Easter fire” is stoked and blessed and the new Easter candle is processed into the darkened House of God as the one light penetrates the darkness. The light is passed on and spread throughout the body of believers warming and lighting up the entire church with God’s creation of fire, just as the fire of the Holy Spirit burns to “renew the face of the earth.”

We are so blessed as Catholics to be able to enter into these most sacred, ancient rituals in this week of spiritual retreat. I sincerely hope you are able to take advantage of the “avalanche of grace” that God wishes to pour out upon us this Holy Week. As we seek to die and rise with Christ once more this year may we be renewed in Christ our Lord as God’s beloved children.

May God bless your Holy Week, Father Aaron

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 26 – MARCH 31	
<p><u>Tuesday, March 26</u> 7:00 p.m. Lastrup +Tina Brill</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 27</u> 8:00 a.m. Harding +Art Schmidtbauer 7-8 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Thursday, March 28 – Holy Thursday</u> 8:45 a.m. Pierz Living Stations by HT School Students 10:00 a.m. Villa +John & Karen Hellie 7:30 p.m. Pierz +Jimmy Virnig After Mass-Midnight Adoration in Pierz</p> <p><u>Friday, March 29 – Good Friday / No School Mass</u> 3:00 p.m. Buckman Good Friday Liturgy 6:00 p.m. Harding Good Friday Liturgy</p> <p><u>Saturday, March 30 – Holy Saturday</u> 8:30 p.m. Harding +Janice Schubert 8:30 p.m. Pierz +Harry Jansen</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday</u> 8:00 a.m. Buckman +David Herold 9:00 a.m. Lastrup +Gladys Kapsner 10:00 a.m. Pierz For the People of the Parishes</p>	<p>Note: Incense will be used at the Holy Thursday Mass as well as the Easter Sunday Masses.</p> <p>ADORATION: There will be adoration in Pierz after 7:30 p.m. Mass until midnight on Holy Thursday and no adoration in Pierz on Good Friday.</p> <p>*Bulletin Announcement Deadline: The deadline for submissions of bulletin announcements is <u>Mondays at 3 p.m.</u> You can email stjoes@midco.net, mail PO Box 428, Pierz MN 56364, or call 320-468-6033.</p> <p>*Weekday Masses When There is a Funeral: Going forward, when there is a funeral, the regular scheduled weekday Mass will still take place.</p> <p>*Emergency Contact: If you have an emergency and need a priest, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.</p> <p><u>Pierz & Buckman Office Hours:</u> Located in Pierz. Mon, Tue, Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fridays closed.</p> <p><u>Lastrup & Harding Office Hours:</u> Call 320-360-9720</p>
<p>EUCHARISTIC ADORATION St Joseph Pierz – Fridays 3-6 p.m. St. Michael Buckman – Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. and the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Holy Cross Harding – Adoration chapel always open</p>	

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK

28520 Church St., PO BOX 38
Lastrup, MN 56344
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.stjohnlastrup.org



SUNDAY, MARCH 31 at 9:00 a.m. (Easter Sunday)

Lector: Dale Beierman

Servers: Kimmans

Ushers: Cory Loidolt & Donny Schommer

E. Minister (Choir): Barb Specker (choir) Stacey Thomsen (blood), Traci Schommer (blood)

BAR BINGO NEWS: Come to the Fisch House in Lastrup to play bingo every Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. Please come and join us for a fun evening. The jackpot numbers will be posted online and at the Fisch House and also on their Facebook page. St. John's gaming #02115.

MEAT RAFFLE: There will not be a meat raffle on Easter Sunday, March 31st. We now have a meat raffle at the Fisch House every Sunday at 5:00 PM. Please join us for some fun and try and win some meat. St. John's Gaming #02115.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, March 16th: Adult env. \$1,405.00, Adult loose \$263.00, Children env. 2.00, Children loose \$20.00.

Mass attendance: 202

ACC Faith Study Groups

*Bible study is being offered every other Sunday evening for the young female youth (9th grade and older) of our ACC. This is held in the St Joseph Church basement at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please call Jenny (320-360-6650), Kari (320-412-6164), or Rebecca (320-360-7004).

