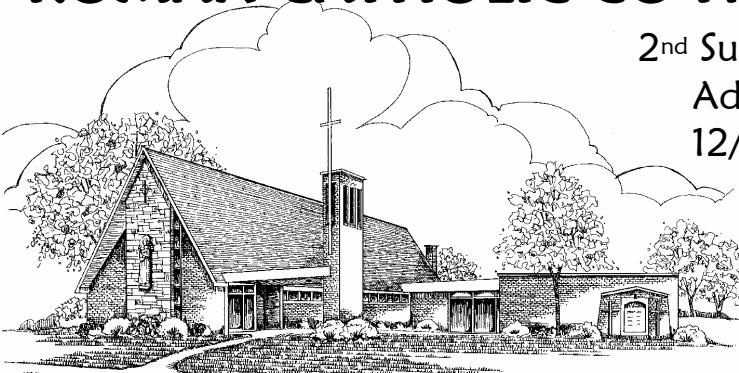


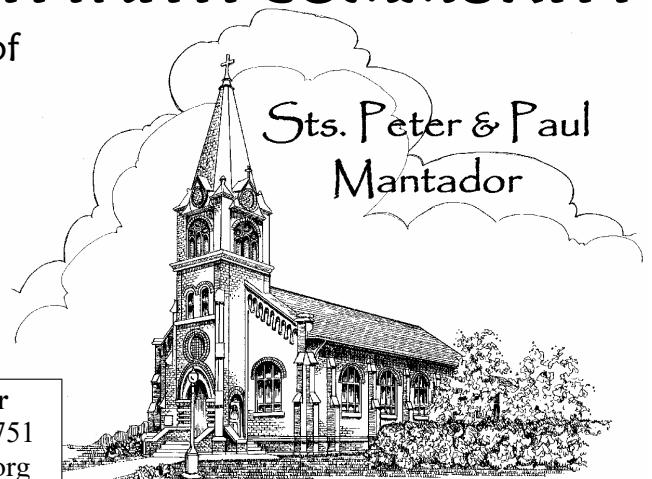
ROMAN CATHOLIC CO-PARISH FAITH COMMUNITY

2nd Sunday of
Advent
12/5/21



St. Anthony
Mooreton

Fr. Kurt Gunwall, Pastor
701-274-8259 or 701-540-8751
mooretomantadorcatholic.org



Sts. Peter & Paul
Mantador

St Anthony 12/11 5:00 pm

Lector Adam Mauch
Usher Dick Mauch
Servers Ava, Jaxon & Paislee

St Anthony 12/12 8:30 am

Lector Ariana Onchuck
Usher Arnel Onchuck
Servers Boyles
Gifts Arnel & Danette family

Sts Peter&Paul 12/12 10:30 am

Lector Don Thiel
Usher Ron Pellman
Servers Foertschs

The Now and Not Yet

I share this article as a reminder that

we live between what is and what will be. Enjoy these simple and deep lessons. (Fr Gunwall)

Much of our life is spent in the in-between time, between our current reality and anticipated future. For some, it is living with the longing to be married. For others, it is wondering if they will find a job, or if poor health or a difficult living situation will be resolved. Zerubbabel, Joshua, and Haggai knew what it meant to live between the now and the not yet. A remnant of Israelites returned to Jerusalem from their exile in Babylon. The returned leaders, Zerubbabel and Joshua, had been working to rebuild the temple for about 15 years, but it still lay in ruin. Local opposition, negative attitudes, and Jews focusing on building their own homes had paralyzed the process. In addition, drought and food shortages had taken the heart out of the people. They were challenged, in despair, experiencing a lack of hope, planted squarely between the now and the not yet! In Haggai 2:4-9, the prophet gave three sustaining truths for living between the now and the not yet.

The **presence of God** is necessary for us to make it through, to keep hope, and to know that we do not need to depend on our strength alone to finish the journey. Haggai 2:4 says, ".... be strong ... and work ... For I am with you, declares the LORD."

The **promises of God** give confidence to press on. Haggai continues: "This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear" (Haggai 2:5). When we know that God has spoken to us through His Word and has made His path clear before us, the journey, no matter how rock-strewn, takes on new hope.

The **vision of God** emboldens and stirs hope. In Haggai 2:6-9, God tells the persevering leaders and builders, "I will fill this house with glory ... the glory of this present house will be greater than the former house ... and in this place I will grant peace." Keeping the vision of the glorious end of the road, the future as God has painted it, sustains hope.

No matter what challenges, trials, or waiting God has for you in this moment, your time living between the now and the not yet will be more hope-filled because of these sustaining truths: the presence of God, the promises of God, and the vision of God.

Reconciliation services in our area:

Dec 5 St Anthony-Mooreton, 7pm
Dec 7 Sts Peter & Paul-Mantador, 6pm
Dec 12 St John-Wahpeton, 4pm & 6:30pm
Dec 19 St John the Baptist-Wyndmere, 3pm
Dec 19 St Boniface-Lidgerwood, 7pm

{Navigators is a Christian Ministry. I have used some of their Bible Study resources. Doug and Pam Nuenke wrote this. www.navigators.org/living-with-hope-between-the-now-and-the-not-yet/}

Mark your calendar and make plans to celebrate the Eucharist on these Holy Days: Christmas, Holy Family Sunday, Mary the Mother of God, and Epiphany.

Dec 24-26: there are two Holy Days. Choose any two from these three Masses.

Fri., Dec 24, 5pm @ Sts Peter & Paul

Sat, Dec 25, 5pm @ St Anthony

Sun, Dec 26, 10am @ Sts Peter & Paul

Dec 31 - Mary, Mother of God is a tender feast, but not obligatory this year.

