



Holy Rosary Catholic Church

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

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Emergency Number

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Accounting Office

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Holy Rosary Parish Staff

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Bulletin Article Deadline:

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm Noon

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



HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

“And it happened that, while He was with them at table, He took bread, said the blessing, broke it and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized Him, but He vanished from their sight.”

-St. Luke



Some people call it an “Ah Ha” moment. There are others who call it a “Moment of Enlightenment.” Still others might call it an “Epiphany”! But whatever we might call it, it is a wonderful feeling when **“WE GET IT!”**

Two assignments ago, when a couple from one of my former parishes gave me a starter guitar at Christmas; truthfully, it was really the last thing I wanted, or even asked for at that time. Yes, I had always wanted to play guitar and must have told this couple that fact, unconsciously, at some point. My oldest brother Adrian had gotten a plastic guitar one Christmas as a kid from my parents. He eventually grew tired of being unable to play it, and it landed in the former summer kitchen shed, next to the house, where all sorts of things were stored. It was a typical shed, where my Dad took off his boots and had a cigarette when the weather was less than favorable.

I suppose I was ten years old when I picked up that plastic piece of “J%#K” (never speak ill of a guitar), and started to try and play it for the fun of it. It was missing a string or two, but I managed to scrape out on my own various tunes. But chores, studies, and life in general just got in the way. I am certain my Mother made sure that guitar eventually found its way to the burn pile, as clutter for this Dutch woman was a grievous, mortal sin.

Although I was always envious of guitarists, I was not even 30 by the time I was a pastor of multiple parishes and a Catholic school; and the idea of ever playing guitar was, at best, a pipe dream. I was now past my fourth decade of life, multiple parishes, a million dollar restoration project was underway; the last thing on my bucket list was to learn to play the guitar. But that Christmas, I received the guitar and, while it looked nice, it sat upstairs in my bedroom against the wall for a half of a year. The guitar came with a certificate for four free lessons, and so one summer day in shorts and a tee shirt, I set out to the neighboring town to see about these lessons. I went largely since the family who had given the guitar kept

hounding me if I had started on the instrument.

When I met the instructor, he was my exact opposite. He was positively a hippie with a pony tail, and a Vietnam Vet. He later told me that I was the opposite of what he expected. He said he was expecting a middle-aged clergyman, dressed in black and overweight. He said, “I saw what looked like a kid casually dressed in dress shorts and a sport shirt.” I like everything John Denver. My instructor pretty much dislikes everything Denver! That moment in the Whitney Music Store was an awakening for both of us. For one thing, at that moment, what we both held in common was we both judged books (or in this case people) by their covers which is never a sound practice.

The guitar itself is a microcosm of life and also how I tend to sometimes view life. To this day, when Wendell (my instructor), offers a new lick or a new technique; my immediate reaction is “I can’t do that!” He will patiently break it down. I record it on my phone, and I often go home frustrated. But there, late in the evening, as I am sewing his instructions together piece by piece in the kitchen, and working on the dexterity; all of a sudden I have this moment that THRILLS me. I did it! It is not perfect, but I did it! Bit by bit, it falls into place and it becomes part of my regular musical repertoire.

From musical life, let’s go to the spiritual life and the scriptures. Today’s Gospel from St. Luke is a classic case of an “Ah Ha” moment. For these two disciples on the road to Emmaus are basically saying to themselves regarding Jesus: “IT IS OVER! IT CANNOT BE DONE. IT WILL NEVER WORK AGAIN.” Then, they meet this stranger. They don’t think much of him initially either for when this stranger asks, “What are you discussing as you walk along?” Well, they think this guy is not DIVINE but very DENSE. For it would be similar today, running into two people who are intensely talking with masks on. For as big as the pandemic is for us right now as a point of conversation in 2020, so too, was the Passion of Christ was a big topic of conversation 2,000 years ago.

