



St. John the Evangelist

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

September 10, 2023
23rd 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 - Confession

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, Carol Bina Mary (John) Dusek, Paul Houdek, Donny Suda, Stacey Van Bruggen

Youth Committee: Marta Balderas, Alexa Holt, Julie McCann, Jackie Osowski, Mellysa Toscano, Molly Zahradka.

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

Parish Lay Directors: Ed Sevigny, Lori Cyr

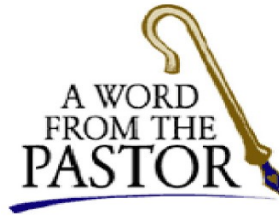
Pastoral/Finance Council: Cindy Collette, Mark Gourde, Bobby Osowski, Lee Osowski, Susan Suda

Baptism Prep Class: - Next Class is on Thursday, October 12, 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.



ancient feast day.

The Roman Emperor Constantine's mother, St. Helena, a convert to Christianity, went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land to locate where the important events in the life of Jesus Christ occurred, and to preserve the relics of the Christian faith that remained there. One of her goals was to find the place of Jesus' crucifixion and the very Cross on which he was hung.

Through interviewing many locals, and with the assistance of the Bishop of Jerusalem, St. Macarius, she discovered the spot and found the True Cross which had been previously hidden by the Jews. According to the historian Rufinus, the identity of the True Cross was confirmed by a miraculous healing after St. Macarius recited this prayer:

"O Lord, who by the Passion of Thine only Son on the cross, didst deign to restore salvation to mankind, and who even now hast inspired thy handmaid Helena to seek for the blessed wood to which the author of our salvation was nailed, show clearly which it was, among the three crosses, that was raised for Thy glory. Distinguish it from those which only served for a common execution. Let this woman who is now expiring return from death's door as soon as she is touched by the wood of salvation."

The date of this discovery and miracle, according to tradition, was May 3rd, 326 A.D. St. Helena had a church built on the original site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, known as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Her son Constantine dedicated this church on September 13-14 in the year 335 A.D. Even today, the Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem end at this very spot.

The True Cross was considered a most valuable treasure of the Church and became a highly venerated object, and the feast honoring the Elevation of the Holy Cross has continually been celebrated until this day.

The Cross of Christ was kept by the Church in Jerusalem, but was stolen by Chosroas, King of the Persians, in the year 614 A.D. after the Persian invasion of Syria and Palestine. In the year 629 A.D. the Cross was recovered and brought back to Jerusalem by Emperor Heraclius of Constantinople. The relic of the True Cross was then restored to its place in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

The date the True Cross was brought back to Jerusalem was September 14th! The anniversary of the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the date on which Jerusalem celebrated the feast of the Triumph of the Holy Cross.

Tradition has it that Emperor Heraclius carried the Cross on his back, a public act of homage, in order to restore it to its rightful place; but he was only able to move it after he had removed his royal garments and put on the humble garments of repentance instead.

The Church has a long tradition of venerating the Cross, which is why Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches always have large crucifixes in prominent places. In the Catholic Church venerating the Cross is a liturgical tradition during Holy Week. It's also why Catholics keep crucifixes in their homes, usually on their wall or above their doorway. In fact, a cross or a crucifix put in a place of honor is a sure mark of a Christian home.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION IS COMING SOON:

- **Wednesday, September 20, from 6:30 - 7:30pm**
- **Sunday, September 24, after 9:30am Mass**
- **Wednesday, September 27, from 6:30 - 7:30pm**

Mass Schedule & Intentions
Saturday, September 9 St. Peter Claver, Priest
10:30 am - Souls in Purgatory
5:00 pm - Rosanna Credit +
Sunday, September 10 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 am - Robert "Spike" Desautel +
9:30 am - Parishioners

Monday, September 11
5:15 pm - Irma Cavazos Gonzalez +
Tuesday, September 12 *The Most Holy Name of Mary*
5:15 pm - Daniel Sevigny +
Wednesday, September 13 St. John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
5:15 pm - Carol Tucker +

Thursday, September 14 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
10:30am - Jerome Carriere +
Friday, September 15 Our Lady of Sorrows
NO MASS

