



St. John the Evangelist Sacred Heart - Oakwood

July 12, 2020
Fifteenth 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.



A few weeks ago, I wrote about marriage being a covenant. A covenant is the permanent bonding of two persons in a relationship of love that forms a union – the two become one. Over the next few weeks, I will address four specific things that are present in creating a covenant – Oath, Exchange, Sacrifice and Meal.

The first is the Oath. In biblical times, the fathers of the families would speak on behalf of their family and call God to be the witness of their bonding. Since God is the highest of all, He is called upon to observe and enforce the bond the two families are entering into. He also becomes, then, the source of blessing for their faithfulness or curse for their unfaithfulness. After invoking the divine, the fathers would swear an oath to each other while pronouncing the blessing and the curse of the covenant. We see a reflection of this today in our court system when a person swears while putting their hand on the Bible, entreating God to witness to the truth of their testimony.

Jesus Christ, the Eternal Word spoken by the Father, establishes a new and eternal covenant between God and man because He is both God and man. He unites Creator and creature in Himself. We enter into the divine life of God through Christ, Who binds us to Himself through the sacraments. The word “sacrament” comes from the Latin, *sacramentum*, which means *oath*. The sacraments are the way God established for us to experience a very deep and personal participation in the new covenant He offers in Christ. He literally oaths Himself to us.

When a man and woman get married in the Church, they swear an oath before God and His representative, the priest. They promise to be faithful to the covenant they are entering into. This union is sacramental, which means it is divine life-giving, straight from the Heart of Christ, Who is the Eternal Word of the Father. God confirms this union to be permanent until death and He blesses the marriage with His own presence. God truly becomes the third Person in the marriage. One could honestly say that for the Catholic, it takes three to get married.

Our secular government, the State, only recognizes marriage as a legal contract, binding insofar as the persons involved hold to their end of the contract. That is why the State now recognizes homosexual unions, as well as views divorce to be a viable option when one or both parties break the contract. However, the State has no authority to bind or dissolve a marriage bond between Catholics who take an oath before God in the Catholic Church. The couple entered into a covenant with each other within the universal covenant in Jesus Christ. By the way, the word “Catholic” comes from the Greek, *Katholikos* meaning *universal*. The Catholic Church is the universal covenant between God and man through, with and in Christ Jesus. The sacraments are our avenues into this divine bond of love. I’ll speak more on all this next week.

May God be praised and may you be blessed!

A Special Thank you to Gerald Schumacher who so generously donated his time and talent to make our new Rosary Count Boxes!

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@stjohnsgrafton.com
DeeDee at
deedee@stjohnsgrafton.com

Bulletin - find it at stjohnsgrafton.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 11

5:00 pm - Pete & Mayme Matejcek +

Sunday, July 12

7:30 am Oakwood - Parishioners

9:30 am - Mike Callahan +

11:30 am - Spanish Mass - Carmelite Sisters

Monday, July 13

No Mass

Tuesday, July 14

No Mass

Wednesday, July 15

No Mass

Thursday, July 16

1:45 pm - LSTC - Communion Service

No Confessions

Friday, July 17

No Mass

No Confession

Saturday, July 18

5:00 pm - Edward French +

Confession 4:15-4:45 pm

Sunday, July 19

7:30 am Oakwood - Frank & Elinor Nelson Misialek +

9:30 am - Parishioners

11:30 am - Spanish Mass

Please Pray for the Sick:



Robert Novak, Helen Sieben, Rae Desautel, Ralph Kingsbury, 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

10,000

Rosaries for Grafton!

We have prayed 2,869

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

Saving Souls one bead at a time!



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 July 5, 2020 - \$6,689.15

God's Gift total Given as of June 28, 2020 \$71,666.64

Sacred Heart - Oakwood

Given July 5, 2020 - \$388.00

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

Fr. Jeff will be on vacation July 13th - 29th.

Please contact Deacon Mike Grzadzielewski for any Sacramental needs at 352-1648 or 520-9663.

Fr. Bernie Schneider will be here for our Saturday and Sunday Masses while Fr. Jeff is away.

There will be no daily Masses (Monday-Friday) or confessions on Thursdays & Fridays July 13th - 29th.

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.

Memorial - St. John's

James Schieffer	\$25	Unrestricted
James Schieffer	\$10	Cemetery Fund

The Second Time Around store, part of the Grafton Christian Ministerial Association, is in need of volunteers. Would you consider helping? Even if you are only able to donate a few hours of your time, it would be greatly appreciated. We need volunteers to keep the store open at this time. Please call Elaine Broker at 520-3461 or the Parish Office at 352-1648 if you are willing to help.