*Man Accountability: Men of all parishes, give us the honors of joining us on Saturdays from 6:45-8AM at the Pierz parish office for Gospel prayer, Acts 2:42, and accountability. Iron sharpens iron! Questions/reminders please text/call Mark Loidolt, 701-388-2323.

*Women's Group meets on Saturday mornings from 8:15-9:30 a.m. We'll meet in St. Joseph's church at 8:15 to pray a rosary followed by discussion in the parish office until 9:30. All women are welcome! Call or text Cari Stumpf with any questions, 320-761-6336.

*The Sunday Night Adult Education Group meets on Sunday night at 7PM in the Pierz parish office meeting room. We watch a short video on a variety of Catholic topics followed by a discussion. For more information, call Al Pekarek at 468-0220.

Fundraiser happening from Now to Divine Mercy Sunday April 7- Together, let's support 9-12th graders to attend a Catholic Conference, Steubenville, at the end of July and achieve something special.

 Shop Catholic-Inspired Goodies: Explore our diverse selection of Sock Religious socks and faith-inspired stickers, and I would love to raise \$5000 to support our youth.

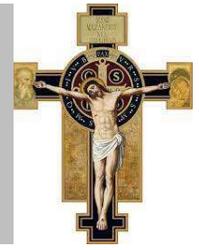
Why join our Catholic Fundraiser?  Making a Difference: 50% of profits go directly to our ministry, changing lives for the better.

https://stores.inksoft.com/father_pierz_school_of_religion/shop/home

For any questions, reach out to Julie Langer @ juliehlanger@gmail.com or call 320-630-5927. Thank you for being part of our incredible community!

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

29482 243rd Street
Pierz, MN 56364
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.Hardingchurch.org



FRIDAY, MARCH 29 at 6:00 p.m. (Good Friday)

Lectors: Tim Schubert & Will Corbet

Servers: Maverick Woitalla & Elliott Carmona (**Server Practice at 5 p.m. Friday, March 29th)

E. Minister (Choir): Diane Virnig

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 at 8:30 p.m. (Holy Saturday)

Lector: Janet Hanneken

Servers: Erin & Tyler Thesing, Adam Woitalla & Elliott Carmona (**Server Practice at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 30th)

Ushers: Allen Woitalla & Dave Skwira

E. Ministers: Leonard Thesing (blood), Doug Knopik (blood), Diane Virnig (Choir)

FOOD SHELF: There is a box in the entrance of Harding and Lastrup for donations to the Pierz Area Food Shelf. March is Food Share Month.

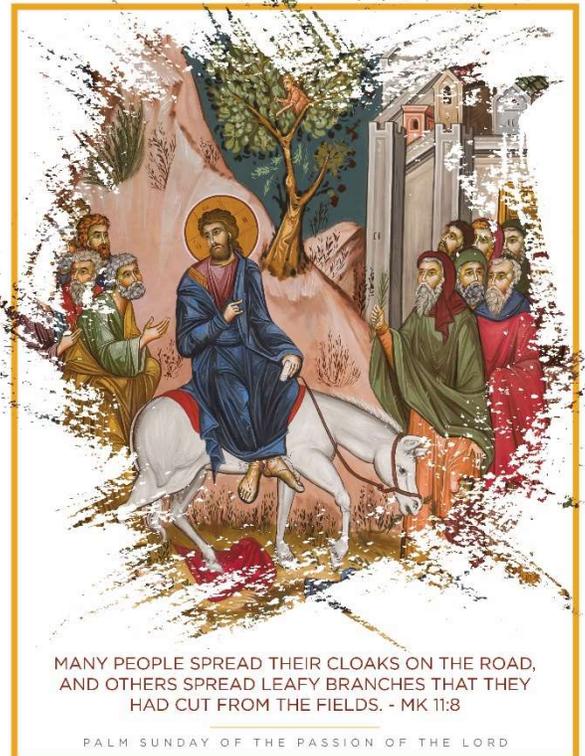
HOLY CROSS WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, March 16th: Adult env. \$933.00, Adult loose \$175.00, Children env. \$3.75, Children loose \$6.25.

