



St. John the Evangelist

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

January 28, 2024
4th 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@stjohnsgraffton.com
Kathy - kathy@stjohnsgraffton.com
Carla - carla@stjohnsgraffton.com
Dcn. Mike - Mike@stjohnsgraffton.com
Bulletin - find it at 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, Carol Bina Mary (John) Dusek, Paul Houdek, Donny Suda, Stacey Van Bruggen

Youth Committee: Marta Balderas, Kendall Groves, Alexa Holt, Julie McCann, Jessica Pankow, 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.



Just before Christmas, the Vatican came out with a document that gave the impression that homosexual couples could receive blessings. A couple practicing homosexuality cannot receive a blessing because the homosexual acts themselves are sinful. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) states: "Basing itself in Sacred Scripture, which presents homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity, tradition has always declared that homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered. They are contrary to the natural law. They close the sexual act to the gift of life. They do not proceed from a genuine affective and sexual complementarity. Under no circumstances can they be approved" (n.2357). Over the next few weeks, I will pull apart this passage from the Catechism and explore its meaning. We will look at the areas of natural law, the nature of man as a sexual being, and sex as an expression of covenantal love.

What is the natural law? "The natural law is a participation in God's wisdom and goodness by man formed in the image of his Creator. It expresses the dignity of the human person and forms the basis of his fundamental rights and duties" (CCC, n. 1978). This law then governs creation in goodness and is perceived by man because we have the ability to reason. This use of our reason makes us what is called a rational creature. Reason enables us to know what is good and to follow it. "The 'divine and natural' law shows man the way to follow so as to practice the good and attain his end" (CCC, n.1955). What is our end? Eternal life in God, Who is the absolute Good.

The natural law is written in the heart of every human being. It is universal, applies to everyone and is unchanging. What was good at the very beginning, remains good to this day. The natural law is the moral (moral – what is good, not evil) compass etched upon the deepest part of our soul and manifests in what we call the conscience. The natural law is the foundation from whence our conscience finds its voice.

The simple use of reason will discover order in God's creation. Human science itself will attest to this truth that is found even on a subatomic level. We know from the beginning of Genesis that God created everything from nothing. What had not existed, suddenly and deliberately came to exist in goodness. He set in motion a divine law that preserves and regulates life and existence for all things. We find that He set mankind with the task of taking care of His creation (cf. Gen 1:26-28). In order to exercise this authority, He gave us the ability to know and understand through reason the natural law. This law leads us to goodness, and ultimately to Him. However, behaving contrary to the natural law, as seen with homosexual acts, consequently leads to a rejection of God. More next week.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

In place of Mardi Gras this year, St. John the Evangelist Church is going to do a calendar draw for the month of April. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from the Altar Society or at the parish office. The drawings will be every Mon - Fri = \$50 draw, Saturdays = \$100 draw and Sunday, April 7 = \$200 draw. Your name will go back for the entire month. All proceeds will be going to St. John the Evangelist Ministries and our Haiti Parish Mission. Thank you for your continued support!

Parish Healing Service: Sunday, February 11 is the World Day of Prayer for the Sick in the Catholic Church. It is in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary who appeared in Lourdes, France to St. Bernadette. Our Lady produced a spring of water with healing properties that is still healing people today. We are having a Parish Healing Service at 1pm on Feb. 11. Prayer for the sick, prayer for healing of memories, Eucharistic adoration, Confession and Anointing of the sick will be offered. All are welcome.