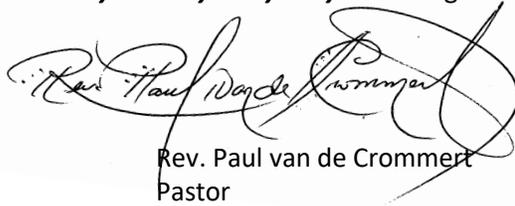
Just as I have taken instruction in music and song, so too, the Messiah gives those two men on the road to Emmaus instruction in the spiritual life and the scriptures. However, like me and my music lessons, these disciples still have not caught on that the soul that is walking with them is the Savior Himself. So, in innocence they say, “Stay for supper.” ***And so the Savior does stay for supper. And just like in the study of the guitar, when the slightest move of the hand and fingers can get the guitar to do what you want it to do; Jesus, with the slight of His hands and His holy fingers, breaks the bread, those two men have their “Ah Ha” moment, their “Moment of Enlightenment,” their***

(continued on next page)

“The Quill and the Cloth” continued...

“Epiphany.” St. Luke is so clear when he writes those Good News words: *“With that their eyes were opened and they recognized Him, but He vanished from their sight.”* The lesson was over! **They got that “lick” of the Lord down.**

I believe that these “Ah Ha” moments in life, if they occur in song or the spiritual life are great moments of grace. Even in the midst of this pandemic and sickness, may we stay watchful for these special and sacred moments when Christ reveals Himself to us in a very real way. **Stay at Home! Stay Healthy! Stay Holy!** Have a good week!



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



“For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land; the fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape gives a good smell.

-The Song of Solomon 2:11-13



Stewardship of Gratitude

Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary

Adult Contributions	\$5,504.00
Electronic Giving	\$3,880.04
Easter Collection	\$1,970.00
Fuel Income	\$100.00
Easter Flowers	\$20.00
Christmas Collection/Flowers	\$45.00
Nov Fest/Prize Money	\$100.00
.....	
Weekly Offering Total	\$11,619.04
<i>Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00</i>	
Bridging the Gap	\$0.00
Additional Weekly Income	\$128.00
Grand Total	\$11,747.04
<i>Total weekly stewardship goal is set at \$13,200.00</i>	

Thanks for your gifts of gratitude to God!!!

Stewardship of Gratitude



If there is an important lesson to learn about true *spiritual stewardship*, it is that giving to our local faith community or to a Church is very different than giving out in the commercial world or in the world of retail. For when we purchase something, there is this natural exchange or trading of material items. For example, I purchase a couch as a consumer, the company that sells the product gets cash in exchange. We all know this reality of commercial exchange all too well.

There are many Christians and Catholics who view stewardship like secular commerce. I will support a fundraiser, because I am getting a meal or maybe a chance to win something, but I will not give money at Mass. Their reasoning is this: **“I don’t get anything for my money when I go to Mass.”** (What about the Holy Eucharist and the proclamation of the Good News?!?) The Good News is that there are more deeply spiritual folks who will say, **“If the delivery of the sermon is good, I will give a few dollars and cents.”** Again, this secular stewardship, even in the spiritual world is not true stewardship. Stewardship is far less about the act of *getting*, and far more about the act of *giving*. For the true spiritual steward will give with the words in their heart, **“I am giving to God simply because of all of the graces and goods He has already given to me.”**

If there is anything that this pandemic is proving to numerous pastors, it is that we have a good number of parishioners out there who are **perfect** when it comes to practicing sound, spiritual stewardship. For even though we are not getting to go to Mass, or are able to receive the Lord in Holy Communion, but can only watch Mass as a member of the congregation in some computerized form; many of you continue to give. How does that line that is attributed to St. Francis go? **“For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.”** As always, thank you for your gifts! Stay Well!

The Week Ahead

Monday, April 27 Easter Weekday

Private Mass - Lucille Klebelt

Tuesday, April 28 [Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr;

Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest]

Private Mass - Mary K. McGraw†

Wednesday, April 29 Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Private Mass - Evelyn Anderson†

Thursday, April 30 [Saint Pius V, Pope]

Private Mass - Joe & Honor Twomey

Friday, May 1 [Saint Joseph the Worker]

Private Mass - Michael Zenk

Saturday, May 2 Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Private Mass - Peter & Jelaine Schreiner Family

Sunday, May 3: 4th Sunday of Easter

Private Mass - The People of Holy Rosary Parish



If You Would Like a Parish Bulletin Mailed to You - Please Let Us Know!

Thank you to everyone who let us know that they would like a bulletin mailed to them or they would access it online. **It is not too late to return the postcard if you wish to receive a hard copy of the bulletin.** If you have misplaced your postcard, you are welcome to call the parish office and let us know you'd like a bulletin sent to you.



