



Holy Rosary Catholic Church

O F N O R T H M A N K A T O

525 GRANT AVE., NORTH MANKATO, MN 56003 | 507.387.6501 | F: 507.387.7365

Parish Office

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Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Emergency Number

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Accounting Office

507-345-6828

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Website

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Holy Rosary Parish Staff

Father Paul van de Crommert, *Pastor*
Cindy Gawrych, *Office Administrator*
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Ministry for Sick & Homebound/ Support Staff

Lorraine Klaseus | 507-388-4932

Calvary Cemetery

Board Representative

Tom Kiffe

Loyola Catholic School

Adam Bemmels, Pre-K—12 Principal

Loyola School Office

507-388-0600 | Fax: 507-388-3081

Bulletin Article Deadline:

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm Noon

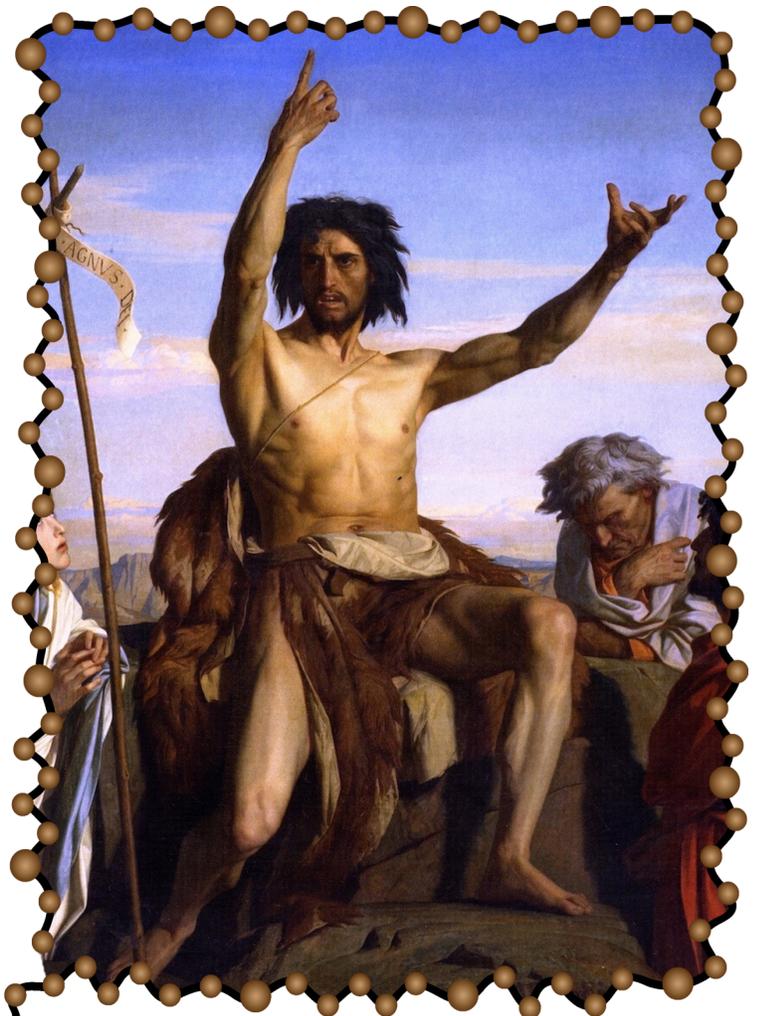
FOR SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION,
PLEASE VISIT:
[HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO.COM/
WORSHIP-SACRAMENTS](http://HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO.COM/WORSHIP-SACRAMENTS)



HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO

December 15, 2019

3rd Sunday of Advent



“As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, ‘What did you go out to the desert to see? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.’”
- St. Matthew

Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed in the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet."

