



Holy Rosary Catholic Church

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

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Bulletin Article Deadline:

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm Noon

FOR SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION,
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HOLYROSARYNORTHMANKATO

December 26, 2021

*The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph*



Rev. Paul van de Crommert
Pastor

the Quill and the Cloth

"While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

-St. Luke



There are numerous Christian denominations that state that we must go through a "spiritual rebirth", by "BEING BORN AGAIN". Of course, speaking in this spiritual way is not part or parcel of the Catholic tradition, but perhaps it should be! For all of us have had at some time a moment of great spiritual clarity, a moment that we will always remember for the rest of our lives. Perhaps that spiritual moment of rebirth might have been sacramental and supernatural such as receiving the Sacrament of Marriage, or perhaps more in the natural order such as seeing a beautiful mountain range for the very first time.

In my own life I remember several "born again" moments, with maybe the most memorable of these moments, my ordination to the Priesthood. My ordination seemed surreal to me on that day in June and it still feels somewhat surreal to this very day, decades later. For when I look in the mirror dressed in my Roman collar, or in my vestments as a priest, or as the celebrant for Mass, I am still a little bit in awe. I have always felt that my life seemed to really begin on my day of ordination. So I guess you could call my priesthood a spiritual birth or being "born again".

And while that major supernatural "born again" moment radically altered my view of my life and the world that I live in, so too in the natural order. For the first time that I went to Colorado, barely two months after being ordained, it too, was a "born again" moment. Buffalo Ridge in Southern Minnesota, where I grew up on the farm, was possibly the highest point I had ever been to in my life. But Buffalo Ridge is only 1,995 feet above sea level. Pike's Peak, on the other hand, is a massive 14,115 feet above sea level. Going up Pike's Peak for the first time with an old, four-door sedan, was both scary and exciting all at the same time. Is that not the same feeling parents might have

at the time of an actual physical birth? Is not birth a scary thing as well as an exciting experience both at the same time?

It seems appropriate then this Christmas to have sung John Denver's song, "Rocky Mountain High", for Denver sang the words, "He was BORN in the summer of his 27th year". [Incidentally, it is a bit providential that I was almost 27, the first time that I went to Colorado.] For seeing that "purple mountain majesty", is very much like seeing a new world, especially if one has been born and bred in the flat plains of the Midwest.

At the start of the Advent season, the words of St. Bernard of Clairvaux from the 12th century struck me in a new spiritual way. Could this be a "born again" moment? For this great saint would later be named a Doctor of the Church by the Universal Church in 1830. This great saint wrote so simply and with great spiritual clarity about the three most important births that have taken place in our world through the Blessed One whom we call the "WORD MADE FLESH", namely Jesus Christ.

St. Bernard writes: *"We know that there are three comings of the Lord. The third lies between the other two. It is invisible, while the other two are visible. In the first coming he was seen on earth, dwelling among men; he himself testifies that they saw him and hated him. In the final coming all flesh will see the salvation of our God, and they will look on him whom they pierced. The intermediate coming is a hidden one: in it only the elect see the Lord within their own selves, and they are saved. In his first coming our Lord came in our flesh and in our weakness; in this middle coming he comes in spirit and in power; in the final coming he will be seen in glory and majesty."*

Because this coming lies between the other two, it is like a road on which we travel from the first coming to the last. In the first, Christ was our redemption; in the last, he will appear as our life; in this middle coming, he is our rest and consolation."

May Christ, whom we celebrate at Christmas coming to birth through human "FLESH" 2,000 years ago, and who is born into us through "FAITH" 2,000 years later, be our rest and consolation. May we be ready for Him to be reborn from death to life in His "FINAL COMING" and share in the new and eternal birth of everlasting life. Merry Christmas!



