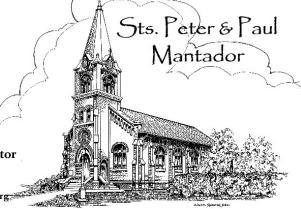


St. Anthony Mooreton

Fr. Michael Hickin, Pastor Rectory: 701-274-8259

Cell: 701-891-1238 mooretonmantadorcatholic.org

Advent 2B, Dec 10, 2023



DAILY EUCHARIST

Sat, 12-9, StA 5:00 pm (†Allen Ward) Sun, 12-10, StsPP 8:30 am (Parishioners)

10:45 am (†Dale & Mary Delage)

Tue, 12-12, 6^{pm}, StsPP Weds, 12-13, 6^{pm}, St A

Sun, 12-10, StA

(Special Intention

(†Scott Simdorn)

Thu, 12-14, 6^{pm}, StsPP Fri, 12-15, 9:30, St A

(Christian Mothers)

(†Michael Ethier)

Sat, 12-16, StA 5:00pm (†Darlene Palmer)

Lector: Caryn Klosterman/ Usher: Dick Mauch Sun, 12-17, StsPP 8:30 am (Parishioners)

Lector: Don Thiel / Usher: Joel Lingen

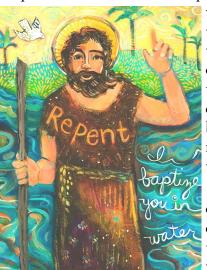
Servers: Volunteers / Gifts: Todd & Tammi Althoff 10:45 am (†Thomas Althoff Family)

Lector: Ava Krier / Usher: Jaxon K. & Evan O.

Servers: Xavier M. & John B. / Gifts: Shane & Alyson Krier Family

Confessions: St A—Sat, 4:30 pm; SS PP—Sun, 8 am. Or call for an appointment (no problem).

WET, FOR GOOD REASON. John is called 'the Baptist' because he dunked people. Baptize is a Greek



verb that simply means to wash. John stood in the River and people came to him to go into the water, go under and come up, then go out and back into life ready to meet the Messiah who was Coming.

John's baptism was one of repentance, a change of life. Taking this public bath was a way to make the statement, 'I'm done with sin.'

The outward washing represented an inward readiness to join forces with the One God would send.

Repentance is our translation of the Greek word *metanoia*, which literally means 'beyond-mind'.

PARISH PRAYER LIST: Loretta Althoff, Brenda Burger, Mary Ellen Krump, Diane (Jim) Mauch, Steve Metzen, Jim Mitchell, Travis, Steve Cerkas, August Dockter, Larry Jagodzinski, MaryAnn Franks, Jerry Muth, Kristen Czekala, Jake Fuller, Tyrell Fauske, Nettie Mauch, Loran Palmer, Patricia Herschberger, Kate Cook.

Intercessory prayer asks "on behalf of another. It knows no boundaries and extends to one's enemies" CCC 2647. Please let us know who (with their permission) we can lift up in prayer. Thnx.

It's a getting out of your *self*, getting out of our own petty thinking, opening up to God's idea of us.

John, the desert Wildman, did not know what the One who was coming would bring, but he knew he was "mightier than I" and would bring a different kind of bath: "he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit."

One of the names of the Holy Spirit this Messiah will give us is the *Comforter*. This is how our 1st Rdg opens:

"Comfort, give comfort to my people, says the Lord."

A medieval mystic, Meister Eckhart said, "Any talk of God that does not comprey to. 1.) thinking of God as judgmental, harsh, picky, stingy, bossy;

fort you is a lie." Here are two lies we fall

2.) getting stuck in our unworthiness, so full of shame that we won't and can't let God love us.

In Advent, we remember our baptism in the Holy Spirit. We remember that we have embarked on a life of change, repentance, moving beyond our egos to belong to the Mystery of something, someone, greater, mightier than "I" into God's comfort.

What might God's idea of you be? Think comfort.

