

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

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Confessions: 15 minutes before Mass
 Tuesday Confessions: 1 hr. post Mass

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).

St Andrew

St. Andrew, also known as Andrew the Apostle, was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter.

According to the New Testament, Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman. Andrew's very name means strong and he was known for having good social skills.

In the Gospel of Matthew, it is said Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee and saw Andrew and Simon Peter fishing. It is then he asked the two to become disciples and "fishers of men."

In the Gospel of Luke, Andrew is not initially named. It describes Jesus using a boat, believed to be solely Simon's, to preach to the multitudes and catch a large amount of fish on a night that originally was dry. Later, in Luke 5:7, it mentions Simon was not the only fisherman on the boat, but it is not until Luke 6:14 that there is talk of Andrew being Simon Peter's brother.

However, the Gospel of John tells a separate story, stating Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist. When Jesus walked by one day, John the Baptist stated, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" It is then that Andrew and another made the decision to follow Jesus.

Little else is said about Andrew in the Gospels, but it is believed Andrew was one of the closer disciples to Jesus. It was he who told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes, according to John 6:8. When Philip wanted to speak to Jesus about Greeks seeking him, he spoke to Andrew first. Andrew was also present at the last supper.

Per Christian tradition, Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion in Patras. He was bound, rather than nailed, to a

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|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Oklee | Sunday | 11/26/23 | 8:00 a.m. | For the People |
| Grygla | Sunday | 11/26/23 | 10:15 a.m. | Phillip Cwikla |
| Goodridge | Sunday | 11/26/23 | 12:00 p.m. | †Alyssa Rogalla |
| Oklee | Monday | 11/27/23 | 8:00 a.m. | †Jody & †Joey Johnson |
| Grygla | Tuesday | 11/28/23 | 5:30 p.m. | †Stan Cwikla |
| Oklee | Wednesday | 11/29/23 | 8:00 a.m. | Richard & Elizabeth Rolfson |
| Oklee | Thursday | 11/30/23 | 8:00 a.m. | †Stan Cwikla |
| Oklee | Sunday | 12/03/23 | 8:00 a.m. | Parishioners of St. Francis |
| Grygla | Sunday | 12/03/23 | 10:15 a.m. | For the People |
| Goodridge | Sunday | 12/03/23 | 12:00 p.m. | †Isadore Rolczynski |

CLERGY COLUMN

Happy Lord's Day!

Here is your first reminder about the Holy Day of Obligation coming up on December 8th. I'll post the local Mass times below. Again, I've tried to complement the times of other local parishes.

I hope your Thanksgiving celebrations were filled with goodness and joy. We had a great time at the Oklee Cafe, welcoming people and celebrating the day with them. Thanks to all who helped out in any way. It was also great to begin the day by celebrating St. Clement's feast day up in Grygla.

I mentioned in the article on November 12th that the month of November is dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory, to remembering them and praying for them. Of course, we can do this anytime of the year, but this month pays special attention to them. If you've been to a funeral with me, you've heard me talk about how the funeral Mass is a very particular time for us to pray for the soul of the one who has died and who is going through a period of purification. I started mentioning this at every funeral a couple of years ago, right after the time when a brother priest tried to tell me that it is offensive to suggest that the deceased person is not already in Heaven.

In his First Letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul talks about how each of us will experience something like a testing by fire when we are judged by the Lord - he is specifically focusing on the Second Coming of Jesus, but the Church has always applied this to the moment of our death - *"...he will come again to judge the living and the dead..."*. There will be a purification of our souls from anything that doesn't fit in with the purity of Heaven, because the Book of Revelation states that *"nothing unclean shall enter it"* (Rev. 21:27). (Of course, we also know that not everyone ends up in Heaven, but only those who are faithful to the Lord Jesus and who keep his commands.) We acknowledge that no one is perfect and we all have a lingering tendency toward sin and excessive pleasure, so the Lord, in his mercy, allows us a period of purification after death. To be sure, it's a painful purification which is touched with a kind of sweetness at the thought of the incredible happiness to come.

