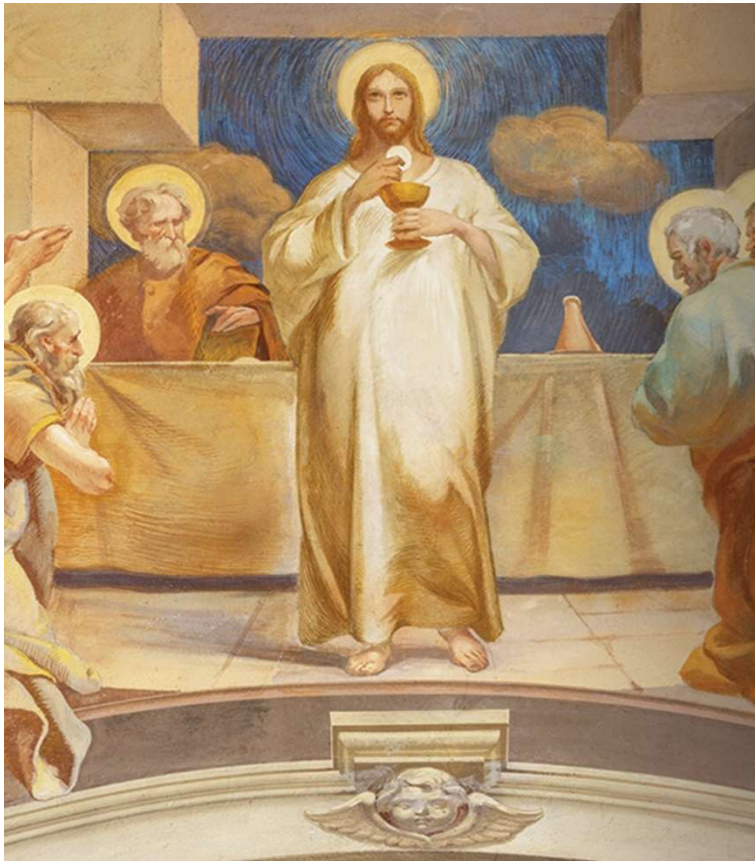




FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. - Jn 3:20-21

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

©LPi

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 10th, 2024

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

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

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

**March 10, 2024
4th Sunday of Lent**

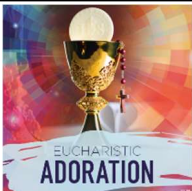
Our national pastime isn't baseball. It's what the Bible calls "condemning the world." We generally enjoy pronouncing curses upon those whom we see as trouble, wrong, or evil. Don't believe me? Listen to almost any podcast, cable news network, or social media platform to hear it. It will be some version of: "We all agree that if they are eradicated, things will be great." Condemning is almost always clothed in virtue. It basks in its good intentions. That's why it is so attractive. Condemning seems like our best path to saving what is good.

What a shock, then, to hear Jesus announce: "**For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him**" (Jn 3:17). He comes to save the world, as we all want, but he will accomplish it without an act of condemnation. How hard it is to accept this! Condemning feels godlike. I judge who and what must be lost to protect the good. But in the light of Jesus' endless mercy and love, this is the least godlike thing we can do.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to give up the delicious experience of condemning whomever in the world you most would like to see gone. Perhaps write down their names. Secondly, I invite you to consider fasting from any media that feeds the tasty but deadly tendency to condemn.