-St. Matthew



No doubt we have all heard that line: "It is all a matter of perspective." A doctor who delivers a baby might see it from the perspective of, "a job well done." The mother who has given birth to her child more often would see, "the miracle of life." A loved one dies and from the perspective of the survivors, "it is a time of great sorrow and grief." On the other hand, the funeral director would see this death "as part of their livelihood" and an "opportunity to practice their craft." Yes, it really is all a matter of perspective.

Over the years I have had enough people say to me that "You work too hard Father." Perhaps I should take it from the perspective of *criticism*, but I actually take it from the perspective as a *compliment*. For I would much rather have people say "You work too hard," versus "You are very lazy," two very different perspectives. From my perspective, work is not so much *work*, but rather doing what I *enjoy* doing. Is work really work if you enjoy what you are doing? Certainly a little philosophical question to ponder. Has anyone ever said to someone, "You watch way too much television. You are going to burn yourself out. Soon, you will not be able to stand even looking at a television!" Sounds pretty unbelievable doesn't it? Or would someone ever say to us while on vacation: "We need to get back to our home. We are having such a good and relaxing time, we are going to hate going on vacations in the future!" Again, the chances of something like this being said is pretty unlikely.

As we enter the Third Week of the Advent season, we are asked to see Advent from a *NEW PERSPECTIVE*. For we are asked to see Advent, not simply as a time of *REPENTANCE*, but on this Gaudete Sunday, to see it as a day of *REJOICING*. For on this Third Sunday of Advent we are called to see the coming of the Feast of Christmas and even more so, the final coming of Christ, in a new liturgical and life perspective. For we must see this season and the final seconds of this earth, not with sorrow, but instead

with joy and rejoicing.

A week ago when I had gone up to Duluth as a result of the death of my friend, Bishop Paul Sirba, I felt a tremendous sorrow at his passing like one might experience for a beloved brother, although I have been in the business of faith and celebrating many funerals for decades. One of his brother bishops who he had known much of his life reminded us again of the Christian and Catholic "perspective" that calls us at death to take on a new perspective of *REJOICING* rather than grief and sorrow. He stated, "his work on earth is finished," and had stated privately that he was actually "envious," as his struggles on earth were over. He was seeing the passing of his friend, not in the negative light of *grief*, but something more positive or profound, namely a kind of spiritual *graduation*.

The Good News of the readings for this Third Sunday of Advent, take on a very *POSITIVE PERSPECTIVE*. For in the First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah, he sees the desert, not in a negative way such as a wasteland of parched earth, but in a positive perspective, as a wonderful land, almost a paradise of **"...bloom(s)...they will bloom with abundant flowers and rejoice with joyful song..."**

In the Second Reading from St. James, this great saint reminds us how the farmer sees his crop from various perspectives from (implied) a seedling, to the young plant, to the mature fruit. St. James reminds his listeners that a primary spiritual requirement of having a right and righteous perspective, as a person of faith (like the farmer tilling the soil), is that we develop the virtue of patience. The early Church had been anticipating that the second coming of Christ was just around the corner. When the years passed and our Precious Lord did not return, the early Christians were panicking and perhaps even losing their faith. St. James responds to them by saying that the perspective of time in the case of Christ and his final coming was quite different in perspective to the early Christians.

Finally, in today's Gospel from St. Matthew, John the Baptist has been incarcerated. Just last Sunday he was freely speaking about the people's need for repentance. Now, when we return to St. Matthew's gospel, we have moved forward eight chapters and John the Baptist is lying in prison. The followers of John come to Jesus and really ask a question about spiritual perspective. For they ask, **"Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"** In other words, should we see you from the perspective of being a "prophet" or the "person of the Messiah"? The Lord gives His answer from the perspective of his actions and not His words by telling them of all the

(continued on page 7)



Stewardship of Gratitude

Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary

Adult Contributions	\$4,075.00
Plate Collection	\$332.25
Electronic Giving	\$2,427.02
Junior Collection	\$47.66
Immaculate Conception	\$1,428.00
Christmas Flowers	\$960.00
Front Steps	\$1,600.00

Weekly Offering Total	\$10,879.93
<i>Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00</i>	
Bridging the Gap	\$0.00
Additional Weekly Income	\$2,240.00
Grand Total *	\$13,119.93
<i>Total weekly stewardship goal is set at \$13,200.00</i>	

Thanks for your gifts of gratitude to God!!!

