



# Holy Rosary Catholic Church

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

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## 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

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## 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

## January 10, 2021

### *The Baptism of the Lord*



**Rev. Paul van de Crommert**  
**Pastor**

# the Quill and the Cloth

*"On coming up out of the water He saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon Him."*  
-St. Mark



The picture above was the crowd that attended the President Trump march and protest in Washington on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. But in keeping with the biblical words of today's Gospel from St. Mark; it was the crowd, not the Holy Spirit that *descended* on the capital building and it was not the *heavens*, but the hallowed halls of the Capital building that were *torn open*. While it is both dangerous and frightening to witness this anarchy, as a historian, it is equally fascinating. It might give us a bit of a feeling in 2021, of what many disenfranchised Americans in the south were feeling in say, 1861.

What was the cause of the American Civil War? One historian writes so simply: *"The Civil War between the states started because of uncompromising differences between the free and slave states over the power of the national government to prohibit slavery in the territories that had not yet become states."* **Even more simply put, there was a large portion of people living in this country who were white who felt that they were not being heard at the time of the Civil War.** One hundred and fifty years later, not much has changed in this regard.

There are many out there that claim that the next great wars that will be fought in our world will not be in Washington D.C. or somewhere else in the world. Rather, the next major wars will be fought and won over, of all things, **WATER!** Over the past twenty-five years, politicians, academics and journalists all seem to agree

that perhaps one of the next major wars will be all about water rights. The former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali said recently: *"...The next war in the Middle East will be fought over water, not politics."*

We live in the western hemisphere where good, clean, drinking water is only a faucet away within our homes. We tend to take water for granted in this country, much less the convenience of running water at our kitchen and bathroom sinks which are multiple in most homes. Most Americans drink insufficient amounts of water, less than half of what is recommended, or about 2 and a half glasses of water in 24 hours. Most medical personal tell us that our lack of water consumption over colas, sports drinks and coffee is affecting our health.

Growing up on the farm, we largely lived on water. Perhaps over the course of an entire day we might have had one full glass of milk as we were given a half a glass for breakfast and supper. I can remember running home from the field at mealtime, so thirsty, we drank so much water, we barely were hungry for dinner.

**Today, as we celebrate the final installment of Christmas, the Baptism of the Lord; the Good News word is certainly WATER!** In the First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah, we read in his opening line: *"...All you who are thirsty, come to the water!"* The Responsorial Psalm reads: *"...You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation."* In the Second Reading from the First Letter of St. John he concludes: *"...This is one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood."* Then of course, we come to today's Gospel from St. Mark where Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. **Water, water everywhere in today's readings, but what does it all really mean?**

Water is life! God created water and God is believed to exist spiritually in water for us who believe in the Sacrament of Baptism and in Holy Water! Jesus did not get baptized because He was a sinner, but rather to spiritually witness the healing powers of water. For Jesus knew that when He was baptized, the very God who created the waters would speak of how pleased He was with His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

Just as people stormed the capital because they felt that they were not being heard; we too, see water, sit by it, build homes near it, pollute it, perhaps complain

*(continued on next page)*

**“The Quill and the Cloth” continued...**

about it when we get wet, but we do not hear it speaking spiritually to us through its Creator. The voice of water and especially the holy waters of Baptism speak of life and hope and belief in Jesus Christ, in a time when we desperately need to hear that holy voice in these turbulent times. One last time, Merry Christmas!



Rev. Paul van de Crommert  
Pastor



**Thought For the Week**



*“If you accept the belief that baptism incorporates us in the mystical body of Christ, into the divine DNA, then you might say that the Holy Spirit is present in each of us, and thus we have the capacity for the fullness of redemption, of transformation.”*

—Thomas Keating



**SINCERE SYMPATHY**

To the families of John Umhoefert and Roger Volk†  
- May they rest in peace.



