



June 28, 2020 **Volume 73, No. 24**

Mass Schedule	Please note: Reconciliation Saturday 7:00 – 7:15 AM Saturday 3:30 – 3:45 PM; Missions 20 minutes before Mass; or call the office for appointment.		
Monday	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Jon Maas Family For rain and protection from storms
Tuesday	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Roger Schwab For those dealing with cancer
Wednesday	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Duane Boehm
Thursday	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Lisa Rixen
Friday	7:30 AM	Richardton	+George Krushevsky
Saturday,	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Margaret Kostelecky
July 4th	4:00 PM	Richardton	PARISHES
	7:00 PM	St. Thomas	+Lena Naumann
Sunday,	8:00 AM	St. Stephen	+ Living & Deceased Christian Mothers & K
July 5th	10:00AM	Richardton	of C + Living & Deceased Christian Mothers & K of C

Mass Schedule and Ministers: Saturday, July 4th & Sunday, July 5th

Saturday,	4:00 PM	Lector: Scott Bohn
July 4th	Richardton	July Ushers: Ken Haag, Rodney Rebel, Delores Baer,
	7:00 PM	Volunteer
	St. Thomas	Lector: Jeff Morel
		July Ushers: Keith Wolf & Dean Baar
Sunday,	8:00 AM	Lector: Gary Friedt
July	St. Stephen	July Ushers: John Haas & Ben Messer
5th	10:00 AM	Lector: Mark Rummel
	Richardton	July Ushers: Tim & Kathy Meyer, Tom Roll, Reid Vaagen

Collections for June 21, 2020	St. Mary	St. Stephen	St. Thomas
Adults	1549.00	200.00	215.00
Plate	73.00	97.00	20.00
Children			
Total	1622.00	297.00	235.00

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us today in worship. We hope you will return often. If you are new to our faith or community and want to join our parish, please contact the parish office at 974-3569.

ST. MARY PARISH.

CEMETERY ENTRANCE: The granite pillars were placed Thursday morning. Black Hills Monument (Belle Fourche, SD) along with Allied Monument (Dickinson) partnered for the project and installation. It only took about 2 1/2 hrs. to place all 4 and then to do the engraving of donors. This project was made possible entirely by private donations. Remember them with a prayer of gratitude, please. You will notice part of the “Hail Mary” in English and German, in honor of our patroness and the German heritage of our founding parishioners. I look at this project as one way to mark the 125th anniversary (in 2021) of our parish. At some point we will look to replace the front fence from east to west to complete the new look. I can’t say thank you enough to God for the generosity of the donors. By way of interest, the 2 larger pillars each weigh 5000 lbs and crosses atop 300 lbs.

THANK YOU! to all those who come to Monday morning Mass to pray for rain and protection from storms. **We seem to have lots of people dealing with various cancers and other serious illnesses so for the time being we’ll have that as an intention for the Tuesday morning Mass.**

AT THIS TIME: we plan to hold our Fall Chicken Dinner on the 1st Sunday of October (October 4) as in the past. If the virus situation does not clear up, we will still have the Raffle; thanks for your generous donations and support of both events.

SOCIAL CENTER WINDOWS: Later this fall we will replace 18 windows on the north end of the 2nd floor of the Social Center. These windows are close to 55 years old and are in the area containing the Parish Offices, a classroom and the Rel. Ed rooms. The windows leak heat pretty badly, no longer hold paint and some no longer open/shut. We have been supplementing the heat in the office and classroom with space heaters—not very efficient. The Bishop has given us permission to do this project as part of the maintenance/upkeep of the building.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PICNIC: Is scheduled for this Sunday, June 28th at the Richardton Swimming Pool Park. The social will begin at 2:00 PM and food will be served at 4:30 PM. All food and beverages will be provided. The invitation is extended to the K of C members and their families as well as spouses of deceased members.

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS BANQUET: Has been postponed until further notice.

ST. STEPHEN PARISH

ST. THOMAS PARISH

THANKS: Joan for keeping the church supplied with fresh flowers; your efforts and the beauty are appreciated.

THANKS: to Philip & Betty Knaup who keep the cemetery mowed and trimmed so nicely. Your efforts are appreciated.

ALL THREE PARISHES

PARISH WEBSITE: is up and running! It can be found at www.stmaryrichardton.com. The weekly bulletin is included on the website and is normally posted on Mondays. Many thanks to Adam Bohn for taking on this project.

PLEASE BE ADVISED: the office hours are still reduced these days, so be sure to call ahead if you need to see Pam or Fr. Thomas.

