



December 2019

Our Lady's Messenger

Welcome Deacon Mohn Koble!

By the time you are reading this, our parishioner Mohn Koble will be Deacon Mohn Koble.

The ordination Mass for three permanent deacons, Jim Belohlavek of Christ the King parish in Mandan, Ross Reiter of St. Joseph parish, Dickinson, and Mohn Koble of Our Lady of Grace was celebrated by Bishop David Kagan on November 22 at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Bismarck.

There are two types of deacons – permanent and transitional. Transitional deacons are men who are in formation for the priesthood. Permanent deacons are often married and serve the church in their permanent role of deacon.

Permanent deacons must complete a five-year program of formation. They study philosophy, theology and many other aspects of the Catholic faith, but spirituality is a primary emphasis, Deacon Mohn said, so that the deacons develop a good prayer life and a relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

It was about 20 years ago that Deacon Mohn first felt called to service in the church. "I didn't know what I was being called to. I wasn't



Deacon Mohn and Julia Koble
Photo submitted by David Fleck

doing anything in the church other than going to Mass." His wife, Julia, was active with parish ministries and his desire to do something began to grow. "When stewardship started in our parish, that was a big thing for me," he said. He was running his own business at the time and focused on what he needed to do as someone in charge of a business. After learning about stewardship, he knew he "wasn't in charge of anything; that God was." It allowed him to let go and let God lead him.

(Continued on page 7)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Jubilee Wrap Up	2
Men Rise Up	2
OLG Church History	3
Advent Confessions.....	4
SoulCore	4
Peace	5
Advent Caring Tree	5
Faith Formation	6
CGS	6
Christmas Program	6
Church & Rectory Repairs	8

Our Lady of Grace Holy Day Mass Schedule

Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve:

Dec. 24, 4:00 & 9:00 pm

Christmas Day:

Dec. 25, 10:00 am

Incense will be used at 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass and the 10:00 am Christmas Mass.

No incense will be used at the 4:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve

New Year's Mass Schedule:

Dec. 31: 5:00 pm followed by potluck & bingo.

Jan. 1: 10:00 am.



Father Bruce Krebs, Pastor

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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[OurLadyofGraceMinot](#)
and
[MinotCatholicYouthGroup](#)

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[OurLadyofGraceMinot](#)

Our Mission:

Our Lady of Grace Parish is a community of faith that encourages stewardship through word, sacrament and service.

60th JUBILEE YEAR WRAPPING UP



It has been a wonderful year of celebrating our parish's 60th jubilee. The most recent events were our bishop coming on August 15, the eve of our parish feast day, to celebrate the Holy Eucharist with us. We had several guest priests here to celebrate including two of our past pastors, Fr. Charlie Heidt and Monsignor Gene Lindeman. Our choir consisted of members of our three weekend Mass choirs

and they did a superb job with the music for the Mass.

After Mass many of our parishioners and guests enjoyed an excellent meal at the Knights of Columbus Clubhouse. Larry Louser served as MC for the program, welcoming several speakers who shared sentiments about our wonderful parish. A good number of our charter members attended the festivities including Mildred Newman who was only a few weeks from celebrating her 100th birthday.

We are so grateful to our jubilee committee: Doris Bachmeier, Ellen Sipma, George Lach and Larry Louser for all their hard work in planning for our jubilee year. Also thanks to our parish council for the preparation and detail work they did for the feast day itself. Lots of parishioners assisted with the liturgy and in other ways and we thank each of you for your gracious contribution.



By Fr. Bruce

Logo by Diane Horpestead

Men Rise Up

Last Lent our parish promoted a spiritual growth program for men called "Men Rise Up." We had about 125 men who signed up for it. The responses I heard back from the participants were very positive. As a result, we plan to run the program again in Lent of 2020. Men were encouraged to do the program with a friend or family member. Some chose a personal friend and others a family member such as a brother, son, father. If you did the program last year you might want to do it with someone else this coming



Lent. Spread the word that many people can profit from this excellent program.

