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# Our Lady’s Messenger



## Traditions help us prepare for Jesus

For several years now, we have had the Advent tradition at Our Lady of Grace of asking parish families to carry forward parts of our Nativity scene during Sunday Masses. They place each item, such as a donkey or sheep, into the Nativity scene area at the front of the church. Eventually, as the weeks of Advent progress, other statues are added and, at Christmas, the Baby Jesus!

We can follow the same tradition in our homes. Place the figures of your Nativity scene around your house and move them closer to the final spot for your full Nativity scene as the Sundays go by. This tradition helps us focus on what Christmas is all about – the journey of Mary and Joseph toward Bethlehem and the great celebration of the birth of Jesus!

Fr. Maus started another tradition these past two years – inviting parishioners and guests to pray in front of the Nativity scene at the end of Mass. When the church is packed with people during Mass, we often can’t see the Nativity scene very clearly. During Advent, you are invited to come forward at the end of Mass to pray near it. Gaze at the growing scene and think about Who we anticipate seeing there in a manger on Christmas!

How can we make our traditions at home focus more clearly on the birth of Jesus? Talk with your Catholic and Christian friends about what has worked for them. Spend time in quiet prayer and ask Our Lord for ideas. Think about a faith tradition that made an impact on you as a child, and weave it into the preparations you make at home.

Being ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus begins with focusing on Him, the One who loves us more than anyone else can. May Jesus be the center of your Advent and Christmas this year! And may you be aware of His loving presence with you throughout every moment of the new year that lies ahead!

By Tanya Watterud



**Thanksgiving Mass:**

**Nov. 23, 9:00 AM**

**Immaculate Conception Mass:**

**Dec. 7, 7:00 PM**

**Dec. 8, 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM**

**Christmas Masses:**

**Christmas Eve: Sunday, Dec. 24**

**4:00 PM & 12:00 AM**

**(No 5:30 PM Mass)**

**Christmas Day: Monday, Dec. 25**

**8:30 and 10:30 AM**

Incense will be used at Midnight Christmas Eve Mass and 10:30 AM Christmas Mass.

No incense used at the 4:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve or the 8:30 AM Mass on Christmas Day.

**New Year’s Mass Schedule:**

**Dec. 31: 5:00 PM** followed by potluck & bingo.

**Jan. 1: 8:30, 10:30 AM**

PLEASE CHECK BULLETIN FOR ADDITIONAL TIMES FOR ADVENT CONFESSIONS WITH OUR PRIESTS.

**Consulte el boletín para conocer los horarios de Misas en español.**



Father Adam Maus, Pastor

## Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

### Phone:

(701) 839-6834 or  
(701) 852-3002

### Email:

church@olgminot.org

### Website:

olgminot.org

### Facebook pages:

OurLadyofGraceMinot

### Instagram:

OurLadyofGraceMinot

### YouTube:

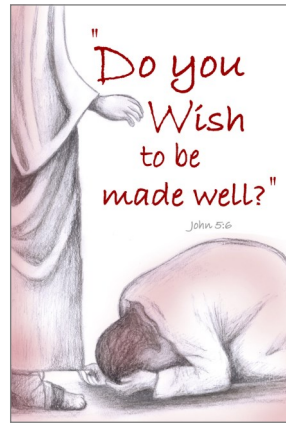
OurLadyofGraceMinot

### Our Mission:

Our Lady of Grace Parish is a community of faith that encourages stewardship through word, sacrament and service.

## Do you wish to be made well?

In John 5:6 Jesus asks the man who had been ill for thirty-eight years, *Do you want to be made well?* As we wait in joyful anticipation during the Advent season to celebrate the coming of our Savior into the world, our worship committee chose the theme, “**Do you wish to be made well?**”, to focus on the reality that God became man in order to restore us



and save us, which is impossible through our efforts alone; we need Jesus, and He has given the gift of the Church and His very self in the Sacraments in order to transform us.

Just think of the ways in which we fall short of perfection and choose sin over what is right and good. In those ways, those places of the heart, we are not yet well. If we are not being transformed in Jesus, availing ourselves of His substantial grace and mercy, we will not be made well. We are called into cooperation with God’s grace through repentance and reconciliation.

This question, “**Do you wish to be made well?**”, is one of desire. Do we desire the one who can make us well, or do we desire to fill up on things of the world that never truly satisfy, or make well? Rightly placed desire is truly efficacious, and the season of Advent is a wonderful time to rekindle holy desire and hope in the one who can truly make us well; Jesus.

The Catechism states this about the Christ child which we celebrate coming into the world: “We believe and confess that Jesus of Nazareth, born a Jew of a daughter of Israel at Bethlehem at the time of King Herod the Great and the emperor Caesar Augustus, a carpenter by trade, who died crucified in Jerusalem under the procurator Pontius Pilate during the reign of emperor Tiberius, is the eternal son of God made man. He came from God, descended from heaven, and came in the flesh. *For the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father...And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace* (Jn 1:14, 16) (CCC 423).”



