

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

507-387-6501 | Fax: 507-387-7365
Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Emergency Number

320-522-2180

Religious Education Office

507-345-6765

Accounting Office

507-345-6828

Email

hros2@hickorytech.net

Website

holyrosarynorthmankato.com

Holy Rosary Parish Staff

Father Paul van de Crommert, *Pastor*
Cindy Gawrych, *Office Administrator*
Jim Theuninck, *Accounting/Administration*

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

September 13, 2020

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Holy Rosary Catholic Church

16th Annual

Mass in the Park(ing)

Area on Grant Ave

Sunday, September 20th, 2020 10:00 AM

Music by the Wall Street Brass Trio
*With additional music from your favorite
guitar playing Pastor*

*Bag lunches available immediately following Mass
- provided by JD Truffles*

Sandwich • Chips • Cookie • Pop/Water

RSVP is required for this event - attendance is limited

Faith • Food • Fellowship

Rev. Paul van de Crommert Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

“Peter approached Jesus and asked him, “Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”

-St. Matthew



This week, with the start of the school year, we also begin Faith Formation classes with a new model in this ongoing pandemic. In light of today's Gospel reading from St. Matthew where a question is asked, "...How often must I forgive? As many as seven times?", a question parents and pupils in Faith Formation might be asking is, "In this new model of Faith Formation, how many times will I need to forgo my Wednesday night plans?" The answer to that question is only about SEVEN TIMES! We will have classes alternating between grades 1-5 and grades 6-9 in order to have enough room for proper social distancing. But while we will only have about a total of 14 classes for grades 1-9 for the entire academic year, parents, who are the primary educators of the faith for their children, which they promised at the time of Baptism; will need to affirm and teach the faith to their children in a myriad of ways many times a day.

I am writing these comments prior to my departure out West, to the Faith Formation Packets being mailed out, or the letter going out to our volunteer catechists who are assisting us in this year's program. Along with many other pastors, I am striving to shepherd souls during this challenging time, and I sadly see a great spiritual problem looming on the spiritual horizon. When the virtue (the good habit) of going to Mass or services regularly has been forgotten, or if viewing of religious services online has been done for so many months, how does one transition back from the sweat pants and tee shirts on the couch to some Sunday attire and sitting in a pew?

Under the directives of the American Bishops, the

Minnesota Department of Health, and the Diocese of New Ulm, this week we are beginning a Youth Liturgy and catechetical instruction program in our former school gymnasium that I believe 100% will be both physically safe and spiritually enlightening. The spiritual challenge in this time of Covid-19 is going to be less with the pupils and more with our parents, as we are being directed that the parents are largely responsible for their children during this hour. If there has ever been a strong disconnect in our devotion to the Lord and the discipline of learning the faith, it has been over the years with the Wednesday night experience. Year after year, students attend our Wednesday classes, but then when the weekend comes, they are not present at Mass. What's wrong with this picture? Well, pretty much everything. The best image I have come up with is if a person buys a beautiful musical instrument such as, sayI don't know....a guitar. Then, they put it on the wall, in a closet, or put in some corner of the room to gather dust. "Do you have a guitar?" "Yes!", you might say. "Can you play the guitar?" "Yes!", you might say again. For you can play the three simple cowboy chords of C, G and A. But is that really playing a guitar well? Of course not. Is receiving three sacraments such as Baptism First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation, but not going weekly to the Eucharist, or occasionally going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or praying daily, really enabling a person to make the claim that they are a committed Catholic? I think that you know the answer to that question as well!