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

The Week Ahead

Monday, December 27th: Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist

8:30 am - Mass - Brekke Family

Tuesday, December 28th: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Feast

Private Mass - Gerald Erkelt

Wednesday, December 29th: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord [Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr]

10:00 am - Mass at Oak Terrace - Emily Willaert
[*No Faith Formation Class (Grades 1 - 8)]

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

12:00 pm - Mass - The Family of Dorothy Drummer

Friday, December 31st: Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord [Saint Sylvester I, Pope]

Parish Office Closed

5:00 pm - Anticipatory Mass for New Year's Day - LaVaughn Drummer†

Saturday, January 1st: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD ; The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord

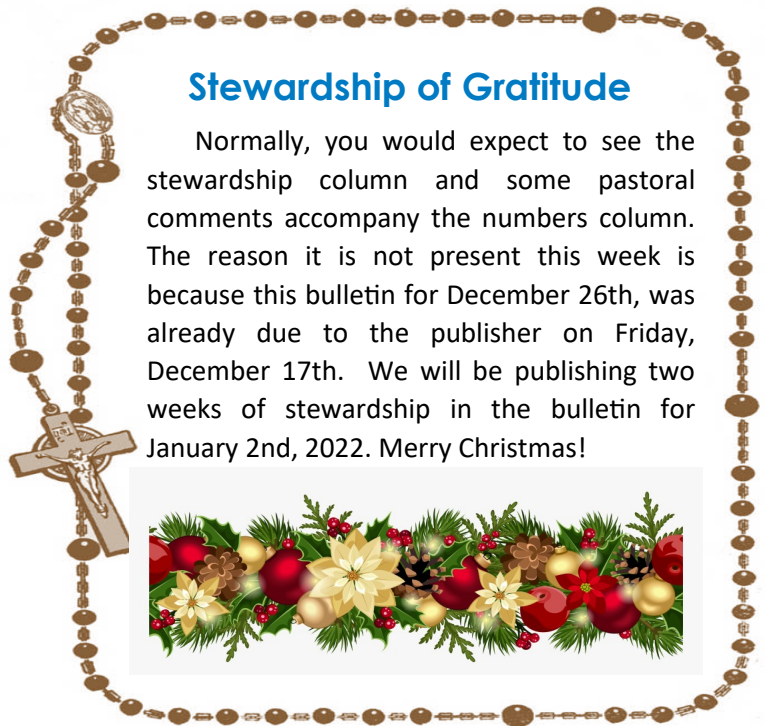
9:00 am - New Year's Day Mass - Ronald Rheume†

5:00 pm - Saturday Evening Anticipatory Mass - The Epiphany of the Lord - Mary Kelly†

Sunday, January 2nd: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Solemnity

8:30 am - Mass - People of the Parish

10:00 am - Mass - Juliette Shamp†



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 26th, was already due to the publisher on Friday, December 17th. We will be publishing two weeks of stewardship in the bulletin for January 2nd, 2022. Merry Christmas!



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.



"Christmas means giving. The Father gave His Son, and the Son gave His life. Without giving there is no true Christmas, and without sacrifice there is no true worship."

~Gordon B. Hinckley~

www.spirituallythinking.blogspot.com

Echo Food Shelf - Food For the Needy



We have now taken in a total of **375** 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. We will continue to collect food supplies through the month of December.

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 @ christianst.com

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 that 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 the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception, maybe for these Masses too?!? Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death.



Thought For the Week

The times we are living in is a gift from God! That is why this time is called the "Present"!

- Anonymous

Ministry Schedule January 1st & 2nd



Rosary Leader:

5:00 pm Steve Enderle
8:30 am Sharon Lenz
10:00 am Ryan Howe

Lector:

5:00 pm Vince Guertin
8:30 am Arlyce Anderson
10:00 am Jim Schorn

Eucharistic Ministers:

5:00 pm Patrick & Wanda Hull
8:30 am Cathy Neve, Michelle Ellingworth
10:00 am Darlene Schorn, Julie Schoettler

Servers:

5:00 pm Anna, James, & John Voracek
8:30 am Hannah Linnes
10:00 am Dennis Muga, Sophia Behm, Emma Bernard

