

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

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Office Hours

Thursday 8:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday: Noon

St. Joachim and St. Anne

The feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne, the patron saints of grandparents, is July 26th. Joachim and Anne are the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which of course makes them the grandparents of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so, very special grandparents indeed.

While not much is known about Joachim and Anne (or Ann), what we do know mostly comes from an apocryphal Christian writing called the Protoevangelium Jacobi (or Gospel of James) which was written around the year 170. While these writings are not part of the defined canon books of Scripture, they contain many traditional stories that can help increase our faith and devotion.

The Book of James tell us that Sts. Joachim and Anne were prominent members of the Jewish community of their time. From the Protoevangelium Jacobi:

Joachim was of the tribe of Judah and a descendant of King David. St. Anna (as she was called) was the daughter of Matthan the priest, of the tribe of Levi, as was Aaron the High Priest. Matthan had three daughters: Mary, Zoia, and Anna. Mary was married in Bethlehem and bore Salome; Zoia was also married in Bethlehem and bore Elizabeth the mother of St. John the Baptist; and Anna was married in Nazareth to Joachim, and in old age gave birth to Mary.

Sts. Joachim and Anna had been married for fifty years, and were barren. They lived devoutly and quietly, using only a third of their income for themselves and giving a third to the poor and a third to the Temple. Joachim had done this since he was 15-years-old, and God multiplied his flocks, so the couple was well provided for. They longed for a child but remained childless into their old age. When they were in Jerusalem to offer sacrifice to God, the High Priest, Issachar, upbraided Joachim, "You are not worthy to offer sacrifice with those childless hands." Others who had children jostled Joachim, thrusting him back as unworthy. In despair, he consulted the genealogical rec

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.
Tues: 8:00 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Wed: 5:15 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Thurs: 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.

CLERGY COLUMN

Brothers and sisters,

Imagine for a minute with me. You're walking down the street in an unfamiliar city and someone comes up to you and asks, "*Are you a Christian?*" I don't want to presume anything, but hopefully you answer affirmatively. "*Great, I've been looking for a Christian! What is Christianity all about anyway?*" Think for a moment. What would you say? Could you tell this stranger what Christianity is all about? Could you tell this stranger what we as Catholic-Christians believe? I think most, if not all, of us understand that Christianity is centered around this person named Jesus and that somehow his death on the cross did something to save us, because he is God's Son and he said we need to believe in him in order to go to Heaven. After all, the most famous Bible verse is John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten son, so that whoever believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." Depending on the translation, you might know slightly different words, but that is the essence of the verse. All of this, for me, brings up a lot of questions that I think we could reflect on. Hopefully, our reflection can help us fill in some more details about what exactly we believe is going on in the person of Jesus. Here are some questions.

Who is God? And who is this Son of his, Jesus? How do humans compare to him?

What was going on that he had to send Jesus to *save* us? Why did we need to be saved? What was happening before he came?

How did Jesus save us? I go into the church and I see a crucifix; how does that save me?

If I have to believe in him in order to go to Heaven, what does it mean to believe in him? By the way, what *is* Heaven? What's the alternative?

Again, I don't want to presume anything of anyone here at our parishes, but I have noticed that a lot of Christians in the year 2022 have some difficulty explaining answers to many/all of these questions. It could be that many of us were never really taught these kinds of things, or maybe we've forgotten them. (Maybe for some of us, we know the answers and this is a boring column!) But can you see that these questions get to the heart of Christianity? We can easily say that the answers to these questions would lay the foundation for what Christianity is all about. It's not sufficient to *merely* tell our stranger-friend that Christianity is all about Jesus dying on the cross for us, because Jesus' death and resurrection don't make sense unless we understand the surrounding context. All of that - the central message of Christianity - can be called the *Kerygma*, which is a Greek word that means *Proclamation*.

In these next few columns, I'm going to slowly walk through the Kerygma, trying to provide you with that context. I am captivated by it, I love it. I hope you do, too. I actually have a five-part presentation series that I intend to present to each parish sometime this year (I'm still trying to find the best time for it, either Advent or Lent), so I won't get into all of the details. But I do hope these can be helpful for you to be captured by what God has done in the person of Jesus, not only for the sake of giving a good answer to our new stranger-friend, but even more for the sake of your own relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord give you his peace!

