



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

June 2017

# Our Lady's Messenger

## Caritas Award presented to Joyce and Roger Sand for pantry service



*Joyce and Roger Sand, coordinators of Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry, received the Caritas Award from Catholic Charities North Dakota in May. They accepted it at a luncheon in Bismarck on behalf of the 90+ volunteers who work at the pantry.*

“Caritas” means “Christian love” or “charity”, which is exactly what is communicated through the many volunteers who serve others at Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry.

Catholic Charities North Dakota recently recognized this Christian love by presenting its Caritas Award

to Roger and Joyce Sand, pantry coordinators.

Joyce said that they were volunteering at the pantry 15 years ago. They went on a trip to Arizona and, when they returned, the coordinator at the time was leaving the position. When asked if they’d

*(Continued on page 4)*



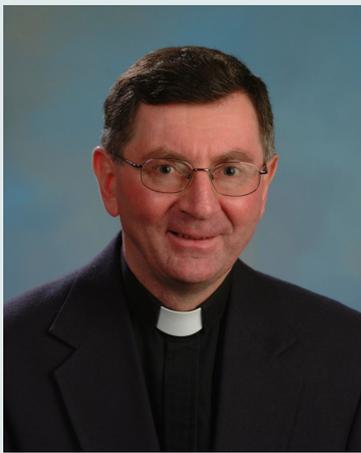
*At Sunshine Youth Camp, students will learn about what it takes to follow Jesus and to live with Him for eternity. Register by June 22! Forms are on the classroom hallway bulletin board and on our website.*

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Have you considered . . .

. . . volunteering to help decorate the church for the different liturgical seasons? Or leading Children’s Liturgy of the Word during the 10:30 a.m. Mass? Or bringing Communion to the homebound or ill? Or volunteering for a weekly hour of adoration? We’d love to help you find the ministry that’s right for you!



Father Bruce Krebs, Pastor

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

## Sisters energize our Spanish Ministry efforts

By Fr. Bruce Krebs

A grant was awarded to our diocese from the Catholic Extension Society for a partnership program to assist in beginning a Spanish Ministry Program in our diocese. The grant covered the cost of bringing three Mexican sisters to our diocese for a period of five years to help us establish Spanish ministry for those with a Latin American background.

With the oil boom, we had a huge influx of Spanish speaking Catholics who came in to find jobs, which called for us to find ways to minister to their spiritual needs, especially in cases where their English skills were weak. Bishop David Kagan assigned the three sisters to Williston. They are Sister Azucena, Sister Rosa and Sister Brenda.

In the past year they have been driving here to Minot to work with our Hispanic

population which has been a huge blessing to us, because no one on our parish staff speaks Spanish. The sisters have assisted with our Spanish Masses, especially with the music. Also they have conducted retreats for youth and for



*Maria Dominguez (left) and Luzzy Soto are pictured with the Mexican sisters who travel to Our Lady of Grace to help with our Spanish Ministry.*

adults. The purpose of the retreats is for inspiration and instruction on our Catholic faith.

*If you read Spanish, you'll learn more about this ministry below.*

## Ministerio Hispano

Ha sido una gran alegría y una gran bendición el poder contar con el apoyo de las Hermanas Guadalupanas de la Diócesis de Williston, que desde Octubre del año pasado nos acompañan en nuestro ministerio hispano ayudándonos de este modo a crecer juntos en la fé al colaborar con nosotros en la misa y

nuestro grupo de oración mensual. Realizando además, diferentes actividades como: Posada Navideña, Retiro Cuaresmal y Viacrusis, etc.

"Anímate a formar parte de nuestro ministerio y alabemos juntos al Señor!!



For more information, contact Deacon Steve at 839-6834 or [admin@olgminot.org](mailto:admin@olgminot.org).

## Flexible Position(s) Open at Our Lady of Grace

The parish is seeking a part-time **Parish Office Assistant** so that our Administrative Assistant, Mary Jantzer, will be able to decrease her hours. We are also seeking a part-time **Music Director**. The Assistant position may be perfect for parents returning to the workforce now that children are in school.

Both would be good for those wishing to use their talents while working limited hours.

We are also open to **combining the two positions** or adding other responsibilities to allow for **increased hours or full-time work**. Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Office, have a pleasant, caring personality, be dependable and able to maintain confidentiality.

Music Director applicants must also have musical experience/training and the ability to inspire and recruit others for this important ministry.

## It's getting brighter in the church!

The work to replace the lights in our main church and brighten it up began Monday, April 24.

