

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

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Office Hours

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

Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday: Noon

CLERGY COLUMN

Immaculate Conception Schedule

December 7th
6:00 p.m. Grygla

December 8th
5:30 p.m. Oklee
7:00 p.m. Goodridge

Christmas Schedule

Normally the maximum number of Masses a priest is permitted to offer are two on the evening before a Solemnity and three on the day of the Solemnity itself. In light of the present pandemic, the Holy Father has given a one time permission to offer four Masses on Christmas Eve and four Masses on Christmas Day. I know that most people prefer to come on Christmas Eve, but please consider coming on Christmas Day to spread out the attendance more evenly.

Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. Grygla
6:00 p.m. Goodridge
7:30 p.m. Oklee

Christmas Day

Midnight Latin Mass in Oklee
8:00 a.m. Oklee
9:30 a.m. Goodridge
11:00 a.m. Grygla

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.

The Virgin Mary and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

In the Roman Catholic Church, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

It is what is called a holy day of obligation, when Catholics are expected to go to mass. The Church teaches that the Virgin Mary was born without sin. This special feast has been celebrated since the 7th century.

This is a huge stumbling block for Protestants, mainly because of the scripture passage in Romans 3:23 that states "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God". The word "all" in Greek, pas, doesn't necessarily "every single one without exception". For example, St. Paul also writes in Romans 11:26 that "all Israel will be saved." One would suspect that not every single Jewish person will be saved.

St. Paul also says in Romans "All have gone astray/all alike are perverse. Not one does what is right/not even one." He is quoting Psalm 14:3. It is literary hyperbole where he is bemoaning the state of the world. We know that the exaggeration of the lament is not **literal... there are people who do right and are not perverse. We all know that special person who truly is a gentle, kind and giving person who puts God first in his or her life.**

Jesus, Himself, was fully human as well as fully God. Yet He was, even as a human, without sin.

What about Mary? When she was visited by the Angel Gabriel, he declared, "Hail, favored one, [full of grace] the Lord is with you. " The Greek word used here (kecharitomene) is found nowhere else in scripture, referring to no other human being. It is a very deferential term, and that young woman in Israel is the only one who has been referred to with this word

Being full of grace means that one is so filled with God's favor that there is no room for anything else but God's grace. Her immaculate conception means that she was given God's grace before birth and

not afterward such as we do through baptism.

Did she need Christ as her savior? Of course she did. She wasn't saved out of sin but saved from sin. In the Magnificat, she states that her soul rejoiced in the Lord her Savior.

There are two other people that were sanctified before birth: Jeremiah and John the Baptist. Both were heralds of the coming Messiah and had a special commission given to them even before they were born.

If you know anything about the Tabernacle of the Old Testament, you know that it was the object that physically held Our Holy God. The directions to make it, given in the Old Testament, were very specific, and it was made of the purest materials.

Doesn't it then make sense that Our Lord would be housed in the purest human tabernacle, Mary? She is referred to as the Second Eve; the one about whom God was referring to after the fall. He told Eve, "Your seed shall crush the head of the serpent." This is why, in many Catholic churches, one can find statues of the Blessed Virgin with her foot on the head of a snake.

The mystery of the Immaculate Conception is a very deep, theological truth that needs far more room to investigate than this venue allows. For further reading, read the Immaculate Conception at New Advent.org. There you will find a plethora of background, references and history.

In the meantime, as we approach the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us ever be mindful of the woman who was so obedient to God, that He bestowed upon her the highest honor a woman has ever had... to be the mother of the long awaited Messiah. We can learn from her. Take the time during Advent to be quiet and listen to Our Lord speak to you. And stay open to say "Yes" to Him when He calls your name. Peace be with you.

Pamela Luther. "The Virgin Mary and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception." The Roman Catholic Examiner (December 7, 2009).

Memorials for Christmas Flowers

Which Parish? Oklee Grygla Goodridge



Offered by? _____

In loving memory of? (suggested offering \$5.00 per name)

Please return with your offering via the collection basket.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Oklee	Sunday	12/06/20	8:00 a.m.	†Ralph Laniel
Grygla	Sunday	12/06/20	10:15 a.m.	†Roland Verbout
Goodridge	Sunday	12/06/20	12:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Monday	12/07/20	6:00 p.m.	†Bob Cwikla
Oklee	Tuesday	12/08/20	5:30 p.m.	†Elton Rystad
Goodridge	Tuesday	12/08/20	7:30 p.m.	Sarah
	Wednesday	12/09/20	NO MASS	NO MASS
Oklee	Thursday	12/10/20	8:00 a.m.	†Ryan Melby
Oklee	Friday	12/11/20	8:00 a.m.	†Paul Melby
Oklee	Sunday	11/29/20	8:00 a.m.	†Ruby Rystad
Grygla	Sunday	11/29/20	10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Goodridge	Sunday	11/29/20	12:00 p.m.	Alyssa Partlow

Hail Mary

Full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now, and
at the hour of our death. Amen



Weekly Reflections

2nd Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the Lord..." - Mark 1:3

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well.

Tithing

St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee

November 29, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$1192.00
Loose Plate	\$65.00
Training Priests	\$62.00
Campaign Human Dev	\$115.00
Christmas Flowers	\$30.00
Total	\$1464.00

November 22, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$979.00
Loose Plate	\$20.00
St Mary's Mission	\$285.00
Campaign Human Dev	\$55.00
Christmas Flowers	\$65.00
Total	\$1404.00

St. Ann's in Goodridge

November 22, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$417.00
Loose Plate	\$25.00
Total	\$442.00

November 29, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$626.00
St. Mary's Mission	\$70.00
Loose Plate	\$20.00
Total	\$716.00

St. Clement's in Grygla

November 29, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$1690.00
Loose Plate	\$25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$30.00
Total	\$1735.00

St Francis Xavier's Oklee, MN

Sunday, December 6, 2020
Lector: David Bachand

Sunday, December 13, 2020
Lector: MaryLynn Bachand

Sunday, December 20, 2020
Lector: Paul Cyr

St Ann's Goodridge, MN

Sunday, December 6, 2020
Lector: Carol

Sunday, December 13, 2020
Lector: Eliza

Sunday, December 20, 2020
Lector: Carol

St Clement's Grygla, MN

Sunday, December 6, 2020
Lector: Dawn

Sunday, December 13, 2020
Lector: Gary

Sunday, December 20, 2020
Lector: Jim C

Saturdays of Advent (11:00-12:00)

Goodridge
Oklee
Grygla

December 5
December 12
December 19



ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

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!!

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.

Recently Deceased Loved Ones

†Joey Johnson
†Allen Paquin
†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
†Lauretta Stucy
†Tom Toulouse
†Marlyn Dessellier
†Gerald Cote
†Phyllis Martell
†Theresa "Bergeron" Lucken
†Jerome Hruby
†Irene Kiesow
†Msgr. Michael Patnode
†Donnie Knutson
†Jerry Johnson

Pray For Those Who Are Sick

Delton Sebenaler
Donnie Tougas
Kenneth LaCoursiere
Shirley Dessellier
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
Bambi Lambert
Lucille Christianson
Doris Dessellier
Danielle Swanson
Mark Stromberg
Sylvia Remick Morey
Penny Kalar
Jo Lambert
Richard Perreault
Tony Radniecki
Leroy Irlbeck
Lowell Smeby
Darren Tougas
Elaine Radniecki

