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Parish Office

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Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Emergency Number

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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

Gary Zellmer

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 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent



“Gaudete Sunday”
[“Rejoice Sunday”]

Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?"
- St. Luke



Once upon a time, people would go to the parish priest for counsel and advice seeking out an appointment and then sitting down for a visit. Today, what most of us can expect in the priesthood, is someone running out of the church on a weekend liturgy and saying, "Father, can I ask you a question?" Usually, the question that they are asking of God's representative, they could just as easily have "googled", and maybe get an even clearer answer on some point of Catholicism, rather than expecting the priest to give an answer off the cuff on the steps of the church.

Maybe that is why the faithful are less and less inclined to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation these days. For the Sacrament of Reconciliation is more than the confession of sins, but it is also seeking counsel; more than acknowledging of one's sins, but also seeking spiritual direction on how to live a more holy life. But when pride and independence take over our lives, there is often very little room left in our heart for an interior examination of our spiritual lives, much less the spiritual power to push us by God's grace into the confessional.

I was still quite young and in grade school when my older brother came home one day during the summer to announce that he was leaving the seminary and the religious order that he had joined, having taken only temporary vows. I recall my brother making the announcement in the summer while visiting us from the state of Indiana where he had been living in the monastery and attending Purdue University. My parent's disappointment and surprise was palpable, and perhaps a bit loud. Feeling that my brother was rushing into a life decision he might later regret, they "forced" him to put on "good clothes", [imagine dressing up to go to see the priest] drive to town and speak with our pastor. Reluctantly, he did so, and returned an hour or so later, informing that the counsel he had received from the Catholic clergyman was pretty much the same that had been given by his superiors of the religious order to discontinue his studies if he did not feel the call to the priesthood and/or religious life.

Although that was not a thousand years ago, it seems almost that long ago when I think how much influence the priest had on the lives of the faithful under their charge versus today when most often people want to speak with a pastor because of a "concern" or perhaps some "comment" the Pope or some other person has made on some spiritual topic. But more than 2,000 years ago the

people also held the clergy and holy people such as prophets in high regard, and certainly wanted their advice on how to be holy and to share in heaven.

So, in today's Gospel from St. Luke, those who seek out the sage spiritual advice from St. John the Baptist range from a crowd of people that included tax collectors and even military soldiers, [perhaps even Roman soldiers who would not have had a belief in the Jewish faith]. St. John's wisdom and spiritual counsel causes many people to think that St. John the Baptist was in fact the Savior. But John the Baptist assures them that he WAS NOT the Savior. And any lack of holiness that John may have felt when people complimented him that he might be the Christ, John makes up for in humility with the words: ***"...I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals"***. That is pretty humble, people of God!

It is not by accident that we hear again of the great St. John the Baptist, advising us spiritually and announcing the coming of Christ for a second week in a row. May the words of the prophet that have been passed onto our generation 2,000 years later, permeate our hearts, so that we might see the need of penance in this season of Advent, and that our Christmas celebration, with the Holy Mass, might be one that is truly "Merry". May your GAUDETE SUNDAY, be in fact and in faith a day of JOY and REJOICING! Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus, do not delay! ***I hope you might take a little time to come to church this Sunday and spend some time before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament when He is exposed on the altar! See you in church!***


Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

Advent Exposition & Benediction



The pandemic has not only set back the **ECONOMY** but also our devotion to the **EUCCHARIST**. The pandemic has not only been a problem for **SHIPPING** but also the **SPIRITUAL LIFE**. The pandemic has not only been a problem for **EDUCATORS** but also for **EXPOSITION** and **BENEDICTION**, as the parish has had neither of these spiritual experiences for many months. So, join us...

This Sunday - December 12th

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 11:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Benediction 2:15 P.M.

[Sacrament of Reconciliation from 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.]

*[*May we offer this time of prayer for Catholics to return to the sacraments this Christmas and in the New Year of the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Penance.]*

Pre-Christmas Party Thank You!

A special word of thanks goes out to the men of our local Knights of Columbus and our Council of Catholic Women for hosting again [after last year's absence due to Covid-19], the annual Holy Rosary Christmas party. Although we are going to press early due to our publisher's request this week, we have already exceeded some 230 free meal tickets. I believe two years ago we may have only served about 130-150 people. So, handing out the free tickets seemed to work. I anticipate that the gymnasium will be a perfect place to spread out and enjoy a festive meal and activities as we anticipate the great feast of the incarnation of our God, Jesus Christ! Thanks again!

