

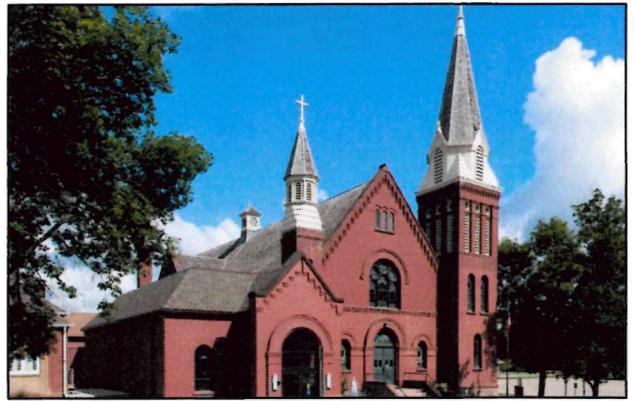
St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish

540 3rd Ave NE - Valley City, ND 58072

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

www.catherineofalexandria.org

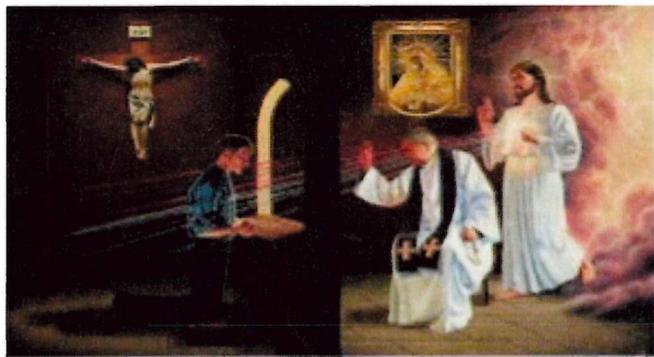


MASS SCHEDULE:

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



ADVENT
Reconciliation Service
Tuesday
December 16th
7:00 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:

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

Coffee and Rolls

Sunday between the masses
Everyone Welcome, join us for
amazing rolls, coffee and
fellowship!!



**The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, December 8th

Masses:

8:00am

12:10pm

6:30pm

December Calendar of Events

SUN 7	Second Sunday of Advent 7:55am Rosary 8:30am Mass 9:30am Coffee and Rolls 10:10am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass
MON 8	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 12:10pm Mass 6:30pm Mass 8:00pm to Midnight CDA Night of Prayer
TUE 9	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 8:30am - 10:00pm Adoration 8:30am Tuesday Movie
WED 10	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 10:30am ODC Merry & Bright Concert 5:00pm Nearly Nu Meeting 6:30pm Mandatory Parent Meeting - Confirmation Parents 6:30pm RE 7:00pm Youth Group
THU 11	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 1:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Quilters
FRI 12	7:25am Rosary 8:00am Mass 2:00pm Mass - St Raphael
SAT 13	10:00am Mass - Mercy Hospital 4:25pm Rosary 5:00pm Mass
SUN 14	Third Sunday of Advent 7:55am Rosary 8:30am Mass 10:10am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass 6:30pm Adult Catechesis

TODAYS READINGS

First Reading — Is 11:1-10

Second Reading — Rom 15:4-9

Gospel — Mt 3:1-12

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;

Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

PRAYER NETWORK

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

Warren Ventch	Renita Westerhausen
Larry Doyle	Shelly Differding
Lucille Winkler	Mary Elmore
Donna Hammond	Katie Anderson
Jerry Sand	Maryjo Randle
Krystal Lemer	Daniel Gonzalez
Linda Hesch	John Snodgrass
John Kunert	Bob Wuolu
Holly Oesterle	Laine Schwehr
Liz Byrne	David Hayen

MASS INTENTIONS December 8 - 14

M 8:00am † Roxanne Reed

12:10pm † Audrey Suhr

6:30pm People of the Parish

T 8:00am Brady Green

W 8:00am † Helen Differding

Th 8:00am † Walt Clement

F 8:00am Deacon Ed & Deb Didier

2:00pm † Dennis Stillings

Sa 5:00pm Mark Dyrness

Su 8:30am † Travis Robinson

10:30am People of the Parish

Pastor's Page

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



When the Lord God created our first parents, Adam and Eve, He "breathed into them the breath of life" - both their human life and a sharing in His own divine life (we call that the life of grace). The human family, created in the "image and likeness of God", were from the very first always meant to have that "dual-lifestyle" within their very persons: the natural life of humanity, and the supernatural life of divinity.

