

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



Greetings from Fr. John:

This Fourth Sunday of Advent invites us to have the willingness to respond to God's call and the openness to do His will. Today's readings suggest that Christmas should inspire us to carry out God's Word as Mary and Joseph did, in perfect obedience to His will. We need to carry Jesus to others as Mary did. Christmas is the ideal time for us to be filled with the Spirit of Christ, allowing his rebirth within us. Once Christ is reborn in us, He enables us to share his love with all whom we encounter by offering them humble & committed service, unconditional forgiveness and compassionate love. Let us take the time to visit others during Christmas season, especially the sick and shut-ins, to bring some inspiration into their lives, and hopefully to bring them closer to God. We need to recognize the Real Presence of the *Emmanuel* (God is with us) in the Holy Eucharist, in the Bible, in the Sacraments, and in the praying community. The hill country of Judea is right here in our surroundings. Let us convey Jesus to people around us by our acts of love, kindness and forgiveness.

**God Bless you and Merry Christmas.
Have a great celebration.**

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23rd, 2018

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 Survalken
E-Mail: frjohnstmsjt@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: PrK-6: Amanda Wiener
7-12: Lori Baletad
Pastoral Council Choir: 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

St. Mary's Mass & Intentions

Mon., Dec. 24 5pm Mass, Martha Agnes+
Tues., Dec. 25 8:30 am Mass, Annamuel+
Fri., Dec. 28 8:30 am Mass, Susan Agnes+
Sun., Dec. 30 8:30 am Mass, For the Parishes

St. Joseph's, Bagley, Mass & Intentions

Mon., Dec. 24 8pm Mass, Theres Neil
Tues., Dec. 25 10:30am Mass,
Perry Lovot, Earl & Pearl Madro+
Thur., Dec. 27 10:30 am Mass, Survalken+
Sun., Dec. 30 10:30am Mass, Allen Thoir+

**There will be Adoration on Wednesday,
Dec. 26th, Noon-7:30pm
Please come & enjoy some time with Jesus.**

**New Year Day, January 1st, 8:30am Mass.
Holy Day of Obligation**

Birthdays

Dec 24 Jared Agnes
Dec 28 Troy Palmer

Anniversaries

Dec 29 Connie & Chet Smeby

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 share!

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR:

Nash Rosendahl, Hannah Keller, Harper Hand,
Linda Klindhammer, Brady Jones, Betty Bingham,
Lou Oamundson, Kaylea, Sharon Rein, Kristi
Maraska, Wayne Paulson, Paul Silver, Sarah Ryan
Walcker, Josh Martinson, Fr. Don Brankmann,
Sally Hanson, Roger Scharandreich, Nora Ann
Lantz, Lori Jurik, Rick Miller, Debbie Martin,
Kristin Litzinger, Vernon Kloppe, James Bingham,
Gary Ebling, Dean Vikan, Albie St. Pierre,
Brandi Steffen, John Keller, Georgia Miller,
Eileen Hegg, Richard Parent, Dennis Ouzang,
Tracy Kozitka

"May you touch them and heal them, O Lord!"

MASS INTENTIONS: Please note with your
donation whether intention is for a deceased or
living person. Suggested donation is still \$5.00.

Gluten-free hosts available: Please stop by the
sacristy before Mass to let Fr. know your need.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

The readings for next Sunday, Dec. 30, 2018
1 Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28, Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10, 1
John 3:1-2, 21-24, Luke 2: 41-52

When you are not sure if you are on the schedule
for **LITURGICAL MINISTRY** go to
<https://stmarysfosston.org/>. The bulletin is also
available there. Check it out.

TEC Retreat:

Feb. 16-18 at St. Joseph's, Moorhead
March 16-18 at Sandhill Bible Camp, Fosston
Open to all students 16 years of age and older.
Terry Steen at sjchurchlady@yahoo.com
or 218-784-4131 with any questions

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE):

PreK-12 grades RE class after Sunday Mass
9:45-10:45 AM as scheduled

Youth group, Grd 7-12 meet Wed., Jan. 9 & Jan 23,
6-8 PM. Supper provided.

