



# St. John the Evangelist

## Sacred Heart - Oakwood

March 17, 2024  
5th Sunday in 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 - 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](http://stjohnsgraffton.com)**

### St. John the Evangelist

**Parish Lay Director:** Carol Bina

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

**Finance Council:** Matt Beneda, Carol Bina, Frank Janousek, Ron Koester

**Youth Committee:** Marta Balderas, Kendall Groves, Alexa Holt, Julie McCann, Jackie Osowski, Jessica Pankow, 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:** - 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.**



Over the last few weeks, I have briefly gone through the first three elements of covenant making, Oath, Exchange and Blood Sacrifice. We now come to the last and fourth element: the Covenantal Meal.

In the Old Testament, the final action of forming a covenant was the sharing of a meal. Not just any meal, though. The two families, which are now one consume together a part of the animal that was used in the Blood Sacrifice. They eat the sacrifice offered to God. Why a meal? Throughout human history the greatest family gatherings always involved food. Every culture has meal time as family time. With covenant, two families or persons have just become one and therefore, the celebration of that new life and unity involves food. Food represents life because it actually sustains life.

What is the meal for the covenant that husband and wife have entered into? Is it the wedding reception? One would think that it is since feasts are commonly associated with weddings. A lot of time and expense, and often anxiety and frustration have gone into planning the wedding reception. As wonderful and enjoyable as it is, this is not the covenantal meal. The couple would still be married if there were no reception. Hence, the reception is not the covenantal meal.

The covenantal meal for those who enter into the sacrament of marriage in the Catholic Church is the same covenantal meal offered to the whole body of Christ: the Eucharist. Jesus is the one who binds them together in Himself when they make their vows and exchange their rings in the Name of the Most Holy Trinity. Jesus is the glue that unites them as husband and wife, which is why He elevated marriage to be one of the seven sacraments. A sacrament is a visible sign instituted by Christ that gives grace (divine life) to the soul. Sacraments make a person holy because they are an experience of the very Person of Jesus Christ.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of the entire Christian life, because the Eucharist is really Jesus Himself, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Marriage is a grace filled path of living out the Christian life and has its fullest experience and expression only in union with Jesus. This is why it is highly recommended, although not required, that the sacrament of marriage be celebrated in the Mass and not simply on its own. The Eucharist is the meal of the new and eternal covenant by which Jesus the Divine Bridegroom unites Himself with His Bride the Church. Marriage between husband and wife, as explained by St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, is meant to witness on earth to the greater relationship of spousal union between Jesus Christ and His Church. Hence, eating the Eucharist together is the meal of their marriage covenant in Christ. More next week.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

**DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR TICKET/S FOR ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH CALENDAR DRAW FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL.** Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from the Altar Society or at the parish office. **ALL MONEY IS DUE ON THURS., MARCH 28 BY 4PM.**



### The drawings will be:

Monday - Friday = \$50 draw  
Saturdays = \$100 draw  
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!



**If there are any parishioners interested in making palm crosses for St. John's & Sacred Heart here in the parish center once the palms arrive, please contact the parish office at 701-352-1648. Thank you!**

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, March 16

10:30 am - Lynn Ebert +  
5:00 pm - Paul Gourde +  
6:00 pm - Capital Campaign Reception - St. John

Sunday, March 17 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

7:30 am - Parishioners  
8:30 am - Capital Campaign Reception - Sacred Heart  
9:30 am - Leo Seeba +  
10:30 am - Capital Campaign Reception - St. John  
3:00 pm - Holy Hour for Return of Lapsed Catholics

Monday, March 18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

5:15 pm - Souls in Purgatory  
6:00 pm - Soup and Capital Campaign Meeting

Tuesday, March 19 ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

5:15 pm - Walter Paschke +  
6:00 pm - Soup and Capital Campaign Meeting

Wednesday, March 20

5:15 pm - Frank & Elinor Misialek +

Thursday, March 21

5:15 pm - Robert (Bob) Mlcoch+

Friday, March 22

5:15 pm - Carol Tucker +  
After Mass Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 23 St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

