

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

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### Office Hours

**Friday** 8:30 a.m. — 11:30a.m.

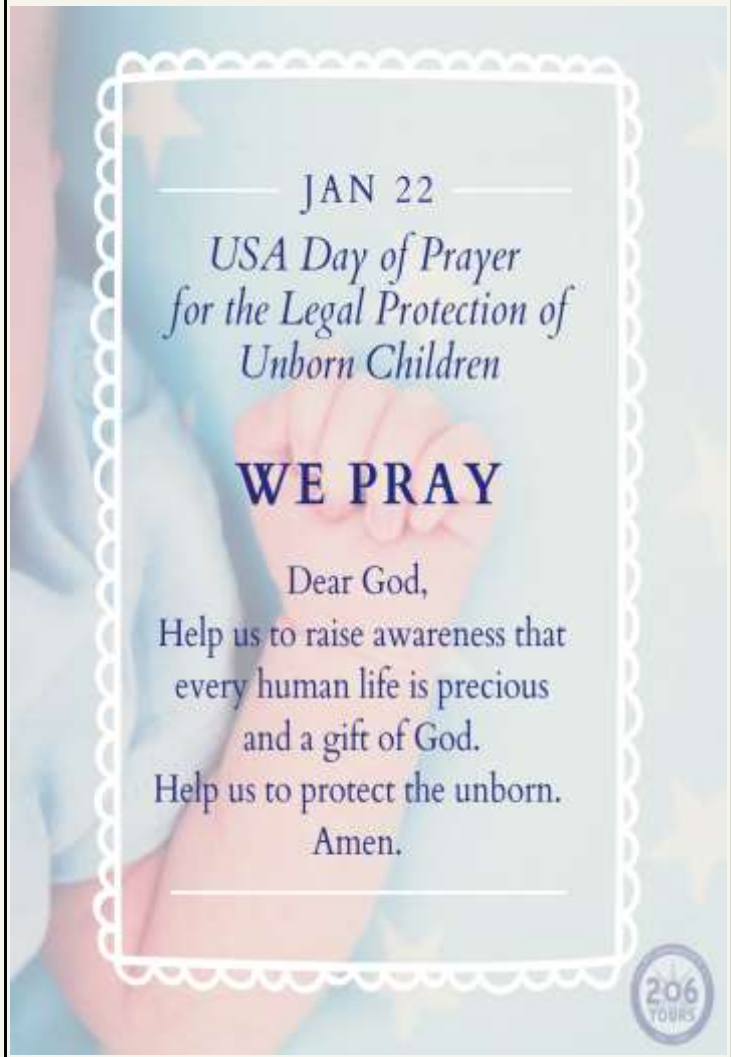
### Bulletin Deadline

**Wednesday:** Noon

**Fr. Adam is home at his mother's**  
his address is

20897 Co Rd. 108  
Strathcona, MN 56759

### CLERGY COLUMN



#### St. Francis Xavier Parish in Oklee

##### Mass Times Confessions

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.

#### St. Clement Parish in Grygla

##### Mass Times Confessions

Sun:	11:45a.m.	11:30 a.m.
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#### St. Ann Parish in Goodridge

##### Mass Times Confessions

Sun:	10:00 a.m.	9:45 a.m.
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# St. Sebastian

St. Sebastian was a favorite of Emperor Diocletian, and served as a captain of the infamous Praetorian Guard. He had secretly been bringing supplies to persecuted Christians, and his missionary efforts were known in shady underground circles. St. Sebastian was a man of great faith when such faith had to be hidden, and he was even known to have brought Christianity to fellow members of the Roman armed services.

Diocletian had St. Sebastian tied to a tree and shot, but the arrows that pierced his strong body failed to kill him. These arrows are still an important symbol of his sainthood. He later died as a result of blunt trauma. Since he was able to endure such incredible punishment, he is often invoked as the patron of athletes. Archers are also known to pray for him in times of need.

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Heralded as the Patron Saint of Athletes, St. Sebastian's story is one of courage, dedication, and strength. Though little is known about the details of St. Sebastian's life, the information available shows him to be a man devoted to God to the very end. It took several attempts on his life before St. Sebastian gained the glorious crown of martyrdom in the year 288, in Rome, Italy.

