

Office Phone: 402.755.2773 Office Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm,

Fridays: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Address: 421 West 2nd Street, Ponca, NE. Send mail to: P.O. Box 898 Ponca, NE 68770

Fifth Sunday of Lent March 29, 2020

"Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face wrapped in a cloth.

John 11:1-45



A Message From Father Andy

I keep hearing over and over in my heart, "faith, hope, and love". They are virtues for a reason. I never imagined I would be living in the world we are living in now. Our lives have changed today, but we still live like we always have in faith, hope,

and love. We face all the fear and panic in faith, hope, and love. For me it feels like it has been months since we have been together for a public celebration of the sacraments. Not knowing when we will be able to celebrate the sacraments again can bring a lot of sadness to our hearts. But we face this sadness with faith, hope, and love in our hearts. There is nothing better than letting God increase your faith, your hope, and your love as you navigate through what most are calling the new normal. What that even means I do not know. But I do know that in faith, hope, and love we will find our way. There are many concerns about how we will go forward and my response is the same every time, we will go forward in faith, hope, and love. Pray with these virtues and let the Lord increase them in your life.

We are in the process of getting a letter out to all families. Please, please, we are asking for every family to update your records. I do not care if you have been a member one week or ninety years, we need an updated record. Please give us your cell phone numbers, your e-mail, and your current mailing address. I have been going through our parish software and we are missing a lot of information. We are asking every family to help us out with the email especially. This will help us to send e-mails to update you on information and save us the money on mailing them out. Thank you for your cooperation with this. Please e-mail the information to Cheri or Esther in the office. Their e-mail addresses are in this bulletin.

I have asked the finance councils to look at our finances and try to project for the future and make recommendations on our financial security. Together we will be on top of every issue regarding our parish finances.

The archbishop has made it clear the mandate of no more than ten people is in place and we have to follow the guideline. We do not know, as of today, when the mandate will be lifted. Please reach out to family and friends and share the news you are getting from me directly. If you have not signed up for the Saint Peter's Facebook page, please do and I will get you in. You can watch the daily mass every day at 9:00 a.m. live and then about an hour or so after it is available for viewing the rest of the day. If someone does not have Facebook, they can go to www.youtube.com and type in the words Ponca, Newcastle, Jackson and the mass will be there as well. Please help others with this and have anyone contact me with questions.

The palms have arrived and will be blessed on Palm Sunday and you will be notified when you can come and pick them up. Please come in small groups and leave soon so others can come and get them as well. Also, please help me if you see a light on, shut it off before you leave. It is difficult to change the higher lights and it will also save on our electric bill. Thank you for your cooperation.

There was a wonderful article from KTIV on our mass being live streamed and I hope everyone got to see it. Thank you from the depths of my heart for all of your phone calls, messages, and for dropping food at my door. We truly are going forward in faith, hope, and love.

Be assured of my prayers and thank you for your prayers.

Father Andy

News & Announcements:

RICE BOWL REPORT:

These last two weeks of Lent, we want to start calling in the Rice Bowls. If you have one that is full, you can bring it to the box in the back of church. You can pick up a new one, for the last days of Lent, if you like. Each week there will be a report of how many are turned in; our 3 parishes are working together on this project for the poor.

FROM FR. KRAMPER: At the beginning of Lent, I made an agreement with my Rice Bowl, that whenever I found gas for my car cheaper than \$2.30/gallon, I would put the difference in my Rice Bowl. This past Wednesday, I filled my car for \$1.40/gallon (13.5 gallons) and I owed my Rice Bowl over \$12.00!

<u>CHURCH DOORS ARE OPEN:</u> The church doors will remain open for those that wish to go and worship. (For St. Patrick's please use the handicap access door).

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT: Just as many of our parish members live paycheck to paycheck, our churches survive week to week from our collections. The cancellation of masses is financially effecting even the largest parishes in our country, so please, if you are able to continue to support your parish, please make every effort to do so. We have several options for you. You may drop off your donation at any of the Bank of Dixon County locations, just be sure to tell them which parish you want the donation deposited to. You may drop off your envelope at the parish office. We have a donation basket on the back porch. (Please do not leave cash). You may also mail your donation to PO Box 898, Ponca, Ne 68770. Please continue to pray each day that our churches, our parish members and our communities can survive this and we grow closer to our Lord Jesus.

FORMED: This is a great option if you are looking for Catholic movies, audio books, podcasts, or self study series. Go to www.stjosephsponca.formed.org. It's FREE. Just go to the website, register and begin exploring!



Sanctuary Lamp:

This week the lamp is lit for the special intentions of:

St. Joseph's: PDan & Cecelia Rush

St. Peter's: \$\Perp Leonard Kneifl

May this light remind us of Jesus' true presence in the Sanctuary.

Mass Intentions:

Father Andy will be saying a private daily mass for the following intentions:

Monday, March 30....... Pole & Claire Knudsen

Tuesday, March 31......... \$Jack Hartnett

Wednesday, April 1........ \$Joe & Christine Albenesius

Thursday, April 2..... Chuck Young

Friday, April 3...... PMax & Bun Sullivan

Saturday, April 4......Special Intention of Ruth & Aubby Voss

Sunday, April 5.....Pro Populo

Staff Contact Information:

Pastor, Rev. Andrew Sohm Cell: 402.709.3803. Email: alsohm@archomaha.org

Deacon, Dennis Knudsen - 605.670.9958 Email: dnknudsen@archomaha.org

Secretary/Bookkeeper, Cheri Twohig Email: cstwohig@archomaha.org

Liturgical Assistant, Esther Harrington Email: eharrington@archomaha.org



Stewardship of Treasure

Weekend of March 22

"God will not be out done in generosity!"

St. Joseph's Sunday Offerings..... \$500.00

St. Patrick's Sunday Offerings.....\$465.00

St. Peter's Sunday Offerings......\$977.00

You may drop off your weekly donation at any of the Bank of Dixon County locations. Please specify which parish you would like the donation deposited into. If you bank at the Bank of Dixon County, you can contact them and ask to have funds transferred each week. Bank of Dixon County phone numbers: Ponca-755-2224; Newcastle-355-2235; Jackson-632-2400.