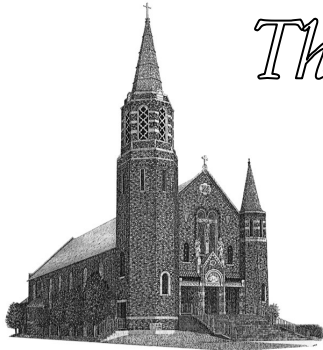
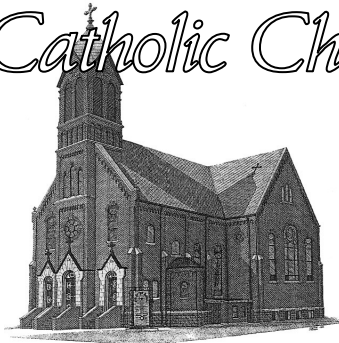


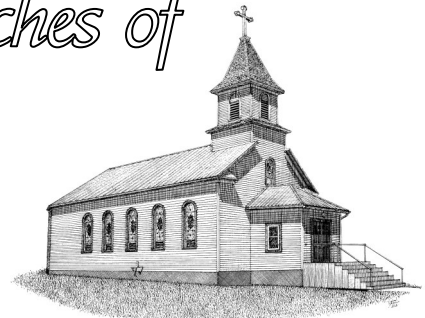
The Catholic Churches of



St Mary, Hague



Sts Peter & Paul, Strasburg



St Michael, Rural Linton

<http://www.emmonscatholics.org>
Office: 701-336-7172, stpeterandpaul@bektel.com

Sunday, March 22, 2020
Fourth Sunday Of Lent

Staff

Pastor.....Rev. Shannon Lucht, 336-7172
Fr. Shannon E-mail.....slucht@bismarckdiocese.com
Priest in Residence.....Rev. Leonard A. Eckroth, 336-7926
Sts. Peter & Paul Secretary.....Alice Ryckman, 336-7172
Sts. Peter & Paul Dir. of Religious Ed...Kathy Nagel, 336-4607
St. Mary Secretary.....Karen Keller, 336-7456
St. Michael Dir. of Religious Ed.....Danielle Weigel, 754-2254
St. Michael Secretary.....Barb Vetter, 782-4389

From Bishop Kagan's Desk

To the Catholic Faithful of the Diocese of Bismarck,

The most serious health crisis we are now experiencing, the COVID-19 virus has required unprecedented measures be taken by our national, state and local governments and, as devout Catholics and responsible citizens, we all have a share in this responsibility not to spread this virus, but to do all we can reasonably do to stop its spread and to pray and work for its end. As Catholics this is our moral responsibility in justice and in charity.

Thus, after long hours of prayer and consultation, I must make the hard decision to cancel all public celebrations of the Mass, the sacraments and devotions until further notice that it is safe for us to gather again for public worship. This is a great sorrow for me as your Bishop but, in justice and charity to you and to all in our diocese, I make this decision.

Thus, the following directives are to be observed in the Diocese of Bismarck and may not be changed or modified by anyone but the Diocesan Bishop:

Effective Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. and until further notice, all daily and Sunday Masses are cancelled in the Diocese of Bismarck. This applies to all parishes, oratories, and chapels used for public worship. The Catholic faithful within the territory of the Diocese of Bismarck are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days.

Confirmation - As a result, all of the scheduled celebrations of the sacrament of confirmation between Sunday, March 22, 2020 through Sunday, May 17, 2020, are cancelled and will be rescheduled for the fall between September and December 2020.

From the Priest's Desk

Fr. Shannon will be offering a private daily Mass without any ministers or a congregation until further notice.

On Sundays, starting March 22nd, Fr. Shannon will be offering the televised Mass at St. Anthony's Parish in Linton. This will be every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and will be live streamed through BEK on Channel 25. I ask that you please take advantage of this.

Please know that I am here and the churches are open. You are more than welcome to visit the churches to pray in the presence of Jesus, reserved in our tabernacles, on your own schedule. If you need confession, I will be offering that at Strasburg on Saturdays at 3 p.m.; at Hague on Saturdays at 7 p.m.; or by appointment anytime.

If someone is seriously ill, especially if they are nearing death, please contact me at 336-7172 (Parish) or 701-290-7895 (Cell) immediately, and I will be happy to offer the anointing of the sick.

As you know, our parishes rely on the contributions of parishioners to operate. During this difficult and uncertain time when we are not able to celebrate our regular Masses, we also will not be able to have our regular collections. However, our parishes will remain open and we will still have our regular expenses. I would ask that if you are able, to please continue to support our parishes financially by mailing you weekly offering or stopping by the parish office. The mailing address is PO Box 322, Strasburg, ND 58573. The parish office is located at 503 2nd St. N. Thank you!

Finally, do not hesitate to give me a call if you have any questions. Most of all, let us keep one another in our prayers. ***Holy Mary, Sts. Peter and Paul and St. Michael pray for us!!***

We will still have a weekly bulletin that will be placed on our website at <http://www.emmonscatholic.org> along with posted parish news. Weekly bulletins can also be picked up at the Sts. Peter and Paul and St. Mary's Churches.