Fr. Bryan

Weekly Reflections

"Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

Luke 11:9

Jesus assures us that if we ask, God will take care of what we need. The problem is that our culture often confuses what we really need with what we simply want. The truth is that many of us need very little. However, we usually want so much more! Stewardship is simply being grateful for all that we are and all that we have been given, and generously sharing all of our God-given gifts with others. Generosity is a gift that opens doors to new relationships with others and with God.

Oklee	Sunday	07/24/22 8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Sunday	07/24/22 10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Goodridge	Sunday	07/24/22 12:00 p.m.	†Joseph Cullen
Oklee	Monday	07/25/22 8:00 a.m.	†Harold Cyr
Goodridge	Tuesday	07/26/22 7:00 p.m.	†Willis Kosmatka
Oklee	Wednesday	07/27/22 5:15 p.m.	†Jim Dulka
Oklee	Thursday	07/28/22 8:00 a.m.	†Laura Nadeau
Oklee	Sunday	07/31/22 8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Sunday	07/31/22 10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Goodridge	Sunday	07/31/22 12:00 p.m.	†Joseph Cullen

Market Day~Oklee Saturday, August 13th.

Each parish family is asked to contribute \$15.00 in baked goods or donate \$20.00. Checks may be written to St. Francis Xavier Ladies Guild. The monetary donations may be given to Phyllis Melby, mailed to her at P.O. Box 275, Oklee, or dropped in the offertory labeled "Bake Sale". A list with prices will be at the back of the church. Thank you for your contributions to this fundraiser.

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ords of the tribes of Israel and discovered every righteous man in the nation had been blessed with children, except him. This caused the aged saint great grief, and he and his wife left with heavy hearts. Then the two of them gave themselves to prayer to God that He would work in them the wonder that He had worked in Abraham and Sarah, and give them a child to comfort their old age.

St. Joachim took his flocks and went to a high mountain, refusing to return home in shame. Meanwhile, St. Anna prayed in her garden. God sent the Archangel Gabriel to each of them, who gave them tidings of the birth of "a daughter most blessed, by whom all the nations of the earth will be blessed, and through whom will come the salvation of the world." Each promised to have their child raised in the Temple as a holy vessel of God. The archangel told St. Joachim to return home, where he would find his wife waiting for him in the city gate. St. Anna he told to wait at the gate. When they saw one another, they embraced, and this image is the traditional icon of their feast, shown below.

St. Anna conceived shortly thereafter, and in the ninth month gave birth to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

From there, we know who the Archangel St. Gabriel appeared to next! A young Jewish girl, in the town of Nazareth, whose name was Mary...

We can imagine the role that Joachim and Anne played in the life of their grandson, Jesus. Like most grandparents, Joachim and Anne were likely close to the Holy Family and involved in the upbringing of their grandson. Therefore it is entirely fitting that Joachim would become the patron saint of grandfathers, and Anne the patron saint of grandmothers. We can also easily understand the role that Joachim and Anne played in salvation history, as their steadfast prayers would have been inevitable.

The following prayer is from the Collect prayer of the Mass on the feast day of Sts. Joachim and Anne, and a beautiful petition to pray for your family, especially your grandchildren:

"O Lord, God of our Fathers, who bestowed on Saints Joachim and Anne this grace, that of them should be born the Mother of your incarnate Son, grant, through the prayers of both, that we may attain the salvation you have promised to your people. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever."

St. Joachim and St. Anne, pray for us!

TITHING

St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee

July 17, 2022

Adult Envelopes	\$1504.00
Endowment Priests	\$137.00
Peter's Pence	\$30.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$20.00</u>
Total	\$1691.00

St. Ann's in Goodridge

July 17, 2022

Adult Envelopes	\$34500
Loose Plate	<u>\$5.00</u>
Total	\$350.00

St. Clement's in Grygla

July 17, 2022

Adult Envelopes	\$1850.00
Endowment Priest's	\$55.00
Peters Pence	\$100.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$16.00</u>
Total	\$ 2021.00

Thank You!!

