

ST. GREGORY

THE GREAT

CATHOLIC CHURCH



38725 Forest Boulevard
North Branch, MN 55056

www.stgregorynb.org

Parish Information

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 609

Office: 651.674.4056

Fax: 651.277.4563

Website: www.stgregorynb.org

Faith Formation: 651.674.7382

Pastoral Ministry Office:

651.277.0697

Archbishop Romero House:

651.277.0697

Education/Youth Email:

education@stgregorynb.org

Parish Office Email:

info@stgregorynb.org

Bulletin Email:

bulletin@stgregorynb.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Shane Wasinger

Weekend Assistant: Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Weekend Assistant: Fr. Jerry Hackenmueller

Administrative Assistant:

Pastoral Ministry/Adult Education: Charlie Noel

Director Of Religious Education:

Faith Formation: Shawn Yerges

Sunday Faith Formation: Lisa Isaacson

Music Director: Cathie Hendren

Bookkeeper: James Elmquist

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Weekdays

Tuesday 6:00 pm

Wednesday—Friday 9:00 am

Rosary

Sunday 8:00 am

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 8:50 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday 9:30 am - 6:30 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sacrament of Baptism

Call Parish Office for arrangements. Participation and registration in parish are prerequisites before baptism.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Arrangements must be made at least 8 months in advance.

Sacrament of the Sick

Contact the Pastoral Minister or the Parish Office at the beginning of any serious illness. For emergencies call anytime.

January 17, 2016

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekly Reflections



On February 2002

The room where I was sitting was about twice the size of the sacristy at Sacred Heart. The south window allowed the sun to shine onto the middle of the floor. I faced a priest, who was sitting at his desk across the room with his chair turned toward me. As we were visiting, I looked to the west at the snow packed Rocky Mountains, which were less than twenty miles away. The priest, Msgr. Leo Horrigan, the pastor of Notre Dame Catholic Church in Denver, and I, the associate pastor at the same parish, were having a morning meeting to discuss how things were going for me. I had just started my assignment a few weeks earlier at this parish in the southwest area of Denver.

Monsignor and I were discussing a variety of things, including the devastating event five months earlier, which was the September 11th attacks. While that tragic day undoubtedly touched all United States citizens, another situation had an unfathomable effect on the life of the Catholic Church in the USA, and later across the whole world. It had happened on Sunday, January 6th, approximately five weeks before our conversation took place. Fourteen years have passed, yet the news story continues to impact my life as a priest, and all of us who belong to the Catholic Church. Never would I have guessed the significance of the front-page story in the Boston Globe Sunday edition on January 6th. As a Catholic priest, the news account about the Archdiocese of Boston in many ways parallels and shapes my daily life as much as the terrorist attacks on September 11th.

While the Monsignor and I were chatting about that Catholic Archdiocese out East and the Boston Globe account of the priest's sexual abuse within the Archdiocese, I became overwhelmed with emotion. In front of the Monsignor looking him in his eyes, tears began to fall down from my face as I wept. I remember that day plainly as if it happened today. I am not certain why I was weeping, at that moment perhaps for a lot of reasons: the hurt felt by the many boys and girls abused by priests, the priests who gravely sinned, the Bishops and other high authorities in the church covering up the abuse, and the shame I felt at that time as a priest. And there I sat in silence, crying, while my pastor only looked at me. After a while, I left his office and went downstairs to my own office.

Although I have known priests from our Archdiocese who have abused children, I only knew them through meetings and gatherings. Never have I had direct experience with sexual abuse in or outside the Church, except for one, only one instance. That case happened between family members at another diocese that I once served in. Nonetheless, the priest sexual abuse weighs heavy on my mind particularly, as it deeply affects my ministry as a Catholic priest. To be continued...

Have a blessed week, Father Shane



Rest in Peace

Jerry Kunza, brother of John Kunza

And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

PRAYERS FOR THE UNBORN

This Friday, January 22 will mark the 42nd year of the Roe v. Wade decision. Millions of Catholic Christians around the country will observe the day in fasting, prayer, and reflection. At Saint Gregory the Great, the Knights of Columbus and Father Shane invite everyone to participate in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament next Sunday, January 24 that will be from 11:30 am to 4:30 pm ending with Vespers (evening prayer). A sign-up sheet to spend a Holy Hour with our Lord is in the vestibule.

