



St. John the Evangelist

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

March 12, 2023
Third Sunday of Lent

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 - 11:20 am (**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
Adm Asst/Parish Bookkeeper: Carla Trahan
Environmental Services: David Demester
Custodian: Deanna Priley

Emails: Contact Father Jeff at
fr.jeff@stjohnsgrafton.com
Kathy - kathy@stjohnsgrafton.com
Carla - carla@stjohnsgrafton.com
Dcn. Mike - Mike@stjohnsgrafton.com
Bulletin - find it at stjohnsgrafton.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 Seigny, Lori Cyr

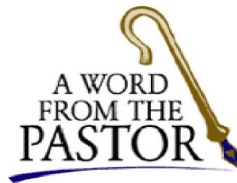
Pastoral/Finance Council: Cindy Collette, Mark Gourde, Bobby Osowski, Lee Osowski, Susan Suda

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.



the third, which is Blood Sacrifice.

According to God, blood is the sign of life. He says to Noah in the book of Genesis, "For your own lifeblood, too, I will demand an accounting: from every animal I will demand it, and from man in regard to his fellow man I will demand an accounting for human life" (9:5). Blood is not only the actual gift of life (if we have no blood then we die) but it is also the symbol of a person's life. All life is consecrated to God, Who is the author of life. Hence, the blood of a person is the physical sign of the life given to them by God.

After the exchange of belts, the animal for sacrifice would be prepared for slaughter. The fathers of the two families making the covenant would take a bull, goat, lamb or birds and split them in two. The blood would be offered to God and the two men together would walk through the animal halves swearing the oath and uttering the blessing and curse. When God makes a covenant with Abraham, we find Him doing this. "He (Abraham) brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other...As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him... When the sun had set there appeared a smoking brazier (a bowl used to burn incense) and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the Lord made a covenant with Abram..." (Gn 15:10,12,17-18).

The offering of lifeblood takes place through death. This is because death entered into the world through the sin of our first parents. The first blood sacrifice as a deliberate act of worship was made by Adam and Eve's son Abel, who was a shepherd. Abel gave God the best of his flock and hence, the lamb's blood signified Abel's genuine love for God. Cain's sacrifice was not accepted since he did not offer the best of his produce. Cain then decided to sacrifice his brother in a fit of rage. We find God speaking to Cain after murdering Abel: "Your brother's blood cries out to me from the soil!" (Gn 4:10). Even blood spilled through sin has attached to it the covenantal symbol of life. Blood sacrifice is either offered to God in worship or to the devil through sin.

We see this in a particular sense in the covenant between husband and wife. Blood is spilled through the consummation of the marital act. This is why God wants men and women to be virgins before they get married, because their sexual union is the blood sacrifice of their covenant. The man is covered in the blood of his wife when the two become one flesh. I will continue on the topic of Blood Sacrifice next week.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

Listening Session with Bishop Folda: Join Bishop Folda for a regional listening session here at St. John this **Thursday, March 16, 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, March 11

5:00 pm - Jodean Collette +

Sunday, March 12

7:30 am Robert "Spike" Desautel +

9:30 am - Parishioners

4:00 pm - Lenten Penance Service

Monday, March 13

No Mass

Tuesday, March 14

5:15 pm - Merlyn Collette +

Wednesday, March 15

5:15 pm - Gabriel & Rose Dusek +

Thursday, March 16

5:15 pm - Betty Novak

Friday, March 17

5:15 pm - Veronica Schuster +

5:45 pm - Stations of the Cross

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm KC Fish Fry

Saturday, March 18

10:30 am - Lynn Ebert +

5:00 pm - Frank & Elinor Misialek +

Sunday, March 19

7:30 am - Parishioners

9:30 am - Paul Wilkes +

3:00 pm - Holy Hour for Return of Lapsed Catholics

4:00 pm - "The Chosen "



Our Sympathy to
the Family of
Frank Suda

Please Pray for the Sick:

Caroline Dvorak, Brennan Foerster, Jennifer Lynch, Ruthe Nielson, Alice Foerster, Jonathan Foerster, Patty Durand, JoAnne Sevigny, Alex Emslander, Nicholas Emslander, Dylan Pride, Lori Fox, Adly Jaehning, Benjamin Galle, Barbara Foerster-Estad, Ron Houska, Roland Collette, Mary Schnetzer, Shane Shereck, Roy Kringstad, Mike Such, Mary Ann Jelinek, Ron Nowacki, Judy Jiskra, Julius Wangler, Marvin French, LeRoy French, Diane Lee, Hope Reis, Edith Gierszewski, Donna Retterath, Dave Retterrath, Michelle Kohler, Ernie Bailly, Clifford Bailly, Judy Wolter, Mary LaBaw, Jim LaBaw, Gary Johnson, Tom Almond, Daniel LaHaise, Joan Brien, Chris Loveless, Monica Rudnik, Chad Demers, Mary Jo Olson

WE MADE IT, WE SAID OVER

10,000 Rosaries for Grafton

We have Prayed 12,925 Rosaries!