The American Bishops stressed to pastors during this time of the pandemic and particularly as parish facilities began to re-open, that they should not so much offer a morning Mass when most younger families are at work or school. Rather, we were pastorally encouraged to offer daily Masses in the evenings in order the families who might not otherwise attend Mass on the weekends (for fear of catching the virus) could do so with less fear and greater physical comfort. While that has had marginal success, the decision by our Diocese to discourage the formal classroom setting in lieu of a liturgical celebration that incorporates catechesis, I believe pastorally is a very

(continued on next page)

“The Quill and the Cloth” continued...

wise decision. I pray that parents might have the same passion to put in the time with their precious little pupil so that together as a family, they might grow in the love and knowledge of Jesus Christ and come to know that coming to Mass and equally, the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on a weekly basis, is both the source and the summit for any soul that wants to one day see heaven and everlasting life. I HOPE TO SEE ALL OF OUR FAMILIES WITH STUDENTS BEGINNING WITH GRADES 6-9 THIS WEDNESDAY AND GRADES 1-5 NEXT WEDNESDAY! Have a good academic week and year!



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

P.S. Parents - Have you turned in your child’s Faith Formation Registration form yet? Please send it in today!

Thought For the Week



“Go, sit upon the lofty hill,
And turn your eyes around,
Where waving woods and waters wild
Do hymn an autumn sound.
The summer sun is faint on them—
The summer flowers depart—
Sit still— as all transform’d to stone,
Except your musing heart.”
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Silent Auction Basket Donations Needed!



Last year, the creativity and thought that went into the Silent Auction Baskets was amazing! We would love to have some of those wonderful themed baskets for our Silent Auction again this year. We have many baskets of various sizes available - they are located just outside the parish office in the school building, and there will be some in the back of church. Baskets need to be returned by October 16th. Thank you!!!



Stewardship of Gratitude
Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary

Adult Contributions	\$2,509.00
Electronic Giving	\$2,162.82
Plate Collection	\$87.00
Junior Collection	\$22.50
Raffle Prize Money	\$200.00
.....	
Weekly Offering Total	\$4,981.32
<i>Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00</i>	
Bridging the Gap	\$5,318.68
Additional Weekly Income	\$0.00
Grand Total	\$10,300.00
<i>Total weekly stewardship goal is set at \$13,200.00</i>	
Thank you for your gifts of gratitude to God!	

Stewardship of Gratitude

“Many Christians and Christian leaders have been neutralized by the love of money and materialism. The homage paid to affluence becomes a burden that saps our energy as well as our love for God and other people. Though repentance and the cleansing of forgiveness, we can rid ourselves of this burden and begin to let God transform our value system. Like Jesus and Paul, we can learn to be content with what we have, living modestly in order that we may give liberally to the work of the kingdom and to meet the needs of others.”
- John Wimber

Welcome to Holy Rosary!

Are you new to the area and would like to join our growing Holy Rosary parish family? 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 parish family!



The Week Ahead

Monday, September 14:

5:00 pm Mass - Helen Wanzek+ (note time change)
 7:00 pm - Catechist/Staff Inservice - Conf Rm 1

Tuesday, September 15:

Private Mass - Cheryl Danbury

Wednesday, September 16:

6:30pm - Faith Formation Grades 6-9 School Gym

Thursday, September 17:

6:00 pm - Mass - Eileen & Arnie Wadekamper 65th
 Wedding Anniversary

Friday, September 18:

6:00 pm - Mass - Paul & Karen Harguth Family

Saturday, September 19:

3:00pm - Recorded Mass - People of Holy Rosary
 Parish (reservations are required for this Mass)

5:00 pm - Mass - Bonnie Varuska+

Sunday, September 20:

10:00 am – Mass in the Park(ing) Area - Merle Braam+
 (Catered lunch to follow - please RSVP)



Mass in the Park-ing Area on Grant Ave!

Can you believe that our annual Mass in the Park(ing) area of Grant Avenue is just 1 week away?! It will be held this year on Sunday, September 20th at 10:00

A.M. Although this is our 16th Annual outdoor Mass, we have had many outdoor Masses because of the pandemic. This Mass will not be held in the *park*, but on the street on Grant Avenue, where normally we *park* cars. We encourage you to bring your lawn chairs, although some chairs will be provided.

