

Assumption Catholic Church

June 18, 2023

This past Wednesday our nation celebrated Flag Day. It is one of my favorite national holidays. On that day we honor the "Stars and Stripes." In schools, we used to pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, and indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Allegiance is an interesting word. It doesn't just mean unwavering obedience or servitude. Allegiance comes from the word "liege," which means *free*. Consequently when we pledge allegiance, we do it freely or not at all. If it is coercive, it is not allegiance, it is slavery. There is nothing incompatible with Christianity and pledging allegiance to the Flag. We pledge to the Flag, because it is the representative head of State, the embodiment of this great nation. Other lands have a monarch, a king or queen, as their head of state, and they pledge loyalty to that monarch, but we Americans pledge to the Flag and to the Republic. We do not pledge to the President of the United States; he is not the embodiment of the nation. He conducts business on our behalf, like a lawyer conducts business on behalf of a client, but he is not the manifestation of our national identity, as is the "Star Spangled Banner." As Christians, it is our duty to pledge allegiance to our homeland. This is what the Church calls Civil Allegiance:

As nature and religion prescribe to children dutiful conduct towards the parents who brought them into the world, so nature and religion impose on citizens certain obligations towards their country and its rulers. These obligations may be reduced to those of patriotism and obedience. Patriotism requires that the citizen should have a reasonable esteem and love for his country. He should take an interest in his country's history, he should know how to value her institutions, and he should be prepared to sacrifice himself for her welfare. In his country's need it is not only a noble thing, but it is a sacred duty to lay down one's life for the safety of the commonwealth. Love for his country will lead the citizen to show honor and respect to its rulers. They represent the State, and are entrusted by God with power to rule it for the common good. The citizen's chief duty is to obey the just laws of his country.

When we gaze upon "Old Glory," we should remember the blessings we have received in this land and find within ourselves a growing determination to work and sacrifice that these same blessings would be preserved for our children and our children's children.

Question of the Week: How am I called to be a laborer for the harvest? What concrete thing can I do this week to carry out Jesus' mission?

If you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or its schools, your first call should be to law enforcement. In addition, the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator is available at 218-281-7895

Pastor

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Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Cindy Hulst
Confidential Line:
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Mass Times

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Sunday 10:30 am

CONFESSIONS:

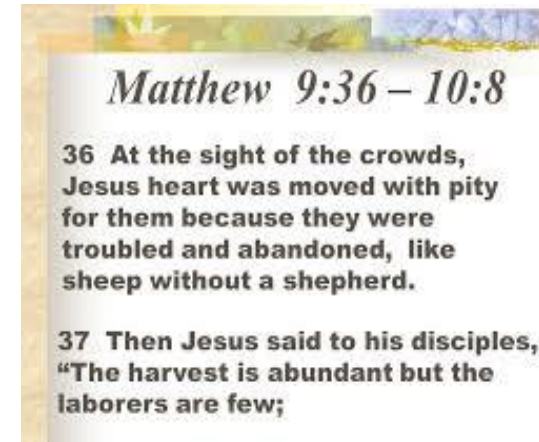
Tuesday @ 6:15 pm
Sunday after Mass

ADORATION:

Tuesdays: 5:00-7:00 pm

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"As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" Matthew 10:7

Many of us take our lives for granted. We think we Have plenty of time to "repent. "Maybe we should live with a little more urgency in making things right with God. This is the difference in living our discipleship out of obligation versus out of love. Obligation implies we do the minimum required. Love implies we want a relationship. God wants us to be with Him in Heaven forever, but He also wants to be in relationship with us right now, while we are on earth. Start this second – invite the Lord into your heart.

Sunday June 11, 2023--\$830

Upcoming

Wed., June 21: Church cleaning at 11 am
Sun., June 25: Welcome to Summer Parish Dinner - Serving starts at 11:30 am.
Sun., Aug. 6: First Holy Communion

Mass Intentions

Today's Mass: + Mark Stalberger
Tues., June 20: + Herman Winter & Veronica Havercamp
Sun., June 25: +Alice Bellefeuille

Ministry Schedule for June 25, 2023

Altar Servers

Luke Helm

Eucharistic Minister

MaryAnn Jorgenson & Colleen Schmit

Lector

Kristi Stalberger

Presentation of the Gifts

Jeff Wirth Family

Ushers

Jerry Spry & Bill Steffl

Announcements

Our next Church cleaning will be on Wednesday, June 21, at 11 am, followed by a potluck lunch.

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.

Crystal Bunnell, Theresa (Foltz) Thunder, Irene Hazelton, Stella Thielen, Lillian Welle, Cleo Baker, George Scherzer, Dolores Manning, Colleen Borgrud, LaVaun Borgrud, Kevin Clark, Karen Klarer, Darlene Johnson Maneval (RIP), Mark Winter, Stan Warren and Fr. Adam Hamness