

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

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

**Bulletin Deadline**

**Wednesday:** Noon

**Clergy Column**

Inside this week’s bulletin you will find a copy of the document from the Bishops of the United States on forming your conscience for faithful citizenship. It is not a voter guide, *per se*, because it does not address particular candidates or the issues they support. Instead, it is like an examination of conscience, helping you understand how to vote as a faithful Catholic. The modern-day tragedy of the Church is that many Catholics don’t vote as faithful Catholics; they just vote with their own self-interests in mind or they just vote in lockstep with whatever political party they have invested their lives, and that is a tragedy indeed! We cannot set our religion aside in the voting booth, otherwise what is the point of our religion? It is not just a little game to play on Sundays to make ourselves feel nice. If we are going to have a religion it should be the very source of our context to interpret and guide our whole lives. I hope you will vote specifically as faithful Catholics...as Catholics first, as patriotic Americans second, and as party members a distant third.

You will notice in the voter guide that our bishops give us goals they think Catholics ought to have for this election: first among them is “restricting and bringing to an end the destruction of unborn children through abortion and providing women in crisis pregnancies with the supports they need.” The Bishops of the United States call this the preeminent requirement to protecting human life, before all other efforts of protecting human life.

With that in mind, I encourage you to attend tonight’s meeting of the **Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) at 7:00 p.m. at Abundant Life Free Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls.** These meetings educate pro-life citizens about current trends and issues, legislation, elections, and more. They also equip citizens to make a difference in their own communities.

**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.

## Catholic Teachings on Angels

Angels have a very big role in the Bible and in our history. Angels are a Dogma of Catholic Faith; you cannot be a Catholic if you do not believe in the existence of angels. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church states in Paragraph 328:

The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls "angels" is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of Tradition.

For Jews, it is impossible to not believe in the literal beings known as the angels because the Old Testament makes numerous references to them. For them then it is an article of faith that cannot be ignored if you want to be a sincere and devout Jew. The same especially is true of Christians. In addition to what is given to us in the Old Testament, almost every book of the New Testament shows us that the angels are a real and active force in our lives. And since the life of Jesus as man and His eternal existence as God in the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity consists of numerous encounters with the angels, you cannot believe in Jesus as Christ if you do not also believe in angels.

So what are angels? The Catechism of the Catholic Church states in Paragraphs 329-330: 329 St. Augustine says: "'Angel' is the name of their office, not of their nature. If you seek the name of their nature, it is 'spirit'; if you seek the name of their office, it is 'angel': from what they are, 'spirit', from what they do, 'angel.'" With their whole beings the angels are servants and messengers of God. Because they "always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven" they are the "mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word".

330 As purely spiritual creatures angels have intelligence and will; they are personal and immortal creatures, surpassing in perfection all visible creatures, as the splendor of their glory bears witness.

Christian doctrine thus teaches that the angels are spiritual beings who were created by God to serve Him. They can appear in human form and interact with us, but those bodies are only temporary illusions and pass away when their interaction with certain humans ends sin. As purely spiritual beings, angels thus do not have DNA and those bodies may feel tangible but are not part of the angelic nature and thus vanish after the encounter because they have no use for physical bodies as we do. But as created beings, they exist within time as we do and do not know the future unless God reveals it to them.

What is the purpose of the angels? The purpose of all of the angels is to serve God, praise God, worship God, and pray to God. In the process of serving God, they also protect us, pray for us, inspire us, encourage us, and guide us during our journey on Earth. Some early Christian traditions indicate that even after our death, the angels continue to guide us in our journey to our final place, whether it is to Heaven or to Hell. It is speculative that those who have to go through the final state of purification on the way to Heaven known as Purgatory might also have their guardian angels (Psalm 91:9-12; Matthew 18:1-4,10) with them during their time of purification of sin.

And yes, everyone has a guardian angel. As Paragraph 336 of the Catechism tells us:

From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. "Beside each believer stands an

angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life." Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united in God.

**Our Guardian Angels love us and do everything within God's Will to protect us from harm. Sometimes though we reject God's protection, and by consequence theirs, when we reject God and we have to deal with the consequences of our sins when we do not repent.**

Angels also pray for us. We see in Isaiah 6:3 and Revelation 4:8 that the angels continue to sing and pray to God, "Holy, holy, holy." We also see in Tobit 12:12 and Revelation 5:8 and 8:3 that along with the Saints who are in Heaven, the angels serve as intercessors for us in prayer to God. For this reason, Jesus tells us in Matthew 18:10 **not to despise or bring harm to children, "for I tell you that in heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven."**

How many angels did God create? According to Daniel 7:10, there are so many of them that the angels cannot be counted by human standards but they and God know how many of them there are. And yet, as Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches, each angel is unique and no two angels are the same. Every angel is as distinct from one another as a dog is to a cat.

