



St. John the Evangelist Sacred Heart - Oakwood

December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent

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 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: Wednesday from Noon - 10pm
Thursday from 6pm - 10pm
Friday from 7am - 9am

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



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY

WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
WHERE: ST. JOHN'S PARISH CENTER
1515 WESTERN AVE, GRAFTON
FROM: 5:00PM - 6:30PM

A BIG THANK YOU to the Youth Committee for coordinating such a joyful Christmas Program. It was wonderful to watch.



Christmas is always the time of great jubilation because Christ is born! "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us..." (Jn 1:). The Son of the Eternal Father, Who is the Eternal Word, has become man for you and I. God truly dwells with His people, He is Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Not only was He born two thousand years ago in human history, He remains with us in the flesh even to this very day. Jesus Christ is really present in the Eucharist and is born for us on the altar at every Mass. This is our cause of great rejoicing!

We are not alone! God has looked upon our misery and difficulties of life. He chose to be born into helplessness and abject poverty. Though He is great and without measure or limit, God became small for us. Jesus remains small for us in the Eucharist so His people would approach Him and not be afraid. Who can be afraid of a little baby? Who could be afraid of Jesus Who remains under the appearance of bread and wine?

He is wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger by His mother. The manger was a feeding trough for animals. Jesus would offer Himself 33 years later to His apostles, and then over time to us, as food for the soul in the Eucharist. But this gift of Himself could only be given through His death, which was indicated by the swaddling cloth - a prelude to the burial shroud that would cover His crucified and tortured body. This cloth would also indicate His resurrection, since it would be folded by Him and laid neatly in the tomb after He rose and was miraculously imprinted with His sacred image. The Church still has this cloth, which is known as the Shroud of Turin.

The joy of Christmas is the true joy of the soul. For the Christian, this joy is also touched by the reality of the Cross. Jesus was the only one who was born into this world to die. But His birth, death and resurrection bring us life. Of this supreme gift we are grateful and we offer our thanksgiving to the Eternal Father for it. The word Eucharist means *thanksgiving*. We offer to the Father His Son Jesus in the Eucharist at every Mass. Let us joyfully celebrate this Christ-Mass.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

ST. JOHN PARISH CELEBRATION! Wednesday, December 27, is the feast day of our parish patron, St. John the Evangelist. We will have Mass at 5:15pm, followed by a Fish Fry put on by the Knights of Columbus at 6:15pm in the Parish Center. Why a Fish Fry? In honor of St. John, who was deep-fried in a pot of boiling oil (miraculously, it had no effect on him). The meal is free. Also, a Catholic Tradition is the blessing of wine on the feast of St. John, so bring some bottles of wine to get blessed at the end of Mass.

Mass Schedule & Intentions
Saturday, December 23 *St. John of Kanty, Priest*
10:30 am - Lynn Ebert +
5:00 pm - Bob Desautel +
Sunday, December 24 **4th Sunday of Advent**
7:30 am - Parishioners
9:30 am - Chase Bailly +
4:00 pm - Christmas Mass @ Oakwood - Roland Collette +
5 - 6:30pm - **Community Christmas Eve Party**
7:00 pm - Christmas Mass @ St. John's - Parishioners
Monday, December 25 **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
12:00 am (Midnight) - Christmas Mass @ St. John's
Daniel Bowman +

9:30 am - Christmas Mass @ St. John's - Vikki Lee
1:30 pm - Mass @ Sunset (Families may attend)
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, December 26 *St. Stephen, The First Martyr*
5:15 pm - Frances Boulduc +
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, December 27 *St. John, Apostle & Evangelist*
5:15 pm - Duane & Janice Lorenzen +

6:15 pm - FREE Fish Fry **St. John the Evangelist Feast**
Thursday, December 28 *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*
5:15 pm - Kevin Hoenke +

Friday, December 29 *5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord*
9:00 am - Michael F. Misialek +

Saturday, December 30 *6th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord*
10:30 am - Father Al Bitz +
5:00 pm - Robert "Spike" Desautel +

