

St. Benedict Church of Wild Rice

11743 38th Street South, Horace, ND 58047

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Serving the community since 1870



Parish Office: (701) 588-4288

www.stbensnd.org

Email: office@stbensnd.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Jasinski
pastor@stbensnd.org

Director of Administration:

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Director of Faith Formation:

Linda Skjerseth
dre@stbensnd.org

Director of Youth Ministry:

Catie Vetter
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Administrative Assistant:

Maria Saville
office@stbensnd.org

Parish Council:

Buildings & Grounds: Jerry Schroeder
Cemetery Board: Claude Richard
St. John Paul II Catholic Schools: Kara Hagemeister
Liturgy: Kara Hagemeister
Men's Group Co-Chairs: Curt Bjertness; Ron Erickson
Music Ministry: Fr. Jasinski
Service Groups: Joan Bjertness
Social Justice: Kathleen Fischer
Youth Ministry: Catie Vetter
Finance Council: Pat Reinke
Lay Director: Curt Bjertness
Lay Director: Dave Dietz

Building Committee Chair:

Paul Richard
Email: paulfrichard@aol.com

League of St. Anne:

Membership: Maria Saville, 701-588-4288

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday by 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

PARISH SERVICES

Mass Schedule:

Weekend:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Weekdays:

Monday: No Mass
Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Days:

7:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and upon appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: A Baptism preparation class must be taken prior to the birth of the child. Please contact the parish office for more information and to schedule a baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage: Please contact Fr. Jasinski at least one year in advance.

Sacrament of the Sick: You are encouraged to seek the Sacrament of the Sick if you are suffering from a serious illness or are going to be admitted to the hospital for surgery. Please contact Fr. Jasinski or the parish office if you would like to be anointed.

Becoming Catholic: If you or someone you know are interested in becoming Catholic, please contact the parish office.

Prayer Support: If you need prayers for any intention or wish to become a member of the Prayer Apostolate, please contact Joan Houdek by email or phone at joan.houdek@gmail.com or 701-730-5828.

Faith Formation:

Grades K-5: Sunday, 9:15-10:15 a.m.

Grades 6-8, Middle School FUEL: Wednesday, 6:15-8:15 p.m.

Grades 9-12, High School FUEL: Wednesday, 6:15-8:15 p.m.

New Members: If you are new to the area, we would like to welcome you aboard. To register as a new member of the parish, please introduce yourself to Fr. Jasinski after Mass.



www.facebook.com/benedictofwildrice

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 12/17—Sunday Faith Formation Classes (9:15-10:15 a.m.)
- 12/17—St. Benedict's Advent Reconciliation Service (4:00 p.m.)
- 12/19—RCIA Session (7:00 p.m., Peschel Room)
- 12/20—FUEL Meets (Charlie Brown Marathon)
- 12/22—Kazy-Garey Baptism
- 12/23-25—Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Masses (See pg. 3)
- 12/26—Finance Council Meeting (6:30 p.m., St. Anne Center)
- 12/27-29—St. Benedict's Volunteer Week at Emergency Food Pantry
- 12/27—No FUEL Classes Today (Christmas Break)
- 12/31—No Sunday Faith Formation Classes or Coffee & Donuts
- 1/1—Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Masses times are 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.)
- 1/3—FUEL Sessions Resume (Christmas Party)
- 1/7—Sunday Faith Formation Classes Resume (9:15-10:15 a.m.)

Mass Intentions

Sat	December 16	(5:00 p.m.)	† Anne Privratsky
Sun	December 17	(8:00 a.m.)	† Kyle Newman
		(10:30 a.m.)	Parishioners
Mon	December 18	(8:30 a.m.)	No Mass Today
Tue	December 19	(8:30 a.m.)	† Fr. Armand "Bud" Brooks
Wed	December 20	(8:30 a.m.)	† Fr. Joseph Fitzpatrick
Thu	December 21	(8:30 a.m.)	† Fr. Al Bitz
Fri	December 22	(8:30 a.m.)	† Marguerite Hammerschmidt
Sat	December 23	(5:00 p.m.)	† Jerry Desotel
Sun	December 24	(8:00 a.m.)	† John Sikorski
		(10:30 a.m.)	Parishioners

DECEMBER 2023

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/ 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Stewardship

Budgeted Weekly Collection: \$5,961
 December 10, 2023....\$15,905
 Budgeted Collection YTD: \$292,089
 Actual Collection YTD: \$261,483
 December Second Collection: \$803

*Thank you for your generosity
and continued support!*

Special Prayer Intentions for:

Paul Adams, Micah Erickson,
 Darren Feist, Irene Feist,
 Joe Fleck, Adrian Fliceck,
 Nicole Jensen, Brad Johnson,
 Juan & Family, Russ Koenig,
 Matt Kreklow, Kathy Loney,
 Marvin Miller, Karen Schmitz,
 Arielle Stansbury, Carol Trottier,
 Wendy Trottier, Alicia Vandrovce



Please sign up in church entry for ministries for the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Masses.

