

PASTORS' NOTES: "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Have you ever been driving and having a hard time staying awake? You know that you have to stay alert but your sleepiness is overwhelming. It is a great image Jesus uses for the spiritual life. You know you have to stay on top of your game with your job. If you are a farmer or work in the fields, you know you cannot decide to go on vacation during harvest, and many times you have to work long days to the point of sleepiness and exhaustion. I remember working a summer at 3M in Wahpeton. We had swing shifts so it would shift every week, 7 am – 3 pm, 3pm to 11 pm, 11pm – 7 am. The night shift was the hardest. One time, I was driving the 15 miles home and I saw our driveway after a terrible battle with sleepiness. I said to myself, "I made it." Then next thing I knew I woke up going through the ditch. Luckily, we had a sloping, decent ditch and no damage was done. It can be like that with our spiritual life. Everything else is so important, but we are not alert to what God is asking of us. We cannot slack off at the harvest. We can't sleep at the wheel or at the work place. If we are sleeping at the job, or driving, we experience immediate ramifications. However, not praying or growing in the spiritual life can be put into the background with no IMMEDIATE ramifications. However, when the Master knocks at our door at the end of this earthly journey, we are shocked by God's arrival. We do not even know the one that comes knocking, because we have not been sharing our heart and praying, and we are horrified by the reality. We do not greet him with happiness, such as, "Oh Lord I have been waiting and praying for you to come, for so long. I am so overjoyed you have finally come. Hopefully we will be like the servant who receives the gold coin in the gospel, and gives it back to the Lord having invested well for his kingdom. God will take stock of how we have used our time, talent and treasure and say, "Well done.". But Jesus warns us of the other possibility: the most important thing, our relations with our savior, is neglected because of sloth or because other things are more important. We go asleep in our spiritual life. Advent is a new beginning to become alert to God, "To Turn, Toward a New Light." Fr Tim

PERU TRIP: The trip will take place the beginning of June, 2026. If you'd like more information, please contact Monica @ 701-308-0190

MISSION STATEMENT: "St. Charles Parish exists to invite people into encounters with Jesus Christ and lead them to fullness of life in Him. What we do as a community of disciples; We pray, celebrate, work, learn, and grow."

TEEN LIFE & JR. HIGH:
Wednesday, Nov. 26: NO Class – 7:00 PM

READINGS AND MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Isaiah 11:1-10 (4A)
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

Saturday, Dec. 6th at 5:30 PM – St. Charles

Intention: For the People
Donor:
Greet/Usher: Volunteers
Proclaimer: Dennis Forward
EEM: Steve Konkler, Jeanne Pahl
Altar Servers:

Sunday, Dec. 7th at 8:30 AM – St. Charles

Intention: +Joyce Klapperich
Donor: N/C Klapperich
Greet/Usher: Lloyd & Anita Gebhardt
Drew & Lindsey Courtney
Proclaimers: Krista Dobitz, Robert Thorpe
EEM: A Sell, M Heimbuch, D Zetocha
Altar Servers:

Sunday, Dec. 7th at 11:00 AM – St. Mary's

Intention: +Don Fauss
Donor: His Family
Proclaimer: Bonnie Josewski
EEM: Mark & Jean Bopp
Greet/Usher: Roger & Bonita Ziegler

CONTACTS

Fr. Tim: timothy.schroeder@fargodiocese.org
Fr. Tim: 701-520-0838
St. Charles Office Phone: 701-742-2418
Office Hours: 10:30 – 5:30 (Tues-Thurs)
Business Administrator: lband@drtel.net
DRE: monica_kay00@hotmail.com
Prayer Chain: Barb @ 701-210-0822
Prayer Chain: nancym@drtel.net

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
410 7th Street North
Oakes, ND 58474
Website: stcharlesoakes.org
Facebook: Saint Charles Borromeo Oakes



St. Mary's Catholic Church
480 4th Street Southwest
Forman, ND 58032-4209
Website: stmarysforman.org

1st Sunday of Advent November 29 & 30 2025

Pastor: Rev Timothy Schroeder; Cell Phone: 701-520-0838
(Masses @ St. Charles Livestreamed on YouTube; link found on our website above)