Friday class for grades K-6 at 8:30-9:30 AM.

No Friday School December 28th.

For grades 7-12 Lori Balstad at 218-938-4286

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

The Students will be ministering at Mass one
Sunday of each month. We welcome their help.
For questions contact Lori.

You're still welcome to join Religious Education
any time.

"God created man in his own image" (Genesis
1:27). May our understanding of this fact bring
about a clarity that fills us with a love that honors
the dignity of all life. May we live out the
commandment: "You shall love the Lord your
God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your strength, and with all your mind;
and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).

FREE Check it out

Go to: Formed.org, Parish code: TGVHW3

Register for Catholics at the Capitol NOW!

Actor Jim Caviezel (The Passion of the Christ,
Paul, Apostle of Christ, Pay It Forward) will be
joining an already stellar line-up of speakers and
artists at Catholics at the Capitol on February
19th. Consider attending this great event, joining
two thousand Catholics across the state of
Minnesota, as we make our voice known to
policy makers. The Diocese of Crookston will
be providing transportation to this event.

Information on Catholics at the Capitol can be
found here: <https://catholicatthecapitol.org/>

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends:

April 5-7, 2019 in Baster, MN and Sep. 20-22,
2019 in Alexandria, MN. For more information
call Alan & Missy Block at 888-455-3496
or go to northmnswwme.org

Saturday, January 26th, Save the Date!
The Diocese of Crookston will be hosting a workshop from 10 am – 4 pm for youth ministers, catechists, priests, and volunteers who work with young people in ministry. The workshop will be led by Everett Fritz, author of *The Art of Forming Young Disciples*, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fosston. The workshop is for anyone working with young people; youth ministers, catechists, priests, parents, volunteers! Cost is \$10.00 per person (payable at the door) lunch provided. Email Bob Noel at bnobel@crookston.org for questions. Register at: <https://www.crookston.org/everett>

REMEMBRANCE TREE is in honor of loved ones who have died. The decorating committee has set up a remembrance tree in the gathering area. Please help us decorate it by bringing in a special ornament which reminds everyone of your loved one. There are tags available for you to mark their names before placing on the tree. Bring as many as you wish! You will take your ornament(s) home after the holidays. Let this be a loving reminder of those we are missing during this Christmas season!

St. Joseph, Ada, St. William and Holy Family would like to invite our Parish to their Parish Mission on Sunday, January 20th through Wednesday, January 23rd. Each evening will be 6:30 PM – 8 PM. Refreshments will be served following each night. Sunday, January 20 a free will donation meal will be served prior at 5:30pm. Check Bulletin Board.

Benefit for Julie Kraeger to purchase a Ramp to help her stay in her home. Donations can be sent to 1st National bank, Fosston. See bulletin board.

St. Stephen: Feastday December 26th. Patron of Deacons, altar Servers, bricklayers, casket makers & stonemasons. One of the first ordained deacons of the Church and also the first Christian martyr. Word "martyr" means "witness".

Save the Date: Everyone is invited to help the Sisters of Saint Benedict Monastery celebrate their 100th Anniversary on Sunday, April 8, 2019 with a concert by Rose Ensemble. On Sunday, Sept 15th, join them for Eucharist followed by a reception. Go to www.msbn.net to meet the Sister of the Day for a peek behind the veil.

"Stand in silence before the crib, this is the Christmas invitation. Take some time to do this: Go to the Nativity scene and be silent. And you will feel, you will see the surprise. It will not be Christmas if we seek the blinding lights of the world, if we fill ourselves with presents, lunches and dinners, but we do not help at least one poor person who resembles God because on Christmas, God arrived poor. Each of us has hidden in our heart the ability to be surprised. Let's be surprised by Jesus this Christmas!" Pope Francis, Dec. 18, 2018.

