



# St. John the Evangelist

## Sacred Heart - Oakwood

February 5, 2023  
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1515 Western Ave  
Grafton, ND 58237

We are asking that you pray 3 Hail Marys after each Mass for people to come back to their Catholic Faith.

### Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. John, Grafton  
Sunday: 7:30 am, Sacred Heart, Oakwood  
9:30 am, St. John, Grafton  
11:30 am, Spanish Mass (**May - Aug**)

### Reconciliation - Confessions

Saturday: 4:15- 4:45 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 - 9:20 am,  
Sunday: 11:00 - 11:20am (**May - Aug**)  
Daily Confession: Available before Mass  
Tuesday - Friday

**Pastor: Fr. Jeff Eppler**  
**Fr. Jeff's Cell Phone 1-314-750-8937**

The Parish Office 352-1648  
Deacon and Faith Formation Director:  
Rev. Mr. Michael Grzadzielewski  
Parish Secretary: Kathy Swanson  
Administrative Assistant: Carla Trahan  
Environmental Services: David Demester  
Custodian: Deanna Priley

**Emails:** Contact Father Jeff at  
fr.jeff@stjohnsgraffton.com  
Kathy - kathy@stjohnsgraffton.com  
Carla - carla@stjohnsgraffton.com  
Dcn. Mike - Mike@stjohnsgraffton.com  
**Bulletin** - find it at [stjohnsgraffton.com](http://stjohnsgraffton.com)

### St. John the Evangelist

**Parish Lay Directors:** Paul Houdek  
Mary (John) Dusek

**Pastoral Council:** Marta Balderas, Michelle Demester, Tony Dumas, Nancy Miller, Frank Benito Pinta, Brent Risky.

**Finance Council:** Matt Beneda, Mary (John) Dusek, Paul Houdek, Donny Suda, Stacey Van Bruggen

**Youth Committee:** Marta Balderas, Alexa Holt, Nancy Miller, Jackie Osowski, Maggie Suda, Molly Zahradka, Julie McCann, Mellysa Toscano.

### Sacred Heart - Oakwood

**Parish Lay Directors:** Ed Sevigny, Lori Cyr

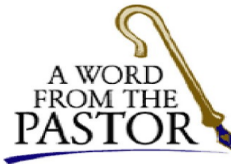
**Pastoral/Finance Council:** Cindy Collette, Mark Gourde, Bobby Osowski, Lee Osowski, Susan Suda

**Baptism Prep Classes:** - The 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in the Gathering Space. Call 352-1648 to register.

### Eucharistic Adoration

*In the Church:* Tuesday 6pm - 10pm  
*In the Chapel:* Tuesday 7am - 8am  
Wednesday from Noon - 10pm  
Thursday from 6pm - 10pm

Need a ride to church:  
Call Frank Janousek at 520-1730  
Bulletin deadline is noon on Wednesdays.



Should we have a relationship with the Blessed Virgin Mary? Of course we should! It is God's will that we all have a beautiful love for her. How do we know it is His will? Because Jesus gave her to us at the foot of the Cross as our Mother: "*Woman, behold your son...Behold, your mother*" (Jn 19:26-27). It is also the consistent teaching of the Church that Mary has a unique position in God's plan for our salvation: God chose to go through her to bring us Jesus Christ the Savior, hence, we go through her to enter into Him. She is the best path leading straight to the Heart of Jesus.

Growing up Methodist, I didn't have any relationship with Mary. She was simply considered the Mother of Jesus and a vessel used by God. The only attention paid to her was at Christmas time because of the Nativity story. She was not held up as anything too special. There was certainly no veneration of her. I had no understanding whatsoever of her important ongoing role in my own salvation. I was under the misguided impression that it was just me and Jesus and I didn't need anyone else.

