

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
725 6th STREET N.E.
FOSSTON, MN 56542



Greetings from Fr. John:

Today we begin the season of Advent and with this we begin the new liturgical year. On this day the church invites us to be ready and prepared to receive the Lord. In the liturgical calendar, the season of Advent means a joyful waiting, a waiting for Jesus prayerfully, with affection and love. There is the eagerness within us to receive him and we look forward to this great event when God becomes man. However, it is a special kind of waiting for a God who has come already, who is coming regularly into our life and who will come again at the end of time. We know that Jesus came into the world already two thousand years ago and we remember this event with devotion. We know that he will come again at the end of time as a judge and unite the whole universe to himself. He comes daily in the sacraments and in the Eucharist in a very special way as our food and drink to strengthen us and fill us with his grace. We also prepare ourselves to celebrate the feast of Jesus Christ born among us as a human person in a stable of Bethlehem to be one with us and remind ourselves of the great work of salvation began for us.

God Bless You! Have a Great Week!

**First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2019**

St. Mary's: 218-435-6484
St. Joseph's: 218-694-6416
E-Mail: stmarysfosston@gmail.com
Website: stmarysfosston.org

PARISH STAFF:

Pastor: Fr. John Melkies Suvakeen
E-Mail: frjohnstnstj@gmail.com
Secretary: Marge Donnell 218-930-0520
Office Hours: Wed. & Fri. 9am -1 pm
Bookkeeper: Linda Hand Cell 218-280-2271
Office Hours: Wed. 1-5 PM
R.E. Coordinators: PreK-6: Amanda Wiener
7-12: Lori Balstad
Pastoral Council Chair: Dennis Sanden
Trustees: Jeanne Sanden and Erv Wickham
Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:
Cindy Hulst 218-281-7895
24-hour confidential number

Confession 8 AM, before Sunday Mass

St. Mary's Mass & Intentions

Wednesday: Adoration Noon – 5:30 pm
Wed., Dec. 4 3:30 pm Mass, First Care NH
Orville Pederson+
6 PM Mass,
Marie Straub+
First Friday, Dec. 6 5:30 pm Mass & Adoration
Betty Bingham+
Sun., Dec. 8 8:30 am Mass,
Cathy Senger+

St. Joseph's, Bagley, Mass & Intentions

Tuesdays Adoration Noon – 6 pm
Thurs., Dec. 5 11:30am Mass,
Special Intention
Sun., Dec. 8 10:30am Mass,
For the Parishes

**The Immaculate Conception of Blessed Mary,
Monday, December 9th, 8:30 AM Mass**

Birthdays

Dec. 3 Theresa Walsh
Anniversaries
Dec. 4 Cathy & Steve Godtland
Dec. 7 Craig & Kristen Hemmingsen

PRAYER CHAIN CONTACT:

Carol Aaland 435-6384 (H), 218-686-2710 (C).
Please notify parish office of names to add or subtract
and of those who could use a prayer shawl.

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR:

Nash Rosendahl, Hannah Keller, Brady Jones,
Kristi Maruska, Wayne Paulson, Sarah Ryan
Walcker, Josh Martinson, Roger Scharendroich,
Nora Ann Lentz, Loni Jirik, Debbie Martin, Kristin
Litzinger, Allie St. Pierre, Richard Parent, Dennis
Omang, Tracy Kozitka, Bev Drellack, Lynne
Cullen, Bernie Brennan, Paul Silver, Joyce
Klinkhammer, Bob Clayton, Ray Larson, Ben
Hougen, Marge Messer, Dave Blazek, Char
Langen, Christine Johnson, Chad Blaser, Rod
Nielsen, Kerry Redder, Ethan Asher, Shirley
Kowalski, Tom Sedler, Ava Lamb-Lopez, Florence
Nesvold, Bruce Donnell, Ruth Calarese, Sam
Christopherson, Dorothy Killian

"May you touch them and heal them, O Lord!"

MASS INTENTIONS: Please note with your
donation whether intention is for a deceased or
living person. Suggested donation is still \$5.00.

