

ASCENSION

Catholic Church

- March 21, 2021 -



"THE HOUR HAS
COME FOR THE SON
OF MAN TO BE
GLORIFIED." - JN 12:23

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH OFFICE

1905 South 3rd Street
Bismarck, ND 58504
p: (701) 223-3606 fax: 223-5783
e: ascension@midconetwork.com
w: ascensionbismarck.org

OFFICE HOURS

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 am-4:00 pm
Friday 8:30 am-12:00 Noon

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 am
Tue.-Fri. 8:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tues.-Fri. 7:30-7:50 am
Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Jim Braaten	Pastor
Doyle Schulz	Deacon
John Paul Martin	Deacon
Beth Kathol	Business Mgr.
Blane Schriock	Faith Formation
Julie Ternes	Music & Liturgy
Jan Sitter	Bookkeeper
Julie Luger	Secretary
Rita Ritter	Secretary
Bob Urlacher	Maintenance

NEWCOMERS

Contact the Parish Office or go online to register. Welcome to the parish!

OUR MISSION

As a people of God, of Ascension Catholic Parish, we are united by Baptism and committed to meeting the needs of our faith community. In union with the whole Church, we will build the Kingdom of God by proclaiming the Good News, worshipping God, creating community, and promoting social justice.

BAPTISMS

Contact the parish office three months in advance to schedule.

WEDDINGS

Call the Pastor nine months prior to the wedding date to make arrangements.

ASCENSION CATHOLIC CHURCH

FAITH FORMATION

ROUNDING THE CORNER OF OUR LENTEN JOURNEY; HOW ARE YOU DOING?

Last weekend the Catholic Church celebrated Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent. The Latin word "Laetare" means "Rejoice". Laetare Sunday was a day of rejoicing, that signified for us we have reached the halfway point in our Lenten journey. At the beginning of Lent, we took on various penances and committed ourselves to a deeper sense of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in our lives as we prepare for Our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection during Holy Week and Easter. Now that our journey has passed the halfway mark, and with Palm Sunday (the start of Holy Week) being next weekend, it is a good point for us to reflect back on how our Lenten journey has developed so far and evaluate how we are doing. It is a good thing for us to think about where we are at to better consider how to move forward and finish strong with our Lenten disciplines.

So, how have you been doing? Have you been true to your Lenten disciplines with prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and other penances? Or has this Lent been a struggle? For most of us, we face many challenges and obstacles in our lives in the Lenten season that ever so slightly make us veer off of the path that the Lord wants for us; and, the commitments we have taken on that will help us in our relationship with the Lord. The Devil delights in these obstacles and challenges, and he often places thoughts in our heads such as *"I am too tired right now; I will get back to my Lenten practice tomorrow"*, and yet tomorrow never seems to come. Or he might make you think, *"I've already messed up my practices for this Lent; I'll just give up and hope for better luck next year I guess."*; and, yet we keep saying the same thing year after year. The Enemy will do anything to cause us to divert our attention away from our Lenten practices, because our Lenten practices help us to focus on Jesus.

Despite the focus of prayer, good works, and penances during the Lenten season, the deeper focus beyond these practices is that each of them individually and all of them together are an essential good for us as Catholics: the good of focusing on Christ. They make us grow in holiness and in our relationship with the Lord; not just during the Lenten Season, but in the words of our good shepherd of the Diocese of Bismarck, Bishop David Kagan: *"they (our Lenten practices) should be things that stay with us when Easter arrives and beyond Easter"*. When we intentionally allow the Lord to form our hearts and our minds by good works of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and penances, they build great virtue and holiness of life for each of us; they build us into the men and women who God has called us to be.

