



Holy Rosary Catholic Church

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

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Accounting Office

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Website

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Holy Rosary Parish Staff

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

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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 27, 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

“When they had fulfilled all of the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The Child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.”

-St. Luke



Merry Christmas! It is always a little awkward when it comes to these greetings, because saying Merry Christmas on the 4th Sunday of Advent is too early. Now, saying it a couple days after the feast

for the first time in writing seems a little too late. However, as most of you well know, we as Roman Catholics celebrate the great season of Christmas in this Liturgical year of Cycle B all the way until January 10th, 2021, with the final feast of Christmas with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. So, as they say, “Better late than never”! Right?

Speaking of late, if you recall the homily I gave at the three Masses in person for Christmas as well as online, I sang a Christmas song that was sung by John Denver and which I only discovered amazingly last Christmas Eve, while briefly attending a meal at a parishioner’s home between the Christmas Eve Masses. The song, if you recall, was entitled: *Noel Christmas 1913*. The words are based on a poem that was written by the British poet, Robert Bridges, (1844-1930). Although the song only uses a portion of this beautiful holiday poem, I thought you might appreciate the poem in its entirety. (*And for those of you who are not partial to poetry, you might make an exception to these exceptional descriptions of that first Christmas in Bethlehem some two-thousand years ago.) Merry Christmas! Happy Feast of the Holy Family! Enjoy!

Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

Noel: Christmas Eve 1913

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

Pax hominibus bonae voluntatis

A frosty Christmas Eve
when the stars were shining
Fared I forth alone
where westward falls the hill,
And from many a village
in the water'd valley
Distant music reach'd me
peals of bells aringing:
The constellated sounds
ran sprinkling on earth's floor
As the dark vault above
with stars was spangled o'er.
Then sped my thoughts to keep
that first Christmas of all
When the shepherds watching
by their folds ere the dawn
Heard music in the fields
and marveling could not tell
Whether it were angels
or the bright stars singing.

Now blessed be the tow'rs
that crown England so fair
That stand up strong in prayer
unto God for our souls
Blessed be their founders
(said I) an' our country folk
Who are ringing for Christ
in the belfries to-night
With arms lifted to clutch
the rattling ropes that race
Into the dark above
and the mad romping din.

But to me heard afar
it was starry music
Angels' song, comforting
as the comfort of Christ
When he spake tenderly
to his sorrowful flock:
The old words came to me
by the riches of time
Mellow'd and transfigured
as I stood on the hill
Heark'ning in the aspect
of th' eternal silence.



Pastoral Thank You

As we have gathered, so different from years past, but still in faith to celebrate the coming of Christ on earth in human form; as pastor, I want to thank each and every one who has been so generous, even before the great feast of Christmas to share your time and talent. I certainly want to thank the staff who take on many extra responsibilities.



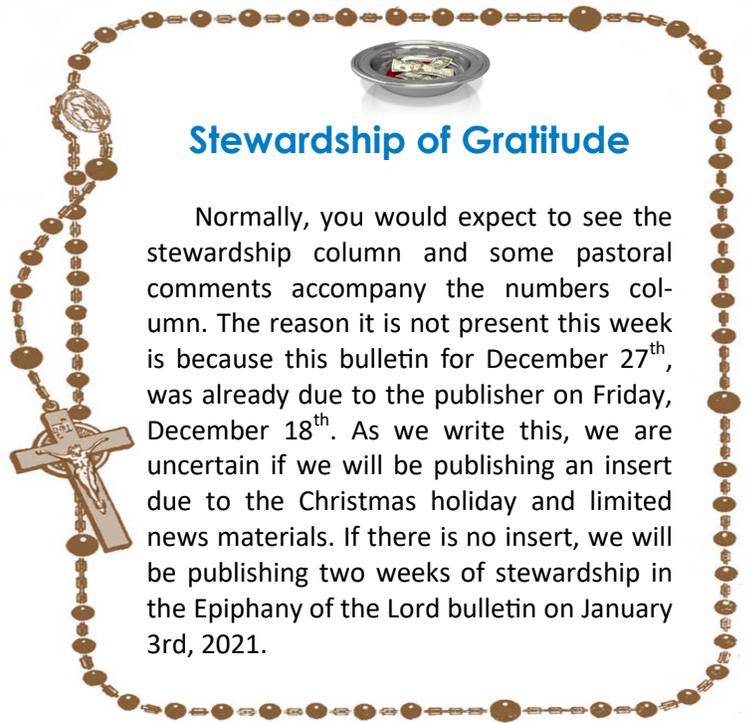
I also wish to thank, in a special way, our volunteers who gave some time last week setting up the Christmas decorations to make things festive for the Christmas Masses as well as the Christmas season.

