

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



Greetings from Deacon Aaron Kaiser:

The first chapter of the first Book of Samuel indicates that Samuel was dedicated to the Lord by his mother Hannah. She was a devout woman who passionately loved the Lord and was dedicated to prayer and worship. Although she could not conceive a child and lamented over this, she persistently pleaded for God's mercy for her to conceive a male child – not for selfish gain, but so she could dedicate him to God's service. God heard her prayer, honored her persistent faith and allowed her to conceive a son.

Samuel's eager response to the Lord's call, "Speak, for your servant is listening" is a declaration of willingness to act on whatever command our God will give. How much easier would life be for us if we began each day with this same simple yet powerful prayer, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening?"

Jesus knows each of us intimately; our faults, failures, strengths, weaknesses, likes and dislikes but he also knows the greatness we can accomplish after surrendering totally to his Lordship over our lives. Jesus invites John's two disciples and us to, "Come, and you will see." The invitation is a call to action. We can sit around and think about going to Mass, but it is far better to go to Mass. The same applies to reaching out to others with the love of Christ – it is what his followers do.

God Bless You! Have a Good Week.

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 17, 2021**

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 Sunkken

E-Mail: frjohnstmsj@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 ~~Ery 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

Sun., Jan. 24 8:30 AM Mass

Larry Scott+

St. Joseph's, Bagley, Mass & Intentions

Tuesdays Adoration Noon – 5 pm

Sun., Jan. 24 10:30 AM Mass

For the Parishes

PreK-6th grade Sunday School will resume in-person on Sunday, January 24th.

MARCH FOR LIFE: SAT., JAN. 23, 9:45 A.M. Meet at Bagley Courthouse to walk to St. Joseph's for a rally and refreshments.

TUESDAY, JAN. 19, 4 P.M. Catholic United Financial Meeting

<u>Birthdays</u>	
Jan. 18	Ernie Nesvold
Jan. 20	Doug Schoenborn
Jan. 21	Tom Weber
Jan. 23	Roger Vedbrasten
Jan. 23	Kim Anderson
<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Jan. 19	Lisa & Larry Handyside

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 Matuska, Wayne Paulson, Richard Parent, Bruce Donnell, Lucille Dufault, Mark Randall, Peggy Desjardis, 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. 24, 2021
 Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9,
 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

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.

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

YOUTH GROUP met with their leader, Savannah Conger, Wednesday evening, Jan. 13. Thanks be to God for this opportunity to share the faith!

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 nrle.org/students/essaycontest. Also, MCCL invites your video for their pro-life oratory contest. Go to MCCL.org/youthcontests.

Diocese of Crookston Summer Camp. The Office of Formation in Discipleship is excited to announce that we are moving forward with plans to hold two summer camps this year at Oak Hills College in Bemidji, Minnesota. The (new) Saint Teresa of Calcutta Camp for youth who are entering grades 9 and 10 will take place June 20-24. The theme for this camp is EXTRAordinary. Registration opens January 26 at 9:00 AM at: www.crookston.org/toecamp.

The Saint John Paul 2 Camp will be from July 18-22, 2021. The theme is "Into the Deep". Open to youth entering grades 7 & 8 only. Registration opens Tuesday, February 2 at 9:00 AM at: www.crookston.org/jp2camp

Esquivir! Be a man! July 7-9, 2021 At Sand Hill Lake Bible Camp by Fosston. A chance for Catholic guys, 18 years+, to hang out, Pray, Plan and Discus. Free. Register crookston.org/esquivir. Contact Fr. Matt Schmitz 218-773-0877 mschmitz@sacredheartcaf.net

Looking for Service, Staff and Leadership Team Members for this summer's camps. If you know of any exceptional juniors, seniors, or college students from your parish that you would recommend for service team, staff, or to be a part of leadership for the upcoming St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. John Paul 2 Camps, please share those names and contact emails with Bob Noel. Applications open on the same dates as participant registration opens for each camp.

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. “**CapCap**” 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 info: <https://www.catholicsatthecapitol.org>

On formed.org: Finnian and the Seven Mountains: Introducing an exciting new comic book series! A young man named Finnian leaves his monastic school in Ireland to find a legendary sword, rumored to have the extraordinary power to defeat evil. **Also**, New live show every Tuesday at 7PM EST featuring Dr. Tim Grey discussing topics relating to Catholic life style. 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/faiithathome with friends and family not yet on FORMED to get them started with a complimentary subscription.

