



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

December 20, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Advent



the Quill and the Cloth

**"Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord."
- Psalm 89**



The 98th Psalm that we hear this weekend for the 4th Sunday of Advent exudes a sense of childlike joy. This psalm is most appropriate, as we are now just days away from the great feast of Christmas, which we celebrate, as a Universal Church, our God taking on the humility of human flesh!

Some of my fondest memories growing up and attending public school or religion classes on Wednesday afternoons, was the many songs that we learned to sing. Mrs. Rue, our music teacher, was always teaching us one great song after another. It seemed we only had to sing them a few times and I had them memorized. I can still bring some of them to mind to this very day. Then, when we went to religion class, the Rochester Franciscans in our parish all seemed to have great singing voices as well. Two of them even played guitar, and so we learned both secular and sacred songs growing up. As I look back on those years, it was a privileged time.

Most of you remember that song from childhood that has been sung in endless grade school productions: *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*. The song was first released back in 1934. As kids, we could not stop singing those songs as they seemed to speak to our souls so strongly. Remember that line: **"...He's making a list, checking it twice, gonna find out who's naughty and nice. Santa Claus is coming to town."**

Our image of Santa Claus is one of the moral order who like God, keeps track of our good deeds and our misdeeds. Good deeds are rewarded with the physical gifts of toys, and bad deeds by bad boys and girls are rewarded with either nothing or perhaps a bit of coal. Santa's behavior of course, is very scriptural and Savior-like. The basic tenets of the Catholic faith and the Christian experience are that if we have kept the Commandments and follow the Church's teachings, our names will be written in the Book of Life and one day, we will be welcomed into the reward of everlasting life. If on the other hand, we are found less than worthy for the reward of eternity because of sin or bad behavior, we will end up in a place away from the warmth of God's love, but still

traditionally warm. (And no, I am not speaking of Florida.) But rather, we will find ourselves in a place where the hot embers of coal are always burning.

To speak of our Lord is to really speak about lists. While perhaps the most famous Christmas list is the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas"; what struck me in these passages of Sacred Scriptures for this 4th Sunday of Advent, is that I never saw before how these passages are linked together by these Good News LISTS FROM THE LORD. From the First Reading from the Book of Samuel, to the Gospel from St. Luke, we read that the goodness of King David (although he will be a naughty boy in future chapters) and the SUPREME GOODNESS of the Blessed Virgin is rewarded with a LOVING LIST of SPIRITUAL GIFTS that they will in turn receive if they continue to be the King of Israel or the Mother of God.

The following is the Good News list of spiritual graces that the God of the Old Testament has already given or promises to King David: ***"...It was I who took you from the pasture and the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth ... I will give you rest from all your enemies. The Lord also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up an heir after you, sprung from your loins, and will make his kingdom firm."***

Then, in today's Gospel from St. Luke, the Lord also promises a **LOVELY GOOD NEWS LIST TO OUR LADY** if she would simply say "Yes" to being the Mother of God. The Archangel Gabriel, as the mouthpiece of God says: ***"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of David his Father, and He will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."***

As we approach Christmas, while parishioners have always shown me great personal kindness at the holidays through personal gifts, be it monetary or maybe some other way, I will not make a Christmas list of personal physical wants in this column. But rather, in the name of Lord, I hope spiritually that you might include, not just on your **BUCKET LIST but on your BELIEF LIST** for 2021, when this pandemic passes, a greater passion when it comes to prayer, especially attendance at that "perfect" prayer called the Holy Eucharist. (The plan is that in a few months, the recorded Masses will end.) Also, that you might put on your list for the Lord, a willingness to step forward to

"The Quill and the Cloth" continued...

volunteer — from helping with Holy Communion, or helping on a committee. There will again be a great need for catechists. May we say "Sure I can help!" as opposed to, "Ask someone else please!" In short, I hope that the pandemic will have not made us so much suffering from "cabin fever" but rather "Catholic fever," not so much wanting to "travel" but maybe rather wanting to take in a bit more "theology." I know it is a hefty holy list, and I didn't always get everything I wanted when I was young. I guess I am expecting that I won't get all these spiritual things that I am asking now when I am an adult. One last time, Happy Advent! (Perhaps we will see you in person at one of the Christmas Masses!) Stay well!



