# ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## SEPTEMBER 27th 2026

## 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME


PO Box 12
204 South Park Street
Hebron, ND 58638-0012

OFFICE PHONE
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WEBSITE
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OFFICE HOURS
Tuesdays & Fridays 10 AM to 1 PM

EMAIL
stanns@westriv.com


**STAFF**

**Father Gary Benz, Pastor**
**frgarybenz@yahoo.com**
**701-348-3518 cell: 701-509-9504**

**Eve Mollman, Secretary/Business Manager**
**701-690-7200**

**Kylie Schaaf, DRE**
**kylieschaaf@gmail.com**

**Jacob Krein, Sexton**

**Wendy Krein, Church Janitor**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**
**Jackie Staiger, David Johnson, Sara Hauser, KaSondra Staiger, Nicole Vogle & Ty Wehri**

## Prayers for the Sick

Please help us keep the list of the sick updated. If you would like to be on the email prayer chain or want to submit a prayer request of any kind, please email joanconlon59@yahoo.com:

| | |
|---|---|
| Blake Kuntz | David Berger |
| Jenny Funk | Ardie Krueger |
| Ann Kitzan | Mitch Moszer |
| Shane Focht | Ardelle Tibor |
| Natalie Sutto | Jim Tibor |
| Torin Hedley | Teresa Tibor |
| Jamie Kouba | Philip Jaeger |
| Daryl Wanner | Jessica Mattson |
| Gail Walls | Robert Schumacher |
| LuAnn Woeste | Ellevon Aracena |
| Ashley Braem | Wyatt Wilson |
| Rowan Hecker | Matthew Tibor |

## Mass Intentions

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sep 26th | 6:30 PM | Well-being of Joe Schaaf Family |
| Sep 27th | 8:30 AM | ++ Matt & Barbara Kuntz |
| Sep 30th | 6:00 PM | ++ Jean Raaf & Bob Tibor by Denis & Sara Tibor |
| Oct 2nd | 9:00 AM | +Anh Gietzen |
| Oct 3rd | 6:30 PM | + Carol Sebastian by Lois Wanner |
| Oct 4th | 8:30 AM | For the People of the Parish |

## Ministers

**September 26TH - Saturday - 6:30 PM**
Lector: Kevin Staiger
Ushers: Kevin & Toni Staiger
Servers: Felix & Hattie
Rosary: David Johnson

**September 27TH - Sunday – 8:30 AM:**
Lector: Kathy Sardelli
Ushers: David & Kathy Sardelli
Servers: Simon, Ambrose & Ignatius
Rosary: Harvey Tibor

September 29TH - Tuesday
Father Gary will be gone- No Mass

September 30TH - Wednesday
Adoration 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM; Mass at 6:00 PM

October 2ND - Friday- Mass at 9:00 AM; Adoration 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

**October 3RD - Saturday - 6:30 PM**
Lector: Nicole Vogle
Ushers: Kerry & Brenda Richardson
Servers: Ava & Violet
Rosary: David Johnson

**October 4TH - Sunday – 8:30 AM:**
Lector: Ken Duppong
Ushers: Don & Deb Wanner
Servers: Easton & Linus
Rosary: Harvey Tibor

**** Confessions 30 minutes before Mass****

***"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God before you."***

It is ironic that those who were despised the most in first century Palestine---tax collectors and prostitutes---were some of the first ones who accepted the Gospel message of Jesus. They were considered defiled in the minds of the priests and elders of the people, who consider them grave sinners... beyond any hope of salvation. Yet, these grave sinners, who seem to have said "No!" to God, were the ones who in the end became true believers. Meanwhile the "holy ones," the priests and elders, who seemed to have said "Yes!" to God, were the ones who rejected Him, by rejecting Jesus Christ, His Son. Their self-righteousness led to their downfall. Sometimes we are the self-righteous. We are the ones who believe ourselves to have said "Yes!" to God, but in looking at our behavior, we are fooling ourselves. Perhaps we need to think twice before we stand in judgment of others.

**The Sacraments and Their Celebration**

*Are there married priests who currently minister in the Catholic Church?*

The Ukrainian Catholic churches of Saint Demetrius (Fairfield) and Saint John the Baptist (Belfield) have welcomed new parish priests in the past fifteen years, along with their wives and children. The Ukrainian Catholics did not blink an eye, but it came as a surprise to many Roman Catholics. Married Catholic priests? They never heard of such a thing! But there are a number of married Catholic priests who serve in parishes throughout the United States. How can this be, when the Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church (canon 1078) explicitly states that married persons cannot be ordained as Catholic priests?

