

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



### Greetings from Fr. John:

We are in the Third Sunday of Advent. Today's readings invite us to rejoice at the rebirth of Jesus in our lives as we are preparing for our annual Christmas celebration. Today is called *Gaudete* Sunday. So, to express our joy in the coming of Jesus as our Savior into our hearts and lives, we light the pink candle in the Advent wreath. The prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, encourages the exiled Jews in Babylon to rejoice because their God is going to liberate them from slavery and lead them safely to their homeland. In the second reading, James the Apostle encourages the early Christians to rejoice and wait with patience for the imminent second coming of Jesus. Finally, in the first part of today's Gospel reading, Jesus encourages the disciples of John the Baptist in prison to rejoice by accepting Jesus' healing and preaching ministry as the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah. Go and tell others what you hear and see. This means that we have to share with others our experience of the rebirth of Jesus in lives.us.

God Bless You! Have a Great Week!

## Third Sunday of Advent December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

St. Mary's: 218-435-6484  
St. Joseph's: 218-694-6416  
E-Mail: [stmarysfosston@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysfosston@gmail.com)  
Website: [stmarysfosston.org](http://stmarysfosston.org)

### PARISH STAFF:

Pastor: Fr. JohnMelkies Suvakeen  
E-Mail: [frjohnstnstj@gmail.com](mailto: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: AmandaWiener  
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 – 8 pm  
Wed., Dec. 18 11:30 am Mass,  
Candy Keller+  
Fri., Dec. 20 8:30 am Mass,  
Mary Griffin+  
Sun., Dec. 22 8:30 am Mass,  
Rick Miller+ & Ruth Calarese+

### St. Joseph's, Bagley, Mass & Intentions

Tuesdays Adoration Noon – 6 pm  
Tues., Dec. 17 3:30pm Mass,  
Franklyn Renner+  
Wed., Dec. 18 6 pm Penance Service  
Thurs., Dec. 19 11:30am Mass,  
Theres O'Neil  
Sun., Dec. 22 10:30am Mass,  
For the Parishes

**TODAY: December 15 Plan to attend the Penance Service at 5:30pm**

### Birthdays

Dec. 16 Jennifer Zitzow  
Dec. 17 Linda Klinkhammer  
Dec. 18 Lu Newell  
Dec. 20 Marge Siedschlag  
Dec. 22 Larry Scott  
Anniversaries  
Dec. 17 Mark & Nina Bingham

### 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, 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. 22, 2019  
Isaiah 7:10-14, Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6  
Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24

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

New Years Day, Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.  
8:30 AM Mass.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE):**

**For PreK-10<sup>th</sup> grades Class after Mass**  
9:45-10:45 AM. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Youth group, grades 7-12 meet Wednesday,**  
Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 PM. Supper provided.

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

No Friday School Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>.

7-10 grades contact Lori Balstad at 218-938-4286  
For grades K-6<sup>th</sup> please contact Amanda Wiener  
218-280-2187 or at amandawwiener@hotmail.com  
If you did not register your children for RE yet, you  
are welcome to do so any time.

**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.

**Explore formed.org: The Days of Advent by**  
**Brother Francis and much, much more.**

**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!

**"You too must be patient. Make your hearts**  
**firm, because the coming of the Lord is at**  
**hand." (James 5:8)**

Patience is another one of those things many of  
us struggle with. We want things to go according  
to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings  
anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we better  
align ourselves with God's will and His plan,  
which is far better than anything we can come  
up with on our own.

**Calvary Free Lutheran Church, 910 6<sup>th</sup> St.,**  
**TODAY** is the after school program fundraiser  
breakfast from 10:30 to 1. Waffles, french toast,  
eggs, sausage, bacon, coffee and juice. Free will  
Offering and all donations go to the program.

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](http://www.crookston.org). Component B. Call the Church office 435-6484 if you have questions.

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual Immigration Sunday, January 5,**  
“When families are torn apart and people are forced to live in fear it is an attack on their human dignity and a wound to all of us – the body of Christ. As the lack of resolution lingers into yet another decade, the severity of these wounds continues to grow. We must begin to heal our corner of the vineyard from the wounds of division,” said Jason Adkins, executive director of the Minnesota Catholic Conference.

*Our Northland Diocese* is now available via *eOND*, an electronic newsletter. In addition to monthly print issues delivered to household mailboxes, *eOND* arrives to email inboxes twice monthly. **But opt-in is required for eOND.** Subscribe by providing your name and email address. Visit [www.crookston.org/subscribe](http://www.crookston.org/subscribe)

When you are not sure if you are on the schedule for **LITURGICAL MINISTRY** go to <https://stmarysfosston.org/>. The bulletin is also available there. Check it out.

A Grotto Committee is being formed to explore possibilities to honor our Blessed Mother Mary, patroness of our parish. If you would like to help, please let Fr. John know. Also, please share any ideas you may have with Father, a Trustee or Council member. The Committee will be responsible for presenting options to the parish for consideration. Donations and memorials are welcome.

The angels sing at Christmas  
With all the hosts above,  
And still we sing the newborn King,  
His glory and His love.