It will take several weeks for it to be completed. LED lights are being put in, which will save on our electric bill. Special lighting will be installed over the altar to help us see Fr Bruce's face more easily when he is by the altar or giving homilies.

Also, special lighting will be installed over the choir area and over the lectern

where our readers read, making it easier for these people to see and read.

The cost of this project is \$86,800. Jason Hunze, an electrical engineer from Prairie Engineering, was hired to oversee this project since the main church is a large area to light up.

The lighting will also improve our ability to take photographs in the church, which you'll hopefully notice in future issues of Our Lady's Messenger.

**“Jesus was broken...for us. And he asks us to...break ourselves for others.”**

*“How many mothers, how many fathers, together with the slices of bread they provide each day on the tables of their homes, have broken their hearts to let their children grow, and grow well!*

*How many Christians, as responsible citizens, have broken their own lives to defend the dignity of all, especially the poorest, the marginalized and those discriminated!*

*Where do they find the strength to do this? It is in the Eucharist: in the power of the Risen Lord's love, who today too breaks bread for us and repeats: 'Do this in remembrance of me'.” -*

*Pope Francis' homily,  
May 26, 2016*



*On Palm Sunday weekend, a portion of the Passion of Jesus was portrayed by men dressed as Jesus and three soldiers at the three English language Masses and the Sunday afternoon Spanish Mass. The Mexican sisters, along with Sister Luz Maria, and several of those who attended the Spanish Mass are pictured with Jesus and the soldiers below.*





**JUNE**

5-8 - "Vocation" Bible School

10 - 5:00 p.m. Hispanic Group Prayer and Presentation

11 - 3:00 p.m. Spanish Mass, followed by fellowship

18 - 11:30 a.m. Corpus Christi Procession followed by potluck lunch

**JULY**

2 - 3:00 p.m. Spanish Mass, followed by fellowship

9-11 - Sonshine Youth Camp

13-17 - Steubenville Youth Conference

16 - Parish Picnic

**AUGUST**

13 - 3:00 p.m. Spanish Mass, followed by fellowship

15 - Assumption of Mary, holy day of obligation



The Parish Picnic is on July 16!

Please watch the bulletin, website and Facebook for details.

# "The community has been good"

*(Continued from page 1)*

coordinate the pantry, "I said, 'We'll try it,'" Roger said, and they've been there ever since.

When they accepted the position, they worried a little that they wouldn't be able to continue the traveling that they loved so much, but volunteers including some of their own family members have handled things whenever Roger and Joyce have been gone.

With more than 90 volunteers serving the public four afternoons a week, it takes plenty of coordinating to make the pantry run like a well-tuned engine. But the volunteers bring their own unique gifts to their service at the pantry and things go smoothly almost all of the time.

It can get a little hectic — when there are trucks to unload or a long line of people hoping to find what they need in the neatly organized bags of groceries each one receives — but the volunteers take the variety in stride, keeping in mind that Jesus, "did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

As was reported in the Fall 2016 issue of this newsletter, in fiscal year 2015-2016 490 households (more than 1,000 individuals) were served through the pantry. More than 450 of them were children and 140 were senior citizens.

What does it feel like to know that many people are depending on you for food for themselves and their families?"

There's no need to worry, Joyce assures people who ask. It just takes "faith and

trust". Those are the words printed on the sports band bracelet she wears — a bracelet made in memory of Nathan Artz, a 17-year-old from St. Therese, Church of the Little Flower, in Minot where Joyce and Roger are members. Nathan died on Feb. 22, 2015, after a long battle with cancer.



*Around 30 to 40 bags, weighing 30 to 40 pounds each, are bagged up each day, so they are ready for when the pantry opens.*

When "it all seems bad, I look at my band and it says, 'faith and trust'," Joyce said, and that's what she does. With faith, she trusts that God will bring the food and money the pantry needs. "I'm going on my 16th year here," she said, "and I've never been told I couldn't order groceries."

Roger echoes that faith when the pantry shelves look bare. "You just sit back," he said, "it will show up."

"The community has been good," Joyce said. Many people donate food, garden produce, toiletries, grocery store gift cards and more. The pantry is a Partner Agency of Great Plains Food Bank in Fargo, which distributes food to pantries across the state and provides guidelines for their operation. People who work with local grocery stores also help them out by telling them about sales and bringing extra items to the

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Volunteering takes an act of courage, resulting in spiritual growth

By Emily Hieb

I have been a parishioner at Our Lady of Grace since I was a small child, and my husband, Levi, joined the church this past Easter. Levi and I have three small children, Liam, Myla and Mataya.