So, now that Lent is more than halfway over and we are starting to "round the corner" toward Holy Week, I invite, encourage, and challenge you to take a look at how you have been doing from Ash Wednesday to today. Ask yourself: *"Can I and will I commit myself to continuing to do what I have committed myself to do on Ash Wednesday?"* Brothers and sisters, in order to grow there will be some growing pains; in order to love, we must suffer well. To quote the great St. Claire of Assisi: *"Love that does not know suffering is not worthy of the name."* Focus on Jesus, continue the good fight, and strive onward towards the life of freedom and love that the Father wants for you. Our Lord suffered and died out of love for you; will you suffer and live out of love for Him? God bless each of you and know of my prayers for you as we round the corner of our Lenten journey.

Blane Schriock, Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

IMPORTANT FAITH FORMATION DATES

- Wednesday, March 24th - Dining in Faith meal, served from 4:45 pm through 6:45 pm in the Community Room
- Sunday, March 28th - Rite of Enrollment & Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate Retreat Grades 7th-8th from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 31st - No Class for Holy Week; please attend Triduum services (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil)
- Friday, April 2nd - "Passion of the Christ" movie at 3:00 pm in the Community Room, followed by Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, April 25th - 2nd grade parent/child meeting sessions at 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm
- Saturday & Sunday, April 24th & 25th - 9th Grade Confirmation Retreat at Badlands Ministries, Medora
- Wednesday, April 28th - Dining in Faith meal, served from 4:45 pm through 6:45 pm in the Community Room
- Wednesday, April 28th - First Holy Communion practice at 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm in the church
- Saturday, May 1st - First Holy Communion at 5:00 pm Mass
- Wednesday, May 5th - Confirmation practice for 9th Grade at 7:00 pm
- Friday, May 7th - Rite of Confirmation for 9th Grade at 7:00pm, with reception following in the Community Room
- Wednesday, May 12th - Closing Mass for Faith Formation at 5:30 pm, followed by Dining in Faith

ASCENSION CATHOLIC CHURCH



FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

WEEK	COLLECTIONS	BUDGET
March 14, 2021	\$11,640.00	\$14,343.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$507,526.49*	\$530,691.00

*Correction to YTD: \$2,931.22 adjustment

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 8:00 am	March 22 Communion Service
Tuesday, 8:00 am	March 23 †Timothy Kuntz by George & Leona Kuntz
Wednesday, 8:00 am	March 24 †Mary Ellen Jesse by Phil & Pam Moormann
Thursday, 8:00 am	March 25 †Dave Wetzel by Jim & Kathy Heisler
Friday, 8:00 am	March 26 Reparation of Sins by KC Council #7602
Saturday, 5:00 pm	March 27 †Clarence & †Pauline Schmitz by Family
Sunday, 8:00 am 9:30 am 11:00 am	March 28 People of the Parish †Barb Gray by Family †Virgil Kathol by Mike & Julie Luger

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, 8:30—6:00 pm	March 22 Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesday, 7:00 pm	March 23 Stewardship Committee meeting
Wednesday, 4, 5:30, 7:00 pm 4:45-6:45 pm 7:00 pm	March 24 Faith Formation Sessions Dining in Faith/Community Room Adult Class/No Greater Love
Thursday, 8:45 am & 7 pm	March 25 Adult Class/Lectio Divina
Friday, 5:00-7:00 pm 5:30 pm	March 26 KC Fish Fry/Dine In or Carry Out Stations of the Cross
Sunday, 11 am-3:00 pm	March 28 8th Grade Confirmation Sponsor/ Candidate Retreat

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: MARCH 27TH & 28TH: PALM SUNDAY

	5:00 pm	8:00am	9:30am	11:00am
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	Josh Hager—S** Linda Charbonneau—N	Michelle Schmidt—S** Jean Kraft—N	Deb Wald—S** Rod Wald—N	Rosie Dingus—S** Howell Flowers—N
Hospitality	Conni Schafer** Eric Loh Sandra Holzer Layne Volk	Steve Ritter** Judy Ness Lori Engleson Brian Schumacher	Troy Schon** Deb Schon Val Frank Sharon Malm	Sandra Holzer** Gregg Kathol Margaret Kathol Elsie Seeberg
Lector	Irene Howard	Rita Ritter	Donna Davidson	Al Dolajak
Altar Server	Hutch Hager Beckham Hager	Peyton Dehne	Cooper Weidner Ava Weidner	Lainey Kathol Blaise Kathol
Video/Audio Operator	Brenda Muscha	Nancy Hoselton	Mark Malm	Edmund Peliska