#### **NEEDED: RIDE TO SUNDAY MASS**

James Gregory lives at a Group Home on South Omland Ave. and is unable to get to Mass. If you could give him a ride, please talk to Fr. John. Holly from the DAC says you need not provide any assistance or sit with him, just provide transportation.

Please make any donations you want included in your 2019 stewardship report by December 31. Consider making a year-end gift to the building fund for improving our facilities--windows, flooring or to the Grotto fund.

Note to those over 70 1/2 who are required to withdraw from 401k retirement funds: Please consider having your RMD (required minimum distribution), or part of it, go directly to St. Mary's and avoid paying income tax on the amount donated. It is a very sweet way to lower your tax burden and bless St. Mary's. Ask your 401k administrator for details.

St. Nicholas: Feast day Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. Patron of Bakers & Pawnbrokers. Born in Asia Minor in the Roman Empire as an only child. Nicholas would take nourishment only on Wednesday & Fridays according to the canons. During the time of persecutions in the fourth century he was seized & tortured, thrown into prison with other Christians. Later released from their bonds. He was guardian of his people as well in temporal affairs.

#### **Christmas Flowers & Decorations**

Help make our Christmas special by donating toward Church Flowers and Decorations in Honor/Memory of a loved one:

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of : \_\_\_\_\_

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 22, 2019**

Ushers: Mark & Harlee Bingham  
Gifts: Jesse & Augusta Maruska Family  
Lector: Lori Balstad  
Commentator: Jan Hemmingsen  
Eucharist: \*Jeanne Sanden, Erv Wickham,  
Gabe Wiener, Clyde Kringlen  
Servers: Sofia Rue, Olivia Rosendahl, Ben Keller  
Hospitality: Jesse & Augusta Maruska Family,  
Lynn Jackson

**Christmas Eve, 8 PM Mass**

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 24, 2019**

Ushers: David Holzer, Dennis Sanden  
Gifts: Craig & Kristen Hemmingsen Family  
Lector: Michele Schoenborn  
Commentator: Clyde Kringlen  
Eucharist: \*Jeanne Sanden, Valarie Holzer,  
Doug Schoenborn, Linda Blaser  
Servers: Dane Schoenborn, Darien Holzer

**Christmas Day, 8:30 AM Mass**

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 25, 2019**

Ushers: Mark & Harlee Bingham  
Gifts: Carol Broadwell, Gabe Schouville  
Lector: Margarette Rue  
Commentator: Nina Bingham  
Eucharist: \*Erv Wickham, Eileen Hegg,  
Jan Hemmingsen  
Servers: Sofia & Genevive Rue

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 29, 2019**

Ushers: David Holzer, Doug Schoenborn  
Gifts: Tony & Patty Maruska  
Lector: Michele Schoenborn  
Commentator: Clyde Kringlen  
Eucharist: \*Mark Bingham, Linda Blaser,  
Eileen Hegg, Jan Hemmingsen  
Servers: Dane Schoenborn, Anna & Ronald  
Jackson  
Hospitality: Tony & Patty Maruska,  
Dorothy Paulson

***Please return the form or invitation to help with  
"Lay Ministry" positions.***

**Thank you to everyone who gave to the Advent  
Giving Project . God's blessings to you.**

**STEWARDSHIP**

Budget Needed Weekly:	\$ 2429.00
<b>Last Week's Collections:</b>	
43 Adult Envelopes:	\$ 1770.00
14 Children/Student Donations	\$ 51.05
Loose	\$ 20.00
<b>Total Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 1841.05</b>
Coffee & Rolls (cost \$51.99)	\$ 53.00
Dec. 8, Holy Day	\$ 170.00
Grotto Fund(includes Fr.'s meal 375	\$ 515.00
Retired Religious	\$ 240.00
Building	\$ 10.00
Capital Improvement Balance	\$ 4579.76

**Dec. 17: Catholic United Financial 4 PM**

**Thank you to everyone who purchased  
something for DEBBIE'S BASKET last Sunday.**

**Today: St. Mary's Kids CHRISTMAS  
PAGEANT during Mass & YOUTH MASS.  
Enjoy the program.**

**Thank you to Lori Balstad, Amanda Wiener,  
Valarie Holzer and Molly Peltier for all your  
hard work to make this happen.**

**If you forgot a dish to share for the Pot Luck  
Brunch after Mass, there is always plenty,  
Come & enjoy anyway.**

**St. Mary's Youth Group will be Caroling  
for their Service Family Homes Dec. 18th.  
May God bless them with the gifts of the  
Holy Spirit and a closer walk with Jesus.**

**Our sincere sympathy to the Augusta Maruska  
Family in the loss of her father, Jerry Brandt.  
May Jerry and all the faithful departed rest in  
peace. His memorial service was yesterday.**

**Ruth Calarese, a member of our parish for the  
past 20 years, passed on to her heavenly reward  
on Friday, Dec. 6. Because she has no relatives  
here, we will be offering a special Mass to honor  
and remember Ruth at 8:30am Sunday, Dec. 22,  
our regular Sunday Mass time.**