

St Bernard's 43rd Winter Carnival

Sunday March 6th, as I look back on today's events, I ask myself, "Was it a success?" How is success measured? Is it measured in the laughs and smiles as the kids played and worked in the Kid's and Youth Rooms? Is it measured in the multiple cakes I saw being carried down the hallways and up and down the stairs? Is it measured in that feeling of satisfaction in eating a delicious meal? Is it measured in monetary gains, when St Bernard's is the winning name on the \$500 raffle ticket? (Thank you anonymous donor!) Is it in the joyful shout of "BINGO!" If you answered yes to any of these questions, then I would agree that the Carnival was a success!

Today's events wouldn't have been possible without some of our key players on the planning committee which included John Fasching and Jim Meuwissen. When they were first broached with the option of putting the Fish Fry and Winter Carnival together their comments were, "let us know when and where and we will be there." The running of the kitchen lead by Sandy Bengston (I don't know how many car loads of groceries she hauled!), Sue Wickenhauser and Lisa Weiland. The team of potato washers and potato salad makers lead by Helen Hilgers. The kitchen and cafeteria management of Dan and Diane Worm.

Thank you to the following chairpersons: Patsy Quinn and Laura Templin Bingo, Julie and Andy Kleindl Youth Room, Tammy Schwartz Cake Walk, office and set up help from Roger and Jan Storms, and the money management team of Julie Clemensen, Judy Jenkins, and Diane Beckrich.

The following is a list of our Big Ticket Raffle Winners: \$500 – St Bernard's Parish, \$250 Jill Vos, and Connie Medenwaldt, \$100 Rodney Boelke and Kasel Family, \$50 Randy Eiden and Julie Uchytel. Dahlgreen Golf Course Gift Certificate won by Brooke Vos, Chanhassen Dinner Theater: Kendall Euwing, and Safari Island Punch Card: Dan Hoen. The winner of our beautiful quilt was John Klawitter.

Thank you to all of our friends and family that came and supported the event!
Monica Kooiman and the Winter Carnival Committee

PARISH NEWS

Divine Mercy Sunday is April 3rd.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet may be said as a Novena beginning on Good Friday and ending on Sunday, April 3rd.

The Chaplet can be said anytime, but the Lord specifically asked that it be recited as a novena, especially on the nine days before the Feast of Mercy. And he promised, "By this Novena (of Chaplets) I will grant every possible grace to souls" (796).

We can pray this Novena of Chaplets for our own personal intentions, or we can offer it together with the Novena to The Divine Mercy for the daily intentions dictated to Our Lord to Saint Faustina.

Our Lord said to Saint Faustina:

Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given you. ..Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. .. When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the Merciful Savior. .. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy. ... through the Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will. (687, 1541, 1731) Numbered pages found in the book "Diary of Saint Maria Faustina", which St. Bernard's has a copy of in our library in the St. Anne Room.

The pamphlet for the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet will be available next weekend (free of charge) on the table in the narthex of the church.

AREA HAPPENINGS

HONOR GUARD FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

"12 Hours to Watch and Pray with the Lord"

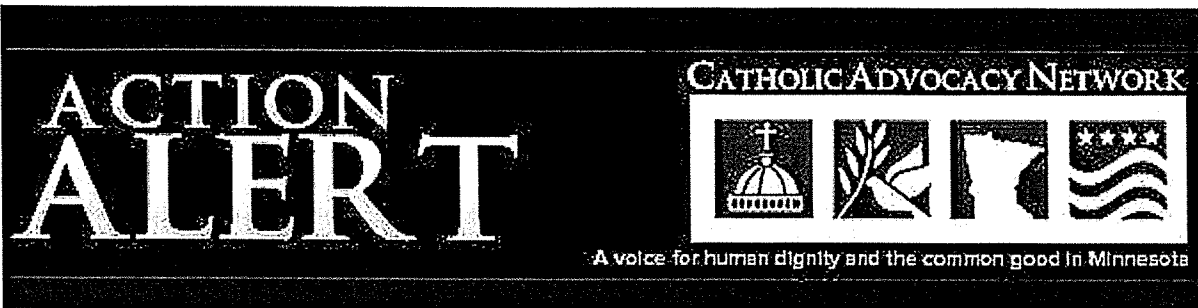
The Little Sisters of the Poor in St. Paul extend an invitation to join them in praying on Tuesday, March 15th for their lawsuit which will be heard by the Supreme Court on March 23rd in Washington.

The oral arguments include 7 religious groups representing hundreds of other religious organizations seeking to protect freedom of conscience and religious liberty which is being threatened by the government's contraceptive mandate.

The day includes Eucharistic Adoration with devotions from 8:30 am to 8:30pm in their Chapel at 330 Exchange street S; St. Paul, MN. Mass is at 4:30pm. For more information call Sr. Maria Francis at 651-27-0336.