Gluten-free hosts available: Please stop by the
sacristy before Mass to let Fr. know your need.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

The readings for next Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019
Isaiah 11:1-10, Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17, Romans
15:4-9, Matt 3:1-12

NEEDED: 1) Youth Group Coordinator for
St. Mary's (paid position) 2) Bazaar Leader
3) Funeral Coordinator with Deb Wille
Please Contact Fr. John at 435-6484.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE):

For PreK-10th grades Class after Mass
9:45-10:45 AM. Dec. 8 & 15th.

Youth group, grades 7-12 meet Wednesday,
Dec. 4th & 18th, 6-8 PM. Supper provided.

Friday class for grades K-6, 8:30-9:30 AM.

No Friday School Nov. 29th or Dec. 27th.

7-10 grades contact Lori Balstad at 218-938-4286

For grades K-6th please contact Amanda Wiener

218-280-2187 or at amandaw Wiener@hotmail.com

If you did not register your children for RE yet, you
are welcome to do so any time.

Teens Encounter Christ. The TEC retreat

weekends this year are: February 15-17, 2020 at

St. Joseph's, Moorhead and March 21-23, 2020 at

Sandhill Lake Bible Camp by Fosston. Terry

Steen at sjchurchlady@yahoo.com is contact.

Explore formed.org You may be amazed by
all that it has to offer!

Trouble getting into formed.org? Just go to
formed.org/signup. For "Find Your Parish," type
in Fosston's zip code of 56542. (Code not
needed.) Click on St. Mary's, Fosston, MN. Then
click on Next and add your name and email
address. No passwords needed. Enjoy! Learn!
Grow in Faith and Knowledge!

"Unplanned," the movie is available from MCCL
by contacting Linda Blaser at 435-6628.

*"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on
which day your Lord will come." (Matthew
24:42)*

People who have had health issues or near-death
experiences generally have a greater apprecia-
tion for each day being a gift from God. The rest
of us usually take for granted that we will be
around tomorrow. But when you start to look at
each day as a gift, you realize all the little
miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude
for all that we have been given. You begin to see
God's active presence in your life.

Our Northland Diocese, official publication of the Diocese of Crookston since 1946, is now available via *eOND*, an electronic newsletter full of the latest and biggest news of our local Church! In addition to monthly print issues delivered to household mailboxes, *eOND* arrives to email inboxes twice monthly. Each *eOND* offers local, national and world news published digitally between print issues, as well as local monthly commentary. Parishes pay an annual subscription rate of \$15.36 per household for all services but opt-in is required for *eOND*. Subscribing is as simple as providing your name and email address so do not delay!
Opt-in is required for eOND.
Visit www.crookston.org/subscribe

Thank you to all who have done their certification for SE. If you are working at the church or with the children, please certify for Safe Environment each year. Go to www.crookston.org. Component B. Call the Church office 435-6484 if you have questions.

What's the Difference Between a Good Advent and a Great Advent? Just 4 Minutes!
Sign up at dynamiccatholic.com for this totally free and totally awesome daily video program (sent straight to your email) that will help you prepare for Christmas like never before!

Please take your 2020 Calendars home. They are in the gathering space. Please thank the **Carlín-Hoialmen Funeral Home** for the wonderful donation to us.

Grief Support/ Celebration of Life. December 10th, 7 PM at the Kingo Lutheran Church. This is open to the public. Offered through Essentia Hospice. The holiday season can intensify feelings of loss. Come be supported and learn self-care strategies and ways to manage the holidays. Our time will end with a celebration of lives of our loved ones who have died.

Annual Soup and Sandwich Lunch Friday, December 6, served 11 am- 1 pm at **St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Bagley.** Free will offering. Also, holiday bake sale/silent auction/crafts and raffle. Doors open at 10:30.

Dear Jesus, as we attempt to honor your Blessed Mother Mary who is the patroness of our parish and our nation, please inspire and direct us in our feeble attempts to create a small grotto. May your Holy Spirit guide us in choosing the statue, the precise location and all things needed to honor our patroness, Mary. If this grotto is to be, dear Lord, we know that you will provide the funds. Thank you Jesus, for all the donations we have already received and those that will come through your inspiration. In your powerful name we pray. Amen.

