



Holy Rosary Catholic Church

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

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Bulletin Article Deadline:

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm Noon

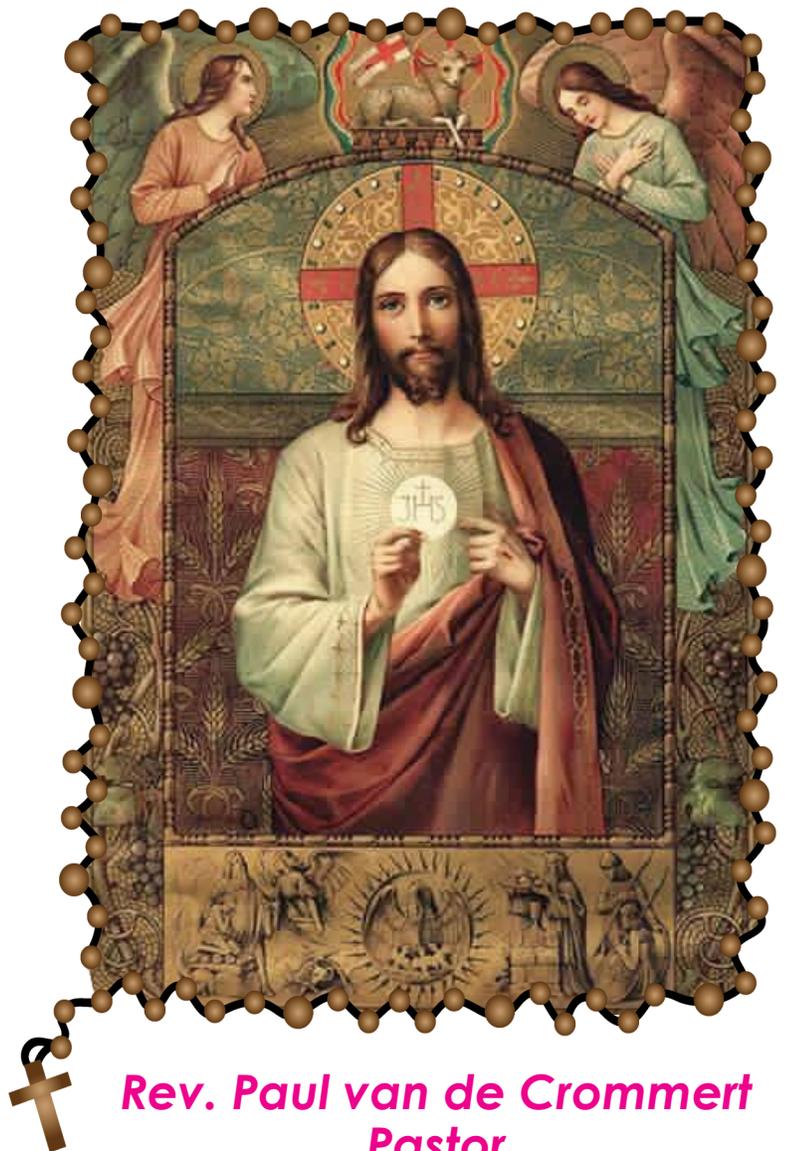
FOR SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION,
PLEASE VISIT:
[HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO.COM/
WORSHIP-SACRAMENTS](http://HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO.COM/WORSHIP-SACRAMENTS)



HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO

June 14, 2020

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

“The Jews quarreled among themselves saying, “How can this man give us His flesh to eat?” Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you.”

- St. John



The ancient Jews quarreled among themselves over religion involving this Jesus from Nazareth and Eucharistic theology. We, too, are presently witnessing a nation and a world that is quarreling in this time of supposed quarantine, with protests and rioting over racial inequality. I remember a joke in the seminary that went something like this: *The Lord reminds us in faith that wherever two or three are gathered together in His name that He is in the midst of them. But good Lord, the fact is whenever two or three people gather together in a church or council meeting these days, there always seems to be a good fight.*

As many people have left their homes and the healthy idea of social distancing for the sake of protesting racial inequality, many have also left their houses of worship in the name of health with the idea that social distancing from the spiritual life will protect them and that they will still see eternity. Without over-simplifying this national problem, I would argue that the issue with race relations, going back to the very beginnings of this nation, is rooted in the fact that we are NOT GRATEFUL to the black community for the many talents and gifts that they bring to the table of humanity.

