

PASTORS NOTES: We need to have courage to nurture the hope, to follow the dream, to write down the vision, to work and pray for the kingdom of God that Jesus preached. It took courage from the very beginning. The angel said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home." Courage is God's gift that helps us overcome "being afraid." There is a huge difference between "being afraid" and the gift we call Fear of the Lord. The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of "Fear of the Lord," a deep respect for God's power and God's way; it is also called Wonder and Awe. The angel told Mary that she should not fear, and told the same thing to Joseph. Jesus often told his disciples not to be afraid. After Jesus rose from the dead the angel told the women not to be afraid. When the women first saw Jesus, the first thing he said was, "Do not be afraid." Our natural tendency is to be afraid of something new. God becoming flesh in Jesus is something totally new, a first. Joseph believed the angel. It is really incredible to think that he could believe that Mary conceived by the Holy Spirit, but he did. Joseph did as the angel told him and took her into his home to protect her and the baby as well. We should not be afraid either, when God calls us to do something new for him. Remember God is Emmanuel, which means, "God is with us." When the gift, Fear of the Lord, is developed, we can believe that all things are possible with God. This Gift is something that must be learned. We open ourselves to what God can do, and turn to him in prayer with a confident faith that "communication" with an unseen world can happen; that an angel, a messenger from God, can visit us as well, to ask us to embark fearlessly on our call. We are called to work with God's grace to make our parish amazing. To believe something that the worldly scoff at: God has become human and lives among us. He is called Emmanuel. Through the coming of the Holy Spirit, we have received Courage to act on God's Word to us. We leave humanly fears behind and believe like Joseph. As Advent closes, I wish you a new

hope and a very blessed and Merry Christmas. Fr Tim
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, Dec. 24: NO Class

READINGS AND MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 (17ABC)
 Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17
 Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (17A)

Saturday, Dec. 27th at 5:30 PM – St. Charles

Intention: +Jim & +Madeline Maddock
Donor: D/P Vogel
Greet/Usher: Volunteers
Proclaimer: Joan Orner
EEM: Janice Frojen, Ronnie Maddock
Altar Servers: Peyton & Erin Rodine

Sunday, Dec. 28th at 8:30 AM – St. Charles

Intention: For the People
Donor:
Greet/Usher: Lloyd & Anita Gebhardt
 Drew & Lindsey Courtney
Proclaimers: Judy German, Maryellen Homan
EEM: M Heimbuch, A Sell, D Zetocha
Altar Servers: Quinn Heimbuch, Avery Courtney

Sunday, Dec. 28th at 11:00 AM – St. Mary's

Intention: +Dennis Miller
Donor: S Nicolai
Proclaimer: Bonnie Josewski
EEM: Mark & Jean Bopp
Greet/Usher: Kevin & Mindie Bopp Family

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: ljand@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

4th Sunday of Advent December 20 & 21, 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: For the People
 St. Charles **8:30 AM Sunday** Mass Intention: +Mike Kelly
 St. Mary's **11:00 AM Sunday** Mass Intention: +Jackie Hooten

THIS WEEK			
Day, Date	Time	Event and Location	Mass Intentions, Donors and Notes
Mon. 12/22	6 – 7 PM	Adoration @ St. Charles	
Tues. 12/23	5:30 PM	Mass @ St. Charles	+Jim Maddock, Jr. – D/P Vogel
	6-7:30 PM	Adoration @ St. Charles	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Wed. 12/24	8:30 AM	NO Mass @ Hospital	+Ed & +Jean Zetocha – D/T Zetocha
Christmas Eve	4:30 PM 7:00 PM	Mass @ St. Charles Mass @ St. Mary's	
Thurs. 12/25	10:30 AM 4:30 PM	Mass @ St. Charles NO Mass @ Manor	All KC Members – Knights of Columbus
Fri., 12/26	10:00 AM 4:30 PM	Mass @ 4 Seasons in Forman Mass @ Manor	+Larry Even – S Nicolai +Fr. Duane Coty
Sat., 12/27	5:00 PM 5:30 PM	Confessions @ St. Charles Vigil Mass @ St. Charles	+Jim & + Madeline Maddock-D/P Vogel
Sun., 12/28	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 10:45 AM 11:00 AM	Confessions @ St. Charles Sun. Mass @ St. Charles Confessions @ St. Mary's Sun. Mass @ St. Mary's	For the People +Dennis Miller – S Nicolai

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
Order 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

CONFESSIONS AT ST. MARY'S: December 21st from 3:30 – 4:30, or until all are heard.