St. Charles **5:30 PM Saturday** Mass Intention: +Jim & +Madeline Maddock
St. Charles **8:30 AM Sunday** Mass Intention: +Bernie Quandt
St. Mary's **11:00 AM Sunday** Mass Intention: For the People

THIS WEEK			
Day, Date	Time	Event and Location	Mass Intentions, Donors and Notes
Mon. 12/1	6 – 7 PM	Adoration @ St. Charles	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tues. 12/2	5:30 PM	Mass @ St. Charles	+Larry Heier – L/J Andersen
	6-7:30 PM	Adoration @ St. Charles	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Wed. 12/3	8:30 AM	Mass @ Hospital	+Jim Maddock – D/P Vogel
	3:00 PM	Mass @ St. Mary's	
	5 – 9 PM	Adoration @ St. Charles	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Thurs. 12/4	8:30 AM	Mass @ St. Charles	+Darren Hegar – JT/M Homan
	4:30 PM	Mass @ Manor	
Fri., 12/5	10:00 AM	Mass @ 4 Seasons in Forman	+Jadie Dahlen – M Dahlen
Sat., 12/6	5:00 PM	Confessions @ St. Charles	
	5:30 PM	Vigil Mass @ St. Charles	For the People
Sun., 12/7	8:00 AM	Confessions @ St. Charles	
	8:30 AM	Sun. Mass @ St. Charles	+Joyce Klapperich – N/C Klapperich
	10:45 AM	Confessions @ St. Mary's	
	11:00 AM	Sun. Mass @ St. Mary's	+Don Fauss – His Family

Baptism: Contact Fr. Tim
Confirmation: As scheduled through Faith Formation Program
First Holy Communion: As scheduled through Faith Formation Program
Confession: As noted on schedule above, or anytime by appointment; contact Fr. Tim
Anointing of the Sick: Upon request; contact Fr. Tim
Holy Orders: Contact Fr. Tim
Oder of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA): Contact Fr. Tim

ST. MARY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Mary's Contacts:

Office Phone: 701-724-3319
Office Hours: Wed. or Fri.; (Fr. Tim: 520-0838)
E-mail: 4steeples@drtel.net

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASSES: Dec. 7 @ 5:30 at St. Mary's; Dec. 8 @ 5:30 at St. Charles.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: Anyone wishing to donate towards poinsettias for Christmas, please give the money to Jean Bopp or Lisa Fliehs (Janes), or marked as so in the collection. If you wish this to be a memorial, please include the names.

NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE: All are invited to participate in Night of Prayer for Life on Mon., Dec. 8th at St. Charles church in Oakes. All are welcome to stop in at any time from 8:00 PM until midnight.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: November 30th "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." MATTHEW 24:42
People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.

DEADLINE DEC. 3RD!! JAMESTOWN STATE HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM: St. Charles & St. Mary's parishes will again participate! **Items will be collected until Wed., Dec. 3rd.** The guidelines are as follows: Bring unwrapped gifts of new items that you yourself would enjoy receiving for Christmas, and place them in the boxes of the entryways at St. Charles and St. Mary's.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: If you have not seen your Birthday or Anniversary in the following column, and would like it published, please contact Jane by email @ ljand@drtel.net or text @ 210-0032.

BIRTHDAYS AT ST. CHARLES THIS WEEK:

Nov. 29 Tom Geffre, Betty Kelly
Nov. 30 Tom Pioske, Lexi Harris
Dec. 2 Steve Konkler
Dec. 5 Patrick McCann
Dec. 6 Lloyd Gebhardt, Maryellen Homan

ANNIVERSARIES AT ST. CHARLES THIS WEEK:

Nov. 30 Greg & Katie Gebhardt ('19)

ST. CHARLES FINANCES

Envelope amount last week	\$5,549.90
<u>Other receipts last weekend:</u>	
Plate.....	163.00
Renewal Project.....	50.00
Forman.....	1,508.68
World Mission Collection.....	50.00
Military Collection.....	100.00
Black & Indian Collection.....	130.00
Thanksgiving.....	415.00
<u>RENEWAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE:</u>	
Miracle Goal:	\$1,500,000
Pledged & gifted	\$1,377,295

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: All are invited to remember special people in your lives this Christmas season by making a donation for poinsettias at St. Charles. You may donate in memory of loved ones, in honor of someone, or as a special intention. Fill out an envelope (available in the Narthex) and drop in the collection basket.