MASSES: *“the dispensation from the obligation to attend and participate at Mass on Sunday and Holy Days remains in effect until further notice for all who may be hesitant or afraid at this time to be in larger gatherings.... If you or anyone in your household is sick in any way or is one of the more vulnerable groups of persons at a higher risk of contracting the COVID-19, please stay at home until such time as you or that person is able to return to Church for Mass.”* Further, “what we understand as ‘social distancing’ must be strictly kept by all priests, deacons and lay faithful at all times in all liturgical and sacramental settings.”

Family households may sit together in 1 pew and all other persons must maintain social distancing; from front to back, in every Church every other pew is to be left empty.

Only the Precious Body will be distributed and may be received either in the hand or on the tongue.

Only ordained clergy are to distribute Holy Communion; no Eucharistic Ministers. Social distancing is to be maintained as you come forward to receive Holy Communion.

Lectors are to be used. Only 1 server is allowed and servers under 18 yrs of age must have written permission from parents to serve.

No Sign of Peace. No gathering before or after Mass. Use your own hand sanitizer if you wish. The parish will make some available at the entrance.

No Offertory procession but a basket will be used for people to drop their offerings when they come or leave Mass.

Other guests may now attend Weddings and Funerals, maintaining social distancing. Vigil Services and Visitation are allowed in the funeral homes only; no funeral luncheons in parish facilities at this time.

Your continued patience and cooperation for your own welfare and that of others is appreciated.

PLEASE PRAY: for those who are *seriously ill, terminally ill or in immediate concern:* Inez Hamann, Dennise Miller, Cindy Wolla, Margaret Wiegler, Ray Fettig, Mary Ann Hoff, Chuck Hoff, Joan Zimmerman, Leo Stein, Katie Thomas Kautzman, all those dealing with various cancers, those dealing with CO-VID19 in any way and those responding to the needs in our communities brought about by the virus.

A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO: all the volunteers who keep our ambulance service going and the fire departments on call. While we don't like to use their services, we are sure glad we have them when we need them!

RCIA CLASSES: These weekly classes are intended for adults who wish to investigate entering the Catholic Church (with no obligation to join) and others who may want to learn more about our Catholic faith. (I did not offer it last year as there was no interest.) It is a commitment to meet weekly from September to Easter so begin to think about it and pray about it. Contact the office (974 3569) if you are already interested. I will offer a different class if there is no interest in **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation for **A**dults.

REMINDER: If you are sick or not feeling well, please refrain from attending Mass. While some things may be relaxing a bit, we still need to be cautious and conscientious of the health of others.

FROM THE PASTOR:

“Gracious and loving God, let your Spirit be with us and our country as we celebrate our independence. Hear our prayers and increase in us the will to follow your Son, Jesus. Help us to call upon our faith as we use the gifts of democracy to shape a society more respectful of the life, dignity and rights of all people, especially the poor and weak. We ask this through Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.”

Given how dry we continue to be, the intention for rain and protection from storms will continue at Monday morning Mass. And if rain comes we will say “Thank You.” We also seem to have lots of people dealing with various cancers and other serious illnesses so for the time being we'll have that as an intention for the Tuesday morning Mass. Thanks to those who are so faithful to daily Mass either everyday or even once or twice a week; your presence and prayers are much appreciated.

Occasionally, some of you ask about the ringing of the bells before Mass at St. Mary. There are 3 bells in the west tower that are rung by hand: Mary (ca. 1800 lbs), Joseph (ca. 1000 lbs) and Benedict (ca. 500 lbs.) On Solemnities we ring all 3 bells to announce that something is special. On Sundays in Ordinary Time we ring Mary for sure and possibly Joseph. The bells were “baptized” with Holy Water, anointed with Holy Oil and named when they were installed over 100 yrs. ago. While this is an ancient practice of the Catholic Church, not all bells are named. To my knowledge the 2 bells at St. Stephen are not named, I'm not sure about the St. Thomas bell—I can't quite read the inscription. Bells serve to announce, toll the passing of a soul, remind us of the passing of time and call us to prayer. And when they are heard ringing throughout the town I hope they remind people to pray.

If you are uncertain about what to do with your church envelope you can put it in another envelope and put it in the mail (332nd St. North Richardton, ND 58652), or drop it by the office. “Thanks so much” to those of you who are already doing this; it helps us a lot.

Finally, it's not the pace of life that concerns me, it's the sudden stop at the end!

Look for the blessings in life, and give thanks to God...

Fr. Thomas, OSB

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- June 28 St. Mary Knights of Columbus picnic @ 2:00 PM
- July 3 1st Friday and Adoration @ St. Mary 8:00-9:00 am
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 6 St. Stephen KC?
- July 9 St. Mary KC & CDA?
- July 11 Feast of St. Benedict
- July 12 St. Thomas KC?

July 18 **Katie Kautzman Medical Benefit @ Mott**
July 25 **Steiner/Olson Wedding: 1:30 @ St. Mary**