Although congregational singing is not a safe thing to do right now, I'd like to thank the instrumental musicians who helped the Christmas Masses be a little more special! Thank you!

I also wish to thank the liturgical ministers who assist in the various capacities from ushers to extra-ordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharist.

Most of all, thank you to you, the faithful, who always seem to come, pandemic or not, for these important liturgies of the Church. Even if everything was perfectly decorated, sung and served, but no one was in church, it would not be a very joyful celebration. May this Christmas be remembered for all of the sacrifices of so many, of all that we have given up and sacrificed in this unprecedented year, and most especially the sacrifice of Jesus, who came to this earth to take away our sins and save our souls for Himself for all eternity! Thank you, everyone, so much and, oh yes, Merry Christmas!!!

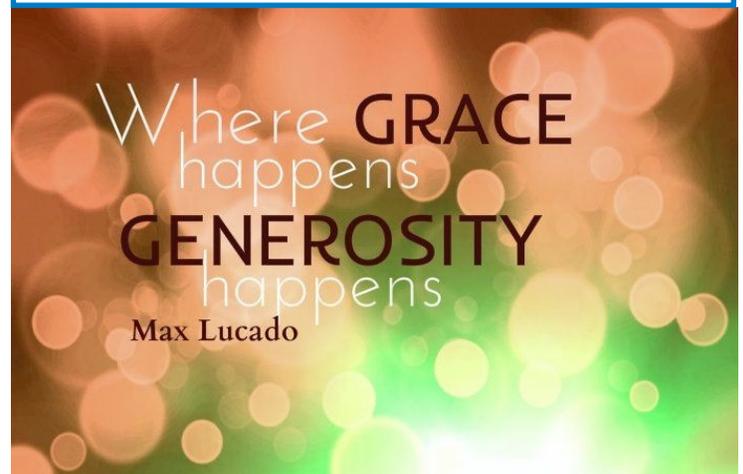
- Fr. Paul van de Crommert, Pastor



Stewardship of Gratitude

Normally, you would expect to see the stewardship column and some pastoral comments accompany the numbers column. The reason it is not present this week is because this bulletin for December 27th, was already due to the publisher on Friday, December 18th. As we write this, we are uncertain if we will be publishing an insert due to the Christmas holiday and limited news materials. If there is no insert, we will be publishing two weeks of stewardship in the Epiphany of the Lord bulletin on January 3rd, 2021.

Thought For the Week



(c)merrychristmas.wiki



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. 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

Monday, December 28th: The Holy Innocents,

Martyrs

5:00 pm - Mass - John Klaseust†

Tuesday, December 29th: [Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr]

Private Mass - Joanne Deckert†

Wednesday, December 30th: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

12:00 pm - Mass - Francis Neubert†

Thursday, December 31st: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - Vigil

5:30 pm - Mass - Diane Sieberg†

Friday, January 1st: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

9:00 am - Mass - Margaret Baxter†

Saturday, January 2nd: Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

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

5:00 pm - Mass - Anne Rooney

Sunday, January 3rd: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

10:00 am - Mass - Juliette Shamp†



Ministry Schedule January 2nd & 3rd

Eucharistic Ministers:

5:00 pm Pat & Wanda Hull

10:00 am Terri Compton, Sherry Henrickson

Ushers:

10:00 am Doug Helget, Craig Amundson, Jim Theuninck, Bob Wegscheid



Upcoming Parish Events

- **New Year's Masses: New Year's Eve - 5:30 pm. New Year's Day - 9:00 am**

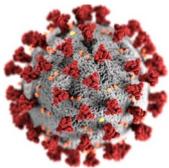
- **Faith Formation Resumes (Grades 6-9) - Wednesday, January 13th, 6:30 pm, church**



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.

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, council meetings, C.C.W., and 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 with regular office hours.



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:

Ken & Patricia Thiele

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Holy Day



Now that the rush and excitement of Christmas day is over, it can be easy to think we are done with the season. We cannot forget that January 1st is a Holy Day! The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God is a very important day to honor the Blessed Mother and to ask for her protection as we begin the New Year. **The Masses for this Feast will be celebrated at 5:30 pm on New Years Eve and 9:00 am on New Year's Day!** Our attendance was good for Thanksgiving, maybe for these Masses too?!? Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death.

