



To be a vibrant
community of faith
where all people feel they belong

April 2018

Our Lady's Messenger

Don't miss the Michael James Mette concert!

Monday, April 16
6:30 PM



We're celebrating the Faith Formation year with a Michael James Mette concert on Monday, April 16!

Mette is a Catholic musician and speaker from St. Louis, Missouri. Since May 2013, he has toured nationally with his wife, Michelle, and their growing family which now includes seven children. For his

concert at Our Lady of Grace, three of their children — Gabby, Trinity, and Charity — will be performing with him.

The 6:30 p.m. concert will take place in the main church and will be followed by a reception where ice cream floats with your choice of root

(Continued on page 3)



Thank you, Mary Jantzer, for your many years of service to our parish! Happy retirement! And visit often!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Our 60th anniversary is coming in 2019.....	2
April events	4
Meet our saints!.....	4
Do you want to be a CGS catechist or aide?.....	6
RCIA: A journey toward the sacraments	7

Have you considered . . .

. . . joining a Bible study or Catholic group to help enrich your own faith, or volunteering to start or help with a group? Contact the parish office at 839-6834 and tell us what you're looking for or what ideas you have. The best ideas come from the promptings of the Holy Spirit. What is the Holy Spirit calling you to do?



Father Bruce Krebs, Pastor

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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OurLadyofGraceMinot
and
MinotCatholicYouthGroup

Our Mission:

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

Please send address changes to the parish at 707 16th Ave. SW, Minot, ND 58701, or call (701) 839-6834.

Celebrating 60 years as a parish

By Fr. Bruce Krebs

In 2019 Our Lady of Grace will be 60 years old! That's something to celebrate, and we're making plans.

We have a committee set up by our parish council that is working on the details. The committee includes Doris Bachmeier, Ellen Sipma, Larry Louser and George Lach, in addition to myself.

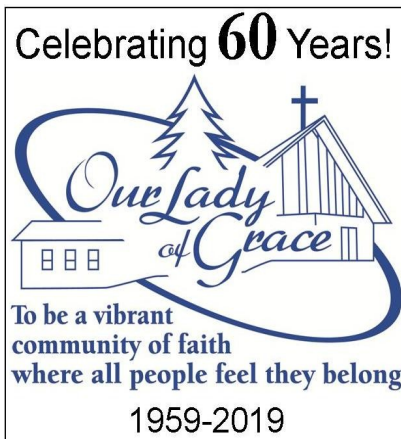
It certainly does not seem like 10 years ago since I met with a few parishioners to plan our golden jubilee. Rick Lyon and Scott Shelton were members of that committee and both have moved from Minot since then.

It is amazing how a parish can change in 10 years with some of our good people moving away or dying and other people being born into our parish or moving in and joining our parish.

Each person is a gift to us, no matter how long or short his or her stay. Each makes his or her mark and helps us all become who we are as a parish family.

It will take many minds, hearts and hours to plan and carry out our celebration.

If you are interested in helping in whatever manner, please contact the parish office to inform us. We welcome your assistance.



Deepen your faith and have fun this summer!

It's that time of year when we get out our calendars and start planning for summer fun. Some of the best memories many people have are of their experiences at faith-based summer camps.

At Our Lady of Grace, children who are age 5 through those who have completed grade 2 are invited to register for Vacation Bible School to be held the evenings of June 4 through 7. Last year our children learned about vocations and even got to dress as priests, nuns, single or married people.

Students who have finished grades 3 through 8 are invited to attend Sonshine Camp at Lake Metigoshe State Park July 8 through 10. We also need older students to serve as counselors and junior counselors.

Registration forms for Vacation Bible School and Sonshine Camp will be available soon.

For high school youth, the Stuebenville Conference in Rochester, Minn., is a fantastic opportunity! It's July 12 through 16 and registration is taking place right now.

We're also planning to continue our high school youth group activities into the summer, but with a different format and time.

Watch your mail, the parish bulletin, our website and our Facebook pages for more information about building your faith in the summer! And be sure to plan some quiet time with God each day so you can hear the wonderful and unique plans he has for you!

Mette family performs alternative rock music with faith-based lyrics



The concert is free and a free will offering will be taken to support the Mette family's music ministry.

(Continued from page 1)

beer or other soda flavors will be served by Faith Formation volunteers and family members. The concert is free! A free will offering will be taken to support Mette's music ministry.

Mette's concerts incorporate technology, testimony, lights and video which provide a backdrop for an encounter with the divine. His performances are part concert, part parish mission. Mette describes his

music as a modern reflection of his faith blending alternative rock with faith-based lyrics. The music draws listeners to their feet to join Mette and his family in praising God while the lyrics help us delve into the timeless riches of the faith.