Advent Penance Service

On this Third Sunday of Advent, as we *REJOICE* for the coming of Christmas and Christ's coming at the end of time; we also need to *REJOICE* as Roman Catholics that we have a religion where our sins can be taken away sacramentally that no other Christian religion possesses.



As part of our Advent experience of repenting and returning to a deeper relationship with the Savior, you are requested to attend our Advent Penance Service that will be held at 3:00 P.M., this Sunday, December 15th at Holy Rosary Church. (*Confirmation students are required along with the support of their parents and family members as well.)

There will be 5 priests assisting with the individual reception of the sacrament, including with myself as pastor. Please note that I am also scheduling additional private times for the Sacrament of Confession as well, which you are encouraged to attend if you cannot make the main penance service this Sunday. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! Do not delay!



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:
Those serving in the military

Stewardship of Gratitude

Again this week we had a very fine offertory and gifts of stewardship to our Church of Holy Rosary. You have no idea how much simpler life is as pastor when you have the backing of sound stewardship from the pews on the weekend!

As I review various bulletins on-line, it is unsettling to see how many parishes around us are being challenged with making their parish operation budgets. My heart goes out to those parishes and pastors. Stewardship is a never ending struggle and as my Dad always use to say: "Everyone wants money."

Thank you particularly for your generosity for the Holy Day, even though it was not a day of obligation. Thank you too for the great gifts we received this week and last week for our front steps. We also took a big step forward for our Christmas flowers and decorations as well, although we are still slightly behind last year's offerings.

As we approach Christmas and as I prepare to celebrate the 4 Masses of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; I ask for your generous stewardship regardless if you will be "in town" or "out of town". Christmas is the greatest time of receiving stewardship for the entire year so please keep Holy Rosary on your "short" Christmas list. Again, like last year, we will be taking up a second collection at all four of the Christmas Masses for our (nearly) \$180,000.00 stewardship commitment to St. Ignatius of Loyola School. In the past years we have taken in nearly \$2,000.00 for this designated goal. Thank you! REJOICE!



A joyful heart is more easily made perfect than a downcast one.
- Philip Neri

K. of C. Council #5551 News

December 19 - General Meeting



The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 15: 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 7:30 am - Rosary
- 8:00 am - Mass - Juliette Shamp†
- 9:30 am – Rosary
- 10:00 am – Mass - People of Holy Rosary Parish
- 12:45 pm - 1:45 pm Confirmation Class (No lunch)
- 3:00 pm - Communal Penance Service - Church**

Monday, December 16: Advent Weekday

- 8:00 am - Rosary
- 8:30 am - Mass - Gordy Gallert†

Tuesday, December 17: Advent Weekday

No Morning Mass

Wednesday, December 18: Advent Weekday

- 9:15 - Mass at Oak Terrace - Lucille & John Braam†
- 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm – Sewing Group (Lower Level PC)
- 6:00 pm - 7:05 pm - Faith Formation Classes
- 6:00 pm - Adult Choir Practice - Choir Room

Thursday, December 19: Advent Weekday

- 8:05 am - Rosary
- 8:30 am - Mass - Wanzek Family

Friday, December 20: Advent Weekday

- 8:05 am - Rosary
- 8:30 am - Mass - Bonnie Foudray†

Saturday, December 21: [Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church]

- *4:00 pm - 4:45 pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation**
- 4:30 pm – Rosary
- 5:00 pm – Mass - Bonnie Varuska† & Jan Schmidt†