We believe this, but does our desire for Him outweigh our selfish inclinations and false hopes in things less than God? To help us understand how important desire is, I am going to leave you with a homily by St. Augustine with the hope that by reading it you will want to take the opportunity this Advent to ask Jesus to show you if and where you are not well, and desire to be. We can have full faith and expectation that Jesus wants you to be well.

## Desire (By St. Augustine)

We have been promised that “we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is”. By these words, the tongue has done its best; now we must apply the meditation of the heart. Although they are words of Saint John, what are they in comparison with the divine reality?

And how can we, so greatly inferior to John in merit, add anything of our own? Yet we have received, as John has told us, an anointing by the Holy One which teaches us inwardly more than our tongue can speak. Let us turn to this source of knowledge, and because at present you cannot see, make it your business to desire the divine vision.

The entire life of a good Christian is in fact an exercise of holy desire. You do not yet see what you long for, but the very act of desiring prepares you, so that when he comes you may see and be utterly satisfied.

Suppose you are going to fill some holder or container, and you know you will be given a large amount. Then you set about stretching your sack or wineskin or whatever it is. Why? Because you know the quantity you will have to put in it and your eyes tell you there is not enough room.

By stretching it, therefore, you increase the capacity of the sack, and this is how God deals with us. Simply by making us wait he increases our desire, which in turn enlarges the capacity of our soul, making it able to receive what is to be given to us.

So, my brethren, let us continue to desire, for we shall be filled. Take note of St. Paul stretching as it were his ability to receive what is to come: “Not that I have already obtained this,” he said, “or am made perfect. Brethren, I do not consider that I have already obtained it.” We might ask him, “If you have not yet obtained it, what are you doing in this life?”

“This one thing I do”, answers Paul, “forgetting what lies behind, and stretching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the prize to which I am called in the life above”. Not only did Paul say he stretched forward, but he also declared that he pressed on toward a chosen goal. He realized in fact that he was still short of receiving what no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived.

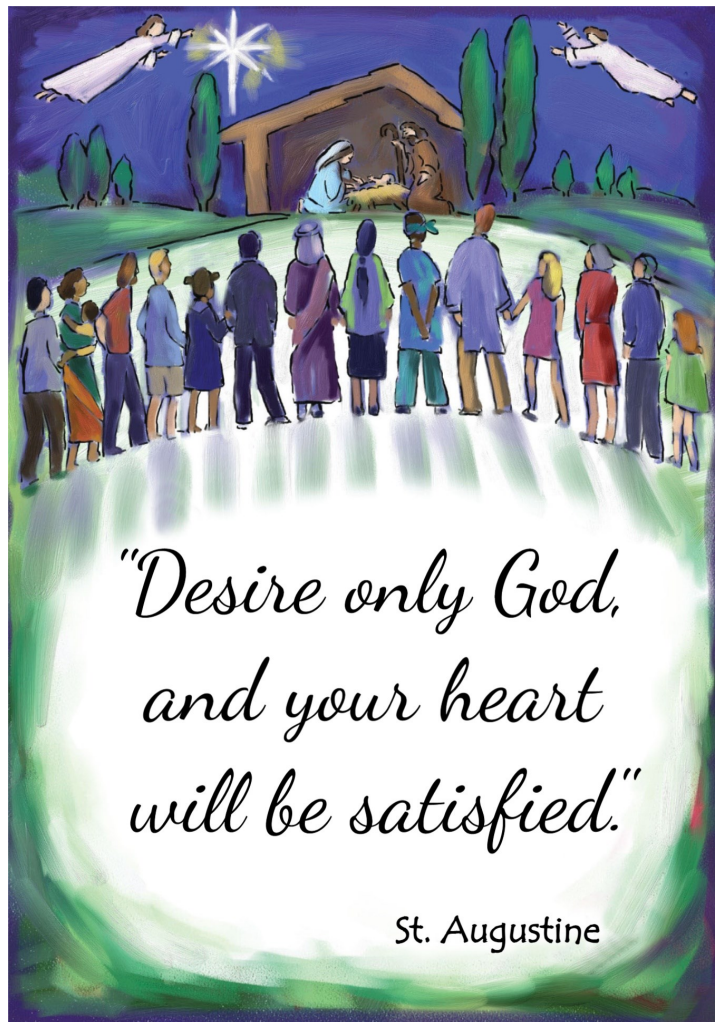
Such is our Christian life. By desiring heaven, we exercise the powers of our soul. Now this exercise will be effective only to the extent that we free ourselves from desires leading to infatuation with this world. Let me return to the example I have already used, of filling an empty container.

God means to fill each of you with what is good; so, cast out what is bad! If he wishes to fill you with honey and you are full of sour wine, where is the honey to go? The vessel must be emptied of its contents and then be cleansed. Yes, it must be cleansed even if you have to work hard and scour it. It must be made fit for the new thing, whatever it may be.

