



St. John the Evangelist Sacred Heart - Oakwood

July 5, 2020
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1515 Western Ave.
Grafton, ND 58237

We are asking that you pray 3 Hail Marys after each Mass for people to come back to their Catholic Faith.



Those struggling with same-sex attraction are human beings made in the image and likeness of God who need divine love. Despite a rupture in their psychosexual development, God has a personal plan for their lives. Jesus wants them to be free from sin and experience salvation, as He does for all of us.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "The number of men and women who have deep-seated homosexual tendencies is not negligible. This inclination, which is objectively disordered, constitutes for most of them a trial. They must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided. These persons are called to fulfill God's will in their lives and, if they are Christians, to unite to the sacrifice of the Lord's Cross the difficulties they may encounter from their condition" (CCC 2358).

Wrestling with same-sex attraction is a genuine hardship. Sexuality is so deeply ingrained in our identity that when it is wounded in some way, it has a dramatic effect on how we view our self and the world. This brokenness can lead a person to see everything through a disordered lens. This in turn leads to self-delusion wherein objective truth is not only obscured, but often discarded altogether, leading a person to live for their emotions and lustful desires. Jesus, Who is Truth itself, wants to shine His light into our hearts so we can realize our real identity as sons and daughters of God.

Even though homosexual acts are gravely sinful, the individual struggling with same-sex attraction is deeply loved by God. We must not be afraid to let our brothers and sisters know that God loves them and only in Him will they find their peace and fulfillment. Denying Christ in order to act on their inclinations can never lead to the acceptance, peace and love they desperately crave. Instead they may end up finding themselves separated from God forever and Jesus does not desire that for anyone.

Many parents over the years have asked me how to minister to their child who is a practicing homosexual. They are conflicted because they want to love their child but cannot accept their sinful way of life. Parents do not have to nor should they accept a homosexual lifestyle, or any sinful lifestyle for that matter. But this should not prevent them from loving their child. We know that God hates the sin, but passionately loves the sinner. So, we should strive to imitate Him in how He deals with each of us.

This means encouraging them in goodness and truth. Continue to offer them affection and emotional support. Definitely pray for them because they need God's healing love and a conversion of heart. And be patient with them. Parents also must be prepared for the possibility that their child may erroneously interpret rejection of the homosexual lifestyle to be a personal rejection of them. Sometimes love is painful when joined to the Cross.

A person with homosexual inclinations should turn to God for strength and daily offer their condition to Him. The Lord can certainly heal a person's sexual orientation. Everyone with the temptation of same-sex attraction is called by God to live a chaste life. This implies not engaging in sexual activity. This call to chastity also applies to heterosexuals who are not married. It is possible to be pure with God's help. The Lord is calling every one of us to holiness, no matter what type of difficulties we have. Let us never be discouraged. We can always turn to Jesus. He is the hope of us all.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

Eucharist Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. John, Grafton
Sunday: 7:30 am, Sacred Heart, Oakwood
9:30 am, St. John, Grafton
11:30 am, Spanish Mass, Grafton

Reconciliation/Confessions

Saturday: 4:15 - 4:45 pm
Thursday & Friday: 6:00 - 6:45 pm or by appointment. Reconciliation will take place in Classroom #1 located just off the Gathering Space & across from the women's bathroom.

Pastor: Fr. Jeff Eppler

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

The Parish Office - 352-1648

Deacon and Faith Formation Director:

Rev. Mr. Michael Grzadzielewski

Office Manager: DeeDee Vogsland

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Swanson

Environmental Services: David Demester

Summer Help: Carter Parsons

Baptism Prep Classes - On the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Space. Call 352-1648 to register.

Parish Lay Directors: Paul Houdek,
Mary (John) Dusek

Pastoral Council: Jeff Blanchard, Kelly Dokken, Brittany Dusek, Ernie Dusek, Lee Lessard, Denise Moe, Sean Osowski, Micky Schumacher, and Marta Balderas - Hispanic Ministry Liaison.

Finance Council: Matt Beneda, Mary (John) Dusek, Paul Houdek, Kathy Maus, Donny Suda, Stacey Van Bruggen

Youth Committee: Marty Balderas, Tony Dumas, Alexa Holt, William Jiskra, Mary Kerian, Nancy Miller, Jackie Osowski, Josie Suda, Maggie Suda, Molly Zahradka
Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Emails: Father Jeff at

fr.jeff@stjohnsgraffton.com

DeeDee at

deedee@stjohnsgraffton.com

Bulletin - find it at stjohnsgraffton.com

FORMED: Youth and Adult Faith

Formation go to formed.org

Need a ride to church:

Call Frank Janousek at 520-1730

Bulletin Deadline - Wednesday 4:00 p.m.