My stewardship journey really began as a confirmation student here at Our Lady of Grace. As I grew older, I



*The Hieb family*

decided to try reading during Mass. When our children became old enough to start enrolling in some of the Faith Formation programs provided by our church, I decided to volunteer my time to help in our classrooms. Signing up to volunteer took an act of courage. Would I have enough time to devote to the children in the program? Will Levi be available every Wednesday night to stay home with our younger children? I feel like we are so busy, can we add something else to our busy week?

I prayed about it, discussed it with my family, and ultimately decided this was something I needed to do. Of course, our children were very excited to start attending classes, and the idea that mommy would be there was even more exciting for them!

Last year, I taught the Seeds program to a classroom of preschoolers during the 10:30 a.m. Mass and volunteered with Vacation Bible School. During this school year, I have assisted with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program for the 4 and 5-year-olds of our parish. I can

honestly say that my time in the Faith Formation classrooms has been the most rewarding experience. God has placed into my life these sweet kiddos as very small, very smart, very spiritual reminders of His love, and I honestly look forward to every single class period.

Not only do I get to witness the spiritual growth of my own children, I also get to watch other people's children explore their faith. Sometimes, they're even learning things I never knew about my faith and, in turn, teaching them has helped me learn more, too! The children have an excitement for Jesus that is contagious, which is helping me be just as excited!

I strongly encourage you to consider volunteering your time and talents to the Faith Formation program or another ministry you feel more drawn to. Our parish is big and offers lots of opportunities to help out. Let God show you what He is calling you to do.

Fr. Bruce or Deacon Steve are always happy to offer suggestions.

## The Our Lady of Grace Food Pantry is a place of “caritas”: Christian love

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pantry when the stores have more than they need.

The pantry is open from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Before and after hours, it's bustling with activity, too. Jim and Kathy Borgen do most of the bagging, which means they carefully select and organize items to fill grocery bags so that, rather than getting random

food supplies, recipients will be able to make good and healthy meals from the contents. Volunteers also offer freezer items — meat, potatoes, vegetables, desserts and more — to the pantry visitors, and there's always bread, buns and other baked goods on the shelf for people to take.

Some of the recipients are shy and quiet. Some have been there many times and hold conversations with the volunteers or with others in line. Occasionally a baby cries or a child

scurries down the church's classroom hallway to find the water fountain or bathroom while his or her mother stands in line.

Despite the hunger and the need, the pantry is a place of joy because Jesus is there — in the people who are hungry and in the people who are helping to feed that hunger.

It's a place of “caritas”, Christian love, in the basement of God's house.

# Faith Formation year closes with a cheer : Go God!

Why do we practice our faith? So we will be in shape for heaven! And how do we practice it? By praying, praising God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in song and word, and using our actions to glorify the Lord.

We had a fun faith workout May 3 during the “Go God!” Faith Formation Program.

We began with the crowning of Mary. Children in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) atriums, Sunday Faith Formation students, and members of the Little Flowers Girls Club carried flowers in procession to lay at the feet of a statue of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The last person in the procession, Sydney Schmidt, placed a crown of flowers on Mary’s head. Fifth grade students from our Wednesday classes then led the Hail Holy Queen Prayer.

Ed Ridl, Grand Knight of Knights of Columbus Council #4894, presented coloring contest awards, then the many people who volunteer with Faith Formation were applauded.

The “Yes, Lord!” musical group, made up of students in grade 6 through high school, sang “Trading My Sorrows” while students in grades 3

and 7 taught everyone the actions.

Prayer Station gold medals were presented to everyone who memorized one or more prayers. Seven students received extra gifts for memorizing 10 or more!

We got on our feet again to teach our audience the Catholic Cheer.

Students in our Dare to be a Disciple program taught it to the audience, while 6th graders helped students remember the actions.



*Middle School Perfect Attendance winners listed by teacher (not in the order of the photo): Sarah Huss (grade 6A) - Agatha Caldito, Marion Humble; Amy Menahan (gr. 6B) - Rachel Markle, Justin Volson; Jonilynn and Victor Reyes (gr. 7) - Everett Aberle, Dominik Degele, Jalen Degele, Kinsey Kaylor, Ali Lenertz, Aynzlee Mosser, Grant Schaeffer; Susan Bosch (gr. 8A) - Matthew Bosch, Audrey Davenport, Taryn Trueblood; Julia Koble (gr. 8B) - Mason Haugen, Katie Humble; and Samantha Huff (gr. 8C) - AG Caldito, Alexa Geyer, Ethan Kersten, Emma Nissen and Carter Thomas*



*Perfect Attendance students and teachers\* from the 4:00 p.m. Wednesday classes were: (back row from left) Ken Davis\*, Sharon Kapfer\*, Mary Ann Avitua\*, Emma Miller, Sarah McCarthy\*, Grayson Schaeffer and Heather Huighe\*. (Front row from left) Isabel Kinlaw, Amanda Kinlaw, Drew Jordan, Ella Nelson, Greer Schaeffer, Dane Voeller, Cooper Linnell and Katie Thomas. (Not pictured were Reilly Fischer and Braxton Thompson).*

Children in Kindergarten and grade 1 prayed the Angel of God prayer with actions, then Perfect Attendance awards were presented for students in CGS through grade 5.

