

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

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Starting July 2nd Mass time change for St Ann's and St. Clement's Parishes.

Was the early church Catholic or just Christian

Protestants often claim that the Church that Jesus founded was the "Christian Church," not the Catholic Church. The biblical evidence cited for this claim is found in the Acts of the Apostles: "So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians" (Acts 11:25-26).

Many modern Christians then suppose that the Catholic Church was founded by mere men much later in Christian history. No doubt, disciples in the early Church became known as *Christians*. But does this mean that their Church was not the Catholic Church? A little historical study into the church at Antioch reveals that these early Christians' church was, indeed, the Catholic Church.

One of the things Peter did before he went to Rome was to found the church in Antioch, the third largest city in the Roman Empire at the time. He ordained a disciple there named Evodius to the episcopacy and appointed him the bishop of Antioch. Evodius is believed by many to have been one of the seventy disciples Jesus appointed to go ahead of him to the towns and places where he taught during his second missionary journey (see Luke 10:1). It was during Evodius's reign as bishop of Antioch that the disciples there were for the first time called Christians. But this isn't the end of the story!

While Paul was teaching the Christians in Antioch during Evodius's reign, another young disciple was moving up through the ranks. His name was Ignatius, and he would later become known as Saint Ignatius of Antioch, an early Christian martyr. Ignatius was a disciple of John. Legend has it that, much earlier in his life, Ignatius was the child whom Jesus took in his arms in a passage recorded by Mark:

[Jesus] sat down and called the twelve; and he said to them, "If any one would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and taking him in his arms, he said to them, " to page 3

St. Francis Xavier Parish in Oklee

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

St. Clement Parish in Grygla

<u>Mass Times</u>	<u>Confessions</u>
Sun: 11:45a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Rotating w/ Goodridge see MASS schedules	
Tues: 5:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m.

St. Ann Parish in Goodridge

<u>Mass Times</u>	<u>Confessions</u>
Sun: 10:00 a.m.	9:45 a.m.
Rotating w/ Grygla see MASS schedules	
Tues: 5:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m.

CLERGY COLUMN

Brothers and sisters,

Today's Gospel passage is one of my favorites. Jesus invites us to spend some significant time pondering what sort of response we give to the Gospel. There are a number of things I find so fascinating about my own reflections. We're going to be spending three Sundays slowly going through Matthew 13, which is almost entirely about Jesus preaching and teaching with parables. As I type this column, I don't yet know what my homily will be about this weekend, but here are some of my immediate thoughts about the passage and the use of parables:

First, it's worth noting that three out of the four possible responses end with the seed dying and only one has a result of growth. The point here isn't necessarily that Jesus thinks only 25% of people will actually embrace the kingdom (he doesn't talk about percentages, but only the "many" and the "few" in other passages), but that he is generous in sowing the seed and we need to be open to receiving the fullness of it. When we are truly open, the growth the seed will cause will be miraculous - thirty, sixty, or even a hundredfold!

Next, I notice that Jesus speaks the parables to the crowds, but that it is his disciples that come looking for a deeper explanation. I've mentioned this before: a disciple of Jesus Christ is someone who is willing to step out of the crowd, someone who is willing to be different. This also shows, though, that parables are not entirely understandable without the help of Jesus' deeper explanation. We tend to think that parables are meant to make it easier for us to understand Jesus, but that's not always the case. Parables both reveal something about the thoughts of Jesus and conceal something for the sake of making us turn to Jesus for help.

