



SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NATIVITY CHURCH OF FARGO

1825 11th St S, Fargo, ND 58103 Located at the Corner of University Drive and 18th Ave S.

**NATIVITY CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FROM
 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.
 FOR PRIVATE PRAYER SUNDAY TO SATURDAY.**

PARISH OFFICE: 701-232-2414
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
 Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK:
www.nativitycatholicchurch.net
 'Like' us on Facebook:
Nativity Church of Fargo
EMAIL: office@nativitycatholicchurch.net

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES:
SATURDAY: 8:00 AM & 5:00 PM
SUNDAY: 7:45, 9:15, & 11:00 AM
MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
SATURDAY: 3:30-4:30 P.M.
OR CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
 Infant baptism preparation:
 Contact Chris Steffan 232-2414 (ext. 127)
 to register for sessions.

For information regarding the adult
 process, please contact Chris Steffan
 232-2414 (ext. 127)

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:
 Contact the parish office (232-2414) at least
 6 months in advance of the wedding date.

PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS:
EUCCHARISTIC COMMUNAL ADORATION:
SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

**EUCCHARISTIC CHAPEL IS OPEN FOR
 PRIVATE PRAYER 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.
 SUNDAY-SATURDAY**

PRAYER CHAIN
SANDI GRUHOT, 235-6408



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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*"I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living."
 ~ cf. Psalms 116:9*

PARISH NEWS

LITURGY AT NATIVITY: REMARKS FROM FR. BILL

*If you are returning after the summer, you will notice that servers are again assisting the priest at the altar. Also, since the number of attendees generally begins to increase in September, one Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC), if Deacon Bruce is not present, is now being scheduled to distribute Communion to the west section. The EMHC, like the priests and deacon, will wear a face covering and sanitize his or her hands before distributing Communion.

*A reminder that the lingering Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in Bishop Folda continuing to suspend the distribution of the chalice to the lay faithful that began with the onset of the pandemic last year

*There is a wide variety of opinions regarding Covid-19. I encourage each of you to consider wearing a face covering when you are near to others at Mass, given U.S. Centers for Disease Control guidelines. Whatever your feelings around this issue, I appreciate the respect Nativity parishioners have shown and continue to show to each other.

RECEIVE THE DIVINE RAYS OF HIS GRACE, HIS LOVE, HIS PEACE ~ CF. POPE PAUL VI

Come and spend the most peaceful hour of your week with Jesus. Starting Monday, September 13, adoration will begin at 8:35 a.m. (after morning Mass) to 7:00 p.m. Our goal is to have at least 3 on a time slot. At this time all time slots have at least one or 2 adorers, however the 12:00-1:00 p.m. time has no adorers.

Please let us know if you would like to spend the most peaceful hour of the week with Jesus. Subs are also needed. Adoration is on Mondays only.

Contact Fr. Anthony or Bev in the parish office at 701-232-2414 or bevn@nativitycatholicchurch.net

BECOME PART OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

To help serve our parish family in the best possible way, we encourage people to become registered members of Nativity. It is simple and quite painless. If you are new to town and have been here to worship a few times or attend Mass regularly at Nativity, please consider registering. You can pick up a registration form from the Information Center in Mercy Hall or download the form from our parish website (www.nativitycatholicchurch.net and then click on *Get Involved*). This information is kept private and is for parish ministry use only.



THE CHOSEN

The Chosen will meet again Monday, September 13, at 9:00 a.m. in the Bethlehem Room. Please join us to watch Season 2 episode 4. If you are unable to join us but would like to watch The Chosen, please go to TheChosen.tv and download the app. This crowd-funded series is well-matched with the scripture stories and will enrich your understanding of the nuances of life in the time of Jesus.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Nativity Cancer Support Group will be meeting Monday, September 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the Nazareth Room. If you have received a diagnosis of cancer, are on chemotherapy or need support you are welcome to the meeting. Do not hesitate to come. You may bring your spouse or a friend. We are a small friendly group traveling down the same road. Both women and men are welcomed. You do not need to make an appointment, just show up.