Parish Advent/Christmas Mailing

Please watch your mail for a letter that will be sent to every registered household in the parish during the next couple of weeks and in anticipation for the great feast of Christmas. You are invited to take a few moments to read this letter. If you do not receive the letter by mid-December, please call the Parish Office, and we will have one sent to you.

**Far Out!**

A week ago Saturday we had a "Far Out" outing, as a bus load of Holy Rosary souls went to Rochester to enjoy a meal together as well as enjoy both Christmas music and the music of John Denver. Everyone seemed to have a good time. The restaurant we ate at was absolutely "excellent"! What a great home-made tasting meal and served hot for so many people. The restaurant was packed. The music was equally good and I learned a couple of things as I watched this gentleman play the guitar. More winter practicing! Thank you to all of you that came and helped build some Holy Rosary spirit. A special thanks to Jim Theuninck who turned the pastor's idea into reality! Thanks everyone! Where should we go to next?

Stewardship of Gratitude
12/5/2021
**Our Gifts to God & Holy Rosary**

Adult Contributions	\$6,904.00
Electronic Giving	\$2,880.66
Plate Collection	\$278.25
Junior Collection	\$63.00
Church Renovation	\$200.00
Christmas Flowers	\$381.00
Thanksgiving	\$26.00
Christmas	\$25.00
Concert Tickets Paid	\$990.00
Immaculate Conception	\$215.00
Weekly Offering Total	\$11,762.91

Weekly offering goal is set at \$10,300.00

Additional Weekly Income	\$10,677.00
Grand Total	\$22,439.91

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

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

Stewardship of Gratitude

Over the past few weeks, you may have noticed that our stewardship has rebounded, although we had a slow start at the new Fiscal Year of 2020-2021. Last Thursday the Holy Rosary Pastoral Council met and among the many things reported and discussed, the finances of the parish were reviewed, with some very positive results. I will mention a few of the highlights at this time.

The parish expenses were noticeably down from a year ago, by almost 29%. This is due in part to the many repairs that were done last year and also were carried over from the exterior work on "Stepping Up in Faith" campaign. Secondly, adult contributions, when compared to last year at this time increased by 15.1%; junior collections had increased by almost 16%, electronic giving increased from a year ago by 6.3%, and the loose plate collection had increased by a whopping 128%. Of course, all of these statistics from stewardship are a visible sign that the spiritual life is slowly returning to normal.

We are still however behind in our overall contributions to both the Diocese and Loyola from a year ago by a little more than \$39,000.00. As we approach the Christmas holidays, regardless if you will be celebrating at Holy Rosary, or will be out of town, please keep Holy Rosary on your short stewardship "nice" list! And as always, thank you for your gifts!

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 12th: Third Sunday of Advent

CCW Advent Bake Sale - After the Masses - Church

Lower Hall

11:00 am - 2:00 pm - Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament - Pray for priestly vocations and a return to the faith - post-pandemic.

12:00 pm - Confirmation Class - School Building

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Sacrament of Confession

2:15 pm - Benediction

Monday, December 13th: Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

8:30 am - Mass - Mary Kunz

6:00 pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation

Father will remain as long as there are penitents - Confessional
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

Tuesday, December 14th: Saint John of the Cross, Priest

& Doctor of the Church

Private Mass - Merle Braam†

6:00 pm - Kathy Jo's Music Group Practice - Church

Wednesday, December 15th: Advent Weekday

10:00 am - Mass at Oak Terrace - Ray & LaVaughn Drummert†

6:30 pm - Faith Formation Class Grades 1 - 8

Thursday, December 16th: Advent Weekday

12:00 pm - Mass - Danny Culhanet†

4:30 pm - Loyola Board of Trustees Meeting -
(Fr. Paul attends)

Friday, December 17th: Advent Weekday

10:00 am - Communal Anointing Mass at Monarch Meadows - Clair Huettl†

Saturday, December 18th: Advent Weekday

5:00 pm - Mass - People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation following Mass

Sunday, December 19th: Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am - Mass - Deceased Members of the Wanzek Family