Sunday, December 22: 4th Sunday of Advent

- 7:30 am - Rosary
- 8:00 am - Mass - People of Holy Rosary Parish
- 9:30 am – Rosary
- 10:00 am – Mass - Ricky Gish†
- 1:00 pm - Individual Sacrament of Confession**



Weekend Ministry Schedule December 21st & 22nd

Readers:

- 5:00 pm Brian Eggersdorfer
- 8:00 am Cathy Neve
- 10:00 am Nancy Holden

Eucharistic Ministers:

- 5:00 pm Pat & Wanda Hull, Rick Gruber, Bev Linnes, Karen Winters
- 8:00 am Julie Schoettler, Terri Compton, Michelle Ellingworth, Sharon Lenz, Craig Amundson, Arlyce Anderson
- 10:00 am Brent Friedrichs, Dennis Haga, Mike & Diane O'Dea, Sherry Henrickson, Darlene Schorn

Altar Servers:

- 5:00 pm Brendan Isenberg, James Younge, Claire Neideregger(C/B/B)
- 8:00 am Timothy Cain, Joseph Cullen, Lauren Cahalan
- 10:00 am Braeden Otto, Emma Otto, Addie Howe (C/B/B)

Presentation of Gifts:

- 5:00 pm Pat & Wanda Hull
- 8:00 am Doug Homan Family
- 10:00 am Jim & Darlene Schorn

Ushers:

- 5:00 pm Jacob Voracek, Mark Weingartz, Bob Meyer, Dan Voracek (*Head Usher*)
- 8:00 am Bill Cahalan, Dean Cullen, James Levandowski, Doug Helget (*Head Usher*)
- 10:00 am Teresa Kolstad, Isaac Kolstad, John Jagerson, Blaine Kolstad (*Head Usher*)

Rosary Leaders:

- 5:00 pm Vince Guertin
- 8:00 am Arlyce Anderson
- 10:00 am Ryan Howe

Music Ministry:

- 5:00 pm Cindy Gawrych/Michael Steimel
- 8:00 am Corinne Ort/Michael Steimel
- 10:00 am Julie Gruber/Vicki Galli

Money Handlers:

- 5:00 pm Tom & Mary Clare Wryrowski
- 8:00 am Patti Sjulstad
- 10:00 am Sherry Henrickson

Money Counters - December 2019: Bob Manwarren, Terri Compton, Bob Meyer, John Holden

Bulletin Folders - December 2019: Ruth Fitterer, Rosal Molski, Mary Haley, Ken Thiele, Anne Doyle



Upcoming Parish Events

- **Communal Penance Service** - Sunday, December 15th, 3:00 pm, Church
- **Adult Choir Practice** - Wednesday, December 18th, 6:00 pm, Choir Room
- **Christmas Masses** - Tuesday, December 24th, 4:00 pm & 10:00 pm. Wednesday, December 25th, 8:00 am & 10:00 am.

Parish Advent/Christmas Mailing

Please watch your mail for a letter that is being sent to every registered household in the parish during this season of Advent and is in anticipation for the great feast of Christmas. You are invited to take a few moments to read this letter. If you do not receive the letter by mid December, please call the Parish Office, and we will have one sent to you.

Christmas Wreaths

Calvary Cemetery is now taking orders for Christmas Wreaths to be placed on your loved one's grave. The cost is \$25.00. To order please call Terry Miller at 507-995-1010.





Faith Formation



Confirmation Class - Special Note!

This week we will gather for Confirmation, but in addition to the weekend Mass, we will not be having the noon luncheon after the 10:00 A.M. Mass. **WE WILL BE GATHERING FOR CLASS AT 12:45 p.m. AND CLASS WILL GO TO ABOUT 1:45 – 2:00 p.m.** The students will then have a break. They may return home or they are welcome to work on their assignment in the classroom, or gather in church to spend some time in prayer before the Advent Penance Service that will be held at 3:00 P.M. Parents and the families of our Confirmation students are strongly encouraged to be present for the Penance Service as a sign of spiritual support as well as spiritual renewal for themselves in this Advent season!