*Men gather during a Men's Rise Up meeting
Photo submitted by Darel Harrington*

Celebrating 60 Years as a Parish

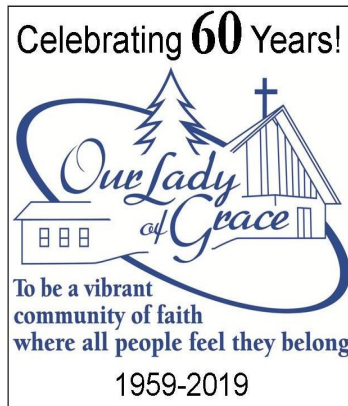
This article will cover some major highlights between 1997 and 2007 that occurred at our Lady of Grace. In 1997 Deacon Steve Streitz and his wife Paulette started their ministry at Our Lady of Grace. At the time, Deacon Steve assisted with liturgies, baptism and marriage prep and home visits. The Streitz's were assigned to St. Leo's for a few years and returned to OLG in 2008. Their duties have increased since that time frame and both are still an integral part of our church community.

In 1997, Father Wayne Sattler became an Associate Priest and taught religious education at Bishop Ryan High School. Father Sattler was born and raised in North Dakota. He was born in Dickinson, ND and graduated from Trinity High School, attended NDSU for one year and finished his education at University of St. Thomas and North American College in Rome. Father Sattler is still in our diocese.

It was 1998 when Father Gene Lindemann came to OLG, he served our parish until 2007. When Father Gene was our priest there were 958 registered families. Monsignor Lindeman is currently the Vicar General for the Bismarck Diocese. In the year 1999, the 40th Anniversary of our church was held with commemorative plates, mugs, pens and note cards sold under the direction of Father Gene.

In 2002, another project to update the grounds was to replace stoves and ovens in the kitchen. Some of the work was done by parishioners with funds from the Ladies Altar Society providing a big portion of the cost. During the same year, Deacon Bob Dangel and his wife Mary Ann were assigned to the parish. A huge milestone in 2002 was OLG being connected to the internet and getting its first website. In addition to this milestone, the Catholic Church recognized the Luminous mysteries of the rosary as an important part of our Lord Jesus's Life. These mysteries are: Baptism in the Jordan, Wedding of Cana, Proclamation of the Kingdom of God, Transfiguration and Institution of the Eucharist.

One of the largest projects that was undertaken by the parish during this time frame was the installation of the Stained-Glass Windows which add a great deal of beauty to the structure. The



fundraising for these started in 2005 and the windows were completed in 2007. For those who were not members of our parish during this time, not only do the windows add a majestic beauty to our church, there is a significant story to be told. The windows remind us of our place in the history of faith as we look at God's faithfulness and love to the world through the Mysteries of the Holy Rosary.

The colorful windows remind us to meditate upon the mysteries of our salvation and prayers of the Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Grace. The windows in the Altar area are the Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries. The windows in the back are the Joyful mysteries. The side windows depict various gardens mentioned in the Bible.

by Kim Hunt



The Birth of Our Lord Jesus - The Nativity
While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.
The Third Joyful Mystery. This window hangs over the north entrance of the church. It reminds us of the Savior Jesus's humble beginning, that he was born in a lowly stable, into a poor family. Simple shepherds were the first witnesses to this event. In this poverty heaven's glory was made manifest.

IMPORTANT DATES

December

- 1 - 8:30 am - 12:00 Noon
Knights of Columbus Benefit Breakfast for
Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry
- 1 - No Faith Formation
- 1 - 3:00 pm Penance Service at St. John's
- 7 - 8:30 am CGS Presentations
- 7 - 9:00 am First Reconciliation #1
- 7 - 10:30 am First Reconciliation #2
- 7 - 10:30 am Altar Society Christmas Lunch
- 9 - Parish Office Closed
- 11 - 9:45 am Coffee and Doughnut Social
- 12 - 7:00 pm Spanish Mass & Fellowship
- 15 - 11:45 pm Children's Christmas Program
- 15 - 3:00 pm Penance Service at St. Therese the Little Flower
- 18 - 11:30 - noon Confessions with Fr. Bruce
- 18 - 3:30 - 4:00 pm Confessions with Fr. Bruce
- 18 - 5:30 - 6:00 pm Confessions with Fr. Bruce
- 22 - No Faith Formation until 1-5-2020
- 23 - 7:00 pm Penance Service at Our Lady of Grace
- 24 - 4:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass
- 24 - 9:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass
- 24 - Parish Office Closed
- 25 - 10:00 am Christmas Day Mass
- 25 - Parish Office Closed

January

- 1 - 9:00 am Mary Mother of God Holy Day Mass
- 1 - Parish Office Closed
- 5 - 8:30 am - 12:00 Noon Knights of Columbus for Dakota Hope Clinic
- 5 - 2:00-4:00 pm First Eucharist Retreat
- 8 - 9:40 am Wednesday Coffee and Donut Social
- 10 - 2:00 pm Bingo Social
- 11 - 8:30 am CGS Presentations
- 17 - 19 - CGS Teacher Training
- 19 - No Faith Formation Classes