First, we must keep in mind that the Catholic Church is comprised of more than Roman Catholics but also includes the Eastern Rite Catholics. These Catholics, such as Ukrainian Catholics and Melkite Catholics, accept the Holy Father as their spiritual leader and they accept all Catholic teachings as well regarding faith, morals, and the sacraments. Yet they maintain their own particular traditions, such as liturgical ceremonies which differ from the Roman Catholic Church, and the tradition of married clergy. These Eastern Rite Catholics are not bound by the Code of Canon law of the Roman Catholic Church but instead have their own code. We respect the Eastern Rite Catholics as members of the Church and included in this respect is a respect for their traditions and they in turn for our traditions.

Second, although the Code of Canon law for the Roman Catholic Church lists marriage as an impediment to priestly ordination, this can be dispensed by the Holy Father in special cases. For example, a number of married Protestant ministers (Lutheran, Anglican, etc.) came into the Roman Catholic Church during the pontificate of Pope Saint John Paul II. They desired not only to be Catholic but also wanted to serve as Roman Catholic priests. They are among a handful of married Roman Catholic priests. But again, they are an exception because of their unique situation. The canonical norms for priestly ordination remain in place for those men baptized and raised as Roman Catholic,

Lastly, we should not assume that these two categories of married priests (Eastern Rite priests and former Protestant clergy) are evidence that Catholics have no concerns about married clergy. On the contrary, these priests have not fared too well in parish ministry. Why? For one, in justice, these priests require a larger salary and benefits, to sustain a wife and family. Catholics who rank last among all Christian denominations in their tithing to their parish church considered such priests as too expensive to sustain. Second, a complaint concerning married clergy is that they are "not available," which is

understandable, because their first priority is to their own family. Lastly, a study of Maronite Catholic priests (married and unmarried) concluded that Maronite Catholics preferred having a celibate priest serve as their parish priest because of confidentiality concerns. The concern was simple: “What do married priests tell their wives about their parishioners?” The issue of married clergy continues to be a hot button topic in the Church, but the experiment with married clergy has not been as successful as most expected. Most married clergy left parish ministry to instead serve in Catholic schools, hospitals, and other institutions. Perhaps celibacy is a gift to the priesthood and the Church after all.

**Rest in God’s Peace:**

We offer our prayers and condolences to Fabian Fitterer and his family, with the death of *+Betty Fitterer*, whose funeral liturgy was recently celebrated at Sacred Heart Church. May God bless Fabian and his family with His consolation and peace and may +Betty reign forever in the Kingdom of Heaven, the reward for living her life for Christ, her family, and for others in her pilgrimage here on earth. *Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*

**And a Good Time Was Had by All:**

Thank you to the parishioners of Saint Joseph's Parish, who offered a wonderful dinner last Saturday, along with amazing ice cream, and great entertainment. Thank you to everyone who came to support Saint Joseph's Parish, because fundraisers like these are an immense help in maintaining the beauty of our country church. *Saint Joseph... pray for us.*

**Celebrate the End of Summer:**

I will be away this week from Sunday after the10:30 Mass at Sacred Heart until Tuesday afternoon. After a busy summer, I enjoy getting away to a state park (this time Metigoshe State Park) to relax and unwind for a spell. I hear they have been spotting black bears in that region, so just pray that when I go hiking, at least I can run faster than the other hikers.

**On the Lighter Side (Fall humor):**

Why do birds fly south in the fall? Airline tickets are cheaper than in the spring. [Permission to groan]

**A Christian Point to Ponder:**

*The only impossible journey is the one you never begin.*

**First, third and fifth Wednesdays**
**there will be Eucharistic Adoration**
**from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM**
**followed by Mass**
**CCD K-6 Every Wednesday 3:30 PM TO 5:00 PM**
**CCD 7-8 Every Wednesday 7:30 PM TO 8:30 PM**

**Mass Schedule – Central Time**
**Masses at St. Ann's**
Saturday 6:30 PM
Sunday 8:30 AM
Tuesday 9:00 AM
Friday 9:00 AM
**Masses at Sacred Heart:**
Saturday 9:00 AM & 4:00 PM
Sunday 10:30 AM
Thursday 9:00 AM
**Parish Office Hours are 10 AM TO 1PM**
**Tuesdays and Fridays**
**The Church is open from**
**7:30 AM TO 7:30 PM Everyday**
**ST. ANNS IS AN EMERGENCY STORM SHELTER**
**FOR THOSE IN NEED**
**DOORS WILL REMAIN OPEN DURING STORMS**

