



The Messenger

**JULY
2018**

Pastoral Leadership

- Msgr. Douglas Grams
Rector/Pastor
- Fr. Garrett Ahlers
Parochial Vicar
- Fr. Cornelius Ezeiloaku
Parochial Vicar
- Fr. Jerry Meidl
Senior Associate Pastor
- Dcn. Rick Christiansen
Permanent Deacon

St. Gregory the Great Pastoral
Admin. Council

VACANT, President
 Larry Mages, Vice President
 Cheri LeBrun, Secretary
 Carol Hoffmann, HCAFC Rep.
 Mark Schuelke
 Rick Scheurer
 Carl Oswald, Trustee
 Pam Morson, Trustee
 Msgr. Douglas Grams, Ex Officio
 Sheri Liebl, Ex Officio

St. Gregory Cemetery Board

Paul Guggisberg
 Bruce Platz
 Ben Stadick
 Mark Hoffmann
 Karl Lindquist

Employees

Virginia Herring, Custodian
 Paulette Messerli, Custodian
 Karl Lindquist, Maint./Grounds
 Sheri Liebl, Secretary
 Lexi Platz, Lit./Safe Env. Coord.

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**St. Gregory the Great
Catholic Church**

PO Box 5
 440 6th Street
 Lafayette, MN 56054
 Phone: 507-228-8298
 Email:
 stgregory@holycrossafc.org

Website:
www.holycrossafc.org/church-of-st-gregory-the-great.html



Message from Monsignor Grams

Reprinted from *Crossings*, Spring 2018 Edition, Page 2

At meetings I often say that I am data-informed but not data-driven. Numbers don't tell the whole story, but they provide important information. As we engage in pastoral planning for our area faith community, I pay attention to the numbers of baptisms, deaths, marriages, first communions and confirmations.

This spring I was impressed with the 55 candidates who received the Sacrament of Confirmation. But I was surprised that 22 potential candidates were not confirmed -- that's almost a third of the juniors who are registered in our parishes. Obviously, we need to do a better job walking with parents when their children are baptized and receive First Communion, and we need to find additional ways to bridge the gap between third grade and the junior year of high school. Pope Francis speaks of the importance of "accompaniment," of walking with and supporting people at their current level of faith. Although this term may be unfamiliar to some, it is a practice that has been a part of sacramental preparation for a long time. Accompaniment is the role of parents and godparents, of relatives and friends who share the faith. Indeed, accompaniment is a task shared by the entire local Christian community. There are so many distractions competing for our attention. We need to be more diligent in supporting one another at each stage of life and when we are preparing to receive the sacraments.

Jesus calls us to be "fishers of men." In addition to our faith formation programs, Catholic schools, youth ministry and adult study programs, we need to go where the "fish" are in order to be effective. We can't sit in our pews or at our desks and expect them to come to us. I try to share my faith in the Lord wherever I go -- even at the gym and grocery store. As a baptized Christian, whether I'm wearing a Roman collar or not, I am called to share my faith. All baptized Christians need to bring the message of the Gospel to others.

How are we going to reach the 22 young persons and their families who either chose not to be confirmed or quietly slipped off our parish radar? Can we attract all our eligible juniors to prepare for Confirmation during 2019? Are we ready to reach out to them and share our faith? Are we willing to accompany them for a lifetime, and not simply for a year or two of sacramental preparation?

Many wonderful youth activities are available for our youth...to see all the activities in the HCAFC, please visit <http://www.holycrossafc.org/youth-ministry.html>

SOCIETY LEADERSHIP AT ST. GREGORY'S

ST. THOMAS C.O.F COURT #1994

Chief Ranger: Andy Maidl
Vice Chief Ranger: Mark LeGare
Treasurer: Joe Maidl
Recording Secretary: Mark Schuelke
Financial Secretary: Greg Bieraugel
Youth Director: Joe Maidl
Trustees: Paul Guggisberg, Neal Hoffmann and Ben Stadick

St Gregory Altar Society/Council of Catholic Women

President: Arlene Phillips
Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Carol Hoffmann
Treasurer: Lori Dick
Commission Chairs: Dianne Kuester – Spirituality; Lori Dick - Service; Paulette Messerli – Scholarship; Mary Lou Schmidt - Historian and (vacant – Reverence for Life)

July Birthday Wishes....



If any dates are incorrect, or you were unintentionally missed, please notify the office at 507-228-8298.

1	Kora Blicknase	1	Marvin Weber	3	Msgr. Douglas Grams
3	Kiyana Yost	3	Frank Yost	5	Paul Schuelke
6	Larry Hoffmann	6	Haley Hoffmann	8	Connor Portner
11	Chuck Fitterer	11	McKinlee Hoffmann	13	Dana Oswald
14	Chad Hacker	15	Lois Hoffmann	15	Keagan Weikle
18	Jeff Brandel	18	Andrew Maidl	18	Emerson Wenninger
19	Allan Guggisberg	19	Lexi Platz	25	Nancy Reed



Tidbits of Information

THANK YOU....

