

ST. JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fertile, Minnesota
www.stjosephsfertile.org

Fr. Larry Delaney – Pastor
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RE Coordinators: Monica Lisburg (218-556-8184) and Kirsten Fuglseth (218-280-9645)

Victim Assistance Statement of the Diocese of Crookston: If you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or its schools, please contact Cindy Hulst, LSW, the diocesan Victim’s Assistance Coordinator at 218-281-7895 (24-hour confidential number).

Mass: Sunday – 8:30 a.m.; Wednesday and Thursday – 7:00 a.m.; Reconciliation: Sunday – 7:45 a.m.

Sunday, August 28th, 2022 – Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

This week’s Mass schedule: Wednesday, August 31st: +Ralph LeBlanc req. by Raymond & Therese Dusek
 Thursday, September 1st: +Larry Ricard req. by Jerry & Jan Erickson
 Sunday, September 4th: +Roger Kurpius req. by Jamy & Tammy Fuglseth

Ministers	September 4 th	September 11 th
Lector	Terri Johnson	Dan Kuzma
Eucharist	Karen Kurpius, Steven Massmann	Paul Reese, Patricia Erickson
Greeters/Ushers	Paul Reese, Matthew Erickson	Steven Massmann, Emery Erickson
Collection	Sue Erickson, Paul Reese	Pam Reese, Emery Erickson
Sacristan	Jan Erickson	Jan Erickson
Mass Server	Jack Erickson	Zach Dufault
Gift Bearers	Cody & Maggie Coauette family	Brian & Elizabeth Massmann family

Church Cleaning August 1st – August 28th: Jerry & Jan Erickson (218) 945-6118, Ty & Kirsten Fuglseth (218) 945-3436, Greg & Donna Bjerk (218) 945-3403. Thank you for your ministry to our parish.

Offertory Actual	8/21/22	Offertory Needed Weekly	Building Fund Actual 8/21/22
Adult	\$ 10,047.34	\$1,429.00 (Adult and Electronic)	No Report
Electronic	\$ 130.00		
Youth	\$ 0.00	\$10.00	Building Fund Needed Weekly
Plate	\$ 187.00	\$173.00	\$903.82
Total	\$ 10,364.34	\$1,612.00	

Thank you for your financial support!

Birthday Greetings: Duane Miller (29th), Avery McCollum (30th), Jaysen Nephew (30th), Kallie Hand (30th), Drew Larsen (31st), Sam Haugen (31st), Greg Bjerk (1st), Dan Wilkens (2nd)

Wedding Anniversaries: Richard & Jean Rock (30th), Daniel & Faith Kuzma (1st)

Weekly Eucharistic Exposition with Adoration is held each Monday from 4-6 p.m. All are invited to come and spend some time in adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Rosary is prayed on Sunday at 8:00 a.m. at St. Joseph’s. Please come and join us.

Prayer blankets were given to: *Rachel Neft, Kelliher, MN*, from Pat Erickson; *Pat McDonald, Lakeville, MN* from Megan & Abby Fuglseth. Please keep everyone covered with a prayer blanket in your prayers. Thank you.

Welcome to Bishop Cozzens

Please warmly welcome Bishop Cozzens at our Sunday morning Mass this week. Bishop is making his way around the diocese celebrating Sunday Masses with the parishes when the opportunity arises. This was scheduled just this week, so I didn’t get an opportunity to give the parish any advance notice.

Food for thought *“Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you.” (LUKE 14:13-14)* One of the main principles of living a stewardship lifestyle is to give without expecting anything in return. This is difficult for some to comprehend in our “consumerist” culture that we live in. This is even difficult for many parish communities that have become heavily dependent on parish fundraising events to support the mission and ministry of their local parish. Generally speaking, at a parish fundraiser, you pay money and receive something in return, it’s just a financial transaction. This is opposed to our parish offertory at Holy Mass, where you unite your sacrifice with Jesus’ renewing our covenant relationship with Him.

