

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



Greetings from Fr. John:

Today, on the last Sunday of the year, 2020, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. On this feast day we offer our own families and all the members on the altar to ask God's blessing on them and to obtain for them the guidance of the Holy Family. We need to learn lessons from the Holy Family. The Church encourages us to look to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child Jesus so that He might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God. Let us pray for the grace of caring for one another in our own families, for each member of the parish family, and for all families of the universal Church. May God bless all our families in the New Year 2021. I wish you to have a Very Blessed New Year. God Bless You! Have a Good Week.

**Holy Family Sunday
December 27, 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. John Melkies Suvakeen
E-Mail: frjohnstmstj@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 & 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

St. Mary's Mass with Intentions

Wednesday: Adoration Noon – 8 PM
Fri., Jan. 1 8:30 AM Mass
Dave Holzer+
Sun., Jan. 3 8:30 AM Mass
For the Parishes

St. Joseph's, Bagley, Mass & Intentions

Tuesdays Adoration Noon – 5 pm
Fri., Jan. 1 10:30 AM Mass
Katherine Scheuer+
Sun., Dec. 27 10:30 AM Mass
Earl & Pearl Madre & Perry Levett+

**JANUARY 1 IS A HOLY DAY: SOLEMNITY
OF MARY, the HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

Birthdays

Dec. 28 Troy Palmer
Jan. 1 Mark Worshek
Jan. 2 Clara Manecke
Jan. 3 John Keller

Anniversaries

Dec. 29 Connie & Chet Smeby
Jan. 1 Mark & Jackie Randall

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, Kristi Maruska, Wayne Paulson,
Richard Parent, Bruce Donnell, Lucille Dufault,
Mark Randall, Peggy Desizlets,(10/28) Lynn Vennes,
Jodi Nelson

"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, Jan. 3: Isaiah 60:1-6,
Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13, Ephesians 3:2-3a,
5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

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.

FAITH FORMATION will not be held at
the church until further notice.

St. Mary's Kids performed from home to
create a virtual CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
which was shown in church last Sunday.
You can watch it by going to the link
provided online at stmarysfosston.org.

St. Mary's Youth Group made many nursing
home residents happy this Christmas by
sacrificing their time and talent to make tie-
knot fleece blankets. They were on ZOOM
together while they worked.

STUDENTS Grade 7-12: National Right to
Life's 2021 Pro-Life Essay Contest Dec. 20 – Jan.
21. Enter your 300-500 essay on "Why you are
pro-life" Prizes: \$100-\$200. More info at
nrlc.org/students/essaycontest. Also, MCCL
invites your video for their pro-life oratory
contest. Go to MCCL.org/youthcontests

Together in Spirit – January 6, 7 PM is a HIGH
SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL EVENT
that Father Rob Galea facilitates. Below is the
invite link. Password is "together".
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86498383731?pwd=cGhvcnFrZVRQVnJSNFJ5dTVtYis1dz09>

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must
forgive." Colossians 3:13 Forgiving is one of the
hardest things for people to do. We can't give
what we don't have. We need to receive God's
mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of
forgiveness with someone—a family member, a
friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone and call
or text someone right now.

Confidential Care for Post-Abortive Women
and Men "Project Rachel" is offered from the
Diocese of Crookston. The confidential
phoneline is 218-470-0112.

On formed.org: Scott Hahn helps **PREPARE THE WAY OF THE KING** by answering questions about Jesus' birth and helps us recognize the true beauty of Christmas. 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.