It didn't take too long for them to lose that sharing in God's own life. In their "original sin" of disobedience, they separated themselves from God, and when one does that, the supernatural life of grace disappears. And since the Lord God created them for that very kind of life in their humanity, He willed that our life in God would be regained through the sacrifice of His own Son: the very Son of God would become one of us, offer His life in atonement for our sins, and make the very grace of God available to us again. And so the work of the Church began in bringing this new life in God to all nations and all peoples, and it will never cease until the end of time.

In accordance with the will of God, that life of grace that Christ won for us would be given to the human family sacramentally in Baptism. The importance of the sacrament in that respect can never be overstated. But of course it is possible for the living God to work His graced will outside the sacraments - and He did that in a big and singular way with His own mother.

The Most Blessed Trinity deemed it to be the case that when the Son of God was conceived and born into our world as our Savior, that His mother would be free from all sin, and that would begin with her freedom from Original Sin. All of us - and all who came before us and all who will come after us - have been conceived "in the state of Original Sin" - the lack of that graced, supernatural life that our first parents lost when they committed that sin and thus were no longer able to pass it on to all of us, their children in the human family.

But not so with this woman. When an elderly Jewish couple named Anne and Joachim conceived their one and only daughter, she was conceived in Anne's womb without Original Sin. She was conceived "full of grace." This was the awesome grace of the Immaculate Conception - that singular grace that God gave in that there was no stain of Original Sin in her. And Anne and Joachim named their little newborn Mary.

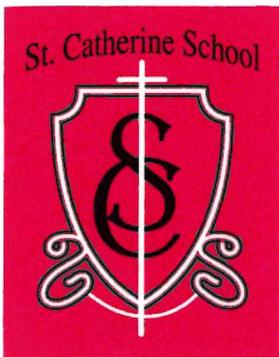
That's what the Immaculate Conception is all about. It was God's gift to Mary who would become His own mother to be as free from sin and He Himself would be when He would be conceived in her womb in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Immaculate Conception was the conception of Mary in the womb of St Anne.

The Church has known of this truth from its very first days. It has believed it and celebrated it for centuries. It was only in 1854 that Pope Pius IX dogmatically defined this teaching about the Blessed Mother - and then, as if in response to that, four years later, in 1858, when the Blessed Virgin appeared to St Bernadette in Lourdes, France, she introduced herself to that young girl by saying, "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Now the Church celebrates this solemnity each year on December 8 (nine months before we celebrate her birthday on September 8), and it is observed as a ***holy day of obligation***, and so will be celebrated in our parish this Monday at our three Masses. (Because it falls each year in the season of Advent, it is often misunderstood and confused with the "virginal conception" of Christ in Mary's womb - but this is about Mary's conception in the womb of her mother St. Anne, as a gift to her in preparation for her blessed motherhood of God Himself.)

One final note: The Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the United States. This is a special feast day for our nation, and she and her Son know - and we should too - how much we need her, her prayers, and her mothering of us as American citizens and as children of God.

Fr Duchscher
Pastor



Principal's Page

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish Family,

As we continue our journey through Advent, I want to share a joy-filled update from one of the fastest-growing ministries in our parish: **Little Saints Childcare**.

Over the past several months, we have worked diligently to open each classroom, build a strong staff, and prepare a safe and nurturing environment for our youngest learners. Today, I am thrilled to say that all classrooms are open, and Little Saints is growing every single week. In November, we welcomed our first two infants, and throughout the winter and spring, we will welcome several more.

I will say this honestly—being able to hold an infant during a school day is one of the greatest stress-relievers I've experienced in this job. There is something profoundly grounding about it. In those quiet moments, I am reminded of what it truly means for us to be a Catholic institution committed to supporting life at every stage. From infants to school-age children, our building is now a place where the Church's teaching on the dignity of every human life is lived out daily. It is a gift—and a responsibility—that we embrace wholeheartedly.