Keep praying because we need God's

Grace to convert Grafton

and our surrounding towns!

Saving souls one bead at a time!



St. John Memorials

Jerome Carriere

\$ 20.00

Choir Fund

"Everyone who drinks this water will be
thirsty again." JOHN 4:13

STEWARDSHIP

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

St. John the Evangelist

Given March 5, 2023 - \$6,565.50

God's Gift total Given as of March 9, 2023 - \$14,295.00

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 March 5, 2023 - \$881.00

God's Gift total Given as of March 9, 2023 - \$1,115.00

Upcoming Dates at St. John's:

Lenten Penance Service	Sun., Mar. 12, 4:00pm
Saint Name & Sponsor due for 3rd Grade Confirmands	Mon., Mar. 13
Bible Study on ACTS	Mon., Mar. 13, 7:00pm
RCIA for Adults	Tues., Mar. 14, 7:00pm
Rosary Walk for Life	Wed., Mar. 15, 6:30am
Faith Formation (Gr 1-8)	Wed., Mar. 15, 6:30pm
High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12)	Wed., Mar. 15, 7:30pm
St John Quilters	Thurs., Mar. 16, 9:30am
Bishop Folda Listening Session	Thurs., Mar. 16, 6:30-9pm
KC Fish Fry	Fri., Mar. 17, 5 - 7pm
Stations of the Cross	Fri., Mar. 17, 5:45pm
Holy Hour for the Return of Lapsed Catholics	Sun., Mar. 19, 3:00pm
"The Chosen"	Sun., Mar. 19, 4:00pm
Bible Study on ACTS	Mon., Mar. 20, 7:00pm
RCIA for Adults	Tues., Mar. 21, 7:00pm
Rosary Walk for Life	Wed., Mar. 22, 6:30am
Faith Formation (Gr 1-8)	Wed., Mar. 22, 6:30pm
High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12)	Wed., Mar. 22, 7:30pm
KC Fish Fry	Fri., Mar. 24, 5 - 7pm
Stations of the Cross	Fri., Mar. 24, 5:45pm
1st Eucharist Retreat for (3rd Graders) on Saturday, March 25 from 10am - Noon.	

The Chosen (No more Veggie Tales): Next Sunday at 4pm, we are showing the 4th episode of the first season of The Chosen, which is a critically acclaimed series about Jesus. We will have a group discussion afterward. Snacks will be provided. The show begins at 4pm. The remaining Sundays scheduled are: March 19, 26; and April 2, 23, and 30.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is offering a marriage retreat on March 17-19 at Holy Family Church & School in Grand Forks, ND. These weekends are private and allow couples to focus just on each other. A communication tool is taught to help spouses get to know themselves better and to grow deeper in their married relationships. Live your best life in love! For more information, call Rob & Angie at (701)347-1998 or apply at ndwwme.org.

The Awaken Women's Retreat: March 24-26, 2023 at Maryvale Retreat Center, Valley City. What is the ache in our hearts for connection, for relationship, that even the good things of the world can't seem to totally satisfy us? This journey begins and ends with the gift and mystery of our creation as male and female and our encounter with God, the world, and other people. Come and awaken the wonder and mystery of being human! With Jen Settle, Director of Ongoing Formation at the Theology of the Body Institute and Fr. Sean Mulligan. Cost will vary depending on accommodations. Space is limited, so reserve your spot now at: <https://www.fargodiocese.org/awaken-retreat> For questions contact Mary Hanbury 701-356-7909.



Easter Lilies

St. Johns - Grafton



_____ \$15.00 _____ \$20.00
_____ \$25.00 _____ \$30.00 _____ Other

My Name is: _____

My gift is made in memory of:

Mail To: St John the Evangelist Catholic Church
344 W 15th St
Grafton, ND 58237

Please mark envelope: Easter Lilies



Easter Lilies

Sacred Heart - Oakwood



_____ \$15.00 _____ \$20.00
_____ \$25.00 _____ \$30.00 _____ Other

My Name is: _____

My gift is made in memory of:

Mail To: Sacred Heart Catholic Church
C/O St John the Evangelist Catholic Church
344 W 15th St
Grafton, ND 58237

Please mark envelope: Easter Lilies