A Prayer for a Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, come into my heart right now. I believe that You are present in the most Holy Sacrament at the altar. I love You above everything on this earth; even more than myself. I desire in my heart to receive You right now into my soul. Even though I cannot receive You sacramentally at this time, I ask of You in prayer to come spiritually now into my heart. Lord, You know that I love You as if You were here with me and I join my heart to Yours. Even though we are separated through Your divine body, and my human body, may I never be separated from You within my soul. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Spiritual Recipe Card for a Pandemic

“Do not try to **SURVIVE** physically, this present pandemic. Rather, may you spiritually and theologically **THRIVE**, during this pandemic. Perhaps the greatest fear during this time of pandemic should not be about physical health and much more about spiritual health. We as Americans are addicted to so many activities, entertainment, sports and being on the go! Perhaps some **SOLITUDE** and **SILENCE** is so very good for our **SOULS** and our **SPIRITUAL LIFE**. Don't worry about the **ECONOMY** as much as we should worry about **ETERNITY**. **FOR GOD CANNOT SPEAK TO OUR SOULS BY SHOUTING AT US, BUT RATHER HE SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE SILENCE.** Don't **EXCUSE** yourself from this brief **EXIT** of life, rather **EMBRACE** it. The pandemic will be part of our personal history sooner than we know, and so with it, this time of **SOLITUDE**.”



-Rev. Paul van de Crommert - April 19, 2020

Parish Office Hours Reduced



We are reducing the parish office hours at Holy Rosary to just 4 days a week. So, the office will be closed throughout the weekend and including Monday, giving our staff a three-day-weekend and keeping the building vacant. You are welcome to leave a message on our voicemail throughout the weekend and including Mondays until further notice.

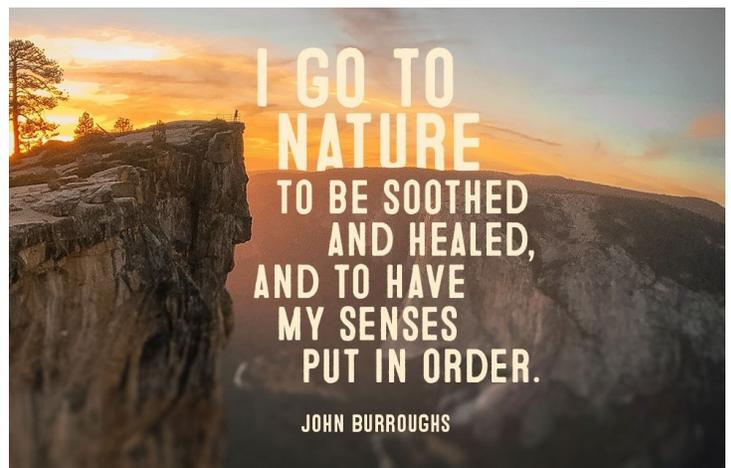
Council of Catholic Women News



The C.C.W. Province Conference, scheduled for June 19th-20th, 2020, has been cancelled.



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:
Father Paul van de Crommert





Faith Formation

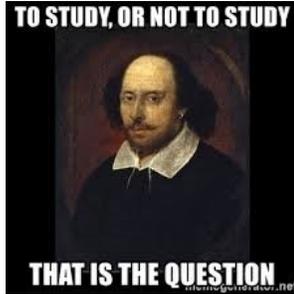
To Study or Not to Study, That Is the Question!?

In speaking with some students, many are struggling with their academic studies. It is not so much the difficulty of the work, but more to do with motivation. A great lesson to learn early in life is to be a self-starter. It is very much the heart and soul of faith and financial success. Please do not be part of the 40% of students who have presently been surveyed that are not applying themselves to their academics.

Various news reports are informing us that school districts are beginning discussions on how best to approach the pandemic problem which is far more complex than any math problem. Some of the possible theories to resolve this academic shortfall in the classroom that are being discussed by school districts across the 50 states include: *(Are you ready for this, for those of you who are not readers of the church bulletin)* 1.) Making summer school mandatory for all students. 2.) Shortening the traditional three-month summer schedule to as little as three weeks. 3.) Lengthening the school day to end perhaps at 4:00 or 5:00 P.M. daily 4.) For students who have not mastered their subjects to repeat the grade they are presently in at this time.