The Community Block Party committee wants to thank everyone that brought food, and participated in the Annual Block Party, it was a great success. We had around 60 people, despite the weather. Again thank you and hope to see everyone next year.



St Francis Xavier's

Oklee, MN

Sunday, July 24, 2022
 Sacristan: Phyllis Melby
 Lector:: Bob Melby
 Counters: Lora & Margaret

Sunday, July 31, 2022
 Sacristan: Rick Dulka
 Lector:: Paul Cyr
 Counters: Jo L & Deb

Sunday, August 7, 2022
 Sacristan: Phyllis Melby
 Lector:: Bob Melby
 Counters: Mary Anne & Jan

**St Ann's**

Goodridge, MN

Sunday, July 24, 2022 (NOON)
 Lector:: Carol

Sunday, July 31, 2022
 Lector:: Eliza

Sunday, August 7, 2022
 Lector:: Paula

Sunday, August 14, 2022
 Lector:: Eliza

**St Clement's**

Grygla, MN

Sunday, July 24, 2022 (10:15 a.m.)
 Lector:: Jim C.

Sunday, July 31, 2022
 Lector:: Laurie

Sunday, August 7, 2022
 Lector:: Dawn

Sunday, August 14, 2022
 Lector:: Gary



Recently Deceased Loved Ones

†Jim Dulka
 †Avis Frazer
 †Lauretta Stucy
 †Tom Toulouse
 †Marlyn Dessellier
 †Gerald Cote
 †Phyllis Martell
 †Theresa "Bergeron" Lucken
 †Jerome Hruby
 †Irene Kiesow
 †Joan Carpenter
 †Leroy Irlbeck
 †Lowell Smeby
 †Dorothy Plante
 †Jim Lussier
 †Tim Whalen
 †Iona Berry
 †Kim Johs
 †Elias Abboud
 †Audrey Martell
 †Harold Cyr
 †Judie Hendrickson
 †Alden Morinville
 †Kathleen Erickson
 †Joseph Cullen
 †Laura Nadeau

Pray For Those Who Are Sick

Delton Sebenaler	Tony Radniecki
Donnie Tougas	Bob Radniecki
Kenneth LaCoursiere	Darren Tougas
Shirley Dessellier	Elaine Radniecki
Michael Bachand	Rick Dulka
Annette LaCoursiere	Greg Whalen
Debra Olson	Richard Bourque
Jack Miller	Jason Moe
Ambrose Beaudoin	Judy Zavoral
Steve Sebenaler	Carolyn Pittman
Don LaCoursiere	Jude Syvertson
Cindy Deterrman	Barbara Beard
Marie Adams	Mary Radniecki
Grace Rundell	Dave Zavoral
MaryAnn Lambert	Bernadette Lambert-
Bailey Herried Drotts	Daymunde
George Pittman	Donovan Stoneouse
Bambi Lambert	Josie Rodriguez
Lucille Christianson	
Doris Dessellier	
Danielle Swanson	
Mark Stromberg	
Sylvia Remick Morey	
Penny Kalar	
Jo Lambert	
Richard Perreault	

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

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

Employment Ad

The Diocese of Crookston has two positions available for its new Pastoral and Retreat Center. The following positions are available:

Maintenance Person: This person will perform maintenance work in the Pastoral and Retreat Center. The person who is hired for this position must have or be willing to get a Special or Second Class C boiler license, as well as the ability to operate light machinery. This position is a full-time position and includes a full benefit package with health and dental insurance, pension, and paid time off.

Food Service Worker: This person will be serving prepared meals to the Sisters of Mount Saint Benedict who are living at the Center as well as to people who are involved in weekend retreats. The employee will work an 8 hour shift 3-4 days per week, including alternating weekends.

Additional information on these positions can be found at www.crookston.org/employment.

Applications should include a resume and cover letter. Applications or inquires for more information should be e-mailed to Chad Ryan at cryan@crookston.org or mailed to Diocese of Crookston, PO Box 610, Crookston MN 56716.