Are there female angels? No, and technically there are not any male either. Since they are spirits and do not have bodies, they do not have a gender and thus they cannot be male or female. For the same reason, technically God the Father and God the Holy Spirit are also not male. Jesus is an exception because He became both 100% God and 100% man when He was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary (John 1:1-3,14; Colossians 2:9).

All angelic beings have a purpose and perform different functions. According to theological traditions inspired from what the Bible makes reference to in various passages, there are nine choirs of angels organized in a heavenly hierarchy: Seraphim, Cherubim, Thrones, Dominions, Powers, Virtues, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels. The Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones mediate upon the Person, Wisdom, and Judgment of God. The Dominions, Powers, and Virtues govern the forces of nature and the Universe as a whole. Finally, Principalities are guardians of nations and cities, Archangels are guardians of special people, and Angels are guardians and messengers to us all.

And we know the names of the seven archangels who lead the angelic host (Tobit 12:15, Revelation 8:2); three are mentioned in Scripture and four from historical tradition. They are Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel, Saint Raphael, Uriel, Raguel, Zerachiel, and Remiel. As of Council of Rome in 745 under the reign of Pope Saint Zachary, the Catholic Church officially only acknowledges the names of three of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael because they are the only ones mentioned by name in the Bible.

Angels are all around us even if we do not see them. For every human being present in a room, there is at least one angel present, if not more. Their ultimate purpose is to serve God and by consequence help us. They are guardians of the Universe, warriors against the forces of darkness, guardians of every human being, ministers of God's sacred mysteries, and messengers of God's Divine Plan..

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Oklee	Sunday	09/27/20	8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Grygla	Sunday	09/27/20	10:15 a.m.	For Peace
Goodridge	Sunday	09/27/20	12:00 p.m.	Kathy Vatthauer
Oklee	Tuesday	09/29/20	8:00 a.m.	†Victims of Abortion
Oklee	Wednesday	09/30/20	8:00 a.m.	†Ray Buckner
Oklee	Thursday	10/01/20	8:00 a.m.	†Larry O'Neill
Grygla	Friday	10/02/20	11:00 a.m.	†Pro Defunctis
Latin Mass	Saturday	10/03/20	4:00 p.m.	Private Intentions
Oklee	Sunday	10/04/20	8:00 a.m.	†Larry O'Neill
Grygla	Sunday	10/04/20	10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Goodridge	Sunday	10/04/20	12:00 p.m.	Julie Kiesow

## Tithing

### St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee

September 20, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$1458.00
Loose Plate	\$20.00
Latin America	\$80.00
<b>Priest's Training</b>	<u>\$10.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1568.00</b>

### St. Ann's in Goodridge

September 13, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$195.00
Latin America	\$10.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$70.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$275.00</b>

September 20, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$305.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$120.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$425.00</b>

### St. Clement's in Grygla

September 20, 2020

Adults Envelopes	\$535.00
<b>Priest's Training</b>	\$30.00
Loose Plate	<u>\$80.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$645.00</b>

### Archangels—Raphael

The Catholic Church confirms the existence of angels, and that they are active in our lives.. Raphael means "God is my health". He is one of seven angels "who enter and serve before the Glory of the Lord" (Tobit 12:15). The meaning of Raphael's name reflects the fact that he touched Tobit's eyes in order to heal them of blindness. St. Augustine teaches in reference to the angels' office and nature: "Angel' is the name of their office, not of their nature. If you seek the name of their nature, it is 'spirit'; if you seek the name of their office, it is 'angel': from what they are, 'spirit,' from what they do, 'angel.'" In other words, the office of the angels is one of mission, as messengers of God, while their nature is defined as non-physical, personal spiritual beings created by God.

### Weekly Reflections



*"Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves..." (Philippians 2:3)*



Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put into our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life: your family, your friends, and those who make you angry.

### St Francis Xavier's Oklee, MN

Sunday, September 27, 2020  
Lector: Mary Ann Lambert

Sunday, October 4, 2020  
Lector: Mary Lynn Bachand

Sunday, October 11, 2020  
Lector: Paul Cyr

### St Ann's Goodridge, MN

Sunday, September 27, 2020  
Lector: Carol

Sunday, October 4, 2020  
Lector: Carol

Sunday, October 11, 2020  
Lector: Gerri

### St Clement's Grygla, MN

Sunday, September 27, 2020  
Lector: Laurie

Sunday, October 4, 2020  
Lector: Daniel

Sunday, October 11, 2020  
Lector: Dawn

## 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.

### 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!!

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Reflect upon the following readings from Sacred Scripture and meditate upon the purpose of the angels and by consequence our service and purpose to God. They are the perfect examples of love, loyalty, and fortitude.

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 19:1-17  
Psalm 91  
Hebrews 1:1-14, 13:1-2  
Luke 22:1-7,39-43

#### 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

#### 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  
Bambi Lambert  
Lucille Christianson  
Doris Dessellier  
Danielle Swanson  
Mark Stromberg  
Sylvia Remick Morey  
Penny Kalar  
Jo Lambert