While we will be a bit limited on the *lyrics* that can be sung and the *lunch* that can be served, I am still planning a bit of *music*. There will also a complimentary bag lunch catered by JD Truffles. The bag lunch will include either a ham or turkey sandwich, chips, dessert, and a choice of a soda or bottled water. **You are welcome to stay and eat your lunch around the church grounds, or, if you wish, take your lunch home. Weather permitting, we will provide some additional seating outside.**

In order for the parish to have sufficient meals for everyone, we ask that you either call, stop by the office, or throw the slip below in the mail to indicate how many meals your family would like. We would need to know by no later than Thursday, September 17th at 12:00 P.M. We hope to see many of you there. Besides an RSVP for the meal, I also ask for a pastoral favor — that you would pray for favorable weather! *In the event of rain, the Mass would be held in the gymnasium, and you would be welcome to spread out through the school building to enjoy lunch.*



Upcoming Parish Events

- Faith Formation Catechist/Staff Inservice - Monday, September 14th, Conf Rm 1
- Faith Formation Classes begin for Grades 6-9 - Wednesday, September 16th, 6:30 pm, School Gym
- River of Life Prayer Group - Friday, September 18th, 1:00 -3:00 pm, Church lower level
- 16th Annual Mass in the Park - Sunday, September 20th, 10:00 am, Church grounds
- Faith Formation Classes begin for Grades 1-5 - Wednesday, September 23rd, 6:30 pm, School Gym
- November Fest (modified) - Sunday, November 8th, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Church/School Gym



16TH ANNUAL MASS IN THE PARK(ING) ...AREA OF GRANT AVENUE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 10:00AM



_____ # of Turkey Sandwich Lunches

_____ # of Ham Sandwich Lunches

Name _____

***Please return this to the parish office no later than Sept. 17th. You may also call 507-387-6501, or email hros2@hickorytech.net to RSVP. Thank you!*

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

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

Paid to Date: \$1,930.51

DUE: \$83,446.38

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

Paid to Date: \$0.00

(*Last year's goal): \$33,183.26

Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

Pd to Date: \$28,200.00

DUE: \$162,257.53

Total Paid to Date 2020-21: \$30,130.51

Apostolate stewardship for 2020-21: \$278,887.17



LOYOLA CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Loyola welcomed K-12 students back to campus on Tuesday, September 1, and preschool classes started the second week of September. We are still accepting students in some of our grades; if you would like more information regarding enrolling at Loyola, please call 507-388-0600.

Employment opportunities: 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.

Loyola is also hiring a Director of Development to support and sustainably strengthen our Advancement Department. The Director will help assist in our fundraising efforts, manage and train current staff, and be a key player in our future campaign efforts. If you or someone you know is qualified for this position, please contact Trudi Clements, 507-388-0606.

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

Leading through Faith, Academic Excellence, and Service.

K. of C. Council #5551 News

Sept 19 - Appreciation Dinner
Sept 24 - General Meeting



NovemberFest 2020!



In 7 weeks, we will be celebrating a downsized version of our 6th Annual November Fest. The initial response has been unbelievably good!

Raffle Ticket – Cash Prizes:

We are only a few dollars away from breaking the \$5,000 mark for cash prizes. In the past week, we took in more than \$2,000 and only now have begun to seek support from the broader parish through the bulletin. Even the local businesses have been responding with a resounding generosity in spite of the pandemic. We have the making of the BEST RAFFLE YET!

Please note that your donations can be either public or anonymous. Smaller monetary donations may possibly be combined with larger donations.

Silent Auction – Live and Virtual

We are also starting to welcome new quality items, antiques, quality collectibles, gift cards, etc. for our Silent Auction. This year we plan to extend the time of the Silent Auction from a few hours on the day of the festival to days and even a week or more by having it online. We will also have the items on display during the festival, with updated bids from the online bidding. Many churches, as well as retail antique dealers, have had great success with online auctions.

Save the Date - November 8th!

