

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



Greetings from Fr. John:

We are in the First Sunday of the Advent. The central theme of today's readings is Jesus' warning to us to be alert, watchful and prepared to welcome Jesus. The Church invites us on this first Sunday of Advent to prepare for Christ's Coming, which happened 2000 years back, 1)by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives, 2) by properly celebrating the loving memory of Christ's coming, 3)by experiencing Christ's daily advent or coming in the Eucharistic celebrations, in the Holy Bible and in the worshipping community, and 4)by preparing for Jesus' Second Coming into our lives. In today's Gospel, using the short parable of the servants and gate-keeper of an absentee master who could return at any time, Jesus instructs his followers to be alert and watchful while doing their Christian duties with sincerity. The gate-keeper and the household servants are expected to be ever-vigilant because their master is sure to return. The time of his return is uncertain, but the reward or punishment is sure and certain. We should live in the living presence of Jesus every day, waiting for his Second Coming, while preparing for the Christmas celebration. Have a Happy Advent! God Bless You! Have a Good Week.

**First Sunday of Advent
November 29th, 2020**

St. Mary's: 218-435-6484

St. Joseph's: 218-694-6416

E-Mail: stmarysfosston@gmail.com

Website: stmarysfosston.org

PARISH STAFF:

Pastor: Fr. JohnMelkies 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: AmandaWiener &

Valarie Holzer

Youth Group Leader: Savannah Conger

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, by
appointment & Advent Wednesdays 12-1pm**

St. Mary's Mass with Intentions

Wednesday: Adoration Noon – 8 PM

Wed., Dec. 2 11:30 AM Mass

Barb Wickham+

6 PM Mass

Ida Mae Bingham+

Sun., Dec. 6 8:30 AM Mass

Paul Kalinoski+

St. Joseph's, Bagley, Mass & Intentions

Tuesdays Adoration Noon – 5 pm

Tues., Dec. 1 5 PM Mass

Stephanie Gratkowski+

Thur., Dec. 3 11:30 AM Mass

Earl & Pearl Madre+ & Perry Levit+

First Fri., Dec. 4 5:30 PM Mass & Adoration

Trusiak Family

Sun., Dec. 6 10:30 AM Mass

For the Parishes

Dec. 2, 2020, 6:30pm Finance Council Meeting

Dec 3 Birthdays
Theresa Walsh

Dec 4 Anniversaries
Cathy & Steve Godtland

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.

Prayer List Policy: Names from outside our
Parish will be removed from the list after one
month. Additional months may be requested as
needed or desired.

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR:

Nash Rosendahl, Brady Jones, Kristi Maruska,
Wayne Paulson, Sarah Ryan Walcker, Josh
Martinson, Roger Scharendroich, Nora Ann Lentz,
Allie St. Pierre, Richard Parent, Dennis Omang,
Joyce Klinkhammer, Bob Clayton, Ben Hougen,
Marge Messer, Dave Blazek, Christine Johnson,
Tom Sedler, Ava Lamb-Lopez, Bruce Donnell,
Bethany Andersen, Grandma Dorothy, Paul Silver,
Clara Mae, Lucille Dufault, Mark Randall, Jodi,
Bonnie Schirlinger, Michael Killian, Gail Kjos,
Bethany, Peggy Desizlets,(10/28) Zach Plante, Susan
Becker, Tennis Balstad, Lynn Vennes
"May you touch them and heal them, O Lord!"

Blessed Prayer Shawls are available.
Please contact Dorothy Paulson at 435-6836

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

THE WORD OF THE LORD

The readings for next Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14,
2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

Please take your 2021 Calendars home. They are
in the gathering space. Please thank the **Carlin
Family Funeral Service** for their wonderful
donation to us.

No FAITH FORMATION held at the
church until further notice.

This includes YOUTH GROUP, Grades PreK-
6th Sunday School Class, Confirmation &
Theology of the Body.

St. Mary's CHRISTMAS PAGEANT &
SUNDAY YOUTH MASS is being planned for
Dec. 20. Due to COVID this may be canceled.

"Youth News"

We have a new pay-it-forward project!
St. Mary's youth needs your help to make 20
tie-knot blankets for the local nursing home
residents for Christmas. They plan to make
the blankets on Dec. 2 and Dec. 16.
Monetary donations of any size or fleece
fabric in one-yard pieces would be
appreciated. Please mark your monetary
donations for the youth fund and place in the
offertory basket.

*"Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not
know when the time will come." - Mark 13:33*

We all take things for granted. In particular, we
take time for granted. We make our lives too
busy. We plan our time, our days, weeks,
months, even years in advance. Remember, our
time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how
long we will be here. Start today and begin
thanking God for each and every day. Take time
in silence, every day, and listen to how God is
calling you right now to help build His kingdom
on earth.

Guidelines for activities and events, protecting
ourselves from COVID-19 while indoors. Changes
announced by Gov. Walz starting Nov. 27th affect
only receptions, celebrations, parties or gatherings
held at the church and not the capacity of religious
services.

The Diocese of Crookston Covid-19 protocols in
compliance with Minnesota may be found at
stmarysfosston.org or
www.crookston.org/statments. Stay Safe.

On formed.org: Divine Mercy: In this beautiful series from the Augustine Institute, Fr. Michael Gaitley tells the dramatic history of God's love and mercy through the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II. Go to formed.org/signup. "Find Your Parish," type in Fosston's zip code of 56542. No password. Be sure to share this link formed.org/faithathome with friends and family not yet on FORMED to get them started with a complimentary subscription.