Discussion/Support Group Starting - You are invited to join others in the parish for a series of facilitated discussions of concerns and issues brought on by the COVID 19 pandemic. The meetings continue Mondays from 7-8:30 PM. Please see the poster in the gathering space for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 2nd: Fall Dinner: please think about how the takeouts can be effectively done, so as not to interfere with our guests who choose to dine in.

Mass Stipend Increase

Recently Bishop instituted a raised in the Mass stipend cost. Since I have been ordained and I think for at least 50 years, the standard amount has been \$5 per Mass. That has been increased to \$10 starting July 1. This level is also consistent with what the diocese in the region has as their policy.

Mass Intentions

When offering a Mass intention, if a requested day/date is desired, please make a note of that when you send in the intention.

Matching Building Fund Gift

A parishioner has come forward with a matching donation of \$25,000 towards the building fund. Donations to the building fund (above your regular building fund contributions) from now until the end of 2022, will count toward meeting this generous matching donation. Please consider donating towards this cause as you make your own fiscal plans for the remainder of the year.

In the past year, we have made significant progress on retiring our building debt. When I arrived last August, we had \$400,000 remaining on the original building fund loan of \$600,000. Now we are well below \$300,000 and about 3 years ahead of the payment schedule on the debt. Because of this, the total interest we will pay is going to be significantly reduced. Thank you all for your generosity.

If you know of any shut-ins, those not attending Mass, anyone who would like a home visit, or someone who may appreciate a visit please contact Father Larry at the office (218) 945-6649 or Fr. Larry’s cell at (218) 779-3550.

Your Help is Needed: Ministry Schedule. Each week we need:

1. Two ushers/greeters (please arrive by 8:10)
2. One reader
3. Two Eucharistic ministers of Holy Communion
4. Two collection reporters
5. One Sacristan
6. Altar Servers

Please sign up by emailing Donna Bjerk at stjoesfertile@gvtel.com or by taking a ministry form found on the credenza. Thank you for serving your community and don’t forget to invite your friends and loved ones to Mass!

The Minnesota State Court of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas is sponsoring a pilgrimage to the shrines of Germany and to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau from September 9-17, 2022. We still have some openings and would love to have anyone join us. For more information and a copy of the brochure and application, please contact Shirley Seyfried at 218-862-3493 or 218-205-6454 or by email at shirley.seyfried@gmail.com

AID TO UKRAINE

The Diocese of Crookston Catholic Community Foundation continues to accept gifts for humanitarian aid in Ukraine. Gifts can be sent to Ukrainian Aid, C/O CCF, PO Box 610, Crookston, MN 56716, where they will be forwarded to The USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.) Gifts become part of the collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

The USCCB is uniquely positioned to provide aid to the region, having built strong relationships with bishops in Central and Eastern Europe over the past 30 years. Let us ask Our Lady, Queen of Peace, to bring a swift end to the violence.

As a volunteer at Essentia Health-Fosston Hospice, you will enrich the lives of our patients and their families through a critical moment of life’s journey. Learn how you can become a volunteer by calling 218-435-7670.

The Fertile Public Library is holding presentations on some mental health programs this fall. If you or someone you know would find it helpful, please attend Wellness in the Woods Tuesday, September 20th at 10:00am. For more information, please contact Laura at fertile@suite.larl.org or 218-945-6137

St. Joseph's Table will be the third Wednesday of the month, in alignment with the Fertile Food Shelf schedule. As we plan St. Joseph's Table events going forward, **we would like parish input on meal ideas and proactive volunteering**. Get together with your friends, or have your family choose their favorite meal and sign up for a month that works for you. There will be a sign-up list in the back of church. If you are uncertain, Sue and Mark Erickson are willing to help you and your crew figure out the logistics of cooking for a crowd and with using the church kitchen equipment. Again, contact Sue Erickson ([218\) 289-4694](tel:2182894694) or suerosha@gmail.com if you have questions.

