

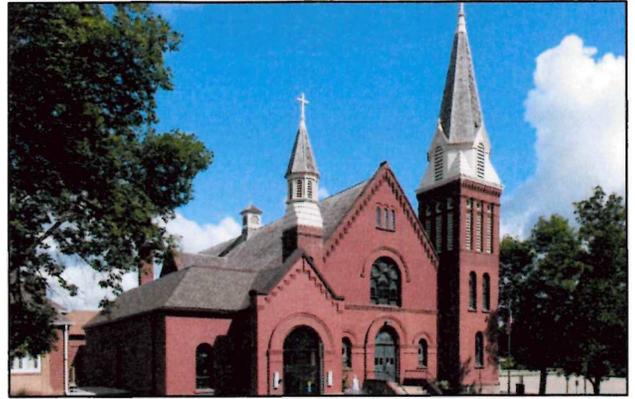
# St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish

540 3rd Ave NE - Valley City, ND 58072

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2025

[www.catherineofalexandria.org](http://www.catherineofalexandria.org)



## MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

## RECONCILIATION:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 7:50 am

Tuesday 8:15 - 9:30 pm

Saturday - 4:00-4:45 pm

Sunday - 7:30-8:00 am

## Parish Office Hours:

Monday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00am - 4:30pm

Closed from 12:00 - 12:30pm everyday

## September Serving Information:

### Temporary Chairperson:

Margaret Doyle: 701-840-0142; No activities planned at this time.



## St. Catherine Parish Picnic

Sunday

Dacotah Pavilion - Chautauqua Park

Noon to 1:30 pm

Everyone is welcome, please join us!



## Monthly Adult Catechesis



# BAPTISM

→ Explain this sacrament, please ...

→ Is it necessary for Salvation?

→ How do I prepare couples for the baptism of the newborn/soon-to-be-born?



When: **Sunday, September 21, at 6:30 pm**  
Where: Church Basement/Parish Hall  
Presented by: Fr. Paul Duchscher

## September Calendar of Events

SUN 21	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:55am Rosary 8:30am Mass 10:10am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass <b>12:00pm Parish Picnic</b> <b>6:30pm Adult Catechesis</b>
	MON 22
TUE 23	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 8:30am -10:00pm Adoration 8:30am Tuesday Movie 5:30pm REACH Meeting
WED 24	40 Days for Life Starts 7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 6:30pm RE Class 7:00pm Youth Group
	THU 25
FRI 26	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 2:00pm Mass - St Raphael
SAT 27	10:00am Mass – Mercy Hospital 4:25pm Rosary 5:00pm Mass
SUN 28	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:55am Rosary 8:30am Mass 10:10am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass

### EXTRA GARDEN PRODUCE???

St. Catherine School cafeteria would love to take any extra produce you may have, please NO tomatoes.

Please **rinse** and **date** your donation when you drop it off.

Mrs. Kennedy, our students and staff

**Thank You** for your donations!!

## TODAYS READINGS

**First Reading** — Am 8:4-7

**Second Reading** — 1 Tm 2:1-8

**Gospel** — Lk 16:1-13

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18

**Tuesday:** Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21

**Wednesday:** Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6

**Thursday:** Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9

**Friday:** Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22

**Saturday:** Zec 2:5-9; Lk 9:43b-45

**Sunday:** Am 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Tm 6:11-16;

Lk 16:19-31

### PRAYER NETWORK

Remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who are ill or are in need of our prayers:

Warren Ventch

Larry Doyle

Lucille Winkler

Donna Hammond

Jerry Sand

Krystal Lemer

Linda Hesch

Shawn Olauson

Jessica (Jess) Storhoff

John Kunert

Renita Westerhausen

Shelly Differding

Mary Elmore

Katie Anderson

Maryjo Randle

Daniel Gonzalez

Allen Kunze

John Snodgrass

Bill Cook

## MASS INTENTIONS September 22 - 28

M 8:00am †Bernadine Ertelt Potter

T 8:00am †Trinity James (TJ) McGough

W 8:00am Sharon Jabs

Th 8:00am †Billie Kunert

F 8:00am Sean & Liz Byrne

2:00pm †Russell Eberle

Sa 5:00pm Keith & Kayla Jones

Su 8:30am People of the Parish

10:30a Marshall Dahlen

# Pastor's Page

## WHY ARE YOU HERE?

This Pastor's Page kind of follows on what was in last week's bulletin. That one reflected on the implications of the fact that Jesus Christ is *really present* in the Eucharist - and how that fact calls forth certain behaviors on our part. (If you missed that one, I would encourage you to look it up on our website under the bulletins link.) Today's will reflect on why we are "here" - that is, at Mass. Why do we come to Mass - and what follows on that? Here we go . . .

So - why are we here at Mass? Why does the Lord God *command* us to come to church each Sunday to attend the Mass?

**--> You are here at Mass to WORSHIP the living God.**

I understand there are other reasons to be at Mass: there is an obligation to go under pain of sin if we do not; we wish to receive the Eucharist; we want to be an active part of a parish family and share that community time with them; my parents are making me go; I don't want to go to hell; I have something in particular I would like to pray for at this time and hoping that my attendance at Mass will encourage the Lord to answer that prayer, etc. But the primary and most important reason for being at Mass as the Lord commands us to be is to worship Him as He asks us to worship: in the prayers and songs of the Mass; in listening to His Word; and in offering the Eucharistic sacrifice of His Son. And - even if we are not able to receive Him at this time in Holy Communion, we still have the obligation to attend Mass so as to worship Him on the Lord's Day each week. (It really is the *least* we can do - to give Him 1 hour out of 168 each week to worship Him.

However, not every Catholic seems to understand this - at least not in its fullness. Some do not seem to get this at all . . . and simply don't go to Mass anymore. Others get it somewhat . . . and somewhat respond to that. Others truly get it, and respond in kind to that.

*To the degree that one understands that truth one will exhibit our understanding in any number of ways - some of which may seem a bit innocuous, but still give an indication of how deep our understanding is in this matter. That understanding of this will affect:*

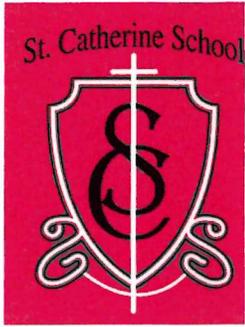
- how I dress for Mass
- how I give myself in participating in the prayers, responses, and songs at Mass
- my postures - especially in genuflections and kneeling
- my arrival and departure times at Mass
- my focus at Mass (of course every one of us legitimately gets distracted, but here we consider our *voluntary* distractions)
- my weekly attendance - especially seen during times of vacation or other special weekend celebrations that could give rise to inconvenience or embarrassment in attending

And there are others - but see what I mean even with these examples? To the degree that I understand and have interiorized the truth that my presence at Mass is for the purpose of worshipping God Himself, that will be seen in those kinds of simple outward observances - let's be honest with ourselves. For example, we dress appropriately when we go to Prom, or a wedding - because we understand the gravity of the event - and what would be appropriate dress to come into the presence of God (literally in the Eucharist) and to worship Him on His day? Do I see the "gravity" in coming before the Lord at Mass?

Last week's Pastors Page: if we really understand the Eucharist is HIM, things follow. Today's Page: if we really understand why we are here, things follow.

Fr Duchscher  
Pastor

P.S. As we honor St Catherine of Alexandria this weekend, what would she say about this?



# Principal's Page

## St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish Family,

This week, I find myself reflecting once again on the value of Catholic education. Before the school year began, I wrote to you about its importance, and now—several weeks into the year—I see that value revealed in new ways.

I see value in a family newly enrolled at our school who is now considering baptism for their child. I see value in establishing boundaries—not as rigid rules, but as a way of pointing to right and wrong with the moral compass of Jesus Christ at the center. I see value in the smiles of children whose personhood is uniquely acknowledged in our small environment. I see value in the high expectations we set, knowing that our students can rise to meet them.