10:00 am - Mass - Helen Neubert†



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:

Elaine Shea Family

Knights of
Columbus



Council
5551

Christmas Tree Sale

Supporting local charities

Behind the Circle Inn - 232 Belgrade Ave, Lower North

Starting **Friday, 11/26** (9:00-7:00)

Regular Hours - Mon-Fri (4:30-7:30); Sat (9:00-7:00); Sun (11:00-7:00)



Ministry Schedule December 18th & 19th

Rosary Leader:

5:00 pm Mary Braam
8:30 am Arlyce Anderson
10:00 am Donna Wolf

Lector:

5:00 pm Brian Eggersdorfer
8:30 am Linda Olson
10:00 am Jim Schorn

Eucharistic Ministers:

5:00 pm Brenda Voracek, Jane Younge
8:30 am Terri Compton, Sharon Lenz
10:00 am Curt & Donna Stanke

Servers:

5:00 pm Lauren Thompson, James Younge
8:30 am Hannah Linnes
10:00 am Sophia Behm, Emma Bernard

Ushers:

5:00 pm Steve & Barb Enderle
8:30 am Gary & Mary Zellmer
10:00 am Blaine & Teresa Kolstad

Music Ministry:

5:00 pm Mark Frahm, Janelle Campeau
8:30 am Corrine Ort, Kurt Schroeder, Lori Christiansen
10:00 am Jenny Chelstrom, Vicki Galli



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.

Echo Food Shelf - Food For the Needy



We have taken in over **334** pounds of non-perishable food products for the Echo Food Shelf. The latest statistics have now revealed that up to 1 out of 8 Americans are experiencing food insecurity. We will continue to collect good supplies through the month of December. Let's see if we can raise at least 1,000 pounds of food in the weeks ahead.

Upcoming Parish Events



- **Advent Season – Sacrament of Reconciliation-** Monday's in Advent – 6:00 PM – Holy Rosary Cry Room (Fr. will remain in the confessional area as long as there are penitents. There will be no public communal celebrations of the Sacrament of Penance this Advent.)
- **Food Drive for ECHO Food Shelf** - November and December 2021
- **Faith Formation Class** - Wednesday, December 15th - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm; Grades 1 - 8
- **Christmas Eve Masses** - Friday, December 24th at Holy Rosary - 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM [*Carols at 3:45 PM and 9:45 PM]
- **Christmas Day Masses** - Saturday, December 25th at Holy Rosary - *8:00 AM [Note earlier time] and 10:00 AM
- **No Evening Mass on Saturday, December 25th for the Feast of the Holy Family**
- **Feast of the Holy Family** – Sunday, December 26th 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM
- **New Year's Eve Mass** - Friday, December 31st – 5:00 PM
- **New Year's Day Mass** - Saturday, January 1st – 9:00 AM
- **Feast of Epiphany** - Saturday, January 1st - 5:00 PM; Sunday, January 2nd - 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Christmas Flower Donations



Attached to last week's "hard copy" bulletin as well as in your packet of contribution envelopes is an envelope for contributing towards our Christmas flowers that will adorn our sanctuary again this Christmas. Thank you to those of you that have already used your envelope in your packets for donating towards the flowers. **To date, we have already taken in an amazing amount of exactly \$1,151.00 and an increase from last year at this time by \$81.00.** (Unfortunately the envelope in your packet does not contain a space to add in your intentions for living or deceased loved ones that you wish to remember at Christmas time.) Therefore, we would ask those of you that already contributed but did not include your intentions, to do so by either calling the parish office or sending us a note in the near future. As in the past, we will be publishing in our Christmas bulletin the memorials and remembrances of those for whom the flowers have been given in loving memory that have died or are simply a distance away. **We would ask that you would submit your stewardship and also your intentions by no later than Friday, December 17th at 12:00 P.M.** Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! Do not delay!



Faith Formation

Final Class of Faith Formation [Grades 1-8] [for the calendar year - December 15th]



Our final Faith Formation class for the calendar year will be next Wednesday, December 15th at 6:30 P.M. While it is traditional in some classrooms to have a little part of class reserved for a party, I have instructed the catechists, that with such little precious class time, to reserve just a small portion of the class for this purpose.