Mette's original songs draw from pop influences like Michael Jackson and U2 to worship influences like Hillsong and Matt Maher. The girls' harmonies combine with retro synths, ambient guitars and bombastic drums to create

music that is passionate and reverent, playfully innocent and deceptively deep.

"Before we traveled together I felt constantly torn between my vocation as a father and my occupation as a musician," Michael said. So one day he posed to Michelle the idea of turning the performances into a family ministry where they'd travel the nation together in a tour bus and share the gospel through music and testimony. She jumped at the opportunity! "This was the natural next step for us," she said.

You'll find Mette's music at michaeljamesmette.com, on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/myonlyasset>, on iTunes and other music sites. His music and other merchandise will be available for sale at the concert. His newest album, featuring 16 songs, is entitled *Between the Lines*. They're performing at Sacred Heart in Carrington April 15 and St. Ann's in Hebron April 18. See other stops on their tour under the "tour" link on their website.



The Mette family includes, top row, Michelle, Truman (age 3), Michael; second row, Charity (10), Gabriella (14), Trinity (12); and bottom row, Cecilia (9), Fidelity (8 months), and MJ (7). Gabriella, Trinity and Charity will be performing with their father on April 16 at Our Lady of Grace.

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

7 - First Eucharist rehearsals at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 am; 4:00 pm Mass includes First Eucharist followed by a reception with cake and beverages

8 - 8:30 and 10:30 am Masses include First Eucharist, followed by the Knights of Columbus breakfast (8:30 am to 12:30 pm) and First Eucharist cake

9 - 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus meeting

13 - 2:00 pm Bingo Social

14 - 5:00 pm Hispanic Group Prayer and Talk

15 - 3:00 pm Spanish Mass followed by fellowship

16 - 6:30 pm Michael James Mette concert

18 - Last day of Wednesday gr. 6-8 Faith Formation classes

19 - 9:00 am Catholic Mothers' Coffee Group

22 - Preschoolers sing during the 10:30 am Mass; this is the last day for preschool classes

25 - Last day of Wednesday gr. K-5 Faith Formation classes

28 - 5:00 pm Hispanic Group Prayer and Talk

29 - May Crowning during 8:30 am Mass and the last day of Sunday gr. K-5 Faith Formation classes

MAY

6 - Yes Lord serves as the choir for the 10:30 AM Mass

20 - Graduates' Mass and reception

Amazing Race revealed 12 familiar saints

The Roamin' Catholics appeared at Our Lady of Grace again this year, but with 12 new saints!

Volunteers dressed as saints shared stories of their lives while people attending the annual Family Faith Night Amazing Race on January 31 guessed which saints they were.

The evening sessions began with tasty taco-in-a-bag served by Altar Society members, then participants found out the rules for the Amazing Race and were sent on their way upstairs to meet the saints.

After each of the two sessions, children joined in singing two songs written by Linda Glueckert, "Saint in Training" and "Roamin' Catholic".

The night was filled with faith, food, fun and prizes! Thanks to everyone who helped coordinate it, to our saints, and to everyone who joined in the fun!



Saints present at the Family Faith Night Amazing Race were, from left, St. Cecilia (Marley Foltz), St. Maximilian Kolbe (Frank Schaefer), St. Josephine Bakhita (Justina Katunzi), Blessed Stanley Rother (Paul Sander), St. Joseph (Noah Ploof), St. Lucy (Rachel Markle), St. Maria Goretti (Grace Kersten), Blessed Miguel Pro (Brian Benson), St. Paul (David Bice), St. Joan of Arc (Katie Humble), St. Stephen (Kristian Streitz), St. Gianna Molla (Kim Kraft).

Rectory improvements are nearly complete

Craft Builders is busy working in the lower level of the parish rectory (which is the home where Fr. Bruce lives.) This past fall a parishioner, Chris Baker, was removing wallpaper that was falling down in the bedroom in the basement apartment and was going to paint the walls. He noticed water had seeped in, causing damage that he brought to our attention.

We were planning to use a large room in the rectory basement for our youth ministry meetings this year, but knew we needed to do some work first after seeing the damage. It was decided by the members of our Buildings & Grounds Committee and the members of our Parish Finance Council that we should replace the sheetrock on the walls in the apartment, remove the paneling on the other walls and replace it with sheetrock, replace the lights and the false ceiling in the north half of the basement, and replace the flooring.

Craft Builders did some dirt work on

the outside of the rectory this fall and will do more this spring on the south side.