It has already been reported that certain colleges are not planning to hold classes for the fall semester on their campuses, but instead learning will be on-line. Some scholars of education are wondering that if students become more acclimated to on-line learning, that the traditional four-year college student on campus might be disappearing in the future.

What is the academic answer to all of this uncertainty? No one knows for sure. **However, what is certain is that your studies are vitally important.** Spend time in study each day. Knowledge is not absorbed through an all-night cramming session before returning to school. Stay SAFE! Stay HOME! Stay HOLY! Oh yea... keep praying too!



Final Fundraiser – CANCELLED

The month of May does not only bring May flowers but also the final fundraiser of the parish fiscal year, our Annual Vacation Raffle. It was usually at around this time that we were organizing the event and selling tickets. Governor Walz has indicated that May 4th might be the beginning of the lessening of the restrictions of the “stay-at-home” order. *(*That does not mean that everything will go back to normal overnight.)** Many of the people who attend this event are our older parishioners, who may have to avoid crowds even after the stay-at-home orders are past. Therefore, I have had to make yet another sad cancellation. And so, the Annual Vacation Raffle has been cancelled. I know everyone who attends, including myself, is disappointed, as this event is always a lot of fun.

However, that being said, if “normalcy” returns in the next weeks or months, we might consider having the event later this summer or early this fall. It is too premature to say at this particular time. Thanks for understanding. Continue to pray to the God of Divine Mercy that we might get back to normal in the weeks ahead and that the pandemic will have passed. In the meantime, stay well!!!

High School Graduates and Parents



Did you know that 80% of students stop practicing their faith at some point during college (from a recent NEWMAN CONNECTION internal study)? But together we can change this!

NEWMAN CONNECTION'S High School outreach program helps keep college students practicing their faith by connecting them to their local Catholic Campus Ministry at the college/University or Trade School that they are attending.

When students sign up with NEWMAN CONNECTION, their information will automatically be sent to the Catholic Campus Ministry at the school of their choice. The Campus Ministry can then reach out to the students upon their arrival on Campus. This has shown great success in recent previous years. Contact Dolores Portz at dolpor@hotmail.com or go to newmanconnection.org for more information. The Newman Connection is a service of the local Mankato Serra Club.





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

Arnie & Eileen Wadekamper, Mary Kelly, Molly Viehweg, Mary McVicker, Steve Drummer, Ruth Fitterer, Steve Fitterer, Dan Telshaw, Charles Wesely, Craig Van Loy, Delores Haubrich, Dave Neubert, Joe Galli, Betty Goettlicher, Agnes Morgan, Tim Brown, Anne Doyle, Mary Coleman, Taylor Grill, Mary Forsyth, Dave Grams, Kathy Fredrickson

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	Lindsay & Jodi Kohrs
Tuesday	Roxanne Larsen
Wednesday	Camilla Maes
Thursday	Dale Nickel
Friday	Marion Giefer
Saturday	Patricia Lietha
Sunday	William & Nancy Mattes



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: Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29 (273)
 Tues: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Jn 6:30-35 (274)
 Weds: Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40 (275)
 Thurs: Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51 (276)
 Fri: Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59 (277) or, for the Memorial, Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Mt 13:54-58 (559)
 Sat: Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69 (278)
 Sun: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10 (49) Pss IV

Loyola Catholic School is closed amid the COVID-19 concern until further notice. Throughout the coming weeks, Loyola Theology teacher Alex Nuy will be continuing his Friday prayer service online. You can find it on Fridays on Loyola's Facebook page, or on Alex's YouTube channel. We welcome you to join us!

LUCKY 20 RAFFLE - UPDATE

New drawing date: June 30, 2020. As we continue to navigate these uncertain times, please consider asking those you are connecting with to support Loyola. Loyola depends on the income from this fundraiser, more now than ever. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold. Need not be present to win. Tickets \$100 each, can be purchased by asking your favorite Loyola student or by calling 507-382-8089. You may mail your stubs/checks to: Loyola Catholic School 145 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato, MN 56001

YOUR PARISH SUPPORT MAKES ALL WE DO, LEARN, AND CELEBRATE AT LOYOLA POSSIBLE.