Any questions, please call Sr. Sharon Houle at 701-232-2414 ext. 126.

END OF LIFE ISSUES

There will be a presentation on "End of Life Issues" Thursday, September 23, 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Nativity Nazareth Room. Topics covered will include Pain Management, Nutrition and Hydration, DNR, and ordinary extraordinary care according to Catholic Moral Teaching. This is an opportunity to get your questions answered, and assistance in completing your Advance Directive for Health Care. All are welcome. Registration not necessary. Questions, call Sister Sharon 701-232-2414 ext. 126.



BULLETIN ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

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PARISH AND AREA NEWS

PASTOR'S NOTES

Who is Jesus? A good starting point for us to answer this question is the Creed we recite each weekend at Mass: the Only Begotten Son, consubstantial with the Father; our Savior Incarnate who died, rose, ascended into heaven and who will return in glory. When St. Peter faced this question in this weekend's Gospel, he answered simply, "You are the Christ." Last August, when we heard this same account from the sixteenth chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel, I noted here that Peter's answer, the Christ, is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word "Messiah," meaning anointed. There are many other names used for Jesus in the Gospels. At the beginning of St. Luke's Gospel, the angel Gabriel tells Mary that the child she will bear will be called Jesus, which translated from the Hebrew means: God saves. At the beginning of St. Matthew's Gospel, an angel appears to Joseph, and tells him that the son to be born to Mary would fulfill the prophecy of one who shall be called Emmanuel, which translated from the Hebrew means: God is with us. In his adult life, Jesus is addressed as Lord, the Lamb of God, and Jesus the prophet, among other titles. Jesus usually refers to himself as the Son of Man. St. Matthew, in the fourth chapter of his Gospel describing the beginning of his public ministry, describes Jesus as one who went around teaching, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing people.

Next weekend in the United States, we will celebrate Catechetical Sunday. This year's theme is: "Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed." We speak these words at every Eucharistic Liturgy, as the priest shows the Body and Blood to the people, right before Communion is distributed. The sentence is derived from the Gospel account of a Roman Centurion who expresses his faith that Jesus can heal his ailing servant: "Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed" (Matthew 8:8). Catechists place their gifts in service to the Church to assist parents to fulfill the responsibility they accepted at the baptism of their child to bring him or her up "so that, keeping God's commandments, he/she may love the Lord and his/her neighbor as Christ has taught us." Parents are the first catechists of their children, and so we celebrate them next weekend. As I noted here last weekend, we are all catechists in some measure by witnessing to the Gospel by our lives. In some parts of the world, catechists play an important role in leading the parish community, which may be visited by a priest only once a month, or even less often. Though our situation in most of the United States is different, catechists here play an important role in assisting priests in their teaching role. Pope Francis recently wrote a document on catechists, noting: "The role played by catechists is one specific form of service among others within the Christian community." As children grow, their understanding of who Jesus is continues to grow through the witness of parents and catechists alike.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. Bill



DREAM MANAGER BOOK READ DISCUSSION

A couple of months ago, the book *Dream Manager*, by Matthew Kelly, was given away to those interested in reading it. Some were intrigued by the concepts of the book and were interested in talking more about them. Because of this, we are setting up a time to discuss the possibility of whether the concepts of the book would be applicable in the church setting as far as helping people reach their life's dreams whatever they may be. Please join us for our book read discussion of *Dream Manager* on Tuesday, September 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Nazareth Room.