YEAR OF MERCY PRAYER SERVICE

The first monthly Year of Mercy prayer service will be on January 25 from 7:00 p.m.-8:15 p.m. (Please note change of date.) The prayer service will include exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Vespers, and Taize Prayer closing with Benediction. Please come for an evening of prayer during this Extraordinary Ordinary Jubilee Holy Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis.

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend we will have our monthly second collection. This month's collection is for our utilities. In 2010-2011, we received \$9,400.00 through our utilities envelope. During our last fiscal year of 2014-2015, we only received \$7,800.00 even though the utility bills increased by nearly \$4,000.00. Please consider helping us with our utilities. An envelope for this donation is in your packet.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Totals for the week of January 10

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Budget goal for the weeks | ..\$6,805.00 |
| Envelopes(121) | \$4,004.00 |
| Children's | \$19.85 |
| Plate..... | \$384.30 |
| EFT..... | \$1,019.00 |
| Received for the week | ..\$5,427.15 |
| Difference..... | ..(\$1377.85) |
| Year to date goal..... | \$162,430.00 |
| Received to date..... | \$160,156.53 |
| Under/Over Budget | ..(2,273.47) |

Thank you for your generosity this year!

PARISH NEWS

CEMETERY BOARD MEETING

The Cemetery Board Meeting is on Tuesday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Oscar Romero House.

MARDI GRAS DONATIONS

A sign-up sheet is located in the back of Church to donate food items, cakes for the cake walk and bottles for the bottle ring. Donations are needed by Thursday, February 4.

LIGUORIAN

Are you looking for hope? Inspiration? Spiritual Guidance? *Liguorian* offers all this and more! Grow in your relationship with Christ through timely pastoral messages on matters of faith, practices, Christian living and social justice.

Liguorian is a leading Catholic Magazine published by the Redemptorists. It reaches about 60,000 households each month and provides solid and straightforward answers to the important questions and problems facing today's Catholics.

Our mission at *Liguorian* is to help you navigate your day-to-day lives, assisted by your faith in both print and digital formats. Your print subscription also includes FREE access to *Liguorian Online Digital Edition*; register at Liguori.org to receive access. Visit Liguorian.org and click on the subscription tab to learn more. For faster service, call 1-800-325-9521. Fr. Mathew Bonk, C.Ss.R. will be with us next weekend preaching at all masses and sharing more about the *Liguorian* Magazine

ST. BRIDGET'S PARISH MISSION

Come Let Your Faith Catch Fire

Join Fr. Albert Hasse in St. Bridget's faith community as they seek to deepen their understanding of being signed with the cross. Together we will grow in embracing the cross in our daily lives. The mission will be January 24-26, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in St Bridget of Sweden church.

Ordained a Franciscan priest in 1983, Albert Hasse, OFM, is a popular preacher, teacher, spiritual director and radio personality. A former missionary to mainland China for over 11 years, he is the author of nine books on popular spirituality and the presenter on four bestselling DVDs. He trains spiritual director and has been on relevant radio.

On Monday night as Father Albert addresses adults, we will have a special session for children Preschool to Grade 6. Children will experience Brian Richards, a Catholic magician as he creates laughter, joy and serious contemplation around the theme: The Power of Prayer.

On Tuesday night a special invitation is extended to 7 through 10th graders and beyond to come with their parents to be touched by the topic -The Holy Spirit.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING

The Finance will hold their next meeting this Thursday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Saint Rafka Room.

Parish Staff Needed

We are in need in hiring a new administrative assistant
Hours

Monday-Thursday 8-4
Friday 8-12

For further Information or to apply, please contact the Parish Office or Father Shane.

PARISH NEWS

Mark your Calendars for this Year's

Mardi Gras Festival

When: Saturday, February 6
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Where: St. Gregory's Parish Hall

It is bigger and better this year with:
creole, pizza, hotdogs, popcorn,
cake walk and games.

