

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus,

*The Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."* From the very beginning, the Church has needed deacons. Deacons are specially configured to Christ as Servant. They remind us that, when we come in Jesus' Name, we come to serve. It is no accident that before serving the Church as a priest or bishop each man must be ordained and serve as a deacon first. Deacons attend to the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, paying special attention to those people in particular need. We are all called to serve others, but deacons are set apart for this ministry to keep the vocation of service in focus.

I am eternally grateful to the deacons of our local Area Catholic Community. Deacon Randy Altstadt helped me to get my feet under me as a new pastor when I first arrived eight years ago. He was freshly ordained and eager to serve. Deacon Randy brings his experience as a husband, father, grandfather, and meat-cutter to his ministry. Never before have the parables about salt had such *flavor*. Taking on the responsibilities of Parish Administrator in 2013, Deacon Randy made the transition to full-time ministry. Deacon Randy and his wife, Janel, have made a special mission of the care for the residents of our correctional facilities through the REC program.

Deacon Mark Stenger brings his own unique gifts to ministry at Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence. You won't get more down-to-earth than a self-professed "gravel man." Deacon Mark quickly made his *mark* with the students of St. Henry's Area School by beginning each lesson with a joke so bad that we now have a new category beyond 'dad jokes' that I call 'deacon jokes.' Deacon Mark took service to a new level when he stepped in as custodian for the school after the death of Mark Strege. Nothing says service like scrubbing toilets for Jesus!

Our most recent addition, Deacon Richard Quistorff, is actually the most seasoned veteran among us. Though he originally grew up in our Diocese, Deacon Richard was ordained for the great Archdiocese of St. Louis and came to us by way of Colorado Springs. He brings the discipline and experience of a career soldier. He has continued to serve the Church wherever he has been and has stepped up as Court Chaplain for our local Catholic Daughters Court St. Rita. Deacon Richard rarely exploits his seniority among us clergy, but he does enjoy reminding me that I am the same age as his son.

All three of our local deacons have been exemplary models of Christ in their service, *filled with the Spirit and wisdom*. I am honored to have them as brothers in ministry. They have been a tremendous gift to Father George and me, and to our communities. Though we may occasionally fight like only brothers can, we share the joys and responsibilities of service in Christ's Church. I am equally grateful to their wives, who have supported them through discernment, long-distance studies, and the many sacrifices involved in ministry; marriage is their first vocation, and deacons' wives are worthy partners in ministry.

We have several men in our parishes who are discerning a call to service as permanent deacons; please pray for them and for those who will be called in the future. If you are feeling called to the Diaconate, please feel free to approach any of our deacons; Father George and I would be happy to assist you as well. Deacons are a necessary part of the life of the Church. Let us take a moment this week to thank God for the gift of the Diaconate as a whole and for our own deacons in particular.

Peace in Christ,  
Father Matthew Kuhn

**Today's Readings:**

**Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12**

**St. Henry's Area School**

Congratulations to this week's calendar raffle winners:

May 6th – **Father George \$50**

May 8th—**Ann Seifert \$100**

**Fun Fair Update:** I am currently working with Austin Bachmann Auctioneers to try to move the auctions to an online format. When that is solidified, much more information will become available on how to bid, when the auctions end, etc. We will then also pick a time to do a Facebook Live raffle drawing for the raffle. I feel that we won't be allowed to meet in large groups for quite some time, so this is the direction we need to follow. No games, no food this year.

**Thank you for supporting St. Henry's Area School.**

**Mr. Jason Smith, Principal**

**218-346-6190 or sthenryschool@arvig.net**

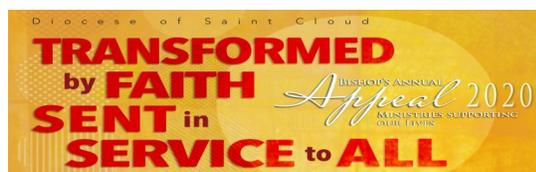
*St. Henry's Area School provides academic excellence while following the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church.*

**2021 Parish Calendar Sponsors**

We are now signing up sponsors for the 2021 parish calendars. A donation of \$150.00 to the parish in the name of your business or in memory of a deceased loved one is requested. Please contact the parish office at 218-346-4240, if you are interested.