Ushers:

5:00 pm Mark Weingartz, Dan & Jacob Voracek
8:30 am Bill Fasnacht, Bill Cahalan
10:00 am Blaine & Teresa Kolstad

Music Ministry:

5:00 pm Cindy Gawrych, Julie Gruber
8:30 am TBD
10:00 am TBD



This Week's Sanctuary Light Intention:
Ervin Hollund†

Upcoming Parish Events



- **Food Drive for ECHO Food Shelf** - December 2021
- **Faith Formation Classes** resume - (Grades 1 - 8) - Wednesday, January 12th, 6:30 p.m.
- **Confirmation Class** - Sunday, January 16th - 12:00 pm - 2:00 p.m.
- **Faith Formation Classes** resume - (Grades 1 - 8) - Wednesday, January 19th, 6:30 p.m.
- **Faith Formation Classes** resume - (Grades 1 - 8) - Wednesday, January 26th, 6:30 p.m.
- **Confirmation Class** - Sunday, January 30th - 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **Ash Wednesday** - March 2nd, 2022 - Mass times 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.
- **Easter Sunday** - April 17th, 2022



*Ministry Schedule***December 31st & January 1st****Lector:****5:00 pm** Brian Eggersdorfer**9:00 am** Cathy Neve**Eucharistic Ministers:****5:00 pm** Brenda Voracek, Karen Winters**9:00 am** Terri Compton, Arlyce Anderson**Servers:****5:00 pm** Annie Wingert, John Voracek**9:00 am** James Younge, Walter Michels**Ushers:****5:00 pm** Steve & Barb Enderle**9:00 am** Gary & Mary Zellmer**Music Ministry:****5:00 pm** Julie Gruber**9:00 am** TBD**All in the Family**

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating - who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful - perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well!

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

*Faith Formation*

**The Christmas Party that Never Was!?!
[Faith Formation Resumes – January 12th and
January 16th]**

Our plans for our final class for Faith Formation was cancelled due to the forecast of inclement weather. Specifically, there was forecasted high winds and we are presently under a tornado warning/watch. I guess it is better to be safe than sorry, although as I write this on a Wednesday afternoon, the weather seems really wonderful! [But strong winds are forecasted in the coming hours.]

On this last class before Christmas, I had planned a little social and some gifts of appreciation for our catechists and support staff. Unfortunately, the best laid plans can be quickly changed by good old mother nature. But after the holidays, I will still share with our volunteers these gifts.

We certainly have been having strange weather, not only in Minnesota, but also the devastation in the Midwest due to the recent tornado activity. Our prayers go out to those people who are now in such great need. Cancelling class or a little get together, as a result, is pretty much not worth mentioning by comparison. **WE WILL RESUME CLASS FOR GRADES 1-8 ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12TH AT 6:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY JANUARY 16TH. A FULL SECOND SEMESTER SCHEDULE FOR FAITH FORMATION FOR GRADES 1-10 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH BULLETIN, ON-LINE AND IN THE PARISH OFFICE BEGINNING ON THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 1ST AND 2ND!** Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Prosperous 2022!



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.



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: \$18,000.00

Due: \$33,786.20

Loyola Catholic School Assessment:

Pd to Date: \$115,000.00

DUE: \$153,150.75

Holy Rosary Church Repair/Restoration:

Pd to Date: \$6,615.00

Goal: \$150,000.00

Total Paid to Date 2021-22: \$164,027.26

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

*****[I begin this section of the bulletin this week with a pastoral apology. I was remiss in proofing the published numbers of this section from our "Stewardship Corner", and noticed some discrepancies after publication, when compared to last week's bulletin.] The Good News is that the errors in the bulletin, were only in the bulletin, and not in our financial records. What you see above is now 100% accurate. Praise God!**

We took another step forward in stewardship with our Catholic School commitment as we paid forward again this week another \$10,000.00. This brings us well past our \$100,000.00 mark by \$15,000.00, with now, less than \$40,000.00 to contribute to complete in this area of stewardship. Praise God! [If we could do four more weeks of \$10,000.00, we would have this area of stewardship completed for another fiscal year. Hopefully, you will have shown additional generosity to our second collection appeal over the four Masses for the Feast of Christmas. A couple thousand more would send us closer into the right direction in this area of stewardship.]