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: \$1,570.00

DUE: \$108,750.00

Total Paid to Date 2020-21: \$172,805.58**Apostolate stewardship for 2020-21: \$387,320.62**

We were blessed this week as a parish to receive two gifts towards our air-conditioning upgrade that was completed late last fall. Specifically, we are grateful to the Joe and Vicki Galli family for their recent memorial gift of \$920.00 in memory of Joe. This amount was applied to the air conditioning unit. Certainly Joe, who served Dairy Queen ice cream for so many years and needed refrigeration to keep himself in business and the ice cream from melting, would appreciate that this memorial money would go towards keeping people from melting at Mass, and to keep people practicing the faith in the heat of summer. We also received an additional offering of \$300.00 specifically from a member of Holy Rosary to also go towards the air-conditioning fund. This brings us to the largest total received in one week for our air conditioning fund of \$1,220.00. This brings our grand total for the air conditioning fund to over \$1,500.00. This is a very good start and hopefully we can keep pushing this number higher and higher when we have the Diocesan and Catholic Schools stewardship goals completed earlier and not later in the new calendar year of 2021. Please consider a year-end offering to the parish so we might continue to reduce these assessments to these various areas and continue to stay above our budgeted needs. As always, thank you for your gifts!

**Save the Date - Wired to the Heart Virtual Event: 2/6/21**

Taking into consideration the health and safety of everyone involved, Loyola Catholic School's annual Wired to the Heart event, will be presenting its fundraising gala VIRTUALLY Saturday, February 6, 2021. This virtual experience will be filled with all the fabulousness that you have come to know and love from Wired to the Heart! Be sure to LIKE the Wired to the Heart Facebook page- stay up to date on event details@wiredtotheheart!

Thank you for your continued support.

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.

**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.





Faith Formation



Second Semester Faith Formation Schedule

Our second semester schedule is out for Faith Formation. Copies were available on December 16th when grades 1-5 gathered as well as in the weekend bulletin on the 4th Sunday of Advent through an insert. You are also able to retrieve the schedule online from our website. As the semester progresses, we are hoping to gain some more normalcy as we enter later into the month of March and before we conclude at the end of April 2021. I have been most pleased with our Faith Formation attendance even though the public school has not been in session. It is nice to hear that both students and parents appreciate and are enjoying the Mass and instructional presentations during the time of the homily. Don't forget, we will resume classes with grades 6-9 on Wednesday, January 16th at 6:30 P.M. Stay well!

First Holy Communion Congratulations

Our prayers and best wishes go out to Grace Kremer on the occasion of her First Holy Communion that was celebrated last Sunday, on the 4th Sunday of Advent. (Recall, we have been having some very early bulletin deadlines from our publisher due to the holiday season.) Our prayers and best wishes go out to Grace and her family on this joyous occasion. May the reception of the Holy Eucharist for the first time be the beginning of a long and life-time relationship with Jesus Christ!



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 For The New Year

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the year that has passed and the many blessings You have showered us in time.

We beg your pardon in our many failings and trespasses and we pray that the coming year be a more fruitful one.

We earnestly pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit and we call upon our Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessions, His guidance and His light to shine our path.

Read the full prayer @ christianstt.com

Year-End Giving

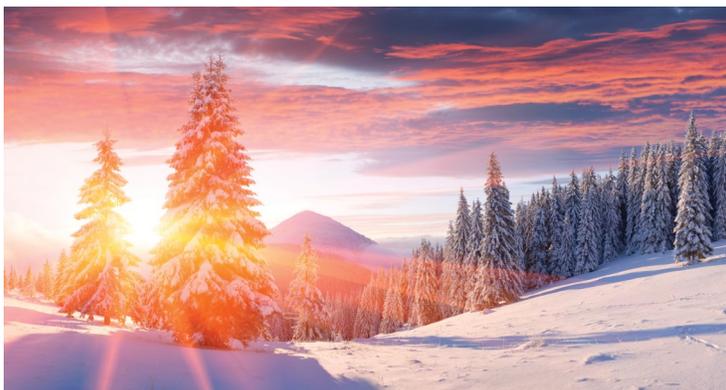


The end of the year is not far away, and it is time to start thinking of strategies to maximize the tax benefits of year-end giving. Federal tax laws and many state laws make it possible to reduce or eliminate taxes on gifts to charities like your parish, diocese, schools and other ministries. Remember 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.



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 Stephen & Isabelle Behm
Tuesday Pearl Gohla
Wednesday Don & Jane Leiferman
Thursday Andrew & Sara Lang
Friday Mary Bliss
Saturday Thomas & Karen Schmolli
Sunday Jill Smith



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: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18 (698) Pss Prop
 Tues: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35 (202) Pss Prop
 Weds: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40 (203) Pss Prop
 Thurs: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18 (204) Pss Prop
 Fri: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21 (18) Pss Prop
 Sat: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28 (205) Pss I
 Sun: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12 (20) Pss Prop

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.