10:30 am - Terry Eppler & Ed Desloge +  
5:00 pm - Albert Brodeur +

Sunday, March 24 PALM SUNDAY

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



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, Brennan Foerster, Jonathan Foerster, Lori Fox, Marvin French, Benjamin Galle, Edith Gierszewski, Shawn Gray, Tom Greenwood, Hilda Martinez Hernandez, 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, Robert LaHaise, Diane Lee, Vikki Lee, Roman Lessard, Chris Loveless, Jennifer Lynch, LeRoy McCann, Steve Michaels, Jack Mihelich, Sharon Mlcoch, Ruthe Nielson, Tom Olson, David Osowski, Benedict Pinta, Dylan Pride, Yolanda Pruneda, Hope Reis, Donna Retterath, Monica Rudnik, Carol Scholler, David Schnetzer, JoAnne Sevigny, Maury Staffne, Pat Sweeney, 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 15,713 Rosaries!  
Keep praying because we need  
God's Grace to convert Grafton  
and our surrounding towns!  
Saving souls one bead at a time!



"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - JEREMIAH 31:33

STEWARDSHIP

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

St. John the Evangelist

Given March 10, 2024 - \$6,189.50

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 March 10, 2024 - \$430.00

UPCOMING DATES AT ST. JOHN'S:

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Diocese Capital Campaign                 | Sat., Mar. 16, 6:00pm   |
| Diocese Capital Campaign                 | Sun., Mar. 17, 10:30am  |
| Holy Hour for Return of Lapsed Catholics | Sun., Mar. 17, 3:00pm   |
| Diocese Capital Campaign                 | Mon., Mar. 18, 6:00pm   |
| Bible Study - Revelation                 | Mon., Mar. 18, 7:00pm   |
| Diocese Capital Campaign                 | Tues., Mar. 19, 6:00pm  |
| Our Lady of Sorrows Rosary               | Tues., Mar. 19, 6:00pm  |
| Rosary Walk for Life                     | Wed., Mar. 20, 6:30am   |
| Living Stations of the Cross (In Church) | Wed., Mar. 20, 6:30pm   |
| Faith Formation (Gr 1-8)                 | Wed., Mar. 20, 6:30pm   |
| High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12)        | Wed., Mar. 20, 7:30pm   |
| St. John Quilters                        | Thurs., Mar. 21, 9:30am |
| Charismatic Prayer Group                 | Thurs., Mar. 21, 7:00pm |
| KC Fish Fry (Last One)                   | Fri., Mar. 22, 5 - 7pm  |

St. Stanislaus Church – Palm Sunday Breakfast: St. Stanislaus Church in Warsaw, ND is hosting a parish fundraising event (free will offering) on Palm Sunday (March 24 from 9am – 1pm). The menu includes: Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Langdon Sausage, Fresh Fruit, Orange Juice, and Coffee. Everyone is welcome!!

The tentative date for the start of the roof project by the Herzog Company is Monday, June 10th.

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 March 24  
Sundays in April 7 - Last Day

New Ministry for Adult Children of Divorce

No matter the circumstances, divorce always represents broken dreams and broken hearts. While much of the attention goes to the men and women trying to navigate the tidal wave of loss and hurt, often left in the wake are the children whose sense of security and identity have also been shattered. This can be true even for those who were already adults when their parents' relationship ended. Life-Giving Wounds is a new ministry within the Diocese of Fargo to help adults who have experienced the breakdown of their parents' relationship, no matter at what age it happened and to allow Christ to bring new life through those very wounds.

The Life-Giving Wounds Retreat will take place on (April 19 - 21) at Maryvale Retreat Center. Spaces are very limited for this retreat, and it is expected to fill early. Find out more information or register by visiting [www.fargodiocese.org/lgw](http://www.fargodiocese.org/lgw).