Mass attendance: 143

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR LASTRUP & HARDING:

Jeremy Girtz, Diane Schirmers, Mark, Becker, Olivia Waldorf, Pat (Rod) Boser, Jane Weiss, Alice Matlock, Kurt Lucking, Sally Lentner, Lois Woitalla, Rhys Boser, Carmen Britz, Doris Weiss, Mary Ann Schomer, Justin Lindgren, Aaron Boser, Ione Hoskins, Gerard Virnig, Serena Truskowski, Gina Virnig, Donny Schommer, Scott Bednar, Jerod Bursch.



MANY PEOPLE SPREAD THEIR CLOAKS ON THE ROAD,
AND OTHERS SPREAD LEAFY BRANCHES THAT THEY
HAD CUT FROM THE FIELDS. - MK 11:8

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCB - LRP

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9251 Hwy 25, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

68 Main St N, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



FRIDAY, MARCH 29 at 3:00 p.m. (Good Friday)

Lector: Karen Stangl & Jane Funk

E. Ministers: Jill Hoheisel, Randi Kranz, Cindy Scholl & Janice Janson

Servers: Alayna Seelen & Abby Posch (**Server Practice at 2 p.m. Friday, March 29th)

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 at 8:00 a.m. (Easter Sunday)

Lector: Randi Kranz

E. Ministers: Nicole Lochner, Janice Janson, Connie Kieffer & Donna Solinger

Servers: William & Whitney Stangl

Ushers for April: Brian Stangl, Gregg Stangl & Roger Janson



New Life in Christ

Reed Roland, son of Michael & Brittaneey Seppelt was baptized on Sunday, March 17th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

ST. MICHAEL'S CEMETERY: To purchase St. Michael's Cemetery plots or columbarium niches please contact the parish office in Pierz (320)468-6033.

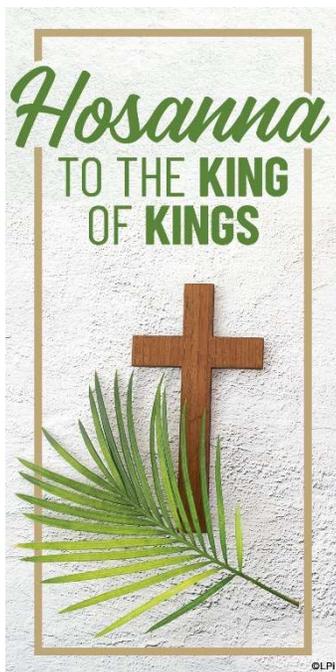
PRAYER LINE: If you are in need of prayers, please call Mary Brenny at 320-393-2781 or Mary Malinowski at 320-223-9783.

ST. MICHAEL WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (March 17)

Adult	\$ 3,100.00
High School	\$ 5.00
Elementary	\$ 4.01
Plate	\$ 174.00
	\$ 3,283.01

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance: 246



THURSDAY, MARCH 28 at 7:30 p.m. (Holy Thursday)

Lector: Cari Stumpf

E. Ministers: Keith Marshik, Wanda Kapsner, Michelle Litke & Rachel & Chris Young

Servers: Isabel Gross, Madison Gross, Alison Gross & Isaac Thomas (**Server Practice at 5 p.m. Thursday, March 28th)

Sacristans: Pat Hartmann & Keith Marshik

Ushers: Jeremy Virnig (Lead), Allan Kroll, Mathew Stumpf and Andy Kapsner

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 at 8:30 p.m. (Holy Saturday)

Main Lector: Mark Fyten

Lector for Extra Readings: Al Pekarek

E. Ministers: Jo Loidolt, David Stumpf, Kerri Kasper, Kristie Virnig, Barb Zajac & Mason Zajac

Servers: Elizabeth Stumpf, Anna Stumpf, Joel Marshik & Addison Marshik (**Server Practice at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 30th)

Sacristans: Doris Thyen & Keith Marshik

Ushers: Neal Kimman, Caleb Koch, Steve Maus & Robbie Becker

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 at 10:00 a.m. (Easter Sunday)