- ❖ To Larry Mages and Mark Schuelke for volunteering to become two new members of the St. Gregory Admin Council and to Linda Beranek, Alex Platz and Laurie Platz whose terms on the Admin Council have been completed, for all the time and talent that they have put into leading the church.
- ❖ To those who recently gave generously through grain donations.
- ❖ To Cheri LeBrun for organizing the Mass of Anointing and CCW reception following the event and to anyone else who may have assisted in this special event
- ❖ To Fr. Ahlers for leading Logan Platz and Matias Uher into service by preparing them to be become Mass servers.
- ❖ To Logan Platz and Mathias Uher for having the willingness to serve our church and our Catholic Faith as servers at St. Gregory's.

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Mass Intentions are a wonderful way to show love and compassion and friendship. If you would like to have a Mass said in honor of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion, please complete a Mass Intention envelope and return it in the collection basket. If writing a check for Mass Intentions, please address the check to St. Gregory Mass Intention Fund or St. Gregory' and indicate Mass Intention in the subject line.

NOTES from the office: Keep us in the loop...have you changed addresses, no longer have a home phone, added a PO Box, etc. Make sure to keep the church on your list of places to notify when you have a change in your address, phone etc. Thank you.

Congratulations!

CONGRATULATIONS to the Tom and Patty Hayes family for being selected as the 2018 Nicollet County Farm Family of the Year. Tune into KNUJ Radio 860 AM on Tuesday, July 31st at 9:15 AM for their radio interview.

CONGRATULATIONS to Lori Dick, the 2018 Recipient of the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award from the Lafayette Area Lions. She will be honored at the July 10th Lions Banquet.

Bridal Shower

YOU'RE INVITED to a Bridal Shower for Jazmyne Jo Miller, bride to be of Andrew Maidl. The event will be held on Sunday, July 22 from 1-4 P.M. at 391 8th Street in Lafayette.

Youth & Adult Faith Formation News

Attention all parish families with school age children...If you have not completed your Faith Formation or Religious Education registration, NOW is a great time to complete it.

St. Gregory families have several options for the faith formation of your child(ren)...

- ✦ **Preschool through 1st Grade** – We are hoping to again offer a Sunday School program if there is enough interest. This is FREE to all registered children of St. Gregory's. Laura Hacker has agreed to teach again...thank you Laura. If anyone would like to co teach with Laura, please let us know. First graders may also attend the Wed, evening classes in New Ulm...see below.
- ✦ **1st Grade through 11th Grade** – Faith formation is held in New Ulm on Wednesday evenings at Cathedral. Registration is available online at <http://www.holycrossafc.org/faith-formation.html>. Registration forms were also emailed to families
- ✦ We also may have families that go elsewhere for Faith Formation or home school religion to their children....no problem. Just talk with Sheri in the office, to make arrangements to reimburse you for books and/or tuition.

Now for the GREAT news...are you ready? Due to recent donations designated to the youth of St. Gregory, the Administrative Council has approved the use these designated funds to pay for tuition for our youth's faith formation. What does this mean? St. Gregory's will be paying for all fees for the 2018-19 school year. If you have already registered, please notify St. Gregory's office of the location you are enrolled, and you will receive a reimbursement. If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration, turn it into the office or Sunday collection basket and it will be submitted along with payment for you. Questions contact Sheri at the office at 507-228-8298 (leave message) or email her at stgregory@holycrossafc.org.

SUMMER EVENT CALENDAR
You can find sign-up information on the AFC website!
Summer Blast Caritas:
June 13, 20, 27, July 11, August 15
Totus Tuus:
July 15 – 20
Sunday Youth Nights:
Grades 6-8 from 7:00 – 8:30 P.M. at St. Mary's
Monday Huddle:
Grades 9-12 from 7:30 – 9:00 P.M.
(doors open at 7:00 P.M.)

BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECTS.....

- ✦ The United Way of the Brown County Area will again be hosting a "Stuff the Backpacks" promotion to benefit students in the Brown County school districts. A collection box for school supplies will be located in the St. Mary's main entryway beginning July 7th.
- ✦ Friends of Learning is again sponsoring a Back to School Backpack project for students of rural Nicollet County and St. Peter area. Cash or check donations can be mailed to FOL (Friends of Learning, PO Box 156, St Peter, MN 56082 and school supplies can be placed in the drop box located at Citizen's Bank in Lafayette.

St. Gregory Altar Society/CCW News

CCW/ Altar Society Meeting – The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 12th at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall. The program will be a Harvest Festival update and Nancy Dauer will be the hostess. All women of the parish are welcome and encouraged to attend our bi monthly meetings.

ATTENTION LADIES OF CIRCLE 3...The project for this circle will be assisting the Lafayette Area Lions in their Annual Hog and Corn Roast on Saturday, August 25, 2018. You will be contacted shortly by the co- chairs with more information. For more information on the work of the CCW, please refer to your CCW handbook. All proceeds of the CCW fundraisers go towards several organizations in need as well as assist in supplying the altar needs of the church such as candles, bread wine, linens, etc. Thank you in advance for your donation of time and talent to the CCW fundraisers.