We don't know what exactly this purification looks like or how long it takes, since it takes place invisibly - *"...of all things visible and invisible..."* - but we do believe that our prayers can assist those who are being purified. Different saints throughout history have had visions of this invisible reality, seeing into Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory, so they have written about it. To my mind, the tradition has consistently suggested that our time spent in Purgatory is much longer than we would like to believe, so offering our prayers for the deceased is a very meritorious offering. We can offer prayers, such as the rosary or the stations of the cross; and we can offer our suffering, such as different aches and pains in body or mind; and we can offer the Mass for the souls in Purgatory. It's been a longstanding custom of having Mass offered for particular intentions, including for particular souls of the dead. I'm sure many of us already know this, but our bulletin lists the Mass intention next to the time and location it is to be offered. During that Mass, the priest holds that intention in mind and offers the Holy Sacrifice for that intention. It's customary for people to include a small sacrifice with the intention, which is almost always expressed by a donation of money (the custom around the country is to offer a \$10 donation for each Mass intention (each Mass may have one specific intention)). Those who are in the congregation can also come to Mass with their own personal intentions.

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a loved one, you can write the name of the person and put the donation in an envelope in the collection basket. Masses can be offered for those who are living or dead, and can also be offered for other appropriate intentions.

May the Lord give you his peace!
Fr. Bryan

LOCAL MASS TIMES FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

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| Oklee: 7:30 a.m. on the 8th | Goodridge: 5:00 p.m. on the 8th |
| Thief River Falls: 5:30 p.m. (7th) & 7:00 a.m. (8th) | Grygla: 6:30 p.m. on the 8th |
| Brooks: 5:30 p.m. on the 7th | Red Lake Falls: 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m., both on 8th |
| Fosston: 8:30 a.m. on the 8th | |

Why Go to Purgatory?

Why would anyone go to purgatory? To be cleansed, for “nothing unclean shall enter [heaven]” (Rev. 21:27). Anyone who has not been completely freed of sin and its effects is, to some extent, “unclean.” Through repentance he may have gained the grace needed to be worthy of heaven, which is to say, he has been forgiven and his soul is spiritually alive. But that’s not sufficient for gaining entrance into heaven. He needs to be cleansed completely.

Fundamentalists claim, as an article in Jimmy Swaggart’s magazine, *The Evangelist*, put it, that “Scripture clearly reveals that all the demands of divine justice on the sinner have been completely fulfilled in Jesus Christ. It also reveals that Christ has totally redeemed, or purchased back, that which was lost. The advocates of purgatory (and the necessity of prayer for the dead) say, in effect, that the redemption of Christ was incomplete. . . . It has all been done for us by Jesus Christ, there is nothing to be added or done by man.”

It is entirely correct to say that Christ accomplished all of our salvation for us on the cross. But that does not settle the question of how this redemption is applied to us. Scripture reveals that it is applied to us over the course of time through, among other things, the process of sanctification through which the Christian is made holy. Sanctification involves suffering (Rom. 5:3–5), and purgatory is the final stage of sanctification that some of us need to undergo before we enter heaven. Purgatory is the final phase of Christ’s applying to us the purifying redemption that he accomplished for us by his death on the cross.

Nothing Unclean or Purged

Catholic theology takes seriously the notion that “nothing unclean shall enter heaven.” From this it is inferred that a less than cleansed soul isn’t fit for heaven. It needs to be cleansed or “purged” of its remaining imperfections. Sanctification is thus not an option, something that may or may not happen before one gets into heaven. It is an absolute requirement, as Hebrews 12:14 states that we must strive “for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.”

Catholic Answers

St Francis Xavier’s

Sunday, November 26, 2023
Sacristan: Emily
Lector:: Paul
Counters: MaryAnn & Jan

Sunday, December 3, 2023
Sacristan: Mary Lynn
Lector:: Mary Lynn
Counters: Delores & Anne

Sunday, December 10, 2023
Sacristan: Brady
Lector:: Bob
Counters: Margaret & Linda

