

**January 17, 2021** **Volume 74, No. 3**

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.		
<b>Monday</b>	9:30 AM	Richardton	+Joan Zimmerman Funeral
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Ray Fettig For the Sick
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Ron Frederick
<b>Thursday</b>	7 30 AM	Richardton	+Margaret Kostelecky
<b>Friday</b>	7:30 AM	Richardton	+Gladys Melchior
<b>Saturday,</b>	7:30 AM	Richardton	++Paul J. & Helen Hauck
<b>January 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	4:00 PM	Richardton	+++Gordon, Gladys & Darel Lacher
	7:00 PM	St. Stephen	++Mr & Mrs Larry Swindler
<b>Sunday,</b>	8:00 AM	St. Thomas	PARISHES
<b>January</b>	10:00AM	Richardton	++John & Catherine Miller & Family
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>			

**Mass Schedule and Ministers: Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**

<b>Saturday</b>	4:00 PM	<b>Lector:</b> Scott Bohn
<b>January</b>	Richardton	
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	7:00 PM	<b>Lector:</b> Kayla Zent
	St Stephen	
<b>Sunday,</b>	8:00 AM	<b>Lector:</b> Tina Meyer
<b>January</b>	St. Thomas	
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 AM	<b>Lector:</b> Joy Kitzan
	Richardton	

Collections for January 10, 2021	St. Mary	St. Stephen	St. Thomas
Adults	1400.00	135.00	314.00
Plate	56.00	52.00	8.00
Children	2.00		
Total	1458.00	187.00	322.00

**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 701-974-3569.

**ST. MARY PARISH**

**OUR SYMPATHY:** to the monks of Assumption Abbey on the death of Fr. Denis buried on Saturday. Fr. Denis taught in the Abbey High School and College and at the U of Mary; served at our mission in Bogota, Columbia and helped in various parishes over the years.

**OUR SYMPATHY:** to the family of Joan Zimmerman who died on Tuesday afternoon. Her funeral will be here on Monday @ 9:30. May the angels lead her to paradise and the Good Shepherd comfort her loved ones!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Kooper and Paisley Strowbridge (Judd/Jamie) and JR Hoff (Jeremy) who will be baptized this week. We welcome them into the faith which we are proud to profess!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Family of the Month: Cary/Marilyn Lacher; Knight of the Month: Nick Procive; Not present for the \$50 Drawing: Michael Hoerner

**ST. STEPHEN PARISH**

**ST. THOMAS PARISH**

**DONATION:** someone gave us a very nice donation this Christmas and I suggest we use part of it to purchase new padded chairs with arms for our coffee/roll gatherings downstairs. You know the condition of our current chairs. Some day we will probably be able to enjoy gathering again and enjoying the delicious delicacies from your kitchens! Let me know what you think. I do have another idea or two (no surprise!) if you don't think this is a suitable use.

**ALL THREE PARISHES**

**PLEASE PRAY:** for those who are *seriously ill, terminally ill or in immediate concern:* Jim Gallagher, Ted Goelzer, Susan Cook, Margaret Wiegler, Chuck Hoff, Katie Thomas Kautzman, Leo Stein, Troy Hoff, Larry & Cindy Kostelecky, Judy Hecker, Ray Stein, Gary Goetz, Luke Olson and all those living 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.

**END-OF-YEAR:** Pam will be working on your end-of-year financial statements soon and getting them to you in the mail. Thanks for your patience.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** Monday, Jan. 25 @ Richardton American Legion Hall from 12:45-6:30. Call Judy Roll to schedule your appointment 974 3438.

**PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES:** We have a few extra pictorial directories available for \$20. We also have available the "History in Records" book (a history of the Baptismal, Marriage and Death Registers of Sts. Mary, Stephen, Thomas and Philipp parishes from their founding). It is over 100 pages in length and available for \$20 at the office or after weekend Masses. Books are available by mail for \$23.00; make checks payable to: St. Mary Parish.

**OFFICE HOURS:** remain reduced these days, so be sure to call ahead if you need to see Pam or Fr. Thomas.

**PARISH WEBSITE:** www.stmaryrichardton.com. The weekly bulletin is included on the website and is normally posted on Mondays.

**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 Offertory procession but a collection is taken where long handle baskets are available. Baskets will be used for people who prefer to drop their offerings when they come or leave Mass.

Weddings and Funerals are permitted but maintaining social distancing. Vigil Services and Visitation are allowed in the funeral homes only; no funeral luncheons in parish facilities.

Bishop Kagan will not issue a mandatory mask requirement for Mass but leaves the decision to wear a mask or not, to individuals and pastors. So...if anyone feels they want to, or should, wear a mask to Mass, they are welcome to do so. We need to continue to be vigilant about protecting others, along with ourselves.

#### **FROM THE PASTOR:**

Thank you all for your generous financial support of your parish during the Christmas Season and this past year, and for those who made donations to your parish endowments. Every bit helps and FYI, gifts to the endowments can be given at any time of the year.

Friday is the day the church sets aside as the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children" and marks the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade legislation legalizing abortion. Please feel free to come to Mass that morning or stop in St. Mary Church, individually or as a small group, to pray the rosary or other prayers for this intention. If you choose the latter, be mindful that the monks are praying 11:30 - noon, 5:00 - 6:00; 7:00 - 7:30 and 8:00-8:30.

A "heads up invitation" to join the KC's in praying the rosary for the health and holiness of family life in our parishes and in our country following the 10:00 St. Mary Mass on January 31. For those not joining in, please visit outside so as not to disturb the prayer. And thanks KC's for leading us in this worthy intention.

It was nice to welcome back our Rel. Ed students last week. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are working extra hard to learn their prayers and the "how to-s" of going to Confession. Keep them in your prayers. They will celebrate their 1<sup>st</sup> Confession following the 10:00 St. Mary Mass on January 24. Their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion will be on Sunday, May 2 at the 10:00 St. Mary Mass (and 8:00 St. Stephen Mass for their parishioners). We thank the teachers for their diligent work in preparing the students and the parents for reinforcing the teachings. The Confirmation kids are also preparing to celebrate their Confirmation on Sunday, May 9 at the 10:00 St. Mary Mass.

We, that is, Michelle Tormaschy, our Director of Religious Education applied for a Diocesan grant to help fund a new laptop computer for her office and projector screen/stand for use with the Religious Ed classes (\$750). Last week we were awarded \$337 toward this need. We are grateful to the Diocese for this grant and for the grants we have received in the past.

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 (332 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

A thought: Christianity is an everyday faith not just a Sunday obligation.

Finally, some realities of aging: the older I get, the earlier it gets late. To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it. I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.

Enjoy a wind-free week!

Fr. Thomas, OSB

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Jan. 18** Martin Luther King Day  
Baptism: Hoff & Strowbridge
- Jan. 22** Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
- Jan. 24** 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation following St. Mary 10:00 Mass
- Jan. 25** 12:45-6:30 pm Richardton Blood Drive @ Legion Hall
- Jan. 31** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary following 10:00 St. Mary Mass
- Febr. 17** ASH WEDNESDAY
- Mar. 28** PALM SUNDAY
- April 4** EASTER SUNDAY