Sunday, December 31 **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**
7:30 am - Leo Seeba +
9:30 am - Parishioners

Monday, January 1 - **THE LORD SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**
9:00 am - Douglas Sevigny +



Please Pray for the
Souls in Purgatory

Please Pray for the Sick: Tom Almond, Clifford Bailly, Ernie Bailly, Joan Brien, Chad Demers, Patty Durand, Caroline Dvorak, Alex Emslander, Nicholas Emslander, Alice Foerster, Barbara Foerster-Estad, Roger Feltman, Brennan Foerster, Jonathan Foerster, Lori Fox, Jason French, Marvin French, Benjamin Galle, Edith Gierszewski, Shawn Gray, Tom Greenwood, Ron Houska, Adly Jaehning, Aaron Jelinek, Mary Ann Jelinek, Judy Jiskra, Cyril Johnson, Tina Schanilec Johnson, Dorothy Koester, Michelle Kohler, Roy Kringstad, Mary LaBaw, Daniel LaHaise, Diane Lee, Vikki Lee, Roman Lessard, Chris Loveless, Jennifer Lynch, LeRoy McCann, Steve Michaels, Jack Mihelich, Sharon Mlcoch, Ruthe Nielson, Tom Olson, Benedict Pinta, Dylan Pride, Yolanda Pruneda, Hope Reis, Donna Retterath, Monica Rudnik, Carol Scholler, David Schnetzer, JoAnne Sevigny, Maury Staffne, Mary Thiel, Peyton Tomlinson, Carmen Tomlinson, Mark Tomlinson, Julius Wangler, Judy Wolter

We have surpassed our Goal, excellent work!
10,000 Rosaries for Grafton
We have Prayed 11,462 Rosaries!
Keep praying because we need God's
Grace 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 December 17, 2023 - \$12,763.38
God's Gift total Given as of December 21, 2023 - \$53,013.50
God's Gift Appeal Goal: \$88,726.79 @ 60.19%
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 December 17, 2023 - \$625.00
God's Gift total Given as of December 21, 2023 - \$4,535.00
God's Gift Appeal Goal: \$8,440.92 @ 53.73%

UPCOMING DATES AT ST. JOHN'S:

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|---|--------------------------------|
| Christmas Mass at Oakwood | Sun., Dec. 24, 4:00pm |
| Community Christmas Eve Party | Sun., Dec. 24, 5-6:30pm |
| Christmas Mass at St. John's | Sun., Dec. 24, 7:00pm |
| Christmas Mass at St. John's | Mon., Dec. 25, Midnight |
| Christmas Mass at St. John's | Mon., Dec. 25, 9:30am |
| Mass at Sunset (Families may attend) | Mon., Dec. 25, 1:30pm |
| PARISH OFFICE CLOSED | Mon., Dec. 25 |
| PARISH OFFICE CLOSED | Tues., Dec. 26 |
| Rosary Walk for Life | Wed., Dec. 27, 6:30am |
| St. John the Evangelist Feast (Mass) | Wed., Dec. 27, 5:15pm |
| St. John the Evangelist Feast (Fish Fry) | Wed., Dec. 27, 6:15pm |
| PARISH OFFICE CLOSED | Mon., Jan. 1 |
| New Year's Day Mass | Mon., Jan. 1, 9:00am |

Pre-K and Kindergarten (4/5 year olds) - Will be meeting during 9:30am Mass. Christine Bjorneby will be leading this group. We have a schedule for the school year as follows:

Sundays in January 7, 14, 21
Sundays in February 4, 11, 18
Sundays in March 3, 10, 24
Sundays in April 7 - Last Day

BIBLE STUDY ON MONDAYS AT 7PM. We will be concluding our bible study on John on Monday, January 8. We will begin our new bible study with: **Revelation, The Kingdom Yet to Come** presented by Jeff Cavins on Monday, January 15, at 7pm. Revelation will conclude Monday, March 25th. The cost of the **Revelation book is \$29.95.** Please be aware these winter dates are naturally subject to change due to weather conditions. Please call the parish office at 352-1648 to sign up.