Sunday, December 17, 2023
Sacristan: Margaret
Lector:: Jacob
Counters: Jo & Deb

St Ann’s

Sunday, November 26, 2023
Lector:: Paula
Counters: Deb & Maggie

Sunday, December 3, 2023
Lector:: Carol
Counters: Audrey & Marie

Sunday, December 10, 2023
Lector:: Paula
Counters: Deb & Maggie

Sunday, December 17, 2023
Lector:: Carol
Counters: Audrey & Marie

Sunday, December 24, 2023
Lector:: Paula
Counters: Deb & Maggie

St Clement’s

Sunday, November 26, 2023
Lector:: Jim C

Sunday, December 3, 2023
Lector:: Laurie

Sunday, December 10, 2023
Lector:: Gary

Sunday, December 17, 2023
Lector:: Robbie

Sunday, December 24, 2023
Lector:: Dawn

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cross, as is described in the Acts of Andrew. He was crucified on a cross form known as "crux decussata," which is an X-shaped cross or a "saltire." Today this is commonly referred to as "St. Andrew's Cross." It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself "unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus."

Andrew's remains were originally preserved at Patras. However, some believe St. Regulus, who was a monk at Patras, received a vision telling him to hide some of Andrew's bones. Shortly after Regulus' dream, many of Andrew's relics were transferred to Constantinople by order of Roman emperor Constantius II around 357. Regulus later received orders in a second dream telling him to take the bones "to the ends of the earth." He was to build a shrine for them wherever he shipwrecked. He landed on the coast of Fife, Scotland.

In September 1964, Pope Paul VI had all of St. Andrew's relics that ended up in Vatican City sent back to Patras. Now, many of Andrew's relics and the cross on which he was martyred are kept in the Church of St. Andrew in Patras.

St. Andrew is venerated in Georgia as the first preacher of Christianity in that territory and in Cyprus for having struck the rocks creating a gush of healing waters upon landing on the shore.

His saltire cross is featured on the flag of Scotland and is represented in much of his iconography. He is commonly portrayed as an old man with long white hair and a beard, often holding the Gospel book or a scroll.

St. Andrew is the patron saint of fishermen and singers. He is also the patron saint to several countries and cities including: Scotland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and Patras and his feast day is celebrated on November 30.

TITHING

St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee

Nov 19, 2023

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$2499.00 |
| Endowment for Priests | \$18.00 |
| Human development | \$170.00 |
| Loose Plate | <u>\$0.00</u> |
| Total | \$ 2687.00 |

St. Ann's in Goodridge

Nov 19, 2023

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$570.00 |
| Endowment for Priests | \$40.00 |
| Loose Plate | <u>\$30.00</u> |
| Total | \$610.00 |

St. Clement's in Grygla

Nov 19, 2023

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|-----------------|----------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$NA.00 |
| Loose Plate | <u>\$NA.00</u> |
| Total | \$NA.00 |



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
 †Delores Longtin
 †Lorraine Cote
 †Lorraine LaCoursiere
 †Tony Weber
 †Matt Genova
 †Elaine Radniecki

Pray For Those Who Are Sick

Delton Sebenaler
 Donnie Tougas
 Kenneth LaCoursiere
 Shirley Dessellier
 Michael Bachand
 Annette LaCoursiere
 Debra Olson
 Ambrose Beaudoin
 Steve Sebenaler
 Don LaCoursiere
 Cindy Determan
 Marie Adams
 Grace Rundell
 MaryAnn Lambert
 Bailey Herried Drotts
 George Pittman
 Bambi Lambert
 Doris Dessellier
 Danielle Swanson
 Mark Stromberg
 Sylvia Remick Morey
 Penny Kalar
 Jo Lambert
 Tony Radniecki
 Bob Radniecki
 Darren Tougas
 Rick Dulka
 Richard Bourque
 Jude Syvertson
 Mary Radniecki
 Dave Zavoral
 Bernadette Lambert-
 Daymunde
 Josie Rodriguez
 Jake Martell
 Roy Rystad
 Dave Longtin, Shorty
 Bonnie Cote
 Joyce Tougas
 Brad Gunderson
 Brian Peterson
 Jim Carriere
 Antoinette Holtusen
 Roger Lambert
 Theresa Mutnansky
 Carolyn Pittman
 Shirley Cyr
 Cliff Melby
 Jack Miller
 Mike Dessellier
 Joel Schmitz
 Lacy Knott
 Jim Knott
 Julie Paquin
 Adam Cwikla
 Tyler Larson (deployed)
 Richard Rolfson

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.