We may go on speaking figuratively of honey, gold or wine - but whatever we say we cannot express the reality we are to receive. The name of that reality is God. But who will claim that in that one syllable we utter the full expanse of our heart's desire? Therefore, whatever we say is necessarily less than the full truth. We must extend ourselves toward the measure of Christ so that when he comes he may fill us with his presence. Then we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

-St. Augustine-

By Fr. Adam Maus



*“Desire only God,  
and your heart  
will be satisfied.”*

St. Augustine

## IMPORTANT DATES

### November

**12** - 3:00 PM **Misa Española** (Spanish Mass) followed by fellowship

**17/18** - Dakota Hope Festival of Trees

**22** - No Faith Formation Classes

**23** - 9:00 AM **Thanksgiving Day Mass**

**23** - **24** Parish Office Closed

**26** - No Faith Formation Classes

**26** - 3:00 PM **Misa Española** (Spanish Mass) followed by fellowship

### December

**2** - 10:30 AM Altar Society Christmas Lunch

**3** - 8:30 AM - 12:00 NOON  
Knights of Columbus Benefit Breakfast for  
March for Life pilgrimage.

**3** - 7:00 PM **Healing Service with Fr.  
Brian Gross**

**7** - 7:00 PM **Feast of Immaculate  
Conception Vigil Mass**

**8** - 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM **Feast of  
Immaculate Conception Mass**

**8** - **Parish Office Closed**

**9** - 9:00 AM First Reconciliation #1

**9** - 10:30 AM First Reconciliation #2

**10** - 10:30 AM PreK—Grade 1 sing during  
10:30 Mass

**17** - 11:45 PM Children's Christmas Program

**22** - Parish Office Closed

**24** - No Faith Formation until 1-7-2024

**24** - 4:00 PM **Christmas Vigil Mass**

**24** - **No 5:30 PM Mass**

**24** - 12:00 AM **Christmas Midnight  
Mass**

**25** - 8:30 AM **Christmas Day Mass**

**25** - 10:30 AM **Christmas Day Mass**

**25** - Parish Office Closed

**31** - 5:00 PM **Mary, Mother of God  
Holy Day Vigil Mass**

**31** - 6:00 - 8:30 PM New Year's Eve  
Potluck Dinner and Bingo

## Heal Me, Lord

Of all the miracles recorded in the four gospels, physical healing is easily the most common. Everywhere that Jesus and his disciples traveled to, people “*brought to him all who were sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them*” (Mth 4:24). Such healings were powerful signs manifesting the highly anticipated inbreaking of God’s Kingdom which Jesus came to usher in. There are over 20+ healings recorded in the gospels, not to mention several passing comments (like the one quoted above from Matthew 4) in which the gospel writers simply record Jesus healing “*all who were brought to him.*”

In a marvelous expression of the divine goodness, our Lord did not reserve this healing ministry for himself alone, for he even

“*summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority...to cure every disease and every sickness*” (Matt 10:1). In fact, this healing ministry of Jesus continues up through our present day. This is simply because Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father in heaven Who is everywhere present and filling all things. Thus, like a five-star military general, Jesus now commands the “high ground” where he can view the entirety of the battlefield (i.e., all of creation), thus seeing all those wounded in the great battle for human souls. He now speaks and acts and is present in his “commanding officers and medics” whom he commissions to bring about such healing, doing so in many ways especially through the Sacraments and Christ’s priesthood, as well as personal prayer and through his Spirit’s charismatic gift of healing – “*God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing...*” In short, Jesus the High Priest and Divine Physician is still very much alive and active in and through His Body, the Church.

Every one of us has some form of illness, physical or spiritual. Some of us have been carrying the cross of such woundedness for years, even decades. In John’s gospel there was a man sick and paralyzed for 38 years...38 years! – I haven’t even been breathing for as long as he suffered! – When no relief was found through natural remedies, the desperate man turned to a superstitious practice which believed that an angel would come down and stir the waters of the pool, giving it healing properties. Whoever was immersed in the pool first would then be healed. Unable to carry himself and his cross into the pool and having nobody to assist him, one can only imagine the despair and darkness he experienced. That is, until one special Physician approached him asking: “*Do you wish to be made well?*” (John 5:6) and, with that same divine authority which spoke the cosmos into existence, uttered the command which fulfilled the desire of the wounded, despairing man. “*At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk*” (John 5:9).



## Healing Service

Sunday, December 3 at 7:00 P.M.

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

This December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM at Our Lady of Grace, we will have a wonderful opportunity to participate in that same healing ministry of Jesus, of receiving the same divinely spoken words which healed the paralyzed man in John's gospel. Father Brian Gross, a priest of the Diocese of Bismarck who has been involved with this particular ministry for years now and has led numerous healing services, will lead us in our Advent Healing Service.




