

Catholic Social Services
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Via Gatoris

WAY OF THE SOWER

September 2018



Saint Aichardus

Have not love, I gain nothing

St. Aichardus, sometimes known as Achard, was a 7th century figure and son of an officer in the court of Clotarie II (the king of Nuestria and Francia which are now parts of France and Germany). When taken to a monastery school in Poitiers at age 10, one of the monks named Ansfridus asked his soldier father what he wanted his son to learn. The youth interrupted his father and insisted to be taught all about God and farming.

After a number of years there was a disagreement on the type and scope of his future education and training between his father, Anschar, and Hermina, his mother. The young man was asked his opinion what he wanted to do. Wanting to serve God as a monk, he was given leave and joined the Benedictine monastery of St. John in Ansion, Poitou.

After spending almost 40 years living the life of prayer, solitude and penance, he was named the prior of a new monastery founded by St. Philbert in Quincay. He later succeeded St. Philbert when he died, as abbot in a much larger monastery in Jumieges.

He was known to be a stickler for following rules that monks are called to follow. One of the requirements of monastic life was shaving their heads every Saturday. On one instance, when circumstances pre-

venting being obedient to this edict, Aichard attempted to prevent others from seeing he hadn't shaved his head yet, but was planning to the next day. Seeing a vision of the devil picking up each piece of hair in order to use them to accuse him in front of the Lord, he abandoned doing unnecessary work and spent the rest of the Sabbath day half shaved and embarrassed in front of the rest of the monks.

He was a holy example his entire life to not only his fellow monks but any laity he ran across. Because of being informed of his upcoming death by St Philbert, he was able to give his last testament to his fellow soldiers of Christ. He said, "My dear children, never forget the last advice and, as it were, the testament of your most loving father. I implore you in the name of our divine Savior always to love one another, and never to suffer the least coldness toward any brother to be for a moment in your breasts, or anything by which perfect charity, which is the mark of the elect, may suffer any harm in your souls. You have born the yoke of penance and are grown old in the exercise of religious duties in vain, if you do not sincerely love one another. Without this, martyrdom itself cannot make you acceptable to God. Fraternal charity is the soul of a religious house." This is vintage St. Paul when he said, "Have not love, I gain nothing" (1 Cor 13:3). Charity is also the soul of any home or workplace as well. He died a holy death in the year 687. His feast day is celebrated on September 15.

Through the intercession of St. Aichardus, may we love the Lord God with all of our hearts, souls, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves (Lk 10:27). St. Aichardus, pray for us!

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of Southern Nebraska

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2241 O Street Lincoln, NE 68510 ♦ (800) 981-8242 ♦ www.cssisus.org

Doing His will

Hello from Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska. I pray you have a moment to read about this month's saint, St. Aichardus, an exemplary seventh century figure who from an early age wanted to do the will of God as perfectly he could with the grace of God.

Recently, we gave a donated car to a single woman who now is able to drive to work and take her children to their doctor appointments. Because of the charity of our donors, we were able to step in and fulfill a need.

Whether it is assistance with rent, utilities, furniture, appliances, clothing, food, or a charity grant for not being able to cover the cost of counseling, the generosity of our benefactors is vital. Please consider helping us spiritually with your prayers and penances, materially with items around your house or farm not needed, including vehicles, and financially with a cash donation according to your means so we can continue helping the many individuals and families that come to us in need like the woman described above.

Please know that we at Catholic Social Services will keep you, your family and intentions in our prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Christopher Kubat
Fr. Christopher Kubat



Social Services

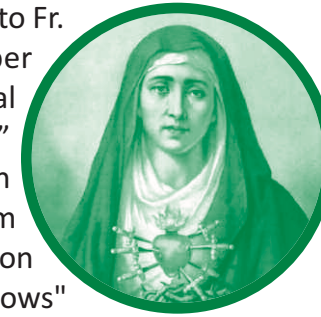
Backpack Program provides meals for students, families

The start of another school year marks the return of the Backpack Program. Catholic Social Services, in collaboration with the Food Bank of Lincoln, provide a weekend's worth of food for families in need in our Catholic schools for the past few years. Unfortunately for some students, the school hot lunch program may be the only nutritional meal a child gets during the day. The Backpack Program ensures that families have nutritional hot meals for the children on days when school is not in session. A group of dedicated volunteers pack the meals which are then delivered to the schools and discretely distributed to the students. Last year, the Backpack Program provided 4,080 individuals in five Lincoln Catholic schools with \$16,320 worth of food. As you can see, the need is great. Please keep this tremendous Work of Mercy in your prayers.

Our Catholic Culture

The feast of Our Mother of Sorrows

Commemorating the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows can be traced to the 12th century. The Cistercians and the Servites strongly promoted this devotion and by the 15th century it was widely celebrated throughout the Catholic Church. According to Fr. Paul Haffner (Inside the Vatican, September 2004) the feast was added in 1482 to the Missal under the title of "Our Lady of Compassion." Pope Benedict XIII added it to the Roman Calendar in 1727 on the Friday before Palm Sunday. In 1913, Pope Pius X fixed the date on September 15. The title "Our Lady of Sorrows" focuses on Mary's intense suffering during the passion and death of Christ. "The Seven Dolors," the title by which it was celebrated in the 17th century, referred to the seven swords that pierced the Heart of Mary.



Prayer to Our Mother Of Sorrows

Our mother of sorrows, with strength from above you stood by the cross, sharing in the sufferings of Jesus, and with tender care you bore Him in your arms, mourning and weeping. We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you. We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you. We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of His passion. Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and stand by all your children who need comfort and love. Mother of God, stand by us in our trials and care for us in our many needs. Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen!

**Last year,
our
Emergency
Services
program
provided
\$512,168
in rent and
utilities
assistance.
CSS is US!**

22nd Annual Catholic Social Services Memorial Golf Classic & Auction a big success

On Friday, August 10th, Hillcrest Country Club played host to the 22nd Annual CSS Memorial Golf Classic & Auction. Held in memory of Mike Costello, this year's event was one of the most successful tournaments to date, netting more than \$100,000 for our programs. The morning flight consisted of 34 teams, while the afternoon flight had 35 teams. Approximately 300 people attended the cookout and auction. Sponsored by Slim Chickens, the silent auction again featured bidding by text or smartphone, allowing others who could not attend the event the opportunity to bid on items. Mark Riggs won the raffle drawing for \$1,000 and Clint DeMar won the Nebraska football season tickets. The winners of the flights were:

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|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Morning Flight | 1st: Midwest Tile, Marble & Granite | 2nd: Red Door Realty/Manzitto | Afternoon Flight | 1st: St. Joseph, Auburn | 2nd: Jayson Becker/REMax |
| | 1st: Refrigeration Consultants, Inc. | 2nd: Nebraska Catholic Conference | | 1st: North American Martyrs | 2nd: Reese Construction |
| | 1st: Calvary Cemetary | 2nd: Lincoln Mattress & Furniture | | 1st: Team Johnson | 2nd: St. Joseph, Auburn |