The Walsh County Food Pantry Holiday Food Baskets are available for pick up through Thursday, December 28th. They are open Monday - Thursday from 1pm to 4pm, excluding the holidays. Any questions you can call there at **701-352-1608** during those **hours of operation.** They do NOT deliver baskets.

Sacred Heart Memorials

Edgar Collette \$ 50.00 Cemetery Fund

WE NEED ALL 2023 CONTRIBUTIONS TURNED IN ON/BEFORE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29TH. WE WILL BE RUNNING THE CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15TH.



St. John Poinsettias
Given in Memory of Our Loved Ones



Given By:

Patricia Kasprick
Doris Dahlgren
Betty Novak
Alan & Eileen Bolek
David Mongeon
Dean Collette
Wally DeSautel
Jodi Lahaise
Joan Schieffer
Len & Janet Wysocki
Eugene & Mary Ellen Balek
Robert "Spike" Desautel Family
Bonnie Desautel; Don & Cheryl Burns
Bonnie Desautel; Don & Cheryl Burns
Delores Burianek
Denise Vollrath
Rosa Rodriguez
Kevin & Jean Jiskra Family
Elaine Isaacson
Robert O'Toole Family
Cordell Rose
Steve & Kelly Dokken
Lillian Houska
Jean Clark
David & Linda Schumacher
Jim & Kaye Trouba
Pauline Daninger
Sheila Slominski
Enrique & Marta Balderas
Audrey Almond
Zebbie Hoenke
Darryl & Vonda Collette
Bonnie Novak
Helen Lee
Marjorie Dorsey
Mary Rudnik
Danny & Teresa Dusek Family
Carol Bina; Jim & Kay Wilebski
Jim & Kay Wilebski
Jim Kosmatka
Jill Petersen
Bonnie Suda
Robert Zidon
Tom & Susan Holt

In Memory Of:

Daniel Kasprick; Kasprick & Freschette Deceased Family Members
Myron, Theresa & Karl Dahlgren & Doreen Drinkyard
Roman, Dorothy & Doris Rudnik & Cecil Novak
Schanilec - Bolek Deceased Family Members
Victoria L. Mongeon
Louis & Alma Collette
Ione DeSautel; Earnest & Clara DeSautel; Carl & Emma Olson
Dale & Rose Narveson
Jim Schieffer
Leonard & Janice Wysocki
Kay & Gerald Theroux; Dean & Tony Ebertowski
Robert "Spike" Desautel
Vernon & Joanie Anderson
Bob & Delores Desautel
Danny Burianek, Burianek & Gerszewski Deceased Family Members
Dalyn Vollrath; Joseph & Lillian Kliniske
Raul Rodriguez
John Jiskra; Paul Suda; Lola Houdek & Ida Feltman
Forrest Isaacson
Judy O'Toole
Alice Rose
Ray Campbell; Roch & Lydia Campbell
Jim Houska; Jim & Mary Houska; William & Angela Suda
Fred Clark & David Clark
Buster Schumacher; Alphonse & Olivine Houdek
Pearl & Henry Eng; Barb Trouba; Mary Trouba
Francis Daninger
John, Irene, Michelle, Ashley & JJ Sweeney
Jose V. Torres, Pura Macias, Alfredo Flores & dearly departed family members
Jaymes Almond
John Desautel & Kevin Hoenke
Alvin Jochim & Alan Collette
Bernie & Margie Novak
Vern & Mary Lou Cyr
Dan J. & Theresa Demers
Frances Ensminger LaBerge
Joseph Dusek
Archie & Ruth Bina
John & Doris Wilebski
Lennae Kosmatka
Carol Tucker
Frank Suda; Dan & Margaret McEwen; Frank & Antoinette Suda
Jane Zidon; Rebecca Zidon
Ted, Eva Mae and Helina Suda

Sacred Heart Poinsettias
Given in Memory of Our Loved Ones

Given By:

Elaine Collette
Darryl & Vonda Collette

In Memory Of:

Roland Collette
Alvin Jochim & Alan Collette