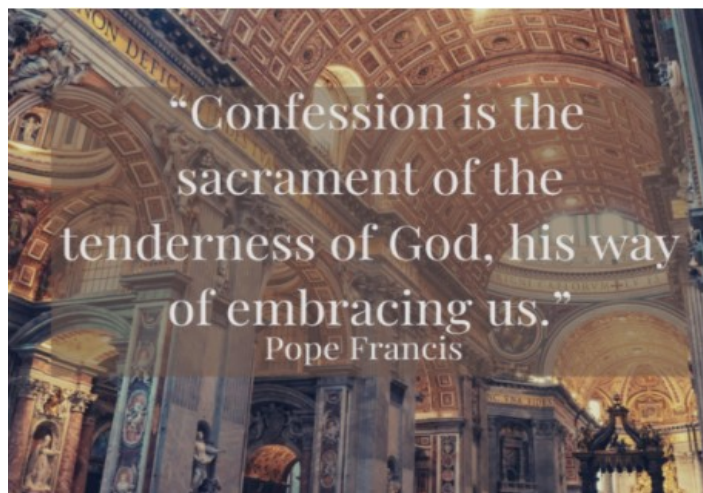
Our catechists freely give of themselves to teach the faith weekly to your son and daughter. I think that it would be highly appropriate to perhaps bring to class from your families a little gift or card of congratulations at Christmas and a thank you for their selfless giving in the classroom for your son or daughter to grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. Thank you!



Confirmation Class – This Sunday!

Our final class for the first semester for Confirmation will be held this Sunday from 12:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. Part of our class will involve going over to church and spending some time before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer and meditation. The students will also have the opportunity to celebrate individually the Sacrament of Penance. PARENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO COME TO THE SECOND HOUR OF OUR SESSION IN CHURCH, at 1:00 P.M., TO COME AND ALSO SPEND SOME TIME IN PRAYER AND TO CELEBRATE AS WELL, THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION. WE MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT *FAITH IS NOT SO MUCH TAUGHT AS IT IS CAUGHT!* We hope to see you on Sunday for both the Mass and some time of meditation and the medicinal sacrament that heals us of our sins! (Dismissal will be from church.)

Thought for the Week



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.

Request for Volunteers for the VITA Tax Program

Volunteers are needed for the VITA Tax Program. The program provides free tax preparation for lower-to-middle-income taxpayers, older individuals, and those with disabilities, to help them get the tax refunds to which they are entitled. We need tax preparers, greeters, & phone volunteers.

Tax preparers need only computer competence and an interest in financial/tax issues. Some tax prep experience is welcome but not required; tax preparation training and training materials are provided. Greeters will do intake and initial screening, and phone volunteers are needed to take tax appointments. Training for both will be provided, and no experience is necessary.

This is a very rewarding activity. Taxpayers are fun to work with and are always very grateful. For more information, call Ginger Klenk at 387-5707; leave a message if no one is home.

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

Paid to Date: \$24,412.26

DUE: \$89,576.81

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

Paid to Date: \$7,190.00

Due: \$33,786.20

Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

Pd to Date: \$95,000.00

DUE: \$153,150.75

Holy Rosary Church Repair/Restoration:

Pd to Date: \$5,300.00

Goal: \$150,000.00

Total Paid to Date 2021-22: \$131,902.26

Apostolate stewardship for 2021-22: \$426,513.76

We have news in our "Stewardship Corner" on two fronts: first, our Loyola stewardship commitments and secondly, the annual Diocesan United Fund. In the first instance, we contributed an additional \$20,000.00 to Loyola again this week. [For recall, last week we also gave \$20,000.00, so in the past 14 days we have contributed \$40,000.00. This brings us well over the 50% mark of contributions to \$95,000.00, or about 62% of our total parish goal.

We also have our first figures in from our Diocesan Annual Appeal. Our "soft goal" has been set by the Diocese at a healthy \$33,786.20. In actual cash received, the Diocese has taken in a total of \$7,190.00. The total amount in pledges and gifts has climbed in this early stage to \$7,590.00, or about 22% of the total goal the Diocese of New Ulm is requesting. [At this time, the parish will be receiving back from this amount a total of \$1,438.00 that will be turned around to pay down the "hard goal" of the annual Diocesan United Fund.]

