

March 7, 2021

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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.

Table with Mass Schedule details for Monday through Sunday, including times, locations (Richardton, St. Stephen, St. Thomas), and celebrants (Leonard Hoff, Bob & Marge Buresh, Frieda Klein, Ron Frederick, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Swindler, Gladys Lacher, Julie Wordekemper, Jacob Focht, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kostelecky & Ron Kostelecky, Blake Sickler, Catherine Kearnes).

Mass Schedule and Ministers: Saturday, March 13th & Sunday, March 14th

Table with Mass Schedule and Ministers for Saturday, March 13th and Sunday, March 14th, including times, locations, and lecturers (Susan Cook, Michaela Mitchell, Lisa Sickler, Joy Kitzan).

Table with Collections for February 28, 2021, showing amounts for St. Mary, St. Stephen, and St. Thomas across categories: Adults, Plate, Children, and Total.

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: each Friday @ 6:00 pm in church.

ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT: we abstain from eating meats.

CONFESSIONS: every Monday night from 6-7 pm.

EASTER FLOWERS: Donations for Easter flowers can be put in an envelope and dropped in the collection or dropped by the office. Thanks for your help to decorate our beautiful church for the Easter season.

AS IN THE PAST: we will be celebrating the 3:00 pm Good Friday and 8:00 pm Easter Vigil (Saturday evening) Liturgies with the monks.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11. Rosary begins at 6:50 PM with meeting to follow. Agenda: Plan Cajun Turkey Supper. Lunch: Joy Kitzan, Jessi Olson & Ann Loran.

KC MEETING: Thursday night. Rosary at 6:30 followed by meeting, drawings and luncheon. Hope to see you there!

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS: this Sunday, March 7th @ 1:30 PM in the meeting room upstairs. Program: Palm Braiding. Lunch: Judy Frederick & Michelle Tormaschy. Entertainment: Maria Harasty & Bernie Staudinger.

ST. STEPHEN PARISH

LITURGY OF THE WORD: this morning. Thanks Missy and helpers.

LENT: Stations followed by Mass will be on Thursday @ 6:30.

ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT: we abstain from eating meats.

COFFEE/ROLLS: Sunday, March 21 following Mass. Thanks everyone for feeding us!

CONFESSIONS: I will be available for Confessions here in the sacristy on Tuesday, March 9 from 5-7 pm.

ST. THOMAS PARISH

LENT: Stations followed by Mass will be on Friday @ 6:30.

ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT: we abstain from eating meats.

VOLUNTEER: Thanks Kathy Goelzer for washing and ironing the server robes.

CONFESSIONS: I will be available for Confessions here on Tuesday, March 16 from 5-7 pm.

COFFEE/ROLLS: Sunday, March 14 following Mass. Thanks ladies, and men!

ALL THREE PARISHES

PLEASE PRAY: for those who are seriously ill, terminally ill or in immediate concern: Barbara Hoff, Blake Sickler, Ted Goelzer, Susan Cook,

Margaret Wiegler, Chuck Hoff, Katie Thomas Kautzman, Leo Stein, Troy Hoff, Larry & Cindy Kostelecky, Ray Stein, Gary Goetz, Luke Olson and all those living with various cancers, those dealing with CO-VID19 in any way and our residents in nursing and assisted living homes.

CHANGES! CHANGES! CHANGES!: We received a letter from Bishop Kagan Febr. 3 stating, **“The obligation to attend Sunday/Holy Day Mass is reestablished beginning February 20-21, 2021.”** Also, *“if your parish or parish group wants to have an event or dinner, I leave to your (the pastor’s) best pastoral discretion how to manage that keeping in mind precautions for hand cleansing, and the cooking and serving of food and the capabilities of your parish facilities.”*

OTHER CHANGES beginning Feb. 20-21: spacing in Church is eliminated; Funeral Vigils and Visitations before Mass may be in the Church at the Pastor’s discretion; EME’s may resume at the Pastor’s discretion for Parish Masses only; Mass Servers at the discretion of the Pastor and with the permission of parents may resume; choirs for parish Masses may resume participation with the usual numbers; Holy Water may be put into the fonts of the Church; Penance Services are allowed but only with the use of screens.

NO CHANGES: Holy Communion under one species of the Consecrated Host only; the Sign of Peace remains suspended; no Offertory procession with the gifts; no face-to-face Confessions.

I would urge us to remain cautious and mindful of others whose health may be compromised in any way. Those who wish to continue wearing masks and to distance are welcome to do so. Deacon Robert and I will continue to wear masks for the time being when distributing Holy Communion.

RICHARDTON-TAYLOR COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE: Monday, March 29th at the American Legion in Richardton from 1:00 – 6:00 PM. Sponsored by: Richardton KC Council #4185. Appointments can be scheduled by contacting Judy Roll @ 974-3438 or online @ www.bloodhero.com sponsor code: Richardton.

30th ANNUAL CAJUN TURKEY SUPPER/RAFFLE: sponsored by the Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus will be held on Saturday, March 20 @ St. Mary Social Center. Serving will be from 4:30-6:30 pm. Take out will be available as well as dine in.

