

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



Greetings from Fr. John:

I am so happy to see more people in our church on Sundays. I am so grateful to you for showing your strong faith in Jesus. We are in the Fifth Sunday of Lent. The readings challenge us by saying that new life and eternal life are possible only by the death of the self through suffering and service. Just as Jesus became the "Conquering Son of Man" by offering his life for others, we, too, must possess Heaven by dying to self and by spending our lives in self-giving, sacrificial service. Salt gives its taste by dissolving in water. A candle gives light by burning its wick and melting its wax. Loving parents sacrifice themselves so that their children can enjoy a better life. Let us pray that we may acquire this self-sacrificial spirit, especially during Lent. Only a life that is spent for others will be glorified in Heaven, and sometimes even in this world. We know that the world owes everything to people who have spent their time and talents for God and for their fellow human beings. Let us also be prepared to start the Holy Week from Palm Sunday.

God Bless You! Have a Good Week.

**Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 21st, 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 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 & 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
During Lent: Wednesdays 12-1 PM**

St. Mary's Mass with Intentions

Wednesday: Adoration Noon – 5 PM

Wed., Mar. 24 5:30 pm Mass

Ernest Agnes Family

Fri., Mar. 26 8:30 AM Mass

Fran O'Donnell+

Sun., Mar. 28 8:30 AM Mass

For the Parishes

St. Joseph's, Bagley, Mass & Intentions

Tuesdays Adoration Noon – 5 pm

Wed., Mar. 24 6:30 pm Mass

Earl & Pearl Madre+ & Perry Levett+

Thur., Mar. 25 11:30 am Mass

Annammal+ & Suvakeen+

Sun., Mar. 28 10:30 AM Mass

Allen Theis+

**Please volunteer for Holy
Thursday foot-washing!**

Birthdays

March 23 David Brinkman
March 27 Kathleen Drellack
March 27 Eileen Hegg

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, Brady Jones, John Blaser, Carly Hemmingsen, Doris Thyen (3/7)

"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, Mar. 28, 2021
Isaiah 50:4-7, Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24,
Ephesians 5:8-14, Mark 14:1-15:47,

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

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/>

Guidelines for activities and events, during COVID-19 while indoors: Get the details at www.crookston.org/statements Also, at stmarysfosston.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE):

PreK-6 grades RE class after Sunday Mass
9:45-10:45 AM, April 25

Confirmation Class: March 24 & 31 6:30-8pm
Youth group, Grades 7-12 Wed., April 7 & 21 from 6-8 PM. March 31 is free movie night for youth at Fosston Theater.

For Savannah: savannah.kaiser12@gmail.com or 218-556-9286

For Grades K-6 Amanda Wiener 218-280-2187 or at amandawiener@hotmail.com

The Students will be ministering at Mass May 2. We welcome their help. You're always welcome to join Religious Education anytime.

PARENTING SESSIONS: Register at www.crookston.org/stjoseph. It is hoped that the virtues of St. Joseph may be illuminated and imitated through a 3-part series which includes the following:

Recognizing & Responding to Teen Distress
Laura Lewis, MA, LPCC-S Tuesday, March 30, 7-8PM

Addressing the Elephant in the Room: What Parents Should Know About Pornography
Brandon Clark – Covenant Eyes Monday, April 12, 7-8PM

Your Child and God's Gift of Sexuality
Deacon Mark Krejci Thursday, May 6, 7-8 PM

Diocese of Crookston Summer Camp. At Oak Hills College in Bemidji. **The St. Teresa of Calcutta Camp** for youth who are entering grades 9 and 10. June 20-24. Register at: www.crookston.org/toccamp.

The St. John Paul 2 Camp July 18-22, 2021. For youth entering grades 7 & 8 only. Registration at: www.crookston.org/jp2camp (filling up quickly)
Looking for Service, Staff and Leadership Team Members for Diocese of Crookston Summer Camps. Contact Bob Noel.

Pastoral & Finance Council Minutes inserted today.

