
 Christ the King, *Webster* & Immaculate Conception, *Waubay*

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Websites: Christ the King: ctkwebster.org

Immaculate Conception: icwaubay.org

- Confession Times: Webster–Tue 12:00—12:45 pm & Sat 3:30—4:20pm
Waubay– Sun 8:00—8:20am
- Baptisms are scheduled after pre-baptism requirements are fulfilled. Call for an appointment.
- Marriage Preparation: Contact pastor at least six months prior to desired wedding date.
- If you are new to our parish and would like to join please contact the office for a registration form.
- If you would like to reserve the parish hall at *either* parish, please contact the parish office.

Pastor's Column

I would like to continue this Lenten season with some more examples of great saints who started out as great sinners. These saints help bring out the mercy of our Lord as well as the manner in which He works. St Angela of Foligno is another such example. She was canonized by Pope Francis in 2013. Foligno is a city in central/north-central Italy, not far from Assisi. She was born in 1248 and died in 1309. In spite of the passage of over 700 years, her body remains incorrupt to this day in the Church of St Francis in Foligno. How did all this come about?

Angela was born to a well off and perhaps noble family in Foligno but she was brought up in a superficial and worldly way. Drawing upon her own (later) writings, one of her biographers described her as: rich, proud, and beautiful...the American dream? She married a wealthy man around the age of 20 and had several sons. She would later describe herself during this time as follows: 1) desiring the attention and admiration of others, thus indulging in the finest clothes, expensive perfumes, and so on; 2) fits of anger and pride; 3) maligning others; 4) empty and harmful conversations; and finally 5) lust: engaging in illicit caresses and seductive behavior; there *may* have been some infidelity in marriage as well. This is a good list for us to examine ourselves with as well.

How did she get turned around? Of course it was the grace of God, a grace that He offers to each of us, but was there a particular thing like reading or hearing a sermon or some particular suffering that got her started? Apparently St Angela never mentioned any one thing in particular. She simply says that at one point she became profoundly aware of her sins and deeply sorry for them. In her own words, she wept bitterly and had a great fear of being damned to hell, which is common when entering into deep repentance for all the sins of one's life. She tried to go to Confession but was so ashamed that she omitted some serious sins, thus negating her Confession. She still went to Communion, knowing she shouldn't, which added to her angst. Finally she prayed to St Francis, asking for a priest who "knew sins well." She then had a dream in which St Francis said to her: sister, if you had asked me sooner I would have complied sooner; nonetheless your request is granted. The very next morning she heard a friar preaching, decided he was the one, and went to him and made a good Confession.

But like with St John of God, that was not the end of it. Although reconciled with God, and undoubtedly relieved that she could now receive Communion not only without committing grave sin but also actually benefit from it, she still had no sense or feeling of the love of God; she continued to experience grief and bitterness over her sins and she continued to experience intense temptations, which was a great source of suffering for her. This too is common and is perhaps part of our reparation. She did many penances (remember John of God – he wanted to spend the rest of his life making reparation) and *gradually* began to have an awareness of Divine Mercy. All of this took time. She then began to grow in knowledge of herself, becoming more and more aware of her defects – the deeper down effects of original sin. This is also a common part of real repentance, and is described by a number of saints, maybe most explicitly by St John of the Cross; you might say it is a "second conversion" or a deeper purification, now of motives, intentions, desires – our interior workings and dispositions. Fr Garrigou-Lagrange simply calls it the "intermediate stage" in our progress towards union with God. Angela goes on to enumerate 30 "steps" or stages in her conversion. We cannot cover it all but I will try to touch on a few significant things. She continued with her penances during this "intermediate stage" and even increased them – we should take heart and persevere. At one point she got rid of all of her superfluous belongings. This caused her much suffering because of the ridicule, false accusations, and injustices that she had to endure. Have I done the same to others? Am I willing to endure it? During this time she also spontaneously began to think more and more about the Passion of our Lord. This is universal among the saints; the Church knows what she is doing when giving us devotions like the Stations of the Cross. But, she said during all of this she still did not feel or experience yet the love of God. So often we want to jump to the good part without passing through the hard work repentance and conversion; there are no shortcuts. She then remembered her sins again which again made her weep bitterly; we should not be confused or alarmed if our past sins come to mind and cause us grief even after Confession – it protects and deepens our humility so that God can then give us greater gifts without us ruining them with pride.

Why endure all that? Why not distract ourselves and live "happy?" The answer is simple: for those who (eventually) get to Heaven, it cannot be avoided. God did create Purgatory so that if we at least manage to die in a state of grace, we can be purified there; but the suffering is worse and we can't help ourselves. Furthermore, freely embracing it in this life almost certainly results in greater glory and joy in Heaven. God comes with this grace to everyone, it is up to us to follow it or not. For those who do, it is good to have a guide like St Angela of Foligno so as not to be tempted to think we're on the wrong path. Finally we should mention that Angela did begin to experience consolation and actually became one of the mystics of the Church. There is so much more that can be drawn from her life, visions, and writings but let us finish with one quote: "Without humility of heart all the other virtues by which one runs toward God seem - and are - absolutely worthless." St Angela of Foligno, pray for us.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Mon. Apr 1, 5:30 pm (CTK) Personal Intention
Tue. Apr 2, 5:00 pm (CTK) †Lauretta Schoenbeck
Wed. Apr 3, 11:00 am (IC) †Art Helwig
Thurs. Apr 4, **No Mass**; Fr Kuhn at Chrism Mass
Fri. Apr 5, 8:00 am (CTK) † Kaye Schuster
Sat. Apr 6, 5:00 pm (CTK) Bill Grode
Sun. Apr 7, 8:30 am (IC) People of the Parishes
Sun. Apr 7, 10:30 am (CTK) †Lois Ewalt