On formed.org for ADVENT: The Road to Bethlehem includes daily Advent reflections by Dr. Tim Gray, weekly videos, audio talks and book excerpts on FORMED related to the theme of the week, Brother Francis Advent reflections for kids and a weekly action item to help you put the Advent message into practice. This would be a great way for you to come closer in communion with God's greatest gift to us: Jesus Christ. Sign up at FORMED.org/advent.

ALSO, for ADVENT: The Word Among Us Please make use of the Mass and Daily Meditation books available by the missalettes. Feel free to give to someone who might use for daily reflection. It includes several good articles in addition to Mass prayers and readings.

An Advent "Living the Word" Bible study began Nov. 23- Join Deacon Aaron Kaiser Wednesdays 7-8pm or Deacon Mark Krejci Mondays 7-8pm on zoom. Email akaiser@crookston.org to enroll or get details. It's not too late to join. You can also do on your own at crookston.org

Lectors:

December 6: Lori Balstad

December 13: Kathryn Ziermeier

December 20: Margarette Rue

December 24: Jan Hemmingsen

December 25: Margarette Rue

December 27: Lori Balstad

January 1: Michele Schoenborn

(Pick up 2021 Workbooks in Sacristy)

For Men who are interested in becoming a Deacon: Formation begins in January of 2022. If you are interested in participating, please e-mail Deacon Mark at mkrejci@crookston.org.

Project Rachel: Confidential Care for Post-Abortive Women and Men offered from the Diocese of Crookston is staffed by a female counselor trained in Project Rachel ministry - a ministry of the Catholic Church - showing that there is hope after abortion. Calls are answered Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The confidential phonenumber is 218-470-0112.

SUBSCRIBE TO eOND FOR THE LATEST AND BIGGEST DIOCESE OF CROOKSTON NEWS! Our Northland Diocese is 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. Parishes pay an annual subscription rate of \$15.67 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! Visit www.crookston.org/subscribe.

Safe Environment Certification module 2020-2021 for the Diocese of Crookston.

Every person, age 18 or over, who is in contact with young people in the church under the age of 18 years or vulnerable adults, physically or virtually, must certify each year. This includes anyone who serves meals, etc. If you have questions or need help please call Marge at 435-6484.

Go to www.crookston.org/secertification.

LET YOUR SOUL SHINE with Matthew Kelly by going to dynamiccatholic.com and signing up for free daily Advent video reflections to help you prepare for Christmas like never before. Matthew Kelly is the author of several books the parish has given you.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed Weekly:	\$ 2218.04
Last Week's Collections:	
26 Adults	\$ 1830.00
Loose	\$ 30.00
Total Collections	\$ 1860.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$ 5.00
Votive Candles	\$ 44.05
Capital Improvement Donations	\$ 20.00
Capital Improvement Balance	\$ 4019.08

St. Mary's, Mission Appeal (SMMA), Red Lake, Collection is Today. You can also donate online and view the St. Mary's Mission Appeal Video at www.crookston.org/smma.

Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf

The basket in the social hall awaits your donation to the Loaves and Fishes food shelf. In thanksgiving for the blessings we have received, we will collect food donations through TODAY, Nov. 29. Monetary donations may be put in the Sunday collection basket marked for the food shelf or mailed directly to Loaves and Fishes at PO Box 152, Fosston, MN 56542

Masses at St. Mary's are held in the church sanctuary with overflow seating in the social hall. We have plenty of space for all to worship while being spaced apart from other households. **Please come**, wear masks (if over 5 and not medically challenged), use touch-free hand sanitizer located by each door and keep yourself socially distanced.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains indefinitely suspended in our Diocese and the rest of the MN dioceses. If you cannot be with us for Sunday Mass, please find a way to keep Sundays holy. You can join Mass on TV or at <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass>

Holy Day of Obligation Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be held on December 8th at 7pm at St. Mary's and 5pm at St. Joseph's, Bagley.

CONGRATULATIONS to Alex John McGlynn on receiving his First Holy Eucharist. *May the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist become central to our relationship with our mighty God and King. God Bless our three new guests for 2020 at the table of the Lord: Cash Holland, Milan Wiener & Alex McGlynn.*

During the month of November we remember all the deceased people of our families with special prayers.

Since last November, our parish has mourned the passing of Dave Holzer, Ruth Calarese, Mary Anne Kinney, Eunice Reinbold & Larry Scott

Blessed be their memory.

May they and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Please enter the names of your deceased loved ones in the special book of the dead so that they may be included in our prayers.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered from Noon to 1pm each Wednesday during Advent, December 2 – 23. Prepare the Way of the Lord!

ADVENT GIVING TREE: Besides giving gifts for the shut-in parishioners, we invite you to donate gifts for the Family Safety Network in Bagley. It is not necessary that you get the tag off the tree, just include note with gift, drop off or send to parish office. Items suggested are: Target or Family Dollar gift cards, \$20 gas or grocery cards, postage stamps, laundry detergent, ream of photo-copy paper, kitchen garbage bags, Kleenex, paper towels, toilet paper.

Suggestions for our shut-ins: Diabetic socks, slippers, lotions, bath gel, window clings, mugs, cookies or sweets, fruit, small poinsettia or decorative small towels. Please have these gifts at church by Sunday, December 20. (Call the office for a name if you wish.)

Dec. 15, 4pm Catholic United Financial meeting