

Assumption Catholic Church

206 Dakota Street, PO Box 67, Callaway, MN September 2, 2018

Here is a thought from last week's homily: *It was said that at the end of every day the Holy Father Pope John Paul II would fall to his knees before a life-size crucifix and say to Jesus, "I have done what I can. It's your Church. I am going to bed now. The rest is up to you."*

It is good for us to pray for one another. It is even our obligation as Children of God to pray for all the members of the Body of Christ. We pray for unity among us, for the health of our members and for the eternal salvation of all.

I am thinking today about the obligation I have when I ask for your prayers.

When I ask for prayer, I am implicitly accepting a responsibility. If I ask you to pray for my health, I, in turn, am obligated to make good choices regarding my health. I get it that in our weakness we can fail. We can have good intentions when we ask for prayers and then later fall into old habits. What I don't get is a brother asking for prayers while at the same time rejecting every obligation that naturally accompanies the intention. This smacks of hypocrisy and even sacrilege.

Last week many leaders in the Catholic Church asked for our prayers. Something about this feels off, even manipulative. Asking for prayers gives the impression that our leaders are actually doing something about the moral and administrative crisis in the Church. We are all in favor of prayer! In this instance, more than hearing a plea for prayer, we need to see evidence that the guilty will be held accountable, that broken administrative processes will be repaired and that those who have been harmed will be given their long over-due justice.

It is possible to over-spiritualize sin. If I have a broken leg, it makes no sense for me to ask for prayers and then refuse a cast. Prayer can be a remedy; it is a bad remedy when we need to do something in the order of nature. Go to the emergency room. Get an x-ray. Sit still while the cast is molded. Take a pain pill. Get fitted for crutches or one of those beautiful broken-leg-scooter-things. Prayer cannot replace ordinary, responsible human action.

The Catholic Church is broken. And you, leaders, ask for prayer. Not this time. In the order of nature, there is lots to do.

To our leaders: we love you, we support you, we will pray for you. But we will no longer enable your bad behavior by falling to our knees because you have asked for our prayers. We see clearly that you really just want us to look the other way. We say to you, *ephphatha!*

Bishop Michael J. Hoepfner invites all the faithful to join him and married couples from across the Diocese of Crookston for the 2018 **Marriage Celebration Day** on Sunday, October 7th at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Crookston. The celebration will begin with Sunday Mass at 2:30 p.m. during which couples will be honored. All married couples as well as widows and widowers will receive a special blessing from Bishop and each couple will receive a gift in thanksgiving for their support of marriage. Following Mass, supper will be served. If you are planning to stay for the meal, please RSVP by September 24th at www.crookston.org/marriageday or by calling the Diocese of Crookston at 218-281-4533.

Mass Schedule for Sacred Heart Church in Frazee

Saturdays – 9:00 am and 5:30 pm
Sundays – 8:30 am
Weekdays: Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 9:00 am
Wednesdays – Frazee Care Center 9:00 am

PASTOR
Msgr. David Baumgartner
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Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:
Cindy Hulst
Confidential Line:
218.281.7895
chulst@crookston.org

Mass Times
Thursday @ 7:00 pm
Sunday 10:30 am

CONFESSIONS:
Thursday @ 6:15 pm
Sunday after Mass

ADORATION:
Thursdays: 5:00-7:00 pm

The Assumption Parish Fall Dinner is fast approaching. Thank you in advance for turning in your donations and ticket sales at your earliest convenience. If you need more tickets or have questions regarding the raffle, please contact Colleen Schmit at 218-790-4972.

We are looking for another member for the Finance Committee. If you are interested, send a note to Fr. David (frdavid.shfre@arvig.net).

The sign-up sheets for the Fall Dinner are in the vestibule. Please sign up for a responsibility of you have not already done so.

We give thanks to everyone for being with us to celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary on the 19th. We love you all and thank you so much. Max and Karen

Next weekend there will be an extra Mass on Saturday evening at 7:30 pm to accommodate those who are working at the Fall Dinner on Sunday morning.

Our next church cleaning is scheduled for Wednesday, September 19, at 5:00 pm, to be followed by a potluck supper. All parish families are encouraged to help. Please join us.

Question of the Week: How can I avoid hypocrisy and embrace the spirit of God's commands? Am I merely fulfilling my Sunday obligation or am I a "doer of the word," putting God's word into action?

PRAYER REQUESTS: A PRAYER TO PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE BELOW:

Lord, we pray for your loving support for the people listed below and their families as they deal with their illnesses. Guide the doctors who are seeking answers and making decisions about care/ treatments. We pray that their illness is at a stage favorable for effective treatment. Enable their bodies to respond well to care/treatment and their soul to experience comfort and peace in you. Make this an experience that draws them and their loved ones closer to you as well as to one another. We commit them to your mercy. Amen

Rosella Olson (Ginny Warren's mother), Alice Bellefeuille, Mark Stalberger, Lucille Winter, Sherry Steffl, Ernie Clark, Lowell Baker, Martha Donley, Connie Olgaard, Rita Pearson, Walt Welle, Shawna Donner, Deb Clark, Albert Schouville, Rick Flottesch, Cleo Baker, Brent Pearson, Jerry Flottesch, Peter Pearson, Jeanine Kivi, Alice DuChene, Peg Braaten, Leonard Thielen, Kenneth Winter, Gene Zurn, Terry Hoy (cousin of Coleen Tietz), Connie Collman Bergren, Sharon Winter, Darrell Beck, Gerald Galbrecht (brothers-in-law of Don Tietz), Allen Gulseth and Charlie Grieger.

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only..."

James 1:22

It is easy to understand the definition of stewardship. The hard part is living it! What do you do to live God's word? Do you share your time in prayer with God? Do you use your talent to help those in need? Are you generous with your financial resources? If not, what are you waiting for?

Sunday August 19, 2018
Regular Collection \$680

UPCOMING:

Sun., Sept 9: Parish Fall Dinner (no Fellowship after Mass)
Wed., Sept 19: Church cleaning at 5:00 pm

Mass Intentions

Thurs, Sept 6: Communion Service
Sun., Sept 9: In Thanksgiving to Good St. Joseph

Ministry Schedule for Sept 9 2018

Ministers of Holy Communion

Kristi Stalberger, Mark Stalberger & David Steffl

Lector

Gina Steffl

Ushers

Al Foltz & Danny Steffl

Presentation of Gifts

Joseph Lorsung Family

Altar Servers

Natalie Steffl & Noah Steffl