

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 21, 5:30p.m. St. Mark's  
(† Del Haberman)  
Sunday, December 22, 9:00a.m. St. Andrew's  
(† Raymond Davis)  
Sunday, December 22, 11:00a.m. St. Mark's  
(Parishioners)  
**Christmas Mass Schedule**  
**Tuesday, December 24, 5:00p.m. St. Andrew's**  
**Tuesday, December 24, 7:30p.m. St. Mark's**  
(† Larry Baumann)  
**Wed., December 25, 11:00a.m. St. Mark's**  
(† Rita Davis)  
Thursday, December 26, 9:00a.m. St. Andrew's  
(Kempf Family)  
Friday, December 27, 11:00a.m. Good Sam  
(† Leona Hosmer)  
Saturday, December 28, 5:30p.m. St. Mark's  
(† Margaret Swanson)  
Sunday, December 29, 9:00a.m. St. Andrew's  
(Parishioners)  
Sunday, December 29, 11:00a.m. St. Mark's  
(† James Alberta)

## Home Communion

Any St. Mark parishioners desiring Holy Communion at home, call Anne Bergeron (228-2750) by **Sunday** evening to be put on the list. To add or remove a name for St. Andrew's, please contact Deb Wyman at 245-6538 or the parish office at 228-3164.

**PARISHIONERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS: MILITARY PERSONNEL & THEIR FAMILIES,** Drue Eliot, Mary Longtin, Audrey Phillips, Alice Christenson, Linda Abel, Darrell Van Der Busch, Katie Torgerson, Marcie Dubrow, Linda Ysulan, Rosemary LaCroix, Bill & Cool Baumann, Lyle Brandt, Amy Artz, Flora Carlson, Marlys Richard, Thomas Kersten, Monte Mikkelsen, Susan Brandjord, Francis Kritzberger, Marie Vargo, Sara Saville, Howard Beyer, Diane & Mike Lee, Janet Kraft, Noah Signalness, Karlee McCloud, Mary Holen, and any special private intentions.

**St. Andrew's Health Center:** Barney Honer  
**Good Sam:** Regan Benning, Pete Anderson, Judy Baumann  
**Mapleview:** Shirley Pasicznyk  
**The Wellington:** Ray and Donna Sharkey  
**Jenkins Living Center:** Carol Carbonneau  
**Watertown, SD**

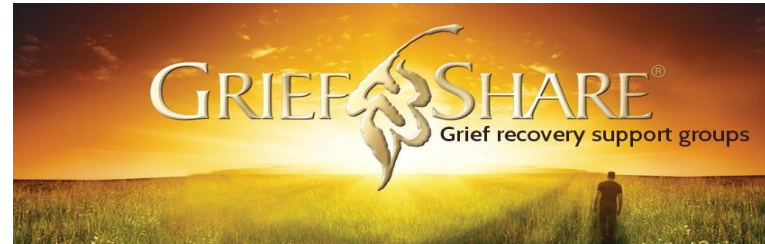
Rosary @ St Mark's: 5:00p.m., Saturday



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**St. Andrew's**  
**Dec. 24: 10 minute Christmas program before 5:00pm Mass**

**St. Mark's**  
**Dec. 25: NO** Quilting at 1:00pm in the Quilting Room  
**Dec 26: NO** SAHC Communion Service at 11:30am, **NO** Adoration at SAHC Chapel until 12:45pm. Warren will be gone.



Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help. **JOIN US Bring a friend. Sundays 3:00pm -5:00pm, January 12-April 05, Grace Lutheran, Bottineau. Contact Warren Emmer at [boundarylake@gmail.com](mailto:boundarylake@gmail.com) or 701-220-5042.** **JOIN US Bring a friend**

### MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

To purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, please complete this form. Place it in the collection basket or drop it at the Office during the Christmas season with your donation of \$10.00

Memorial names will be appear in the bulletin at Christmas Time.