Although our activities will be greatly reduced from past years, there will still be an opportunity to attend Mass, with perhaps a few songs during the homily, take out meals (some eat-in seating will be available), as well as a chance to bid on the Silent Auction items, and browse for some bargains at Grandma's Attic.

Covid-19 has forced us to come up with new and creative ways to operate our fundraisers for a few more months. May we surprise ourselves with an even more successful day than we could imagine, both through parishioners' participation and the stewardship success of this day. Thank you for your support!

Happy Anniversary!



Congratulations to Craig & Sue Woodward as they celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary! May God continue to bless them with many more happy years of marriage!



Faith Formation

Faith Formation Update



Registration packets have been sent out. If you did not receive one, please call the parish office, and we will send one to you. Confirmation students received additional information regarding the timing of the remaining classes and Confirmation this fall. First Communion families will receive more information soon! Classes will start for **grades 6-9 on Wednesday, September 16th** and for **grades 1-5 on Wednesday, September 23rd.**

Thank you to all of our volunteer catechists! There is an important meeting for all catechists on Monday, September 14th at 7:00 pm in Conference Room 1 of the school building.

This year in Faith Formation will look a little different (*like many things that have been modified during the pandemic*) but it will be a great year of growing in faith and understanding of the Lord. See you soon!

Options for Women Fundraising Gala

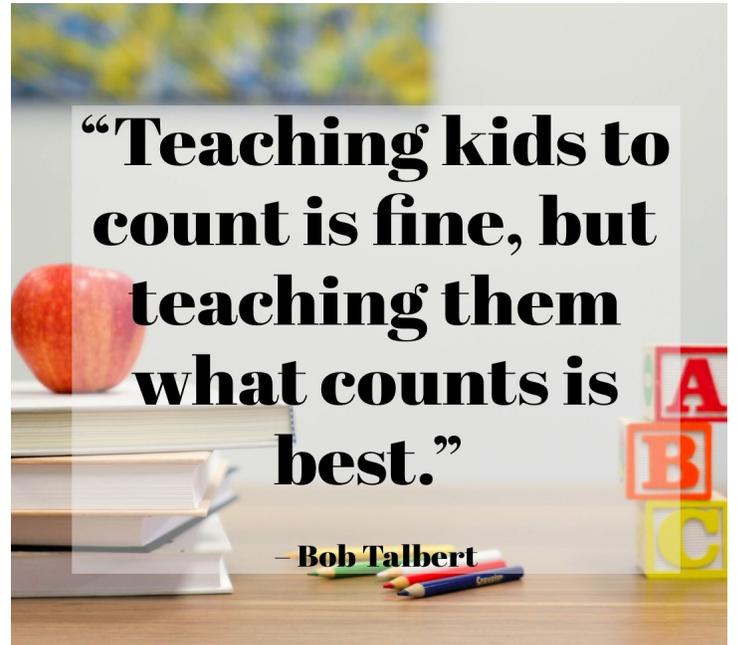
The Options for Women Fundraising Gala will be Sunday, October 11, at the Kato Entertainment Center, 200 Chestnut Street, Mankato.



- Social Hour Begins at 5:00 pm
- Elegant Dinner Served at 6:00 pm
- Program 6:00-8:00 pm

The featured speaker is Steventhen Holland. Steventhen is a recording artist, worship leader, author and national pro-life speaker. His life is the result of an assault against an eighteen-year-old mentally challenged woman. Because his mother couldn't care for him, he was placed for adoption. Despite the brokenness Steventhen has experienced, he travels the country sharing his message of hope and restoration for the broken.

All guests must pre-register by September 27th when ticket sales will close. Go to supportoptionsmankato.com/gala2020 for more information and to purchase tickets!



Desserts Not Needed for Mass in the Park!



If you signed up to bring bars to Mass in the Park, please note that the lunch will be catered, and bars are not needed. Thank you!