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor



Stewardship of Gratitude

The readings for this 4th Sunday of Advent are most interesting as they address holy lists or listing. For God lists all of the spiritual stewardship He has and will bestow on King David. In the Gospel, the Archangel Gabriel also tells Mary of a list of spiritual blessings that will come upon her if she just says "Yes" to being the Mother of God!

Yes, it is this time of year that we hear "Santa is coming to town" and that he is "making a list and checking it twice." I remember an old time pastor of our Diocese who told me that I should never give a full-up sermon on stewardship or as the older folks call it "a money sermon." Praise God! In more than 3 decades, I have NEVER ONCE given a sermon on money. But this same old-time pastor said: "I always remind the people the week before Christmas and the week before Holy Week that their stewardship is important and that it is maybe time to be a bit more generous or to catch up." I have followed this good pastoral advice and the people have responded in kind.

As we have done in the past years, the hard copy of the parish bulletin this week has included an envelope for helping us continue to whittle down our parish goal for Loyola Catholic School, of which our parish presently has 37 students enrolled from our parish. We will also again be taking up a second collection at the Christmas Masses too, that will go specifically for this need. As always, know of my pastoral gratitude for all that you have done in terms of stewardship and all that you will do in the future. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! Do not delay!



Stewardship of Gratitude
12/13/20

Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary

Adult Contributions	\$7,467.00
Electronic Giving	\$4,137.75
Plate Collection	\$61.31
Junior Collection	\$67.75
Christmas Flowers	\$570.00
Immaculate Conception	\$985.00
.....	
Weekly Offering Total	\$13,288.81
<i>Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00</i>	
Bridging the Gap	\$0.00
Additional Weekly Income	\$3,940.74
Grand Total	\$17,229.55
<i>Total weekly stewardship goal is set at \$13,200.00</i>	

Thank you for your gifts of gratitude to God!
May God reward your generous spirit!




Welcome to Holy Rosary!

Even though we are in the midst of the pandemic, we are still amazingly welcoming new sheep to the Holy Rosary fold. This week was no exception. In a special way this week we welcome John and Lynn Wilson. The couple hail from southwestern Minnesota, in the Worthington area. The couple has recently retired and are residing in Mankato. We welcome these members to our growing parish family. Welcome John and Lynn to our faith community!

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. You can also send us your contact information and we will mail you a hard copy of those forms. Come join our parish family!

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 20th: 4th Sunday of Advent

2:00 pm - Individual Sacrament of Reconciliation - Cry Room - **Please enter through the main doors of church or through the handicapped access entrance. I will remain in the cry room hearing confessions as long as there are penitents. - Father*

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

5:00 pm - Mass - Louise & Don† Thiessen

5:30 pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation - Cry Room

Tuesday, December 22nd: Advent Weekday

Private Mass - Julien Snaza†

Wednesday, December 23rd: [Saint John of Kanty, Priest]

12:00 pm - Mass - Mary Katherine McGraw†

Thursday, December 24th: Advent Weekday (Christmas Eve)

3:00 pm - Mass - People of Holy Rosary Parish

5:00 pm - Mass - Gina Sandbo†

Friday, December 25th: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas)

9:00 am - Mass - Baby Ellie Ann Daniels†

Saturday, December 26th: Saint Stephen, The First

Martyr

NO Recorded Mass

5:00 pm - Mass - Wally Molitor†

Sunday, December 27th: THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

10:00 am - Mass - Julien "Shorty" Snaza†



Did You Get My Letter?

"Did you get my letter?" "What letter?" you ask. "The letter that we sent to every registered household this week about information about the coming holiday season, the Masses, etc." "Oh that letter! Yes, I did receive that letter!" If this conversation is foreign to you it might be that you might not have been on our mailing list, or perhaps you are not a registered member of Holy Rosary parish. This is an easy problem to solve. Just call the parish office during office hours. It is also possible that we inadvertently missed your name on our list. Happy Advent!



Upcoming Parish Events

- **Christmas Masses:** *Christmas Eve* - 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm. *Christmas Day* - 9:00 am
- **New Year's Masses:** *New Year's Eve* - 5:30 pm. *New Year's Day* - 9:00 am
- **Faith Formation Resumes (Grades 6-9)** - *Wednesday, January 13th, 6:30 pm, church*



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.



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:

Ricky & Michael Gish†



Thought For the Week

At Advent

Oh Mother of our Advent

Be with us and see to it

That He will remain with us

In this difficult Advent

Of the struggles for truth and hope,

For justice and peace:

He alone Emmanuel!