We Are Hiring –Join Our Little Saints Team!

As our ministry expands, **we need additional staff**. If you or someone you know has a heart for children and a desire to serve in a faith-filled environment, please encourage them to apply.

1. Lead Toddler Teacher

Responsible for classroom routines, activities, and schedules; nurtures learning, play, and self-regulation

Full-Time + Benefits

\$16–\$18/hr.

2. Assistant Teacher

Engages with children through play, music, crafts, games, and outdoor time

Part-Time, flexible scheduling

3–25 hours per week

\$14–\$16/hr.

3. Food Service Assistant

Helps prepare, cook, and serve nutritious meals

20–25 hours per week

\$12–\$15/hr.

We also welcome **additional part-time workers** beyond what is listed here.

Apply here: <https://bit.ly/461DRdc>

If you know someone who may be a great fit, please reach out to me directly at nicholas.lee1@k12.nd.us or call the school office at **701-845-1453**.

Prayers for Our Second Graders

This Saturday, our parish second graders (including my own son) received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. Although the sacrament will already have taken place by the time you read this, I ask that you keep these young children in your prayers.

Pray that this encounter with God's mercy strengthens their relationship with Him, brings them peace, and helps them grow into the lives God desires them to lead. First Reconciliation is a beautiful doorway into understanding God's love—not just as something taught, but as something deeply experienced.

In this holy season of preparation, let us continue to pray for one another, for our parish, and for the mission entrusted to St. Catherine School: to inspire excellence through faith, learning, and service. May the Lord bless our Little Saints ministry and all those we serve within these walls.

Blessings to you and your loved ones,

Nicholas 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: 8:00am to 5:00pm

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: November 30, 2025

Regular Parish Income			
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Last Week	\$12,017.00	\$10,434.62	\$1,582.38
Year to Date	\$210,909.14	\$229,561.64	(\$18,652.50)
Registered Families 463		
Adult Envelopes			\$11,638.00
Children			\$0.00
Plate			\$379.00
Total Collection			\$12,017.00

Black and Indian Collection \$40

Thank you for your generous gifts!!

Online Giving Available @

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, December 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**



Congratulations to our children who received
1st Reconciliation Saturday Morning

Wednesday, December 10: K-8 RE Classes at
6:30 in the school building

Wednesday, December 10: 6:30pm 2nd
Mandatory Parent Meeting for Confirmation

If you have questions or concerns, please
contact DRE Carol Jobs at
stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com

*"Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast
ourselves into her arms with perfect confidence."
- Saint Francis de Sales*

St. Francis de Sales, pray for us.

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

December 10: Decorating - We will be
helping the Ladies Book Club decorate the
social hall for Christmas. If you can, we will
start at 6:30pm. If you can't make it till
7:00pm that will be fine.

December 17: "Silly Competitions"

December 24: No Class, Merry Christmas

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

December 7th CDA leads Divine Mercy
Chaplet 10:10am

**** 3:00pm Prayer, Snack and
Meeting-Note change of date
and time-NO MEETING MONDAY**

December 8th Holy Day - Immaculate
Conception

**8:00p to 12:00a National Night
of Prayer for Life**

December 14th 8-9:30pm Prepare Christmas Gifts
and Delivery at 11:30pm

December 15th 1:30p or 6:00p Bible Study

**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.



December Serving Information:

Diane Nolte is the chairperson for
December.

Grant Them Eternal Rest

Please remember in your prayers the repose of
the soul of **DuWayne Sauer**, father of Cindy
(Mark) Fitzner and Carol (Jerry) Perkins, who
recently passed away. May he rest forever in
God's loving care.

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:
"Guadalupe Mysteries". All are welcome!

