



St. John the Evangelist Sacred Heart - Oakwood

NOVEMBER 30, 2025
FIRST 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.



Advent has begun! What is the season of Advent? The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) states: "Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas."

What will you do to prepare for the coming of the Lord? I encourage you to offer a fast of some sort for the conversion of sinners or for the souls in purgatory at least once a week. Consider coming to daily Mass and increase your communion with Jesus. Another powerful way to deepen that intimacy with the Lord is Eucharistic Adoration. Praying the Rosary is also an extremely fruitful and mighty form of prayer. Look at the possibility of a family Rosary every day during Advent. The Divine Mercy chaplet is another efficacious devotion. Reading Scripture and reflecting on the Word of God is transforming to the mind and soul. Definitely do something that will strengthen your relationship with the Lord during this holy season.

Make this a wonderful and spiritual Advent for you and your family.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily, and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.



The Christmas Extravaganza is coming soon. It is next Sunday, December 7 from 10:30am - 2:00pm. We need donations of NEW items, canned and baked goods for St. Nick's Sweet Shop, the Silent Auction, Mini Raffle items or monetary donations. You can drop off the items at the parish office Monday - Thursday from 8:30am - 4:00pm or on Fridays until 11:00am. If you have any questions please call Mickey at (701)331-3874. Thank you!

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

The Parish Office: 701-352-1648

Pastor: Fr. Jeff Eppler

Fr. Jeff's Cell Phone 1-314-750-8937

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

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, December 11, 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.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, November 29

10:30 am - Terry Eppler & Chuck Ryder +

5:00 pm - Bob & Delores Desautel +

Sunday, November 30 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30 am - Parishioners

9:30 am - Daniel & Teresa Dusek - Happy 40th Anniversary

Monday, December 1

NO MASS

Tuesday, December 2

5:15 pm - LeRoy French +

7:30-9:00pm - Confession in the Church

Wednesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest

5:15 pm - Jaymes Almond +

Thursday, December 4 St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

5:15 pm - Tom Olson +

Friday, December 5

OFFICE CLOSED AT NOON

5:15 pm - Robert O'Toole +

Saturday, December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop

10:30 am - Carmelite Sisters

5:00 pm - Wayne Welsh +

Sunday, December 7 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30 am - Alice Demers +

9:30 am - Parishioners

Monday, December 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day of Obligation

6:30 am - Parishioners

5:15 pm - Souls in Purgatory



Our sympathy to the family of Donald Burns

"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, Heather Dumas, Greg Dusek, Pat Dusek, Faya El Sarraf, Alex Emslander, Nick Emslander, Barbara Foerster-Estad, Lori Fox, Melinda Harder, Cyril Johnson, Dorothy Koester, Mary Ellen LaBaw, Jim LaBine, Daniel LaHaise, Diane Lee, Lori McMahn, Steve Michels, Betty Novak, Nicole Pride, Hope Reis, Monica Rudnik, Maxine Schanilec, Maury Staffne, Julius Wangler, Kay Wilebski, Judy Wolter

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 December 7 & 14

Sundays in January 11, 18 & 25

Sundays in February 8 & 22

Sundays in March 1, 8, 15, 22 last day

10,000 Rosaries for Grafton!

We have prayed 9,584 rosaries!

Keep praying because we need God's grace to convert Grafton & surrounding towns!



Saving souls one bead at a time!

St. John's Parish Advent Penance (Confession) Service will be on Sunday, December 14 at 4:00pm.

STEWARDSHIP

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

St. John the Evangelist

Given November 23, 2025 - 5,486.86

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

Given to date: \$ 45,700.04 (53.71 %)

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 November 23, 2025 - \$ 328.00

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

Given to date: \$ 5,140.00 (56.73 %)

UPCOMING DATES AT ST. JOHN'S:

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| Bible Study | Mon., Dec. 1, 7:00pm |
| OCIA for Adults | Tues., Dec. 2, 6:30pm |
| Confession in the Church | Tues., Dec. 2, 7:30-9pm |
| Rosary walk for life | Wed., Dec. 3, 6:30am |
| Faith Formation (Gr 1-8) | Wed., Dec. 3, 6:30pm |
| High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12) | Wed., Dec. 3, 7:30pm |
| ST. JOHN QUILTERS | Thurs., Dec. 4, 9:30am |
| Fatima Rosary - after AM Mass | Sat., Dec. 6 After AM Mass |
| Holy Pilgrimage | Sun., Dec. 7, 1:00pm |
| CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA | Sun., Dec. 7, 10:30-2pm |
| Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Mon., Dec. 8, 6:30am |
| Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Mon., Dec. 8, 5:15pm |

ROOF DONATION WEEKLY UPDATE

Given this week \$ 125.00

HOLY PILGRIMAGE WITH JESUS:

Next Sunday, Fr. Jeff and Tony Dumas will be driving through Grafton and Oakwood at 1:00pm with Jesus in the Monstrance. So keep your eyes peeled for the Lord in the Ford.

Second Collection next week will be going towards our ongoing maintenance needs.

Friday, December 12: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, Mass at 5:15pm. Healing Service at 7pm. Confession, Anointing of the Sick and Eucharistic healing prayer will be offered. All are welcome!

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH COMMITTEE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH AFTER THE 9:30AM MASS.

The Walsh County Emergency Food Pantry - address and phone number: PO BOX 575, Grafton, ND 58237, 701-352-1608. They are open Monday through Thursday from 1:00pm - 4:00pm. You can call there during those hours with any questions. **The Walsh County Emergency Food Pantry is their own entity now. Please send your contributions to their new address. Thank you!**



Christmas Extravaganza

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

1515 Western Ave, Grafton, ND

Sunday, December 7, 2025

From: 10:30am To: 2:00pm

Lunch: (Free Will Donation)

Pulled Pork Sandwiches

French Fries

St. Nick's Sweet Shop (Bake Sale)

Silent Auction

Mini Raffle

Ice Cream Sundaes

Ornament Making

Cookie Decorating

Goody Gum Drop Walk

50/50 Drawing @ 2pm - \$1.00/ticket

Santa Claus will be here

For more information contact Mickey (701)331-3874

BRING YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Proceeds will be going to St. John the Evangelist Ministries