~Father John Mui

**This is a message taken from our online bulletin library*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 12 – MARCH 17	
<p><u>Tuesday, March 12</u> 7:00 p.m. Lastrup +Theresia Becker</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 13</u> 8:00 a.m. Harding +Gary Anderson 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Buckman All Day Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Thursday, March 14</u> 7:00 a.m. Buckman +Leander Motschke 10:00 a.m. Villa +Leona Gruber 6-8:00 p.m. Pierz Confession Service</p> <p><u>Friday, March 15 - HT School Mass: Mrs. Marshik's Kindergarten Class</u> 8:30 a.m. Pierz +Evie Boser 3-6:00 p.m. Pierz Eucharistic Adoration 6-8 p.m. Lastrup Adoration & Stations of the Cross 6-8 p.m. Buckman Adoration & Stations of the Cross</p> <p><u>Saturday, March 16</u> 4:00 p.m. Lastrup +Dennis Welle 6:00 p.m. Harding For the People of the Parishes</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 17</u> 8:00 a.m. Buckman +Tom Hoheisel 10:00 a.m. Pierz +John Pohlkamp</p>	<p><u>Upcoming Lent Confessions:</u> *Sat. Mar. 16 at Harding from 7-8 p.m. *Tues. Mar. 19 at Lastrup from 6-7 p.m. *Wed. Mar. 20 at Buckman from 7-8 p.m. *Fri. Mar. 22 at Pierz from 6-7 p.m.</p> <p><u>*Stations of the Cross:</u> On Fridays during Lent, there will be Adoration w/ Benediction at 6 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. Please see bulletin Mass schedule for locations.</p> <p><u>*Bulletin Announcement Deadline:</u> 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><u>*Weekday Masses When There is a Funeral:</u> Going forward, when there is a funeral, the regular scheduled weekday Mass will still take place.</p> <p><u>*Emergency Contact:</u> 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. <u>Lastrup & Harding Office Hours:</u> Call 320-360-9720</p> <p>*If you are seeking information on baptism, marriage, or RCIA preparation or would like to sign up as a new member of the parish, please call 320-468-6033 (Pierz and Buckman) or 320-360-9720 (Lastrup & Harding).</p>
 <p>EUCCHARISTIC 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>	
<p>"When you are before the altar where Christ reposes, you ought no longer to think that you are amongst men; but believe that there are troops of angels and archangels standing by you, and trembling with respect before the sovereign Master of Heaven and earth. Therefore, when you are in church, be there in silence, fear, and veneration." ~St. John Chrysostom</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



FRIDAY, MARCH 15 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: Ellie Thomsen, Zach Gall & 1 volunteer

SATURDAY, MARCH 16 at 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Louise Welle

Servers: Zach Gall

Ushers: Jonathan Welle & Ron Monson

E. Minister (Choir): Stacey Thomsen

GAMBLING MEETING: There will be a gambling meeting after Mass on Tuesday, March 12th.

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: 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.

PARISH RAFFLE: Our annual Parish Raffle will take place Saturday, May 4th after the 4PM Mass at the Parish Center. Anyone who would like donate to the raffle, please write your check out to St John's Raffle and send it to Colin Boser-27227 193rd St. Pierz MN 56364. If you would like to remain anonymous let us know -Thank you for your generosity and support. ~ Raffle Committee

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

***Saturday, March 2nd:** Adult env. \$653.00, Adult loose \$74.00, Children loose \$2.00. **Mass attendance:** 132

Faith Talks With "Uncle Fred"

"Increase your love and devotion to the Eucharist this Lent."
Lenten Series with Frederick Blonigen, a member of St. Anthony's parish in St. Cloud. He recently retired from St. Agnes High School, St. Paul, where he was chairman of and instructor in the theology department for thirty-two years. He is currently teaching adult education at St. Anthony's in St. Cloud and St. Agnes in St. Paul. The past 2 years he has also been teaching adult religious education classes at Watkins and Eden Valley. Mr. Blonigen was a longtime board member of Catholic Parents Online, an organization supporting Catholic education, and is the author of many articles and book reviews on Catholic topics.

Please join us as we welcome Fred (Fr. Aaron's uncle) to our Area Catholic Community on the following Sundays during Lent:

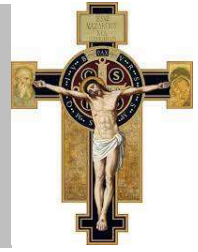
***PLEASE NOTE LOCATION CHANGES**

***Sunday, March 10th 2-3:30 p.m. in Harding** "Eucharistic Adoration: Essential for Growing in Holiness"

***Sunday, March 17th 3-4:30 p.m. in Pierz** "Understanding the Biblical and Patristic Basis for the Eucharist"

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

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



SATURDAY, MARCH 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Will Corbett

Servers: Maverick & Adam Weitalla

Ushers: Willie Rudolph & Gary Matlock

E. Minister (Choir): Gary Matlock

Rosary: Phyllis Schmidtbauer

UNCLE FRED FAITH TALK: At Holy Cross Church Basement on Sunday, March 10th at 2 p.m.

HAM BINGO: The Holy Name will host a ham bingo on March 17th at 1:00 PM in the church basement. A free lunch will be served afterwards. Join us for a fun-filled afternoon

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 2nd:** Adult env. \$1,241.00, Adult loose \$142.00, Children env. \$5.75, Children loose \$19.00.

Mass attendance: 158

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 Weitalla, 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.

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.