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCCL)
March for Life & Rally: Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019 in Bagley. Meet at the Court House back parking lot at 9:30 AM. March starts at 9:45 AM, march on the sidewalk down to highway 2 and west to St. Joseph's Church. Or just come to the church at 10 AM. Speaker from NW Pregnancy Center.

Christmas Season Decorations

Please make our Christmas season special by donating toward the decorations (trees, wreaths, poinsettias) in honor/memory of a loved one. Please fill out below & put it in a special envelope marked "Christmas flowers" & put in the offertory basket. Thank you.

Your Name _____
In Memory of _____
Amount _____

Christmas Eve, MONDAY MASS AT 5 PM

LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 24, 2018

Ushers: Dennis Sanden, Phil Schenckler

Gifts: Ben & Melissa Hamberger Family

Lector: Michele Schoenborn

Commentator: Amanda Smith

Eucharist: Jeanne Sanden, Carol Asland,

Doug Schoenborn, Linda Blaser

Servers: Isaac & Emily Chalich,

Dana Schoenborn

Hospitality: None. *Merry Christmas*

Christmas Day, TUESDAY MASS AT 8:30 AM

LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 25, 2018

Ushers: Jerry Erdmann, Harlee Bingham

Gifts: Alice Balstad, Dorothy Paulson

Lector: Nina Bingham

Commentator: Clyde Kringlen

Eucharist: Mark Bingham, Clyde Kringlen,

Kathryn Ziemmer

Servers: Grant & Logan Hamberger, Ellis Wisner

Hospitality: None. *Merry Christmas*

LITURGICAL MINISTRY Dec. 30, 2018

Ushers: Doug Schoenborn, John Blaser

Gifts: David Holzer Family

Lector: Clyde Kringlen

Commentator: Michele Schoenborn

Eucharist: Mark Bingham, John Keller,

Gabe Wisner, Linda Blaser

Servers: Harlee Bingham, Trent Balstad,

Jesse Worthak

Hospitality: Mark & Nina Bingham, Tom Weber

Holy Day of Obligation, Mass 8:30am

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

LITURGICAL MINISTRY Jan. 1, 2019

Ushers: John Blaser, Harlee Bingham

Gifts: David & Valerie Holzer

Lector: Nina Bingham

Commentator: Clyde Kringlen

Eucharist: Mark Bingham, Linda Blaser,

Doug & Michelle Schoenborn

Servers: Grace & Genevieve Rna, Darion Holzer

Hospitality: None. *Happy New Year*

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed Weekly: \$ 2403.67

Last Week's Collections:

43 Adult Envelopes: \$ 1760.00

8 Children/Student Donations \$ 10.00

Loose \$ 114.00

Total Sunday Collection \$2384.00

Flowers \$ 25.00

Retired Religious \$ 40.00

Capital Improvement \$ 50.00

Capital Improvement Balance \$ 6017.21

There are now 4 Eucharistic Ministers scheduled for each Sunday Mass, but more volunteer Ministers are needed on the list to pick from. This would help so that the same Ministers are not serving so often each month.

Pray about being a Eucharistic Minister.

Also, Bazaar Committee Leader is needed.

Contact Fr. John at 435-6484

Please make any donations you want included in your 2018 stewardship report by December 31. Consider making a year-end gift to the building fund for improving our facilities - windows, sound, flooring, painting, etc.

2019 Calendars

Please help yourself to the 2019 calendars featuring "Inside the Vatican". Carlin-Hoalman Funeral Home has been providing these calendars for us for many years. Please let them know of our appreciation by signing the Christmas card in the social hall.

THANK YOU to St. Mary's Youth Group and leaders for the beautiful caroling you did last Wednesday evening at your Service Family Homes. Also, Thanks for the fruit baskets. Merry Christmas to you all.

Advent Giving Project 2018

Please return your unwrapped items Today. Thank You for being so generous.