Good Counsel Learning Center

Good Counsel Learning Center is now accepting registrations for one-on-one, online tutoring in reading and math for youth and adults. Students and tutors meet virtually once or twice a week for hour-long sessions. Tuition is \$25.00 per hour, but scholarships are available with verification of financial need. For further information, call Sister Dorothy Zeller at 507-389-4229 or visit at www.gclearningcenter.org/registration.

Good Counsel Learning Center is recruiting experienced educators to provide one-on-one online tutoring to local students. Tutors will meet with students individually for 1-2 hours per week via Google Meet to help with homework and provide instruction in content areas as needed. As a tutor, you will help students improve their skills and gain confidence for academic success. The greatest need is for teachers with experience in grades K – 8. Distance-learning technology and training will be provided. A small stipend is offered per hour. For more information, call Sister Dorothy Zeller at 507-389-4229. To apply, visit gclearningcenter.org/apply.

The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

- Robert Frost

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, Delores Haubrich, Dave Neubert, Joe Galli, Betty Goettlicher, Anne Doyle, Dave Grams, Kathy Fredrickson, Will Shumacher, Mickey Meyer, Carol Boruff, Jerry Winters, Kimberly Wegscheid, Karen Etzell, Craig Van Loy

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	Scott & Ashley Wersal
Tuesday	Ryan & Katie Howe
Wednesday	Sherry Henrickson
Thursday	David & Marcy Keithley
Friday	Bryce & Miranda Hoffmann
Saturday	Tom & Sarah Niederegger
Sunday	Myron & Colleen Thompson



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 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17 (638) Pss Prop
 Tues: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a (444)/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35 (639) Pss Prop
 Weds: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Lk 7:31-35 (445)
 Thurs: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Lk 7:36-50 (446)
 Fri: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Lk 8:1-3 (447)
 Sat: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Lk 8:4-15 (448)
 Sun: Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a (133) Pss I



Morning Offering

“Morning offering I offer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day. In union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, I offer them all for the intentions of our bishops and all members of the apostleship of prayer and especially for victory over the obstacles of our present pandemic.” Amen



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:

Edwin Goettlicher†



**Finance Council Meeting Minutes
Holy Rosary Catholic Church
July 13, 2020**

The Holy Rosary Finance Council met on Monday, July 13th, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. This meeting was more than five months after the previous meeting due to the pandemic. Following an opening prayer led by Father, the past minutes of February 3rd, were reviewed. The majority of the Finance Council members were in attendance. There were no additional items added to the July 13th agenda.

Pastor's Comments: Regarding the parish finances, Father reported that the parish has taken a hit since the beginning of March of 2020, like many other parishes and places of business. Holy Rosary had the makings of an excellent stewardship year, and although there was three months with no public liturgies and limited attendance for the past weeks, amazingly the stewardship has been good, although not great. Although the weekly offering for the year has remained constant at about \$135,000, our adult collection fell by a bit less than \$200,000. Much of this sharp fall is due in part to the large gift of \$165,000.00 the parish had received in the last year. The bottom line is that, when compared to the previous year, the total income went from \$899,938.67 to \$817,148.27, which is a decrease in revenue by \$82,790.40. Some of the areas that saw a decrease, by the thousands, included the weekly plate offering (-\$3,000), the junior offerings (-\$1,000), fund-raising income (-\$15,000), etc. The parish investments, at one point, had fallen by nearly \$90,000 during the time of the pandemic, and, although they regained most of their losses, the investments still saw a loss of nearly \$11,000. So we are closing the Fiscal Year of 2019-2020 with an almost \$11,000 shortfall in our parish investments alone. Last year, the parish investments saw an -\$18,000 loss. So, in the past two years, the parish investments have lost \$30,000.

Even though our finances now are much more uncertain than a year ago, Father reported on the many wonderful parishioners who belong to Holy Rosary and have not only continued to give but, in some instances, increased their giving during this time of economic uncertainty. With no public liturgies for about 12 weeks this past winter and spring, Father was bracing for the worst financial scenario. But those who were electronic givers did not suspend their stewardship. Those who give through the offertory collection were faithfully sending in checks each week, often along with a note of encouragement.