This is the time of year when the “newness” of school wears off. Not every child goes home saying it was the best day ever. Some days are tough. Love sometimes looks like holding a boundary, reminding a child that virtue is formed through continuous good habits that draw us closer to Christ. These are lessons that last a lifetime.

As we continue in our mission, I ask you to keep the Catholic school community at **Annunciation School in the Twin Cities** in your prayers. The recent tragedy there reminds us that senseless violence has no place in our world. Let us pray for peace in our homes, our hearts, and our schools.

I also want to extend a **personal invitation** for you to be part of our school family. Whether through a facility project, a volunteer need, or supporting our upcoming Fall Auction, there are countless ways to be involved. St. Catherine School would not exist without St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish. Together, we are one family.

I would also like to commend our **wonderful staff** for starting this year so strongly. At our staff meeting this week, I thanked them for creating a welcoming environment for families. Their dedication is remarkable. They may not earn what they could elsewhere, but their impact here is immeasurable. I am so thankful for them.

Thank you for your continued prayers, presence, and support. Together we carry out our mission of *inspiring excellence through faith, learning, and service.*

In Christ,

**Nick Lee**

Principal, St. Catherine School

**St. Catherine's Parish Team**

**Parish Office** ..... 845-0354

**Regular Hours:**

Monday 8:00am - 3:00pm  
Tuesday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm  
Closed 12:00 - 12:30pm Everyday

**Pastor:** Very Rev. Paul Duchschere  
e-mail: paul.duchschere@fargodiocese.org

**Deacons**

Rev. Mr. Joe Leitner                      Rev. Mr. Tom Vanorny

**Parish Office Administrator:** Jessica (Jess) Storhoff  
e-mail: stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

**Liturgy Coordinator:**  
e-mail: st.catherine.liturgy.schedule@gmail.com

**Director of Religious Education:** Carol Jabs  
e-mail: stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com

**Lay Directors:** Jeff Bopp & Rhonda Fairfield

**Parish Council:**

Steve Jorissen                                      Doran Chandler  
Larissa Musgrave                                      Mark Oberlander  
Joe Zubrod

**St. Catherine School** ..... 845-1453

**Principal:** Nick Lee  
**Office Assistant:** Terra Giesen

**Little Saints Childcare** ..... 490-3800  
**Director:** Beth Nadelin

**Sexton:** Deacon Joe Leitner ..... 840-7429

**Cemetery Gate Hours:** 7:00am to 9:00pm

**Rectory** ..... 845-0725

**Fax** ..... 845-0556

**Nearly Nu Store** ..... 845-1022

**Baptisms:** Contact the Parish Office.

**Marriage:** Contact the Pastor at least 7 months prior to the wedding.

**Home Bound Eucharist:** Darlene Kerzman, 701-721-1899

**Bulletin Deadline:** 3 PM on Wednesdays  
If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please email Jess:  
stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

**Newcomers:** WELCOME! Please register at the Parish Office or use the registration form on our website.

**FINANCIAL REPORT: September 15, 2025**

**Regular Parish Income**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Last Week	\$5,279.50	\$10,434.62	(\$5,155.12)
Year to Date	\$90,628.25	\$114,780.82	(\$24,152.57)
Registered Families .....	464		

Adult Envelopes			\$4,485.00
Children			\$1.00
Plate			\$793.50

**Total Collection** ..... \$5,279.50

**Thank you for your generous gifts!!**

**Online Giving Available @**

[www.catherineofalexandria.org](http://www.catherineofalexandria.org)

**Prayer Quilts/Shawls Available**

Some of our parishioners may be dealing with some very challenging physical, mental, spiritual or emotional situations/needs (a terminal illness, treatments, an accident, severe depression, a miscarriage) To convey the prayers & support of our parish family, Prayer Quilts/Shawls are available for all parishioners who will need them. To request a Prayer Quilt/Shawl contact: Georgia, 840-2737 or Lela, 840-8352.