Fr. Brian Gross

Not quite two years ago, I had the opportunity to attend one of the healing services that Fr. Gross led. During this time, I witnessed many healings, physically and spiritually – some minor healings and others of significant weight. I myself had an encounter with Jesus in which I hope never to forget. After suffering an ankle injury from a basketball competition, I hobbled up to Christ's "commissioned officer" who proceeded to pray over me. I immediately began to feel a spiritual "warmth" move throughout my body and culminate in my ankle. Once he finished praying, I began to jump up and down with no pain and with complete mobility. Ecstatic, I left his presence bounding up and down, literally. However, this was not the only encounter the Lord had planned for me.... As I was returning to my place, I heard our heavenly Father's voice say: "I do love you, My son, and I do wish you to be made well, indeed in ways that you cannot yet even perceive; and see, I can do all things. However, I also wish you to carry this cross just a bit longer so as to be united with my Son in His suffering. Unite this to Him and carry this cross well, I AM with you."

Despite the physical pain returning, what followed was an interior, spiritual healing of far greater importance than the exterior, physical pain in my ankle. In God's mysterious plan of providential love, this cross was bringing about an interior and more necessary form of spiritual healing which I didn't realize I even needed. God's ways are not our ways, nor his thoughts our thoughts; "for as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are his ways higher than our ways and his thoughts higher than our thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9).

In God's providential love, He does indeed wish that you be made well. That is why we have invited Fr. Gross to lead us in our parish's Advent Healing Service. We invite all of you, as well as your family, friends, and the rest of the Minot Community to join us for this encounter with our Lord, the Divine Physician and Doctor of Souls, who "knows the plans that [he] has for you, plans for well-being and hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). So the question must now be asked of you – Do you wish to be made well?

By Fr. Josh Hill



**For I know well  
the plans  
I have in mind  
for you.**  
Jeremiah 29:11

(Continued from page 4)

(continued on page 5)

**January**

- 1 - 8:30 AM *Mary, Mother of God Mass***
- 1 - 10:30 AM *Mary, Mother of God Mass***
- 1 - Parish Office Closed**
- 3 - 5:30 - 7:30 PM Faith Formation & Youth Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**
- 7 - 8:30 AM - 12:00 Noon Knights of Columbus Breakfast for Dakota Hope Clinic**
- 7 - FF Classes on Sunday resume**
- 10 - FF Classes on Wednesday resume**
- 18 - 6:00 - 7:30 PM First Eucharist Retreat (Option 1)**
- 21 - 1:00 - 2:30 PM First Eucharist Retreat (Option 2)**
- 24 - 4:00 - 5:10 PM Mass in Class**
- 24 - 5:30 - 6:40 PM Mass in Class**
- 27/28 - First Eucharist Rite of Enrollment during each Mass (except 5:30 PM)**

**February**

- 4 - 11:00 AM Knights of Columbus Roast Beef Dinner**
- 14 - Ash Wednesday - watch bulletin for Mass times; no Faith Formation classes**
- 16 - 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross**
- 19 - Parish Office Closed**
- 23 - 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross**

**MISA EN ESPAÑOL**

El Padre Degele anunciará las fechas de las misas en español en el boletín.



**5**

# Building Up Our Church

These last few years it has been my privilege to be part of the Faith Formation program for the elementary-aged children here at Our Lady of Grace parish. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about the most precious gift from God, our children and grandchildren.

The Faith Formation program at Our Lady of Grace provides our children and grandchildren with a solid foundation of their Catholic faith as they face the challenges of the world.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is for our youngest children. Guided by the Holy Spirit and based on the Montessori teaching style, it provides hands-on materials and activities. This curriculum offers young children opportunities to explore our faith and learn about Jesus.



Teachers of these classes receive special training on the diocesan level in the Montessori method and catechetical materials.

Grades two through five use the Faith and Life series which is also approved by the diocese. This series is based on our faith; each year builds on the lessons from the year before. The teacher manuals are full of background information on each level along with how to best implement the lesson.

There are two different sessions for the youngest children through grade 5 each Wednesday. Classes are also offered each Sunday morning. Before going to class, children first gather for announcements and prayer. Children attending the Wednesday classes also spend time in quiet prayer before the Holy Eucharist.

Grades 6 through 8 are using Life Teen Edge. These classes meet twice a month in the evenings throughout the school year. Volunteer leaders facilitate discussions with small groups of students. They work as a team to guide our middle school students as they grow in their relationships with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



As a parish family, let us support the Faith Formation ministry with our prayers. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents with our children.

*“Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Romans 12:2)*

## Children’s prayers help food pantry clients

Parish children who attend Faith Formation classes had their first Prayer Station days in October.

On Prayer Station Day, the students go to the Prayer Station where volunteers listen to the prayers the children have memorized. The volunteers also help the students learn the prayers they want to work on.

The youngest children earn a small prize when they say a memorized prayer, while the older children in grades two through five earn a prayer card. The older children also receive a quarter (donated by adult parishioners) to add to the **Prayers for the Poor** jar.

During our first Wednesday of Prayer Station, October 11, \$64 in quarters were added to the jar by students from our 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Faith Formation classes. During our first Sunday of Prayer Station, October 15, another \$26 was added from children in our 9:20 a.m. classes.