Confirmation Class - Penance Service

All Confirmation students are required to attend the Penance Service at 3:00 P.M. Parents and family members are strongly encouraged to attend this Penance Service with their Confirmation student. How does that go: "THE FAMILY THAT FORGIVES TOGETHER IS ABLE TO LIVE TOGETHER."



Congratulations Grades 4 and 7 in Faith Formation

The students in grades 4 and 7 received an "early" Christmas gift this week during class time for being the second and the third class this school year to proportionately fill in their banner with stickers for attending Mass. This program is designed to encourage that the faith that is taught on Wednesday, must be exercised on Sunday through their participation with their parents and family in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist! The greatest lesson we can learn is that the Holy Mass should be central to our lives each weekend! Congratulations grades 4 and 7!!!



All Students Should Come to Communal Penance Service Dec 15th

This Advent, we are asking that the parents, who are the primary educators of the faith to take the time to bring their young people to the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Parish Penance **THIS Sunday, December 15th at 3:00 P.M.** What a powerful witness and teachable moment for a parent to walk into the confessional. That action alone speaks volumes that we are all in need of the mercy and the forgiveness of Almighty God and not just for our young people when they are about to receive a major sacrament like First Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation. There will be 5 priests assisting with individual confessions. "Go in peace, your sins are forgiven!"



Christmas Flower Donations

As I have stated previously at Mass, the cost of the Christmas flowers has again increased this year from previous years. Thank you to those of that have already contributed and also submitted your memorial requests. These will be published in our bulletin at Christmas time. We are still slightly below last year from our Church's offerings for our Christmas flowers. It is not too late to make a contribution to our Christmas Flower Fund and to submit your intentions of your loved ones living and deceased. **We would ask that you would submit your stewardship and also your intentions by no later than 12:00 P.M. Friday, December 20th.** Let us REJOICE that the great feast of Christmas is almost upon us!!!

Please Return Adopt a Family Gifts This Week!

Thank you to those who have taken cards from the Adopt a Family tree. Please remember to **return the wrapped gift with the card attached to the gift** and place it under the tree. The gifts need to be returned by December 17 in order to be delivered to the family by Christmas. Thanks again!





Lord, Hear Our Prayers

Prayers and support for all of our sick and injured of Holy Rosary Parish

Our prayers go out to all of the sick and injured in our parish who are at home, in the hospital, nursing homes or assisted-living residences. May God bless them and keep them under His guidance and protection!

For Those Who Are Ill & Special Needs

Ruth Baker, Laurice Telshaw, Arnie & Eileen Wadkamper, Mary Kelly, Molly Viehweg, Mary McVicker, Steve Drummer, Ruth Fitterer, Steve Fitterer, Brandon Winters, Nancy Eilbert, Dan Telshaw, Charles Wesely, Craig Van Loy, Delores Haubrich, Orval Marquardt, Amy Cain, Gerard Lorentz, Dave Neubert, Michael Steimel

Home Visitation: If you wish to have yourself or a loved one receive the sacraments, Holy Communion or a personal pastoral visit, please call our coordinator, Lorraine Klaseus at 507-388-4932

For Our Families

Monday	Larry & Christine Sieberg
Tuesday	Doug & Rachel Helgut
Wednesday	Marilyn Rieff
Thursday	Steve & Nicole Slechta
Friday	Curt & Donna Stanke
Saturday	Steve & Mary Jo Kaiser
Sunday	Charles Shamp



For Those in the Military

Nick Blace	Matt McGraw	William Backes
Jared Hiniker	Christopher Schmidt	Ben Barsness
Dana Schiller	Anna Drummer	Timothy Eick
Mark Hansen		

Prayer Chain



If you have a short term prayer request or prayer of thanksgiving for our prayer chain to pray for, please call Teresa Kolstad at 327-9810.