Lector: Karen Gross

E. Ministers: LeRoy Swanson, Keith Marshik, Tracy Voigt, Ruth Stuckmayer, Kristie Kroll, Courtney Kroll & Linda Welle

Servers: Roman Wacker & Lance Litke

Sacristans: Jan Kimman & Wanda Kapsner

Ushers: Jeremy Virnig, Allan Kroll, Mathew Stumpf and Andy Kapsner

Ushers for April: Jon Stumpf (Lead), Robbie Becker, Gerard Kimman & Jason Sadlovsky

AT PEACE WITH GOD: Rita Wilkes passed away on March 4th. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, March 15th at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz with burial in the parish cemetery. We extend our sympathy to the families and assure them of our prayerful support.

ST. JOSEPHS QUILT CIRCLE: We will be quilting on Monday, March 25th at 1 p.m. and Thursday, March 28th at 9 a.m. Come and go as is convenient for you. **We are again asking for pieced quilt tops.** Just a reminder we have kits done up with directions and ready to go for tops. Feel free to stop down and observe. We are always looking for new quilters. Questions call Eileen 360-2434 or Chris 630-0606.

ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (March 17)

Adult	\$ 5,453.00
High School	\$ 9.25
Elementary	\$ 10.25
Plate	\$ 266.00
	\$ 5,738.50

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance: 290



GENERAL NEWS

LECTOR MEETINGS: Lectors are asked to attend one of the following meetings. Meetings are intended to touch base and communicate needs of ministers or changes.

*Lector meetings after the 4 p.m. Mass at St. John's in Lastrup on April 6th and after the 10 a.m. Mass in St. Joseph's in Pierz on April 7th.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Sunday, April 7th noon-3p.m at St. Michael's Church-Buckman. Adoration, confessions, speakers, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. *"On that day [Divine Mercy Sunday], the very depths of My tender mercy are opened. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. ...On that day, all divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened."* (Diary, 699). Regarding the graces of Divine Mercy Sunday, Jesus told St. Faustina, *"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment"* (699)

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY ON 1 CORINTHIANS: It's not too late to join our weekly Bible study at St John's Parish Center in Lastrup on Mondays at 8 pm. If interested or want more information, contact Mark Loidolt at 701-388-2323 or mark.loidolt@gmail.com. Bring a friend.

GOOD FRIDAY SILENT WALK FOR PEACE: The Franciscan Sisters of LFs invites the community to a Good Friday Silent Walk for Peace on Friday, March 29, 9:30 a.m. Participants will walk together in a silent procession, stopping to pray at various designated places throughout Little Falls. The walk concludes around 11 a.m. In the event of bad weather, this will be cancelled. www.fslf.org or email kmizutowicz@fslf.org.

Tenebrae - A Tradition at St. Mary's Cathedral. Everyone is welcome at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud on Good Friday, March 29, at 8:00 pm for Tenebrae, Latin for shadows or darkness. Participants experience the gradual extinction of all lights in the church, symbolizing the temporary triumph of the prince of darkness over the Light of the World, and loud noises created at the end of the service by the assembly and ministers, suggesting the earthquake described in the Passion Narratives.

PIERZ LIONS EASTER EGG HUNT: Saturday, March 30th at 11:00 a.m. Pierz Pioneer Elementary School, ages 0 to 4th grade.

The Council of Catholic Women of the St. Cloud Diocese/ Eastern Deanery invites you to our Spring event The Fruits of the Mysteries of the Rosary, on Saturday, April 6th from 9a – 1p at St. John's Parish, in Foley for a presentation by Bonnie Jennen, Mary Jane Hay and Nita Hayes. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$10 before March 31st; \$15 for Late or Walk-ins. Make Checks payable to EASTERN DEANERY. Mail to: Nita Hayes, 16695 Jewel Rd., Little Falls, MN 56345. Phone: 320-630-0388 for more information.

GARAGE SALE DAYS: Pierz Area Garage Sales will be May 15-18, 2024. City of Pierz cleanup days will be May 18, 2024. To add your address to the garage sale list, stop by Pierz City Hall or go to www.pierzschools.org and click on Community Ed. Everyone in the Pierz School District is welcome.