Christmas Eve Dinner Volunteers Needed:

The annual Community Christmas Eve Dinner is coming up again this year on Wednesday, December 24, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. We are in need of volunteers this year, including host and hostesses, dishwashers, turkey carvers, set up, take down, busing tables, servers, cooking and preparing the food, serve to go meals, handle desserts, prepare and serve punch, coffee and water servers. We also, most importantly, need people who are willing to cook one of the turkeys at their house and deliver it to the church on Christmas Eve. **Please contact either Deacon Thomas Vanorny or Sharon Vanorny at 701-210-0640.**



Monthly Adult Catechesis



THE TRINITY

One God, Three Persons

→ Explain please...



When: **Sunday, December 14, at 6:30 pm**
Where: Church Basement/Parish Hall
Presented by: Fr. Paul Duchscher

Catholic Daughters invite YOU to the
**36th ANNUAL NATIONAL
NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE.
ALL NATIONS INVITED!**

“And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us”- John 1:14

Just as Jesus became Man at His conception, likewise, when a child is conceived, he/she becomes a member of our human family. This little person now dwells among us. So that our nation and world may accept this truth, conform to God's Laws, protect our unborn brothers and sisters and restore health to our country...

COME PRAY WITH US!!!!

Join in Unity of Prayer across America to restore the protection of LIFE, the FAMILY, and the CHURCH, establish PEACE and inspire Courage in our NATION!!

*...Before I formed you in the womb I knew you—
Jeremiah 1:5*

If my people... humble themselves and pray, and seek my presence and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and revive their land.—2 Chronicles 7:12

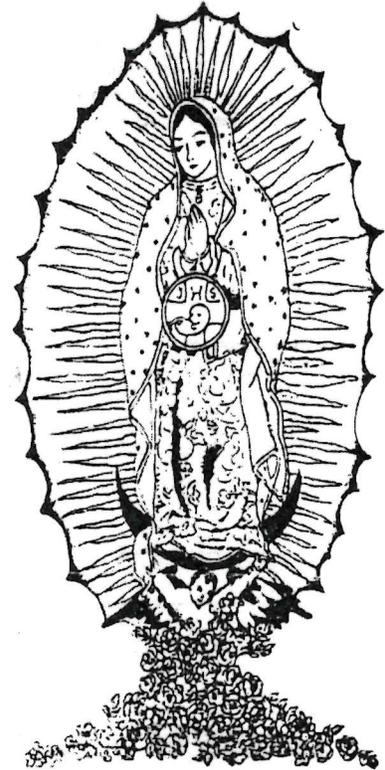
Let us be confident in Our Mother's promises!

A Rosary will be prayed at the top of each hour.
Please join us!

NATIONAL HOUR OF UNITY IS 11PM TO 12AM (CST)

St. Catherine of Alexandria

Monday, December 8th
8PM to Midnight



4TH ANNUAL

Advent

GIVING TREE

Nov. 30 - Dec. 14



Pick an ornament
off a tree!

Please attach the tag to your
UNWRAPPED gift and place it
under the tree in the
Good Shepherd space
by December 14.

ORGANIZATIONS HELPED:

St. Gianna Maternity Home
Fargo Women's Care Center
Abused Person's Outreach
Open Door Center
St. Raphael Care Center



53rd Annual Community Christmas Eve Dinner



St. Catherine's Church Dining Hall
December 24, 2025
5:30pm to 7:00pm

For those who will be alone this Christmas,
come celebrate Jesus's birthday
with other members of our community.

Desserts are welcome, no salads please.

We appreciate financial donations.

For questions or to volunteer please call:
Deacon Tom Vanorny at 701-210-0640

**If you need transportation: Call 845-0354 by 3:00pm on
Tuesday, December 23, 2025**

Financial Donations can be mailed to:
St. Catherine Church
Attn: Christmas Eve Dinner
540 3rd Ave NE
Valley City, ND 58072

We appreciate your generosity.

Sorry - No deliveries except for the love of Jesus to one another!!





JOIN US FOR

MERRY & BRIGHT CHRISTMAS CAROLERS

DECEMBER 10TH

ST CATHERINE'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH

10.30 AM

Come and enjoy our music!



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Help fill our Church with the beauty of Christmas with a gift for a family member, living or deceased. Names of those remembered will be listed in the Christmas bulletin. Donations are used for Christmas flowers and decorations. Please complete the following information and return to the Parish Office by December 15th.