This Week's Readings

Mon:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27 (187)
Tues:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17 (193)
Weds:	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25 (194)
Thurs:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25 (195)
Fri:	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38 (196)
Sat:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45 (197)
Sun:	Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24 (10) Pss 17

Enrollment is always open at Loyola. Contact acasteel@loyolacatholicsschool.org or 507.388.0615 for more information. 103 new students this year PS-12 grade.

Loyola will soon be offering bus service to some of our students outside of the District 77 bus routes. We are seeking a shuttle driver for the morning route, with the potential of adding shifts. For more information, please contact Trudi Clements, 507-388-0606.

All are welcome to Loyola's Christmas concerts and programs. All events are held at Loyola Catholic School, 145 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato:

- 12/18: 1pm Christmas Basket Mass
- 12/19: 9am Preschool/PreK Program
- 10:30am Grades 4-6 Program
- 1pm Grades K-3 Program

Your parish support makes all we do, learn, and celebrate at Loyola possible.

Leading through Faith, Academic Excellence, and Service.



Diocesan Ministries Appeal

Thank you to all who have given to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal. If you have not had the opportunity to make your pledge or gift yet, envelopes are available by the church entrances. You may return your pledge in the collection basket or simply drop it in the mail. You may also make your pledge or gift online at <https://www.dnu.org/dma/>. Either way, your gift will be counted toward our parish goal. Be assured that your gift will only be used to support those ministries designated in the DMA brochure - ministries that are vital to our diocesan church and local parishes.



NYPD Officer Gives Homeless Man a Pair of Boots

“the Quill and the Cloth” continued...

miracles that are taking place and ultimately saying that He is the Messiah.

Then the Lord concludes by addressing the people and asking what prompted them to come to the desert to see John the Baptist? St. Matthew writes, “What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed in the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.” In short, Jesus is asking the people about their prayerful perspective when they came out to see this person named John the Baptist. Did the people come to see some weak person living in nature? Did they come to see human-nature in wealth and power? Did they come to see a prophet and super-nature or the super-natural?

May our “spiritual perspective” not only be Gaudete, “Rejoicing,” on this Third Sunday of Advent but throughout our earthly existence; so that when we face death, we will not see it from the perspective of a “dark ending of life”, but rather a, “joyful beginning into everlasting life.” Happy Gaudete Sunday!



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

Welcome to Holy Rosary!

Are you new to the area and would like to join our growing Holy Rosary parish family? Are you new to the area or would like to join Holy Rosary parish? Just go to holyroarynorthmankato.com/membership-registration and download the registration forms to fill out. You can also simply send us your contact information via an easy-to-use form and we will mail you a hard copy of those forms. Come join our growing Holy Rosary parish family!

**K.C. Christmas Tree Lot Is Open!**

The North Mankato Knights of Columbus #5551 Christmas tree lot, located next to Blue Skye Mercantile, 237 Belgrade Ave., in North Mankato will be open: Weekdays from 4:00 - 8:00 P.M. and weekends 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

**Stepping Up in Faith**

Collected this week:	\$1,600.00
Received to date:	\$86,292.22
Goal:	\$175,000.00

In the past couple of weeks we have received a sizable amount of stewardship for our project of our front entrance. Last week, if you recall, we received \$400.00. This week we took in an additional \$2,600.00 for our front entrance. Of this amount, \$1,540.00 was given, by the Rykhust family, in loving memory of Tom Rykhust, whose Memorial Mass was recently celebrated.

The additional monies is coming at a very good time as this week we paid out the first installment of the front entrance in the amount of \$68,000.00. We had temporarily placed the money in an investment account that was gaining additional interest/dividends.