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**Stewardship Moment:** "When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." **MATTHEW 1:24**

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

Report for December 14-15, 2019

**St. Andrew's:**

Adult env. \$ No report  
Plate \$  
Children \$

**St. Mark's**

Adult env. \$ 2,082.00  
Plate \$ 98.00  
Children \$ 8.14



# ST. MARK'S BOTTINEAU & ST. ANDREW'S WESTHOPE

PARISH OFFICE: (701) 228-3164 RECTORY: (701) 228-5164 [stsmanda@utma.com](mailto:stsmanda@utma.com)

322 Sinclair St. • Bottineau, ND • 58318 - [www.stmark-standrew.org](http://www.stmark-standrew.org)



## PARISH STAFF

Fr Michael Hickin, Pastor  
Vickie Gangl, Secretary  
Cathy Miller, Custodian - St. A's  
Patty Graber, Custodian - St. M's

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Amanda Artz &  
Keari Beaudrie, co-DREs at  
St. Andrew's Parish  
Mary Gorder &  
Jessica Tagestad, co-DREs at  
St. Mark's Parish

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

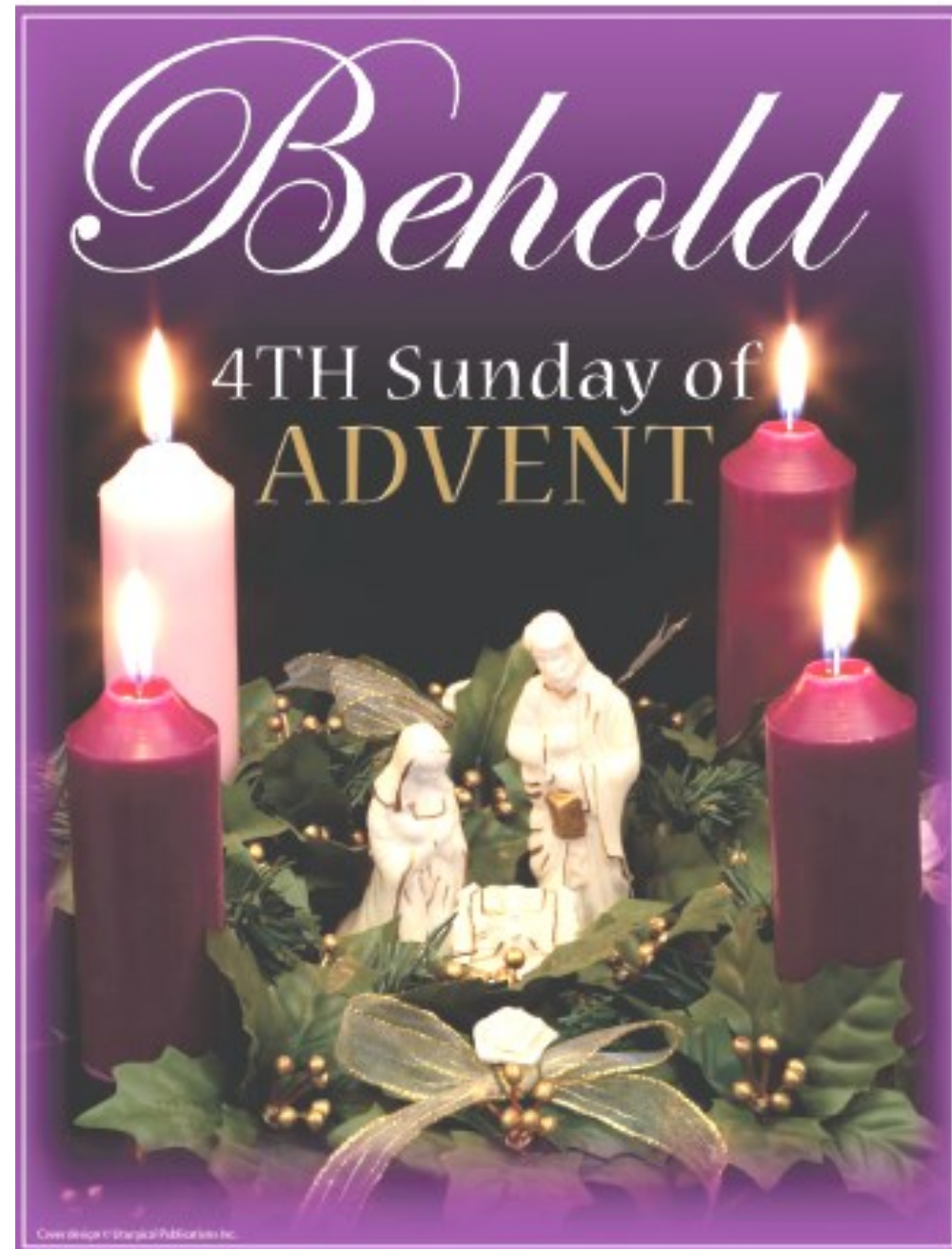
Saturday: 5:30 pm, Bottineau  
Sunday: 9:00 am, Westhope  
And 11:00 am, Bottineau