RCIA

RCIA, the process of becoming a Catholic, is moving back to its usual day and time of Sundays from 9:00 to 10:45 a.m. in the Nazareth Room. Sunday classes will begin on September 26 and continue on consecutive Sundays unless otherwise noted. If you are interested in joining the class, please contact Chris Steffan for more information. RCIA is for those who are unbaptized adults, for those who were raised in another faith tradition but are wishing to explore becoming Catholic, or those who are baptized Catholic but have not completed their initiation sacraments. Contact Chris at 701-232-2414 ext. 127 or chriss@nativitycatholicchurch.net

JESUS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life Evening Class will meet beginning Monday, September 13, and continue to November 22 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *Jesus: The Way the Truth and the Life* is a new and fresh look at Jesus—who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, and what he did for our salvation. This encounter with Christ will inspire and empower you to center your entire life around him as you come to know and love him in an ever-deeper and more intimate way. The series presenters are Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri. The series has 10 sessions. Please contact Chris to register. Email at chriss@nativitycatholicchurch.net

STEWARDSHIP MOMENTS

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." - Mark 8:34

Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for my own life, but for the lives of others as well. We realize that our gifts are not intended for ourselves, rather they are meant to be shared with others. "Taking up my cross" means doing things when someone else needs me and not when it's convenient for me.

PARISH AND AREA NEWS

FAITH COMMUNITY

The Wedding Feast Matthew 22:1-14

~ Sister Sharon Houle

A king gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent them out, telling them, "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast." Some ignored the invitation, some went to their farm, others to their business. Some mistreated the servants, killed them. The king was enraged: he destroyed the murderers and burned their city. "The feast is ready, go out into the main roads and invite whomever you find. The servants went out, gathered all they found, the good and the bad; the hall was filled with guests. The king came in to meet the guests; he saw a man without a wedding garment. "My friend how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?" He was reduced to silence. The king had him bound hands and feet and cast into darkness outside where there is wailing and grinding of teeth. Matthew 22:1-14.

God is the king. The wedding feast is for his Son, Jesus. The wedding feast takes place in the kingdom of heaven in honor of the Son. It is a celebration of the union of Christ with the Church. We are invited by God to celebrate this union of Christ and his Church forever in the feast of heaven.

Those who are initially invited refused the invitation; they prefer the kingdom of this world to the kingdom of God. Their sin is their indifference to God's call to live for him, to make God their end in life. They go so far as to persecute and kill God's messengers, the prophets; they do not want to hear the message and be challenged. The king is cut to the heart, at the core of his being, anger flares up and he destroys the murderers.

Another invitation goes out to anyone who will accept it, until the hall is filled with guests. The Apostles proclaim the word, extend the invitation to all. The king does not select who he wants at the feast; the invitation goes to everyone. God does not compel the salvation of anyone. He allows us to exercise our free will. God gives sufficient grace to every soul to accept the invitation to eternal life, union with God, in the heavenly kingdom.

The king comes to meet the guests and finds one man without a wedding garment. Even though the man was invited he still was expected to prepare for the feast, by wearing a wedding garment. We need to clothe ourselves with the garment of charity, love of God and love of neighbor. Our entire life is a preparation for the eternal banquet; life in the Church is the gift that the Lord has given us to prepare for the wedding, so that it will be a home coming for us, and not a gathering of strangers. There are two parts to this message, getting invited to the feast and being allowed to stay. "Many are invited, but few are chosen." Matthew 22:14. Salvation is a process by which we are made ready for heaven; good works for the sake of God clothe us, make us ready for the heavenly feast.



**"ENTRUSTED TO YOUR CARE"
-FAITH HABITS FOR YOU
AND YOUR CHILD**

Triumph of the Holy Cross occurs on Tuesday this week. According to legend, St. Helena went to Jerusalem to search for the cross of Jesus. She found it on a hillside covered with basil, a green herb with a wonderful aroma. Basil is a symbol of resurrection because it sprouts in dry soil and it grows very quickly. Why not make a cross for your bedroom or in your home this week.

DON'T MISS THE SEPTEMBER 15 DEADLINE

Faith Formation registration forms for your children are due in the parish office by Wednesday, September 15. Please stop by our curriculum display in Mercy Hall to find Faith Formation registration forms and the 2021-2022 Faith Formation calendar. We are asking for parent helpers in all grades. Won't you help out this year? If you have any question you can contact Kathy at 701-232-2414 ext. 124.

ANYONE OUT THERE WHO LOVES ART AND CREATIVE LEARNING?

