

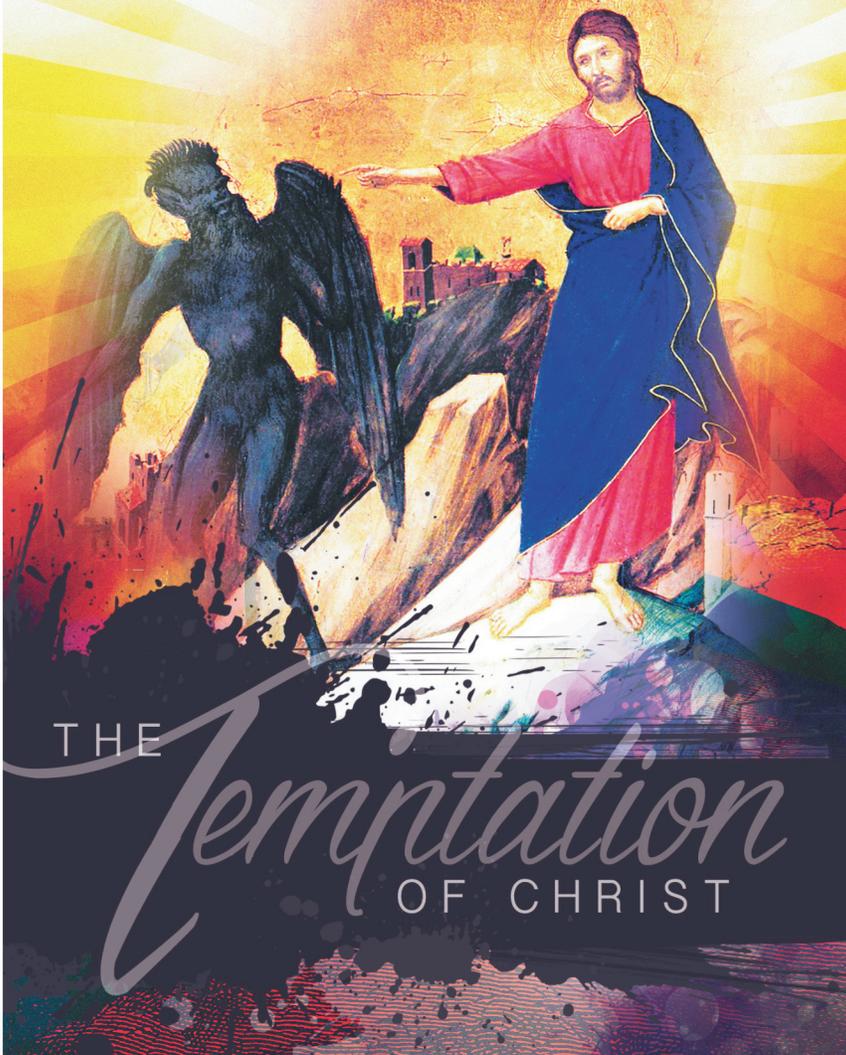
February 22nd, 2026
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

CHURCH OF ST. THERESE, THE LITTLE FLOWER

Minot, North Dakota



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



THIS WEEK:

Monday, February 23rd
No Scheduled Events

Tuesday, February 24th
8:00 a.m. Mass
6:00 p.m. Finance Council

Wednesday, February 25th
8:00 a.m. Mass
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Adoration
6:00 p.m. CGS

Thursday, February 26th
8:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, February 27th
8:00 a.m. Mass
5:30 p.m. Soup & Sandwich Supper
5:50 - 6:20 p.m. Confession
6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 28th
4:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, March 1st
Mass: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m. Divine Intimacy Book Study

DAILY MASS: TUES-FRI 8AM
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS: 4:30PM
SUNDAY MASS: 8:30AM & 10AM
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: WEDNESDAYS 8:30AM-4PM

FR. KENNETH PHILLIPS, PASTOR:
kphillips@bismarckdiocese.com

DEACON STEPHEN YOUNG:
deaconstevebismarck@gmail.com

GOSPEL MEDITATION

February 22, 2026
1st Sunday of Lent
Matthew 4:1-11

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1). The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

Lenten Challenge: This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

— Father John Muir
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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2026

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Friday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

Rintoul Family by Molly Koble

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

John Jennings & Mary Kate Rafferty by Winnie Jennings

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

+Greg Sauber by JoAnn & Rick Randall

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

Austin Artz by Your Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

Mary Krogman by Lisa Krogman

SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST

8:30 a.m. +Larry Bartsch by Karen Leifson

10:00 a.m. For the Parishioners

+Indicates Deceased



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

In sympathy, please remember Norman Vondal, brother of Alice Leonard and family, who recently passed away.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

**Join our
parish!**

If you've been attending Mass at Little Flower, please consider registering and becoming a member of our parish. Contact our parish office or go to our website:
www.LittleFlowerMinot.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 8:30AM-3PM

Parish Office: 701.838.1520

Rectory: 701.837.5943

Parish Email: littleflowerminot@gmail.com

www.LittleFlowerMinot.com

MAILING ADDRESS:

800 University Ave. West
Minot, ND 58703

STAFF:

Parish Secretary: Jill Aarseth LittleFlowerMinot@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Sally Brown

Accounts Manager: Kathy Wentz: LittleFlowerFinance@srt.com

Publications/Website: Melissa Olson

LittleFlowerParish@gmail.com

Music Director: Paul Nason: nason.paul@gmail.com

Religious Education/Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:

Dione Bohl & Paula Rudser-Stolba (701) 838.1520

Bishop Ryan Catholic School: Megan Selk

(701) 838.3355; mselek@brhs.com

JANUARY 2026 OFFERTORY

	Actual	Budget
Adult Collections	\$17,437	\$19,167
Student Envelopes	\$0	\$0
Loose Collection	\$2,549	\$2,167
Holy Day Collection	\$3,401	\$3,000
ACH/Online Giving	\$6,141	\$6,833
January Totals	\$29,527	\$31,167
January Shortage	(\$1,640)	

The Ash Wednesday online giving fund will be open through February 28th.

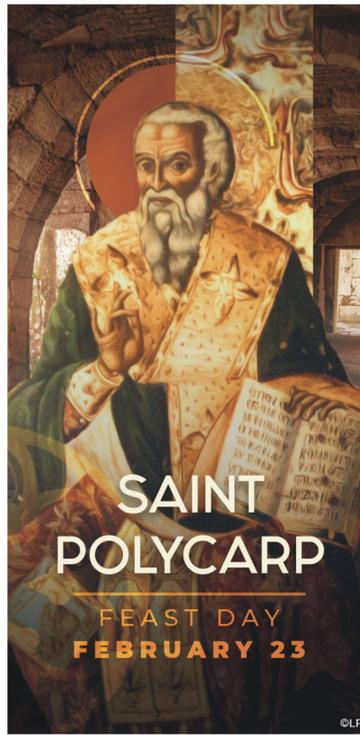
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Forgot to bring your offertory envelope to Mass? ACH makes offertory giving simple. Scan the QR code to sign up for automatic bank withdrawals for EASY offertory giving that supports our parish – even while you’re away!



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: According to the Acts of the Apostles, who was selected to replace the Apostle Judas?



St. Polycarp of Smyrna | February 23

As a disciple of St. John, the Evangelist, St. Polycarp was able to hear about Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection directly from those who witnessed it. Because Polycarp was ordained as Bishop of Smyrna by St. John, he is one of three chief Apostolic Fathers, along with Clement of Rome and Ignatius of Antioch. During his life Polycarp defended the Church against heresies. His important writing, the Letter to the Philippians, quoted the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles, stressing Paul’s

authority in the Church and setting out clear arguments against the gnostic heresy that denied Christ’s divinity. The early period of the Church was a dangerous time to be a Christian and like many, St. Polycarp was martyred. He was captured by Romans and sentenced to burn at the stake. However, the fire did not touch him, instead rising up like sails around him. Seeing that the flames would not injure Polycarp, the Romans stabbed him instead. The Martyrdom of Polycarp is perhaps the earliest fully preserved account of a Christian martyr.

MASS MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR FEB 28 & MAR 1

	Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Sunday 10 a.m.
Rosary	Varden Lang	Debby Brothers	Barb Johnson
Greeters	Denise Zahn	Carolyn Johnson Diane Wittmayer	Steve Bueschel Paula Rudser-Stolba
Altar Servers	Dan Christen Sara Haarstad	Jeff Murtaugh David White	Danica Stolba
Lector	Cathy Haarstad	Joshua Snyder	Paula Rudser-Stolba
Eucharistic Minister	Mike Sander	Karen McDonald	Deacon Stephen Young
In-Home Ministry	Deacon Bob Dangel		
Scrip Sales	Tracy Christen	Jill Aarseth	Jill Aarseth

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DAILY MASS AND SUNDAY 8:30AM MASS BROADCAST ON YOUTUBE

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If anyone is preparing for surgery or is hospitalized or wishing to receive the anointing of the sick, please call the parish office (701-838-1520) or rectory (701-837-5943) to set up an appointment. You can receive this sacrament more than once. Please notify Fr. Phillips upon admission of a family member to the hospital.

CONFESSION TIMES

TUES-FRI: 7:30AM-7:50AM
SAT: 3:15PM-4:15PM
SUNDAY: 7:30AM-8:15AM; 9:30AM-9:50AM
Confession can be heard anytime outside of listed times by appointment: 837.5943

BISHOP RYAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Is God calling your family to Catholic education? Now enrolling preschool through grade 12 for the 2026–2027 school year. For a tour or more information contact Megan Selk at 838-3355.

Use **Scrip gift cards for all your purchases.** We have cards for groceries, gas, clothing, household items, coffee, dining out, Amazon, home building & repair, vehicles & car care. We sell these cards in the gathering space after Mass and in the parish office during the week and at Bishop Ryan. Using Scrip supports Bishop Ryan Catholic School, which is a mission to our church. When you purchase Scrip, the businesses give back to Bishop Ryan a percent of your purchase, which supports the school and helps families with their tuition. It's a way to share Jesus – by supporting Catholic education.