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 4:30 pm, Bottineau  
Sunday, 8:30 am, Westhope  
Or by Appointment

## OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5:00pm



*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him EMMANUEL, which means "God is with us." (Matthew 1:23)*

**December 21-22, 4th Sunday of Advent**



# From the Pastor's Pen



**JOSEPH, THE DREAMER.** In today's Gospel, Joseph gets some excellent guidance while snoozing. In a dream Joseph is told by an Angel of the Lord, to take his wife Mary home and to name the child Jesus. Two matters are put to rest: there's nothing to fear about Mary's pregnancy, and secondly, he can in good conscience assume legal paternity.



An interesting note about Joseph is that he never utters a word. All communications happen in his sleep.

Psalm 127:2 reads, "In vain is your rising early and your putting off rest 'til late, you who toil for the bread you eat, for God pours gifts upon his beloved while they slumber."

To all those men out there who need and deserve their rest, *sleep with the angels*. When you awake, like Joseph, 'do as the Angel of Lord has commanded.' Your household will be eternally grateful.

Another thing about sleep, it happens, usually, at night. Here's one pastor's final salute to Advent before we ring in the solemn feast of Christmas. *Get Into the Christmas Spirit? Face the Darkness*

By T.H. Warren

As darkness lengthens in late fall, we begin to see the signs of the season, Christmas music blasting everywhere, and the heightened pace of holiday hustle and bustle.

But inside many church buildings, this time of year looks different. There, we find a countercultural sparseness. The altar is covered in purple. There's a slowing down, a silent stillness. The music turns to minor keys and becomes contemplative, even mournful. The Scripture readings are apocalyptic and trippy, strikingly short on sweet tales of babies, little lambs and Christmas stars.

"The **Light** shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not—will not—cannot overcome it."



In the church calendar, every period of celebration is preceded by a time of preparation. Advent is a way to prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth — that light has come into darkness and, as the Gospel of John says, "the darkness could not overcome it." But Advent bids us first to pause and to look, with complete honesty, at that darkness.

To practice Advent is to lean into an almost cosmic ache: our deep, wordless desire for things to be made right and the incompleteness we find in the meantime. We dwell in a world still racked with conflict, violence, suffering, darkness. Advent holds space for our grief, and it reminds us that all of us, in one way or another, are not only wounded by the evil in the world but are also wielders of it, contributing our own moments of unkindness

or impatience or selfishness.

Even among observant Christians, the holiday season has often been flattened into a sentimental call to warm religious feelings. Advent offers wisdom to the wider world. It reminds us that joy is trivialized if we do not first intentionally acknowledge the pain and wreckage of the world.

G.K. Chesterton wrote that original sin is the "only part of Christian theology which can really be proved." The believer and atheist alike can agree that there is an undeniable brokenness to the world, a sickness that needs remedy. Whether we assign blame to human sinfulness, a political party, corporate greed, ignorance, tribalism or nationalism (or some of each), we can admit that things are not as they should be — or at least, not as we wish they were.

The tyranny of relentless mandatory celebration leaves us exhausted and often, ironically, feeling emptier. Many of us suffer from "holiday blues." I do not want to be the Grinch tsk-tsking anyone for decorating the tree early or firing up "Jingle Bell Rock" before the 25th.

But to rush into Christmas without first taking time to collectively acknowledge the sorrow in the world and in our own lives seems like an inebriated and overstuffed practice of denial.

**HUNGER IS THE BEST SAUCE**  
IDIOMLAND.COM

Meaning  
**WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY,  
EVERYTHING TASTES GOOD**

AFTER OUR TWENTY-MILE HIKE I ATE  
A HAMBURGER, AND IT TASTED LIKE  
THE BEST FOOD IN THE WORLD.  
**HUNGER IS THE BEST SAUCE.**

For me, the old saying rings true: Hunger is the best condiment. Abstaining, for a moment, from the clamor of compulsive jollification, and instead leaning into the reality of human tragedy and of my own need and brokenness, allows my experience of glory at Christmastime to feel not only more emotionally sustainable but also more vivid, vital and cherished.