**Bishops Annual Appeal:**

Thank you to everyone who is supporting diocesan ministries through the Appeal, especially during these trying times. As of April 20, the Appeal raised \$865,841 in gifts and pledges toward the goal of \$1,300,000. Please remember that it is especially important at this time to support your parishes and **safely** reach out to family, neighbors and people in need.



**Bulletin Sponsor of the Week**

Our *Bulletin Sponsor of the Week* is *Ruther Excavating*.

Thank you for your support. Please remember to patronize all the advertisers whenever possible.



**Preschool Lead Teacher/Director, Full-Time at St. Henry's Area Preschool**

St. Henry's Area Preschool (Perham, MN) is seeking a full-time Preschool Lead Teacher/Director for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year.

Date Closing: Open until filled

Start Date: August 17, 2020

Work Week: Monday-Friday

**Position Summary:**

This position is responsible for providing a safe and nurturing environment where children can learn and grow spiritually and academically. The teacher must be able to develop a careful and creative program suitable for preschool children and effectively use knowledge of best practices for preschool education methods. He/She must observe each child's behavior and track each child's progress in order to communicate effectively and frequently with parents through newsletters and conferences. This position must help children grow in their understanding of Faith, encourage relationship building among students and staff, and uphold a commitment to school readiness. He/She must be engaging, pleasant, loving, and an example of a healthy Christian person. This position must be able to work collaboratively and professionally with coworkers. The teacher is responsible for organization of daily schedules, supervision, following all required policies and procedures, and maintaining a clean and tidy classroom. This position will include recruiting, marketing, strategic planning, meeting DHS guidelines, and managing an entire preschool.

**Education and/or Experiences:**

- Post-Secondary degree in Early Childhood is preferred but not required
- Visit <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=9503.0032> for Child Care Teacher qualifications as defined by the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

**Application:**

Interested applicants should fill out the application located on our website: [www.sthenryareaschool.com](http://www.sthenryareaschool.com) under "Employment."

**Please mail completed applications to:**

Jason Smith

St. Henry's Area School

253 2nd St. SW

Perham, MN 56573

Or by email to: [sthenryschool@arvig.net](mailto:sthenryschool@arvig.net)



## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

### Please Pray For

**Those in need of healing in our parishes:** Joel Carlson, Harriet Daiker, Hudson Hendrickx, Helene Johnson, Margaret Kasowski, Oscar Kawlewski, Brandon McDonnell, John Ogroske, Lois Porath, Bob Riestenberg, Lowell Siebels, Anthony Thompson, JoAnn Tingelstad, Gertie Ulschmid, Larry Wankel & Larry Wegscheid

**All military personnel, especially:** Martin Ara, Jesus Guajardo, Ed Guck, Greg Hirschey, Sandra (Silbernagel) Lagnese, Tanner Neyens, Luke Potts, Zoe Potts, Jason Richter, Tanya Robison, Tommy Robison, Steven Sundberg and Tyler Van Watermulen

*To add a name to our prayer chain or if you would like to be added as a pray-er, contact Ardith at 346-5345 or ar-dith.altstadt@outlook.com, or call Sigrid at 346-7342.*

### Weekly Mass Intentions for May 3—May 10:

**Sat. May 9:** Adam Winkels +  
**Sun. May 10: For the People of God**  
**Mon. May 11:** Bette Szarke +  
**Tues. May 12:** Deloris Lachowitz +  
**Wed. May 13:** Bruce Hendrickx +  
**Thurs. May 14:** Jim + & Margaret Huebsch +  
**Fri. May 15:** Arthur + & Alma Herrmann +  
**Sat. May 16:** Rose Martodam +  
**Sun. May 17: For the people of God**

### Holy Father's May Prayer Intention:

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

### Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 14:5-18	Jn 14:21-26
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Acts 14:19-28	Jn 14:27-31
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Acts 15:1-6	Jn 15:1-8
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26	Jn 15:9-17
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 15:22-31	Jn 15:12-17
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 16:1-10	Jn 15:18-21
<b>Sunday:</b>	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17	1 Pt 3:15-18
	Jn 14:15-21	

### Collection from May 2nd-3rd:

Adult Offering	7,795.00	Plate	300.00
Easter Offering	925.00	Ascension	60.00
Elec. Transfers	4,205.00	Cemetery Acct.	215.00
Votive Monies	67.25	Coffee	60.00
Copies	11.25	Donations	1,600.00
Build. Improv.	135.00	Prayer Shawls Min.	100
Holy Water Bottles	2.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>15,475.50</b>