-St. Pope John Paul II

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

Paid to Date: \$30,915.58

DUE: \$83,446.38

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

Paid to Date: \$9,970.00

Goal: \$32,866.71

Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

Pd to Date: \$130,000.00

DUE: \$162,257.53

Church Air Conditioning Update:

Pd to Date: \$350.00

DUE: \$108,750.00

Total Paid to Date 2020-21: \$171,235.58**Apostolate stewardship for 2020-21: \$387,320.62**

This week we paid out another \$5,000.00 towards our Catholic School commitment. We now stand at having contributed a total of \$130,000.00 to our area Catholic School. Last year at this same time, the parish had contributed a total of \$149,571.97 to our parish goal for the Catholic School. So, at this point we are still a bit shy of some \$20,000.00 behind last year's giving. The Good News is that last year we did not pay out as much to the Diocese of New Ulm. In 2019, we had paid by this time a total of \$17,335.14, versus this year when we had paid out a total of \$30,915.58. We are also ahead of our contributions to the Diocesan Ministry, which is a soft goal. Last year we had contributed in gifts and pledges to the Diocese the amount of \$6,190.00 versus this year, when we had contributed \$9,970.00. Last year, we were not collecting for our newly installed air-conditioning unit and so we can also add an additional modest amount of \$350.00 to the grand total. So, when you compare 2019 to 2020; last year our combined totals at this time came to \$172,849.97. This year, in all our combined funds we have collected \$171,235.58. So, presently, we are only about \$1,500.00 behind last year. Of course the challenge will be to cover the cost (as much as possible) of our air-conditioning system before July 1st.

Santa, Holy Rosary has been a very good parish this year! Would it be possible for you to put our parish on the "NICE LIST," and as we close out the calendar year to make an offering as part of your Year-End Giving plan? Please know that your contributions are helping us keep our outside the parish boundary commitments to the broader church that includes Catholic Education for our 37 students, and the work of the Diocesan Catholic Pastoral Center! Thank you for your gifts! Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! Do not delay!



Christmas Ministry Schedule December 24th & 25th

Eucharistic Ministers:

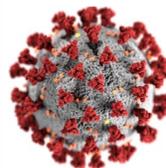
3:00 pm Tom & Mary Clare Wyrowski
5:00 pm Pat & Wanda Hull
9:00 am Darlene Schorn, Terri Compton

Ushers:

3:00 pm Gary & Mary Zellmer, Steve & Barb Enderle
5:00 pm Jim Theuninck, Dan & Jacob Voracek, Roger Steinbach
9:00 am Doug Helget, Craig Amundson, Sherry Henrickson, Bob Wegscheid

Music Ministry:

3:00 pm Michael Stiemel
5:00 pm Janelle Campeau
9:00 am Vicki Galli/Cindy Gawrych

FYI - Covid-19 Cancellations

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the "Taste of the Nations" annual February fundraiser for Holy Rosary parish has been cancelled. We hope that it will return again in February 2022!

Until further notice, all parish meetings are being suspended e.g. parish committee and council meetings, C.C.W. Knights until further pastoral notice. Those renting our parish facility, daily and weekend Masses and Faith Formation Masses will continue as in the past. The parish office will continue to be open Monday through Friday.

Christmas Flowers

Thank you to all of you that contributed to our Christmas Flower Fund again this year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. If you have given flowers and have not turned in your intentions, you are most welcome to do so. **Please turn in any monies or intentions by no later than Tuesday, December 22nd, by noon.** May God reward you. I hope that you will be able to come to church to see the flowers either during a liturgy or perhaps some other time during the holiday season. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! Do not delay!





Faith Formation



Faith Formation - Endings and Beginnings!

As we approach the Christmas holiday and the end of the calendar year, we also bring a close to Faith Formation, until **we will begin anew in the New Year of 2021!** Enclosed in this parish bulletin is our calendar schedule for the second semester. Due to the ongoing pandemic, I do not foresee as the director that we will be returning to any in-class sessions for grades 1-5 any time soon, if at all in the second semester.