The specifics of St. Sebastian's birth and childhood have been lost through the ages. It is believed that he was born in Gaul (modern-day France) to a wealthy Roman family. He was raised as a Christian in a time when being a Christian was very dangerous. In the year 283, St. Sebastian joined the Roman army. He kept his Christianity a secret so that he would be able to act as a spy in the army. St. Sebastian was promoted to become a guard in the Praetorian Guard, which was a group of men who served as the emperor's bodyguards. The emperor,

Diocletian, hated all Christians and ordered many to be tortured and killed. Diocletian did not know that St. Sebastian was a Christian, which allowed for him to lead this double life, in which he was able to both be a spy in the army and be a faithful follower of Jesus. St. Sebastian's spying may have resulted in him finding out information that helped to save Christians. He also secretly visited Christians who had been imprisoned for their faith, bringing them supplies and comfort.

One day, a woman named Zoe was brought to St. Sebastian. She was the wife of a soldier St. Sebastian was in the army with. Zoe had lost her power of speech, and hoped St. Sebastian would be able to help her. He prayed with her and made the Sign of the Cross over her. When she was healed, many learned of what had happened, and became Christians, too. Diocletian heard of Zoe and the other Christians, and had them all arrested. He ordered them to be put to death. St. Sebastian heard of this, and since he had been close with Diocletian, went before him to try to change his mind, telling Diocletian that he, too, was a Christian. Diocletian would not be persuaded, and instead, ordered that St. Sebastian be killed, too. Because Diocletian was angry that he had been tricked all along by St. Sebastian keeping his Christianity hidden, he ordered that St. Sebastian would be put to death in a terrible way.

St. Sebastian was stripped of his clothes, tied to a tree, and treated as "target practice" by his fellow soldiers. They shot him with arrow after arrow. When they left, a Christian woman named Irene came to him, untied him, and seeing that he was still alive, nursed him back to health. Once recovered, St. Sebastian went to hide in a passageway so that he could talk to Diocletian secretly. St. Sebastian told Diocletian what he thought of his cruelty, and tried to preach to him

about becoming a Christian. Diocletian was surprised to see him alive, but said nothing and left. Diocletian went back to his residence, and told his soldiers to find St. Sebastian and see to it that he died this time. The soldiers beat St. Sebastian with heavy clubs until he was dead. Then they took his body and pushed it into one of the city's sewers.

During the 14th century, the Bubonic Plague, also known as the Black Death, ravaged through Europe, killing an estimated 75 million people. At the time, the people were unaware as to how the disease was transmitted, and felt that catching it was a random occurrence. They likened it to being shot with an arrow, by the army of nature's archers. In an attempt to seek help from heaven, they prayed to the saint who was associated with archery for protection and relief from this deadly disease. This saint, of course, was St. Sebastian. He became known as one of the "Fourteen Holy Helpers" because of his association with being called upon for assistance during the time of the Plague.

## Patronage of St. Sebastian


St. Sebastian is the patron saint against plague and illness, of archers, athletes, the dying, soldiers, and the Pontifical Swiss Guards. St. Sebastian was a brave man and dedicated soldier, and it is these characteristics that have led to the various patronages associated with him. His courage in the face of death, and willingness to give up his life rather than forsake the God whom he loved and served, shows that he was a devoted, strong, and holy man. Attributes such as these are important for athletes and soldiers, for it is their dedication and fearlessness that helps them to succeed in their endeavors.

Oklee	Sunday	01/16/22 8:00 a.m.	† <b>Larry O'Neill</b>
Goodridge	Sunday	01/16/22 10:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Sunday	01/16/22 11:45 a.m.	† <b>LeRoy Irlbeck</b>
Oklee	Monday	01/10/22 7:00 p.m.	Holy Rosary
Oklee	Sunday	01/23/22 8:00 a.m.	† <b>Kim Johs</b>
Goodridge	Sunday	01/23/22 10:00 a.m.	Fr. Adam Hamness
Grygla	Sunday	01/23/22 11:45 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

## Tithing

**St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee**  
January 9, 2022

Adult Envelopes	\$2085.00
Flowers for Altar	\$17.00
Endowment Priests	\$20.00
Christmas	\$50.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$45.00</u>
Total	\$ 2217.00
Mail in donation	\$1080.00



Sunday, Jan 16th , St Francis Xavier Church  
will be serving Muffins and Coffee after Mass.