Estovir! 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 Discuss. **Free.** Register: crookston.org/estovir
Contact Fr. Matt Schmitz 218-773-0877
mschmitz@sacredheartgf.net

Catholics at the Capitol – April 15, 2021. Speak out in defense of life and dignity at the State Capitol! Join Catholics from across Minnesota for a day of prayer, education, and advocacy in St. Paul or **simultaneously online.** Go to <https://www.catholicsatthecapitol.org> for info.

GROW IN FAITH: LISTEN TO REAL PRESENCE RADIO ON 820, 1280 or 1370 AM OR ONLINE. ASK ALEXA OR GOOGLE to play Real Presence Radio on Tuned In. Enjoy!

On formed.org: The Trials of St. Patrick. Enter into the epic story of one man's spiritual odyssey through hardship and loss, mercy, and forgiveness. Go to formed.org/signup. "Find Your Parish," type in Fosston's zip code of 56542 No password needed. Be an evangelist and share the link with friends and family not yet on FORMED to get them started with a complimentary subscription.

PREPARE FOR HOLY WEEK: Virtual Bible Conference, Sat., March 27, 9am-2pm via Zoom with some of the nation's most dynamic Scripture scholars. **FREE!** Register at <https://bibleconference.augustineinstitute.org>

"Living the Word" Bible study online with Deacon Aaron Wednesdays or Deacon Mark on Mondays in March from 7 - 8pm. Email Deacon Aaron at akaiser@crookston.org.

MEN: Become a Deacon! Learn from Director of Formation Deacon Mark Krejci on zoom April 5 from 6:30-8:30pm
Email mkrejci@crookston.org.

2021 DAA: Keep the momentum going! Just 21.37% of the parish have donated or pledged. With the goal being \$8723 (less than last year), we still need \$3598. Thus far, \$3990 has been donated and \$1135 pledged. Thank you to 25 households! The Diocese will send out letters in April to those who have not responded.

U.S. CATHOLIC BISHOPS SAY ACT NOW! Please be informed of what is happening in government. Action is made easy by signing up for email alerts.
Go to www.votervoicenet.usccb/campaigns.

The Year of St. Joseph: A few common titles for St. Joseph include: Protector of the Holy Family, Foster Father of Jesus, Husband of Mary, Just and Obedient One, Faithful Worker, Protector of the Church, and Patron of the Dying. Mark your calendars for the **diocesan consecration to St. Joseph** and plan to be at the Cathedral for the **Mass at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 1** (Feast of St. Joseph the Worker). From Fr. Mike Foltz.

March 19 was the Feast of St. Joseph. Consecration to St. Joseph on May 1 information can be found at <https://www.crookston.org/stjoseph>

SPEAK LIFE! I am eight. Eight weeks old. Even though I don't have to breathe on my own—(*thanks Mommy!*)—I am getting ready for the moment when I can. My lungs are forming as my brain continues to grow. This week, my arms and legs are showing signs of fingers and toes. My body is now about as big as a watermelon seed. Also—somewhere inside—my body is working on a surprise. It will tell you if I am a boy or a girl. Which do you think I will be? -a.m.opdahl

Pilgrimage to Israel with Fr. Chuck Huck. January 10-19, 2022. Go to www.worldstrides.org/register. Trip ID: 195451 or contact Fr. Chuck at 218-847-1393 or fchuck@holynosarycc.org.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed Weekly:	\$ 2218.04
Last Week's Collections:	
30 Adults	\$ 1625.00
Youth	0.00
Loose	\$ 120.00
Total Collections	\$ 1745.00
Votive Candles	\$ 37.00
CRS	\$ 180.00
CUF (MinisTree \$125.00, Basket sale match \$362.50)	\$ 487.50
Capital Improvement	\$ 4.00
Capital Improvement Balance	\$ 5566.97

CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL needs more deeds to earn \$250 for the first half of 2021. Drop a note with your name, address & phone No. in the collection basket or email the parish. Your DAA or food shelf contribution is eligible. (No need to include the amount.)

The Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf Campaign runs through April 11. Your donations are eligible for incentive grants. 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. **Envelopes are available by the bulletin board.**

CRS RICE BOWL "Lord, may we love as one human family". This Lenten season, we saw Christ in the faces of our sisters and brothers experiencing hunger around the world. Visit: csrricebowl.org. Turn in your Lenten Rice Bowl sacrifices by Easter Sunday.

Thank You Lectors for Proclaiming the Word!

Sunday, March 21 Jan Hemmingsen
Sunday, March 28 Margarett Rue
Sunday, April 4 Margarett Rue
Wednesday, March 24 Kathryn Ziermeier

Chrim Mass Monday, March 29, at the Cathedral in Crookston at 6:30PM.

Wednesday, March 24, 2021: Mass will be at St. Mary's at 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross at 6:00 PM will be led by the Guild.

NEW DATES FOR CONFIRMATION CLASSES are Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8pm:

March 24 and 31

April 14 and 28

May 12 and 26

Classes will resume in Sept.

Thank you to Jayne Miller for her help with the Confirmation class. **Tricia Proulx** will be teaching the Confirmation class per new schedule. **Margaret Rue** will teach Theology of the Body. Thank you both for your ministry.

April 11th, after Mass, the Parish will honor **Lori Balstad** for her many years of teaching and coordinating Catholic faith formation. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

ROLLS AFTER MASS ON SUNDAYS ?

Protocol change allows 6 per table with eating & drinking while seated only. Many of us enjoyed the visiting over coffee and rolls after Mass. Let's do that again starting April 18. Volunteers to serve are needed . Please call or email the church office to volunteer.

Tape from pews will be removed by March 28 as decided by the Pastoral Council. Families may sit in adjoining pews but we still need to follow social distancing guidelines, wear masks (if over 5 and not medically challenged), and use touch-free hand sanitizer located by each door. You may choose to sit in the church sanctuary or the hall.

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>

St Mary's Pastoral Council Minutes
March 18, 2021 at 6pm

1. Meeting opened with prayer by Fr John.
2. President Dennis Sanden called the meeting to order.
3. The following members were present: Dennis and Jeanne Sanden, Fr John, Erv Wickham, Paulette Kringlen, Rosemarie Brinkman, Craig Hemmingsen, Kathryn Ziermeier.
4. Review of Minutes from meeting 9.16.20. Motion to approve Erv. Second by Paulette.
5. Addition to new business: purchase of lawn mower for our parish.

Committee Reports:

1. Finance Council Minutes reviewed
2. Guild, Music Ministry and Maintenance no reports
3. Elementary Religious Education: report reviewed with special thanks and appreciation to the teachers for the wonderful youth Mass.
4. High School Religious Education: report reviewed and acknowledgement that Savannah is doing well as coordinator.

Old Business:

1. We welcome New Youth Group Coordinator Savannah Conger. She is doing great job.
2. DAA 2021 Goal: \$8723, (received 3990+1135 pledged) = \$5125 which is \$3598 under goal.
3. First Communion will be every other year due to the low numbers. Next celebration is 2022.
4. Electrician Jeremy Mienert will submit options for increased lighting inside the church.
5. Recognition for Lori Balstad's 24 years of service, and the many other dedicated teachers, will be after Mass, April 11th.
6. Bazaar is tabled for next meeting.
7. Nativity set was repaired by Dennis.
8. Gutter repair on parish house is nearly complete.