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

AREA ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES:

St. Mary's, Forman: Sun., Dec. 21 @ 3:30-4:30 PM
Holy Rosary, LaMoure: Sun., Dec. 21 @ 4:00 PM

CHRISTMAS & MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Dec. 24: 4:30 PM – St. Charles
7:00 PM – St. Mary's

Dec. 25: 10:30 AM – St. Charles

Mary, Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation:

December 31: 5:00 PM – St. Mary's
January 1: 10:30 AM – St. Charles

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 any amount 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. Thanks!

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!

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:

Dec. 21 John Zetocha, Gentry Roney
Dylan Rodine
Dec. 22 Wayne Rehovsky, Fr. Tim Schroeder
Dec. 25 Jaron Awender, Ronnie Maddock
Kathryn Moore
Dec. 26 Victor Thompson

ANNIVERSARIES AT ST. CHARLES THIS WEEK:

Dec. 27 Ron and Mary Jo Goodman ('68)

ST. CHARLES FINANCES

Envelope amount last week	\$5,045.00
<u>Other receipts last weekend:</u>	
Plate.....	102.00
Renewal Project.....	1,700.00
Flowers.....	475.00
Retirement for Religious.....	375.00
Mass Stipends.....	20.00

RENEWAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE:

Miracle Goal:	\$1,500,000
Pledged & gifted	\$1,377,295

ADVENT PROGRAM "Just A Little Christmas": will be held immediately after the 8:30 AM Mass Today, **Sunday, December 21st. Make plans to attend!**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST will be held following the Advent Program on **Sunday, December 21st.**

SPECIAL MINISTRY SIGN-UP: There is a sheet in the Narthex to sign up for ministries for the Christmas & Mary, Mother of God Holy Day Masses.

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.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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

Sunday, Dec. 21: Advent Program – After Mass
THIS WEEK, Dec. 24: NO Class
NEXT WEEK, Dec. 31: NO Class

THIS WEEK: Cinderella? Rocky? Mountain-climbing? What do they have to do with Advent?

Find out in this week's pages of your Advent booklet! As we make final preparations for the Feast of Christmas and the celebration of Jesus' birth, complete your Advent experience by turning toward the dream, the unexpected, one another, the new day, and the journey!

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: "Thank you very much for your donations, always," says Sister Olivia Bellegante, 93, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Louis, Missouri. Your gift directly impacts thousands of senior religious, providing the support they need in their later years. Learn more at retiredreligious.org.

MADE FOR GREATNESS: Winter Men's Retreat.

While every man is called to, and if fact inherently desires, greatness, the challenge is not only finding out what that looks like for them, it is also that the goal post keeps moving. What manly greatness looks like as a young single man is different than what it is as a married man, a husband, or even an empty nester. Former Protestant pastor Keith Nester will assist men to identify what greatness God is uniquely calling them to at their own stage of life. In addition to practical real-life insights, there also will be times to meet the Lord God in prayer and the sacraments, as well opportunities for rejuvenation through real brotherhood, great food, and even some friendly competition. Check it out at www.fargodiocese.org/mfg-winter.

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**

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!

SEARCH for Christian Maturity is a peer-to-peer ministry, allowing youth (ages 16 and 17) along with young adults (ages 18 and older) to minister to youth and young adults. SEARCH is a way to help you on your journey to discover God, yourself, and a Christian community. This is a time to experience a loving, supportive community of young people who want to learn and experience a closer relationship with God and with others.

Upcoming Search Dates:

January 9-11, 2026 (deadline: Dec. 22)
Feb. 27-Mar. 1, 2026 (deadline: Feb. 9)
April 10-12, 2026 (deadline: March 23)

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: December 21st

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." MATTHEW 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.