CORAZON: for marriages in crisis will be Apr. 30- May 2. Call Amanda @ 701 204 7205 or bismarckdiocese.com/corazon to register or for more information about this excellent opportunity.

OFFICE HOURS: remain flexible, 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.

FROM THE PASTOR:

From Bishop Kagan this week: The recently approved (FDA 2-27-2021) vaccine produced by Janssen/Johnson & Johnson used abortion-derived cell lines in the design, development, production and lab testing. This Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine is morally compromised and therefore unacceptable for any Catholic physician or healthcare worker to dispense and for any Catholic to receive due to its direct connection to the intrinsically evil act of abortion. No one should use or receive this vaccine but there is no justification for any Catholic to do so. Two morally acceptable vaccines are available and may be used. As always, no one is bound to receive this vaccine, but it remains an individual and informed decision.

In keeping with the solemn nature of Lent, the church directs that no “extra” music, i.e. instrumental alone, is to be used at Mass. Thus no preludes, interludes or postludes are permitted. I would also suggest that we not sing a recessional hymn and depart in quiet to help us keep the penitential nature of this season before us. The Gloria and Alleluia are not sung during Lent and we won’t ring the tower bells before Mass. This can help make the Easter season more joyful.

You should have received the letter I sent to you encouraging you to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession this Lent. To help you in that holy deed I will be in the St. Mary confessional from 6-7 pm for Confession on the Mondays of Lent. Or feel free to make an appointment. I will also make myself available at St. Stephen (Mar. 9 from 5-7 pm) and St. Thomas (Mar. 16 from 5-7 pm). *Thank you to those who are taking advantage of this wonderful Sacrament of Healing.*

The African Mission Appeal envelope was attached to the Bulletin last weekend. Please **drop your envelope in the collection, or drop it off at the office**. This annual appeal helps fund the good work being done by Fr. David Morman of our Diocese and his crew for the Diocesan Mission in Kisii Africa. Your generous support is greatly appreciated. A brief video is available at bismarckdiocese.com/african-mission or youtu.be/rPuNtc17t8c Thank you!

I do appreciate how so many of you remained faithful to Sunday and daily Mass this past pandemic year. It is a testament to your love of God and your faithfulness to give him praise and honor. And I thank you for continuing to support the Parishes with your time, talent and treasure during this upside down and backward sort of year. God bless you with every good thing. We are not out of danger yet, so please continue to be careful and respectful.

REMEMBER: GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FASTING & ABSTAINING: No meat; 1 main meal and 2 lesser meals that do not equal 1 full meal may be taken; no eating between meals. **ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT** are days of **abstaining from eating meat**.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: Inclusive of 1897-1900 there were 46 burials at St. Mary Cemetery and **35 of the dead were under the age of 20!** How times have changed. On the other hand during those same years there were 292 Baptisms. What a busy pastor! The building the parish used was only a 24 x 40 frame church with exterior wooden supports on the bracing the walls. It must have been scary on windy days!

2021 marks the 125th anniversary of St. Mary Parish. I want to try to include some interesting historical tidbits for you to enjoy this year in the new **“FROM THE ARCHIVES”** section of the Bulletin. Sts. Stephen and Thomas celebrated 120 years in 2020 so I will also try to include things from their past on occasion as well. I hope you find it interesting.

Finally, easy reminder for Lent: Pray more, do more and eat less.

Fr. Thomas, OSB

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar. 7 Liturgy of the Word @ St. Stephen
- Mar. 8 Confessions @ St. Mary 6-7 pm
- Mar. 9 Confessions @ St. Stephen 5-7 pm
- Mar. 11 6:30 Stations/Mass @ St. Stephen
St. Mary KC: 6:30 Rosary followed by mtg.
Catholic Daughters: 6:50 Rosary followed by mtg.
- Mar. 12 6:00 Stations of the Cross @ St. Mary
6:30 Stations/Mass @ St. Thomas
- Mar. 13 4:00 Confirmation students lead Rosary before Mass @ St. Mary
- Mar. 14 St. Thomas Coffee/Rolls
St. Thomas KC mtg.
- Mar. 15 Confessions @ St. Mary 6-7 pm
- Mar. 16 Confessions @ St. Thomas 5-7 pm
- Mar. 20 Cajun Turkey Supper @ St. Mary Social Center 4:30-6:30
- Mar. 21 St. Stephen Coffee/Rolls
- Mar. 28 PALM SUNDAY
10:00 Children’s Mass @ St. Mary
- Mar. 31 7:00 pm LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS @ St. Mary (by Confirmation students)
- April 1 HOLY THURSDAY
4:00 St. Thomas
7:00 St. Mary
- April 2 GOOD FRIDAY
1:00 St. Stephen
3:00 St. Mary
- April 3 EASTER VIGIL 8:00 pm @ St. Mary
- April 4 EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 am St. Stephen

8:00 am St. Thomas

10:00 am St. Mary & Nora Tormaschy (Toby/Heidi) Baptism