Communal Penance Services - All Communal Penance Services are cancelled. All parish priests are to keep the regular schedule of confessions in their parishes but both priest and penitent are to use a screen for the celebration of the sacrament until further notice.

Weddings - All weddings already scheduled may take place but are to be limited to the bride and groom, the two witnesses, the parents of the bride and groom and the priest or deacon who is to witness the marriage. The Church's Rite of Matrimony Within or Outside of Mass may be used.

Funerals - All funerals are to be private not public, that is to say, for the immediate family only and for the priest or deacon who is the celebrant. The Rite of Christian Funerals Within or Outside of Mass may be used. There is to be no wake and/or vigil observed the day before or day of the funeral. No luncheon or dinner is permitted in the church hall after the funeral.

Baptism - Infant baptism may be administered but may have only 10 persons including the priest or deacon present. All RCIA classes are cancelled. The sacramental initiation of adults by a Profession of Faith or by baptism may take place at the discretion of the priest but must be done individually and with no more than 10 persons present.

Religious Education - All parish religious education classes are cancelled until further notice. Our Catholics schools are following the directives of the State and will remain closed until such time as it is deemed safe to reopen. Parents are asked to follow the directions given by their local Catholic schools.

Televised/Livestream Mass - All pastors of parishes with the capability to livestream are to offer one daily and one Sunday Mass without a congregation or other ministers present and have that available for their parishioners on the parish website. If any parish does not have this capability, the parishioners may go to the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit website and view daily and Sunday Mass from there (as available). As always, the televised Mass is available on the FOX TV affiliate in your viewing area on Sundays at 10 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Please check the diocesan website and social media for updates and more details about livestream Masses.

Chrism Mass - The Mass of Chrism will be celebrated without a congregation present on Monday, April 6, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. CDT from the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit and this will be able to be viewed on the diocesan website. In order to protect our priests, there will be no general concelebration of this Mass, but our priests are asked to participate in the Renewal of their Ordination Promises via live stream.

Priests will be expected to offer Holy Mass privately every day if possible and to be available to provide the anointing of the sick and viaticum to all the Catholic faithful. Please call your parish office with any special sacramental and spiritual need. Each Parish is to keep its Church open during the day for the benefit of those who wish to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

What all of us must do in these days is not lose hope in the merciful goodness of Almighty God. Even though we will not be physically close to one another at this time, by our fervent and humble prayer for each other and all who are ill and affected, we remain united in the powerful Communion

of Saints. Let us continue to beg Our Mother of Perpetual Help and Saint Joseph, Guardian of the Holy Family and Patron of the Universal Church, to assist us in our time of need by their powerful intercession.

I offer to all of you my daily prayers and my blessing. Let us accompany one another and everyone on this holy journey of healing and purification.


The Most Reverend David D. Kagan,
Bishop of Bismarck

News and Events

Sympathy and Prayers to the family, relatives, and friends of Marietta "Toots" Brooks and Francis Nolz. May they rest in peace.

A special "Thank You" to Harvey Mattern and his boys for the work they did at our church. Our parish is very thankful to you!

The Strasburg KCs would like to invite you again this Lenten Season to join them in supporting our local food pantry with "40 Cans for Lent". Why not commit, as a family, to donate one can or non-perishable food item per day in Lent? Our goal is to collect 1000 lbs. If this goal is met, the Supreme Council will give the Strasburg KCs \$100.00 which the KCs would also donate to the food pantry. Boxes are in place in the middle entry way of the Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Strasburg. Boxes will also be placed in Hague, Westfield, & Linton.

Catholic United Financial  **Sts. Peter & Paul & St. Mary's CCD Raffle Tickets** are for sale. Tickets can also be purchased at the Strasburg Rectory, any CCD Students, Creative Touch, Mona Reis or Kathy Nagel & at the Hague Café, Hague Grocery Store, or from Lisa Hulm. This fundraiser is sponsored by St. Mary's Council, along with Catholic United Financial, for the benefit of the Strasburg and Hague CCD Program.

Strasburg Senior Citizens dinner at noon on Tuesday, March 24th at the Strasburg Senior Citizens Building. Meeting to follow. New members are always welcome!

V.F.W. Auxiliary meeting on Tuesday, March 24th at 2 p.m. at the Strasburg Senior Citizens Building.

No St. Mary's Council meeting on Sunday, April 5th.

Pray for the sick: Karen Keller, Terry Buechler, Ron Kramer, Betty Hoffman, Nattie Nagel, Steve Kollars, Beth Kelsch, Elaine Wald, Michael Hanson, Asher Sorrels—Grandson of Kevin & Deb Leier, Todd Moch, Leo & Nancy Weber.

Pray for the deceased: Marietta "Toots" Brooks, Francis Nolz, Bill Wald, Martha Jahner, Judy Dosch, and John H. Baumgartner.

Stewardship—A Way Of Life: The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?