Liturgical Ministers for Today

	Saturday, Dec 16, 5:00 PM (Mass)	Sunday, Dec 17, 8:00 AM (Mass)	Sunday, Dec 17, 10:30 AM (Mass)
Sacristan	Bev Marsh	Catie Vetter	NOT FILLED
Lector	Martha Burns	Marcus Vetter	Dave Dougherty
Usher	Curt Bjertness Dale Wyffels	Ken Zetocha NOT FILLED	Levi Bachmeier Perry Piatz
Altar Server	Ethan Duval NOT FILLED	Trayton Stoppleworth Mia Vetter Oliver Vetter	Logan Mayer NOT FILLED
EMHC	Sheri Koenig (Paten) Margaret Klein (Paten-choir)	Catie Vetter (Paten) Twila Nohrenberg (Paten-choir)	Corey Mayer (Paten) Jan Mayer (Paten-choir)
Greeter	Russell & Sheri Koenig	Kevin & Denise Stoppleworth	NOT FILLED
Gift Bearer	NOT FILLED	Kevin & Denise Stoppleworth	Perry & Sandi Piatz
Hospitality	Service Group Rotation Service Group 5 —December Coffee and Rolls Service Group 6 —January Coffee and Rolls Service Group 7 —January 7th Parish Potluck/Epiphany Program		

Stewardship Moment

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."
 – 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

**Special Collection
for the Holy Land**

Bishop Folda has asked parishes to take up a special collection this weekend for humanitarian and parish assistance in the Holy Land. The funds raised will be sent to the Latin Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. You may place an envelope or check (with a memo indicating "Holy Land") in the offertory collection in the next couple weeks to follow. Thank you for your generosity!

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention
for December**

"We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation."

**Advent
Reconciliation
Services**

**St. Benedict's
TODAY, December 17
4:00 p.m.**

(Below services are at 7:00 p.m.)

Monday, Dec. 18 - St. Leo's, Casselton
 Tuesday, Dec. 19 - Holy Cross
 Monday, Dec. 21 - St. Anthony's

Pastor's Notes**Dear Parishioners,**

Today is "Gaudate Sunday", a Sunday of rejoicing. It is the Third Sunday of Advent and we light the rose candle on our Advent wreath. Our preparation for Christmas has "turned the corner" and our anticipation of the great gift of Christmas is heightened.

This year I have suggested that we focus not simply on the birth of Jesus 2,000 years ago, but on the presence of the Savior in our lives today. This is accomplished by a daily examination of conscience and regular confession. This way we can join Isaiah, who says in our first reading, "I rejoice heartily in the Lord ... for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation", and Our Lady whose words are echoed in the Responsorial Psalm, "my spirit rejoices in God my Savior".

**Rejoice Sunday**

At Mass last week, I introduced a prayer from St. Thomas Aquinas to be prayed after the celebration of Mass. There is one phrase in this prayer that always makes me pause: "I pray that this Holy Communion may not bring me condemnation and punishment, but forgiveness and salvation". I know that I do not keep the Ten Commandments perfectly; and I constantly ask the Lord to reveal to me my serious failings, the ways I sin mortally, those actions which rupture my relationship with him and exclude me from Holy Communion with him. I pray that I receive the light to know and confess my sins completely and thoroughly.

During these final days of Advent, we prepare more earnestly for the Coming of Jesus our Savior. To get ready for his coming at the end of time, he comes now through the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. May our preparations for the birth of our Savior bring him to birth anew in our hearts.

May St. John the Baptist and Mary be examples to us how to receive Jesus, our Savior, with joy.

Fr. Andrew Jasinski

**SCHEDULE****ADVENT & CHRISTMAS****Celebrate With Us**

This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve fall on the same day. The faithful are obligated to attend a Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, as well as for Christmas (since both are days of obligation, we are obligated to attend two separate Masses).