Recently, the parish received word from the Diocese of New Ulm that the assessments to the Bishop's Office will again be *increasing* even though we are still experiencing this pandemic. This year, the total amount we are required to pay to New Ulm is \$83,446.38. This comes to \$6,153.87 a month or \$1,604.74 a week. In addition, the parish's commitment this year to Loyola for our 35 students from Holy Rosary will be a total of \$160,057.53, which comes to \$13,338.13 a

month, or \$3,078.03 a week. Between these two stewardship commitments alone, Holy Rosary will need to pay \$4,682.77 each week. Of course, then there are the regular expenses of the parish, such as salaries, utilities, maintenance, etc.

In reviewing the stewardship numbers year to year, Father reported that from January 1, 2019, to July 1, 2019, 361 households contributed \$263,146. In that same time period this year only 331 families contributed \$218,349.00; or a decrease in just six months of \$44,797.00, or 17%. In the first six months of last year, 366 of the registered households of Holy Rosary contributed nothing to the parish. This year, in that same six month period, 448 households made no contributions of stewardship. So, in the span of one year, 82 more households have not contributed anything to the parish. The Good News is that there was a slight increase in electronic giving in this same time period and a fair number of folks who stepped up to the plate and contributed more than they did in the previous year. We also saw a decrease in parish expenses from last year to this year of \$19,701.55 — which is pretty amazing because of the capital improvement of the front entrance and exterior work of \$156,262.00. We are grateful to a \$35,000 grant from the Federal Government that was given to small businesses (including our parish) to support our work. Father expressed gratitude that in this uncertain year the parish finances still concluded in the black with our largest capital improvement project in 6 years nearly completed.

Northwestern Mutual Report: No representative from Northwestern Mutual was available to review the parish finances at the Finance Council meeting. However, the parish administrator had been informed that 3 parish CDs are maturing in November. The last quarter, during the height of the pandemic, the parish investments had fallen by about \$92,000, and more recently were down by \$41,000, revealing that the markets are gaining some strength. Northwestern Mutual would also like to offer a free estate planning session for parishioners in the near future. This meeting would provide participants an opportunity to establish or revise their estate planning, and to possibly incorporate faith-based charities in final estate planning. Some parish monies may be needed in the upcoming Financial Year of 2020-2021, to cover the continued capital improvements on the exterior of the church and to complete the *Stepping Up in Faith*, project that is drawing to a close. In the event that revenues continue to lag behind due to the ongoing pandemic, it was suggested by Northwestern Mutual to take the monies from some of the existing parish CDs to pay project expenses, rather than from the parish investments.

Parish Business: Stepping Up in Faith: Donations have continued for the Stepping Up in Faith project. On February 3, 2020, the parish had taken in a total of \$168,176.26 in designated funds for this exterior church project. As of July 1,

(continued on next page)

Finance meeting minutes continued...

