



St. John the Evangelist Sacred Heart - Oakwood

May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter

1515 Western Ave.
Grafton, ND 58237

Pastor: Fr. Jeff Eppler

Fr. Jeff's Cell phone - 1-314-750-8937

The Parish Office - 352-1648

Emails: Father Jeff at
fr.jeff@stjohnsgraffton.com
DeeDee at
deedee@stjohnsgraffton.com

Bulletin - find it at stjohnsgraffton.com

Reconciliation/Confessions

Will be held on Thursdays & Fridays at 6:00-6:45 p.m. or by appointment. Reconciliation will take place in Classroom #1 located just off the Gathering Space & across from the women's bathroom.

***Thank You for your continued support of
St. John the Evangelist and Sacred Heart
through your offerings at this time.***

The Walsh County Food Pantry is Open:
Monday - Thursday, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

The **Bell Tower** will be ringing at noon and 6:00 pm, the traditional time for praying the Angelus. The tune of the bells at this time is the Angelus Tune.

The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary...
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.
Hail Mary...
V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Let us pray:
Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Through the same Christ our Lord.



The first time I ever saw an angel was in 1991. I was on a retreat with the Newman Center (Catholic Campus Ministry) and we were being lead in a prayerful meditation. I recall that when I closed my eyes, I was able to see everything in the room as if my eyes were open. I'd never experienced that before and it was quite astonishing. Almost immediately, though, I was drawn to my right where the girl next to me was praying. I saw two hands resting on her shoulders. I turned a little more to see who was behind her.

What I beheld was a figure, human in appearance, dressed in white, standing around 7 feet tall. Light gently radiated from him, especially his face. His features were delicately masculine, not rugged, and he had blonde hair. He noticed I was looking at him and he turned his head downwards to look back at me. The minute his eyes met my gaze I felt very, very small and insignificant, like an ant in the presence of a giant. He gave me a subtle smile and I smiled back, then I slowly turned away. What did I just see? It had to have been her guardian angel.

After our prayer time ended, I spoke with the girl. I asked if she had the feeling of anyone standing behind her. She paused for a moment with eyes wide open, shocked that I had asked her that. She then revealed to me that she had sensed someone behind her and felt their hands on her shoulders the whole time she was praying. I told her what I saw and we were both amazed at how her angel had revealed himself to us.

Our guardian angels really do exist and they take their responsibility of looking out for us seriously. The angels are creatures imbued with divine love but they are not to be trifled with. They are powerful. I felt like I was less than nothing in that angel's presence. From that experience, I came to understand why people in the Old Testament thought they would die when an angel appeared to them.

Angels are pure spiritual beings without sin or imperfection. They are also without gender. As spirits, they don't have bodies, thus, they are not male or female. However, they generally appear as a male, as it seems that their particular nature in God's providence lends itself to more masculine qualities. All the angels that appeared to people in the Scriptures took only male form. However, an angel can be seen in any way they choose.

I encourage you to pray to your guardian angel daily. Your angel will protect you from the assaults of demons and encourage you whenever you fall in weakness. They deeply desire for us to spend eternity with them in heaven thanking and praising God. Ask your angel to teach you how to be holy and obedient to the will of God in everything. Your angel can be a great instructor in the way of divine life. Let him whisper the words of goodness into your mind and let these lessons sink deep into your heart. Also, be sure to thank God for the gift of your angelic friend.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

Prayer Intentions:

We invite you to submit prayer intentions that Tony and Fr. Jeff can offer to the Lord as they drive through Grafton this Sunday at 3:00 pm. Now that we have public Mass again, the Holy Pilgrimage will only be on the first Sunday of each month.

May Crowning of Our Lady: Next Saturday at the 5:00pm Mass & Sunday at the 9:30am Mass we will have the May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is a centuries old Catholic tradition honoring Our Lady for the month of May.

Eucharist & Intentions

Saturday, May 2

5:00 pm - Isabel Collette +

Sunday, May 3 (Live-streamed on Facebook)

9:30 am - All Parishioners

Monday, May 4

9:00 am - Al Jochim +

Tuesday, May 5

5:15 pm - Eugene Burns +

Wednesday, May 6

9:00 am - Deanne Pilon +

Thursday, May 7

5:15 pm - Mike Callahan +

Confession 6:00-6:45 pm

Friday, May 8

5:15 pm - Robert Belanus +

Confession 6:00-6:45 pm

Saturday, May 9

5:00 pm - Mary Lou Cyr +

Sunday, May 10

7:30 am - All Parishioners

9:30 am - Lou Orleans +

11:30 am - Spanish Mass

MEMORIAL for St. John's

Cyril Novak	\$10	Cemetery Fund
Cyril Novak	\$325	Cemetery Fund



Please Pray for the

Sick: Rae Desautel, Tory Jacobsen, Jeff Collette, Isaak Suda, Mary Lou Guzzo, Alyce Stendahl, Steve Dolan, Les Aasand, Steve Walters, Jane