Last week I spoke with one of the workmen who stated that they would be winding down with work on the project as it was getting to cold to do the mortar work on the front entrance. However, this week our parish administrator Jim spoke with the project manager from WEB, who informed him that the project would continue and that the project would be “tented,” with the hope of having the front doors open again for the Christmas Masses, if not before. Even though not everything will be completed until spring, the majority of the work will have been completed. Right now things look very derelict, but renovation and renewal can sometimes be a messy affair. When it is complete, it will be a great addition to our worship for many years to come. Thank you as you continue to generously give to the stewardship of this basic and practical project! Happy Advent! Rejoice!

TO THE WORLD YOU MAY BE ONE
PERSON; BUT TO ONE PERSON
YOU MAY BE THE WORLD.

DR. SEUSS

Stewardship Corner

Diocesan United Fund (D.U.F.), Diocesan Priest Pension Fund/ Medical, Care Comp Ins, Priest Care Fund, & Audit:

Pd. to Date: \$17,335.14

Due: \$80,442.69

Annual Diocesan Ministries Appeal (D.M.A.):

Rec'd. to Date: \$6,190.00

Due: \$33,183.26

Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

Pd. to Date: \$149,571.97

Due: \$179,571.97

Total Paid to Date 2019-2020: \$172,849.97

Apostolate Stewardship 2019-2020: \$293,197.92

There has not been a lot of activity the past few weeks on our stewardship corner due to the absence of our administrator who was on vacation and also as we were trying to build up the reserves of our checking account. That being said, this week we took a couple more steps forward in the name of stewardship for our commitments beyond the parish boundaries.

This week we contributed another \$6,000.00 to our St. Ignatius of Loyola commitment, bringing us down from \$36,000.00 down to just \$30,000.00. One of the pastoral wishes that I want for Christmas is that I will have our Catholic School commitment completed this year by December 31st, 2019. In order to do that we need your continued support that you have been so good in sharing with Holy Rosary. It would be wonderful if we could get this goal accomplished.

We also accomplished to contribute to the Diocese of New Ulm an additional \$1,802.00 to reduce our commitment to them as well. The Diocese is in earnest for their stewardship and I sent an e-mail this week as pastor, assuring them that with the completion of our Catholic School commitment, we would focus exclusively on their stewardship requests following the New Year of 2020. My stewardship hope is to have the Diocesan commitment completed on or before April of this year. It will all depend on your continued generosity. Then the remainder of the parish monies that come in from April through June will be for the exclusive use of our parish needs. There are plans to continue to work on improvements and repairs on the interior of the church. With the completion of the front entrance, we will have completed virtually all of the exterior work on our 1950 church structure. It is because of you and your generosity that we have accomplished so much over these past five-and-a-half years. Thank you so much! Happy Advent! Rejoice!!!



YOUNG ADULTS ages 18-40

are invited for one night of our nine-day annual candlelight chanted Christmas novena followed by food and fellowship.

**Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel
170 Good Counsel Dr., Mankato, MN**

Overnight hospitality/retreat day and carpooling from the Twin Cities are also available.

Please register by December 17, 2019

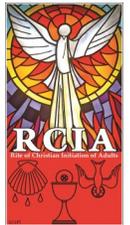
Contact Sr. Stephanie Spandl at sspandl@ssnd.org or 651-278-4498



School Sisters of Notre Dame
ssnd.org

R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



If you know of someone who is thinking about becoming Roman Catholic or perhaps someone who is short a sacrament to be an adult member of the Catholic faith, we strongly encourage you to have them call the parish office. May we hold up those who are considering full-communication in the Church in our daily prayers. Thank you!

Baptism!

Our prayers and best wishes go out to Brian and Bethany Gangelhoff on the occasion of the Baptism of their son, Brooks Raymond Gangelhoff.



May the Baptism of this child in the waters of new birth, be the beginning of a life-time relationship with Jesus Christ. Blessings to you today and always!



Accompanist Needed!

Do you play piano, or know someone who does? Holy Rosary is in need of another person (or two) to play piano for our song leaders during Mass. It would be a few times per month. **This is a PAID position!** We can train someone on when to play the Mass parts, etc. Please call the parish office at 387-6501 for more information.