U.S. Bishop Chairmen for Pro-Life and Doctrine on Covid-19 Vaccine: "In view of the gravity of the current pandemic and the lack of availability of alternative vaccines, the reasons to accept the new COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer & Moderna are sufficiently serious to justify their use, despite their remote connection to morally compromised cell lines. Receiving one of the COVID-19 vaccines ought to be understood as an act of charity toward the other members of our community. In this way, being vaccinated safely against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good." Bishops warned Catholics "must be on guard so that the new COVID-19 vaccines do not desensitize us or weaken our determination to oppose the evil of abortion itself and the subsequent use of fetal cells in research." *Public Affairs Office, Dec. 14, 2020*

As we have seen throughout the pandemic and it's not unsurprising this time of year, many people receive emails impersonating clergy or others. Please remember that messages with vague requests for money or other gifts/favors are often a scam. You might be able to tell right away because the generic email address it is being sent from does not match the real person's email address. Do not reply or forward these messages. Delete the email immediately and also go in to your "deleted" folder and delete the message there too.

MCCL Chapter 45 meets Jan. 12, 7pm at the McIntosh Community Center

FREE CHRISTMAS CONCERT:
SCRC.org/Christmas It lasts one hour featuring Catholic artists.

Catholics at the Capitol – "On Mission for Life and Dignity" April 15, 2021. Speak out in defense of life and dignity at the State Capitol! Even just a handful of people can influence the laws passed by our elected officials. "CatCap" will fortify your faith, provide you with the hope needed to heal the cynicism and division in politics, and equip you to speak with your lawmakers. For information visit <https://www.catholicsatthecapitol.org>

First Link Suicide Prevention is a free, confidential service available to anyone 24/7/365 for listening and support, referrals to resources/help, and crisis intervention. FirstLink answers the 211 helpline, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and communicates via the text line 898-211. Dial 2-1-1 or text your zipcode to 898-211 from anywhere in our service area for confidential help and support. <https://myfirstlink.org/>
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

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.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed Weekly:	\$ 2218.04
Last Week's Collections:	
36 Adults	\$ 2295.00
2 Youth	3.00
Loose	\$ 45.00
Total Collections	\$ 2343.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Flowers	\$ 20.00
Retired Religious	\$ 110.00
Christmas	\$ 60.00
Capital Improvement Donations	\$ 20.00
Capital Improvement Balance	\$ 4155.95

A \$300 tax deduction for all taxpayers is effective for 2020 as provided in the Cares Act as an incentive to give to charity. Also, the cap for those who itemize was raised from 60% of adjusted gross income to 100%. This may be a consideration for you in your 2020 stewardship plans and when you file your taxes for this year. **Please make donations for 2020 by Dec. 31.**

Thank you for the Flower Donations given in memory of:

Bill Aaland by Carol Aaland
Family Members by Dave & Rose Brinkman
Kim Christopherson by Dianne C & Family
Emma Proulx & Aloiss & Paul Schmitz by
Tricia, Peyton & Ethan Proulx
Jarvis Zitzow by Theresa Zitzow
And in Honor of Family Members by JoAnn Anderson.

Parents of Faith Formation Students: The at-home Circle of Grace lessons and verification form that were mailed to you need to be returned asap. The St. Mary's Safe Environment compliance report is due to the Diocese of Crookston before December 31. If you have any questions, call St. Mary's Church 435-6484 and leave a message

THANK YOU DECORATORS! YOU MAKE OUR CHURCH BEAUTIFUL FOR JESUS!

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>

ADVENT GIVING TREE: Thank you for gifts donated to the Family Safety Network in Bagley and to the people named on the tags. **You have made a difference in the lives of many!**

Thank you so much for your generous contributions of \$1715 to Debbie's Basket Sale sponsored by St. Mary's Catholic United Financial Council. May you be blessed for your generous hearts!

Lectors:

December 27: Lori Balstad
January 1: Michele Schoenborn
January 3: Margarette Rue
January 10: Lori Balstad
January 17: Michele Schoenborn
January 24: Nina Bingham
January 31: Jan Hemmingsen

Please keep Fr. John in your prayers as he leaves for India this week. He plans to return at the end of January. God Bless You, Fr. John!

Happy & Blessed New Year to All!
May God give us a new life of joy and good health in the year 2021.