Eucharistic Adoration following Friday Mass

Sunday Offering: CTK \$2844 IC \$579

Catholic Family Sharing Appeal 2019

Your contribution to CFSA helps each of the diocesan ministries reach out to thousands, including training our future priests, respect for life, education in our faith, ministry to the homebound, helping hurting marriages, and more. Please prayerfully consider a gift to this year's appeal. The goal for each parish for 2019 is (CTK) \$34,000 & (IC) \$10,100 and 100% participation. Any amount raised above our share stays in this parish. Thank you.

24-hour Adoration. It has been a good and holy custom at Christ the King to have a 24-hour period of Adoration during Lent. This year it will be this coming Friday, April 5th, starting after Mass on Friday morning. There will be books set out in the back, which can help stimulate our thinking and raise our minds to God. The 24-hour period will conclude with Benediction Saturday morning at 9 am. It is a little earlier in Lent than previous years because we will also have Exposition on the Wednesday of Holy Week from 3 pm to 8:30 pm.

Free Movie- Paul, the Apostle of Christ! All Christ the King and Immaculate Conception Youth grades 6th and up are invited to the Webster Movie Theater on Friday, April 5th at 7:30 to attend this free movie that chronicles the life of the Apostle Paul. Parents are welcome! The movie is rated PG-13 and is 1hr and 46 min. Sponsored by the King's Kids. Any questions call Chris Keller at 520-1060.

Change of time for CTK Stations FOR THIS WEEK ONLY (Friday, April 5th). For this coming Friday (April 5) only, Stations at CTK will be at **6:30 pm** rather than 7:30 so that families who would like to go to Stations and then to the movie can do so. They will return to regular time (7:30 pm) the following week. Timing will be just a little tight (Stations at IC at 5:30) so please hang on for a few minutes if I am a just little late.

Extra Confession Times for Lent

Waubay: 1) Sunday, March 31, 3-5 pm; 2) Monday April 15, 7-8 pm;

Webster: 1) Sunday, April 7, 3-5 pm; 2) Tuesday, April 16, 6:30 – 7:30 pm;

New Server Practice. There are sign-up sheets in the back of the church at both parishes for new server practice for grades 4th and up who are not yet servers.

LENT 2019

FAST DAYS: *Ash Wednesday and Good Friday*. On fast days one large meal and two lighter meals are permitted for those 18 to 59 years of age. Eating between meals is *not permitted*.

ABSTINENCE DAYS: *Ash Wednesday and Fridays in Lent*. No meat is allowed for those 14 years of age and older.

RICE BOWL: We are asked to select one meal each week and reduce the amount we eat and donate the savings to feed the hungry by placing the savings in the Rice Bowl containers.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS—Fridays Immaculate Conception 5:30pm Christ the King 7:30pm
Mondays during Lent the Knights of Columbus will lead the Stations of the Cross following the 5:30pm Mass.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Christ the King youth will be performing the Stations of the Cross Sunday, April 14th at 8:00pm in Christ the King Church. We would like to invite everyone to come and experience this special performance of our Lord's Passion.

CD Scholarship: Catholic Daughters will be awarding a scholarship to a Catholic graduating senior or college student majoring in education. The application is due by May 1st and can be picked up in the back of the church.

Immaculata Pilgrimage: a 6 day 5 night trip to EWTN with stops along the way at multiple shrines. From May 13th - 18th, for more information see the flyer at the entrance of the church or contact Kevin Van Well 605-237-1305. Deadline to sign up is April 13th.

Chili & soup Dinner: Sacred Heart Parish – in Eden, SD is holding their annual Chili and Soup Dinner on Palm Sunday – April 14, 2019. We will be serving from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, following 10:30 AM Mass. MENU: Chili or Chicken Soup, Bun, Cheese, Pie and Drink.

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS APR 6TH-APR 7TH CHRIST THE KING (Webster)

SATURDAY 5:00pm

SERVERS... Brayden & Mason Aadland, Tom Vergeldt
LECTOR ... Aaron Gaikowski
E.M. ... * Mary Hempel, *Chere & Scott Bierschbach
USHERS... Mike & Karleen Gollnick,
Paula Steiner, Susan Gaikowski

SUNDAY 10:30am

SERVERS... Michael Dorsett, Olivia Dorsett, Logan Block
LECTOR ... Gail Dargatz
E.M... *Nancy Block, Mary Bullert, Gayle Dargatz
USHERS ... Dari Schlotte Family

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Waubay)

SUNDAY 8:30am

SERVERS... Caleb Chapin, Tripp & Seth Gaikowski
LECTOR ... Masey Chapin
E.M... Marsia Butler, Joe Butler, Tom Lewno
USHERS ... Greg & Stuart Pearson Families