We were told that we could save some money on this project if parishioners were interested in helping with some of the preparatory work. Thank you to Paul Sander and Teen Ellis, who helped move the furniture, clean out the cupboards, etc., in the basement. Thank you to Matt Voeller and Walter Markle who removed the carpeting and tore out other items in the basement. Thank you to Gayle Himmerick for removing the lights and installing temporary lighting for the workers. We are very grateful for the many different ways parishioners help in our parish!

The cost for this project will be about \$55,000, which is dependent on possible damage that cannot be seen until all of the sheetrock and paneling are removed.



Graduates: We want to honor you!

Are you graduating from high school or college this spring? Our parish wants to recognize your accomplishment and congratulate you at the Graduates' Mass and reception on Sunday, May 20.

Graduates should bring their cap and gown, if they have them, and meet in the dining room at 10:10 AM that day. You'll process into the Mass with Fr. Bruce, where you'll be recognized by our parish family with prayer. After the Mass, people will have the opportunity to greet you at a reception with cake and beverages.

Make your parish part of your graduation celebration! Invite your family members and friends, and celebrate this achievement made possible through the grace of God, your creator and your heavenly Father who loves you more than we could ever imagine.



Blessed Miguel Pro (at left)

"Fr. Pro forgave his executioners, prayed, bravely refused the blindfold and died proclaiming, 'Viva Cristo Rey', 'Long Live Christ the King!'"



Saint Paul (at right)

"He was largely responsible for extending the Church to the Gentile world. His letters to the early Christian communities were very important. They provided a clear explanation of the teachings of the Church. Many of his letters are now part of the New Testament."



*Preschool children
will sing during
the 10:30 AM Mass
on April 22*

We have three preschool classes on Sunday mornings. All three groups will sing together after Communion during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 22, which will also be their last day of regular preschool class.

The children should arrive by 10:30 a.m. for class as usual, and the teachers will bring them upstairs when it is time to sing.

*Children to participate
in the Crowning of
Mary on April 29*

Children in grades K-5, as well as members of the Little Flowers Girls Club, are invited to participate in the Crowning of Mary at 9:25 a.m. on Sunday, April 29 (at the end of the 8:30 a.m. Mass).

This beautiful procession of children carrying flowers in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a special project of our Sunday Faith Formation students, but other students, including Catholic school children, are welcome to join, as well.

All participants should be in Classroom 2 by 9:20 a.m. and we'll immediately go upstairs for the procession, followed by our regular Faith Formation class.

Scholarship opportunities for Catholic school

Bishop Ryan Catholic School in Minot serves God and his children by laying the foundation for lasting happiness through education in virtue. BRCS offers a Catholic education to children in preschool through 12th grade.

Its religious education program for younger students includes Levels I, II and III of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS). So, for families whose children have experienced Level I CGS as part of the Faith Formation program at Our Lady of Grace, enrolling in school at Bishop Ryan might be a good next step for continuity in education in the

faith. And now there is a new scholarship program that makes that even easier.

A parish family who for the first time is enrolling their childrenOur parish is offering scholarships to parish families who wish to enroll their children for the first time in grades K-5 at Bishop Ryan. This new scholarship opportunity, in addition to the St. Andrew's Call scholarship program for students entering grades 6-9, will open the door to a Catholic education for more families.

For more information, call Jaimie

*This is one of our
two Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd
(CGS) atriums. We
offer Level I CGS to
preschool,
kindergarten and
first grade children.
We are in need of
more volunteer
catechists and aides
for next fall.
Observing a class is
a great way to see
the beauty of CGS!*



Allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us as we learn

Would you like to see what children learn in a Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium (classroom)? If so, sign up to observe one of our classes.

By quietly watching the children without interacting with them, you'll see the Holy Spirit at work in their hearts and minds. It's inspiring to watch them prepare the altar, pray in the prayer corner, and "restore" their work by putting it away after doing a lesson. You'll understand more clearly the depth of faith these young children can develop. The children (in preschool, kindergarten and grade 1) have been taught not to interact with visitors, and we ask that observers do the same.

We are excited to announce that we are working on providing local training for

CGS volunteers! In the past, our volunteers have traveled to Bismarck for training, but we hope to bring a trainer to Minot.

In order to keep CGS going, we need more people who will be willing to be trained in CGS either as a catechist or an aide. If you have questions or are not sure if you want to take the training, I highly encourage you to observe an atrium session. It is hard to put into words what the children learn as the Holy Spirit guides them.

If you would like to observe, would like CGS training, or have any other questions, please contact me, Christine Aberle, at education3@olgminot.org or call or text 701-818-2605.

RCIA: A journey toward the sacraments of the Church

Enrolling two of her sons at Bishop Ryan Catholic School led Lindsey Borgeson to enrich her own knowledge of, and commitment to, the Catholic Church.