**Stewardship of Gratitude**  
**1/3/21**

**Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary**

<b>Adult Contributions</b>	\$6,273.00
<b>Electronic Giving</b>	\$2,094.64
<b>Plate Collection</b>	\$109.00
<b>Junior Collection</b>	\$39.70
<b>Christmas Collection</b>	\$560.00
<b>Holy Day - Solemnity of Mary</b>	\$790.00
<b>Holy Day - Immac. Conception</b>	\$900.00

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<b>Weekly Offering Total</b>	<b>\$10,766.34</b>
<i>Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00</i>	
<b>Bridging the Gap</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Additional Weekly Income</b>	<b>\$2,861.75</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$13,628.15</b>
<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!**

**Stewardship of Gratitude**

Many times, immediately after the holidays, the collections take a drop. This year has been exceptional in many ways, but in terms of stewardship, we are doing remarkably well. I recently mentioned that we were still behind some \$7,000.00 in stewardship for Christmas. This week we pushed that amount forward by nearly \$600.00, with additional monies received for the Christmas holiday as we were ready to go to press with the bulletin and will be reported next week.

As the sun sets on Sunday evening, liturgically, the Christmas season comes to a close. But, for these pandemic times, it was a pretty exceptional Christmas. For not only did we have a very respectable collection, but if the attendance of the three Masses were combined, it would have resulted in one capacity crowd! The Lord does provide!



## The Week Ahead

**Monday, January 11th: Weekday**

12:00 pm - Mass - John Klaseus†

**Tuesday, January 12th: Weekday**

Private Mass - Evelyn Anderson†

**Wednesday, January 13th: [Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church]**

12:00 pm - Mass - Mary McVickert†

6:30 pm - Faith Formation - Grades 6-9 - Mass - Joe & Honor Twomey

**Thursday, January 14th: Weekday**

12:00 pm - Mass - Family of Karen Arneman Zenk

**Friday, January 15th: Weekday**

12:00 pm - Mass - Paul & Karen Harguth Family

**Saturday, January 16th: [BVM]**

No 3:00 pm Mass

4:30 pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation - Cry Room

5:00 pm - Mass - Fuller Family

**Sunday, January 17th: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 am - Mass - People of Holy Rosary Parish



### Upcoming Parish Events

- Faith Formation Resumes - Grades 6-9 - Wednesday, January 13th, 6:30 pm, church
- Faith Formation - Grades 1-5 - Wednesday, January 20th, 6:30 pm, church
- Faith Formation - Grades 6-9 - Wednesday, January 27th, 6:30 pm, church
- 2nd Grade Parents - 1st Holy Communion Meeting - Sunday, January 31st, 6:00 pm, church
- Ash Wednesday - Wednesday, February 17th - Masses @ 9:00 am, 12:00 pm, 6:30 pm
- Easter Sunday - Sunday, April 4th, 2021



### Ministry Schedule January 16th & 17th

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

5:00 pm Pat & Wanda Hull

10:00 am Brenda Voracek, Terri Compton

**Ushers:**

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



### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

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

Paid to Date: \$31,629.09

DUE: \$83,446.38

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

Paid to Date: \$14,670.00

Goal: \$32,866.71

**Loyola Catholic School Assessment:**

**COMPLETED** Pd to Date: \$162,257.53

DUE: \$162,257.53

**Church Air Conditioning Update:**

Pd to Date: \$7,570.00

DUE: \$108,750.00

**Total Paid to Date 2020-21: \$215,126.82**

**Apostolate stewardship for 2020-21: \$387,320.62**

Even though we have passed the Christmas holiday, we continue to take in Christmas and end-of-the-year stewardship. This is allowing us to continue to complete our stewardship goals beyond our parish borders.

As you recall, last week we completed our Loyola stewardship commitment — two days earlier than last year; although our amount decreased by several thousand dollars from last year. On the other hand, a year ago, we had received a major gift at the start of the fiscal year of 2019-2020, of some \$50,000 that helped us pay this commitment off earlier. This year, with our expenses dramatically down, we were able to conclude that school stewardship commitment at virtually the same time.

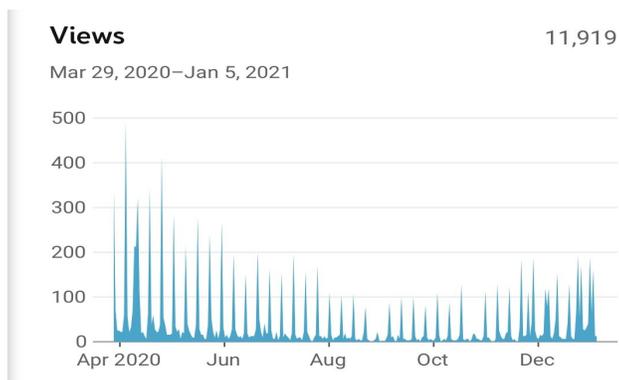
This week we contributed from the parish coffers, an additional \$6,425.72 towards our Diocesan United Fund goal that is a hard goal. This amount was past due and we had received a call before Christmas from the Diocesan leadership wondering when they could expect a payment. However, there really was a check in the mail for some \$18,000.00. Again, this week with another almost \$6,500 contributed, we are now current with the Diocese. I will try each week to continue to make a payment and complete this hard goal on or before the third quarter of this fiscal year. From there, we will be able to work exclusively for ourselves to recoup our monies spent on the air-conditioning as well as to work on some electrical improvements that will begin in this month of January in the church proper.