Eucharist & Intentions

Saturday, July 4

5:00 pm - Michelle Collette Donarski +

Sunday, July 5

7:30 am Oakwood - Lynn Ebert +

9:30 am - Parishioners

11:30 am - Spanish Mass

Monday, July 6

No Mass

Tuesday, July 7

5:15 pm - Orell Sevigny +

Wednesday, July 8

9:00 am - Joseph Grzadzielewski Jr. +

Thursday, July 9

1:45 pm - LSTC - Theresa Steffen +

Confession 6:00-6:45 pm

Friday, July 10

5:15 pm - Leo & Dolly Kliniske +

Confession 6:00-6:45 pm

Saturday, July 11

5:00 pm - Pete & Mayme Matejcek +

Confession 4:15-4:45 pm

Sunday, July 12

7:30 am Oakwood - Parishioners

9:30 am - Mike Callahan +

11:30 am - Spanish Mass - Carmelite Sisters



Please Pray for the Sick:

Ralph Kingsbury, Helen Sieben, Rae Desautel, Jeff Collette, Isaak Suda, Mary Lou Guzzo, Alyce Stendahl, Steve Dolan,

Les Aasand, Steve Walters, Jane Zidon, Ed Boura, 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, Frances Boulduc, 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, Roger Mattson, Emma Basting, John Campbell, Jennifer Osowski, Roger Amiot, Kevin Hoenke, Adly Galle Jaehning, Kathy Ruzicka

Proclaimers for St. John the Evangelist:

July 4, 5:00 pm - Mary (Tom) Dusek

July 5, 9:30 am - Pat Dusek

July 11, 5:00 pm - Alyssa Paulson

July 12, 9:30 am - Henry Pinta

Altar Servers for St. John the Evangelist

July 5, 9:30 am - Josh Blanchard
& Shay Risky

July 12, 9:30 am - Robert Parsons
& Camden Risky

Proclaimers for Sacred Heart, Oakwood:

July 5, 7:30 am - Guy Demers

July 12, 7:30 am - Peter French

Sacred Heart - The Cleaning Committee for July is number 1.

The candles will not be available to be used while the Church floor is being repaired. However, if you wish to purchase a candle insert, this can be done at the parish office. The cost is \$3.50 each. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP

Let us honor God with our first fruits!
Praise the Lord!

St. John the Evangelist

Given June 28, 2020 - \$7,311.00

God's Gift total Given as of June 28, 2020 \$70,866.64

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

Given June 28, 2020 - \$400.00

God's Gift total Given as of June 28, 2020 - \$6,477.00

*Eucharistic Adoration will be in the Parish Center with the regular schedule being followed.

Eucharistic Adoration Times

Tuesday 6 pm - 10 pm

Wednesday 10 am - 10 pm

Thursday 6 pm - 10 pm

"So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?" Jesus said this to his followers in Gethsemane. Matthew 26:40

Holy Pilgrimage with Jesus: This Sunday, July 5, is the first Sunday of the month. This means that Fr. Jeff and Tony Dumas will be driving through Grafton and Oakwood with Jesus in the monstrance. Keep your eyes peeled for Tony's white truck with "God bless you" written on the sides. They begin this holy pilgrimage at 3:00 pm. If you have any intentions for them to pray for during the pilgrimage, please write them down and place them in the basket on the wooden table in the gathering space.

Memorial - Sacred Heart

Joann Mattson \$25 Cemetery Fund

Memorial - St. John's

James Schieffer \$30 Unrestricted
Vivian Collette \$15 Unrestricted

Stained Glass Window: A new beautiful stained glass window was installed in the Gathering Space in memory of a deceased loved one. Thank you very much to the benefactors who commissioned it. There is room for two more stained glass windows to be made. If you are interested in sponsoring one in the memory of a loved one, then please contact Fr. Jeff.

UPCOMING DATES AT ST. JOHN'S:

Youth Committee Mtg. Tues., July 7, 6:30 pm

Teachers Meeting Tues., July 7, 7:30 pm

Baptism Prep. Class Thurs., July 9, 7:00 pm

10,000

Rosaries for Grafton!

We have prayed 2,458

Pray for the conversion of Grafton
and the end of the coronavirus.

Saving Souls one bead at a time!