Saturday, September 16 St. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
10:30 am - **NO MASS**
5:00 pm - Albert VanBruggen +

Sunday, September 17
7:30 am - Parishioners
9:30 am - William "Billy" Rivard +



Please Pray for the
Souls in Purgatory

Please Pray for the Sick:

Tom Almond, Clifford Bailly, Emie Bailly, Joan Brien, Roland Collette, Chad Demers, Patty Durand, Caroline Dvorak, Alex Emslander, Nicholas Emslander, Alice Foerster, Barbara Foerster-Estad, Roger Feltman, Brennan Foerster, Jonathan Foerster, Lori Fox, LeRoy French, Marvin French, Benjamin Galle, Edith Gierszewski, Shawn Gray, Ron Houska, Adly Jaehning, Mary Ann Jelinek, Judy Jiskra, Tina Schanillec Johnson, Michelle Kohler, Roy Kringstad, Jim LaBaw, Mary LaBaw, Daniel LaHaise, Diane Lee, Roman Lessard, Albert Lopez, Chris Loveless, Jennifer Lynch, LeRoy McCann, Jack Mihelich, Ruthe Nielson, Tom Olson, Benedict Pinta, Dylan Pride, Hope Reis, Dave Retterath, Donna Retterath, Monica Rudnik, David Schnetzer, JoAnne Sevigny, Mike Such, Peyton Tomlinson, Carmen Tomlinson, Mark Tomlinson, Julius Wangler, Judy Wolter

10,000 Rosaries for Grafton
We have Prayed 5399 Rosaries!

Keep praying because we need God's
Grace to convert Grafton
and our surrounding towns!
Saving souls one bead at a time!



FALL DINNERS

St. Brigid's, Cavalier, ND - Sun., Sept. 17, 11:30 - 2pm, turkey dinner; Adults/\$15; Children/\$7; PreK FREE. 701-265-4636 dine in, take out and delivery available.

St. Mary's, Grand Forks, ND - Sun., Sept. 24, 11:30 - 2:30pm, chicken & meatball dinner; Adults 11&older/\$15; Children 5-10/\$8; & Children 4 & under/FREE.

St., Mary's, Park River, ND - Sun., Oct. 1, 11am - 1:00pm, meatballs, real mashed potatoes, veggie roll, St. Mary's homemade pie! Gluten-free options available; Ages 13&up/\$15; ages 6-12/\$10; age 5 and under/FREE.

St. John's, Grafton, ND - Sun., Oct. 8, 11am - 2:00pm, turkey dinner, all meals \$15, dine in, carry out or delivery.

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

St. John the Evangelist
Given September 3, 2023 - \$9,557.00
God's Gift total Given as of September 7, 2023 - \$46,106.25
God's Gift Appeal Goal: \$88,726.79 @ 56.35%
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 September 3, 2023 - \$1,233.00
God's Gift total Given as of September 7, 2023 - \$3,835.00
God's Gift Appeal Goal: \$8,440.92 @ 45.43%

Upcoming Dates at St. John's:

Life in the Spirit Conference	Fri. Sept. 8 - Sun., Sept 10
RCIA for Adults	Tues., Sept. 12, 7:00pm
Rosary Walk for Life	Wed., Sept. 13, 6:30am
RCIA for Adults	Tues., Sept. 19, 7:00pm
Rosary Walk for Life	Wed., Sept. 20, 6:30am
Faith Formation Registration	Wed., Sept. 20, 6:30-7:30pm
St. John Quilters	Thurs., Sept. 21, 9:30am
Charismatic Prayer Group	Thurs., Sept. 21, 7:00pm
Faith Formation Registration	Sun., Sept. 24, after Mass
Holy Hour for Return of Lapsed Catholics	Sun., Sept. 24, 1:00pm

Interested in Becoming Catholic? We will begin the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) on Tuesday, September 12 at 7pm in Classroom 2. This class is for Non-Catholic adults (Age 17 and up) who are interested in becoming Catholic or for those who are already Catholic and need Confirmation, or who just want to learn more about the Faith. Fr. Jeff is the primary teacher for this class.

Fr. Jeff and Deacon Mike will be gone Thursday, September 14 through Sunday, September 17 for a retreat. See Mass schedule for times.