Advent and Repentance

Although Advent does not have the penitential flavor of Lent, still the color of this liturgical season is violet. This indicates to us that it is a time of preparation in anticipation of something of major importance. As we contemplate the true meaning of Christmas, it should bring us humbly to our knees before the stable in wonder at the humility of our God. But even before the manger, containing the child, appears in church we are called to examine our lives and arouse a supernatural sorrow for the ways we continually offend the Lover of sinners who came to earth for our sakes. A good confession can be a huge help in celebrating the mercy of our God and in accepting his help to make changes that will make us even more receptive to the GIFT of God's Love born for us in a manger that first Christmas.

In preparation for Christmas Fr. Bruce will be available in the confessional these extra times:

Wednesday December 18:

1130 pm-12 noon, 330-4 pm and 530-6 pm
(after every time slot, I will not leave until confessions are finished, so the closing time is not a firm time)

Minot Advent Penance Services

Sunday Dec. 1st 3:00 pm at St. John the Apostle

Sunday Dec. 15th 3:00 pm at St. Therese the Little Flower
St. Leo the Great to be announced

Monday Dec. 23rd 7:00 pm at Our Lady of Grace

By Fr. Bruce Krebs



SoulCore – Women's Exercise Group

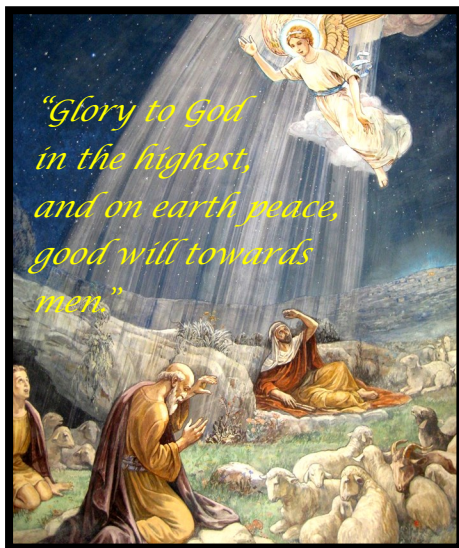
A new group has just launched in our parish. Bonnie Steen and Lisa Schriock have just begun a women's exercise program for body, mind and soul. Various exercises and postures are done on a mat with Catholic prayer as the background. Call Bonnie Steen (218-329-1730) or the parish (701-852-3002) for more information.



Peace

Hatred is a destructive weapon in our world today, which instills a lack of trust and fear in people throughout the world. This hatred may be in our family, work place, neighborhood, church, community or government. Jesus calls us to love our neighbors, which isn't always easy, but it is what we need to work at and pray about.

The following words from the Christmas song "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" gives us the message of



what God wants from us. We are called to repentance and faith. We are called to have compassion for others and to forgive. May we all make the most of this opportunity.

*Hark the herald
angels sing
"Glory to the
newborn King!
Peace on earth
and mercy mild
God and sinners
reconciled"*

A beautiful quote on peace from Saint Teresa of Calcutta that can guide us to bring peace in our daily lives.

"All of us must intend to work in a special way for the sake of peace. In order to bring about that peace, all of us must learn from Jesus to be meek and humble of heart. Only humility will lead us to unity and unity to peace."

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

By Edith Schall

(Continued from page 4)

19 - 3:00 pm Spanish Mass followed by fellowship

21 - 7:00 pm Respect Life Mass for Aborted Babies

23 - 6:30 - 8:30 pm Make-up for First Eucharist Retreat

25 - 4:00 pm First Eucharist Rite of Enrollment

26 - 8:30 and 10:30 am First Eucharist Rite of Enrollment

26 - 2:00 - 4:00 pm CGS Teacher and Aide Meeting

29 - Family Faith Night- Amazing Race! 5:00 - 6:30 pm and 5:30 - 7:00 pm

February

8 - 8:30 - CGS Presentations

9 - 11:00 am—3:00 pm
Knights of Columbus 4894 Roast Beef Dinner

12 - 9:40 am Wednesday Coffee and Donut Social

14 - 2:00 pm Bingo Social

15 - 4:00 pm Celebration of Marriage Mass and Dinner

16 - No Faith Formation Classes

16 - 3:00 pm Spanish Mass followed by fellowship

17 - Parish Office Closed

26 - No Faith Formation Classes

26 - 9:00 am Ash Wednesday Mass

26 - 5:00 pm Ash Wednesday Mass

26 - 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Mass

ADVENT CARING TREE

Our Lady of Grace's Pastoral Care Committee invites you to participate in the Caring Tree Project. The children helped by this effort are often the most needy and neglected.