JOB POSTING: PASTORAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Father Francis Xavier Pierz Area Catholic Community has a full-time salaried position open to assist the pastor in serving the pastoral needs of the four communities. Qualifications for this position are as follows: A love for Christ and his Church, a solid prayer life, skills in personal communication and evangelization, a hunger to bring others to Christ, organized, an ability to collaborate and be flexible to serve the mission of the Church.

Job Duties Include:

- Meeting with families and planning funeral liturgies.
- Coordinating and teaching OCIA or those searching in their faith life.
- Overseeing Homebound ministry.
- Coordinating the Marriage preparation program.
- Collaboration with the pastor and staff on daily operation, evangelism and general planning for the parishes.

Interested individuals may submit a letter of interest and resume to the parish office. For any questions regarding the position please contact the office or Father Aaron by phone (320) 468-6033 or email (frnett@midco.net).

ST. JOSEPH'S CUSTODIAL POSITION OPEN

St. Joseph's Church is seeking to hire a custodian for general building and maintenance work in and around the church. Applicants must have sufficient knowledge and abilities in cleaning, maintenance, repairs and overseeing in the parish. Those interested should contact St. Joseph's parish office by email (stjoes@midco.net) or phone (320-468-6033).

Prayer for the hiring of staff positions in the ACC:

"Spirit of wisdom and understanding, enlighten our minds to perceive the mysteries of the universe in relation to eternity. Spirit of right judgment and courage, guide us and make us firm in our baptismal decision to follow Jesus' way of love. Spirit of knowledge and reverence, help us to see the lasting value of justice and mercy in our everyday dealings with one another. May we respect life as we work to solve problems of family and nation, economy and ecology. Spirit of God, spark our faith, hope and love into new action each day. Fill our lives with wonder and awe in your presence which penetrates all creation. Amen."

SERVERS PARTY: The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a party for all Mass servers for our ACC on Thursday, April 4th from 3:00 (after school) until 5:00pm at Pierz Lanes. Free bowling, shoe rental and food provided. Students should be picked up at Pierz Lanes at 5:00 pm.

2024 MN FoodShare Campaign: March is FoodShare Month. A percentage of donations received are matched by the Minnesota FoodShare Campaign. Will you please join in the effort to help replenish our local food shelf during March? An extra can of soup, veggies or cereal purchased during your weekly grocery shopping trip will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to the Pierz Area Food Shelf and the address is PO Box 383, Pierz MN 56364 and your donation is tax deductible. The Pierz Area Food hours are 9-11 AM and 5-7 PM on Mondays, or call 320-468-7134 for information. The Pierz Food Shelf is located on Main Street next to the Pierz Fire Hall. Thank you for joining in the efforts to end hunger in our community.



80 Edward St. N., Pierz MN 56364, 320-468-6446

***ANNUAL CARNIVAL-** Sunday, March 24, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Grand Raffle drawing at 3:00 pm.

***STATIONS OF THE CROSS-** On 03/28 our students will lead Living Stations at 8:45am.

***COFFEE-** Guatemalan coffee is always available for purchase at the school. Holy Trinity makes \$3 on each bag sold and the rest goes to pay the farmers in Guatemala for the coffee beans. Regular (ground or bean) \$13.00, in French, Dark, or Medium Roast. Decaf (ground or bean) \$14.00.

Raffle Calendar Winners:

3/17 \$75 David P Virnig, 3/18 \$35 Travis Young & Chris Young,
3/19 \$35 Beatrice Block, 3/20 \$35 Phyllis Hoheisel, 3/21 \$35 Sarah
Fyten, 3/22 \$35 Paul Lommel, 3/23 \$35 Chris Banick

*Father Pierz
School of Religion*



320-468-2640

***Wednesday, March 27th** – JH Game
Night 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Adoration 5-6 p.m.
Pierz Church)

***Wednesday, April 3rd** – LF Movie
Theater 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. (Adoration 5-
6 p.m. Pierz Church)

**LOOK WHAT'S NEW
IN THE ACC!**



Recent Baptisms:
*Above: Vienna Florentine, daughter
of Ben Herold & Emily Mutz
Below: Mallory Rose, daughter of
Donald & Melissa Hall*