2020, the amount had increased to \$184,574.00. The original bid from WEB Construction came to \$172,929.00. Additional add-ons included \$10,000 for a drainage system to avoid ice build-up on the sidewalk. Upgrading the lighting in and around the church came at a cost of \$17,500.00. *Currently, the lighting that has been installed is incorrect. Most will be replaced in the coming weeks at the expense of the firm, not the parish.* Father had proposed to WEB Construction to patch the numerous damaged and crumbling sections of sidewalk on the north side of the church for safety reasons. WEB Construction recommended that total replacement would be more cost effective than repairing the sidewalk. Father made the decision to move ahead and replaced the entire north sidewalk, including the rectory driveway from 1925 that was still for a single driveway and not a double driveway. The total additional add-ons came to \$72,273.00. The total bill for the exterior work, which also included landscaping, came to \$9,215.00 – *but excluded the cost of the sprinkling system which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Reiss, owners of Green Care.* **The total cost for all of the exterior work came to a grand total of \$245,202.00. To date, the parish has paid \$215,202.00 from designated or general fund monies and has not had to withdraw from either parish savings or investments. The amount owed on the project which was forwarded into the new Fiscal Year of 2020-2021 is exactly \$30,000.00.** Because the project is still not completed, it seemed reasonable and fair to forward this remaining expense into the new Fiscal Year of 2020-2021 and pay the balance upon completion — perhaps some time later in the summer or early this fall. **Interior Church Repairs:** The initial plans that the Finance Council reviewed and scheduled with St. Patrick's Guild of St. Paul and Henning Restoration of the Twin Cities for the summer of 2020 were put on hold due to the pandemic. With the uncertainty of the parish finances, Father had made the decision to put things on hold to be pursued at a later date. Specifically, Pro-Maintenance of Mankato was scheduled to redo the flooring under the pews and Henning Restoration was to restore and repair the church pews as well as clean the interior stone of the church. Two murals and sanctuary painting were also to be performed at that time. *The parish received word after this Finance Council meeting that the artist will be available to the paint the two banner murals in the sanctuary in February of 2021. A benefactor of this parish has agreed to cover the cost of this project, estimated between \$15,000 - \$20,000.* The hope is once the pandemic passes and parish stewardship returns to normal levels, this work may be resumed in the summer of 2021, although this is not certain at this time. **Air-Conditioning Update – Chiller Replacement:** This spring, the Finance Council was asked about moving forward to replace the exterior chiller system of the church's air-conditioning unit. The present unit is more than 20 years old, inefficient,

noisy, and has had numerous mechanical issues. The full consensus of the council was to move forward on this project. WEB Construction was also awarded this bid at the price of \$108,750.00. Some members expressed concern that the expense would exceed the budget by tens of thousands of dollars, like the front entrance project did. The staff has been assured by WEB that this cost would be the total package. Again, the Finance Council agreed to move forward on the project, recommending that Father take the needed money from the parish reserve – the first time the reserve has been touched in over 6 years. Father anticipated that if revenues increase and the pandemic passes, with no other major expenditures, the Fiscal Year budget might be able to cover a good portion of this \$108,750.00 expenditure. July 1, 2021, will of course tell the conclusion of this financial story. The new chiller system, located on the center of the south side of the church, will be a big improvement to the infrastructure of the church facility. This project will also include the installation of additional landscaping, security cameras, sound barrier, and fencing. *Father signed the agreement, and the concrete work as well as piping and venting project has begun.* **November Fest 2020:** Father opened the meeting for discussion on fundraising, specifically November Fest, which began five years ago and has become the largest fundraiser for the parish. Father stated that the last fund-raiser in the parish occurred six months ago. Other parishes in the Diocese are doing a modified form of parish festivals with good success, although the revenue is lower than in the past years. While we concerns express about the festival in November, the vast majority were in favor to continue the raffle, with an increased ticket price and a greater focus on cash prizes. While some of the activities of the day would be suspended, including children's games and bingo, the silent auction and Grandma's attic would still be held. A pre-packaged, catered meal would be ordered from JD Truffles, our local caterer, with advanced sales/reservation of meals necessary to ensure the correct number of meals is ordered. The take-out meals could be eaten on parish grounds or could be taken home, whatever the patron wishes to do. The parish dinner would be equal to having take-out from a restaurant, which is currently considered safe by community health experts. It was also decided to suspend the blue grass band from Willmar. This would save an additional \$1,000. *Someone suggested Father would play some songs during the homily, since he is free!* **Vacation Raffle:** The next discussion item was the Vacation Raffle, which usually generates about \$7,000 in revenue, but was cancelled last spring. It was decided to wait until next spring with the hope that the pandemic will have largely passed by May of 2021. There being no further business, the meeting closed with prayer. The next Finance Council meeting will be scheduled in the fall.