Here is YOUR chance to give back to YOUR parish. I envision a creative art class for our Grade 1 children this year in Faith Formation. All I need is to have YOU volunteer to work with these young children on their art projects on Wednesday evenings. All of the art materials will be available for hands-on learning. What a fun time for all! Contact person: Kathy Bourdon kathyb@nativitycatholicchurch.net



PRAY FOR THE SICK...



- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Jerry Mehlisch | Roland Luken |
| Roger Schwinghammer | Diane Genoch |
| Danuta Krasniewska | Sheila Duebbert |
| Christopher Durensky, Jr | Audra Norton |
| Greg Lacroix | Jim Foley |
| Shari Stoa | Pam Schneider |
| Joe Swiontek | Loretta Schumacher |
| Dave Barnick | Sami Mack |
| Jim Graalum | Tom Nistler |
| Lillian Meyer | Inez Rath |
| Daniel Schlicht | Joanie Gronso |
| Jean Kelso | Rita Becker Peet |
| Jim Kappel | Bill Wiekamp |
| Peggy Welle | Tom Isaac |
| Betty Barnacle | Mary Mondry |
| Gloria Bougie | |

If you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound or would like to have a family member included in the prayers for the sick, call the parish office at 701-232-2414.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10
- Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
- Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/ Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
- Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 /Lk 7:36-50
- Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3
- Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]/ Lk 8:4-15
- Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/ Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday, September 13**
8:00 AM - Joanie Gronso
- Tuesday, September 14**
8:00 AM - Gene Lucy
The Meadows - (Residents only)
- Wednesday, September 15**
8:00 AM - Chenise & John Tandsater
Villa Maria - (Residents only)
- Thursday, September 16**
8:00 AM - Eugene Zacher †
- Friday, September 17**
8:00 AM - Archie & Ruth DeMars †
- Saturday, September 18**
8:00 AM -
5:00 PM - Oscar & Leone Wold †
- Sunday, September 19**
7:45 AM - Intention of Parish
9:15 AM - Dorothy Zander †
11:00 AM - Matt Powers

**OUR GIVING OF THANKSGIVING
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**

- Adult Envelopes (77 envelopes) \$6,257.00
Plate \$142.00
Auto Deposit (Weekly Average)..... \$4,386.17
Total..... \$10,785.17
- Haiti Collection \$2,463.63**

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SERVING THE ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 18/19, 2021

	5:00 PM	7:45 AM	9:15 AM	11:00 AM
Altar Server	Lucy Motteberg Luke Motteberg	Altar Server Needed	Josephine Schwind Maggie Schwind Simon Schwind	Altar Server Needed
Greeter	James Pilat	Sr. Sharon Houle	Ryan Franchuk Family Ed Schwind Family	Greeter Needed
Usher	Bonnie Fritz Kathy Godon Maurice Godon Willy Lies	Teresa Steiner Michael Steiner Joel Simons Usher Needed	Gerald Steen Melinda Steen Michael Langseth Casinda Langseth	Remy Adarna Chin-Ann Villamil Usher Needed Usher Needed
EMHC	Wendy Paulson	EMHC Needed	Mary Blazek	Marijo Schwengler
	<i>The EMHC, like the priests and deacon, will wear a face covering and sanitize his or her hands before distributing communion</i>			
Proclaimer	Lynn Motteberg—1 Jan Kester—2	Larry Boulger—1 Brenda Lang—2	Jennifer Schwind—1 Ted Preister—2	Agnes Harrington—1 Michelle Powers—2
Sacristan	John West Naomi West	Mark Seeba	Mike O'Leary	Mike O'Leary
Musicians	Contemporary Group Chenise Tandsater	Pat Keogh Laura O'Rourke	Choir Nate/Brent	Audra Kutz Brent Hermans
Coffee & Rolls	8:00—10:30 a.m.: John & Nicole Knoll & Family 10:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.: Server Needed			