Lenten Fish Fry Dinners 2016, St. Joseph Waconia :The Knights of Columbus will be hosting "All You Can Eat" Fish Fry's on all of the Fridays during Lent (except Good Friday), serving from 4 - 7:30 pm in the Parish Center, Tickets: Adult \$11, Child \$5 (ages 5-12), Under 5 free. Take out service available. Church of St. Joseph, 41 E First St, Waconia MN. 952-442-2384. www.stjosephwaconia.org. (*Bring this ad in for \$1 off each Adult Fish Fry ticket purchased*)

The WWME weekend is a time to look at our love for our spouse and decide to do something to make our love more like Jesus' love for us. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** are Apr 29-May 1, 2016 in Buffalo, MN and Jul 15-17, 2016 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-756-8720.



Physician-Assisted Suicide hearing this WEDNESDAY; tell your senator "NO!"

A bill that would legalize physician-assisted suicide in our state (SF 1880) is being considered by the Minnesota senate. If passed, doctors will be able to prescribe lethal doses of toxic drugs to their patients.

The Senate Health, Human Services and Housing committee is holding a hearing and **possible vote** on this dangerous bill this coming Wednesday, March 16 (details below).

As Minnesotans and Catholics, we must urge our elected officials to advance care, not hasten death. Please plan on attending this hearing so your state senator knows you oppose SF 1880 and physician-assisted suicide, and want to promote humane alternatives. No state needs assisted suicide, especially not one with world-class health care.

TAKE ACTION

In recent weeks, physician-assisted suicide bills have been successfully BLOCKED in Maryland and Colorado. The key in both states was active participation by citizens LIKE YOU who let their elected officials know where they stood. **We can stop physician-assisted suicide from coming to Minnesota, but we need YOUR voice to be heard.**

If you have....

ONE MINUTE: Email your state senator by using Catholic Advocacy Network email templates at www.votervoicenet.org/MNCC/Campaigns/45187/Respond, and urge him/her to **OPPOSE** SF 1880.

TWO MINUTES: Call your state senator and urge him/her to **OPPOSE** SF 1880. Tell him/her:

"Please oppose SF 1880. Legalizing physician-assisted suicide would be a failure of our state to provide the care and support that suffering people need and deserve. It is a false compassion that goes against our state's proud legacy of real care. Instead of legalizing physician-assisted suicide, our state should support humane alternatives. We should also enable our medical professionals to be the caregivers they are called to be. Let's advance care, not hasten death."

Visit <http://www.gis.leg.mn/OpenLayers/districts/> to identify your state senator.

IF YOU HAVE MORE TIME: Attend an upcoming hearing on physician-assisted suicide. The Senate Committee on Health, Human Services and Housing has scheduled a hearing on SF 1880 this coming Wednesday.

HEARING DETAILS

- The hearing will take place in **ROOM 1200** of the new **SENATE OFFICE BUILDING**, which is located directly north of the State Capitol. The address is **95 UNIVERSITY AVE. W.**
- **Public parking is available.** Green Line light-rail is also a good option.
- The hearing will be held at **NOON** on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16.**
- Seats will fill up quickly, so please plan on arriving at **11 AM. Please sit toward the front.**
- Keep in mind that the bill could get held over and be heard later in the afternoon (around 4:30 p.m.).
- Follow the **committee website** or call the committee (651-296-4151) **for up-to-date information.**
- **Even if you show up for the Noon hearing and the bill is held over, you have offered a powerful witness in opposition to this bill. We will need people to attend at both times.**
- To show that you want lawmakers to **STOP** physician-assisted suicide and support real **HEALTHCARE** options instead, **PLEASE WEAR RED.** Do not wear yellow, as that's the color SF 1880 supporters will be wearing.
- If you have personal testimony or stories related to terminal illness or difficult diagnoses that speak to why this bill is the wrong choice for Minnesota, please call the Committee Administrator (651-296-4151) and sign up to testify. You will likely have only 2-3 minutes. You can also submit written testimony as well to kristy.graume@senate.mn .

Proponents of this bill claim that assisting someone's suicide is the "compassionate" and "merciful" thing to do. In truth, this approach is a distortion of real mercy. It represents an utter failure of the community to accompany people in a difficult stage of life; it replaces the relational care that the sick and suffering deserve with abandonment and indifference.

Furthermore, there are several practical dangers associated with legalizing physician-assisted suicide, including:

- **abuse** and coercion of people with disabilities and the elderly
- **mistaken diagnoses** of terminal illnesses
- **no requirements** in place to protect people once the lethal drug has been prescribed

For more information on why Physician-Assisted Suicide is wrong for Minnesota, please visit the Minnesota Catholic Conference's website at mncc.org