In the media, it seems tragedy abounds: abortion, ISIS attacks, police targeted by extremists, and more. Natural disasters like tornadoes and floods are wrecking towns and claiming lives. It's not always easy to see God's action in times of disaster and persecution. And, we all experience instances of persecution from time to time.

* Maybe it's someone who teases us mercilessly.
* Maybe it's a boss/coworker who treats us unjustly.
* Maybe it's a terrible wrong inflicted on us.
* Maybe it's our race, our size, our freckles, our braces, our height, or our weight that is constantly being targeted.

And yet, when we go through disaster and persecution, God has not abandoned us. He didn't will those evils, but he wants to bring good out of it.

For that to happen, though, we have to try to see God's loving providence at work in our lives. He wants to bring us to forgive that person and to recognize that our trust in God can grow through suffering.

As we approach a new week, let's spend some time and ask God to help us to see every circumstance or situation we are faced with through his eyes. Let us ask Him for the grace to help us to understand that he is present and active in everything we do and in everything that happens at every moment.

When we come to Jesus and meditate on what he went through, we are reminded of his death on the Cross. This is the greatest evil in the history of the world - the death of God - from this evil, he brought about a greatest good; death has no more power over our God.

As we come and receive our Lord in the Eucharist, let's remember that, and let's ask him to help us to see and feel his closeness to us even in the wounds and sufferings caused by others. We know that He will bring about a greater good.
Parish Announcements

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or coming back to the church? Do you just want to learn a little bit more about the faith? Please join us as we start a parish inquiry class on Monday nights throughout the year from 7:40 to 8:40. Fr. Pfeifer will explore all facets of the faith, and challenge us to go deeper with our understanding of our beautiful Catholic faith. Beginners to experts, all are welcome to come learn! \begin{footnotesize} \textit{Beginning Date: September 12} \end{footnotesize}

Altar Servers – There will be an altar server outing this Wed., Aug. 24th at 6:30 PM in the Holy Family Social Hall at St. Philip Neri. Come and enjoy food, fellowship, and a get together to learn more about some of our new techniques at St. Philip Neri. Whether you have served for 8 years already, or you are just beginning, we want all young boys and girls in grades 4 to 12 to join us and to serve the Lord’s altar. We will discuss the new scholarship the parish finance council has provided the ladies who served, and what the requirements are to fulfill it for high school seniors.

2nd & 3rd grade parents - 2nd Grade students will receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation, and 3rd Grade students will receive the Sacraments of First Communion & Confirmation during the 2016-2017 School Year. If your child wants to receive the sacraments, it is \textit{very important} that you enroll your child in CCD classes that will be beginning soon. Our 2nd Grade First Reconciliation will be on \textit{Mon. Jan. 30}. Our Confirmation/First Communion for our 3rd graders will take place on \textit{Fri. May 12}, at 7:00 PM in Napoleon. Members from other parishes in Ashley, Medina, Steele, Tappen, Wishek, and Zeeland will be joining us as we welcome Bishop Folda back to Napoleon.

Religious Education for 1-6 will begin Sun., Aug. 28th at the 10:00 am Mass. Grades 7-12 will begin on \textit{Wed. Sep. 7th} from 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm.

Attentions CCD Parents - Parents are the 1st educators of their children and bear the responsibility before God of the baptismal commitment to raise their children in the faith. CCD cannot cover everything; the basic Gospel message needs to come from you. The Fargo Diocese’s religious guidelines by age will be available to pick up after Mass this weekend, Aug. 20th

Class of 2017 graduating high school seniors will be on \textit{retreat} next weekend at St. Michael’s rural parish near Linton. Please keep our upcoming seniors in your prayers as they embark their final year of school, that they will lead by good example and make good choices that are in line with the gospel as they discern where God is calling them in this life.

The rosary will be prayed 25 minutes before all weekend Masses. We are looking for people to lead the rosary.

Parish Announcements, Cont.

Calling all Musicians! Those current and those who are interested in joining in praising the Lord through music—we will have a meet, eat, and greet night on \textit{Wed. Aug. 31 at 6 PM} in the social hall! Enjoy music? Ever thought about joining one of our groups to sing or play? Please RSVP to staff@401@gmail.com or call the parish office. We are looking for accompanists, pianists, cantors, choir members, whether you are young and old, male or female.

Thank you from Fr. Pfeifer – I just wanted to say thank you to all who came from near and far to celebrate my installation Mass and reception here in Napoleon this past Monday. Thank you for the prayers, the cards, and the celebration; it was a beautiful day! Thanks to my family, my brother priests and deacons, former and current parishioners, to all who took time away from busy schedules, including the beautiful choir and musicians, our readers, altar servers, staff and clergy who provided a delicious meal and worked all morning and afternoon preparing it, and to our parish council and finance council for cleaning up. What a beautiful way to celebrate our Lady's special feast day body and soul into heaven on the Assumption.

Congratulations! As we continue to pray for vocations, we acknowledge our seminarians who were installed into candidacy, lector, and acolyte last Fri., Aug. 12th by Bishop Folda in Hankinson. Jered Grossman accepted his candidacy into the Diocese of Fargo as he starts his final four years of major seminary at Mt. St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Please keep our seminarians and those discerning religious life vocations in your prayers.

Previous Homilies: Here is how to access Fr. Pfeifer’s weekend homilies, daily readings, saint of the day & much more: visit \textit{mybrotherjesus.com} (Don’t put www. in front of it!)

The next Ladies Night Out in Linton will be Wed., Aug. 31 from 7:30 p.m. at the KC Hall. The speaker will be Renae Duppong who is 30 years old and will be speaking on “The Call to Holiness,” specifically related to her journey with her sister Michelle, as she battled cancer in 2015.

Please join our parish family in praying for those God is calling into full communion in the Catholic Church by praying this prayer:

\textit{Holy Trinity One God, You created each of us out of love and gave us the Church as a means to help us know your love and to guide us on our earthly journey to Heaven. We thank you for the great gift of the Church. We ask that you prepare the hearts of those whom you are calling into full communion in the Catholic Church to respond to your prompting. Please open their hearts that they might answer, with courage and joy to your invitation of love. In the unity of the Holy Trinity we pray. Amen}