When I became Catholic, relating to Mary was the most difficult part about my conversion. Even though I became familiar with what the Church taught about her role in things, I still had a deep apprehension about her. How could a mere human have such influence with God even now? Wouldn't praying to her somehow take away from my worship of God alone? These were my erroneous thoughts. It wasn't until the Holy Spirit intervened and I experienced a profound enfolding in the mantle of Our Lady that my heart softened towards her. I realized through this gift of grace that what the Church taught about her was true. I was caught up in a tender and intimate moment of joy - I really had a heavenly Mother!

I don't think that a person could love her too much. After all, Jesus loves her without measure, so we could never love her more than He does. We are called to imitate Jesus Christ and therefore, we must emulate His deep love for His Mother. How do we know He loves her so much? The answer is simple: 1) As God He is divine love and, 2) He lived the fourth commandment perfectly and crowned her Queen of heaven and earth. We should also honor Mary by crowning her Queen of our heart, just as Jesus is the true King of our heart. Let's not hesitate to love Momma Mary, not only because she is beautiful and awesome, but because it is God's will.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

**PRE-LENT PARISH MISSION:** Deacon Ben Seitz will be here February 12-14 to give a Mission for our parish. The theme for the three nights is: REPENT: Building a Life of Virtue; REBOOT: Finding Peace through Mercy; RESOLVE: Living to Win! The mission presentations for each evening begin at 7pm. We will have refreshments in the Parish Center after each talk. This is a great opportunity to prepare for the season of Lent and boost your spiritual life. All are welcome.

**Listening Session with Bishop Folda:** Join Bishop Folda for a regional listening session here at St. John on Thursday, February 23 from 6:30-9:00pm as part of the Third Synod for the Diocese of Fargo. We will be gathering to ponder and discuss these questions: 1) Top 3 things that are working well at our parish/Diocese; 2) Top 3 challenges to address in our parish/Diocese, and: 3) What is one step I might be called to take to respond? All are welcome.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, February 4

10:30 am - Carmelite Sisters  
5:00 pm - Frances Boulduc +

Sunday, February 5

7:30 am - Parishioners  
9:30 am - Carol Tucker +  
2:00 pm - Holy Pilgrimage

Monday, February 6

No Mass

Tuesday, February 7

5:15 pm - Frank & Elinor Misialek +

Wednesday, February 8

5:15 pm - Tom Almond

Thursday, February 9

5:15 pm - Mike Glanner +

Friday, February 10

8:00 am - Ron Janousek +

Saturday, February 11

10:30 am - Patricia Eppler  
5:00 pm - Paul Wilkes +

Sunday, February 12

7:30 am - Wilmer Sevigny +  
9:30 am - Parishioners



Please Pray for the  
Souls in Purgatory

**Please Pray for the Sick:** Thomas Hermann, Louise Sevigny, Mary Schnetzer, Glen Schneider, Jon Osowski, Shane Shereck, Roy Kringstad, Becky Anderson, Jonathan Forster, Julie Bejari, Tom Almond, Daniel LaHaise, Nichole Pride, Ernie Bailly, Helen Sieben, Flavia Langan, Noah Langan, Linda Lessard, Gary Johnson, Betty Machart, Chris Gourde, Julian Ramos, Mary Ann Jelinek, Edith Gierszewski, Alice Foerster, Ruthe Nilson, Ernie Aguilar, Benjamin Galle, Michelle Kohler, Donna Retterath, Delores J. Novak, Verna Aasand, Ron & Betty Mayer, Heath & Anna Adamsen, Marie Boura, Mary Jo Olson, Denise Moe, Rosalie Axman, LeRoy French, Julius Wangler, Joy Reading, Lenaye Lauer Ensrud, Judy Smith, Danni Marie Scott, Joan Brien, Ron Houska, Greg from Texas, Jennifer Lynch, Linda Thompson, Travis Loveless, Darrah Isaacson, Moe Staffne, Ken Jarolimek, Adam Granados, Gary Moe, Steve Lessard, Rae Desautel, Jeff Collette, Ed Boura, Les Aasand, Steve Walters, Clifford Bailly, Chris Loveless, JoAnne Sevigny, Barb Foerster-Estad, Frances Schuster, Aldo Rodriguez, Marvin French, Ron Nowacki, Bonnie Shannon, Judy Wolter, Judy Jiskra, Jodi McCarthy, Diane Lee, Hope Reis, Monica Rudnik, Chad Demers, Jeanne Silewski, Emma Basting, Adly Galle Jaehning