When these figures are compared against the figures of 2020, last year the parish had paid to Loyola a total of \$125,000.00, or **\$30,000.00** more at this time. The Diocesan Annual Appeal had taken in last year at this time, \$9,970.00, or **\$2,655.00** more than this year. Last year the parish had contributed \$30,915.58 to the Diocesan United Fund, while this year, the parish has contributed \$24,412.26, or **\$6,503.32** less than last year. So, overall, when compared to a year ago, the parish has contributed **\$39,158.32 less than last year at this time in these three combined areas.**

As you are making out your Christmas list, perhaps you can include one of the Diocesan appeals, either the D.M.A. or the D.U.F. We will again be taking up a second collection for the Catholic School of Loyola at all of the Christmas Masses to cover this year's \$153,000.00 commitment, as we have done in years past. We hope that you will extend again your Christmas generosity. And as always, thank you for your gifts!

**Attention Alumni -****The Alumni Basketball Tournament is back!**

Join us for the 5 on 5 Loyola Alumni Basketball Tournament on December 18, 10:30am - 2:00pm in the Fitzgerald gym. The tourney is open to all alums of Loyola basketball. We would like to have teams of players from grades within three years of each other if possible (example 2000-2003). We are hoping to have at least six teams and hoping for eight. For teams wanting to play, please contact scarlson@loyolacatholicschool.org or noahrajtar@gmail.com with a list of your team members and the graduation year(s). Follow Mankato Loyola Boys Basketball page on Facebook for further information on the tournament and the season!

School-Based Mentoring Program

Loyola Catholic School is participating in the YMCA School-Based Mentoring Program for the upcoming school year. The school-based mentoring program pairs Loyola Catholic School students with adult mentors for lunch once a week. For the students, it is an adult who will listen without judging, talk without preaching, and take a genuine interest in how things are going. In other words, a friend. Our hope is to have mentors ready to start in September with additional mentors being added as needed and they become available throughout the school year. Please email Becky Gerdes, Dean of Academics at bgerdes@loyolacatholicschool.org if you would be interested in serving as a mentor. Training will be provided by the YMCA.

Admissions

We are excited to announce that enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year will open on **January 3rd, 2022** for the community. Current Loyola families will have priority registration starting on December 15th - January 3rd.

Please call Kerstyn Cafarelli, Admissions Associate at 507-386-5399 or email admissions@loyolacatholicschool.org to schedule a tour.

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

Leading through Faith, Academic Excellence, and Service.



RECONCILIATION

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, Ruth Fitterer, Steve Fitterer, Dave Neubert, Kathy Fredrickson, Jerry Winters, Kimberly Wegscheid, Karen Etzell, Nancy Eilbert, Joan Karpinsky, Lester Kopp, Mary Helen Kennedy, Leroy Gappa, Dorothy Drummer, Aljean Ackerman, Donna Hollund, Tatiana Shea, Deacon Preston Doyle, Dolores Haubrich, Brandon Winters, Jeremy Wyrowski, Maxine Davis, Dorothy LeDuc, Bob Nickels

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	Gerald Brown
Tuesday	Kimberly Brown
Wednesday	Lee & Patti Browne
Thursday	Ray & Nora Bruce
Friday	Joan Bruels
Saturday	George & Debra Brunick
Sunday	Charlie Bundy

**For Those in the Military**

Nick Blace	Matt McGraw	Ben Barsness
Jared Hiniker	Timothy Eick	Tanner Johnson
Dana Schiller	Anna Drummer	Zach Zernechel
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 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27 (187)
Tues:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32 (188)
Weds:	Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25/Lk 7:18b-23 (189)
Thurs:	Is 54:1-10/Lk 7:24-30 (190)
Fri:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17 (193)
Sat:	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25 (194)
Sun:	Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45 (12) Pss IV

Fall Festival Final Figures

Overall, we once again had another most successful November Fest(ival). Our profits this year were just a bit shy of \$18,500.00. Unfortunately, our over-all profits decreased from last year by slightly more than **\$3,000.00**. But we had a wonderful spirit and a delicious meal. As always, it was a fantastic time to get together! Our plans are in the works for our 8th Annual November Festival for 2022! We hope to see you there!!!

