

Bulletin for the Catholic Parishes of Oklee, Grygla, and Goodridge

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Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.
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Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday: Noon

CLERGY COLUMN

THIS IS A TWO-WEEK BULLETIN.

There are many exciting things coming up in these next two weeks.

FEAST OF SAINT CLEMENT: Tomorrow is the Feast of Saint Clement, the namesake of our Parish in Grygla. There will be Mass at St. Clement’s at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow.

THANKSGIVING: We will have Masses on Thanksgiving at 8:00 a.m. in Oklee and at 9:30 a.m. in Goodridge. Having just had their patronal feast day, I figured Grygla could manage without a Mass on **Thanksgiving** 😊

FEAST OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER: Next week, on December 3rd, we will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier. There will be Mass in Oklee at 5:30 p.m.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS: I am providing extra time this Advent to have your confession heard and your sins forgiven. Coronavirus has been hard on us, not to mention politics lately, and both of these have provided many, many extra occasions of sin for us. We need the Lord’s **MERCY** now more than ever. On the three Saturdays of Advent I will hear confessions from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., during which time there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. I will be in Goodridge on December 5th, in Oklee on December 12th, and in Grygla on December 19th.

St. Francis Xavier Parish in Oklee

	<u>Mass Times</u>	<u>Confessions</u>
Sun:	8:00 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
Tues:	8:00 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Wed:	8:00 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Thurs:	8:00 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Fri:	8:00 a.m.	7:45 a.m.

St. Clement Parish in Grygla

	<u>Mass Times</u>	<u>Confessions</u>
Sun:	10:15 a.m.	10:00 a.m.

St. Ann Parish in Goodridge

	<u>Mass Times</u>	<u>Confessions</u>
Sun:	12:00 p.m.	11:45 a.m.

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Today's feast is celebrated under the leave-nothing-understated title of The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Through history, Christians have produced a wide variety of images of Christ as King. There's Michelangelo's super muscular, Apollo-like Jesus who raises the blessed and dismisses the damned. Orthodox icons generally depict a savior more serious than welcoming, and many popular depictions present Jesus crowned and resplendent in royal/priestly robes.

Most of these images stand in stark contrast to today's Gospel. In today's parable, Jesus gives us the image of a shepherd segregating sheep and goats, an undemanding task generally left to children or the elderly. But in this case, it's Earth-shatteringly important, illustrating the eternal division created between those who revel in the company of God's beloved and those who have sought no place among them.

The characters who populate this last parable in the Gospel of Matthew might represent everyone with whom Jesus came in contact during his ministry. Ironically, none of the people represented by sheep and goats anticipated this kind of judgment. None had consciously recognized Christ in others, especially not in people who needed help.

Among the stunned "goats," we might find leaders who censured Jesus for healing on the Sabbath or for fraternizing with people of ill repute. There, too, we might find folks like the rich man who prided himself in obeying every law, but ultimately chose his own fortune rather than join Jesus' company. Among the surprised sheep, we might discover the woman who didn't let Jesus get away with withholding a miracle to a foreigner and the centurion who begged on behalf of his servant. Along with them, we'd find the disciples whose foibles were glaring, but who kept trying to be faithful and to serve as Jesus did — even to the point of being willing to invite a crowd of thousands to share their few loaves of bread.

We need to remember the key to this parable: neither the sheep people nor the goat people had guessed at the criteria that would determine their fate. If advised to prepare to face God's judgment, many of them might have reviewed how they had observed the "thou shalt not" commandments. Disciples might have reviewed whether they really had left everything to preach the Gospel. Some Christians of later times came to believe that their final test would

measure how they had maintained doctrinal or liturgical orthodoxy or complied with the church's moral (read sexual) mandates. But none of that figured into Jesus' final exam.

In modern times, *The Baltimore Catechism* tells us quite clearly what the Son of Man seeks. In response to the question of why God created humanity, we answer that we were created to "know, love and serve God in this world." But as Hamlet would say, "Ay, there's the rub." How do we know God, much less love and serve God?

Today's parable tells us that the Son of Man, Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe, chose once and for all to be in solidarity and identify himself with the lowliest people. Maybe it's time to relegate the Sistine Chapel, awe-inspiring icons, and portraits of the royal redeemer to museums. If we want to respect Jesus' self-portrait, we would do better to contemplate Fritz Eichenberg's "The Christ of the Breadlines," a black and white etching of a slightly stooped, racially indistinct Christ, distinguishable from the destitute women and men with whom he waits by nothing more than how his presence radiates out to them. "The Christ of the Breadlines" illustrates Christ's choice to identify with the vulnerable. Whereas humanity tends to envision the divine as the utmost expression of magnificent "things that matter," Jesus tells us to seek God's self-revelation at the lowest end of the scales of power and prestige.

Jesus didn't tell this parable to scare us into charity. That motivation would leave us trapped in our egoism, even if we did lessen others' suffering. Jesus knew that genuine encounters with the poor enlarge the heart and the vision of the givers. Solidarity makes us all more human.

Christ invites us to know him in relationship with his beloved poor. When we fall in love with Christ in the poor and with the poor in him, we will inevitably want to serve him in and with them. According to the Beatitudes, that will make us happy in this world and the next.

This feast encapsulates the Gospel irony of firsts and lasts, of losing life and finding it. One way to sum it up combines *The Baltimore Catechism* with Pope Francis and says that those who decide to know, love and serve Christ, the King of the Universe, will end up smelling like his sheep. Happily ever after.