ASCENSION CATHOLIC CHURCH

LENTEN CONFESSION SCHEDULES

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit

Regular Confession Times:

Sunday: 7:30 AM to 8:00 AM

Monday through Saturday: 7:15 AM to 8:00 AM

Saturday: 4:00 PM to 5:00 pm & 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Additional Times for Lent:

Friday: 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Church of Corpus Christi

Regular Confession Times:

Monday through Friday: 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Saturday: 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Additional Times for Lent:

Tuesday, March 30th from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 31st from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Thursday, April 1st from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Church of St. Anne

Regular Confession Times:

Wednesday through Friday: 7:30 AM to 7:50 AM

Saturday: 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Additional Times for Lent:

Friday: 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM (March 12th, 19th and 26th)

Church of the Ascension

Regular Confession Times:

Tuesday through Friday: 7:30 AM to 7:50 AM

Saturday: 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

Pro-Cathedral of St. Mary

Regular Confession Times:

Monday through Friday: 7:30 AM to 8:00 AM

Saturday: 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Additional Times for Lent:

Friday: 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM (March 12th, 19th and 26th)

PARISH NEWS

COMPASSION MINISTRY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Compassion Ministry at Ascension consists of teams of six to eight parishioners, who provide assistance to grieving families. This includes calling to see if the family needs anything, dropping off a fruit basket and paper products (provided by the parish), and perhaps, making a meal. To volunteer or for further information, please email Tammie Johnson at tmjohnson@bis.midco.net or call her at 258-5380. Tammie is the coordinator of the Compassion Ministry for our parish.

DIOCESAN NEWS

JOB POSTING—ST JOSEPH’S IN WILLISTON

St. Joseph’s Church in Williston, ND is seeking a full time Director of Religious Education (DRE). Under the direction of the pastor, the DRE manages the religious education program and sacramental preparation of the parish. Specific tasks include recruiting and supporting catechists, planning and development of curriculum, maintaining religious education registrations, expenses, files and sacramental records. A detailed job description and application may be found at www.stjparish.com. This position requires a professional and responsible individual with excellent communication (oral and written), computer, organizational, administrative, and interpersonal skills. The position includes a competitive salary (\$35,000-\$42,000), retirement, medical, sick, and vacation leave. Please submit a cover letter, resume, three references and an application to Fr. Kovash at pastor@stjparish.com. You may also call him at 701-572-6731 with any inquiries.

LIGHT OF CHRIST SCHOOL NEWS

ENROLL NOW FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Enrollment is now open to all students—Pre-K to Grade 12—for the next school year. Private tours are now available at all of our schools.

- Pre-K (Half and Full Day Programs) for ages 3-5, Kindergarten, Grades 1-5 at Saint Anne School, St. Mary’s Grade School, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit Elementary
- Grades 6-8 at St. Mary’s Academy
- Grades 9-12 at St. Mary’s Central High School

Begin the easy enrollment process now to be a SAINT in the next school year!

Online: lightofchristschools.org

Email: sindovina@lightofchristschools.org

Call: 701-354-7067

The Ascension Parish Social Concerns Committee has compiled this list of local charitable organizations, who would benefit by our parish member's focus on the church's tenets of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving at Lent and all through the year. Please prayerfully consider how you and your family's offerings of time, talent, and treasure may serve others now and throughout the year.

