

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

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Thursday 8:30 a.m. — 11:30a.m.

Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday: Noon

St. Stephen of Hungary

On Aug. 16, the Catholic Church celebrates the feast day of King Saint Stephen of Hungary, the monarch who led his country to embrace the Christian faith during the 11th century.

Before the future saint's birth in 975, his mother, the duchess Sarolt, is said to have received a vision in which the original Saint Stephen – the Church's first martyr – appeared telling her she would bear a son who would evangelize their land.

Together with her husband, the Hungarian duke Geza, Sarolt is believed to have been converted and baptized by the bishop Saint Adalbert of Prague. The same saint baptized their son Vaik in 985, giving him the name of Stephen.

Geza had desired to convert the Hungarians to the Catholic faith, a passion shared by Stephen once he reached adulthood and succeeded him in power. After conclusively defeating an alliance of rival pagan nobility, he used their acquired wealth to build a monastery, and invited clergy to convert the people.

Stephen established laws favoring Christianity over paganism, and sent an emissary to Rome with a request for the Pope to proclaim him as king. Pope Sylvester II accepted the request, sending him a crown and a gold processional cross, while also giving Stephen certain religious privileges.

He showed great diligence as king, while devoting the rest of his time to his religious duties – including charity toward the poor and sick, as well as the worship of God – and to his household. Gisela, Stephen's wife, was the sister of the ruler later canonized as the Holy Roman Emperor Saint Henry II.

Greatly devoted to the Virgin Mary, Stephen had several churches built in her honor both in Hungary and outside the kingdom. Her intercession is credited with preventing a war between Hungary and the Holy Roman Empire under Conrad II, and stopping an assassination plot against Stephen himself.

The Hungarian king also established a monastery in Jerusalem, and set up institutions to aid pilgrims in other major cities. Stephen counted saints among his friends and correspondents, and fulfilled the Pope's charge to use his royal authority for the good of the Church. Suffering came to the king, however, when only one of his children survived to adulthood. Stephen's only living son Emeric continued on back page

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:	10:15a.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,

Let's briefly review. We've seen that in the beginning, the good God created everything that exists, the highlight of which is the human person. You are his favorite creature, made to become like him. In response to this, our first parents allowed themselves to be deceived into rebelling against God, unleashing a series of tragic consequences into the world, with the low point of being sold into slavery to the very one who despises us and wants nothing more than to use and abuse us, preventing us from receiving the glory God intended for us. At this point in the story, our situation is hopeless.

I think this is all good information to know, because it can help us understand a bit more about what Jesus had in mind when he came to earth. So often we can emphasize Jesus's gentleness, patience, kindness, and love. These are all characteristics worth emphasizing, to be sure, but this context can help us to see another side of Jesus that we don't talk about as much. Jesus came to fight a war. God's favorite creature had been captured, and Jesus came to rescue us: "The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8b). Jesus puts it this way: "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace; but when one stronger than he assails him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoil" (Luke 12: 21-22). Jesus comes into the palace (earth) of the strong man (the devil), assails him and overcomes him, and then takes his goods (us). Do we think about Jesus in this way? Do we consider that on the cross, Jesus is going to war and routes the enemy by his resurrection?

Jesus comes to earth to pick a fight, but he knows that the devil is a smart creature. The devil, being a creature, knows he cannot win against God, and wouldn't fight against God. So, Jesus takes on a human nature and comes, as it were, in disguise. He blends in with his environment, appearing to be just another man. The devil, seeking to destroy every man, goes after Jesus and seeks to put him to death. Jesus, the Light of the world, enters into the devil's kingdom of death and darkness. This is his moment to shine. In that moment, Jesus reveals himself to be God incarnate and so publicly humiliates the enemy of our race. The very one who deceived us into rebelling against God has now himself been deceived. He has been defeated, his kingdom has been defeated! Jesus rises from the dead and offers new life to those who believe in him and follow his ways. We have been transferred from the kingdom of darkness, sin, and death into the kingdom of light, freedom, and life. Incredible! Why would he do such a thing? The answer is very simple, but very powerful: You matter to him. You are that valuable.

Jesus is indeed gentle, loving, kind, and patient. But he is so much more than that. He is utterly unconquerable, the greatest of all time. No one can compete with him and he will reign as King of the Universe for all time and into eternity! The glory of our God is unbeatable! He takes that glory and directs it all toward you, as he says, "You're worth the trouble."

May the Lord give you his peace!

Fr. Bryan



Oklee	Sunday	08/14/22 8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Sunday	08/14/22 10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Goodridge	Sunday	08/14/22 12:00 p.m.	Vernon Rogalla
Oklee	Monday	08/15/22 8:00 a.m.	Cindi Podnar
Oklee	Tuesday	08/16/22 8:00 a.m.	Michael Bachand
Oklee	Wednesday	08/17/22 8:00 a.m.	Cure for ALL CANCERS
Oklee	Thursday	08/18/22 8:00 a.m.	†Ryan Melby
Oklee	Sunday	08/21/22 8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Sunday	08/21/22 10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Goodridge	Sunday	08/21/22 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.

