



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

344 W 15th St., Grafton, ND 58237 701-352-1648

August 21, 2025

Dear Parents,

May the peace and love of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you! We are gearing up for another year of Faith Formation. We have great teachers committed to sharing Christ with your children. We also have a new Faith Formation Director, Carla Trahan. Faith Formation is every Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30pm beginning September 17th (see schedule on back). We kick off our year with the **Fall into Faith** celebration immediately following the 9:30am Mass on Sunday, Sept. 7. You can register your child(ren) at the Fall into Faith or online at the parish website: stjohngrafton.com. In addition, we have scheduled a registration evening on Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 6:30-7:30pm in the Gathering Space or you can come by the parish office to register.

Please help us avoid "drop off" scenarios this year. This is when an unregistered child is just dropped off in the parking lot by a parent. This creates confusion for both the child and the teachers as we have to figure out where the child belongs. Thank you.

High School Youth Group begins Wednesday, Sept. 17, from 7:30-8:30pm in the Gathering Space. All children, grades 9-12 are welcome!

We have a Pre-K/Kindergarten (4/5 years old) Sunday School again this year! After the Opening Prayer at the 9:30am Sunday Mass, Julie McCann will lead the children out, have class and then bring them back at the end of the homily. Dates for the classes will be printed in the bulletin. Please register your child.

First Holy Communion Requirement: We are obligated by the Lord to attend Mass on Sunday (the Saturday Vigil Mass counts too) in accord with the Third Commandment. Thus, we require those students preparing to receive First Holy Communion to attend Mass weekly (which all families should be doing anyway). They will be given a Mass journal for them to write down things they learned from the homily. This journal will be kept at the church so they don't need to bring it with them. This will take the place of a signed bulletin. However, if they attend Mass at another parish, they should have the priest from that parish sign one of their bulletins, which should then be dropped off at the Parish Office, or given to Carla Trahan or myself. This would replace the journal entry for that week. **Missing more than three Masses during the school year may result in the reception of sacraments being delayed.**

Parent Meetings: I will meet with parents whose children are receiving sacraments. 2nd Grade Parents will be on the two Wednesdays of Sept. 24, 2025 and January 14, 2026 at 6:30pm in the church. 3rd Grade Parents will be on the two Wednesdays of October 1, 2025 and Jan. 21, 2026 at 6:30pm in the church.

If you have any questions please contact Carla or myself. I look forward to a fruitful year of faith with you and your children. May God bless you and your family.

Sincerely Yours in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,



Fr. Jeff Eppler