*Our Lord wishes for us to be whole, body, mind and soul. To be healed, to be complete. There is a group of individuals from the deanery*

*that are offering to pray with you, for healing. We would be willing to come to pray with you as an individual, at your home or parish church. Confidentiality is assured. **The St. Catherine's Healing Prayer Group meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 PM in the Church our next prayer meeting is Monday, September 22, 2025. We are also asking for individuals who would like to be involved in this healing ministry from around the deanery to join us. We have gotten permission from the priests in the deanery so please visit with your pastor. If you are interested, please contact one of the individuals listed below for more information.***

Doran Chandler 701-840-1257  
Deacon Jim McAllister 701-840-1473

**St. Catherine's Religious Education  
Grades K-8, 6:30 pm**



**Wednesday, September 24:** K-8 RE Classes in School Building at 6:30pm.

**Looking ahead - October 1:** RE Classes will participate in the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima presentation which will be in the church on October 1 at 6:30pm. A rosary will be offered at 7:05pm. Parents and families are welcome to take part in this program.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact DRE Carol Jobs at [stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com](mailto:stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com)

*"If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.  
Be kind anyway."  
St. Mother Teresa*

*St. Mother Teresa, pray for us.*

**St Catherine's Teen Corner  
Grades 9-12, 7:00 pm**

**September 24:** "THE Invitation"

**October 1:** "Our Lady of Fatima"

**October 8:** "Roundabouts of Elegance"

Classes will be from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., unless noted in teen corner. All youth, grades 9-12 are invited to come, have fun and learn about their Catholic faith. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Deacon Tom Vanorny 701-210-0640.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Gerard # 2518**



Meet Monthly 2nd Monday

**September 21:** Parish Picnic, Dacotah Pavilion, 12:00 - 1:30pm

6:30pm Adult Catechesis, Parish Hall

**September 22:** Mid-month work meeting @ Church on Rosaries.

**September 24:** 40 Days for Life begins.

There are yard signs available at the Parish Office, please stop in and ask for one if you would like one for your yard.

**September 29:** 1:30 & 6:00 pm Bible Study

**October 5<sup>th</sup>:** 2:00-4:00 PM Respect life "Coast to Coast Rosary". CDA WILL NOT be doing Rolls and Coffee this day.

**Thank you** to everyone that donated Blood, Time or Talent toward the **Success** of the Blood Drive. **Thank you** to the Parish Teen's that helped clear the Parish Hall after class Wed. and the KC's & CDA members that returned the hall to its usual status after the Blood Drive.

**Prayer - Fellowship - Quilting  
Join the Fun!**



St. Catherine Quilters make quilts for those in need in our area every



**Thursday 1-4:30pm & 6:30-9pm** next to the school cafeteria.

**Everyone is welcome for any length of time. No experience necessary & supplies provided.**

**Questions call:**

**Christine, 840-2580 or Lela, 840-8352.**

**We are Hiring**

Store Cashier/Clerk needed

**Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays,**  
10:00am to 5:00pm

Please stop in the store to inquire about this position or to apply.

Store hours are 10:00am to 5:00pm

Monday - Saturday

Phone Number 845-1022



**Tuesday Morning Movies**

Please join the Tuesday Morning Movie Group, each Tuesday morning after the 8:00am Mass in the Sacred Heart Room for a movie, muffins and mighty good fellowship. Showing this week: "Hope" Our Lady of Knock. All are welcome!

## Fall Suppers/Festivals

St. Agatha's Catholic Church of Hope, ND will have its Fall Supper on **Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025 from 4:30-7:00pm** at the Hope American Legion. They will be serving Turkey, dressing, meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, squash, coleslaw and a variety of pies.

Cost: Adults (12 & Up) \$15, Youth (6-11) \$10, Preschool (3-5) \$5.

To-Go Meals are available.