Zidon, Ed Boura, Vivian Collette Secrist, Gene Hagen, Clifford Bailly, Graham Baker, Chris Loveless, Linda Loveless, JoAnne Sevigny, Ken Jarolimek, Frances Schuster, Aldo Rodriguez, Barb Foerster-Estad, Daryle MacDonald, Marvin French, Kevin Bailly, Brian Fehr, Francis Boulduc, Paul Lunski, Bonnie Shannon, Judy Wolter, Robert Carroll, Richard Anderson, Judy Jiskra, Suzanne Burns, Jodi McCarthy, Diane Lee, Hope Reis, Patrice & Thea Katz, Brad Schuster, Hiladore Osowski, Ron Nowacki, Monica Rudnik, Chad Demers, Jeanne Silewski, Ray Capp, JoAnn & Roger Mattson, Emma Basting, John Campbell, Jennifer Osowski, Michelle Collette Donarski, Roger Amiot, Kevin Hoenke, Adly Galle Jaehning, Kathy Ruzicka

The Second Time Around Store is closed at this time, but we still have expenses to be paid. If you would like to help support the Grafton Christian Ministerial Assoc., you can send checks to: St. John's, 344 West 15th St., Grafton, ND 58237

STEWARDSHIP

Let us honor God with our first fruits rather than the leftovers

St. John the Evangelist

Given April 26, 2020 - \$7,852.50

God's Gift total Given as of April 26, 2020 \$66,648.60

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

Given April 26, 2020 - \$125.00

God's Gift total Given as of April 26, 2020 - \$6,237.00

To the Faithful of the Diocese of Fargo:

30 April 2020

The COVID-19 health crisis has led to extraordinary measures being taken throughout the world. As Catholics, we have a serious responsibility, not only in charity, but in justice, to prevent the spread of this disease to those who are most vulnerable. On March 17, 2020, I made the difficult decision to cancel public celebrations of the Mass, other sacraments, and parish events for a limited time.

After consulting with experts, I judge that provided we diligently observe the safety protocols which I elaborate below, we can reasonably resume the public celebration of the Mass and other sacraments beginning on May 4. I am grateful for the patience and cooperation of the faithful during this difficult time without the ability to attend Mass and receive the Eucharist, and I once again call upon their good will to observe the guidelines listed below for the good of our brothers and sisters in Christ, and for the entire community. **Therefore, effective Monday, May 4, the following directives are to be observed throughout the Diocese of Fargo until further notice:**

•The faithful are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass.

○Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 and those exposed to someone with COVID-19 should follow quarantine guidance from medical professionals.

○Those who are at higher risk from COVID-19 (i.e. those who are older or who have underlying health conditions) are strongly encouraged to stay home. If they have spiritual needs, they should contact their parish priest.

○Anyone with a cough of any sort, and anyone feeling sick, should not come to the church for a visit or for any public liturgies or activities.

○The Diocese of Fargo will continue to livestream Masses for the good of those who cannot attend.

○In accord with current public health recommendations, the faithful should practice good hand hygiene, washing their hands for 20 seconds with soap and water, or using an alcohol based hand sanitizer.

○In accord with current public health recommendations, the faithful should wear cloth face coverings when they come to church. Please remember that face coverings are not just for one's own protection, but also for the protection of others. (See [CDC recommendations on face coverings.](#)) Children under 2 years of age are not recommended to wear a face covering.

○Federal and state guidelines for strict physical distancing will be observed, namely, the faithful should maintain a 6-foot distance from each other at all times.

○Members of a single household do not need to practice physical distancing with each other, but will need to practice it with those who are not members of their household.

○The 6-foot distance should be maintained not only in the pews, but in all spaces within the church complex.

○In order to follow guidelines for physical distancing the number of persons admitted to each church at any given time will be limited.

○Because the virus seems to be spread largely by dispersion of respiratory droplets, and vigorous singing tends to produce such droplets, congregational singing and singing in choirs is not allowed.

○Although the faithful are entitled to receive Holy Communion either on the tongue or in the hands, in order to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus, the extraordinary measure will be taken of only receiving Holy Communion in the hand. For this to have its intended effect, however, the faithful must practice good hand hygiene.

○These directives are subject to change, depending on the development of the COVID-19 health crisis.

I am confident that the return to the public celebration of the Mass will be an occasion of great joy for the faithful of our diocese. Following these directives during the celebration of the Mass will feel strange, as it should, since they are extraordinary measures only adopted out of necessity. Nevertheless, our Lord, Jesus Christ, is always present in the Church's liturgical celebrations, most especially in the Eucharist. The awkwardness of the current situation need not distract us from his presence, nor prevent us from receiving him with open and eager hearts. And may our renewed encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist fill us with his charity, that we may in turn love and care for our brothers and sisters.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Most Rev. John T. Folda
Bishop of Fargo.

Very Rev. Andrew Jasinski, Chancellor

