

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

Contact Information

Clergy: Fr. Adam Hamness
frhamness@oggcatholic.org

Bookkeeper/Secretary: Deb Whalen
parishstaff@oggcatholic.org

Address: Post Office Box 126
301 Governor Street
Oklee, MN 56742

Website: www.oggcatholic.org

Telephone: (218) 796-5844

Emergency Line: (218) 209-2686

Office Hours

Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.
Thursday 8:30 a.m. — 11:30a.m.

Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday: Noon

C l e r g y C o l u m n

Mass Times Change

Next Sunday, the First Sunday of July, we will once again rotate the Mass times in Grygla and Goodridge. Mass will be at 10:15 a.m. in Grygla and 12:00 p.m. in Goodridge.

Wanton Destruction

These past weeks have seen the vandalism of countless statues and other public monuments across the nation, even of simple gravestones in a cemetery. The Bishop of Madison, Wisconsin has written an excellent letter on this topic to his flock, and I have included it within the bulletin because it will be beneficial for all Catholics. His final paragraph is the most powerful; he reminds us that images and statues of Our Lord, Our Lady, the Angels and the Saints are here as visible reminders of our Faith, and have been blessed and consecrated to the glory of God, so we must defend them from desecration and sacrilege at the hands of vandals. Moreover, he reminds us that we “must not surrender our religious liberty to the voices that seek the destruction of our public presence...”

First Friday Mass

This month’s First Friday Mass and Adoration will be at St. Clement’s in Grygla at 11:00 a.m.

Happy Independence Day!

There will be a special Mass in Oklee to pray for peace in our nation at 8:00 am on July 4th.

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.

Bishop Hying's Letter on Imagery and Statues

June 23, 2020

In recent weeks, we have witnessed the vandalizing and toppling of statues around the country which depict Confederate leaders, Christopher Columbus, Saint Junipero Serra, Francis Scott Key, and anyone else deemed to be offensive to the vandals. Even a monument recognizing the service of the first all-volunteer Black regiment of the Union Army during the Civil War was defaced in Boston. Often, law enforcement officers have done nothing to stop this destruction. The magazine, *Popular Mechanics*, features a current article detailing how to destroy "a statue that you decide you no longer like," utilizing science to do so. This dynamic reached another stage on June 22 when Shaun King, a Black activist, publicly encouraged the destruction of "white" statues and other artistic depictions of Jesus Christ, labeling them as forms of "white supremacy."

As an avid reader of United States history, I know some of the torturous narrative of violence and oppression against both the Native peoples of this land and the African peoples brought here as slaves. In my opinion, the injustices suffered by these peoples over the course of centuries are two of the greatest moral failures of our country, with deep repercussions in our culture. We must study and know this history in order to transcend it, to learn from it and to commit ourselves to justice, equality, and solidarity because of it. At the same time, even the worst aspects of history should be remembered and kept before our eyes. Auschwitz remains open as both a memorial and a museum, so that humanity never forgets the horror of the Holocaust.

How illuminating and healing it would be if we had a national education effort to understand our history in its totality, have respectful discussion about the proper way to commemorate people and events, such as Christopher Columbus, the European colonization of the Americas, the tragic suffering of slavery, the Civil War, Confederate leaders, the

Founding Fathers, and the evangelization of our continent and then make measured decisions about statues, buildings, and memorials.

If we allow the commemorative and visual history of our nation to be destroyed by random groups in the current moment of anger, how will we ever learn from that history? Does toppling and vandalizing a statue of George Washington because he owned slaves, really serve our country and our collective memory? Would it not be better to let the whole history of our country be on full display in all of its complexity, so that we can value the patrimony of our heritage and simultaneously critique the injustices and sins of the past? A statue of Christopher Columbus was erected in the North End of Boston by proud Italian-Americans in the 1920s as a sign of their ethnic heritage. Two weeks ago the statue was beheaded by vandals. A slap in the face to those who paid for it and placed it there for a noble purpose. Should certain statues be placed in museums or storage? Perhaps. Should we let a group of vandals make those decisions for us? No.

Concerning the destruction of "white" artistic depictions of Jesus, which Shaun King has called for, the principle of enculturation merits our reflection here. In the Catholic Church, every culture, country, ethnicity, and race has claimed Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary as their own. Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Saint Juan Diego as a mestiza, African art depicts Jesus as Black, Asian depictions of the Blessed Mother, too, take on similarities of both bodily appearance and, often, cultural garb. In this context, are white representations of Christ and His Mother inherently signs of white supremacy? I think not. Because the Son of God became incarnate in our human flesh, does not all of humanity -- every race, tribe, and tongue -- have the spiritual ability to depict Him through the particular lens of their own culture?