LAST WEEKEND!! OAKES FOOD PANTRY:

Dakota Workers 4-H Club is gathering food donations for the Oakes Food Pantry. You can drop off donations **throughout the month of November.** A box will be located in the narthex.

INVITE SOMEONE! Who do you miss seeing at Mass & social activities at St. Charles? Go ahead....reach out and invite them to the things that are happening here in **December.** Being invited means a lot! Preprinted invitations and mailing envelopes are available on the bulletin board table in the narthex. Take one to give or mail to someone you'd like to invite!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

WEDNESDAY CLASS TIME is 5:00 – 6:00 PM

THIS WEEK, Dec. 3: Class – Grades PK-6
NEXT WEEK, Dec. 10: Advent Program Practice
Sun., Dec. 7: Grades PK, K & 1st sing @ Mass

HOMMERDING INCENTIVE FUND will end at the end of the year. Until then, our parish has the opportunity to receive matching funds from this fund, as well as a local match. Your donation, **dedicated to the Renewal fund**, in addition to the 21% matching funds, will ensure our parish remains financially healthy for the future, as well as meet ongoing building & grounds needs that we will encounter in the years ahead. Thank you for your support!

OCIA CANDIDATES: As a parish family, we will embrace our OCIA candidates Judy Hagen, Jennifer Knutson and Natalie Thompson during the **Rite of Welcome at Mass on Sunday, December 7.** This will be the first public step of their journey of exploring the Catholic faith. All are invited to greet and visit with them and their sponsors at **the First Sunday of the Month Brunch Mass on December 7.**

141st ANNUAL BLACK & INDIAN COLLECTION:

THANK YOU for supporting this collection that helps build the Church in African & Native American, and Alaska Native Communities from coast to coast. Schools, Parish Religious Ed programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! **Please give generously in your provided envelopes.**

OAKES AREA FOOD PANTRY is now open the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month from 10:00am – noon. No appointments are necessary. During visits, patrons enter through the south door then fill out a quick intake form before selecting food items. Patrons' choice allows them to select food items based on their household size and interests. Food donations can be dropped off at the new location 115 S. 5th St. in Oakes while monetary donations can be dropped off at Starion Bank. Thank you for your support!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION WITH EXPOSITION

Stop in to visit Jesus at any of these times. Committed adorers will be present as listed;
Monday: 6:00-7:00 PM; Tuesday: 6:00-7:30 PM; Wednesday: 5:00-9:00 PM

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Holy Day of Obligation Mass schedule is as follows:
Sunday, Dec., 7th: 5:30 PM @ St. Mary's
Monday, Dec., 8th: 5:30 PM @ St. Charles

WHERE ARE YOU GOING? This first week of Advent, use your Advent booklet to help yourself turn toward a new mindset; toward gratitude and understanding; toward becoming and trusting; toward shared joy, and toward sowing.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: All are welcome to join the St. Charles Christmas choir to sing at the Christmas Eve Mass. Practices will be held on Sundays after Mass & Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM, **beginning on Wed. Dec. 3rd.** Please join us!

NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE: All are invited to participate in Night of Prayer for Life on **Monday, December 8th** at St. Charles. All are welcome to stop in at any time from 8:00 PM until midnight.

"TORNADO WATCH" 2ND COLLECTION will be held the 2nd weekend of Advent, **Dec. 6 & 7.** Please give to help families in need, here in Oakes, this Advent season.

THE WORD AMONG US: copies are available for Dec./Advent. Pick yours up in the Narthex!
2026 CALENDARS are available in the Narthex. All are welcome to take one home.

OAKES COMMUNITY CHOIR presents their Christmas cantata, "Carol of Christmas", Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 pm - Grace Lutheran Church. Free will offering available for Ruth Geske and Brian Schmitz, and families, for their cancer journeys. Join in fellowship afterwards in the Fellowship Room.