

NEWS/HAPPENINGS/RETREATS

Diocese of Fargo SEARCH For Christian maturity Retreats for youth and young adults, 16+

When: March 1-3, 2024 (Deadline to register February 12, 2024)

April 26-28, 2024 (Deadline to register April 8, 2024)

See JoAnne if you are interested.

Pork & Dumpling Dinner

Sunday, February 4, 2024 at St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church, Pisek. Roast pork, dumplings, sauerkraut, gravy/butter, applesauce, kolache. Dine in or take out. Drive – through starts at 10:30 am; dine in starts at 11:00 am. Thank you for your support.

Mardi Gras at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River

Tuesday, February 13th, 11 am to 1 pm. Soup & Sandwich Lunch & bake sale too! Free-will offering! Sponsored by St. Mary's Altar Society

Worldwide Marriage Encounter will be offering marriage retreats at: Mandan (February 9-11) and Valley City (March 22-24). Live your best life in love! For more information, call Rob & Angie at (701) 347-1998 or apply at wwme.org.

Operation Andrew Dinner (For men ages 16-30)

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 5:30 at Bishop Folda's Home.

If you are interested and want to learn more please see Fr. Casey

Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress July 16-2024 The Diocese of Fargo will offer a pilgrimage to the Congress in Indianapolis, IN. The Congress will include five days of talks, Mass Eucharistic procession, Adoration and much more. The pilgrimage begins on July 16, 2024 and includes an overnight stop in Mundelein, IL at Our Lady of the Lake Retreat Center and a visit to the shrine of Maximillian Kolbe. There are only 100spots available for the pilgrimage route to the Congress. Registration: fargodiocese.org/congress-pilgrimage. Early bird registration before Dec 31 \$1125 based on double. After Dec 31 \$1225 based on double. Also limited discounted tickets available for the Congress and/or hotel without the bus pilgrimage. Please see registration page. Call 701-356-7909 or email: Mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org

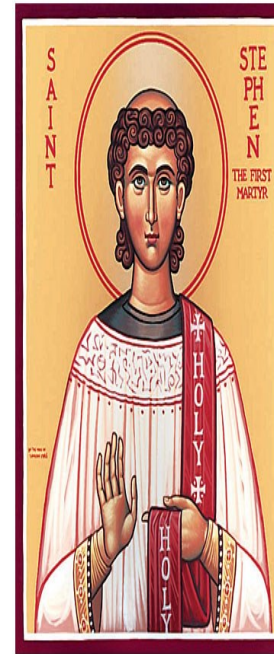
"Fearfully and Wonderfully Made"

A retreat experience for women
Beloved Daughter Retreat: Feb 15th-17th, 2024
Beloved Sister Retreat: May 2nd—4th, 2024
Beloved Spouse Retreat: Aug 8th—10th, 2024
Beloved Mother Retreat: Oct 3rd—5th, 2024
Registration: \$50 Cost: \$200-250
Place: Maryvale, Valley City, ND
To Register go to www.Maryvalend.org
See the bulletin board for more information.

Miryam Dinner (For women ages 16-30)

Thursday, April 18, @5:30 pm
Bishop Folda's home, Fargo

For more information please contact Fr Kyle Metzger, vocations director, at vocations@fargodiocese.org or 701-356-7957



ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

FEBRUARY 04, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Fr. Casey, Pastor
Email: ststlarimorend@gmail.com
Rectory: 701-343-2377

St. Stephens
311 W. Front St
PO Box 778
Larimore, ND 58251-0778
Fax: 701-343-2316

Secretary: Teresa Gorman
DRE: Jenna Kylo

Office: 701-343-2377
Parish email: ststlarimore@msn.com
Website: <https://larimoreststephens.weebly.com>

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Place:</u>	<u>Mass Intention</u>
05 Monday	No Public Mass		
06 Tuesday	5:30 pm Mass	St. Stephen's	†Patricia Sheffer
07 Wednesday	5:30 pm Mass	"	†Fr. Gerald L. Meyers
08 Thursday	9:00 am Mass	"	†All Deced. McMahan Family
09 Friday	9:00 am Mass	"	Pro Populo
10 Saturday	5:00 pm Vigil	"	†Louis Jacobs
11 Sunday	9:00 am Mass	St. Stephen's	†Frances & Dorothy Hofer

Eucharistic Adoration



We will have Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday, **February 7** from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. During adoration Fr. Casey will hear confessions. Why Eucharistic Adoration? Because Jesus invites you. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened. Come to me and I will refresh you". So Schedule some time to spend with Jesus.

Mardi Gras Luncheon

You are invited to a Mardi Gras luncheon on February 13th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm for soup and sandwich here at St. Stephen's. Bring your friends and neighbors. I look forward to seeing you .

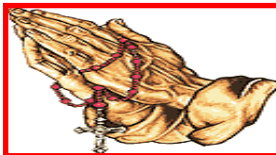
Fr. Casey



Women of St. Stephen's there will be an Altar society meeting on Sunday 18th of February after the 9am Mass.

Coffee Time after 9am Mass. Signup sheet for treats is on the bulletin board. Coffee will be provided. Due to classes in the basement we will meet in the narthex. See you there!