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Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Fingal, ND will have its Turkey Dinner and Bake Sale on **Sunday, October 12, 2025 from 11:00am - 1:30pm**. Menu is Turkey, potatoes, gravy, dressing, cranberries, corn, buns, pickles, coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Price is Adults \$15, Grades K-6 \$7, Pre-school Free. All Welcome! See you there!

St. Agnes Catholic Church 102 1<sup>st</sup> Street East Hunter, ND will have their Turkey Dinner on **October 12, 2025, serving 11AM - 2PM**. Prices are Adults \$15, Children 12 and under \$10. Take out is \$1 extra. All are welcome!!



### Catholic Daughters

# ROSARY CLINIC



Do you have a **broken rosary, spare, rosaries or pieces from a rosary** laying around. **Well!!! You are in luck!** The **Catholic Daughters** are holding a **'Rosary Clinic.'** This is a perfect time to get your broken rosaries fixed or find a way to recycle unused rosaries.

***Rosaries are blessed sacramentals that should not be thrown away!!***

Baggies with labels on them will be available in a basket, in the back of the church, on the window ledge above the small pew.

**PRINT in your:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle** if you want us to: **repair the rosary** or **donate it for spare parts** or to share with another Prayer Warrior. (**One Rosary per bag.**)

Please bring your rosaries between Saturday night, September 13, to Sunday, September 21, 2025. Thanks for bringing the rosaries to be repaired to the labeled box near where you picked up the baggie for it.

Our plan is to have them returned before Sept 30<sup>th</sup> as October is the Month of the Rosary. **Thanks for supporting this Catholic Daughters project!**

## Diocese Job Posting 09-16-2025

### **FT Communications Assistant/Assistant Editor**

The Diocese of Fargo is seeking a full-time Communications Assistant/Assistant Editor to provide professional support for the diocesan magazine and other communications. This person writes, edits, proofs, and designs layout for New Earth as well as managing advertising, website, and social media. Responsibilities include afternoon receptionist three afternoons a week. The ideal candidate is detail-oriented, organized, and skilled at multitasking in a professional environment. Proficiency with Microsoft Office and Adobe products including InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator preferred. A Bachelor's degree in Communications, a related field or sufficient experience is required. To apply email cover letter, resume and three references to [Barbara.augdahl@fargodiocese.org](mailto:Barbara.augdahl@fargodiocese.org) Position open until filled.

### **October Serving Events:**

October 5: coffee and rolls

Chairpersons:

Rayma Feigen, 701-490-1224

Diane Nolte, 701-840-8573

# *Life Chain*

Sunday  
October 5, 2025  
2:00-3:00 pm  
2025

Every year since 1987, on the first Sunday of October, Life Chains form in cities nationwide to make a public, prayerful, peaceful stand for life.

Valley City will join over 1500 cities in the U.S. and Canada for Life Chain 2025, which will be held Sunday, **October 5, 2025**, from **2:00 to 3:00 PM**.

Life Chain **IS NOT** political or confrontational. Life Chain **IS** a silent prayer vigil by Christians to communicate their opposition to abortion. Participants prayerfully display uniform signs which state the truth about abortion. It is an opportunity for local churches to unite in prayer and stand up for the rights of the unborn. Everyone who believes in the protection of unborn children and their mothers is invited to participate.

### **Bring your whole family! Rain or Shine!**

- ~ Water, lawn chairs, & strollers are welcome
- ~ Signs will be provided
- ~ Participants stand 20--50 feet apart and pray.
- \*\*\* Receive your signs at the Valley Meat Parking lot or just east of the flood wall across from Bank Forward.

2 Chronicles 7:14 ~ "If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

# St. Catherine Elementary School Store is open!!!



Go check it out and get some St. Catherine's gear  
for your kids and yourself.

The store will be open from Sept. 16-Sept. 30.

The store website is:

<https://stcatherineschool25.itemorder.com/>

All items will be shipped to the school where they  
can be picked up or sent home with your kids.