This leads to my third observation, which is that Jesus says something similar to what we heard last week in the Gospel. Last week, Jesus praised the Father for *hiding the mysteries of the Kingdom from the wise and learned, and for revealing the mysteries to little ones. This week Jesus says that knowledge of the mysteries has been granted to his disciples, but to the members of the crowd it has not been granted. As I mentioned last week, we don't often think of God in this way. We mostly think of him as the generous sower of seeds - "All are welcome" - and this is true in some ways. Jesus died for all and desires that all would receive salvation, after all. In other ways, though, there is a mystery that Jesus is explaining, which is that not all actually receive that salvation. For some reason, most likely because of their pride, the secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven are hidden from some people. Verse 12: "To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away."*

There is something mysterious about this - and we haven't even gotten to the parable yet! - and there might be a temptation for some of us. "If he's going to be so secretive, then I don't want anything to do with it." Some of us might be tempted to walk away. But remember, the problem is not with the sower - he is generous and seemingly careless in scattering seed everywhere - but the problem is with the soil that receives the seed. Our temptation might be to become like the hard path, the shallow soil, or the weedy soil, all of which will kill the seed. Our need is to ask the Lord Jesus to till the soil of our hearts and minds, so that we can be well-prepared to receive his Word.

May the Lord give you his peace!

Fr. Bryan



Oklee	Sunday	07/16/23	8:00 a.m.	For the People
Grygla	Sunday	07/16/23	10:15 a.m.	Cory Mercil
Goodridge	Sunday	07/16/23	12:00 p.m.	†Alyssa Rogalla
Oklee	Monday	07/17/23	8:00 a.m.	St. Maximillian Kolbe Fraternity
Grygla	Tuesday	07/18/23	5:30 p.m.	†Dale Wavra
Oklee	Wednesday	07/19/23	8:00 a.m.	Roger Lambert
Oklee	Thursday	07/20/23	8:00 a.m.	Bernadette Lambert
Oklee	Sunday	07/23/23	8:00 a.m.	Shirley Cyr
Grygla	Sunday	07/23/23	10:15 a.m.	For the People
Goodridge	Sunday	07/23/23	12:00 p.m.	†Vernon Rogalla

Anyone wishing to have a MASS offered for a loved one you may leave name and the customary donation of \$10.00 in the offering basket in an envelope.

Pray for our parishioners who have been away from the sacraments.

Pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all of us.

From front page

“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever ever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.” (Mark 11:35-37)
This legend demonstrates the great esteem his memory has enjoyed since the early centuries of the Church.

At Antioch, Ignatius was ordained by Paul, and then, at the end of the reign of Evodius, he was appointed bishop of Antioch by Peter. He reigned there for many years before his martyrdom in Rome. On his way to Rome to be martyred, he wrote several letters to fellow Christians in various locations, expounding on Christian theology. He especially emphasized unity among Christians (see John 17) and became known as an Apostolic Father of the Church.

In one of his letters (to Christians in Smyrna), he wrote, “Where there is Christ Jesus, there is the Catholic Church.” This is the earliest known written record of the term “Catholic Church” (written around A.D. 107), but Ignatius seemingly used it with the presumption that the Christians of his day were quite familiar with it. In other words, even though his is the earliest known written record of the term, the term likely had been in use for quite some time by then, dating back to the time of the apostles.

The term “Catholic Church” (Gk. *katholike ekklesia*) broadly means “universal assembly,” and Ignatius used it when writing to the Christians of Smyrna as a term of unity. He exhorted these Christians to follow their bishop just as the broader universal assembly of Christians follows Christ. He clearly uses the terms “Christian” and “Catholic Church” distinctly: disciples of Christ are Christians; the universal assembly of Christians is the Catholic Church.

Some might claim that Ignatius intended to use the term “Catholic Church” not as a proper name for the Church, but only as a general reference to the larger assembly of Christians. If so, then the universal assembly had no proper name yet, but “Catholic Church” continued in use until it became the proper name of the one church that Christ built on Peter and his successors.

Thus, we see that the Christians of Antioch were part of the Catholic Church. They were indeed *Christian* disciples, but they were also *Catholic*. Given the unbroken chain of succession at Antioch—from Peter (sent by Christ) to Evodius to Ignatius—if any Christian today wishes to identify with the biblical Christians of the first century mentioned in Acts 11, it follows quite logically that he must also identify with those same Christians’ universal assembly: the Catholic Church.