I continue to be amazed at the stewardship response, which is a response of faith. Thank you so much. In every parish that I have been assigned, I have always been blessed while I was there with GREAT stewardship during my pastorate. Holy Rosary has proven this stewardship reality to also be true, even in these challenging times in society as well as the present sickness that is plaguing this place, we call home. As always, thank you for your gifts!

## On the Matters of the Mass - and the Mass Matters!

One of the problems of this pandemic, is that there are no pastoral directions on how to proceed. As I have been saying, priests and pastors have had to make it up as they go along. Presently, we are living in the hope that as the vaccine becomes more available, we will be arriving at a certain normalcy in the coming months. *(I am still anticipating that the months of January and February of this year might still be quite a challenge for much of the country.)*

Overall, I have been most pleased as to how we have been able to adapt spiritually to our new way of worshipping since March of 2020. Can you believe that we will soon be at this pandemic business for almost a year? During the initial shutdown, we went online. Our response to the Masses online has been nothing short of excellent with almost 12,000 views to date. If you think that maybe 2-3 people on average might be watching the Masses per household, then the previous number could be as large as 25,000 or 35,000 people watching the Masses since last March. And to think that this pastor was arguing with the staff that he didn't think there would be that many people watching the Mass online! *(If there was ever a time to say, "I was wrong!" this is it!)* In fact, it was recently reported to me that the number of people viewing our Masses is continuing to slowly increase since the end of summer. (\*Please see the chart below.)



The decision to hold Mass outdoors last summer proved to be very spiritually successful. In fact, we saw our largest pandemic attendances outdoors on Grant Avenue, with at least a couple of weeks as many as 250 folks in attendance. With the fall and winter weather heading our way, we were forced as Minnesotans back indoors. A couple of weeks inside the church we saw the church nearly full by social distance standards, and one Sunday at 10:00 A.M., we were heading close to running short of room, but the cry room and the choir loft still had some available space. The Saturday night Mass at 5:00 P.M. has been fairly light, but attendance seems to have picked up a little bit more in the past few weeks.

**I have made the pastoral decision at this time to end the 3:00 P.M. Mass.** We initially needed to have the 3:00 P.M. Mass because our videographer had a health condition and did not want to be around a lot of people. Secondly, it was also a beneficial Mass for some of our older parishioners who did not want to be around a lot of other people. But now, with winter setting in and icy roads and streets, I think it might be best that some of our older folks become (for just a few weeks) "virtual worshippers." We have now been able to record the Mass ourselves, at no charge, at the 5:00 P.M. Mass, which has a very modest attendance at this point, and is quiet enough to get a good recording. For now, we will continue to record the Sunday and Holy Day Masses for those not attending Mass in-person. **Eventually, my pastoral plans are when the pandemic restrictions are lifted, we will still post the Sunday Mass for our homebound parishioners later in the week. I want to do everything I can as a priest and pastor to encourage the faithful to return to Mass "in-person," particularly when the obligation to attend Mass each week is again required by the American Bishops and the Universal Church.**

**This year Ash Wednesday is early, on February 17<sup>th</sup>. I will be offering 3 Masses on Ash Wednesday at 9:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M., and 6:30 P.M. Beginning on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, the First Sunday of Lent, I will be returning to an early Sunday morning Mass at 8:30 A.M.. It was suggested to me by early morning Sunday worshippers of Holy Rosary, to keep it simple and shorter (although our Masses are under an hour now), and to have the Mass at 8:30 A.M. and the second Sunday Mass still at 10:00 A.M. for the time being.**