In Her missionary outreach, some in the Church at times have mistakenly equated the fullness of Catholicism with European culture. We have learned over

time, as have others, to approach a different culture with respect and humility, recognizing the inherently authentic human elements already present in each person and place. We attempt to maintain unity in that which is essential, and diversity in those things which are not. A robust proclamation of the Gospel will purify every culture of its negative and destructive elements, but will leave intact its beauty, goodness, and truth. Belief in Jesus as Our Lord and Savior only makes us more fully human and more deeply rooted in the worth of our respective culture and country.

In the face of Mr. King's comments, as a shepherd of the Church, I cannot remain silent. I need to denounce such a call to violence and destruction. Our statues, pictures, stained-glass windows, churches, icons, and devotions are holy to us. They are sacramentals, blessed and sacred, visible expressions of the love of God, poured out in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and made manifest in the Saints. They remind us of God, His love for us in Christ, and the nearness of the divine. The secular iconoclasm of the current moment will not bring reconciliation, peace, and healing. Such violence will only perpetuate the prejudice and hatred it ostensibly seeks to end. Religious freedom, given to man by God Himself, and guaranteed by our Constitution, allows us as Catholics to practice our faith, build our churches, pray in public, put up statues and crucifixes on our property, and serve the common good through a remarkable network of health care, schools, and social services. We must not surrender our religious liberty to the voices that seek the destruction of our public presence, the diminishing of our sacramental worship, and the denial of our belief in Jesus Christ as the savior of the world. Only the love of Christ can heal a wounded heart, not a vandalized piece of metal.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Donald J. Hying

Bishop of Madison

Oklee	Sunday	06/28/20	8:00 a.m.	†Ronnie Kees
Goodridge	Sunday	06/28/20	10:00 a.m.	†Aurelia Rolczynski
Grygla	Sunday	06/28/20	11:45 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Oklee	Tuesday	06/30/20	8:00 a.m.	†Gerald Cote
Oklee	Wednesday	07/01/20	8:00 a.m.	In Reparation
Oklee	Thursday	07/02/20	8:00 a.m.	For Peace
Grygla	Friday	07/03/20	11:00 a.m.	†Alois Schmitz
Oklee	Saturday	07/04/20	8:00 a.m.	For Our Nation
Latin Mass	Saturday	07/04/20	4:00 p.m.	For Our Nation
Oklee	Sunday	07/05/20	8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Sunday	07/05/20	10:15 a.m.	†Floyd Neuschwander
Goodridge	Sunday	07/05/20	12:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>



Weekly Reflections

“...whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” (Matthew 10:38)

Pope Benedict XVI said, “The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness.” “Comfort” puts me first. “Picking up your cross and following Jesus” puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!

Tithing

St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee

June 21, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$1012.00
Loose Plate	\$45.00
Retired Priests	\$87.00
Endowment Priest's	<u>\$30.00</u>
Total	\$1174.00

St. Ann's in Goodridge

June 21, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$595.00
Retired Priests	\$115.00
Endowment Priest's	\$20.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$60.00</u>
Total	\$790.00

St. Clement's in Grygla

June 21, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$NA.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$NA.00</u>
Total	\$NA.00

St Francis Xavier's

Sunday, June 28, 2020

Lector: Jacob Melby

Sunday, July 5, 2020

Lector: Dorothy Sebenaler

Sunday, July 12, 2020

Lector: Jan Dulka

St. Ann's

Sunday, June 28, 2020

Lector: Gerri

Sunday, July 5, 2020

Lector: Eliza

Sunday, July 12, 2020

Lector: Carol

St. Clement's

Sunday, June 28, 2020

Lector: Gary

Sunday, July 5, 2020

Lector: Jim C

Sunday, July 12, 2020

Lector: Coleen

OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

- Have Masses offered for friends or relatives, deceased or still living. Just drop a note in the collection basket, along with your donation; the usual amount is \$5.00/Mass. If this would be a financial hardship, please let me know, and I will be happy to offer one without a stipend.
- Offer Memorials in honor of your deceased loved ones to your parish's building and maintenance fund, or to your parish cemetery.
- Leave a legacy gift to the parish in your will, or name the parish as the beneficiary of your retirement policy or life insurance plan.

We are the Hands of Christ

Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, a new neighbor, a new work colleague, a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home?

Many of us probably do a much better job at this. When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded.

A simple "hello" and a smile goes a long way.

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!!

Recently

Deceased Loved Ones

†Alice Bluemke
 †Mary Peterson
 †Donna Horachek
 †Joey Johnson
 †Allen Paquin
 †Kathleen Amiot
 †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
 †Loretta Stucy
 †Tom Toulouse
 †Marlyn Dessellier
 †Gerald Cote
 †Phyllis Martell
 †Theresa "Bergeron" Lucken

Pray For Those Who Are Sick

Delton Sebenaler
 Donnie Tougas
 Kenneth LaCoursiere
 Shirley Dessellier
 Irene Kiesow
 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
 Hunter Pinke
 Bambi Lambert
 Lucille Christianson
 Doris Dessellier