If you study American history, particularly the time of the American Revolution and all the way to the time of the Civil War, there was a great debate over the mental, emotional, and spiritual qualities of a black person. It was a belief held by many “Christians” in early American history that blacks (and Native Americans, for that matter) had a soul that was comparable to other animals, as they were alive but not a soul that was immortal like the white races. Since blacks and other non-whites were not seen as fully

human, many whites felt that they could suppress those other races through slavery and other means of oppression without offending God. Many believed that slave ownership was a spiritually moral thing to do because there was strong evidence of slavery throughout the Old and the New Testaments. So, my point is that we have had a much longer period of American history where we have NOT APPRECIATED OR BEEN GRATEFUL for the diversity among the Children of God, leading us to the circumstances that we are finding ourselves in at this time. The death of George Floyd at the hands of a police officer, an individual who swore an oath to both “protect” and to “serve” the people, is a strong symbolic reminder to the black community of the gross societal ingratitude that still exists in the year 2020. I liked what one black person said in words similar to these: *...One might think we are “overreacting” to the death of one black man. We are not “overreacting” to the death of one black man in Minneapolis. We are reacting to another black man who has died needlessly and reacting for all of the black people that have died on American soil, and that racial inequality has not ended. George Floyd was the straw that broke the camel’s back of the black people once again.*

As it is with the problem of race, the problem lies also in the realm of religion. I have had several people ask me these last days, “How many people were at Mass last weekend?” The people who are asking are, of course, the people who were not in attendance. To answer the question, between the recorded Mass on Saturday and the 10:00 A.M. Mass on Sunday, we were well under a combined total of 100 souls. This evening, I had the first daily Mass with about a dozen souls in attendance. As I said to one of my seminary classmates, “It is a good start.” I am intrigued that we have folks who are in their 80’s and 90’s and are vulnerable to the virus in attendance last weekend, and even a child that was only months old, all of which have lower immune systems. Meanwhile, those people with good immune systems in their 20’s through their 50’s, who have no underlying health issues, are staying far away from the house of God in the name of good health. *(*I know, you are not under obligation to attend Mass, but not being obligated does not mean you should avoid the church and the sacraments indefinitely.)*

A report that came out just a month ago on Covid-19 (and there are many other reports telling similar statistics) had this to say : **“...In the new analysis, the death rate in confirmed COVID-19 cases is estimated to be 1.38%, while**

(continued on page 4)



Stewardship of Gratitude

We are beginning to wrap up the Fiscal Year of 2019-2020. As I mentioned in a parish bulletin a few weeks back, I have held off on reporting “Bridging the Gap” until now because I was not quite certain how the government subsidy would play out. We have properly used those monies to pay the staff salaries, as well as for utilities, so they are making a big stewardship difference. At this point, we would have most likely been very near to dipping into our savings to cover our expenses, as we had no public Masses for 12 weeks. Even though we all tend to be critical of our politicians, I am most grateful for this government money that was given to small businesses that needed it, including churches. I am also grateful to our administrator, Jim, who had to do a lot of paperwork to make this money from Uncle Sam a reality. I understand that some churches were too late in submitting their paperwork, and the money ran out.

A short time ago, the parish paid another installment on the exterior work of the church in the amount of \$75,000.00. It is estimated that we will have at least one more payment that will come due in the coming weeks that will be about the same amount as the previous payment. I know that I have had several households tell me that I should contact them if I came to the end of the Fiscal Year and needed some financial help. Well, consider this the moment of contact. Our expenses in some areas are dramatically down, but our income from the Sunday offering (understandably so) is also down. For when you compare the second quarter of the present fiscal year to the third quarter, there is a difference (through a decline) of more than \$20,000.00.

To make things even more interesting, we received word from our Diocese this past week that our annual Diocesan United Fund for the new Fiscal Year of 2020-2021 will be almost \$5,000.00 per month, or almost \$60,000.00, annually. This does not include the Priest

“Stewardship of Gratitude” continued...

Pension Fund that is nearing \$9,000.00 annually, as well as the D.M.A. that was set last year at \$ 33,183.26. So, the Diocese is seeking an amount nearing \$100,000.00 from Holy Rosary alone. While other Dioceses around the country have forgiven a month or two of assessments in this Fiscal Year, and even reduced the new Fiscal Year assessments by as much as 10% due to the pandemic, our Diocese has not forgiven anything and is still requiring the full amount to be paid for 2019-2020. Amazingly, we received word last week that our parish assessment for the D.U.F. will increase by 1%, while priests’ salaries will not increase by 1 cent. I spoke with one Diocesan leader who is clergy who basically stated that, because the Diocese had to declare bankruptcy, they need the money. If you are like me, I find this all very interesting! As always, thank you from this pastor for your gifts!