**STARTING THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT FEBRUARY 26, 2023 WE WILL START THE SICK LIST OVER. PLEASE LET THE PARISH OFFICE KNOW WHAT NAMES NEED TO REMAIN. THANK YOU!**

**WE MADE IT, WE SAID OVER  
10,000 Rosaries for Grafton  
We have Prayed 11,537 Rosaries!**  
Keep praying because we need God's Grace to  
end the pandemic and to  
convert Grafton  
and our surrounding towns!  
**Saving souls one bead at a time!**



STEWARDSHIP

Let us honor God with our first fruits!  
Praise the Lord!

St. John the Evangelist

Given January 29, 2023 - \$7,574.35  
St. John's - \$34,500 Average expenses per month  
(salaries, utilities, regular monthly bills, does **not** include  
maintenance projects or ministries.)

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

Given January 29, 2023 - \$552.00

Upcoming Dates at St. John's:

Altar Server Training	Sun., Feb. 5, 10:30am
Holy Pilgrimage	Sun., Feb. 5, 2:00pm
Bible Study on ACTS	Mon., Feb. 6, 7:00pm
Knights of Columbus Meeting	Tues., Feb. 7, 7:00pm
RCIA for Adults	Tues., Feb. 7, 7:00pm
Rosary Walk for Life	Wed., Feb. 8, 6:30am
Faith Formation (Gr 1-8)	Wed., Feb. 8, 6:30pm
High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12)	Wed., Feb. 8, 7:30pm
St. John Quilters	Thurs., Feb. 9, 9:30am
Pastoral Council Meeting	Thurs., Feb. 9, 7:00pm
Baptismal Prep Class	Thurs., Feb. 9, 7:00pm
Parish Mission (REPENT)	Sun., Feb. 12, 7:00pm
Parish Mission (REBOOT)	Mon., Feb. 13, 7:00pm
Parish Mission (RESOLVE)	Tues., Feb. 14, 7:00pm
Rosary Walk for Life	Wed., Feb. 15, 6:30am
Faith Formation (Gr 1-8)	Wed., Feb. 15, 6:30pm
High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12)	Wed., Feb. 15, 7:30pm
St. John Quilters	Thurs., Feb. 16, 9:30am
Charismatic Prayer Group	Thurs., Feb. 16, 7:00pm

Holy Pilgrimage with Jesus:

This Sunday, Father Jeff and Tony Dumas will be driving through Grafton and Oakwood at 2pm with Jesus in the Monstrance. Keep your eyes peeled for Lord in the Ford.

**The Second Collection** This week will be going to our Helping Hands Fund. It supports the poor at our door in Grafton and the surrounding area. Please consider donating to help those in need.

**Altar Server Training: will be this Sunday, February 5 at 10:30am, immediately after the 9:30am Mass.**

**Cancelled Photo Directory:** Well, we tried a second time to create a parish photo directory, but there simply isn't much parishioner interest. Out of 530 registered families, only 30+ have signed up. Photos would have begun just over a week from now, so we have cancelled it. For the foreseeable future, we will not schedule this again.

**Catholic Married Couples Retreat Weekend:** Virtues, building blocks for great lives & joy filled marriages. Get away for a weekend together to encounter Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament. Deacon Ben and Jennie Seitz will lead you to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the virtues. Learn how embracing virtues more deliberately every day leads to greater joy and fulfillment in marriage and in life. Where: Franciscan Sisters of Dilligen Retreat Center – Hankinson, ND. When: February 17-19, 2023. For more information and to register: [www.sixstonejars.org](http://www.sixstonejars.org).

*"Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."* - MATTHEW 5:16