A Caring Tree decorated with paper ornaments will be placed in the sanctuary from November 29 through December 23.

Purple Ornaments benefit the children of the Fort Yates Indian Mission.

Pink Ornaments benefit the Adolescent Mental Health Unit of Trinity - St Joseph's Medical Center for buying mittens, socks, etc. for young patients.

White Ornaments benefit children who are victims of domestic violence.

Violet Ornaments benefit God's Child Project in Guatemala (Director is Pat Atkinson of Bismarck).

Light Blue Ornaments benefit Camp ReCreation for the developmentally disabled at Richardton, ND.

Please take an ornament of your choice, place it in an envelope with your monetary gift, and put it in one of the Sunday collections. Thank you.

By the way, your gifts are tax deductible!





Acting out the story of Jesus' birth

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to participate in our annual Children's Christmas Program.

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the classroom hallway or contact Tanya in the Faith Formation office. Rehearsals are on two Saturdays from 2:45 to 3:45pm: Dec. 7 and Dec. 14. The performance is Sunday, Dec. 15, after the 10:30am Mass (so approximately 11:45am) in the parish dining room.

All are invited to the performance! We usually have a special visitor there, too, with a treat for all the children. Who do you think our visitor might be?



Sharing Our Faith With You

Everyone is invited to two Faith Formation events held annually at Our Lady of Grace.

The first is the **Family Faith Night Amazing Race**, which is open to all people in the Minot area. You do not need to be enrolled in Faith Formation or be a member of the parish to attend.

Family Faith Night Amazing Race will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 29. There are two shifts for the evening: 5:00-6:30 p.m. and 5:30-7:00 p.m. Participants begin in the dining room for a free meal, then make their way through the church for the activities. Details are still being finalized and more information will be shared soon regarding theme and what else to expect. We have class as usual for the 4:00 p.m. Faith Formation students that day. Their parents should come at the usual dismissal time – 5:00 p.m. – and join with their children in the meal and family activities. For the students who attend class at 5:30 p.m., parents should come with the children at 5:30 p.m. for the event. We will need teenage and adult volunteers to help with the evening.

The second event is **Mass in Class**. Fr. Bruce celebrates the Mass during each of our Faith Formation class times on Wednesday, Feb. 19 – with the first Mass at 4:00 p.m., and the second Mass at 5:30 p.m. Our fifth grade Faith Formation students do the ministries for the Masses. Parents, grandparents, siblings and all parishioners and community members are invited to join us for the Masses.

If you have questions, please contact Tanya Watterud at 701-839-6834.

Would you like to learn more about Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)?

I invite you to attend a CGS monthly presentation to learn more about this program for our young children.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is offered at Our Lady of Grace for a limited number of preschoolers and all our kindergarten and 1st graders. The Atrium (CGS classroom) is different than your typical classroom. It is a Montessori-style program that involves hands-on learning about the Catholic faith. It is a sacred place where young children develop a relationship with Jesus the Good Shepherd through their work with the materials of the Mass and with the words of Scripture. They also learn practical life skills that help them know how to care for the church and to show courtesy to others.

Consider attending the monthly presentations for your own faith formation or to become a catechist or aide. Perhaps you feel you are being called to be a catechist or aide. Mother Teresa has some good advice, "God does not call the capable. He equips the called."

Dates of CGS presentations - All of the presentations are on Saturdays and start at 8:30 am. **December 7, January 11, February 8, March 7.**

If you have any questions before attending, please contact Christine Aberle, Faith Formation Assistant, at 839-6834 (office) or call or text at 701-818-2605.



(Deacon Mohn Koble continued)

Deacon Mohn said his personality is one who likes to be behind the scenes. "I'm a very shy person," he said. "I remember the first time I was a Eucharistic Minister and standing next to the altar and I was swaying so badly. But ever since then, something has been driving me" toward service as a deacon. It took a few more years before Mohn officially looked into the diaconate program. When he learned he was accepted he was filled with excitement: "I felt like a little kid, like I was in the right place."

"Going into the diaconate, homilies were probably the scariest thing," Deacon Mohn said. "But I'm not as scared anymore. I have more trust in God that He's going to take care of things."