### Deacon Randy Altstadt - Parish Administrator

*Average amount needed to meet weekly operation of St. Henry for the fiscal year is: \$14,725.00*

### New School Capital Campaign Update

<b>Goal</b>	\$7,343,900.00
<b>Pledged</b>	\$4,620,679.00
<b>Needed</b>	\$2,723,221.00
<b>Received</b>	\$1,807,262.00
<b>Pledges Received</b>	\$2,250.00
<b>Households Contributing</b>	258

  <p>www.findyourgoose.com</p>	 <p>servicing you best!</p>
 <p>Marie Hanson 201 1st Ave. SE Perham, MN 56573 218-298-0598 fitnessfirst@mail.com</p>	 <p>346-6800 LIC# BC734124</p>
 <p>Solving local water problems since 1984.</p> <p>Lake Country RainSoft 231 Main St West, Ottertail, MN 56571 218-367-7873 * 1-800-450-1212</p>	 <p>Catholic Daughters of the Americas Perham, MN Meetings open to all Catholic women Meetings held First Tuesday (Sept-June) Contact: Dianne Rohde-Szarke at 346-2267</p>

### Parish Staff

<b>Pastor:</b>	Fr. Matthew Kuhn	pastor@st-henrys.org	<b>Em. 218-298-2030</b>
<b>Deacon/Parish Administrator:</b>	Deacon Randy Altstadt	deaconrandy@st-henrys.org	<b>Em. 218-457-0925</b>
<b>Deacon:</b>	Deacon Richard Quistorff	deaconrichard@st-henrys.org	218-346-4163
<b>Parish Office:</b>		admin@st-henrys.org	218-346-4240
<b>Business Admin. Assistant:</b>	Ann Koll	finance@st-henrys.org	218-346-4240
<b>Religious Ed Coordinator:</b>	Lisa Hendrickx	religioused@st-henrys.org	218-346-7030
<b>Youth Minister:</b>	Lisa Hendrickx	youthministry@st-henrys.org	218-346-7030
<b>Director of Music &amp; Liturgy:</b>	Michael Mettler	music@st-henrys.org	218-346-7030
<b>Maintenance:</b>	Joe Byer		
<b>Principal, S.H.A. School:</b>	Jason Smith	sthenryschool@arvig.net	218-346-6190



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## First Reading

## Second Reading



## Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7

## Beyond Imagining

It started with an argument about dinner. Three weeks ago we heard the happy story of the blissful teamwork among the early Christians. They loved one another, shared things in common, and their numbers grew. Well, the honeymoon is over. As the numbers increased, so did disagreements. It all started with an argument about dinner.

Greek widows were not getting enough to eat before the food ran out. The Twelve were too busy preaching to manage meals. But they had to have charity at home if they were to preach authentically, so they appointed seven leaders to straighten out the problems with dinner. That is how we first got deacons in the church.

Deacons may have started as table ministers, but they did not end that way. Not long after this story we find them preaching the Gospel near and far with all the fervor of the Twelve. The Word of God spread because of the work of deacons, but it never would have happened if there had not first been an argument about dinner.

Arguments do not have to lead to anger and broken relationships. They can lead to solutions with better results than anyone ever imagined.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A  
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## Fifth Sunday of Easter

1 Peter 2:4-9

## Stones That Live

A good artist can take something other people overlook and make it beautiful—a leaf, a pebble, or even a scuff or a scratch. An artist knows how to set something simple in an environment where its inner beauty shines.

God is the ultimate artist. God can take each of us, no matter how beautiful or ugly we are outside or inside, and turn us into a vision of glory.

The First Letter of Peter calls us stones, material that can be overlooked or used for building. Jesus was a living stone that many people rejected. But God the artist found what was precious in Jesus the stone. The letter says, “like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices.” If we come to Christ, the living stone, he will fashion us into something remarkable.

Other people may not appreciate our inner beauty. They may not notice the gifts we have. They may not know how we can grace their lives. They may even make us feel useless. But God finds us most useful. We are living stones, pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.

Some people overlook what good Christians think and do. They build arsenals rather than feed the hungry. They sever relationships rather than grant forgiveness. They squander time rather than use it for the good. But God appreciates the good we do and builds us up as living stones.

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