In the recent letter that we sent to all of our parishioner's during the season of Advent to update them of parish happenings and the forthcoming holy days, I also enclosed an envelope for stewardship to defray, [at least part of] the expenses for our repairs and redecorating for the interior of the church this summer. Hopefully you can help in some measure for this practical cause. We have made great strides structurally on our church over the past eight years. The exterior is virtually "caught up" when it comes to maintenance from new mortar, to roof repairs/maintenance, to new front steps. At this point we have a majority of the contractors in place for the summer of 2022, with the exclusion of those who will be working on the pews as well as the carpeting. Securing the commercial carpet

(continued on page 7)



LOYOLA CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

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.

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 (Continued from page 6)

and the carpet layers, should come pretty easily; but the pew work may prove to be a bit more of a challenge. If anyone has a lead in this area, I would be most welcome to entertain your ideas. We are working on some leads right now.

As always, thank you for your gifts and for the wonderful stewardship you provided even in the midst of a pandemic. May this New Year be a good one! May God bless you all!
-Father

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, 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, Dorothy LeDuc, Bob Nickels, John Redig, Gordon Compton

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	Les & Theresa Calsbeek
Tuesday	Colleen Campbell
Wednesday	Bridget Carruth
Thursday	Dick & Sue Cashman
Friday	John & Debbie Cattrysse
Saturday	Chris & Geneza Chandler
Sunday	Adam & Jennifer Chelstrom



For Those in the Military

Nick Blace	Matt McGraw	Ben Barsness
Jared Hiniker	Timothy Eick	Tanner Johnson
Dana Schiller	Anna Drummer	Zach Zerneckel
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:	1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8 (697) Pss Prop
Tues:	1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18 (698) Pss Prop
Weds:	1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35 (202) Pss Prop
Thurs:	1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40 (203) Pss Prop
Fri:	1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18 (204) Pss Prop
Sat:	Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21 (18) Pss Prop
Sun:	Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12 (20) Pss Prop

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE AN END-OF-YEAR GIFT



IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT.

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Visit holyrosarynorthmankato.com and click WeShare Online Giving.

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Select the collection or event of your choice.

3

Set up your donation or payment. That's it!



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Fill out this form and return it to your parish office

Name of Church: Holy Rosary Church

Parishioner Name(s): _____ Church Envelope #: _____

Street Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

☐ *I would like to use a checking account to make my contribution.*
Please bring this completed form, along with a **voided check**, to the church office.

☐ *I would like to use a credit card to make my contribution.* ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

Funds & Amounts

Weekly*

Monthly*

Bi-Monthly*

Quarterly*

Semiannually*

General/Offertory \$ _____

***Weekly Donations:** Please indicate day (Sun/Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/
Fri/Sat)

***Monthly Donations:** Please indicate the day of the month

***Bi-Monthly Donations:** Donations debit on the 1st and 15th of the month

***Quarterly Donations:** Donations debit on Mar 31st, June 30th, Sept 30th,
and Dec 31st

***Semiannual Donations:** Please indicate month and date. Second
donation will automatically occur 6 months from that date.

Annual Contributions

Easter Offering: \$ _____ (One-time transfer on April 1st)

Christmas Offering: \$ _____ (One-time transfer on December 15th)

I understand that I am enrolling in the WeShare Online Giving program. I authorize that my contribution amount will deduct directly from my checking account or credit card as stated above, and a record of my contribution will appear on my bank or credit card statement. I understand that I can increase, decrease, change the frequency, or suspend my online giving contribution at anytime by contacting WeShare at (800) 950-9952 x2007.

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This form will be shredded after the account is set up.