By Jim Blackburn of Catholic Answers

TITHING

St. Francis Xavier’s in Oklee

July 9, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$2150.00
Peter’s Pence	\$135.00
Flowers	\$26.00
Endowment for Priests	\$110.00
Loose Plate	\$105.00
Total	\$ 2526.00

St. Ann’s in Goodridge

July 2, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$480.00
Loose Plate	\$47.00
Total	\$ 527.00

July 9, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$235.00
Loose Plate	\$50.00
Total	\$ 285.00

St. Clement’s in Grygla

July 9, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$472.00
Peter’s Pence	\$105.00
Loose Plate	\$239.00
Total	\$ 816.00

PUT PORK

ON

YOUR FORK

BENWOOD COMMUNITY
CENTER

(formerly St. Joseph’s Benwood)

Sunday, August 6th, 2023

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

ROAST PORK DINNER

Music by Cathy Erickson

Chinese Auction

Bake Sale

Meal includes: Salad Bar, Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Dressing, Sauerkraut, Kolaches, and Ice Cream Dessert.

FREE WILL DONATION

St Francis Xavier's

Oklee, MN

Sunday, July 16, 2023
Sacristan: Rick D
Lector:: Jan
Counters: Anne & Dolores

Sunday, July 23, 2023
Sacristan: Emily
Lector:: Jacob
Counters: Margaret & Deb

Sunday, July 30, 2023
Sacristan: MaryLynn
Lector:: MaryLynn
Counters: Jo & Deb



St Ann's

Goodridge, MN

Sunday, July 16, 2023
Lector:: Carol
Counters: Deb & Maggie

Sunday, July 23, 2023
Lector:: Paula
Counters: Audrey & Ma

Sunday, July 30, 2023
Lector:: Carol
Counters: Deb & Maggie



St Clement's

Grygla, MN

Sunday, July 16, 2023
Lector:: Jim C

Sunday, July 23, 2023
Lector:: Laurie

Sunday, July 30, 2023
Lector:: Gary



Recently Deceased Loved Ones

†Iona Berry
†Kim Johs
†Elias Abboud
†Audrey Martell
†Harold Cyr
†Judie Hendrickson
†Alden Morinville
†Kathleen Erickson
†Joseph Cullen
†Laura Nadeau
†Lucy Christianson
†Vernon Rogalla
†Donovan Stoneouse
†Adelore Plante
†Richard Perreault
†Cecelia Christianson
†Corlan Magnell Klein-
schmidt
†Judy Zavoral
†Dean Lambert
†Richard Bronken
†Jerome Carriere
†Gary Paquin
†Gayle Radniecki Grossman
†Dolores Longtin
†Lorraine Cote
†Lorraine LaCoursiere

Pray For Those Who Are Sick

Delton Sebenaler	Bernadette Lambert-
Donnie Tougas	Daymunde
Kenneth LaCoursiere	Josie Rodriguez
Shirley Dessellier	Jake Martell
Michael Bachand	Roy Rystad
Annette LaCoursiere	Dave Longtin, Shorty
Debra Olson	Bonnie Cote
Ambrose Beaudoin	Joyce Tougas
Steve Sebenaler	Brad Gunderson
Don LaCoursiere	Matt Genova
Cindy Deterrman	Brian Peterson
Marie Adams	Jim Carriere
Grace Rundell	Antoinette Holtusen
MaryAnn Lambert	Roger Lambert
Bailey Herried Drotts	Theresa Mutnansky
George Pittman	Carolyn Pittman
Bambi Lambert	Shirley Cyr
Doris Dessellier	
Danielle Swanson	
Mark Stromberg	
Sylvia Remick Morey	
Penny Kalar	
Jo Lambert	
Tony Radniecki	
Bob Radniecki	
Darren Tougas	
Elaine Radniecki	
Rick Dulka	
Richard Bourque	
Jude Syvertson	
Mary Radniecki	
Dave Zavoral	



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!!



SAFE ENVIRONMENT

NOTE: If you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or its schools, your first call should be to law enforcement. Red Lake County Sheriff at 218-253-2996, Pennington County Sheriff at 218-681-6161, Marshall County Sheriff at 218-745-5411. In addition, the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator is available at 218-281-7895 (24-hour confidential number).