



# St. John the Evangelist Sacred Heart - Oakwood

September 14, 2025

1515 Western Ave.

EXHALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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 701-352-1648

**Deacon:** Deacon Michael Grzadzielewski  
Business Manager: Carla Trahan  
Parish Secretary: Kathy Swanson  
Environmental Services: David Demester  
Custodian: Deanna Priley

**Emails:** Contact Father Jeff at  
fr.jeff@stjohnsgrafton.com  
Carla - carla@stjohnsgrafton.com  
Kathy - kathy@stjohnsgrafton.com

**Bulletin - find it at [stjohnsgrafton.com](http://stjohnsgrafton.com)**

## **St. John the Evangelist**

**Parish Lay Directors:** Carol Bina  
Paul Dusek

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

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

**Youth Committee:** Marta Balderas, Kendall Groves, Julie McCann, Jackie Osowski, Jessica Pankow

## **Sacred Heart - Oakwood**

**Parish Lay Directors:** Brian LeClerc, Lori Cyr

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

**Baptism Prep Class:** - The next class is on Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Gathering Space. Call 352-1648 to register.

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**In the Church:** Tuesday from 6pm - 10pm  
**In the Chapel:** Wednesday from Noon - 10pm  
Thursday from 6pm - 10pm  
Friday from 7am - 9am

**Our Lady of Sorrows Rosary:**  
8:30pm Tuesdays in Church  
6:00pm Fridays after Mass

Need a ride to church on Sunday:  
Call Frank Janousek at 520-1730

**Bulletin deadline is noon on Wednesdays.**



All of us are called to a life of prayer. Without prayer it is impossible to know God and to genuinely love Him. The Lord wants to be known by us because He loves us. Contemplation is a form of prayer actively using our mind in relationship to God. St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153 A.D.) writes the following about the stages of Christian contemplation:

“Let us take our stand on secure ground, leaning with all our strength on Christ, the most solid rock, according to the words: *He set my feet on a rock and guided my steps.* Thus firmly established, let us begin to contemplate, to see what he is saying to us and what reply we ought to make to his charges.

The first stage of contemplation, my dear brothers, is constantly to consider what God wants, what is pleasing to him, and what is acceptable in his eyes. *We all offend in many things;* our strength cannot match the rectitude of God's will, being neither one with it nor wholly in accord with it; let us then humble ourselves *under the powerful hand of the most high God* and be concerned to show ourselves unworthy before his merciful gaze, saying: *Heal me, Lord, and I shall be healed; save me and I shall be saved. And again, Lord have mercy on me; heal my soul because I have sinned against you.*

Once the eye of the soul has been purified by such considerations we no longer abide within our own spirit in a sense of sorrow, but abide rather in the Spirit of God with great delight. No longer do we consider what is the will of God for us, but rather what it is in itself. For *our life is in his will.* Thus we are convinced that what is according to his will is in every way more advantageous and fitting for us. And so, concerned as we are to preserve the life of our soul, we should be equally concerned, insofar as we can, not to deviate from his will.

Thus having made some progress in our spiritual exercise under the guidance of the Spirit who searches the deep things of God, let us reflect how sweet is the Lord and how good he is in himself; in the words of the prophet let us pray to see God's will; no longer shall we frequent our own hearts but his temple. At the same time, we shall say: *My soul is humbled within me therefore, I shall be mindful of you.*

The whole of the spiritual life consists of these two elements. When we think of ourselves, we are perturbed and filled with a salutary sadness. And when we think of the Lord, we are revived to find consolation in the joy of the Holy Spirit. From the first we derive fear and humility, from the second hope and love.”

May God be praised and may you be blessed!



**ST. JOHN'S FALL DINNER IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. IT IS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 10:30AM - 1:30PM.** This year we have streamlined the process of needing monetary donations and the church will do the purchasing of the food and supplies. Please drop off donations at the parish office or put them in the collection basket. For questions please call/text Vonda Collette at 701-360-2880. The fall dinner also needs country store items, baked goods, canned goods, jellies, etc. please contact Diane Maes to let her know what you have available at 701-360-0928. Lastly, please sign up and help out where you are able. Thank you!

## Mass Schedule & Intentions

### Saturday, September 13

10:30 am - NO MASS

5:00 pm - Odette Young

### Sunday, September 14 EXHALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

7:30 am - Alice Demers +

9:30 am - Parishioners

### Monday, September 15 Our Lady of Sorrows **OFFICE CLOSED**

### Tuesday, September 16 Sts Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

**NO MASS**

### Wednesday, September 17 *St. Robert Bellamine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church; St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin & Doctor of the Church*

10:30 am - Funeral Mass for Ralph Tucker

5:15 pm - Frances Schuster +

### Thursday, September 18

5:15 pm - Edith Gierszewski +

### Friday, September 19 St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

**OFFICE CLOSED AT NOON**

5:15 pm - Evarist "Evie" Barta +

### Saturday, September 20 St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest & Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companions & Martyrs