Again this year is **BINGO!!**

See you there!!



DIVINE MERCY CANDLE

Throughout the coming year, a Divine Mercy candle will be lit weekly by the prodigal son print and Divine Mercy box. Each week, a parishioner may make an offering for their intention of asking for and giving mercy and forgiveness to another. A suggested offering is \$5.00 or more for each week. If you would like your name or intention listed in the bulletin during this time, please let the office know when you drop off your donation.

Divine Mercy Candle intention of the week by: _____

Flowers for the Virgin Mary donated by _____.

FAITH FORMATION

FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP

Will be held on Saturday, January 23 from 10:00 a.m. until noon at St. Gregory's. All children who will be receiving First Communion this year and their parents must attend this workshop.

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR/CANDIDATE WORKSHOP

This initial workshop will be held on Sunday, January 24 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at St. Gregory's. All first year candidates and sponsors must attend. Second year candidates who did not attend last year's January workshop must also attend with their sponsor.

CATECHIST TRAINING

Will be held on Wednesday, January 27 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Gregory's. Please note the change in location. There will be no CFC classes on January 27.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Will be celebrated on January 30 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Gregory's. Reconciliation books are due now. Children who are receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time must turn in their books to the Faith Formation Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

For the Week of January 17

Tuesday, January 19

St. Fabian & St. Sebastian

6:00 p.m. †Father Paul C. Ardolf

Wednesday, January 20

St. Agnes

9:00 a.m. †John F. Riley

Thursday, January 21

Prayer for the Protection of Unborn Children

9:00 a.m. The Parish

Friday, January 22

St. Vincent, Deacon

9:00 a.m. The Parish

Saturday, January 23

St. Francis De Sales

5:00 p.m. †Jane Jacobson

Sunday, January 24

8:30 a.m. The Parish

10:30 a.m. Nicole Parent

READINGS for the week

Readings for the Week of January 18

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25--8:6/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

WEEKEND CELEBRANTS

January 23 & 24

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Fr. Shane | Sacred Heart | 4:00 p.m. |
| Fr. Jerry | St. Gregory | 5:00 p.m. |
| Fr. Jerry | St. Gregory | 8:30 a.m. |
| Fr. Shane | Sacred Heart | 9:00 a.m. |
| Fr. Shane | St. Gregory | 10:30 a.m. |



THE WEEKS AHEAD

Tuesday, January 19

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------|--------------|
| 4:00 p.m. | Grief Support Group | Romero House |
| 7:00 p.m. | N.A. Meeting | East Hall |
| 7:00 p.m. | Adult Choir Practice | Church |

Wednesday, January 20

| | | |
|-----------|--|------------|
| 8:30 a.m. | Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help | Church |
| 9:30 a.m. | Women's Faith Formation | East Hall |
| 2:15 p.m. | CFC 1-4 | Classrooms |
| 5:15 p.m. | Early CFC 5-10 | Classrooms |
| 7:15 p.m. | Late CFC 5-10 | Classrooms |

Thursday, January 21

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------|
| 9:30 a.m. | Eucharistic Adoration | Church |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------|

Saturday, January 23

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------|------|
| 10:00 a.m. | First Communion Workshop | Hall |
|------------|--------------------------|------|

Sunday, January 24

| | | |
|------------|------------------------|------------|
| 10:30 a.m. | Sunday Faith Formation | Classrooms |
| 1:30 p.m. | Sponsor Workshop #1 | Hall |

We're glad you attended Mass here.

How may we serve you?

- I am interested in parish membership
- I would like a call by the pastoral staff
- Please note my change of address
- I don't receive envelopes and would like to

Name _____

Phone: _____

Address _____

Please remove and send to parish office or drop in the collection basket.

WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY

Estate Donations

For people considering a bequest or a gift of stock, the legal name of our parish is The Church of St Gregory the Great of North Branch, Minnesota.

Office Hours

Parish Tuesday—Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. to Noon

Education Tuesday—Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

On **Wednesday** when **CFC** is in session, both offices will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

January 17, 2016