When you add it all up, the children gave \$90 to the Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry by reciting their memorized prayers! Take that total times 4 (since there are 4 quarters in a dollar), and the children recited 360 prayers!

We are grateful to the parents who help their children learn the prayers, to the children who put forth a great effort at the Prayer Station by sharing their memorized prayers, and to the parish adults who have donated quarters for this fun faith activity!



We’ll have three more Prayer Station Days during this school year. If you would like to donate quarters, please bring them to the parish office or the Faith Formation office. If you would like to help your child or grandchild learn prayers, take one of our Prayers and Teachings packets off the wall in the classroom hallway or visit the Faith Formation page of our website - <https://www.olgminot.org/faith-formation> - and scroll down to the Prayers and Teachings section.

Children may recite prayers from any of the grade levels at the Prayer Station, and they may repeat the prayers they recited the previous year. The children have fun learning, while the people who visit our food pantry benefit from the food that can be purchased through the donations and given to those in need.

## We are strengthened each time we are forgiven

In our retreats for the children preparing for First Reconciliation, Fr. Maus showed a video that can be found on Formed.org called "An Encounter with Mercy: Forgiven, Session 2". He shared it with the parents and older students preparing for the sacrament, while the younger students participated in a lesson at their age level.

The video is powerful and compassionate. Through a variety of speakers, it addresses our need for forgiveness, but also our need for healing. It fits perfectly with our Advent theme of "Do You Wish to be Made Well?" from the Gospel of John 5:6.

It's wonderful seeing the reaction of children after they confess their sins. They usually know if they have done something wrong, like hurting a sibling's feelings during an argument or some other similar venial sin. Parents can help them be aware of their sins by helping them do an examination of conscience, available on the Faith Formation page of our website.

When children come out of the confessional for the first time, they often say they feel so good. Some describe it as feeling lighter. That's a great description! When our Lord lifts the burdens of our sins by forgiving them in the sacrament of reconciliation, through the priest who serves in persona Christi (in the person of Christ), we do feel lighter! We also feel a greater power to avoid that sin in the future.



Please pray for our children who are receiving the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time this school year. Most will receive it on Saturday morning, December 9, while others will do so on other dates. Pray, too, that they will receive the sacrament many times in their lives, for each time we are forgiven we are strengthened to live our lives focused on Our Lord and to receive the many gifts He has in store for us.

*To watch free videos about the Catholic faith, saints, family friendly movies and more, go to [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup). Search for your parish by zip code. Click on Our Lady of Grace. Register with your name and email address. Then check that email account for a link to begin using Formed.*

*To find the format for Reconciliation, along with an examination of conscience, visit [olgminot.org/faithformation](http://olgminot.org/faithformation) and scroll down to the bottom of the page.*



## Children invited to sing on Christmas Eve

Children in grades 2-8 are invited to sing with the choir for the 4:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Mass. Rehearsals are December 6 and 13 from 5:00-5:30 P.M. in the choir area of the church. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the classroom hallway or contact Tanya in the Faith Formation office, [education1@olgminot.org](mailto:education1@olgminot.org), 701-839-6834 (office), or text 701-219-3194.

## Learning about Jesus' birth through action and song

Children in Kindergarten through grade 5 are invited to participate in our annual Children's Christmas Program. Rehearsals are on two



Saturdays, Dec. 2 and 16, from 2:30-3:30 P.M. in the dining room. The program is in the dining room on Sunday, Dec. 17, at about 11:45 A.M. (after the 10:30 A.M. Mass). Please sign up on the bulletin board in the classroom hallway or contact Christine Aberle in the Faith Formation office, [education3@olgminot.org](mailto:education3@olgminot.org), 701-839-6834 (office), or text 701-818-2605. All are invited to the performance! We usually have a special visitor there, too, with a treat for all the children. Who do you think our visitor might be?

# OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH

## Annual Report

As is our custom, we present our Annual Report. Currently 1,321 households (about 3,456 individuals) are registered in our parish family. We have been a stewardship parish for about 19½ years now. In September again had our Stewardship Renewal when we recommitted ourselves to be good stewards of our time, talent and treasure. God continues to bless us individually and as a parish. May we continue to share those blessings!

Fr. Adam Maus, Pastor

Deacon Steve Streitz, Parish Manager

### Stewardship of Time and Talent

#### Sacramental Life

64	Baptisms
28	Funerals
80	Confirmations
11	Weddings
72	First Communions

#### Ministries and Activities

286	Bible Study and Faith-Sharing Group Participants
55	Eucharistic Adorers
56	Members, Councils and Committees
20	Outreach (Homebound/ Nursing Home Ministers, Transportation)
224	Prayer Chains (Telephone and Email)
206	families that are involved in: Liturgical Ministers, including Musicians



## Pantry part of TWICE BLESSED Grant Program

St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation has changed it's name and is now called INSPIRITUS. They have awarded Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry the opportunity to be part of the TWICE BLESSED Matching grant program.