Our response to the wrongness of the world (and of ourselves) can often be an unhealthy escapism, and we can turn to the holidays as anesthesia. We need collective space, as a society, to grieve — to look long and hard at what is cracked and fractured in our world and in our lives. Only then can celebration become deep, rich and resonant, not as a saccharine act of delusion but as a defiant act of hope.

During the Advent season, three parishes got together with Happy Hearts, Bottineau's Depression and Anxiety Support Group, for a traveling Burden Tree. This is the season for gratefulness; however, we would like to acknowledge that people carry burdens as well. During the Advent season, these burdens may be heavier to carry. If you have a burden you would like to place on the tree, write your burden or burdens on a paper ornament and place it on the tree. Our wish is that you are NOT alone in your struggles. We are ALL here to share the burdens together!



## Life in the Spirit Retreat at St. Cecilia's

Deepen your relationship with the third person of the Blessed Trinity and awaken the gifts of the Holy Spirit in your life. **January 10-12, 2020** (registration begins at 6pm, seminar begins at 7pm on Friday and finishes at 3pm on Sunday)

**Weekend includes:** Mass; Praise & Worship; Talks & Testimonies; Small Group Discussion; Eucharistic Adoration; Healing of Hurtful Memories

**Cost:** free will offering. Pre-registration appreciated by Jan 7.

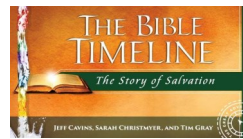
Register at [raxtman@gondtc.com](mailto:raxtman@gondtc.com) or call 701-324-2706 or the parish office at 324-2144, [stcecilia@gondtc.com](mailto:stcecilia@gondtc.com).

**Housing:** Cobblestone Inn: 701-635-2222 R & R Motel: 701-324-2271

Artos Motel: 701-324-4602

There is a block of rooms set aside at the Cobblestone with a rate of 89.99. Please mention group name of Life in the Spirit. Cut-off date is Jan. 4.

No cost housing available in St. Cecilia's Social Center or in private homes. Please contact Rosalie prior to the weekend for arrangements using the email or phone numbers listed above.



JEFF CAVINS BIBLE TIMELINE. Session 8—Messianic Fulfillment, Part 2, the Church, and Continuing the Journey. Learn how the Story of the Bible is fulfilled in the Coming of Jesus. This 8-part study unlocks the Mystery of the Bible so you can uncover the story woven throughout

Scripture. We will meet Wed, Jan. 8th, 7:00pm, St. Mark's Social Hall.

**If you are missing a cell phone, please check on the one on the counter in the entryway of the church.**



## Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 24th, 5:00p.m. St. Andrew's

Tuesday, December 24th, 7:30p.m. St. Mark's

Wednesday, December 25th, 11:00a.m. St. Mark's

## Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1st, 9:00a.m. St. Andrew's

Wednesday, January 1st, 11:00a.m. St. Mark's

## St. Mark's Ministries for December 24th & 25th, 2019

DATE	EUCCHARISTIC MIN.	READER	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS	COUNTERS
Tues.	<b>Bread:</b> Julie H. Peg N. /Susan H.	Anne Bergeron	Robert & Erika Hamilton Family	Matt Brandjord & Brad Trebas	Robert & Erika Hamilton Family	Gabe & Graysen	
Wed.	<b>Bread:</b> Marlys V. A. Lorraine W./Warren E.	Jerry Migler	Morris & Colleen Holen Jr.	Bryan Schweitzer/ Evan St. Michel	Morris & Colleen Holen Jr.	Riley & Logan	TBD

## St. Andrew's Ministries for December 29th, 2019

DATE	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	READER	GIFT BEARERS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS	COUNTERS
Sun.	Paul & Tom	Paul Klokstad	Thompson Family	Isaac & Saul	Mike & Terri Thompson	Roger & Howard

## St. Mark's Ministries for December 28th & 29th, 2019

DATE	EUCCHARISTIC MIN.	READER	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS	COUNTERS
Sat.	<b>Bread:</b> Vickie G. Bobbi A./ Janel A.	Vickie Gangl	Rita & Pat Lauer	Matt Brandjord & Brad Trebas	Rita & Pat Lauer	Taylor	
Sun.	<b>Bread:</b> Warren E. Bev. J./Kathy M.	Jessica Tagestad	Bryan & Heidi Schweitzer Family	Bryan Schweitzer/ Evan St. Michel	Bryan & Heidi Schweitzer Family	Lauren	Carla./ TBD