	Last Year	This Year
Silent Auction	\$4,072.36	\$3,784.10
Raffle Tickets Sold	\$8,830.00	\$9,227.00
Meal Tickets	\$4,701.00	\$4,681.00
Raffle Prize Money	\$6,870.00	\$6,550.00
Country Market	\$5,291.20	\$3,580.15
Beer Garden	\$0.00	\$239.00
Second Collection	\$251.00	\$883.86
Gifted Back	\$0.00	\$445.00
Income	\$30,015.56	\$29,390.11
Expenses	\$8,305.63	\$10,915.99
NET TOTAL	\$21,709.93	\$18,474.12

Do You Provide Care For A Loved One?

A **FREE** POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS workshop where participants learn skills proven to reduce stress, communicate more effectively, improve self-care, how to deal with difficult emotions, positive self-talk, etc. A FREE workshop sponsored by Catholic Charities of Southern MN, will meet six Wednesdays, from 1 – 3 PM beginning Jan. 19th thru Feb. 23rd at Catholic Charities Office located at 201 N. Broad St, Suite 100. (lower level of the Union Square Bldg). Pre-register by January 14th as seating is limited. Email at mcassem@ccsomn.org or call 507-458-9687.

Virtual Candlelight Christmas Novena

The School Sisters of Notre Dame invite young adults (ages 18+) to their December online evening prayer which will be the fourth night of a chanted, candlelight Christmas novena on Sunday, December 19* at 8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT / 6 p.m. MT / 5 p.m. PT. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/12.19.21.



Are You Ready for 2022?



It's always a good idea to review your overall estate plan and fiduciary designations to ensure they are still aligned with your wishes. You will want to check on the funding for trusts, review trustee and agent appointments, review power of attorney provisions and health care directives. You should also consider gifting opportunities to take advantage of the annual gift exclusion - \$15,000.00 per individual and \$30,000.00 per couple - to transfer assets and reduce your taxable estate. Keep in mind that contributions to a 529 college savings plan are considered a gift.

Resources Available for Older Adults through VINE

This time of year can be a deep source of joy for people and can also carry difficult memories or truths for them. Older adults who are feeling the loneliness of social disconnect, loss, relationship struggles, the emotional pain of a chronic medical condition, or burdens that are causing sadness, have a resource available at no charge. The PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives) program at VINE is a 1 on 1 program for people who are experiencing the symptoms of depression. PEARLS coach, Glenda has current openings and encourages anyone who wants to know more, to call 507-386-5571.



From the North American La Salette Mission Center



Dear Father & the Faithful of Holy Rosary,

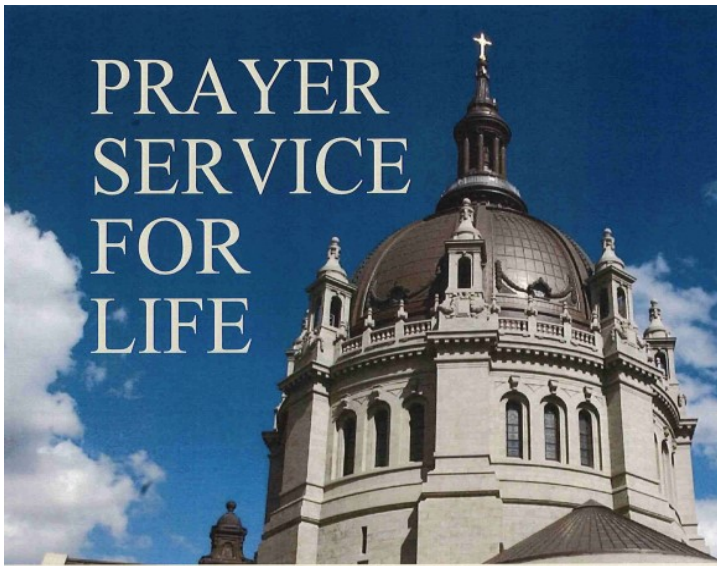
I received a check from the Propagation of the Faith office of New Ulm-MN in the amount of \$1,954.00. We greatly appreciate the generosity of the people of the Church of the Holy Rosary in response to the mission appeal given by Fr. Cliff Hasler. His zeal is evident in the way he speaks of Christ's Mission in the world today, and of how that Mission is being fulfilled in the missionary activity of the La Salette Fathers and Brothers.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring this awareness of our Church's Mission to the people of the Church of the Holy Rosary and to bring their love and support to the needy of the mission countries served by the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette.