From November 15 through December 31, 2023, eligible gifts given to INSPIRITUS Community Health Foundation for the Our Lady of Grace's food pantry's Twice Blessed campaign will be matched by the INSPIRITUS Community Health Foundation up to the amount provided in the Matching Fund Agreement. Every gift matched doubles the blessing.

For more information go to [inspiritnd.com/twice-blessed/](http://inspiritnd.com/twice-blessed/) or call 701-837-1726.

### Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

	2021-2022	2022-2023
<b>Income:</b>		
Pantry Income OLG Parishioners	23,041.53	47,658.25
Pantry Interest Earned	0.00	0.00
Pantry Income Grants	58,405.00	44,469.00
Pantry Income Non-OLG	51,827.35	58,786.30
<b>Total Income:</b>	<u>133,273.88</u>	<u>150,913.55</u>

#### Expenses:

Food:	70,083.27	154,472.97
Medical/Housing/Rent Assistance:	20,000.00	0.00
Facility and Administrative Expense:	10,462.09	14,713.00
Equipment (Used Forklift), Maintenance/Repair:	9,959.07	32,578.99
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<u>110,504.43</u>	<u>201,764.96</u>

#### Income-Expenses:

	<u>22,769.45</u>	<u>-50,851.41</u>
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#### Food Distributed:

Food Donated to Pantry, in pounds:	36,630	44,567
Food Purchased, in pounds:	201,685	248,379
Pantry Volunteers:	120	120

#### Monthly Average People Served:

Households:	371	477
Individuals:	962	1,300
Children:	339	457
Senior Citizens:	107	154



Dear Jesus, the Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry's mission would not be accomplished without the dedication and work of many workers. May they find purpose and community when they volunteer. We ask that our volunteers and staff would be kept from harm as they do His work.

# Our Lady of Grace Parish - Annual Statement

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

## Stewardship of Treasure

### Financial Statement

Your good stewardship provides not only for our parish needs but extends beyond Our Lady of Grace Parish to our diocese, our community and beyond.

<b>Income:</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>
<b>Contributions</b> Adult Envelopes - Sundays and Holy Days	929,188.30	927,953.76
Youth and Children's Envelopes	9,240.56	10,808.96
Loose Currency	74,985.00	85,019.17
<b>Investment Income</b>	201.27	159.60
<b>Transfer from Savings for BRCS Foundation Payment</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>Committees/Councils</b>	1,570.00	2,906.00
<b>Activities/Ministries</b> (Weddings, Funerals, Sanctuary, Facility Usage)	50,600.03	25,499.86
<b>Education</b> (Adult Educ., RE Tuition, Grant, VBS, Camp)	18,816.00	24,215.38
<b>Other Donations and Misc Income</b>	529,903.18	464,768.86
<b>Income (excluding Dedicated Accounts)</b>	1,614,504.34	1,541,331.59
 <b>Expense:</b>		
<b>Staff Expense</b> (Salaries/Taxes/Insurance, Clergy Expense, Mileage)	387,006.07	367,461.49
<b>Facilities/Utilities</b> (including improvements)	154,868.22	258,561.51
<b>Committees/Councils</b>	3,438.19	3,422.42
<b>Education</b> (Adult Educ., Religious Education Books and Supplies; Youth Camp; VBS; Bishop Ryan Catholic Schools Subsidy, BRCS Campaign and BRCS Stewardship Cost of Education)	389,698.27	391,671.46
<b>Activities/Ministries</b> (Weddings, Funerals, Sanctuary, Facility Usage)	32,647.09	32,811.24
<b>Office</b> (Postage, Telephone, Supplies, Printing, Equipment)	78,722.16	62,445.58
<b>Transfer to Savings Accounts</b>	500,000.00	400,000.00
<b>Other Expense</b> (liturgy, flowers, etc.)	47,142.42	26,095.02
<b>Expense (excluding Dedicated Accounts)</b>	1,593,522.42	1,542,468.72
<b>Income - Expense</b>	<u>20,981.92</u>	<u>-1,137.13</u>
 <b>Receipts - Dedicated Accounts:</b>		
God's Share, African Mission, Holy Land, Rice Bowl, Memorials, Tuition Assistance Program, St. Gianna's Home	167,781.39	208,000.61
 <b>Expenditures - Dedicated Accounts:</b>		
God's Share, African Mission, Holy Land, Rice Bowl, Memorials, Tuition Assistance Program, St. Gianna's Home	146,615.80	196,727.87
<b>YTD Change in Dedicated Accounts</b>	<u>21,165.59</u>	<u>11,272.74</u>
Cash Balance 7/1/22	185,335.81	
Income	1,541,331.59	
Expenses	-1,142,468.72	
Transfer from Savings	0.00	
Transfer to Diocesan Expansion Fund Account	-400,000.00	
Net Change Dedicated Accounts	11,272.74	
Payroll Liabilities	8,810.66	
<b>Cash balance 6/30/23</b>	<b>204,282.08</b>	