While this academic year has been a challenge for educators, I will say that I have been most pleased as pastor at the participation that we have experienced in our Wednesday gatherings for Mass and instruction during the time of the homily. Our attendance of grades 1-5 has been strong. At the start of Advent, we invited the students to take a sheet with an Advent wreath and color it the proper colors that I had taught at Mass. We had run off some 30 sheets and amazingly we had run out and had to run off more!

Advent Art - Beautiful!



Speaking of "Advent Art," those that had turned in their pictures of the Advent wreath and which were displayed in church, were all real winners and were awarded a sacramental from the Holy Land of a Nativity Scene or some other sacramental at our final class for their efforts. Special recognition goes out to our top boy and girl, **Joseph Carruth and Elsie Muga**, for their work coloring that stood out from all the rest. These two students each received a special sacramental of a rosary and/or a chain and medal.

Our next session for Faith Formation will be held on Wednesday, January 13th, at 6:30 P.M. with grades 6-9. Our next session with Grades 1-5 will be held on Wednesday, January 20th also at 6:30 P.M. All of these events will be held in the church. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Catholic School Second Collection

I know! I know! No Catholic in good standing likes to have ANOTHER second collection! But if the truth is told, **I believe that we have not taken up a SINGLE SECOND COLLECTION for the entire year of 2020!** Now, granted no one has been complaining about this missed stewardship opportunity, but at least once before we close out the calendar year we need to help push forward and hopefully complete the largest goal of our parish for the sake of our 37 students from Holy Rosary that are presently enrolled in our area Catholic School. Included in the hard copy of the parish bulletin is an envelope to help with this second collection and you are welcome to use your own envelope. When writing a check we ask that you make it out directly to Holy Rosary and to place in the memo "Loyola" or "Catholic School" to insure your designated money will go in the right direction. If you make the check directly to Loyola, the parish is not able to cash it and it does not lower our parish commitment. As always, thank you for your gifts!



Echo Food Shelf - Food For the Needy

We have now taken in a total of over 650 pounds of non-perishable food products for the Echo Food Shelf. The latest statistics have now revealed that up to 1 out of 6 Americans are experiencing food insecurity. Normally, we collect non-perishable food products during the holiday season in November and December. But because of our present problem of the pandemic, we will continue to appeal for food supplies well into the New Year of 2021. Let us see if we cannot raise at least 3,000 to 5,000 pounds of food in the weeks ahead.

For those of you that attend Mass, as you head out the door and make the check list 1.) Car Keys 2.) Contribution Envelope 3.) Turned off the Stove Oh Yeah..... I need to bring some food items for those in need. On behalf of those in need, "Thank You!"

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.



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.



Health and The Holy Mass

The chances of catching Covid-19 from someone who is infected, but where everyone is wearing a mask is only 1%! The

Archbishop of San Francisco reported on December 4th on EWTN, that an extensive study was done by three infectious disease specialists who studied 1,000,000 Masses. (YES, ONE MILLION!) With proper **social distancing, mask wearing and proper hand washing taking place**, they showed that there were no outbreaks of Covid-19 attributed to attending Catholic Masses .

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!

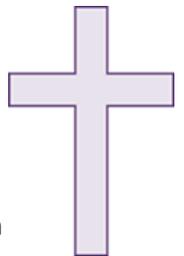
For Those Who Are Ill & Special Needs

Arnie & Eileen Wadekamper, Mary Kelly, Molly Viehweg, Steve Drummer, Ruth Fitterer, Steve Fitterer, Delores Haubrich, Dave Neubert, Betty Goettlicher, Anne Doyle, Dave Grams, Kathy Fredrickson, Jerry Winters, Kimberly Wegscheid, Karen Etzell, Craig Van Loy, Jim Levandowski, Nancy Elibert, Cindy Gawrych, Marion Giefer, Logan Kohlmeyer, Donna Reinicke

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	Joel & Diane Brandel
Tuesday	Andrew & Denise Seys
Wednesday	John & Debbie Cattrysse
Thursday	Robert & Aljean Ackerman
Friday	Angie Beaudoin
Saturday	Herman & Helen Dharmarajah
Sunday	Chris & Sandra Howe



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		

This Week's Readings

Mon: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45 (197)
 Tues: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56 (198)
 Weds: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66 (199)
 Thurs: Morning : 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79 (200)
 Fri: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 (13)
 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 (14)
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 (15)
 Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 (16)
 Pss Prop
 Sat: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22 (696) Pss Prop
 Sun: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40 or, in Year B, Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40 (17) Pss Prop