Community Action, 2105 Lee Avenue, Bismarck. Contact 701-258-2240 or at www.cap7.com. Community Action assists low income individuals and families with short-term assistance for rent, utility bills, finding a job, and a food pantry to make it through a difficult period. Donations can be both perishable and nonperishable food items, such as small soups, canned chicken and tuna, household and kitchen items, toiletries and soaps. Fresh and frozen meat donations are accepted when packaged through a licensed meat processor. Donations are accepted M-F, 8 am-11:30 am, and 12:30 pm-3:30 pm. Volunteers are needed, and you may call about your area of interest.

Ministry on the Margins, 201 North 24th Street, Bismarck. Contact 223-6315 and leave a message. This ministry assists formerly incarcerated individuals and their families to work towards self-sufficiency and finding their way in the community after release. Immediate needs include nonperishable food items, toilet paper, and soaps (laundry and personal), cleaning supplies, kitchen and household items, blankets and sheets. Donation times are accepted on weekdays; you may call to schedule a drop-off. The Ministry is not currently accepting clothing or furniture.

The Banquet, contact by email at thebanquetnd.com; offices are located at 502 N 2nd Street. The Banquet is a community meal sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismarck, serving the homeless, poor, elderly, and lonely. The Banquet works with local churches, and organizations to serve people of all denominations. A meal is served along with pastoral care, if desired. Meals are served on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Ascension parish serves a meal for the Banquet in March and in August. Please watch for sign up times in the bulletin.

St. Vincent DePaul Society meets in the church basement of Cathedral Church on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. For people in need, call 701-222-8011. For donations of cash or gift cards, send to St. Vincent DePaul Society, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, 519 Raymond St, Bismarck ND 58501. Cash donations are used to help pay rent, utilities and for prescriptions. Gift cards for grocery stores, Target and Walmart, as well as for gas, are appreciated.

Women's Care Center (formerly known as First Choice Clinic), 614 North 4th Street, Bismarck. Contact 701-751-4575. Website womenscarecenter.org. The clinic provides free pregnancy counseling, testing, and initial ultrasound to women experiencing an unexpected pregnancy. The clinic's immediate needs include monetary donations, baby care items such as nursing pads, nursing pillows, crib sheets, burp cloths, thermometers, children's lotions and body washes, newborn diapers, pull-ups, 8-12 oz. bottles, and maternity clothing and pajamas for mothers (all sizes). Donations can be dropped off from 9-10 am, Monday-Friday.

Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 2132, Bismarck. Contact Jerry Delzer at 222-4181, or email at www.mealsonwheelsbismarck.org/volunteer. Prepared, home-delivered meals are provided on four regular routes Monday-Friday, to 40 area homebound individuals. Volunteers deliver meals and check on the recipients each day. Please note that Church of Ascension volunteers are coordinated through Rita Ritter for the month of June. Please watch for sign-up times in the bulletin.

Heaven's Helpers Soup Cafe, 220 N. 23rd Street, Bismarck. Contact 701-721-7687 or www.soupcafe.org. A soup and sandwich meal are provided free of charge to the poor and needy with fellowship and respect. Always in need of monetary donations, food donations of meat, spices, coffee, creamer, dish soap, paper products, bathroom cleaning supplies, and vinyl gloves. Volunteers to work two-hour shifts, Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm, and Saturday from 9am-5pm are always needed. May sign up on website for shifts. Volunteers help to prepare food, wait on tables, serve food, and wash dishes.

AID, Inc, 314 W Main Street, Mandan. For people in need, they can call 701-663-1274, Extension 18. AID, Inc. provides for rental and utility assistance, as well as food and other basic items to the needy. For donations, please call 663-212 to see what they are most in need of, as well as drop off locations and times.

The Abused Adult Resource Center, 218 W. Broadway Avenue, Bismarck; contact is 701-222-8370. Gently used household and clothing donations may be made to the Seeds of Hope Thrift Store, 520 East Main in Bismarck, which supports the mission of the Abused Adult Resource Center. For other donation needs or to volunteer, contact the number provided.

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