Sincerely yours in our Lord and Lady,

Rev. Thomas Vellappallil

Rev. Thomas Vellappallil, M.S.
Exec. Director
St. Louis, MO



PRAYER SERVICE FOR LIFE

Pray with us for Life.

Saturday, January 22, 2022
10:30 a.m.

Cathedral of Saint Paul
239 Selby Ave., St. Paul

Saint John Paul II Champions for Life Awardees will be recognized during the prayer service

MCCL's March for Life at the Capitol to follow

Visit www.archspm.org/events for more details.
Limited seating available.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS
OFFICE OF PARISH, FAMILY AND LIFE

MCCL March for Life - January 22, 2022

Your presence does make a difference! Join the Prayer Service for Life and the 49th Annual MCCL March for Life in St. Paul on Saturday, January 22, 2022. The Prayer Service begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul, followed by the MCCL March for Life at the Capitol.

The March for Life takes on special significance as the Supreme Court takes up the Mississippi court case that would ban most abortions after 15 weeks. Let us give a strong witness to the dignity of every human life through our presence and /or our prayer for the life of the unborn.

Check out the Family Life page at <https://www.dnu.org/marchforlife2022> for updates on the March for Life, as well as transportation opportunities.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



"Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." As we begin the waiting of advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 18-20, 2022 in WINDOM, MN and Feb 11-13, 2022 in Buffalo, MN. For more information, call Miki Schultz at 507-227-8229 or visit them at southmnwwme.org.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Help aging religious. Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others - educating the young, comforting the sick, and ministering to the less fortunate. Today, many are frail and need assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously to today's second collection.



Welcome to Holy Rosary!



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

The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting



Compassionate Friends - Southern MN Chapter



Bereaved parents, grandparents, and siblings are invited to join the South Central Minnesota chapter of The Compassionate Friends for the T.C.F. annual Worldwide Candle lighting event on Dec. 12th at 7 p.m. C.S.T. For more information and to register, please visit <http://tcf-sc-mn.org> or email: tcf-southcentralmn@gmail.com.

There is no cost for the event, and you may join in person or via Zoom. Please see the website linked above for more information. There will be an opportunity to make a memorial ornament for your loved one, and we will have our photo button maker available. Please bring a photo of your loved one for the photo button.

Holy Rosary Worship Committee Meeting
Holy Rosary Catholic Church
October 11, 2021

The Holy Rosary Worship Committee met on Monday, October 11, 2021 at the parish school in the conference room. Following prayer, the past minutes of the November 16th meeting, published in the bulletin, were approved as read.

Pastor's Comments: Father briefly stated that more and more of the liturgical life is returning slowly but surely back to normal. The servers are starting to return with new servers being trained in the coming weeks and months. Attendance is slowly increasing and the stewardship is also increasing. When compared with other Christian and other Catholic churches, Holy Rosary is doing as well, and possibly even a little bit better than many other churches. There has been no manual for pastors on how to steer spiritually through a pandemic such as we have experienced, and hopefully the country is winding down from the pandemic at this time. Masks are no longer required at Mass if a person has been vaccinated, but the priest and Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist are encouraged to wear them at the time of the distribution of Holy Communion, as many people do not have a respective sense of distance. It has been suggested that the priest would wear a mask after Mass as people try to come sometimes so close to the priest and recently 3 priests of the Diocese of New Ulm, that had been fully vaccinated, still came down with Covid-19. There will be no distribution of Holy Communion under the form of the Precious Blood, indefinitely. The shaking of hands at the Sign of Peace is also being discouraged as well as the priest shaking hands after Mass. [However, Father admitted that there are still several people who wish to shake his hand as they are leaving the church.] Overall, the parish is adopting well to the present environment. Father thanked the committee and people during these unusual times.