**I have also decided for the time being to have a 12:00 P.M. daily Mass on Monday, Thursday and Friday for the temporary future. The Wednesday evening Mass for our Faith Formation students for grades 1-5 and for 6-9, will continue at 6:30 P.M.**

I want to commend you for your "spiritual versatility" during this time of virus. I marvel at many of you, that you have prioritized the spiritual life (especially our seniors), even above a chance of getting sick. God always rewards sacrifice, especially in the areas of the spiritual life. As I have said before and I will say it again, some of my most prayerful Masses have been both outside on the street as well as when we have had the small crowds in our worship space, since all those in attendance truly want to be there, in their personal sacrifice. There appears few, if any, "Casual Catholics." I also feel that our young families have been so generous in bringing their children and growing in their faith as a family on Wednesday evenings! Yes, it is a bit more work for the priest, but to see the spiritual fruits gained for our immortal souls is all worth it. See you at Mass "in-person" or "online." God love you!!!

- Father



## Faith Formation



### Faith Formation Resumes This Week

Faith Formation will be resuming this week for grades 6-9 on Wednesday, January 13th at 6:30pm in church. We have had a strong attendance and we hope that will continue into 2021! All parishioners are welcome to attend the Mass with our young people and their families!

Faith Formation for grades 1-5 will resume next week, Wednesday, January 20th.



*"When we were baptized we took upon us not only the name of Christ, but also the law of obedience."*

– Robert D. Hales



### Second Semester Faith Formation Schedule

Our second semester schedule is out for Faith Formation. Copies were available on December 16<sup>th</sup> when grades 1-5 gathered as well as in the weekend bulletin on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 this Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 P.M. Stay well!**



*"Your baptism is a step of obedience, a leap of faith and the beginning of a walk with the Lord that will last forever."*

–Author Unknown



### Echo Food Shelf - Food For the Needy

**We have now taken in over 800 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!"

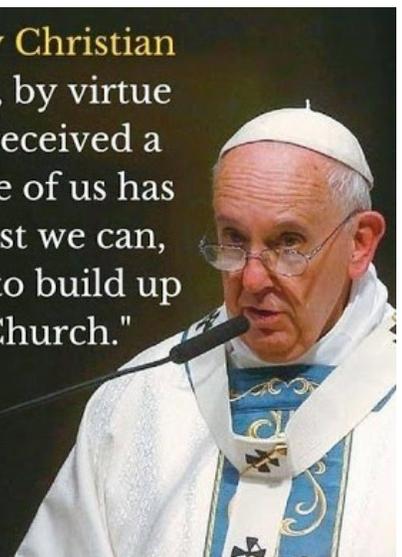


### Prayer for a New Bishop

Almighty God, Who by the Holy Spirit moves the hearts of Your people, direct the counsels of those who are appointed to choose a bishop for the Diocese of New Ulm, that we may be given a pastor who in faithfulness and wisdom shall lead Your people in the way of holiness. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.*

**"In the end, every Christian man and woman, by virtue of baptism, has received a mission. Each one of us has to respond, as best we can, to the Lord's call to build up his Body, the Church."**

Pope Francis  
Homily Philadelphia Cathedral  
September 2015





**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.

**Admissions/Enrollment**

Are you looking for school options for next year? Give us a call to find out what Loyola is all about! Contact Kerstyn Cafarelli, 507-386-5399 or cafarelli@loyolacatholic.school.org for more information.

Preschool/PreKindergarten enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year will be open soon! Watch for details in the coming weeks, or visit our website: www.loyolacatholic.school.org for more information.

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

*Leading through Faith, Academic Excellence, and Service.*

*"There are two sides to this Baptism: The first is, you possess the Spirit; The second is that the Spirit possesses you."*

*- Smith Wigglesworth*



**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/](http://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!

**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, 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

**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** Janet Larson  
**Tuesday** Scott & Stacy Klinkner  
**Wednesday** Vicky Heelan  
**Thursday** Jeff & Heidi Pengilly  
**Friday** Jamie Malvin  
**Saturday** Dick & Ruth Kozitza  
**Sunday** Peter & Jelaine Schreiner



**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: Heb 1:1-6/Mk 1:14-20 (305) Pss I  
 Tues: Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28 (306)  
 Weds: Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39 (307)  
 Thurs: Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45 (308)  
 Fri: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12 (309)  
 Sat: Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17 (310)  
 Sun: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42 (65) Pss II



**This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:**

*Lisa Schablin*