Year-End Giving

The end of the year is not far away, and it is time to start thinking of strategies to maximize the tax benefits of year-end giving. Federal tax laws and many state laws make it possible to reduce or eliminate taxes on gifts to charities like your parish, diocese, schools and other ministries. Remember that only gifts made by December 31st can help reduce the amount of taxes you owe next April. Please consult **your professional tax advisor for tax strategies for your personal situation.**

Gifts of Cash: The most popular way to give to charity is still by cash or check. Gifts completed by December 31st will qualify for tax deductibility for the current tax year. Gifts of cash qualify for up to one-half of your adjusted gross income (AGI). You must receive an acknowledgement for gifts of \$250 or more.

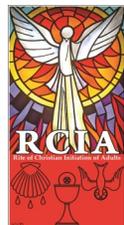
Gifts from Retirement Plans: Retirement plan assets can be a practical source from which to make charitable gifts to your parish. If you are over 70 1/2 and are required to take withdrawals from a Traditional IRA, you may want to consider making a charitable gift using all or a portion of your mandatory withdrawal amount. This way of giving may result in little or no tax impact when you report the amount withdrawn along with an offsetting charitable deduction.

Securities & Appreciated Assets: Gifts of stock, bonds, mutual funds, and certain other property that have increased in value can result in even greater tax savings than gifts of cash. If you have owned such investments for longer than one year you can generally donate them to your parish and deduct their full current value, even if it far exceeds your original cost.

Congress has provided that in addition to regular tax savings, you also do not have to pay capital gains tax when these assets are given to a qualifying charity. This "extra" tax savings is another reason why some choose to make their gifts this way.

R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



If you know of someone who is about becoming Roman Catholic or perhaps someone who is short a sacrament to be an adult member of the Catholic faith, we strongly encourage you to have them call the parish office. May we hold up those who are considering full-communion in the Church in our daily prayers. Thank you!



Echo Food Shelf Collection

Between our students from our Faith Formation program as well as the donations from the faithful who attend our weekly Masses, we collected 103 pounds. We had additional food that was at our entrances that was brought to the ECHO food shelf this week totaling another 115 pounds. So, all together, we collected in these past weeks 218 pounds for those that are in need of food. Thank you for your generosity for this charitable work. Thank you for your gifts!

Christmas Masses

The Masses for Christmas will be the same time as in past years. Four Masses will be offered for Christmas with two Masses being celebrated on Christmas Eve at **4:00 P.M.** and again at **10:00 P.M.** There will also be the two morning Masses on Christmas day that will be the same as our normal Sunday schedule at **8:00 A.M.** and **10:00 A.M.** Carols will also be sung prior to the start of each of the Masses, so plan to come early.



Connect with TEC!

Connect with Jesus at Riverbend TEC 273 – January 18-20, 2020, 9:30 am Saturday – 4:30 pm Monday at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, 605 N State St, New Ulm, MN 56073. Riverbend TEC (Together Encountering Christ) is a three-day Catholic retreat experience focused on the Paschal Mystery: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Young people (16+ years old) as well as adults are invited to encounter and integrate the life of Jesus into their daily lives on this retreat weekend. The team leading the weekend includes a priest, teenagers, and adults who have participated on previous TEC weekends. The format of the weekend includes time for getting to know other people, music, learning more about Jesus, socializing and recreation, prayer experiences, and Mass.

Retreatants' applications are due 2-3 weeks before the weekend. Applications and promotional video can be found at <https://www.riverbendtec.org>. You may also contact Dave Grams, Holy Rosary, North Mankato, 507-995-3375 (voice or text), or email, dave.mary.grams@gmail.com for more information.

2019 ECHO FOOD SHELF COLLECTION

- Total Amount Collected: **\$18,091.17**
- *This collection started in March 2017

