

St. Mary's Catholic Church

P.O. Box 187, Chokio, MN 56221
Secretary/Bookkeeper: Deb Farwell
(Deb's Cell-320-287-0585)

Pastor: Fr. John Paul Knopik (324-2680)
stmarych@fedtel.net
Web Site: stmaryschokio.org
fr_jp@yahoo.com

May 24, 2020 ~ THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE **Limit of 10 people for Wed. & Fri.

Mass (live & on youtube.com) – Wed., May 27 – 8:30 a.m. (Wheaton)
Mass (live & on youtube.com) – Fri., May 29 – 8:30 a.m. (Wheaton)
Mass (open to the public) – Sat., May 30 – 5:00 p.m. (Wheaton)

Stewardship Report- May 13, 14, & 17, 2020

Weekly budget expenses from 2019-2020
Budget: \$1,693.27. *Thank you for your sacrificial offering.*

Mass (open to the public) – Sun., May 31 – 8:30 a.m. (Chokio)

Adult:	\$915.00
Bldg. & Improve.:	560.00
TOTAL:	\$1,475.00

RECONCILIATION: Anyone desiring confessions is encouraged to call the office and set up an appointment.

Please remember in prayer: Tom & Vicki Leuthardt, Robert Knopik, Fr. John Paul, Marie Grossman, Lil Ritter, Harold Sivertson, Rita Schuster, DeLores Eul, and all who are ill. Please call when a name should be added or removed from this list.

PRAYER TO RECEIVE A NEW BISHOP: Praise to you, Lord our God, our eternal shepherd and guide. In your faithfulness, grant to the Diocese of Saint Cloud a shepherd whose watchful care and kindly zeal will continue the good work of his predecessors. In your love for us, give us a shepherd who will lead us in being Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice. Help him to fill our minds and hearts with the truth of the Gospel, the power of the sacraments, and the desire to build up your holy Church. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Dear Parishioners, this past week we had received a letter signed by all the Bishops of the State of MN stating that Mass will be made public again come **Tuesday, May 26**. Feel free to read the letter provided in the bulletin, the mailing you will receive next week, or on our website. A reminder that even though Mass will become public again, no one is obligated to come and fulfill their Sunday or Holy Day of obligation at this time.

Mass may look and feel a little different, but hopefully it feels welcome and enjoyable. Here at St. Mary's, we will be unlocking the east-front-handicap-accessible-door of the Church for entrance & departure; the other doors will be locked for now to help maintain flow & cleanliness. Pews will be roped or taped off to try to maintain proper distancing. You can look to our diagram of the Church as well for reference & clarification. Please try to maintain proper distance whether in the pew or communion line; a family or married couple can sit alongside one another – they don't have to be spaced six feet apart. If more seating capacity is needed, look to an usher to help direct you to another location to sit.

We'll be asking parishioners that do come to Church to take a piece of paper handed out to them at the entryway and leave it where they were seated so that the pews can be cleaned in those locations. Hymnals will not be available for a while as well as the congregation will be asked not to sing likewise to help maintain any possible spread through singing; instrumental music and cantors may be assisting to help fill this void. Hand sanitizer will be provided at Church entryways for use as well.

Our plan was to begin with having Mass at 8:30 am only on Sundays to begin with to see how everything goes, which could be either attended or watched livestream on YouTube here in Chokio. In order to watch Mass live, go to "**youtube.com**" and once there, type in YouTube's search engine: Father John Paul – Mass, & the date the Mass is occurring. For example: **Father John Paul – Mass, May 31, 2020** for Sunday's 8:30 am Mass. If one is unable to watch Mass live in our cluster at a certain time and still wishes to watch it later, simply do the steps done as would be for viewing it live: go to "youtube.com" and type the following Mass information as the examples listed up above in YouTube's search engine or go to our Facebook site (St. Mary's Annual Bazaar) as we have been doing otherwise during the pandemic.

Hopefully this all makes sense. Feel free to call the office with questions. This is a unique situation that we find ourselves in, so let us try to respect the decision that each person makes for oneself in this challenging time. If there is a better approach or a better way of handling our current situation, please give me a call. I am all ears to any feedback. God bless, jp

The 12th Annual St. Mary's Calendar Raffle. We still have about 150 tickets left to sell by June 21st. All tickets and money need to be turned in by then! So far, \$7,580.00 has been receipted from ticket sales (364 tickets sold) and donation. (Unless you request your ticket stubs, we will be recycling them immediately.) Money raised will go towards building improvements. Tickets can be picked up and dropped off at the Church office (call Deb – 324-2680) or picked up at Becky Draper's home (324-7321 or 287-2164), or you can mail a check to St. Mary's Church, P.O. Box 187, Chokio, MN 56221. Thank you for your cooperation and support!

Baccalaureate Mass: St. Mary's will honor our graduating senior, Nickolas Johnson, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass today, May 24th. Congratulations! Because of the restrictions on the number attending Mass this Sunday, there will be another opportunity to congratulate Nickolas & the other C-A Grads this Sunday at 4:00 when the class will parade around town. You can park in the Church parking lot while social distancing.

Bishop's Annual Appeal: We receive many prayer intentions from the diocesan faith community. All are carefully preserved and prayed over by Bishop Kettler, diocesan staff, and the sisters at St. Clare's Monastery in Sauk Rapids. Please know that whether or not you are able to send a gift, your requests for prayer are welcome.

Area Catholic Community parish websites are: www.brownsvalleycatholic.org <https://assumptionofmorris.org>