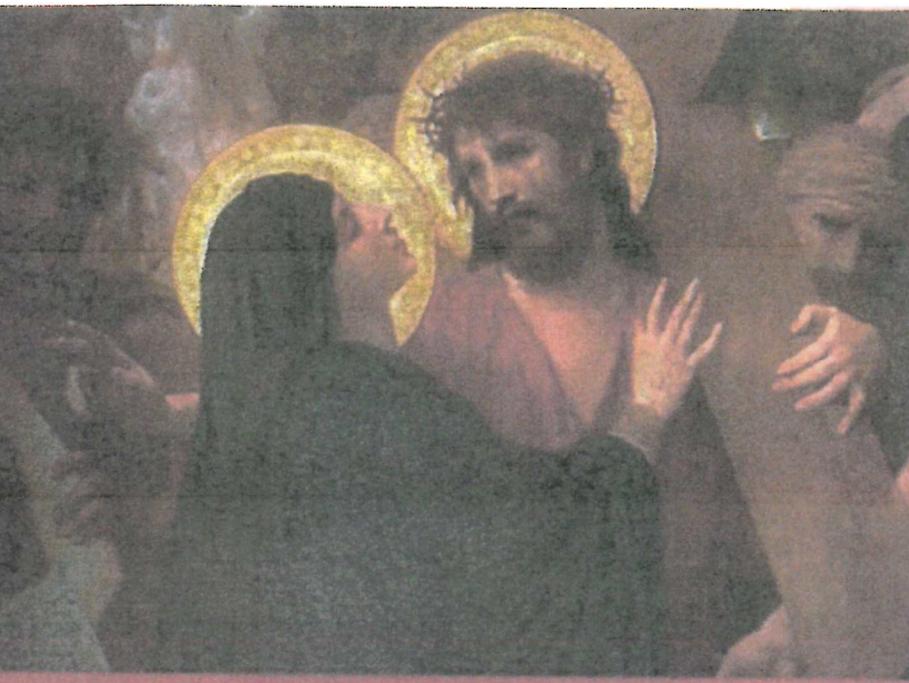
Given by: _____

Amount: _____

Person(s) being remembered: Please print legibly so I don't spell any names wrong, thank you!!

NO GREATER LOVE

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH
CHRIST'S PASSION



Dates – Times – Location

St. Catherine's Church
Sacred Heart Room

January 19, 2026
February 2, 2026
February 16, 2026
March 2, 2026
March 16, 2026

Sessions
1:30 PM OR 6:00 PM

Cost – Registration

Fill Out Registration Form
Return it to St. Catherine's Church
by January 2nd, 2026

Cost \$30.00

For More Information

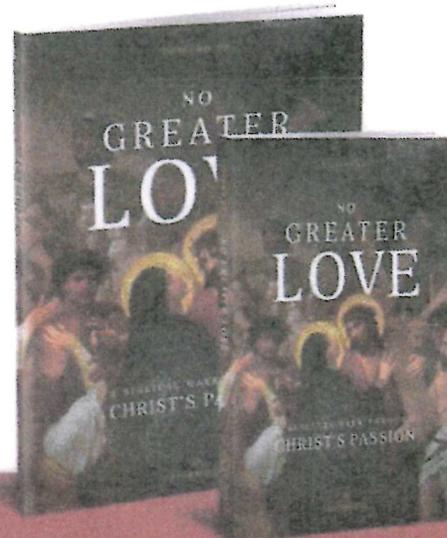
Contact

Marian Hoffarth - 701-370-9859
Or
Sophya Rose - 701-490-2024

**Thousands sought Jesus during his life.
Only a few followed him to Calvary.**

What will you do?

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—and grow closer to Jesus.



I wish to join: Ascension Press: No Greater Love - the Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Text: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Session Time: _____

Comments: _____

Bring this form and payment for materials to the church office or use an envelope to put in the offertory plate at mass. (If you write a check, make it out to St. Catherine Parish)

If you have any questions, please call or text: Marian Hoffarth 701-370-9859 or Sophya rose 701-490-2024