Last Week's Giving

Mooreton: Plate \$88 Children \$37 Envelopes \$8525.16



Mantador: Plate \$41 Envelopes: \$2310 Grain Check: 2190.44 Pledge Payment: \$105 Brunch: \$165

SYNOD REFLECTION. Last week the Pope made headlines when he addressed a meeting of theologians who advise the Vatican. They belong to the International Theological Commission, which has included women since 2004. Only 5 of the 30-plus theologians present were women.

"The Church is woman," Francis said, "and if we cannot understand what a woman is, we'll never understand the Church. One of the great sins we have witnessed is 'masculinizing' the Church. This is the job I ask of you, please: Demasculinize the Church."



The month before, the Synod that met in Rome came up with a final, synthesis document, stressing how "urgent" it was for women to be included in decision-making processes and "assume roles of responsibility in pastoral care and ministry." It called for women to be judges in all canonical processes and for further reflection on the female diaconate.

This particular Synod of Bishops—previously an all-male body—included women as full, voting members. It is unclear if this arrangement will continue. It was reported that one prelate stormed out of the room saying, "This is not a synod of bishops!" Many bishops applauded the mixed company. Others think bishops need to have their own assemblies in addition to assemblies that include lay people. Regardless, the same women who participated in this meeting will again be full, voting members at the final October 2024 Synod assembly.



In the past, Pope Francis has talked about how the Church has two faces, the Petrine (Peter) and the Marian (Mary). "The ministerial dimension is that of the Petrine Church.... But there is another principle that is still more important, about which we do not speak, that is the Marian principle, which is the principle of femininity in the Church, where the Church sees a mirror of herself because she is a woman and a spouse. The Church is more than a ministry. It is the whole people of God. The Church is woman. The Church is a spouse."

Besides these 2 dimensions, there's a third, he says, "the administrative way.... And, in this aspect, I believe we have to give more space to women. Here in the Vatican, the places where we've appointed women are functioning better."

The above call to theologians to "demasculinize" the Church, characterizing the "masculinization of the Church" as a sin, received major push back from people who think the Church is already struggling to connect with men.

The path forward? The synod is calling for the role of women in the Church to receive further reflection and concrete changes, while continuing to offer models of positive masculinity.

There's plenty to keep us on our knees. We are not just observers. One wonders if these efforts, clearly near the top of the agenda in the reforms that are underway, will find a voice and a home in the Diocese of Fargo as we prepare for our Synod in April. Stay tuned.



REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE ONE WHOSE NAME YOU DREW.

YOUTH GROUP FUND RAISING. Our young people will be selling seafood products after Masses on occasion. Off the Hook, run by Deep Blue Seafood is a North Dakota based fresh & frozen seafood distributor. See their great story at dbseafood.com. We keep 25% of all sales.



TIONS IN HONOR/MEMORY OF SOMEONE CAN BE SENT TO THE ALTAR SOCIETY & SSPP, OR & ST A TO THE PARISH.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONA-

Keeping God's House Beautiful, December

Sts PP: *Kari Foertsch, Patty Lingen, Trudi Glynn

St A: *Jen Kjar, Renata Fobb, Jane Althoff, Doris Palmer, Cindie Althoff, Jennifer Kjar

THIS WEEK'S ELEBRATIONS:

Richard Spellerberg, Joe Stor-

bakken, Shirley Breuer, Kathy ® Mauch, Kassie Pauly, Ryley Flaa, Robert Foertsch, Madison Klosterman, Kathleen Mauch

Please pick up the ministry schedule at the back of the church. Thnx.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DEC 13, RCIA, 7:15PM, MOORETON.

DEC 10, ST ANTHONY LIVER/ONION DINNER W/BEEF ROAST

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, DEC 17, MOORETON 4TH SUN OF ADVENT, DEC 23, 2 SAT EVENING MASSES:

ST A 5:00 PM; SS PP 7:00 PM [NO SUN MORNING MASSES]

CHRISTMAS EVE: ST A 4:30PM; SS PP 7:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY: ST A 10:30 AM





Adam & Jennifer Mauch (