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



FRIDAY, MARCH 15 at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross:

Servers: Gabe Stangl, Noah Solinger, and Logan Brisk

SUNDAY, MARCH 17 at 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Bob Lochner

E. Ministers: Randi Kranz & Mary Kay Zilka

Servers: Westin Hoheisel & Gabe Stangl

Ushers for March: Grant Stangl, Nathan Gruber & Shane Zilka



New Life in Christ

Vienna Florentine, daughter of Benjamin Herold & Emily Mutz, was baptized on Sunday, March 3rd. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

PALM BRAIDING: If anyone is interested in braiding palms for Palm Sunday, they can come to the parish center on Friday, March 22nd at 9:00 a.m. Also, if anyone is already good at braiding, come teach others.

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 468-6148.

ST. MICHAEL WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (March 3)

Adult	\$ 3,239.00
High School	\$ 4.00
Elementary	\$ 14.00
Plate	\$ 245.27
	\$ 3,502.27

*Thank you for your generosity!
Mass attendance: 257*

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



SUNDAY, MARCH 17 at 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Al Pekarek

E. Ministers: Ruth Stuckmayer, David Stumpf & LeRoy Swanson

Servers: Gross & Thomas family

Sacristans: Keith Marshik & Pat Hartmann

Ushers for March: Jeremy Virnig (Lead), Allan Kroll, Mathew Stumpf & Andy Kapsner



New Life in Christ

John Henry, son of Shawn & Ashley Janson, was baptized on Sunday, March 3rd. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

AT PEACE WITH GOD: *James "Jim" Virnig* passed away on February 26th. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, March 2nd at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz. We extend our sympathy to the families and assure them of our prayerful support.

UNCLE FRED FAITH TALK: At St. Joseph's Church Basement on Sunday, March 17th at 3 p.m.

NOTICES IN CHURCH: Please do not hang flyers on glass doors. We have bulletin boards at all entrances. Also, before placing a notice on the bulletin boards, the office needs to approve it. Thank you for your cooperation.

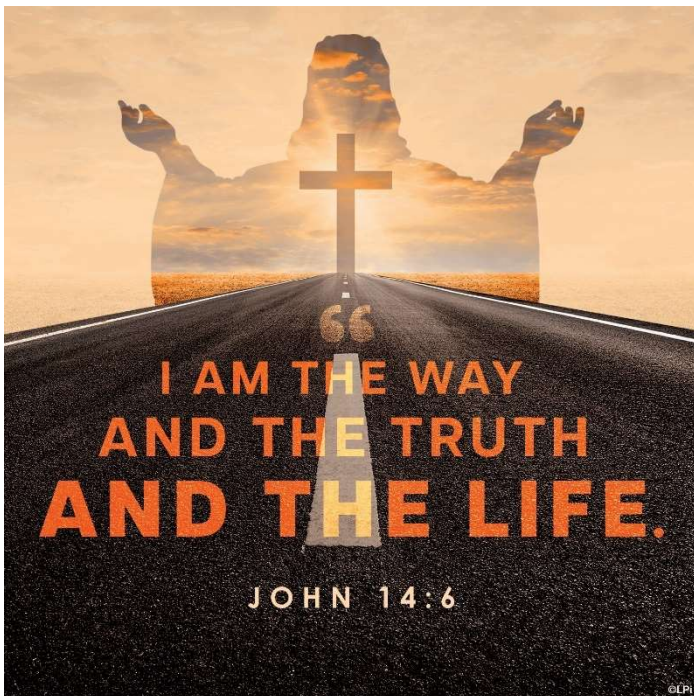
ST. JOSEPHS QUILT CIRCLE: We will be quilting on Monday, March 11th at 1 p.m. and Thursday, March 14th at 9 a.m. Come and go as is convenient for you. **We are again asking for pieced quilt tops.** Just a reminder we have kits done up with directions and ready to go for tops. Feel free to stop down and observe. We are always looking for new quilters. Questions call Eileen 360-2434 or Chris 630-0606.

PRAYER LINE: If you have a prayer line request, please either call Karen Gross at 320-468-6818 or email Rachel Young at rjyoung0521@gmail.com.

ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (March 3)

Adult	\$ 6,079.10
High School	\$ 8.00
Elementary	\$ 14.25
Plate	\$ 272.75
	\$ 6,374.10

*Thank you for your generosity!
Mass attendance: 329*



GENERAL NEWS

NOTE: The weekday Mass on Thursdays in Buckman is at 7 a.m. Confessions will now be heard **after** Mass those days.