Mohn and Julia Koble speaking at the Celebration of Marriage Dinner at Our Lady of Grace in March 2019.

Photo by Harrison Foltz

Those characteristics are perfect for a deacon, a word that means "servant". Service in a church is often done behind the scenes, quietly, and includes little things that take place that people barely notice yet they make a tremendous difference for the faith lives of the those who are served.

Julia was involved in the formation program throughout the five years and will continue to be an integral part of his service. "As a married couple, the wife has to be 100 percent on board, too," Deacon Mohn said. Julia attended formation classes with him, has prayed with him throughout the time, and took part in his final canonical retreat. During the retreat, Julia signed a form pledging her support of her husband's diaconate service.

The first two years of formation are called the aspirancy period, and the last three years the men are deacon candidates. Throughout formation, the men work with David Fleck, director of the Office of the Diaconate. Deacon Mohn said, "He's very good at figuring out what people are thinking and where they're at spiritually; very good at reading people and knowing what's in their hearts." Deacon Mohn had worked around 45 hours a week at Magic City Beverage when he began the diaconate formation process. Eventually he cut the hours to about 32 a week so he'd have more time to participate in things at the parish and will

continue working there as an ordained deacon. Deacons are not paid by the church they serve. Deacon Steve Streitz's situation is a bit different in that he is employed as the parish administrator for Our Lady of Grace (a paid position) and also serves as a deacon which is unpaid.

The ministry of a deacon involves the ability to baptize, witness marriages, lead Word and Communion services, officiate at funerals that do not have a Mass, and other ministries. Deacons cannot consecrate the bread and wine (celebrate a Mass), hear confessions, anoint the sick or do other works particular to a priest.

One vow of a deacon is to pray the Liturgy of the Hours daily. Deacon Mohn and Julia both pray the Liturgy of the Hours, often separately in the morning and together in the evening. Deacons also take a vow of obedience to the bishop. As married deacons, if their wives die, they are not allowed to re-marry.

Julia said there are many references to the service of deacons in the bible and in Church history. St. Stephen was one of the first ordained deacons of the Church and was the first Christian martyr, according to Catholic.org.

Deacon Mohn said he would definitely recommend diaconate formation for others. "I've talked to a number of guys already," he said. "We have hardly anybody from the northern half of the state, so we really need people to become involved and see if it's something they're being called to. It's something you need to pray about, talk with your priest about and have him give you some guidance."

He is so grateful for the opportunities to serve the church that Fr. Bruce and Deacon Steve have given him through the years, which have helped build his confidence to now serve as a permanent deacon.



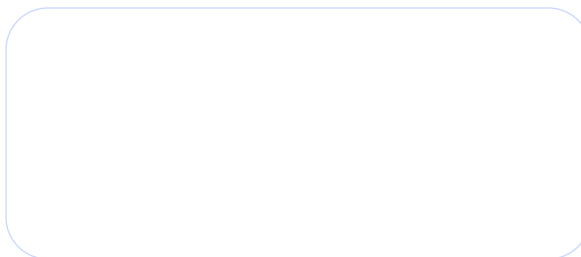
Mohn leading the procession for Fr. Bruce's 40th Jubilee.

Photo by Harrison Foltz

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
707 16th Avenue SW
Minot, ND 58701



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Church and Rectory Repairs

There have been a few needed repairs made for our parish this summer. First, new controls were installed for both the heating and cooling systems in our main church. With the controls being from the time when the furnace, boilers, and air conditioning were originally installed, those people doing repairs told us they were no longer able to get replacement parts. We had dampers, boilers, and other items not working like they should or as well as they could.

Second, the concrete pad coming into the north entrance of our main church was cracked and raised up, which caused concern that someone might trip and fall when they were leaving our church. It was decided to replace the concrete and install a heating pad underneath this concrete to keep it from

cracking. Water drains from the west side of our church to the east either underneath or over the top of this concrete, which is the reason for installing the heating pad. A piece of the concrete sidewalk on the east side of our church was also cracked and raised up; so this was replaced at the same time.

Third, the compressor stopped working in the air conditioning unit for the rectory the end of September. It was decided, after doing some checking, that it was better to replace the air conditioning unit than to repair the compressor.

We are very grateful to our parishioners. Your contributing so faithfully to our parish made it possible for us to make these repairs. God bless each of you!

By Deacon Steve Streit

Celebration of Marriage

The Celebration of Marriage Mass and Dinner will take place on Saturday, Feb. 15.

Open to all who support the Sacrament of Marriage.

More information will be printed in the bulletins!