[St. Joseph Sr. Mary M. McGlone serves on the congregational leadership team of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.]

by [Mary M. McGlone](#) NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER

Memorials for Christmas Flowers

Which Parish? Oklee Grygla Goodridge

Offered by? _____

In loving memory of? (suggested offering \$5.00 per name)

Please return with your offering via the collection basket.



_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Oklee	Sunday	11/22/20	8:00 a.m.	Heidi Harmoning
Grygla	Sunday	11/22/20	10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Goodridge	Sunday	11/22/20	12:00 p.m.	Georgian Wysocki
Grygla	Monday	11/23/20	6:00 p.m.	†Irene Kiesow
Oklee	Tuesday	11/24/20	8:00 a.m.	Lori Melby
Oklee	Wednesday	11/25/20	8:00 a.m.	Adam Sweno
Oklee	Thursday	11/26/20	8:00 a.m.	†Joey Johnson
Goodridge	Thursday	11/26/20	9:30 a.m.	†Irene Kiesow
Oklee	Friday	11/27/20	NO MASS	NO MASS
Oklee	Sunday	11/29/20	8:00 a.m.	Emmett Paul Bachand
Grygla	Sunday	11/29/20	10:15 a.m.	Frank Cwikla
Goodridge	Sunday	11/29/20	12:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Oklee	Tuesday	12/01/20	8:00 a.m.	†Richard Lambert
Oklee	Wednesday	12/02/20	8:00 a.m.	†Pearl Laniel
Oklee	Thursday	12/03/20	5:30 p.m.	†Larry O'Neill
Oklee	Friday	12/04/20	11:00 a.m.	†Vi Bergh
Latin Mass	Saturday	12/05/20	4:00 p.m.	†Msgr. Michael Patnode
Oklee	Sunday	12/06/20	8:00 a.m.	†Ralph Laniel
Grygla	Sunday	12/06/20	10:15 a.m.	†Roland Verbout
Goodridge	Sunday	12/06/20	12:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

Tithing

St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee

November 15, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$1245.00
Loose Plate	\$.00
Training Priests	\$50.00
Flowers for Altar	\$.00
Total	\$1295.00

St. Ann's in Goodridge

November 15, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$0.00
Loose Plate	\$0.00
Men's club	\$0.00
Total	\$00.00

NA

St. Clement's in Grygla

November 15, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$315.00
Loose Plate	\$20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$30.00
Priest's Training	\$35.00
Total	\$400.00

Weekly Reflections

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me." – Matthew 25:40

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient; when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's schedule.

St Francis Xavier's Oklee, MN

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Lector: Virginia Weber

Sunday, November 29, 2020

Lector: Jan Dulka

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Lector: David Bachand

St Ann's Goodridge, MN

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Lector: Geri

Sunday, November 29, 2020

Lector: Carol

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Lector: Carol

St Clement's Grygla, MN

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Lector: Laurie

Sunday, November 29, 2020

Lector: Daniel

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Lector: Dawn

Saturdays of Advent (11:00-12:00)

Goodridge
Oklee
Grygla

December 5
December 12
December 19



ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church Prayer Blankets

You Matter. We care. You are not alone.

There are prayer blankets in the back of the church for those whom are sick, suffering or dying. Please sign the book to whom it is given to so we know who the prayers are for.

Thank you!!

**The St Francis Xavier Cemetery Association
would like to thank the following for donations received:**

- John and Eileen Crystal
- Pat Larson
- Carol Bachand
- Gerald Cote Family
- Irene Dessellier Family
- Mike Bourque Family
- GladysPlante

In the month of November as we remember our deceased loved ones, please keep in mind their final resting place. The Cemetery Association would appreciate donations for upkeep and maintenance of our parish Cemetery. Donations may be placed in the collection plate or mailed to:

St. Francis Xavier Cemetery / PO Box 275 / Oklee, MN 56742

Recently
Deceased Loved
Ones

Pray For Those
Who Are Sick

†Joey Johnson
†Allen Paquin
†Chris Tougas
†Larry O'Neill
†Yvonne Boucher
†Bonnie Buchmeier
†Janet Pearson
†David Dessellier
†Rita Bonagura Vaughn
†Ann Peterson
†Irene Dessellier
†Floyd Neuschwander
†Annette Magnell
†Ted Lussier
†LaVonne Radniecki
†Brigitta Dobmeier
†Mary Jean Altendorf
†Mike Bourque
†Fr. Don Braukmann
†Florence Dunham
†Msgr. Donald Krebs
†Betty Barsness
†Floyd Charest
†Jim Dulka
†Avis Frazer
†Lauretta Stucy
†Tom Toulouse
†Marlyn Dessellier
†Gerald Cote
†Phyllis Martell
†Theresa "Bergeron" Lucken
†Jerome Hruby
†Irene Kiesow
†Msgr. Michael Patnode
†Donnie Knutson
†Jerry Johnson

Delton Sebenaler
Donnie Tougas
Kenneth LaCoursiere
Shirley Dessellier
Michael Bachand
Annette LaCoursiere
Debra Olson
Jack Miller
Kimberly Johs
Ambrose Beaudoin
Steve Sebenaler
Don LaCoursiere
Cindy Deterrman
David Longtin
Marie Adams
Grace Rundell
MaryAnn Lambert
Bailey Herried Drotts
George Pittman
Bambi Lambert
Lucille Christianson
Doris Dessellier
Danielle Swanson
Mark Stromberg
Sylvia Remick Morey
Penny Kalar
Jo Lambert
Richard Perreault
Tony Radniecki
Leroy Irlbeck

