



Our Lady OF THE Prairie

CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday | 4:15pm

Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday | 6:30pm

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday | 8:30am

Holy Days & Holidays

Consult bulletin.

Eucharist Adoration

Wednesday | 9:00am - 10:00pm

Sacraments

Sacrament of Confession

30 mins prior to Mass.

Sacrament of Marriage

Make arrangements with the Parish Office six months prior to proposed wedding date.

Sacrament of Baptism

Congratulations! Thank you for accepting and caring for one of God's greatest gifts. As part of Baptism preparation, expectant parents are required to attend Mass weekly. Please contact the Parish Office (952) 873-6564. We look forward to getting to know you and your baby.

Bulletin Announcements

If you would like to post in the bulletin, please send an email to: bulletineditor@olp.church by noon on Monday for the following Sunday. (Holidays may have earlier deadlines)

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

Please contact 952-992-0140

200 East Church Street
Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011
952-873-6564
www.ourladyoftheprairie.com

December 22, 2024

4th Sunday OF ADVENT



The Angel's Candle (purple) represents Love.

During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas. Are you ready?

Advent Wreath Prayer: *"Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen."*

PARISH STAFF

(952) 873-6564

PASTOR

Fr. Michael Kaluza |
mkaluza@olp.church

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Keith Heitkamp |
heitkampkeith@gmail.com

LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

TRUSTEES

Charlotte Mulroy, Sue Schultz

PARISH COUNCIL

Mike Buchanan, Dan Flynn, Ginny Morgan, Allen Schmitz, Ty Buesgens, Renee Schultz, James Fogarty, Brian Berger, Joan Brueggemeier, Bob Smith, Susan Cole, Greg O'Brien

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Ashley Simons, Matt Offerdahl, Loni Scheff, Danielle Campos, Kim Baltus

FINANCE COUNCIL

Dan Neisen, Maria Tracy, Jerome Flaherty, Joe Vandermark, Jim Koeppe

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY



Natalie (Covington) Ruiz
Jordan Ruiz
David May
Dylan May
Sean Alander
Alex Vandermark

and for all military members & their families.

If your family has an enlisted service member, please contact Ginny Morgan: (701) 212-3109 (leave a message).

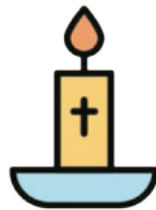
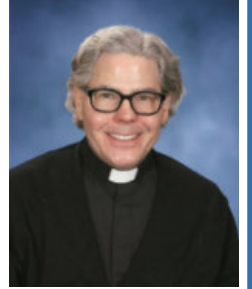
A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL . . .

This weekend we hear from the prophet Micah announcing the word of God to the people of Bethlehem. He shares with them that the new ruler will originate not from royalty, but from their humble village. Often it is small things that deliver great consequences. The new king will rule as a shepherd caring for the livelihood of the people. The greatness of Jesus is not in his modest birth, but in his life, death and resurrection.

The name Bethlehem means "house of bread" and we can reflect that Jesus comes to us in the great gift of the Eucharist which originates from humble offerings of bread and wine. The great things that God does with modest means continues to amaze those who have the great gift of faith.

God's promise is fulfilled in the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ. The Gospel anticipates Jesus' coming and tells of Mary's visit to her pregnant relative Elizabeth. She recognizes the Divine Presence of Jesus as Mary comes to care for her needs. The joy and hospitality anticipate what we celebrate at Christmas! During this final week of Advent our preparation ends with the joyous celebration of Christmas! So may we use the days wisely to ready ourselves for the great miracle of Christ's birth!

God bless you,
Father Michael Kaluza



PRAYER LIST

If you know of someone you would like added to the prayer list, please notify the bulletin editor or Parish Office. Obtain the permission of the person you wish to add before calling or emailing. Names will remain on the list for four weeks.