Lawson, the oldest of the three sons of Lindsey and her husband, Kris, attends kindergarten at Bishop Ryan. “I wanted to be able to support his learning of the church and be able to answer questions he has,” she said, so she decided to join our parish’s Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program. Their second son, Grayson, attends preschool there, while little Pierceson is home with Lindsey. Both Lawson and Grayson also attend Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Faith Formation classes at Our Lady of Grace, and Lindsey volunteers in the Faith Formation office.

Lindsey didn’t have a faith background as she was growing up. “We didn’t go to church,” she said, “but my parents always taught us to have good morals, respect people and to be kind.” Her husband, Kris, had a powerful example of Catholicism in his grandmother. “When he talks about church, he talks about his grandma,” she said. Lindsey never met her, but knows Kris’ grandmother was always the first one at the church in the mornings, attending daily Mass and living out her Catholic faith in many ways.

Lindsey and Kris had their marriage blessed during Holy Week at Our Lady of Grace, and Lindsey received the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation at the March 31 Easter Vigil Mass.

One of the things she really enjoyed about RCIA was reading from the Bible and discussing what they’d read. She also enjoyed the tour of the church when different aspects of the church were pointed out, and when Fr. Bruce explained what happens during the

Mass. “It’s a good class. I feel like it’s very informational,” she said.

“There’s no way you can even touch the surface of the Bible, but going through one Gospel a week is very helpful,” she said.



Lindsey Borgeson

Kenny Pixler’s wife, Angela, led him to the Catholic Church and the RCIA class.

“I’ve been going to church with my wife, and I see how happy it makes her to have the whole family there,” Kenny said. “She’s been drawing me in.”



Kenny Pixler

Baptized Lutheran, Kenny didn’t have much experience with religion as a child. But he has a desire to be the same faith as his wife and their infant daughter, Clara, who was baptized in October. That’s why he started the RCIA process and will continue to work toward having their marriage blessed by the church and receiving the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation in the months ahead.

“I love the people that are in this class,” Kenny said. “It’s an awesome experience.”

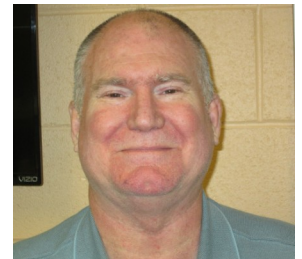
He especially enjoyed reading and discussing the Bible and hearing stories shared by speakers. Mohn and Julia Koble spoke one night about their daughter, Mikayla, who was in a car accident. “We were really, really touched by that story,” he said.

As Kenny looks forward to someday receiving the Eucharist, he said, “I really, really can’t wait to actually be able to do it. I see how important it is to a lot of people who come to church.”

Warren Gamas said the first part of his RCIA journey was to simply understand the Catholic faith better. He has been married to Cathy, a Catholic, for more than 30 years and they raised their three daughters Catholic. “I certainly had some questions about the faith,” he said.

He enjoyed reading from the Bible during RCIA. As a college professor, he said, “I’m a fairly literal reader . . . Some of the parables and the messages are harder for me to see.” So reading and discussing them together was a good experience.

Warren said RCIA helped him understand himself better, too, by encouraging him to focus on “what I value, what I believe, and what’s important to me.”



Warren Gamas

“I’m yearning to share the Eucharist and, in one sense, to experience confession,” Warren said a few weeks before the Easter Vigil Mass. He has since made his first confession, and then received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil Mass.

One thing we all learn from classes about the Catholic faith is that we will never be able to know everything about our faith. “I have a million questions left,” Warren said. Which is likely the way God wants it to be, so that we’ll keep on doing our best to learn more.

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
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Sharon Donamaria joins parish staff as administrative assistant

Sharon Donamaria joined the Our Lady of Grace staff in January as administrative assistant. Born in Minot, she was baptized at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church. She later lived in Karlsruhe and Plaza before moving back to Minot after high school graduation.

Her husband, Ron, currently works for the local Social Security office and is retired from the Air Force. They met after he returned from being stationed in Alaska. He was then stationed in Minot for 17 years, followed by a 3-year tour at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma. They then returned to Minot. Sharon and Ron have three grown children, and five grandchildren with one more on the way.

Sharon served as the parish secretary at St. Leo's for 10 years. Prior to joining the staff at Our Lady of Grace, she served as daycare provider for her grandchildren. Her hobbies include camping, reading and spending time with family.

What are her first impressions of our parish?

"I am so impressed with the stewardship! People just come to the church and do things," she said. Some of the things she has noticed are volunteers who come to clean, who provide music at daily Masses, who volunteer in the office, or simply stop by and ask "Is there anything I can help you with?"

"The people are amazing!" she said. They have an understanding that "this is my home. I want to help take care of it."

Please stop by the parish office to welcome Sharon!