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

*Usher meetings after the 4 p.m. Mass at St. John's in Lastrup on March 16th and after the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph's in Pierz on March 17th.

*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.

ROSARY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS: On the 2nd Sunday of the month, everyone is welcome to pray the Rosary of Seven Sorrows at the crucifix in St. Michael's cemetery in Buckman after 8 AM Mass. The next rosary will be on March 10th. The purpose of this Rosary is to promote union with Jesus through union with the sorrows that His Blessed Mother endured.

ALL DAY ADORATION: From 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13th at St. Michael's Church in Buckman. Call Patty at 468-2487 with questions or to sign up.

CONFESSION SERVICE: Thursday, March 14th from 6 to 8 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz, beginning with a prayer service. There will be extra priests to hear confessions. You can come anytime during those 2 hours.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Sunday, April 7th noon-3p.m at St. Michael's Church-Buckman. Adoration, confessions, speakers, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

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.



SENIOR CITIZEN BINGO: At St. Michael's Parish Center on Thursday, March 14th after the 7 a.m. Mass.

QUILT BINGO/RAFFLE: Sunday, March 17, at St Michael's Parish Center, Buckman, at 1 pm. Coffee cakes for sale, free lunch and door prize, in addition to many tied and stitched quilts for winners to choose from.

PIERZ LIONS FISH FRY: Friday, March 15 at Frosty's in Pierz from 4:30-7p.m. Adults \$15, children 12-5 \$8, under 5 free. Deep fried fish, mac and cheese, potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw, bread, dessert, and beverage included. For take out orders call or text Mike Poser at 320-282-3037

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.

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.

Learning with a Faith Foundation
HOLY TRINITY
 CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 Pierz, MN EST. 1991

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

***STATIONS OF THE CROSS-** Our students will be leading Stations of the Cross on 03/20 at 8:25am at St. Joseph Church. On 03/28 our students will lead Living Stations at 8:45am.

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

***KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE-** Thursday, March 21, 6:00-7:00 pm. Our current ECE families, as well as families interested in our Kindergarten program should attend this event.

***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:

3/3 \$75 Natalie Gruber, 3/4 \$35 Kory Hoheisel, 3/5 \$35 Brandon Meyer,
 3/6 \$35 Chuck & Jean Loehr, 3/7 \$35 Dale Brausen, 3/8 \$35 Jan Kummet,
 3/9 \$35 Keith & Shelby Janson

*Father Pierz
 School of Religion*



320-468-2640

***Wednesday, March 13th** – JH Skating Place 5:15 p.m. to 9 p.m.

***Monday, March 18th** – SH Pizza Ranch Fundraiser 4:30-7:30 p.m. (11th & 12th Graders)

***Wednesday, March 20th** – SH Pizza Ranch Fundraiser 4:30-7:30 p.m. (9th & 10th Graders)

***TEC Retreat in LFs March 23rd, 24th, & 25th**

GROWING 
 WITH THE **Gospel**
 CYCLE B

 **COLOR**

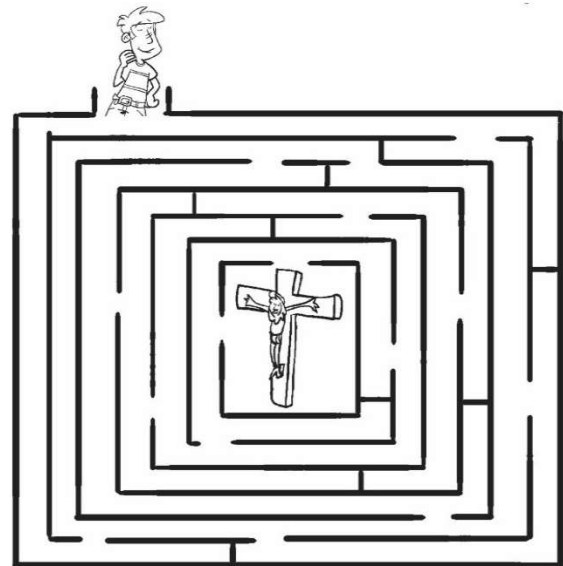
Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4th Sunday of Lent • John 3:14-21

 **PUZZLE**

Help the boy find Jesus:



 **MISSION**

Help your parents wash dishes. As you take dirty dishes and wash them clean, talk about how Jesus washed our sins away on the cross.