DATE	FEB 03	FEB 04	FEB 10	FEB 11
TIME:	5:00 pm	9:00 am	5:00 pm	9:00 am
Mass	†Jerry	Pro	†Louis	†Francis & Dorothy
INTENTION	Lempe	Populo	Jacobs	Hoffer
EMHC/ LECTOR:	Teresa Teresa	Jenny Jenny	Teresa Teresa	Jenny Jenny
MUSIC:	Bob Greene	Karen & Paulette	Bob Greene	Karen & Paulette



The Rosary starts 30 min before Mass. This month's rosary will be led by the **Knights**

Prayer intentions for February

Pope Francis' intention

For the terminally ill and their families always receive the necessary medical and human care and assistance.

During the upcoming Lenten season, people may experience a deeper conversion to Christ and all that he has accomplished for us.

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation: Every Saturday and Sunday 30 minutes before Mass or by appointment.

Baptism Preparation: If you need to have your child baptized, please call Fr. Casey for an appointment. A pre-baptism class and a meeting with the priest is required.

Matrimony: To be married at St Stephen's, one or both persons of the engaged couple must be a practicing Catholic. St Stephen's must be contacted 6 months prior to the wedding.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church please contact the parish office or Father Casey.

You are invited to offer your Mass intentions at St. Stephen's. There are Mass Intention envelopes in the front and both side entrances of the church. Make checks payable to St. Stephen's and indicate if the person is deceased.

Stained Glass Window project

The work has begun to refurbish the stained glass windows. We are still accepting donations for the project. In the narthex you will find envelopes for your donation.

Stewardship Moment

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." ~ MARK 1:35,38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship, Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes—healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus takes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we are given the graces needed to do what He wishes us to do. Praying before acting is a great habit to develop.

Gifts to Altar Jan. 27th - Jan. 28th

Envelopes: \$ 1375.00
Plate: \$ 65.00

Stained Glass Window Project:
\$ 120.00

Our Stewardship Status 2024

Budget	Received Adult
Adult \$ 105,000.00	\$ 4,745.00
Plate: \$ 7,000.00	\$ 406.00

Cost of Project	Received
\$ 59,107.00	\$43,266.30

Reflection on the this Sundays readings.

The Lord heals us so that, in humility, we can bow before him and offer him worship. In the constant complexity of life, we see that humanity thirsts for something more than the world can offer. In the first reading from the Book of Job, Job states that man's life is a drudgery and nothing more than months of misery. Job's sentiment in the first reading summarizes the dramatic situation man has experienced since the Fall. In the beginning, humanity was created to share in the divine happiness of God, and God has given us everything that we need to share in His eternal blessedness. Then, Satan tricked our first parents, saying that we would become like God if they ate from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. As a result of their failure to remember that they were created in God's image and likeness, Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden. Since then, the life of mankind has seemed to be tedious or miserable.

We are made for happiness, but we find ourselves amid a battle, wounded and striving to do what is right. Even though this wound from the battle can undoubtedly feel like misery, we do not have to face this daily battle alone. Nor do we have to cure ourselves. The Lord desires to grasp each of our hands in the same way that he took the hand of Simon's mother-in-law, who laid sick, and at the moment of our Lord's touch, her illness left her. Frequently, our egocentric tendencies prohibit us from encountering the healing power of God. Instead of turning to God for healing, we turn to material possessions to alleviate our laziness, vanity, and petty ambitions. When we realize that we are not the center of the universe, we can see Jesus at the foot of our bed, offering his hand to heal us.

When God heals us, we should respond as Simon's mother-in-law did. "She waited on them," that is to say, she recognized that she was healed for mission. Worship of God is the first and primary mission for which the Lord heals us because by giving God worship, we recognize that only His grace can save us. Second, the Lord heals us to be on mission at the service of the Gospel. In his letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul says, "An obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it." When we experience the healing power of the Lord, we are called to share his mercy with all the brokenhearted. The Lord cures us so that we might be his healing instruments for others, always at the service of the Gospel.

God wanted to share his divine life with us from the beginning of creation, and in return, we are called to give him worship and thank him for imparting his image and likeness. Unfortunately, the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden brought illness upon each of us. However, we are not alone in our illness; the Lord is at the foot of our beds, fervently seeking to grasp our hands and offer us healing. He desires to cure us so that we can experience eternal happiness and so that we can lead our brothers and sisters to his healing power. Let the Lord take hold of our hands so we may be healed, and when we are healed, let us praise Him and bear fruit for the world's salvation.

By Fr. Gabriel Greer



According to the *Code of Canon Law*, blessed items are to be treated with respect and reverence and not discarded in the trash. At Mass, **these palm branches were blessed by a priest and became a "sacramental," which is an object that is meant to draw us closer to God.** These sacred signs bear a resemblance to the sacraments (cf. #1171). Throwing them in the trash overlooks their sacred purpose and treats them like any other object we no longer need. Bury them is the proper way to dispose of the palms. There will be a basket in the entry of the church for any blessed palms. These will be turned into ashes for next year.