The St. Gregory Altar Society/CCW is preserving the history of St. Gregory and your help is needed. If you have an event at St. Gregory's and would like it to be included in the history, please submit a picture and a description and date of the event to the box located in the social hall or the back of church. If questions please contact Mary Lou Schmidt, CCW Historian at 507-359-4390

Harvest Festival Update

Parishioner packets are now available for pickup at the church. Inside the envelope you will find your work assignment, raffle tickets to purchase or sell as well as other great and useful information.

Donations for the Harvest Festival. Unique prizes, gift cards and cash prizes are great prize ideas...talk to your friends and neighbors to go together on a prize. Donations accepted for the bucket raffle, silent auction, paddle wheel, farmer's market, kids' games, etc. The biggest donation we need is your time and help the day of the event!

SAVE THE DATE... Sunday, August 12, 2018
Guaranteed fun for all ages!

St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
Lafayette, Minnesota

Harvest
Festival

Save the dates...Upcoming Church and Community Events

Friday, July 6 – Lafayette Community Social and Band Concert starting at 5:30 PM. Events to be held in the Lafayette Community Center and mini park.

Friday, July 13 – Lafayette Community Social, Band Concert and Movie in the Park (kid friendly outdoor movies shown at dusk). Events start at 5:30 PM in the Lafayette Community Center and in the Lafayette Mini Park, downtown Lafayette.

Wednesday, July 18 – All HCAFC Parish members are invited to join in an all parish potluck with the visiting Totus Tuus Team. The potluck will take place at 6 PM at St. Mary's church in New Ulm.

Friday, August 3 – Valley Fair Field Trip for all HCAFC servers – Buses will depart from the Cathedral parking lot at 8:30 AM and return about 5:30 PM. Admission to the park is FREE for Altar Servers for this trip. Friends are welcome to join in the fun but will have to pay the group price of \$30.00. Permission slips can be obtained from the HSAFC website at <http://holycrossafc.org/youth-ministry>. I hope that you can make it for this day of fun! If you have any questions or are interested in assisting, contact Matthew Edens, HCAFC Youth and Young Adult Ministry Director at 507-233-9501 or email at youthministry@holycrossafc.org

HARVEST FESTIVAL TIMELINE

Friday, August 9, 2018 – Tent Set up at 1 PM

Saturday, August 10, 2018 –

9AM – Meatball making Party and more grounds set up. Lunch will be provided to all assisting

9 AM – 11 AM – Final donations and Raffle ticket can be dropped off in the church social hall.

Cakes for Sunday meal can be also dropped off Sunday morning.

5 PM – A special Saturday evening Mass is being planned.

Sunday August 12, 2018 – St. Gregory's Harvest Festival

Sunday, August 19, 2018 – Donut Sunday at St. Gregory following the 10:30 AM Mass, hosted by the St. Gregory Administrative Council

Sunday, August 19, 2018 – Swan Lake Church will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary. Please watch future bulletins and Messenger editions for details.

Saturday, August 25, 2018 – Lions Annual Hog and Corn Roast

Saturday, August 25, 2018 – Lafayette Fire Relief Association Dance

Sunday, August 26, 2018 – Fall festival at St. John's in Searles; watch the bulletin for more information.

Wednesday, September 5, 2018 – Faith Formation opening Mass at Cathedral in New Ulm

Sunday, September 9, 2018 – Fall Festival at St. George church; watch the bulletin for more information

Sunday, September 16, 2018 - Donut Sunday at St. Gregory following the 10:30 AM Mass, hosted by the St. Gregory Altar Society/CCW

Sunday, September 9, 2018 – Fall Festival at St. George church; watch the bulletin for more information

Sunday, September 23, 2018 – St. Mary's Fall Festival; watch the bulletin for more information

*St. Gregory the Great
Catholic Church, Lafayette, MN*

July 2018

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 10:30 a.m. Mass <hr/> <i>13th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	2	3	4 No Confessions or Mass All HCAFC Offices closed Happy 4th of July!	5	6	7
8 10:30 a.m. Mass <hr/> <i>14th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9	10	11 7:30 a.m. Confessions* 8 a.m. – Mass*	12 CCW Meeting; 6:30 PM; Social Hall	13	14
15 10:30 a.m. Mass <hr/> <i>15th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	16	17	18 7:30 a.m. Confessions* 8 a.m. – Mass* 6 PM -HCAFC All Parish Potluck with Totus Tuus Team; St. Mary's Church	19	20	21
22 10:30 a.m. Mass - <hr/> <i>16th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	23	24	25 7:30 a.m. Confessions* 8 a.m. – Mass*	26	27	28
29 10:30 a.m. Mass <hr/> <i>17th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	30	31	For all youth and young adult activities in our AFC, go to http://www.holycrossafc.org/youth-ministry.html To view the entire Holy Cross AFC calendar, go to http://www.holycrossafc.org/afc-calendar.html *All activities/Masses are subject to change			