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 27 St. Angela Merici, Virgin BVM

2:30 pm - Wedding Mass for Casey Willison & Sydney Carignan
5:00 pm - Delores (Bob) Desautel +

Sunday, January 28 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 am - Jeanette Osowski +
9:30 am - Parishioners

Monday, January 29

5:15 pm - Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, January 30

5:15 pm - Michael F. Misialek +

Wednesday, January 31 St. John Bosco, Priest

5:15 pm - Duane & Janice Lorenzen +

Thursday, February 1

9:00 am - Robert "Spike" Desautel +

Friday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord
NO MASS

Saturday, February 3 St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop; BVM

10:30 am - NO MASS

5:00 pm - John Sevigny +

Sunday, February 4 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 am - Parishioners
9:30 am - Angie (Bailly) Johnson +

Holy Pilgrimage moved to Feb. 25 at 1:00pm



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, Millie Houska, Ron Houska, Adly Jaehning, Aaron Jelinek, Mary Ann Jelinek, Judy Jiskra, Cyril Johnson, Tina Schanilec Johnson, Dorothy Koester, Michelle Kohler, 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 13,409 Rosaries!

Keep praying because we need
God's Grace to convert Grafton
and our surrounding towns!

Saving souls one bead at a time!



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 February 4, 11, 18

Sundays in March 3, 10, 24

Sundays in April 7 - Last Day

Sacred Heart Memorials

Roy Kringstad	\$20	Unrestricted
Roland Collette	\$40	Unrestricted

STEWARDSHIP

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

St. John the Evangelist

Given January 21, 2024 - \$5,842.50

God's Gift Total Given as of December 31, 2023 - \$56,363.50

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 21, 2024 - \$338.00

God's Gift Total Given as of December 31, 2023 - \$4,535.00

UPCOMING DATES AT ST. JOHN'S:

Wedding Mass Casey Willison & Sydney Carignan	Sat., Jan. 27, 2:30pm
Bible Study - Revelation	Mon., Jan. 29, 7:00pm
Our Lady of Sorrows Rosary	Tues., Jan. 30, 8:30pm
Rosary Walk for Life	Wed., Jan. 31, 6:30am
Faith Formation (Gr 1-8)	Wed., Jan. 31, 6:30pm
High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12)	Wed., Jan. 31, 7:30pm
St. John Quilters	Thurs., Feb. 1, 9:30am
Charismatic Prayer Group	Thurs., Feb. 1, 7:00pm
Our Lady of Sorrows Rosary	Fri., Feb. 2, 6:00pm
Bible Study - Revelation	Mon., Feb. 5, 7:00pm
Healing Service	Sun., Feb. 11, 1:00pm

OUR LADY OF SORROWS ROSARY is every Tuesday at 8:30pm in the Church and on Fridays it is at 6:00pm after Mass.

Mardis Gras @ St. Mary's Tuesday, Feb. 13, 11am-1pm. Soup & Sandwich Lunch & Bake Sale too! Free-will offering! St. Mary's Catholic Church, Hwy 17 E, Park River, ND. Egg salad and ham sandwiches, take-out available; request at ticket table. Sponsored by St. Mary's Altar Society, please join us!

The Diocese of Fargo Synod: In April 2024, the Diocese of Fargo will hold its first Synod since 1951. The Synod Assembly will take place April 11-13, 2024, at Sts. Anne & Joachim Church, Fargo. The purpose of the diocesan Synod is to assist the bishop in the exercise of governing the Christian community. In the Synod, the priests work as wise collaborators with the Bishop in their service to the People of God. The Synod also offers the opportunity for laity to cooperate with the Bishop and with his priests. Our parish delegates who will be participating in the Synod are Tony Dumas and Paul Houdek. Please pray for a fruitful Synod.

The Second Collection next Sunday, will be going to our ongoing maintenance projects. This is for simply keeping up with our maintenance needs. Please consider donating for maintaining our beautiful Church.

Holy Pilgrimage with Jesus:

Has been moved to Sunday, Feb. 25, Father Jeff and Tony Dumas will be driving through Grafton and Oakwood at 1pm with Jesus in the Monstrance. Keep your eyes peeled for the Lord in the Ford.

St. John Memorials

Rae Desautel	\$ 20.00	Roof Project
Rae Desautel	\$ 35.00	Unrestricted
Rae Desautel	\$ 50.00	Unrestricted