Business: Fall Communal Anointing: The date was set for the Fall Communal Anointing Mass for November 8th, at 4:30 P.M. Because of Covid-19, a catered meal will be brought in, but desserts would be allowed to be brought in by the people. [It may be a long time before the parish will be returning to any potluck meals where people prepare food in their own kitchens and bring them to church.] Lorraine will call and invite the infirm and elderly to attend. ***Memorial Mass:*** The November Memorial Mass, honoring those that have died within the past year [plus the previous year of lock-down], will be held at the 10:00 A.M. Mass on November 14th, the weekend after the Fall Festival. Invitations will be sent out to the families who have lost a loved one through the parish office. There will be no reception following the Mass. Candles will be processed up as in past years by the family members following Holy Communion. ***Decorating for Advent/Christmas – [Set-up and Take Down]*** Thanksgiving decorations will come down the day after Thanksgiving, November 26th at 1:00 P.M. Advent decorations will be set-up at that time. Dates for Christmas decorating were also established and will be published in the parish bulletin. The Worship Committee discussed how to approach decorating the church for Christmas this year. It was decided to simplify the area around the crib as the old adage holds true, “less is more”. The possibility of putting up one large tree might be possible near the crib. The stable area will also be downsized as well from years past. Father would work on some sketches and make some final decisions, and if needed would get some men in earlier to do the heavy lifting before the final decorating takes place. The Christmas flowers have been ordered from Drummer's for Advent, the Third Sunday of Advent as well as for Christmas, with delivery dates set as well.

Phase III – Church Interior Work: A further discussion was held regarding the completion of the interior decorating of the church. The sanctuary is largely completed, but the main area of the church still needs to be addressed. [About \$7,000.00 has been given specifically for this purpose of interior work at this time.] A specific discussion was held about the music area and redesigning this space with a new flooring in that area that would be stone rather than carpet to improve the sound for both the instruments as well as the singers. The organ is in need of repair with limited people being able to repair the instrument and also the tremendous cost. The organ is not a pipe organ but an electronic instrument, and perhaps has seen its better days because of its age. Father asked the committee if they have heard from people about the desire to hear the organ played more often at the liturgies. The Worship Committee admitted that some people like the organ, but with fewer people being true organists and that the parish has largely been using the piano, some members raised the question, was it worth spending so much money to repair an instrument that might break down again, [Father has already had the organ repaired in the recent past with no guarantees for a long future.] The committee agreed with the proposed musical changes, but felt a repairman be sought out, despite the cost, to assess how expensive it would be to repair the organ. If the life of the instrument is nearing its end, and replacement parts are getting harder to find, it might be better to simply upgrade the piano. Father stated that he would visit this issue with both the Pastoral and Finance Councils as well. **Relocation of the President's [Priest] Chair:** Father stated that the parish choir is once again in "limbo" as our director took a new position in Iowa. Equally, there are still many concerns about singing in a group as Covid-19 is still alive and present. [Perhaps there may be some small groups singing in the near future such as was done at the "Mass in the Park".] Many people have fallen in the sanctuary over the years due to the indentation of the steps in the sanctuary for the choir. There had been concerns by the Diocese at the time they were being proposed and Father Paul, who was serving on the Bishop's College of Consultors, was asked by Bishop LeVoir, to visit with Fr. Peter. The steps were approved but with a little hesitation by the Diocese. Since then, the choir was disbanded before Father Paul arrived as pastor. A new director was found and the choir restarted, but the church has gone through several directors largely because of marriage and moves. The choir sings [at its best] infrequently, and if the steps were done straight across, the choir [which most likely will be smaller in the future] could still stand in that same area. Thus, the chair could be placed on the opposite side of the pulpit creating perfect symmetry which the church architecture calls for in its style. Brian Eggersdorfer made a significant point that all the other churches in Mankato have the chair in the place that Father is proposing and would be liturgically more appropriate. The rest of the committee concurred. Father was informed that Vetter stone has enough stone from the quarry of this particular color, to redo that choir area, but it may not be available in the near future if the parish would wait. With the additional work that needs to be done in the church this summer, this would be the perfect time to complete this project. The committee's consensus was to move ahead and to speak to the Finance Committee and Pastoral Council on these two areas involving the music and the movement of the chair. **2021 Renovation Costs:** The parish is still working on finalizing the cost of some of the areas. There is no firm bid on the pews or the carpeting at this time. A preliminary estimate is around \$150,000.00, to complete the main church worship space, but the price could be higher. What could not be raised could be taken from the parish reserves. **Decorating for the Fall:** The meeting closed with decorating for the fall in the church for those that were able to remain after the meeting. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting for the Worship Committee was not set at this time. The meeting closed with prayer.