# Our Parish Family

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

## ***New Parishioners and Families of:***

Anthony and Ann Allen; Tanner and Lauren Anderson; Kevin Arori; Tim and Donna Bachmeier; Pedro and Serina Benito; Mason and Kaylee Bennett; Leandro and Elisandra Bortolon; Stephanie Clark; Christopher Coronado and Natasha Hinojosa; Jessica Cushing; Herman and Emily Dominguez; Holly and John Eaton; Samuel Ebert and Samantha Smith; Chinaa Eze; David and Shanda Frantsvog; John and Rachel Gaddie; Kyle and Mariah Gerding; Joseph and Jaclyn Grondin; Daniel Guider; Shanette Haarsager; Melvin and Della Haider; Mallary Hayhurst; Annika Henjum; Kristin Henry; Ariany Hernandez; Julia Hingel Sanvig; Rhett and Maycee Hoffman; Jaden Holweger; Diane Horpestad; Jered and Marcie Johnson; Brian and Jacy Knorr; Megan Kramer; Allison Larson; Justin and Melissa Loper; Eric and Theresa Magnin; Beatrice Maina; Sarah Maus; Kale and Jocelyn McHenry; Bruce and Katrina McKnight; Margaret McLaine; Jessica Merchant & Travis Klein; Jacob and Toni Nilson; Walter Nyambariga; Godfrey OGembo and Irene Mogusu; Hunter and Alexandra Oothoudt; Chelsey Opland; Norman Paskowsky; Ashley Reisenauer; David and Lynne Reisenauer; Danielle Renaud; Hany Roufael; Galen Schaan; Tyson Schatz; Robert and Christine Schmaltz; Gabriel and Melissa Smith; Julie Sorenson; Jason Spain; Thomas and Kathlyn Swantko; Ethan and Nicole Thomas; Levi and Sara Vannatta; Cidmarie Vazquez; Mark and Victoria Wagner; Mary Wrolstad



## ***Baptisms:***

Isabella Andrade, Gabriella Andrade, Aaliyah Andrade, Eliana Keusch, Eva Hoff, Kylie Villalobas, Sofia Villalobas, Etta Niess, Esmae Stamen, Chase Vaughn, Bowen Morehouse, Sloane Ettl, Kimber Schell, Easton Duchsherer, Barrett Jundt, Theodore Burkhartsmeier, Layla Rodriguez, Myla Hengen, Gabrielle Quam, Mason Thomas, Everly Hanson, Navy Neether, Madilyn Hagans, Luis Garcia-Romero, Isaias Coronado, Nathan Grondin, Christopher Coronado, Cade Reiter, Asher Bertsch, Milena Bauer, Georgette Eaton, Aftyn Lauinger, Andrew Hernandez, Aaron Hernandez, Rowan Anderson, Tayte Stephens, Landry Zietz, Jude Lautenschlager, Winston Ferguson, Samaira Singh, Kayleen Ondimu, Kensley Lauver, Kee Edwards, Roland Bennett, Alastair Nichols, Nora McHenry, Haizlyn Fields, Robbie Hoffman, Cory Alferes, Ledger Knorr, John Gerding, Cara Kramer, Amelia Gesego, Louise Enget, Miller Fornshell, Camila Agron-Vasquez, Nathaniel Nilson, Wrigley Oothoudt, Slate LaDeaux, Jensen Factor, Mariah McDannald, William Cohoe, Eric Clark.



## ***Deaths:***

Evelyn DeGree, Richard Haman, Dorothea Hoag, Leo Schaeffer, Theresa Larson, Christine Weigel, Josephine Bittner, Bonnie Murphy, Eleanor Sime, Alex Sandoval, Joyce Eggert, Marvin Felan, Parpatina Novak, Linda Anderson, Mary Abernathey, Ronald Brossert, Orlynn Locken, David Witter, Irene Kavanaugh, Lorraine Ziegler, Qumari Joubert, Chris Carlson, Margaret Stenberg, Caroline Mitzel, Mel Geiger, Connie Lafferty, Arlene Krefting, Charles Koppinger.



## ***Weddings:***

Jace Uran and Marissa Foote, Manuel Vargas and Janeth Zombrano, Bryce Green and Jenna Routledge, Kyle Routledge and Megan DeGree, Will Smith and Riley Guenther, Michael Reid and Paige Hoiby, Jonathan Essler and Akira Campbell, Louis Bauer and Connie Ridl, Alan Palda and Hannah Klein, Cameron Stone and Audrey Ridl, John Sundsbak and Megan Routledge.