Stewardship of Gratitude

Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary

Adult Contributions	\$8,700.00
Electronic Giving	\$2,286.37
Plate Collection	\$84.00
Junior Collection	\$2.00
Special Collection	\$20.00
Easter Collection	\$100.00

Weekly Offering Total **\$11,192.37**

Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00

Bridging the Gap **\$7,747.62**

Additional Weekly Income **\$2,626.94**

Grand Total **\$13,819.31**

Total weekly stewardship goal is set at \$13,200.00

Thank you for your gifts of gratitude to God!



This Week’s Sanctuary Light Intention:

Special Intention

“The Quill and the Cloth” continued...

the overall rate, which includes estimated unconfirmed cases, is calculated at 0.66%.” Imagine getting a test paper back in your school days that read you had a 98.62% or a 99.34% score. I was always a fairly strict grader when I taught, but those percentages to me would be either a strong A, or even possibly a low A+! **Now, please be clear, I am not suggesting we should throw caution to the wind. For right now, wearing a mask, washing our hands, not having big gatherings, and keeping a polite distance is all well and good. But beginning on June 10th, Governor Walz is allowing churches and other public gatherings to go to 50% capacity with a maximum of 250 people. Even in our best times, there were many Masses that were not half-filled at Holy Rosary.**

Why am I writing about this pandemic and the problem of race as we ponder how bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ on the great feast of Corpus Christi? **Just as the core problem of race relations is historically not being thankful or grateful for diversity in our community; so too the problem with many Christians and Catholics and “religion relations” has at its core the problem too of not being thankful or grateful to our Blessed Lord who saved us from our sins through His Holy Cross!*

Timothy O’Malley, a columnist for the weekly Catholic periodical “Our Sunday Visitor,” writes: *“Every couple of years, Pew Research releases a report on Catholic belief related to the Eucharistic presence. The 2019 report found that close to 70% of Catholics in the United States see the Eucharist as symbols of Jesus Christ. The report concluded that roughly only 30% of Catholics profess faith in the doctrine of the Real Presence...”* Experts in religion and theology say that the problem is that the faithful have not learned the catechesis well. There are those on the other side that say the idea of the Real Presence may be the fault of the Church leadership who need to come up with a newer and fresher way to teach this profound mystery. Both of these theories could be right. Both of these theories could also be wrong.

Do you want to hear my theory as to why only 30% of the people believe in the Real Presence (by the way, if we were grading in school, 30% is a low F)? It is less of a lack of belief in the Son of God and more so a lack of belief in old-fashioned, blessed GRATITUDE. This year, I will be celebrating 30 years as a pastor on August 22nd, the Queenship of Mary. Perhaps the most surprising reality of working in a religious setting all these years is the amazing

lack of gratitude by so many of the faithful. From demanding brides at a wedding to a bereaving soul at a funeral, I have seen it all. If we cannot be grateful for the priest or the parish that we can see, how can we be grateful for the High Priest, Jesus Christ, who we can only see through the eyes of faith through the Holy Eucharist? NEVER FORGET THAT THE WORD EUCHARIST MEANS THANKSGIVING. IF WE ARE GRATEFUL IN PROSPERITY, THAT IS VERY HUMAN. IF WE ARE GRATEFUL IN POVERTY AND ADVERSITY, THAT IS HOLY AND DIVINE. What has spiritually sustained me in my vocation is that every day I get up and I am grateful that God called me to the priesthood and that I have been blessed with another good assignment. Using your good and holy judgment, perhaps we will see you at Mass with your mask on in the near future. Happy Feast of Corpus Christi!



Rev. Paul Van de Crommert
Pastor

The Big Question!


I have repeatedly had people call, write, and even ask me on the street these past couple of weeks if I will be ending the recorded Masses in the near future. The answer is “NOT YET”! I will continue to offer the recorded Masses until a vaccine has been found or the pandemic passes. When we reach the point that most people are comfortable going out to eat, or travel to the lake, or go to the barber shop, etc., then I will bring those Masses to an end. Human nature being what it is, there are many who might just want to follow the homily and then feel they have their shot of spirituality for the week. *(Some of you have already told me that you just like to follow the sermon.)* However, no parish can survive that kind of faith response. But for right now, the recorded Masses will continue as so many of you are staying close to home. It costs Holy Rosary a minimum of \$150.00 to pre-record just one of these Masses. Perhaps you might like to sponsor one of these broadcasts that goes to so many homes each week. The number of views has reached over 5,400. If you are not able to attend Mass publicly, keep watching on your computer or lap top. Keep praying!