Essentia Health Hospice Tree Walk, Sunday, December 8, 10am- 2 pm. Magelssen Elementary School. Pancake Breakfast by the Fosston Lengby Lions. Many activities. Check out the bulletin board for more information.

WANTED: Full-size bed for rectory. If you have one to donate, call Fr. John at 435-6484.

GIVE AWAY: Used ceiling fans. Ask Fr. John.

Advent Reading & Reflecting: During Advent the bulletin will contain inserts for you to use during this season of preparing the way of the Lord. Also, "the WORD among us" has sent us free of charge 50 copies of their Mass and Daily Meditations for the month of December. Please make use of these materials to prepare the way.

Plan to attend the **Penance Service at 5:30pm on Sunday, December 15.**

The Dec. 8 Retired Religious collection benefits some 30,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Please be generous.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 8, 2019

Ushers: Tom Weber, David Brinkman

Gifts: Ervin & Jenny Zitzow Family

Lector: Rick Nesvold

Commentator: Margarette Rue

Eucharist: *Kathryn Ziermeier, Jan Hemmingsen,
Valarie Holzer, Eileen Hegg

Servers: Darien Holzer, Ellis Weiner, Faith Balstad

Hospitality: David & Rosemarie Brinkman,

Jerry & Sue Erdmann

St. Mary's Kids Present "The Nativity"

Christmas Pageant during Mass with Brunch afterwards. Please come join us December 15.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 15, 2019

Ushers: John Blaser, 2 Youth

Gifts: Youth

Lector: Youth

Commentator: Youth

Eucharist: *Michele & Doug Schoenborn,

John Keller, Mark Bingham

Servers: Youth

Hospitality: **Pot Luck** served by Group 2

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed Weekly: \$ 2429.00

Last Week's Collections:

42 Adult Envelopes: \$ 2060.00

9 Children/Student Donations \$ 13.00

Loose \$ 34.00

Total Sunday Collection \$ 2107.00

Coffee & Rolls (cost \$51.99) \$ 49.00

Votive Candles \$ 13.00

CCHD \$ 137.00

Military \$ 20.00

Grotto \$ 100.00

Building \$ 35.00

Capital Improvement Balance \$ 4637.12

Special Collection:

Dec. 8 Collection for Retired Religious

Dec. 4: Finance Council Meeting 6:30 PM

Dec. 11: Pastoral Council Meeting 6 PM

Dec. 17: Catholic United Financial 4 PM

Thank you, Catholic United Financial, for the grant of \$1000 to pay for formed.org, which is used for Theology of the Body in faith formation classes, as well as other curriculum, and is available to all parishioners on the internet.

Advent Giving Project: As part of your Advent alms giving, please select a tag off the Giving Tree in the church foyer and place item under tree by Dec. 15. Tags are for folks in our parish we want to bless and for the Family Safety Network in Bagley. Suggestions for individuals include lotion, shower/bath gel, tea towels, all occasion cards, small decorations, fleece throws, socks, scarves, small quilts, pictures, picture frames, ornaments, mini tree, wreath for door & welcome sign for door. Network tags are for laundry detergent, postage stamps, gas & grocery cards, copy paper, garbage bags, toothpaste, shampoo, paper towels, kleenex, deodorant & toilet paper.

TODAY: St. Mary's Mission Appeal (SMMA)

Your generosity makes all the difference in creating a successful future for these children. God will bless you for your care.

DEBBIE'S BASKET SALE after Mass today.

The silent auction will be held during coffee & rolls in memory of Debbie Agnes, who loved the Basket Sale held annually by Catholic United Financial (CUF). This is the second matching grant fund raiser by our CUF Council this year. It all goes to the parish for the religious education program.

In last week's bulletin was a form or invitation to help with the many "Lay Ministry" positions here at St. Mary's. Please offer your talent in service to our Lord. By the bulletin board is the form to help you decide and on the back of the form there is an explanation of each ministry. Please add when or how much you can serve. If you are already doing something, please fill out what it is.