St. John Quilters will be starting up again on Thursday, September 21 at 9:30am. Please come and join them for fun, fellowship and to learn how to help quilt. There are various things they need help with. They are a lovely bunch of ladies and are willing to help train. Come as little or as long as you want, they appreciate any help they can get.

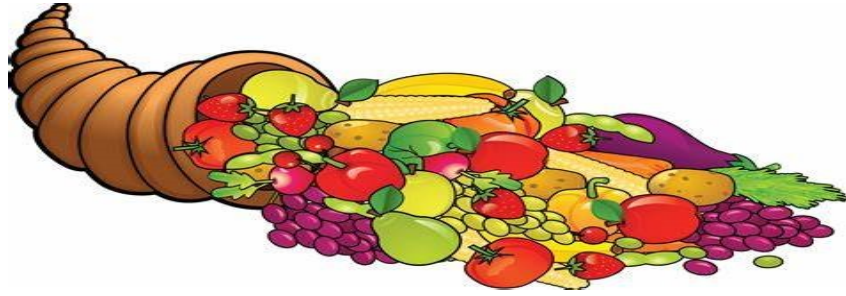
The youth committee is looking for donations for the Fall into Faith Formation Kickoff on Sunday, October 1st after 9:30am Mass. We will need bake sale items, raffle baskets, and muffins/juice donated for the event. Please let Father Jeff or Julie McCann (701-370-2132) know if you are willing to help with donations for our youth.

ST. JOHN MEMORIALS

Dayton Kornkven	\$ 25.00	Unrestricted
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SACRED HEART MEMORIALS

Jeanette Osowski	\$ 120.00	Cemetery Fund
Jeanette Osowski	\$ 10.00	Unrestricted



Donations Needed for the Fall Dinner- Oct. 8, 2023

Donations Needed to purchase Food for the Dinner

Cash Donations are needed to defray the costs of turkeys, buns, and other food supplies needed. The cost of items we purchase averages about \$4,000.00 each year for the Fall Dinner. We are planning food for 1,200 people this year. Donations can be sent to St. John's, 344 W. 15th St., Grafton, ND 58237, please write in memo: "Fall Dinner Donation". Thank you!

Here is a list of food you can purchase and donate if you prefer:

Chicken Broth – 150 32 oz. cartons
Cool Whip – 5 cases
Cream – 2 gallons
Celery – 50 Stalks

Butter – 100 lbs.
Milk – 8 Gallons
Onions – 100 lbs.
Flour – 20 lbs.

For food item questions, please notify Kelly Dokken by text/call (701-360-7024) or Sandi Houdek (701-360-1221). All food donations must be at the church no later than Tuesday, October 3, at 5:00 p.m.

To volunteer in the kitchen, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday call/text Kelly Dokken (701-360-7024), Mary (John) Dusek (701-520-0163), or Sandi Houdek (701-360-1221).

To volunteer for the dining room, call Alissa Parsons (701-360-1180) or Sheila Slominski (701-360-1891).

To donate pies – call Colleen Lykken (701-352-1701) or Vicki Midgarden (701-520-8137). Drop pies off in the pie room (classroom 8) beginning on Friday, October 6.

To donate to Country Store – Contact Mickey Demester (701)331-3874

I will donate _____ pie/s. Name _____

Type of pie _____

Fall Dinner 2023

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____

St. John's Annual Fall Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, October 8, 2023.

In order to have a successful dinner, we need help from ALL parishioners.

From the list below please indicate what you would like to do to help, and which shift you would prefer.

DINING ROOM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

_____ 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (Setup)

_____ I can help either
Saturday or Sunday

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

_____ 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

_____ 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
or until done

KITCHEN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

_____ 7:15 a.m. - 1 p.m.

_____ Turkey Carvers 1 p.m. &/or 4 p.m.

_____ Clean up 3:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

_____ 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

_____ 11:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

_____ 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

_____ I can help either Saturday or Sunday

Serving Line/Assists

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

_____ 10:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

_____ 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Clean Up Crew/Dishwashers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

_____ 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

_____ 1:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

_____ 3:15 p.m. - done