Stepping Up in Faith

Collected this week:	\$200.00
Received to date:	\$118,642.22
Goal:	\$175,000.00

It will be 20 years ago this June that I began my second pastorate at St. Aloysius in Olivia, while also serving the parish of Holy Redeemer in Renville, about 12 miles away. Although the main parish was deep in debt, and nearly all of the buildings were in disarray when I arrived, I was blessed with two very wise and wonderful trustees named Polly and Tom. We first began by addressing the parish finances and putting the rectory back in good working order. As we started tackling the church that needed so much attention both inside and out, they suggested to me to get everything done on the outside, then to proceed with the interior of the church. We did just that. We took care of all of the leaks and problems on the outside of the church and then proceeded with the interior. (*The one thing I did not get accomplished was the exterior steps that I understand they are now going to address.)

I mention this because those wonderful trustees, with their sage advice, come to my mind two decades later as we are now, after six years, finishing all the exterior work that has needed so much attention at our church. In a few short weeks, we will be totally done with the exterior. While we have already done a great deal of repairs, upkeep, and improvements on the interior, we still have much more to do in the years ahead. Unfortunately, I feel it is important to put some of this summer's plans on hold due to the pandemic and the decline of both our stewardship and the stock market. (I understand that these last days the markets have seen great improvement.)

As I write this in my office on a very hot Monday evening, there was a great deal of work accomplished this past Monday alone. We had a nice crew of workers redoing the landscaping around the circumference of the church. We have decided to use the same river stones that were placed around the rectory. These stones work well for easy maintenance and look so good. The crew

"Stepping Up in Faith" continued...

replaced the edging today as well, filled the planters on the front entrance with black dirt, and will continue in the days ahead (weather permitting) to bring in more dirt in the lawns, sow grass seed, and lay some needed sod in certain places. The sprinkler system has been completed and works well. I am looking forward to a day when our church lawns will look better than our cattle pasture did when I was growing up on the farm. I always feel that church grounds should look good. However, I need to convince some of the folks in our neighborhood that the parish grounds is not a dog park! 😞

On Monday, a cement sealer was placed on the front steps, and they now look just wonderful. I suspect that we may need to seal those steps every year or two to prevent the changing of the seasons from deteriorating them. Likewise, most pastors forget that when it comes to the exterior of a church, the brick and most especially the stonework needs to be resealed every so often to prevent moisture from seeping into the building. For some reason it is not a concern with a house but much more a church. That is why the windows of this church needed to be replaced a number of years ago. The wood frames had rotted and deteriorated so badly, not because the windows were so old, but rather the limestone sills had not been sealed. Limestone is a porous stone and so the moisture got into the stone and was absorbed by the wood of the window frames. If the stone had been regularly and properly sealed, the frames of those original windows would still have been fine. Equally so for the front limestone steps that were removed. They were crumbling because no one had taken the time over the years to reseal the stone. Eventually the moisture, ice, freezing, and thawing do their thing and begin to pop off pieces of stone. The old adage still holds: *"Anyone can build a building, but it takes someone special to maintain it."* It seems that much of my time as a priest and pastor has been taken up with taking care of old buildings. And so it goes!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



"I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink, but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death."
— Thomas Paine

The Week Ahead

Monday, June 15: Weekday

Daily Mass - 6:00 pm - Bonnie Varuskat

Tuesday, June 16: Weekday

No Daily Mass

Wednesday, June 17: Weekday

Daily Mass - 6:00 pm - Doug & Rachel Helget Family

Thursday, June 18: Weekday

No Daily Mass

Friday, June 19: THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

No Daily Mass

Saturday, June 20: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

3:00 pm - Recorded Mass - People of Holy Rosary Parish (*Reservations are REQUIRED for this Mass. Please call the parish office if you would like to attend - we would like to make this Mass for those over 65 or who have health issues.*)

Sunday, June 21: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am – Public Mass - Merle Braamt

(* Individual appointments can be made for confession or anointing of the sick. Please contact the parish office.)