New Business:

1. Coffee and rolls after Mass will resume Sunday, April 18th with maximum 50%. Marge will resume scheduling. A list of the new instructions will be in the kitchen.
2. Diocesan program "Going forth as Disciples" was presented by Deacon Kaiser and he will be in touch with those parishioners who indicated interest following his presentation on Feb 24th.
3. Confirmation teacher Jayne Miller resigned her position for family reasons.
4. New Confirmation teachers are Tricia Proulx and Margarette Rue with classes on Wednesdays.
5. Palm Sunday is March 28th. There will not be a procession. Fr. John will bless the palms.
6. Christ Mass at Cathedral is Monday, March 29th 6:30. Doug and Linda Hand will be present to receive the oils for St Mary's.
7. Holy Triduum 2021 will be in Bagley. All are encouraged to sign up for Ministry duties.
8. On May 1st at the Cathedral the Diocese will be Consecrated to St Joseph in recognition of the Year of St Joseph.
9. Starting March 15th, Covid Protocol allows the church to have full capacity while still allowing for 6' distancing & wearing mask. Parish Council approved to take the tape off the pews starting from March 23rd. From Palm Sunday cantors can lead singing with music while masking is still required.
10. Parish Council wants to thank the teachers for the youth Masses that have been done so well and encourage the teachers to do more.
11. MN Citizens Concerned for Life will be sent \$50 per month as was approved in Finance Council. Donations may be considered to other charities in India or other countries with excess tithing funds.
12. A motion to approve purchase of lawn mower from Toro dealer in Fosston was made by Kathryn and seconded by Craig following discussion of price comparisons and warranty.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 16th, 2021 at 6pm.

Motion to adjourn by Paulette, second by Erv.

Fr John led the closing prayer.

Submitted by

Kathryn Ziermeier, Secretary

St. Mary's Church Finance Council Minutes March 11, 2021

St. Mary's Finance Council met March 11, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the large classroom with social distancing between members. Fr. John opened with prayer after President Chuck Redder called the meeting to order. Present were Chuck Redder, Jeanne Sanden, Erv Wickham, Randy Rue, Fr. John and Linda Hand.

A motion was made by Randy, seconded by Erv, to approve the Dec. 2, 2020, minutes.

Old Business:

1. We expect MN Sealcoating to fill parking lot cracks this spring.
2. DAA goal for 2021 is \$8723. The February report from the Diocese shows 22 households have given \$3595 and pledged \$1135 with \$3993 short of the goal.
3. The three windows ordered are at Miller's Building Center. Randy has bids for installation from Stordahl Construction and Mike Solsten. Mike's needs confirmation of amount.
4. Jeremy Mienert is researching lighting options for the church sanctuary.
5. Randy will check on local Toro lawn mowers and compare with what he has learned about what John Deere has to offer. Mark Bingham, groundskeeper, will be consulted.
6. Stordahl Construction will put gutter guards on the rectory this spring.
7. The microphone authorized at the December meeting did not need to be purchased as Father had Keith Larson of Bagley make the older lapel mic work with our new system. Council thanked Keith for his help.

New Business:

1. Randy motioned, Jeanne seconded, that \$50 per month be donated to the local MCCL Chapter. Fr. John suggested we consider some charities in India or other countries when we have excess tithing funds.
2. Since no tables are set up in the social hall, it was easier for volunteers to clean the social hall carpet last month. We thanked those who did the carpet cleaning.
3. Rustad Heating replaced a furnace blower and capacitor in February. The kit that makes the two furnaces for the sanctuary work together is no longer available so a relay was installed.
4. A chastity grant of \$1000 awarded us by Catholic United Financial is for the formed.org subscription used to teach Theology of the Body, as well as other classes and for parishioners' home use.
5. The Catholic Community Foundation awarded St. Mary's two grants of \$500 each for student/parent projects which include benches and a gaga ball pit.
6. St. Mary's Catholic United Financial gave the parish a check for \$487.50 which is from the MinisTree project and match to Debbie's Basket Sale.
7. Fr. John reported that Jayne Miller will no longer be able to teach confirmation class. He is in the process of obtaining a replacement.
8. Randy offered to approach the City of Fosston about cleaning up some of the brush around the pond west of the church to make it look nicer.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, June 9, after the 6pm Mass.

Randy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeanne seconded.

Meeting closed with a Hail Mary and Glory Be.

Linda Hand, Secretary.