Bud Steen	Dave Buesgens
Bob Koenig	Eileen Effertz
Matt Hennen	Elmer Lambrecht
Deacon Bob Raleigh	Lisa Pobuda
Ron (Franny) Gerres	Cheri Brenhofer
Mona Bentfield	Maureen Millard
Rajen Sidhu	Mike Duffy
Don Morrison	Louis Wawrzyniak



Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, January 12
 8am - 12Noon
 Pancakes, Sausage, Orange Juice, Milk, Coffee.
FREE WILL Offering



COLLECTIONS

Weekly Collection Goal: \$8,344.00

Date	Amount	Deficit
12/08/2024	\$6,848.50	(-) \$1,495.50
Retirement Fund	\$1,005.00	

MASS ATTENDANCE

Date	Time	Count
Saturday, December 7	4:15 pm	208
Sunday, December 8	8:00 am	158
	10:00 am	162

STEWARDSHIP & ATTENDANCE

For the Week of December 15, 2024

Contribution amounts & attendance for December 15, 2024 were not available due to early holiday printing deadlines.

Total Registered Active Families 486
 Total Registered Active Members 1,293

Automatic Contributions

Did you know your contributions can be automatically deducted from your checking, savings, or credit card account? For more information call the parish office at 952-873-6564 or check out our website.



Please help us keep our brothers and sisters warm this winter by donating your gently used or new blankets, coats, outerwear, boots, and socks.

Your donation will be given to Loaves and Fishes and some of the monetary donations will also be used to buy and make fleece blankets for the children at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis.

Please drop off your donations **now through January 22nd** in the bin marked "Blankets Because We Care" or drop them off at our home: 1109 Rose Court, Jordan, MN. We are also willing to pick up donations, just call! (952) 457-9877.

Thank you for your generosity and may God Bless you!
 Jason and Jennifer Schmit Family



Free Wine Tasting

Join the Council of Catholic Women
January 19th at 2:00 pm
 in Roedel Hall

All women of the Parish are invited.

Please Make a reservation with
 Maureen Daly: (952) 687-1501
Space is limited.

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

For the safety of our parishioners:

If schools are **delayed, close early, or closed** due to snow or poor weather conditions, Church, Adoration and all meetings, events and activities scheduled for that day at the church will be cancelled (PREP, CCW, Knights of Columbus, Marriage Encounter, etc.)

We will send an email blast to those of you on our weekly bulletin email list letting you know of closures.

If you are not on our email list and would like to be added, please call the office or email:
 kpumper@ourladyoftheprairie.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, December 23

No Mass

Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

Office Closed

3:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass

4:15 pm Christmas Eve Mass

Wednesday, December 25 The Nativity of The Lord

Office Closed

8:00 am Christmas Day Mass

10:00 am Christmas Day Mass

No Religious Ed (Christmas Break)

Thursday, December 26

8:30 am Mass

6:30-7:30 pm Men's Small Group in CR

Friday, December 27

8:30 am Mass

Saturday, December 28

4:15 pm Mass

Sunday, December 29

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:00 am Mass

9:00 am Choir Practice

10:00 am Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon **23** Dec † No Mass

Tue **24** Dec 3:00 pm † d. Mike Fogarty
4:15 pm † liv & d. Don Murphy Family

Wed **25** Dec 8:00 am † d. Susan Fahey
10:00 am † For the Parish

Thur **26** Dec 8:30 am † d. Ernesto & (liv) Florentina

Fri **27** Dec 8:30 am † d. David Gerrish

Sat **28** Dec 4:15 pm † For the Parish

Sun **29** Dec 8:00 am † d. Teresa Witt
10:00 am † d. Jeff O'Brien



READINGS

Readings for the week of December 29, 2024

Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10
(see a) /1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42




Tuesday, December 24, 3:00 pm Christmas Eve

Greeters: Volunteers
 Lector: Mary Randklev
 EMHC: Jason Palo, Bob Fahey, Mary Randklev, Volunteer
 Ushers: Emmett Gerres, Jim Gerres, Volunteers (2)
 Servers: Kaiden Palo, Jaxson Palo, JD Vandermark, Cole Chesson
 Gift Bearers: Mike Fogarty Family