There will be a FREE WILL offering for  
Fr. Hamness

Sponsored by the Sunday School children and their families

**St. Ann's in Goodridge**  
January 9, 2022

Christmas Day	\$310.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$57.00</u>
Total	\$ 367.00

Men of our Parishes:

Are you looking for a way to walk more closely with God? Cursillo may be what you're looking for. The Diocese of Crookston is offering a Men's Cursillo on the weekend of February 24-27, 2022 at Sand Hill Lake Bible Camp south of Foss-ton. Applications are also available at your parish office or at [www.crookstoncursillo.weebly.com](http://www.crookstoncursillo.weebly.com)

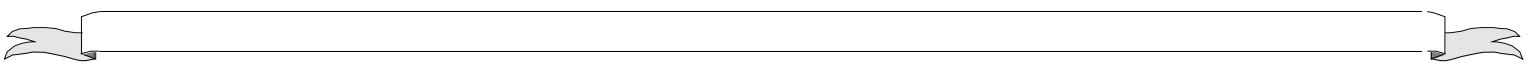
**St. Clement's in Grygla**  
January 9, 2022

Adults Envelopes	\$525.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$25.00</u>
Total	\$550.00

### Power Of Prayer - How powerful is it?

The power of prayer should not be underestimated. James 5:16-18 declares, "...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops." God most definitely listens to prayers, answers prayers, and moves in response to prayers.

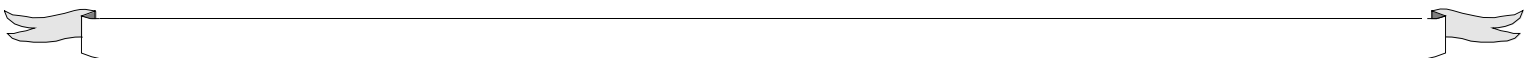
Jesus taught, "...I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17:20). 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 tells us, "The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." The Bible urges us, "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints" (Ephesians 6:18).



*Weekly Reflections*

*"To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." (1 CORINTHIANS 12:7)*

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God's plan? How are you helping to build God's kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don't do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you. Take time to discern your charisms (gifts from the Holy Spirit). Experience the supernatural Peace and Joy God desires for each of us.



**St Francis Xavier's**  
Oklee, MN

Sunday, January 16, 2022  
Sacristan: Rick Dulka  
Lector:: Jan D  
Counters: Lora J & Margie B

Sunday, January 23, 2022  
Sacristan: Mary Lynn  
Lector:: Mike Bachand  
Counters: Anne H. & Dolores G

Sunday, January 30, 2022  
Sacristan: Margie Buer  
Lector:: Paul Cyr  
Counters: Mary Anne L. & Jan D

**St Ann's**  
Goodridge, MN

Sunday, January 16, 2022  
Lector:: Eliza

Sunday, January 23, 2022  
Lector:: Carol

Sunday, January 30, 2022  
Lector:: Karyl

Sunday, February 6, 2022  
Lector:: Carol



**St Clement's**  
Grygla, MN

Sunday, January 16, 2022  
Lector:: Gary

Sunday, January 23, 2022  
Lector:: Jim C.

Sunday, January 30, 2022  
Lector:: Daniel

Sunday, February 6, 2022  
Lector:: Jody

Prayer to St. Sebastian  
Against Illness

O Glorious St Sebastian, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to you do we raise our hearts and hands to implore your powerful intercession in obtaining from the God the Father all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of living a holy life, courage to face all perils of my believe and even to sacrifice my life as the cost of my faith and this special favor we now implore.....(mention it). O, special guardian from the diseases and accidents, we feel animated with confidence that your intercession on my behalf will be graciously heard before throne of God. Amen.

Prayer to St. Sebastian for Athletes

Dear Commander at the Roman Emperor's court, you chose to be also a soldier of Christ and dared to spread faith in the King of Kings – for which you were condemned to die. Your body, however, proved athletically strong and the executing arrows extremely weak. So another means to kill you was chosen and you gave your life to the Lord. May athletes be always as strong in their faith as their Patron Saint so clearly has been. Amen.

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
- †Donnie Knutson
- †Ron Rustan
- †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



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
- Darren Tougas
- Elaine Radniecki
- Rick Dulka
- Greg Whalen
- Richard Bourque
- Tony Weber
- Jason Moe
- Judy Zavoral
- Carolyn Pittman
- Jude Syvertson
- Barbara Beard
- Fr. Adam Hamness
- Fr. John Melkies
- Mary Radniecki