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER ~ OKLEE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES



Sunday School Classes to begin the end of September for grades Pre-school - 6th grade. There are registration forms at the entrance of the church. Please take as many as needed to enroll your child or children and return the registration form(s) to the collection basket. If you know someone that needs a form pick one up for them.

More details will be posted later. Stay tuned!!

## TITHING

### St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee



August 7, 2022

Adult Envelopes	\$2699.00
Endowment Priests	\$53.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$20.00</u>
Total	\$2772.00

### St. Ann's in Goodridge



August 7, 2022

Adult Envelopes	\$270.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$27.00</u>
Total	\$297.00

### St. Clement's in Grygla



August 7, 2022

Adult Envelopes	\$725.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$42.00</u>
Total	\$767.00

## 2022 DAA Summer Appeal

AND THERE WAS LIGHT! If you wish to be part of the 2022 Summer Appeal or make a second gift to help us reach our goal and support the Church's mission, please visit our website at [www.crookston.org/DAA](http://www.crookston.org/DAA). Every gift is important and appreciated. Thank you for radiating the light of Christ throughout our Diocese of Crookston!

### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That we may respond generously to our Diocesan Annual Appeal as faithful stewards of the gifts entrusted to us...

We pray to the Lord

As we participate in the 2022 Summer Appeal to help others and radiate the light of Christ throughout our Diocese of Crookston, may we remember God's generosity to us and give thanks for the gifts and blessings we have received...

We pray to the Lord

For all the faithful who support the Diocesan Annual Appeal. May God's blessings be upon them and their families...

We pray to the Lord

Let us pray for all priests, deacons, religious, and lay persons who serve in our diocese, that the Holy Spirit may guide them to offer their best gifts daily and radiate the light of Christ through the ministries, programs, and services supported by the Diocesan Annual Appeal... We pray to the Lord

### St Francis Xavier's

Oklee, MN

Sunday, August 14, 2022  
Sacristan: Rick Dulka  
Lector:: Jan Dulka  
Counters: Anne & Dolores

Sunday, August 21, 2022  
Sacristan: MaryLynn Bachand  
Lector:: MaryLynn Bachand  
Counters: Lora & Margaret

Sunday, August 28, 2022  
Sacristan: Margaret Buer  
Lector:: Jacob Melby  
Counters: Jo L. & Deb

Sunday, September 4, 2022  
Sacristan: Phyllis Melby  
Lector:: Bob Melby  
Counters: Mary Anne & Jan



### St Ann's

Goodridge, MN

Sunday, August 14, 2022  
Lector:: Eliza

Sunday, August 21, 2022  
Lector:: Paula

Sunday, August 28, 2022  
Lector:: Eliza

Sunday, September 4, 2022  
Lector:: Paula



### St Clement's

Grygla, MN

Sunday, August 14, 2022  
Lector:: Gary

Sunday, August 21, 2022  
Lector:: Jim C

Sunday, August 28, 2022  
Lector:: Laurie

Sunday, September 4, 2022  
Lector:: Dawn



#### 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
- Donnie Tougas
- Kenneth LaCoursiere
- Shirley Dessellier
- Michael Bachand
- Annette LaCoursiere
- Debra Olson
- Jack Miller
- Ambrose Beaudoin
- Steve Sebenaler
- Don LaCoursiere
- Cindy Deterrman
- 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
- Bob Radniecki
- Darren Tougas
- Elaine Radniecki
- Rick Dulka
- Greg Whalen
- Richard Bourque
- Jason Moe
- Judy Zavoral
- Carolyn Pittman
- Jude Syvertson
- Mary Radniecki
- Dave Zavoral
- Bernadette Lambert-Daymunde
- Donovan Stoneouse
- Josie Rodriguez
- Vernon Rogalla
- Jake Martell



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

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

### Seven Sisters Apostolate



THAT OUR PRAYERS MAY FIND THE HEART OF EVERY PRIEST AND BISHOP.

A call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop - a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

Continued from front page received a strong Catholic upbringing, and was expected to succeed his father. But Emeric died before Stephen, after a hunting accident in 1031.

Emeric was later canonized as a saint in his own right, and Stephen eventually came to rejoice that his son had been permitted to enter God's presence before him. The king's final years, however, were marked by illness as well as a succession dispute among his relatives.

In 1038, on the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Stephen delivered his final words to leaders of the Church and state, telling them to protect and spread the Catholic faith.

To the Virgin Mary, the king directed one of his final prayers: "To thee, O Queen of heaven, and to thy guardianship, I commend the Holy Church, all the bishops and the clergy, the whole kingdom, its rulers and inhabitants; but before all, I commend my soul to thy care."

St. Stephen of Hungary died on Aug. 15, 1038. He was buried alongside his son St. Emeric, and the two were canonized together in 1083.