CORRECTED Stewardship of Gratitude Information from Last Week's Bulletin:



Stewardship of Gratitude

Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary

Adult Contributions \$5,340.50

Electronic Giving \$3,312.14

Weekly Offering Total \$8,652.64

Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00

Bridging the Gap \$0.00

Additional Weekly Income \$9,701.40

Grand Total \$18,354.04

Total weekly stewardship goal is set at \$13,200.00

Thanks for your gifts of gratitude to God!!!

Mass and Ministry Making a Comeback!



In the near future we will return to the 5:00 P.M. Saturday night Mass along with the 10:00 A.M. Sunday Mass that has already begun. You will notice that we are also returning to some daily Masses at in the early evening. Having an evening daily Mass versus a morning Mass is being recommended by the bishops to encourage people who are working, or families to attend who may or may not wish to attend on the weekends.

Regardless if you come to Mass on the weekday or the weekends, a mask is required (unless the Mass is outside). There also will be no music at the public Masses. We will continue to record a Mass on Saturday afternoon. **If you would like to come the 3:00 P.M. Mass, a reservation is required.** There will be a basket in the main aisle for the recorded Mass and the weekday Masses if you wish to give an offering. A collection with handled baskets will be taken up at the Sunday morning liturgy. See you at Mass?

KEEP CALM and Avoid Coronavirus Scams

Here are **5 things** you can do to avoid a Coronavirus scam:



Ignore offers for vaccinations and home test kits.

Scammers are selling products to treat or prevent COVID-19 without proof that they work.



Hang up on robocalls.

Scammers use illegal sales call to get your money and your personal information.



Watch out for phishing emails and text messages.

Don't click on links in emails or texts you didn't expect.



Research before you donate.

Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. Get tips on donating wisely at [ftc.gov/charity](https://www.ftc.gov/charity).



Stay in the know.

Go to [ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams](https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams) for the latest information on scams. Sign up to get FTC's alerts at [ftc.gov/subscribe](https://www.ftc.gov/subscribe).



Federal Trade Commission

If you see a scam, report it to [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint)

Our Lady of the Rosary - Thank You!

This past week we placed our order for a marble statue that will be situated in the arch of the church sign or marquee from St. Patrick's Guild in St. Paul. The statue is being donated by Gary and Mary Zellmer from Holy Rosary and we are grateful to them for this most generous gift. The statue will be hand-carved of white marble in an Italian studio and will be sent to the United States from Italy in 2-3 months. The statue will be similar in appearance to the other statue of our Lady of the Rosary that is located in the peak of the main entrance and was completed about six years ago, at the closing of Fr. Peter's pastorate, donated by the Klaseus family and other generous benefactors.



This statue donated by Gary and Mary, along with the electronic sign donated by the Knights of Columbus, are two substantial gifts that are bringing the exterior of our church into the 21st century with great spiritual style. We can be very proud at all of the temporal improvements that have taken place over these past years, and certainly with great support from the majority of the faithful. We are still in need to cover the remaining exterior expenses if you could see it in your heart to make a donation before the close of the Fiscal Year of 2019-2020 on June 30th. As always, thank you all for your gifts in making this project a great reality.

Welcome to Holy Rosary!

As we welcome the faithful back to Mass after a period of quarantine due to the pandemic, we also welcome to our parish family of Holy Rosary another household, Christopher and Mara Dehning from Mankato. They are both presently employed in the banking industry and have 3 grown children. In recent months, Christopher's parents passed away and as pastor, I celebrated the funeral Mass and burial services through St. Peter and Paul's parish in Mankato. A good number of our families may know Mara, as she is our Faith Formation office administrator. Welcome to Holy Rosary!

Are you new to the area and would like to join our growing Holy Rosary parish family? Just go to holyrosarynorthmankato.com/membership-registration and download the registration forms to fill out.



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, Will Shumacher, Mickey Meyer

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 Nancy Schwamberger
Tuesday John & Lynette Lundgren
Wednesday Benjamin & Lynn Michel
Thursday Roger & Mary Mueller
Friday Jonathan & Amy Endres
Saturday Todd & Amy Loosbrock
Sunday Tom Rheume



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: 1 Kgs 21:1-16/Mt 5:38-42 (365) Pss III
 Tues: 1 Kgs 21:17-29/Mt 5:43-48 (366)
 Weds: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 (367)
 Thurs: Sir 48:1-14/Mt 6:7-15 (368)
 Fri: Dt 7:6-11/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30 (170) Pss Prop
 Sat: 2 Chr 24:17-25 (370)/Lk 2:41-51 (573)
 Sun: Jer 20:10-13/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33 (94) Pss IV