4th Sunday of Advent Masses:

Saturday, December 23, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 24: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Masses:

Sunday, December 24, 4:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.
Monday, December 25, 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Mass:

Monday, January 1, 8:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. (not an obligatory Mass this year)

St. Benedict's **Social Justice** CORNER

St. Benedict Volunteers Needed

Thank you to those who have signed up to fill carts at the Emergency Food Panty. We are still in need of a few more volunteers to fill carts especially on Friday, December 29 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the church entry. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

Advent Giving Tree

Thank you to all who have so generously donated items and gift cards for our Advent giving tree in support of the Women's Care Center. Donated items should be returned unwrapped with the tag attached by **Sunday, December 17**. Thank you for make the holidays brighter for moms and babies of our community.



6th Annual Family Christmas Ball

The 6th Annual Family Christmas Ball is Friday, December 29, from 6:30 - 10:00 p.m., at St. Mary's Cathedral Basement. Come join us for a fun, FREE night of Waltzes, Foxtrots, Swing and a few ballroom line dances. Bring a snack to share. All ages are welcome, attire is formal.



For questions, please contact Tiffany Goering at goeringtiffany@gmail.com or 701-388-6362.

We wish to thank all of the advertisers who have so generously supported our parish bulletin in the past year. Please take a minute to peruse the back page of our bulletin, patronize these loyal businesses and individuals, and thank them for their support of our parish. If you would like to advertise in the weekly bulletin for 2024, please contact the parish office for more information.



FILL US ALL WITH

Joy

Faith Formation



**Grades K-5
SUNDAYS**



Catechesis Corner

There will be **NO** Sunday Faith Formation classes on Sundays, December 24th and 31st due to the holidays.



Youth Epiphany Play

All youth are invited to participate in our Epiphany play to be presented **Sunday, January 7, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.** There will be both reading and non-speaking parts.

There will be **two rehearsals**:

- ◆ Saturday, Jan. 6, from 9:00-10:30 a.m., AND
- ◆ Sunday, Jan. 7, at 3:00 p.m. (the dress rehearsal).



The play will begin at 4:30 followed by a parish potluck at 5:00 p.m. Parents, please email Linda Skjerseth (dre@stbendsnd.org) to sign up your child(ren) and to help assist with rehearsals, props, costumes, etc.

Upcoming Schedule

- 12/20 FUEL - Charlie Brown Marathon
- 12/27 No FUEL (Christmas Break)
- 1/3 FUEL Christmas Party
- 1/10 No FUEL Sessions Today



FUEL News

Faith Used in Everyday Life



**Grades 6-12
WEDNESDAYS**

Do you need a Christmas present for that young person in your life (or for yourself)?

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. We have a peer-lead retreat coming up **January 12-14, 2024** at Maryvale Retreat Center in Valley City. More details and the application are at www.fargodiocese.org/search4cm or call Dori at 952-210-2219 with questions. Applications are due no later than Tuesday, December 26th.

New for 2024

Married Couple's Retreat Opportunities

Are you looking for chance to get away for the weekend to spend some one-on-one time with your husband / wife? Deacon Ben and Jennine Seitz will be offering Married Couples Retreats that will not only give you the opportunity to spend time with each other, but also grow closer in your relationship with Jesus Christ!

"I Am" - God's Plan for Life and Love from the Gospel of St. John

January 19-21 — Franciscan Retreat Center
Hankinson, ND

February 2-4 — Crookston Retreat Center
Crookston, MN

February 9-11 — Maryvale Retreat Center
Valley City, ND

April 5-7 — Franciscan Retreat Center
Hankinson, ND

Go to www.sixstonejars.org for more information and registration.



Theology on Tap, Dec. 18

The Diocese of Fargo Young Adult Ministry is hosting Theology on Tap on Monday, December 18, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Crooked Pint Alehouse (3340 13th Ave S, Fargo). Theology on Tap is open to anyone ages 21-39 who wants to relax, grab a beer and talk God! For more information, visit fargodiocese.org/youngadults.

Cathedral Solemn Vespers

All are welcome to pray and sing vespers each evening from December 17-23 at 7:00 p.m. in **Our Lady of Guadalupe Adoration Chapel at the Cathedral** at 615 7th Street North in Fargo. The Church eagerly awaits the coming of the Messiah and sings the "O Antiphons" which recall various prophetic titles of the Christ: O Wisdom, O Lord, O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Radiant Dawn, O King of the Nations, O Emmanuel.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter will be offering marriage retreats at: Mandan (February 9-11), and Valley City (March 22-24). These weekends are private and allow couples to focus just on each other. A communication tool is taught to help spouses get to know themselves better and to grow deeper in their married relationships. Live your best life in love! For more information, call Rob & Angie at (701) 347-1998 or apply at wwme.org.



Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Fargo, ND, is looking to hire an **Administrative Assistant / Communications team member**. This position would help engage parishioners through effective communication and lived hospitality. This part-time or full-time role would include managing communication and marketing, answering phones and greeting guests, clerical work, and providing general office assistance. Candidates must have a love for their Catholic faith, computer skills, and a positive personality to make Holy Spirit parish an even better place. Please send a cover letter and resume to: pastor@holyspiritfargo.com.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Fargo, ND, is currently looking for a **Business Manager**. This person will be familiar with Catholic teaching, structure and procedures with the ability to manage multiple projects and priorities. This position is responsible for the effective organization and operation of Holy Spirit parish's financial, building and office affairs. This is a full-time salaried position offering a competitive salary and benefits. Previous accounting experience is preferred, advancement experience would be a bonus. To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to Fr. Ross Laframboise at pastor@holyspiritfargo.com

Upcoming Events

The Diocese of Fargo will be offering a youth pilgrimage to the National March for Life in Washington, DC, January 15-20, 2024. This trip is open to all students in grades 9-12, and the cost will be \$675.00/person. Not included are meals and spending money. To secure a spot, a \$100 non-refundable deposit is due upon registering. To learn more about this pilgrimage, visit, www.fargodiocese.org/marchforlife or call Brady Borslien at 701-356-7900.

Made for Greatness Men's Retreat, Jan. 19-21, 2024
Maryvale Retreat Center, Valley City

The Made for Greatness Men's Retreat will be particularly focused on equipping men to be dynamic, Godly leaders in their homes. Internationally renowned speaker, author, husband, and father, Devin Schadt, will unpack the means for men to lead their families to the fullness of life that God intends for them. In addition to profound insights and transformative sacramental encounters, this retreat will feature lots of meat, adult beverages, times of recreation, and will forge lasting bonds of brotherhood. *This retreat only has a handful of spots left.* Secure your spot today at: www.fargodiocese.org/mfg-winter.

DEVOTED—A Going Deeper Retreat

The Diocese of Fargo Young Adult Ministry is hosting a silent retreat from January 12-14 at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Hankinson, ND. This retreat will start Friday evening with check-in and registration at 5:00 p.m. and will conclude on Sunday by noon. The theme for the retreat is "Devoted - A Going Deeper Retreat." There will be Mass, prayer, and talks daily. Eric Gallagher is the retreat master. Registration is \$200 (Diocesan scholarships available). To learn more about the retreat, or to register, visit www.fargodiocese.org/youngadults, or scan the QR code.

**An Ecclesia Domestica Retreat for Women**

*Handmaid of the Lord:
My Heart for My Son*

February 2-4, 2024

Franciscan Retreat Center, Hankinson, ND

For more information and to register:

www.EcclesiaDomestica.net/Registration or
St. Boniface Parish, Lidgerwood at (701) 538-4604



Diocese of Fargo will offer a Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress: July 16-22, 2024 in Indianapolis, IN. The Congress will include five days of talks, Mass, Eucharistic procession, Adoration and much more. Begins on July 16, 2024 and includes an overnight stop in Mundelein, IL at Our Lady of the Lake Retreat Center and a visit to the shrine of Maximilian Kolbe. The bus route back to Fargo includes meal stops as well as an overnight stay in Mauston, WI. Arrival back in Fargo on Monday, July 22. Only 100 spots available for the pilgrimage. For more information or to register, visit fargodiocese.org/congress-pilgrimage.

Minot Air Force Base in Minot ND is seeking a **part-time Catholic Religious Education Coordinator**, 15 hours per week. Primary duties include providing a quality religious education program nursery through grade 12, prepare annual budget, plan and order curriculum and ensure teachers and substitutes are properly trained. Must have broad knowledge of the Catholic teachings and basic computer skills. Send your resume to info@sawyerglobal.com

St. John Paul II Catholic Schools is looking to hire the following positions:

- ◆ 1st Grade Teacher – Nativity Elementary School
- ◆ 1st Grade Teacher – Trinity Elementary School
- ◆ Math Long-term Substitute Teacher – Sacred Heart Middle School
- ◆ Head Girls Volleyball Coach (Fall 2024) – Shanley High School
- ◆ Head Boys Soccer Coach (Fall 2024) – Shanley High School
- ◆ After School Program Worker – Multiple locations

To apply visit <https://www.jp2schools.org/careers/> or call 701-893-3231 for more information.

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"Therefore encourage one another
and build each other up."
1 THESS 5:11

JAMES LAHAISE

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45 - 21st Ave E, Suite B
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Email: ddietz@heartlandcg.net



Dave Dietz

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