## ***Our Parish Leadership:***

### **Parish Pastoral Council:**

Justin Klein  
Edwin Pfeifer  
Liza Renaud  
McKenna Schmitz  
Nick Schmitz  
Nathan Schneider  
Megan Selk  
Ricardo Vazquez

### **Finance Council:**

Kent Huss  
Marilyn Levadney  
Tim Kuntz  
Tom Thomas

### **Knights of Columbus:**

James Weaver

### **Altar Society**

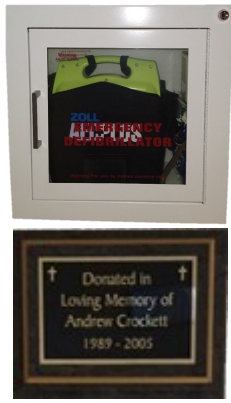
Marietta Clemens

### **Catholic Daughters**

Ali Coleman

## Did you know our church has an AED?

The next time you're in the gathering space, look over toward the door to the parish office and you'll see the AED (automated external defibrillator) in a case on the wall. The defibrillator was donated by our parishioners, Bob and Carla Crockett in memory of their son, Andrew, who passed away from a heart related illness.



A video provided by our insurance company, Catholic Mutual Group, noted that only about five percent of people who suffer Sudden Cardiac Arrest will survive. However, they noted, the National Institute of Health says survival rates can be 10 times higher when CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and an AED are used within three to five minutes – anywhere from 49-75 percent survival rates.

Please keep the placement of our AED in mind as you attend Mass and other events at the church in case its use is needed at some time. If you are not trained in CPR, consider getting trained. You never know when you may be able to help someone.

## New Year's Eve Party!

Do you like to eat, visit, and play bingo?

If you do, join us for a fun evening. Everyone is invited to celebrate the Mary, Mother of God Holy Day Vigil Mass with us at 5:00 PM on New Year's Eve (Sunday, Dec. 31) and then join us at 6:00 PM in our parish dining room for a potluck dinner. Those with their last name starting with the letters:



A-H are asked to bring salads or side dishes;

I-Q bring desserts; and

R-Z, bring main dishes.

After dinner, we will play bingo. We invite everyone who has any "white elephant" items in their home to bring them along for prizes.



## Snow / Weather Announcements

### How do I know if activities are canceled due to weather?

Each North Dakota winter, there are usually a few parish activities (classes, Adoration, meetings, etc.) that need to be canceled due to inclement weather. Here's where you will find cancellation information:

- \* Faith Formation families receive an email message to the primary email address in our database.
- \* We post cancellations on our website's home page: [olgminot.org](http://olgminot.org).
- \* We share the information on our parish app, and send it to those who have chosen to receive our app messages.
- \* We also post cancellations to our social media. Here are the links:
  - \* Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyofGraceMinot/>
  - \* Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/ourladyofgraceminot/>
- \* And, if we can make it to the church through the snow, we usually post signs on Door 2, the primary door used to enter the church for classes and meetings.
- \* For smaller groups, we sometimes use Flocknote to group text news of cancellations.

Of course, you can always call the parish office, or text/call Tanya or Christine regarding Faith Formation.

If you have any questions, please let us know. We're praying for good weather the rest of the year!

### Respect Life Committee offering Spiritual Adoption

Are you looking for another way to be involved with praying for the protection of the unborn? Consider spiritual adoption!

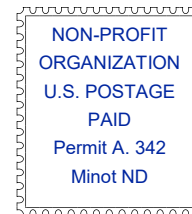


Our parish's Respect Life Committee has planned a program where you may take home information about the development of a child in the womb and spiritually adopt an unborn child, committing to pray for him or her until birth. The adoption period will end in October 2024, at the end of the nine months a child usually spends in the mother's womb, with a baby shower to benefit children in need.

Through the spiritual adoption, you are not praying for one specific unborn child; however, you may choose to name your child, making the prayer more personal to you and your family. If you are involving your children in this ministry, it is a wonderful way to teach them about the miracle of life that God gives to each of us.

The Committee would love to have help with this and future projects that demonstrate the great gift of life! Please consider joining the Committee, which meets only a few times each year, by contacting the parish office at 701-839-6834 and speaking with Sharon.

**Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**  
**707 16th Avenue SW**  
**Minot, ND 58701**



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## **ADVENT CARING TREE**

Our Lady of Grace's Pastoral Care Committee invites you to participate in the Caring Tree Project. The children helped by this effort are often the most needy and neglected.

A Caring Tree decorated with paper ornaments will be placed in the sanctuary from December 1 through December 22. You may bring your gifts to the office or place in the offering basket with your donation.

**Purple Ornaments** benefit the children of the Fort Yates Indian Mission.

**Pink Ornaments** benefit the Adolescent Mental Health Unit of Trinity - St Joseph's Medical Center for buying mittens, socks, etc. for young patients.

**White Ornaments** benefit children who are victims of domestic violence.

**Violet Ornaments** benefit God's Child Project in Guatemala (Director is Pat Atkinson of Bismarck).

**Light Blue Ornaments** benefit Camp ReCreation for the developmentally disabled at Richardton, ND.

**Please take an ornament of your choice, place it in an envelope with your monetary gift, and put it in one of the Sunday collections. Thank you.**

**By the way, your gifts are tax deductible!**