The cheer in song goes like this:

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“When the Catholics get out in the pews, we’re gonna kneel, gonna stand, gonna pray for you. We’re gonna offer ourselves to the Lord. We’re gonna receive Jesus and His word. We’re gonna kneel, gonna stand, gonna pray for you today!”

Then Perfect Attendance awards for middle school students were presented, with 21 students recognized for their achievement. Audrey Davenport received special recognition from Fr. Bruce for having Perfect Attendance throughout her entire Faith Formation career - Kindergarten through grade 8!

Once again we were on our feet to sing “L-O-R-D” to the tune of “Y-M-C-A”. Our 4th graders held up giant letters and 8th graders helped the 2nd graders in the center aisle with the actions.

After some super volunteers headed downstairs to make sure the treats were ready, we finished off the celebration with our “God, God, God” Finale. To the tune of “Duke of Earl”, we sang of how God is Three in One: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



*(Above) Prayer Station Award winners and the number of prayers and teachings they memorized included (from top left): Alondra Dominguez (11 prayers and teachings), Emma Miller (13), Macee Barber (15), Grace Kersten (18), (bottom row from left) Jazlynn Sweet (12), Amanda Kinlaw (10), and Esteban Dominguez (10). Not pictured is Emma Lundeen (12 prayers and teachings). — Photos by Grace Caldito*

## *Don't you love some of these expressions?*



*CGS Perfect Attendance winners: Liam Hieb, Evalyn Keys, Tiana Schmidt, Makenna Sweet, Jaxon Gleich and Samuel Haverstock.*



*Sunday classes Perfect Attendance winners: (Teachers from left) Garrett Aberle, Kim Lach, Megan Sweet and Laura Miller. (Students from left) Gabrielle Schmidt, Sydney Schmidt, Jazlynn Sweet, Delaney Lach, Deirdre Schmidt and Matthew Cebulak.*



*(Above, right) 5:30 p.m. Wednesday classes Perfect Attendance winners and teachers\* (from bottom left): Amber Kaylor\*, Blake Kaylor, Rylan Thompson, Mason Zimmerman, Matthew Moore, Caleb Haverstock, Lucy Hale, Cole Kotaska, Anna Graner, (2nd row) Madalyn Moore, Ethen Zimmerman, Hadley Graner, Addison Schwengler, (top row) Mary Miller\*, Jenna Volson, Kevin Ternes\*, Angie Thompson\* and Shelly Giroux\*. (Not pictured Peyton Opp).*

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## Observations from the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a hands-on way of learning about our faith. Thanks to the hard work, creativity, prayers and donations of many, we were able to offer CGS to some of our Faith Formation children this year. Next fall, we would like all Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students to have the CGS experience. To do this, we need to create a second atrium (classroom).

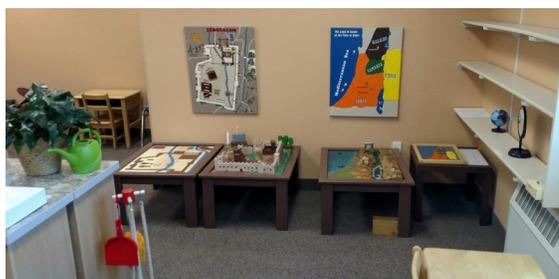
It will take many talents and hours of preparation. We will need volunteers who can make and paint wooden items, prepare

paper products, donate items and help purchase the things the atrium requires. Program guidelines note that all items used be simple but beautiful in design. Of course, they also need to be small so they can be easily used by the children in the atrium.

Since we will have twice as many atrium sessions, we also need to train more people as CGS

teachers or aides. In addition, we need volunteers who will pray for the program, that all involved will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Parents of current CGS children have told me their children are more interested in what's happening in the Mass. They understand that Mass is a place where we can go to be with Jesus.



If you would like to help with CGS in any way, please call me, Christine Aberle, at 839-6834 or call or text me at 818-2605.

Thank you!