Leading through Faith, Academic Excellence, and Service.

Be An Evangelizer!

Consider calling at least one person who would appreciate hearing your voice during these times of quarantine. Tell these people that you will pray for them. Write a letter of encouragement or to compliment someone on something that they have done for you. Write a thank you letter for something you have received in the past. There is no expiration date on saying thank you or expressing gratitude! These are things we can do from home that lifts people's hearts. Encourage people to view the Masses that are available on-line as well as our Masses of Holy Rosary. Even a pandemic cannot stop us from being proclaimers of the Good News of Christ's death and resurrection!



In Remembrance



An Easter Flower memorial was given in remembrance of Dorothy & Joseph Mattes, Bill Wandersee, Jacob Wass, and Bill & Muriel Stoffregen by Gerald & Sharon Stoffregen.



Stepping Up in Faith

Collected this week:	\$150.00
Received to date:	\$109,442.22
Goal:	\$175,000.00

As the thermometer climbs, so too, the steps are climbing up to the front entrance. In the last days of last week, a good deal of concrete was poured. Specifically, we have seen the front steps finally poured as well as a portion of the sidewalks as well. I had requested that part of the curb be removed on the south side of the building where our older parishioners enter through the elevator doors. Part of the curb has now been removed and there is a beautiful gradation for independent movement of a walker or wheelchair with a smooth transition from the street to the sidewalk, and to the elevator and handicapped entrance. We also now have beautiful handicapped entrances (and no curb) on the corner of Sherman and Grant.

There is still a good deal of concrete to pour. As I recently wrote in the bulletin, I have made the pastoral decision to postpone the work in the nave of the church of renewing the floor under the pews from 1950, as well as touching up the present pews. I will be sticking with that answer, as a year more or less, will not make that much difference. Secondly, by taking on this project now, we would have to take parish monies out of reserve, and with markets falling, in some respects we would be really giving twice and double, particularly selling off investments at a low point, which is *never* a good idea.

However, we have a good deal of sidewalks on the north side of the church have been damaged over the years, and in some areas have become a tripping hazard. I made the decision last week, at the recommendation of the project manager, to proceed with laying new sidewalks largely on the north side of the church as well as in the front of the rectory. This will be at an additional cost of some \$30,000.00. I DO NOT want a new driveway or a new sidewalk leading up to the rectory front door, as it has been my experience that when those sidewalks

“Stepping Up in Faith” continued...

were laid back in the 1950’s, they really seemed to know what they were doing when they poured that concrete. There is virtually no marks or cracks in them and I want them to stay. (**Also, I think on an older home, it looks better esthetically to have older sidewalks, as well.*) However, the driveway entrance, along the curb for a few feet is most likely pre-1950. It is actually not the full width of the driveway and may have been the original driveway from the 1920-1940’s. Many times I have had a very difficult time backing up onto the street when there are cars parked on both sides of our narrow Grant Street and my narrow driveway entrance. The driveway entrance is not a lot of cement, but a most practical project to address at this time, since we are laying all of this other cement.

We are now in discussion of upgrading the lighting system in and around the church and rectory, as I mentioned in a previous bulletin. At this point, we know that the additional and improved lighting system will add another additional cost of approximately \$15,000.00 to the project. We also are investigating, at the same time, about putting cameras in and around the church and rectory buildings. We are still waiting for a bid on this project. With each passing year, I am becoming more and more concerned about security and vandalism, as many other churches are as well. When we know the cost of that project, we will let you know. Most likely, we might have to take out some money from reserve to cover these remaining expenses. I had been hoping to tuck-point the north wall of the 1925 school section this summer, but that too, might be put on hold for a while. Depending on how the markets and stewardship fare, it might be a fall project in 2020. Time will tell.

In spite of the pandemic we are still making a great deal of progress on our parish plant, thanks to you and your generosity. Thank you for your gifts!



Easter Thankfulness

Thank you to all of you who have sent me personal mail, called, and extended to me, through your generous stewardship, a very Happy Easter. I know that a number of you have expressed concern and are wondering if I am “okay?” I am just fine! I appreciate the downtime I am having, but I welcome your prayers, concern, and care in this time of crisis. I am keeping busy and it is nice to have blocks of time to get some physical things done around the parish. Thank you again, and Happy Easter!

- Father