Tuesday, December 24, 4:15 pm Christmas Eve

Greeters: Volunteers
 Lector: Sheila Hendricks
 EMHC: Sheila Hendricks, Volunteers (3)
 Ushers: Volunteers (4)
 Servers: Volunteers (4)
 Gift Bearers: Volunteers

Wed., December 25, 8:00 am The Nativity of The Lord

Greeters: Volunteers
 Lector: Dr. Tim Halloran
 EMHC: Susan Cole, Bob Fahey, Rita Halquist, Volunteer
 Ushers: Volunteers (4)
 Servers: Volunteers (4)
 Gift Bearers: Volunteers

Wed., December 25, 10:00 am The Nativity of The Lord

Greeters: Volunteers
 Lector: Sandy Schroers
 EMHC: Volunteers (4)
 Ushers: Volunteers (4)
 Servers: Volunteers (4)
 Gift Bearers: Volunteers

Saturday, December 28, 4:15 pm

Greeters: Volunteers
 Lector: Sue Schultz
 EMHC: Betty Weldon, Dan Flynn, Volunteer, Volunteer
 Ushers: Jim Fogarty, Joe Hartmann, Scott Williams, Chris Weldon
 Servers: Eli Willams, Volunteer
 Gift Bearers: Volunteers

Sunday, December 29, 8:00 am

Greeters: Allen & Sharon Schmitz
 Lector: Dr. Tim Halloran
 EMHC: Sheila Hendricks, Rita Halquist, John Watzl, Sharon Schmitz
 Ushers: Tim Murphy, Allen Schmitz, Volunteer, Volunteer
 Servers: Luke Hennen, Henry Hennen, Peter Hennen
 Gift Bearers: Volunteers

Sunday, December 29, 10:00 am

Greeters: Al & Dorothy Bartolomei
 Lector: Sheila Schmitz
 EMHC: Edsel Faunillan, Rick Morgan, Terry Feddersen, Jason Palo
 Ushers: Caleb Wermerskirchen, Terry Feddersen, Max Wermerskirchen, Ben Covington
 Servers: Kenzie Berger, Mason Berger
 Gift Bearers: Volunteers
 EMHC: Pat Schroers (Kingsway)
 Georgine Gansen (Lutheran Home)

Wishing you a blessed and
MERRY CHRISTMAS





You're
Invited



KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP

SAVE THE DATE
Wednesday,
January 8,
2025

WHO?

STUDENTS AND PARENTS
THAT WILL BE
KINDERGARTEN READY
FOR THE 2025-26
SCHOOL YEAR

8:30-9:00

CHILDREN'S MASS LED BY OLP SCHOOL.
COME CELEBRATE MASS WITH OUR STUDENTS.

9:00-9:20

KINDERGARTEN PARENT INFORMATIONAL MEETING
MEET IN THE KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM.
PARENTS ARE FREE TO LEAVE FOLLOWING THE MEETING.

9:30-12:30

KINDERGARTEN READY STUDENTS WILL SPEND THE
MORNING EXPLORING THE KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM.
THEY WILL RETURN TO PRESCHOOL FOLLOWING LUNCH
OR CAN BE PICKED UP BY PARENT

RSVP

ASIMONS@OURLADYOFTHETHEPRAIRIE.COM



OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
200 E. CHURCH STREET BELLE PLAINE



PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, January 16

5:30-6:30PM

BRING YOUR PRESCHOOLER

A MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED & CLASSROOM TOUR

MEET THE TEACHER & EXPLORE THE ROOM



ATTENDEES
GET ENTERED IN
A DRAWING FOR
A COBORNS
GIFT CARD



ENROLL NOW OR
SCHEDULE A PRIVATE TOUR
952-873-6564

**Our Lady of the Prairie
Council of Catholic Women
Flower Fund Donations**

CHRISTMAS SEASON



Excess donations will be used for altar flowers during other times of the year.

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In Memory Of: _____

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In loving memory of:
Brent W. Meyer
 Blessings to all:
 Gerald, Carman Meyer & family

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