AREA NEWS

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS TO MEET

Court St. Ann #261 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, September 14, at St. Anthony's beginning with Mass at 5:15 p.m.; meal to follow (Unit 1 serving) and meeting at 6:30 p.m. Members are invited to bring non-perishable food pantry donations. If interested in CDA, please join us at our meeting. Any questions, please send an email to regentctstann@gmail.com

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The 9th Annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children Memorial Prayer service will be held at the gravesite of the unborn on Saturday, September 18, at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Cross Cemetery North, 1502 32nd Ave NW, Fargo. Fr. Scott Karnik, Parochial Vicar at Sts. Anne & Joachim Church, will lead the service. Please join us. Sponsored by the Sts. Anne & Joachim Respect Life Committee. For more information, contact Susan at 701-371-5196 or visit www.abortionmemorials

LEGION OF MARY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

The Legion of Mary will be celebrating 100 years this year. It will be a time of joy, of celebration and of thanksgiving for the millions of graces God and Our Blessed Lady have showered upon us since the foundation of Legion of Mary. The celebration will occur on Sunday, September 19, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Rosary and prayers will be said at 7:00 p.m., followed by Holy Mass at 7:30 p.m., and a social with refreshments following Mass in the Social Hall at 8:30 p.m. All are invited to attend!



FALL FESTIVAL TIME

St. Benedict Church, Wild Rice

Sunday, September 19, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Famous Ham Dinner
Adults: \$12, Children 5-12: \$6, 4 & Under: Free

St. Anthony of Padua, Fargo

Sunday, September 26, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Old-fashioned turkey dinner, 11:00 -3:00
Adults: \$12, Children: \$6, Family: \$40

St. Francis de Sales, Moorhead

Sunday, October 3, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Roast Beef Dinner
Adults: \$13, Youth 6-12: \$5, 5 & Under: Free

St. Joseph's Church, Moorhead

Sunday, October 10, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Turkey Dinner - \$15
Hot dog meal option for children - \$5

See posters on bulletin board for more Fall Festival activities for the churches listed.

4TH ANNUAL HARVEST HOPE FUNDRAISER

Jason and Lynn Kotrba, founders of Harvest Hope Farm, invite you to the 4th Annual Fundraiser on Saturday, September 18, 5:00-8:00p.m. This family friendly event is for all ages. Free will donation meal, silent auction, bake sale, kids games, llama walks and a 6:30 program!! We look forward to seeing you at the farm! For address and directions you can learn more at Home | Harvest Hope Farm harvesthopefarm.org

RETRouvaille: HELP FOR HURTING MARRIAGES

Have you and your spouse grown cold and distant from each other? Do you struggle to communicate or come together on common goals? Have past hurts built up walls of tension and distrust so big you question if they could ever come down? There is hope. Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program that has helped hundreds of thousands of hurting married couples turn the tide, find new hope, and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. Surveys have shown that 3 out of 4 couples who complete the entire program are still married five years later with stronger, healthier marriages.

Retrouvaille will be held locally October 22-24, 2021, in Fargo. For more information visit HelpOurMarriage.org or contact us at (701)356-7962 or via email at RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org

4TH ANNUAL DOWN HOME HOEDOWN

Down Home founders, Jake and Jenessa Fillipi, parishioners at Holy Spirit, invite you Kick Up Your Boots with them at the 4th Annual Hoedown Fundraiser on Sunday, September 19, at The Pines Venue. Down Home's mission is to empower lives by furnishing homes for families and individuals emerging from homelessness. DH envisions a community where everyone lives in a supported, stable, and nurturing home, and it relies on its Core Values of Faith, Dignity, Compassion, Hope, Integrity, and Collaboration to help eliminate barriers and build up God's Kingdom in the process. Come and be Boots on the Ground for the Lord. Register or donate today at www.down-home.org

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Women's Care Center is looking for special people committed to our mission, who are personable with excellent communication skills. A part-time counselor position is available.

Degreed in counseling, social work, nursing, or other service-related background is preferred. Degreed and non-degreed candidates are encouraged to apply. Will train. Please forward your resume to angela@wccnd.com or call 701-532-1928 for further details or questions.



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