Dec 31, 5pm St Anthony

Jan 1, 5 pm Sts Peter & Paul

Jan 2, 10am St Anthony

Upcoming Events

Sun, 5 Wyndmere 3:30pm The Chosen Christmas
Immaculate Conception (Reconciliation) & Masses
Tue, 7 StsPP (6pm) 7pm / Wed, 8 StA (6pm) 7 pm
Wed, 8 StA 7:40pm Christmas Program practice

Question of the Week

Can I name a person or group of people whom I now realize I have overlooked? How can I seek out Jesus in my neighbor?

Memorize God's Word: "He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through him and for him." (*Colossians 1:15-16*)

Grow in faith: Schedule your appointment with God for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Receive the free gift of mercy as God calls you through His Church.

Caps, Mittens & Gloves - Fill the basket at St Anthony by Wed., Dec. 15, for those in need this winter. The county is no longer collecting Christmas gifts or gift cards for local people.

Secret Prayer Partners - For Sts Peter & Paul, put your name and address on the purple slip of paper and put it in the basket. When you leave church, draw a name out. Please pray for that person each day of Advent. As Christmas nears, send your Secret Prayer Partner a Christmas card or not to reveal who has been praying for them during Advent. Hopefully, you will receive one as well. / For St Anthony, take one or more names from the tree and do the same.



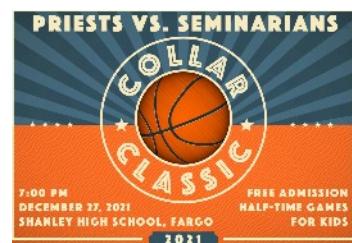
Youth Christmas program - families with kids in the drama mark your calendars for these practice times: 7:40 pm Wed., 8th after Mass, 9:40 am, Sun., 12th after Mass (possible-watch for text), 7 pm, Wed., 15th. Everyone is invited to the live drama and a lunch on Sun., Dec. 19, at 11:45 am at St Anthony after the 10:30 Mass. Meet the cast. :)

Stewardship Moment: *"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."* (Philippians 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. However, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person, or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

Area Events & Other News

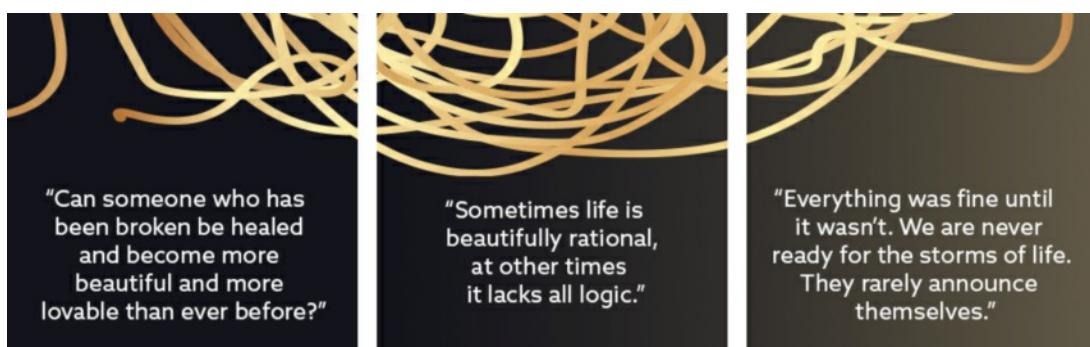
Attend one of these joyful celebrations of music - NDSCS Holiday Concert, Tue., Dec 7, 7:30-9 pm at Harry Stern and Ella Stern Cultural Center, 811 6th St N / **O Come, All Ye Faithful**, Sat., Dec 11, 7-9 pm or Sun., Dec 12, 2-4 pm, at NDSCS Cultural Center/Bremer Bank Theatre, free-will offering.



Collar Classic Priests v Seminarians Basketball game - Bring your family to this evening of competition and half-time games for the kids as you support the priests and seminarians of the Diocese (maybe you'll see Dcn Robert Foertsch, Jasper Keller, Patrick Sorrells, or Paul Zach playing). Head to Shanley High School, 5600 25th St S, Fargo, on Mon., Dec., 27, at 7 pm. Free admission.

Do you need a "retreat" from the world around you? Experience God in a personal and real way. SEARCH for Christian Maturity has a retreat coming up Jan. 14-16 at Maryvale Convent in Valley City. Youth and young adults, 16 and older are invited to attend. Details and application at www.fargodiocese.org/search4cm or call Dori at 952-210-2219. Applications due no later than Mon., Dec 27.

Book review - Life is Messy by Matthew Kelly (available for free in the church entrance). I found it helpful to read as he processed the struggles that come in life, even a life of faith in God. The central question proposed is below in the first box, "Can someone who has been broken, be healed, and become more beautiful and more lovable than ever before?" It is an important question and can provide an answer to the suffering and pain we see and experience. Here is part of an online review: "Life is Messy" is well written and gives us a sense of vulnerability in the quest to keep our self-disgust and fear in check. Yes, we hold the belief that "someone who is broken" can be healed. On p.12, I enjoyed the quote from Leonardo da Vinci. On p.89 regarding, we don't walk around with a sign around our neck saying what we are wrestling with, reminds me of just how difficult life is especially when I see others in a hospital waiting room and my empathy shoots up.

**Keeping the House of God beautiful!**

December - Sts PP: *Trudi Glynn, Kari Foertsch, Patty Lingen, Jo Mertes / **St A:** *Taylor Allmendinger, Ronna Althoff, Kari Callenius, Aimee Flaa, Lisa Mauch, Alexis Peltier, Yvonne Ward.



This week's celebrations: Hannah Lingen, Patricia Klosterman, Larry Jagodzinski, Barbara Severson, Rich Spellerberg, Joe Storbakken. Yvonne (& Bill †) Ward.