Cursillos at the Mount!!!

Come be one of the first to experience a retreat at the Mount St. Benedict Monastery in Crookston. The Cursillo retreats will be held there starting this fall! The Women's weekend will be held September 22 – 25, 2022 and the Men's retreat is October 27 – 30, 2022. Experiencing Cursillo surrounded by the beautiful, Catholic setting of the Mount will surely provide an opportunity for you to grow deeper in your Catholic faith and your relationship with Christ. If you are interested in attending the retreat, please contact your parish office. If you have any questions, please let us know or contact Brandy Pelzel at pelzel40@hotmail.com, Len Vonasek at lvonasek@sacredheartegf.net, or Fr. Bill DeCrans in Bemidji. Applications can be found at crookstonscursillo.weebly.com.

AND THERE WAS LIGHT! Our generous and sacrificial gifts to the 2022 Summer Appeal bring the light of Christ to so many throughout our diocese and provide essential support for vital ministries. For those of you who have contributed to the 2022 DAA, thank you and God bless you. If you have not yet had the opportunity to make your commitment this year or would like to make a second gift to the appeal to help us reach our goal, please visit www.crookston.org/DAA.

Safe Environment: Those who are employees or volunteers, Safe Environment is due soon already! Please go to <https://www.crookston.org/secertification> I also put instructions on the credenza. There are changes this year:

- Do not make a new account if they have completed safe environment in the last 5 years. If they are unable to sign in have them use the support tab in the bottom right corner. This is important because if they already have an account that will have their last background check date and if they create a new account this information will not show and they will complete a new background check which may not be needed.
- Check the background check date which will show up when they log in. If they complete the background check portion and they are not technically due to have one ran it will still run it. There is no way to stop the process once they complete the background check portion.
- It is taking a little over an hour to complete.

The Diocese of Crookston has one position available for its new Pastoral Center. The following positions are available:

• **Food Service Worker:** Food service workers will serve prepared meals to the Sisters of Saint Benedict who are living at the Center as well as people who are involved in weekend retreats.

Additional information on these positions can be found at www.crookston.org/employment. Applications should include a resume and cover letter. Applications or inquires for more information should be e-mailed to Cindy Gjerswold at cgjerswold@crookston.org or mailed to Diocese of Crookston, PO Box 610, Crookston MN 56716.

The National Eucharistic Revival: Updates and call for Eucharistic Missionaries Do you want to be a part of something life-changing? Jesus needs each one of you to be his hands and feet throughout the Eucharistic Revival. The Church needs you - your gifts and talents, and especially your prayers, as we, in our parishes, accompany each other through this grass-roots renewal our world so desperately needs. God needs each of us, however ordinary or imperfect, to bring about this Revival. As a part of the revival, every parish will be invited to identify Eucharistic Missionaries of all ages; Catholics who will work with their pastor to facilitate encounters with Jesus in the Eucharist during year two of the Eucharistic Revival. This September, the USCCB Eucharistic Revival committee, under the leadership of Bishop Cozzens, will present on-line preparation explaining the role of the Eucharistic Missionaries. Further, some of the members of the diocesan Eucharistic Revival task force will also be able to work with your parish's Eucharistic Missionaries as they move forward with their pastor to develop the second year of the Eucharistic Revival.

Equipped for Life: A Fresh Approach to Conversations About Abortion Saturday, October 1st – Lumen Christi Catholic Church (St. Paul) Learn how to respond to the toughest pro-choice arguments with truth and love. This indispensable and life-changing training day sponsored by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and the Minnesota Catholic Conference, features National Pro-Life Leader Emily Albrecht of the Equal Rights Institute. The day will equip you with practical tools and the confidence to engage any pro-choice advocate who defends abortion with arguments based in difficult circumstances, biology, personhood, or bodily autonomy. Training day details & tickets: www.MNCatholic.org/EquippedForLife