Minot Area Catholic Adults *Spirits and Truth*



3 Part Series: Faith, Hope, and Charity

Hope:

Thursday, March 5th, 2026

-Food and Fellowship @6:00pm

-Talk by Fr. Logan Obrigewitch @6:45pm

Location: Mi Mexico

3816 S Broadway

Minot, ND



DO YOU HAVE OUR PARISH APP?

With winter weather upon us, now is a great time to download our **FREE** parish app. Any Mass, Adoration, or activity cancellations due to weather will come right to your phone! Simply go to your app store and download the free app. Set Little Flower as your parish and make sure push notifications are ON so you can be alerted to any important messages.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST

Want to test your athletic ability against the best our area, state, and country have to offer? The Annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest is coming up! All children, ages 9-14 are invited to join your local council on Sunday, March 1st at Bishop Ryan for our contest. Registration will begin at 11:45 with the contest starting at 12:00 noon. Please bring proof of age (usually birth certificate) with you to registration. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact District Deputy Brian Rodgers at 701.240.3439. God Bless and hope to see you soon!

SEARCH WEEKENDS

Search for Christian Maturity is a weekend retreat experience which provides youth an opportunity to think, talk, question and dive deeper into their faith. The weekends are for any high school or college age person at least 15 years old. The program is both rooted in the Catholic faith and open to young people of any denomination or creed. Search weekends are held five times throughout the year at the Badlands Ministries Camp just south of Medora. Cost for the weekend is \$75. Partial scholarships are available. Weekends for the 2025-26 season are Mar. 6-8 and Apr. 17-19. Find more information at bismarckdiocese.com/search1.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MESSAGE

Lent is a call to “give alms for the poor.” Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor.

St. Vincent de Paul meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. If you would like to attend a meeting, please call Janel at 701-557-3919 for the meeting location.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA ANSWER: ST. MATTHIAS.

Fridays During Lent

Except March 27th



Soup & Sandwich Supper

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.



Confession

5:50 p.m. - 6:20 p.m.



Stations of the Cross

6:30 p.m.

THANK YOU TO OUR LITTLE FLOWER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOR PUTTING ON THE SOUP & SANDWICH SUPPER EACH FRIDAY.

OBLATE LENTEN RETREAT AT ANNUNCIATION MONASTERY

"The Mathematics of a Benedictine Lent—additions and subtractions" directed by Oblate Colleen Ressler Sunday, March 8 - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Eucharistic Liturgy at 11 a.m., lunch provided (in silence) No cost. All are welcome. For more information, contact Sister Rosemary at 701-255-1520.

Lenten Retreat

"Return to me with all your heart"

Joel 2:12



Come to the Desert and Pray with our Lord

When?

Saturday, Feb 28th, 2026

Saturday, March 14th, 2026

Our Lady of Grace

707 16th Ave SW

Minot, ND 58701

Schedule Both Saturday Evenings

6:30pm : Eucharistic Exposition
and Evening Prayer

6:45pm - 8:00pm: Eucharistic
Adoration and Confession

JOB OPENING WITH BISMARCK DIOCESE

The Bismarck Diocese has an immediate opening for an as-needed cook (averages 1, 8-hour day a week) at the Emmaus Place, a priest retirement facility in Bismarck. This cook position offers a very competitive wage and is on an as-needed basis when there are scheduling conflicts with our full-time and part-time cooks. This opportunity allows the individual to serve our retired priests of Jesus Christ, whom have so faithfully for many years administered to us the sacraments and served the people of the Bismarck Diocese. Job duties include grocery shopping, preparing, and serving meals for the residents, and clean-up. Must possess a valid driver's license and be able to lift and carry 20 pounds. Prior cooking knowledge and experience is desirable. All offers of employment are pending a clear background check and reference check. Please contact Kim Kleinknecht, the coordinator of "Priest Services" for Emmaus Place if you are interested in this wonderful opportunity. Kim's email is kleinknecht@bismarckdiocese.com or phone (701) 258-2618. Applications (found at bismarckdiocese.com/job-openings) may also be emailed or mailed to Denise Jordan at djordan@bismarckdiocese.com or PO Box 1575, Bismarck, ND 58502.

Devotions, Explained!

Fasting, Explained

The practice of fasting predates Christianity. The Old Testament is full of examples of righteous men and women mortifying their flesh for the purpose of making atonement or simply to grow closer to God. Jesus himself fasted for forty days and forty nights in preparation for the beginning of his public ministry, and we see his disciples following his example in the Acts of the Apostles.

Fasting continues to be an important part of Christian devotional life today. Many people feel the practice of fasting enhances their prayer and helps them fulfill St. Paul's advice to "put to death the deeds of the body" (Romans 8:13) to grow in the Spirit. Most Catholics will associate fasting with the liturgical season of Lent, which begins and ends with obligatory fasting for all members of the Latin Catholic Church between ages 18 and 59.

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DO YOU WISH YOUR

PRAYER TO FLY TOWARD GOD?

MAKE FOR IT TWO WINGS:

FASTING AND ALMSGIVING.

—ST. AUGUSTINE

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