**Daily Readings**
**September 27** *Ezekiel 18:25–28*
*Psalms 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9*
*Matthew 21:28–32*
*Philippians 2:1–11*
**September 28** *Job 1:6–22*
*Psalms 17:1, 2–3, 6–7*
*Luke 9:46–50*
**September 29** *Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14*
*Psalms 138:1–2, 2–3, 4–5*
*John 1:47–51*
**September 30** *Job 9:1–12, 14–16*
*Psalms 88:10–11, 12–13, 14–15*
*Luke 9:57–62*
**October 1** *Job 19:21–27*
*Psalms 27:7–8, 8–9, 13–14*
*Luke 10:1–12*
**October 2** *Exodus 23:20–23*
*Psalms 91:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 10–11*
*Matthew 18:1–5, 10*
**October 3** *Job 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–16*
*Psalms 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130*
*Luke 10:17–24*

# Upcoming Events:

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES SUNDAY**
September 26th and 27th

**ST. ANN'S KNOEPHLA SOUP & SAUSAGE DINNER & RAFFLE,** Sunday, November 1st
-NEW SIGN-UP SHEETS available in the gathering space with **times!**
-Confirmation students and parents are encouraged to sign up for serving and cleaning!
-Please let Eve or Father Gary know if you would like to donate a prize to the Chinese auction! Raffle prizes have already been submitted and approved!

**BIBLE STUDY**
We will begin an 8-week study of the New Testament letter to the Hebrews on Aug 31. All are welcome! Workbooks ($29) are optional, if you would like one, please contact Robin or the office.

**HELP US GROW FAITH AT ST. ANN'S**
The Christian Mothers invite you to participate in our new **Faith Formation Giving Board**.
Visit the display in the gathering space, choose one or more book or apple ornaments, and return your ornament with your donation to the Christian Mothers donation box.
Every gift helps provide faith formation resources for our CCD students and supports the teachers who faithfully share Christ with our children each week.

**SACRED HEART FALL DINNER**
Sunday, October 11th

**Stewardship of Treasure:**
Adult: $1815
Loose: $189
Thank you for your donations!

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE DIOCESE AND OTHER PARISHES

### Silent Retreat for Women

There will be a silent retreat open to the women of all parishes hosted by the Troops of St. George on Friday, October 30, 4:30PM-10:00PM and Saturday, October 31, 7:45AM-4:30PM, at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Bismarck. There will be the opportunity for communal and individual prayer, as well as opportunities for adoration, confession, spiritual direction and conferences given by Fr. Gregory Crane. The cost of $60, including meals, may be paid at the start of the retreat. Register at https://tinyurl.com/TSGretreat by October 23rd. Questions can be directed to christinacollins7@gmail.com or 701-595-0058. Nursing infants welcome.

### Job Opening

Home On The Range is seeking an enthusiastic and compassionate faith leader to work with youth who have experienced trauma. The Youth Minister supports the Catholic mission of Home On The Range while respecting the diverse religious backgrounds of the youth we serve. Full-time position, starting salary $47,760 DODE, full benefits including fully paid family health insurance and 7% retirement plus more! Contact John at johno@hotrnd.com, 701-872-3745, ext. 7114, or apply on-line at hotrnd.com.

### Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Fr. Thomas Wordekemper, OSB from St. Mary, Richardton is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land March 1-10, 2027. Seats are still available. If interested, please contact Marianne Hoffman (St. Thomas, Gladstone) at 701 260 1591 or visit the link to Nativity Pilgrimages at nativitypilgrimage.com/fr-thomas for more information. Highlights include Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Jericho and Dead Sea. There will also be a question/answer session Sept. 13 at St. Mary Social Center (332 2nd St. North), Richardton at 1:00 PM.

### Corazon

Corazon weekend September 25-27th. Are you or someone you know struggling in a marriage? The diocesan program for troubled marriages called Corazon (Spanish for heart) is available the weekend of Sept. 25-27. Couples who may be in a marriage in crisis are encouraged to attend a weekend. All confidences are kept and privacy for anyone inquiring about or attending a Corazon weekend is a priority. For questions, contact Amanda at 701-204-7205. For couple registration or additional information, visit bismarckdiocese.com/corazon.