10:30 am - Lynn Ebert +

5:00 pm - Matthew Houska +

### Sunday, September 21 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 am - Parishioners

9:30 am - Marlys Moberg +

**1:00 pm** - Holy hour for the return of lapsed Catholics



Our sympathy to the family of Ralph Tucker

*"Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him."*

**Please Pray for the Sick:**

Tom Almond, Joan Brien, Angie Carriere, Vida Carroll, Pastor Robin Dill, Greg Dusek, Pat Dusek, Faya El Sarraf, Barbara Foerster-Estad, Melinda Harder, Cyril Johnson, Mary Ellen LaBaw, Dorothy Koester, Daniel LaHaise, Patty Mayer, Steve Michels, Hope Reis, Monica Rudnik, Maxine Schanilec, Julius Wangler, Kay Wilebski, Judy Wolter

**We have started the prayer list over please call to add a loved one back on. Thank you!**

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. " JOHN 3:16*

**Pre-K and Kindergarten (4/5 year olds)** - Will be meeting during 9:30am Mass. We have a schedule of the following Sundays:

**Sundays in September 21 & 28**

**Sundays in October 12, 19 & 26**

**Sundays in November 2, 16 & 23**

**Sundays in December 7 & 14**

**10,000 Rosaries for Grafton!**

**We have prayed 7,251 rosaries!**

Keep praying because we need God's grace to convert Grafton & 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 September 7, 2025 - \$ 8,926.00

**SECOND COLLECTION 9-7-2025 = \$ 1,549.00**

God's Gift Appeal Goal for 2025 = \$87,229.45

Given to date: \$ 43,551.28 (53.43%)

St. John's - **\$34,500** Average expenses per month (salaries, utilities, regular monthly bills)

This does **not** include maintenance projects or ministries.

### **Sacred Heart - Oakwood**

Given September 7, 2025 - \$ 792.00

God's Gift Appeal Goal for 2025 = \$9,148.44

Given to date: \$ 5,040.00 (56.73%)

## UPCOMING DATES AT ST. JOHN'S:

**Fr. Jeff Gone 9-8 to 9-17 No daily Masses while he's away**

Rosary walk for life

Wed., Sept. 17, 6:30am

Funeral Mass for Ralph Tucker

Wed., Sept. 17, 10:30am

Faith Formation (Gr 1-8)

Wed., Sept. 17, 6:30pm

High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12)

Wed., Sept. 17, 7:30pm

St. John's Quilters

Thurs., Sept. 18, 9:30am

Baptismal Prep Class

Thurs., Sept. 18, 7:00pm

Holy hour for the return of lapsed Catholics **Sun., Sept. 21, 1:00pm**

## ROOF DONATION WEEKLY UPDATE

Given this week \$ 1,500.00

**Faith formation begins this Wednesday, September 17.**

For (Grades 1-8) it begins at 6:30pm and for (HSYG Grades 9-12) it begins at 7:30pm. We can always use substitute teachers, so please let us know if you are available. Thank you!

**Classical Desserts** - Dr. Jay Hershberger presents an all-Schubert piano performance on Sunday, September 21 at 3pm at St. Edwards Catholic Church, 211 N. Main St., Drayton, ND. A dessert buffet will follow the performance at about 4pm. It is really an enjoyable afternoon gathering for family and friends. Free-will offering.

**Holy Family Catholic Church Fall Potluck:** Sunday, September 21st from 12pm – 2pm, (1018 18th Ave. S., Grand Forks, ND). Menu: pulled pork made by Jon Dorner and Gregg Ehreth will be provided - you bring the sides!

**The 5th Annual Angel of Hope Remembrance Ceremony** will be held on Saturday, September 27th at 5:00pm in Leistikow Park at the Angel of Hope site. All are welcome to attend this ceremony. We recommend bringing your own chairs for this event.

**St. Mary's Church, 3rd Ave South & Belmont Road, Grand Forks, ND will be serving a chicken & meatball Dinner** on Sunday, September 28, 2025 from 11:30am - 2:30pm. Adults 12 & older = \$15; Children 5-11 = \$8; and Children 4 and under = FREE, credit cards accepted. Take out meals will be available.



## **Fall Dinner Oct. 12, 2025**

### **Monetary donations are needed for the fall dinner.**

This year we have streamlined our process of needing monetary donations and the church will do the purchasing of food and supplies needed. Please send you monetary donations to: St. John's, 344 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Grafton, ND 58237, please write in memo: "Fall Dinner Donation". Thank you!

For any questions, please notify Vonda Collette call/text (701-360-2880).

**To volunteer in the kitchen**, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday call/text Vonda Collette (701-360-2880).

**To volunteer for the dining room**, call Alissa Parsons (701-360-1180).

**To donate to the Country Store**, call Diane Maes (701-360-0928) or Sandy Rose (701-360-1676).

**To volunteer for the delivery and take out**, call Jean Jiskra (701-360-0128).

Donated pies will be sold at the Country Store.