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 found at stmarysfosston.org or www.crookston.org/statments. Stay Safe.

US Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children – January 22nd — God our Creator, we give thanks to you, who alone have the power to impart the breath of life as you form each of us in our mother’s womb; grant, we pray, that we, whom you have made stewards of creation, may remain faithful to this sacred trust and constant in safeguarding the dignity of every human life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

“Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person -- among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you” (Jer. 1:5; cf. Job 10:8-12; Ps 22:10-11). “My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth” (Ps. 139:15). Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable.”-- Catechism of the Catholic Church, n. 2270-2271

March for Life: Sat., Jan. 23, 2021:
Bagley, 9:30 a.m. from the Clearwater County Courthouse to St. Joseph’s Church with speaker & refreshments to follow.
Bemidji, 10 a.m. from St. Philip’s Church.
Crookston, 1:30 p.m. from Central Park with City Police escort. Bring signs! Show your support for the respect of all human life. In 2020, over 42.6 million babies were aborted worldwide. Less than 2 million people worldwide died from the coronavirus. Abortion is the leading cause of death in the United States.

Beginning Jan. 20, 7-8 PM, every Wednesday for 4 weeks through Feb. 10th, Deacon Aaron Kaiser, Pastoral Associate for the Office of Formation in Discipleship, will host a free online adult formation class titled “**Serving the Lord with our Lives**”. The class, open to any adults in the Diocese of Crookston, will meet via Zoom. The course will help participants understand generational divides and offer simple, easy to use techniques to confidently witness and proclaim the Gospel to others. It will also provide a greater understanding of the baptismal call and how to fulfill the responsibility of living as a missionary disciple.



STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed Weekly:	\$ 2218.04
Last Week's Collections:	
25 Adults	\$ 1200.00
Youth	00.00
Loose	\$ 56.00
Total Collections:	\$ 1256.00
January 1 Holy Day	\$ 10.00
Church in Africa	\$ 20.00
Capital Improvement	\$ 65.00
Capital Improvement Balance	\$ 4297.97

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>

**In case of emergency while Fr. John is gone. Please call:
Deacon Aaron Kaiser at 218-280-4707**

If you were unable to attend the Rosary for Life today, Sunday, Jan. 17 participate at home by praying the Rosary for an end to abortion and that all human life be respected and revered from conception until natural death.

If you do not have a Rosary, there are extra Rosaries by each entrance of the Church. Take one home along with the instructions on the blue paper by the Rosaries.

Lectors: January 17: Michele Schoenborn
January 24: Nina Bingham
January 31: Jan Hemmingsen

Catholic United Financial Ministries: Please help earn more funds for the parish. Whether you are a member or not, you are invited to share with CUF your deeds of charity and kindness to earn \$5 for the parish. Just drop a note in the collection basket or email to the parish your deed, your name, address and phone number. It can be a donation you have made to a charity, a gift or deed for a neighbor, a task for the parish that is out of the ordinary (not usher, lector, etc.). Together we can earn the max of \$250 for the first half of 2021!

Today there is a wound in our national conscience. America will never be whole as long as the right to life granted by our Creator is denied to the unborn." -President Ronald Reagan

A TRAGIC COMMEMORATION: On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court, in the Roe vs. Wade decision, made its worst mistake in history. By declaring that children in the womb are not "persons," it opened the door to tens of millions of abortions. Some 62 million children have been killed in the womb since then just in America. In fact, over 10,000 of these children killed by abortion each year are at 21 weeks of development or beyond. Indeed, as we mark another Roe vs. Wade commemoration, it is time for all of us to get involved in the efforts to end abortion. To learn what you can do, visit www.TenStepsToEndAbortion.com

First Link Suicide Prevention: Dial 2-1-1 or text your zip code to 898-211 from anywhere in our service area <https://myfirstlink.org/> National Suicide Prevention Lifeline <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

By email, Fr. John assures us of his thoughts and prayers. He requests that you please continue to pray for him.