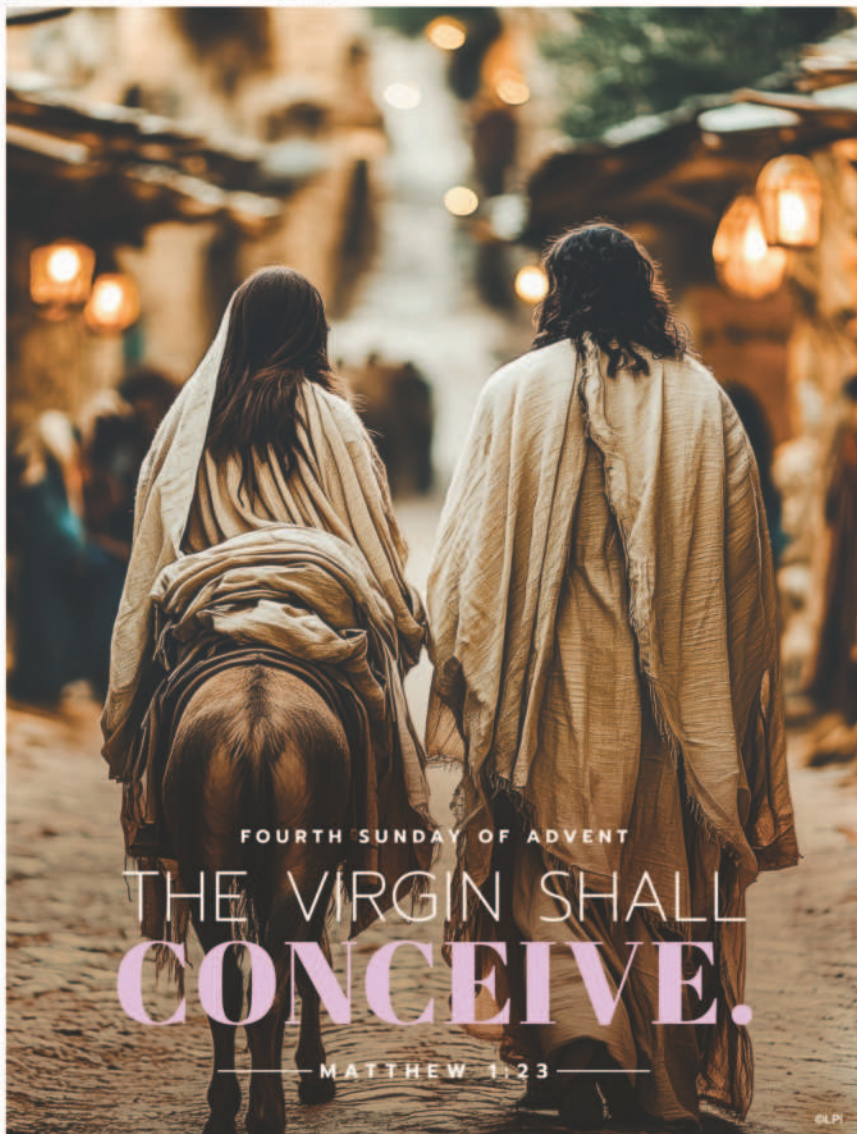


December 21st, 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHURCH OF ST. THERESE, THE LITTLE FLOWER

Minot, North Dakota



THIS WEEK:

Monday, December 22nd
No Scheduled Events

Tuesday, December 23rd
8:00 a.m. Mass

Wednesday, December 24th
Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. Mass
Parish Office Closed

Thursday, December 25th
Christmas Day
9:00 a.m. Mass
Parish Office Closed

Friday, December 26th
No Daily Mass

Saturday, December 27th
4:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 28th
Mass: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

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

December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Matthew 1:18-24

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly 10 years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts. God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 2025

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. John of Kanty, Priest
Wednesday: Christmas Eve
Thursday: The Nativity of the Lord
Friday: St. Stephen, First Martyr
Saturday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Next Sunday: The Holy Family

MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

+Karla Gerhart by your Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

4:00 p.m.: +Mitchell Watne by Suzanne Watne

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

9:00 a.m.: For the Parish

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

+Edmond Leonard by Alice Leonard

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

+Cassie Lang by Lang Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

8:30 a.m. +Bob McDonald by Karen McDonald

10:00 a.m. For the Parish

+Indicates Deceased



NEW MEMBER OF OUR PARISH:
Renae Bergstad



Welcome **Christy Keller** to our Little Flower family. Christy was confirmed on December 7th.



Scarlet Josephine Audet was baptized on December 6th at Little Flower. Congratulations to her parents, Luke and Kelsy, and to her siblings, Eloise and William.

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



CHRISTMAS DECORATING

We need your help! Our Environment Committee will be decorating for Christmas following the 10AM Mass next Sunday, December 21st. Your help will help make the process go quickly. We are especially in need of people to haul out Christmas trees and bigger decorations. Thank you!

FOOD PANTRIES

Bins are located in gathering space for the Our Lady of Grace and Minot State University food pantries. In this season of giving, please consider donating to those in need with non-perishable food items. The MSU food pantry is for students, so easy to prepare items work best (easy Mac, toaster pastries, etc.).

DIVINE INTIMACY BOOK STUDY 2026

The Divine Intimacy book study at Little Flower will resume January 4 following the 10AM Mass. Class dates: January 4 & 11; February 1, 8, 15, 22; March 1. All are welcome!

MASS MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR DECEMBER 24 & 25

	Christmas Eve 4PM	Christmas Day 9AM
Rosary	No Rosary (Music)	No Rosary (Music)
Greeters	Clarence & Amy Aberle	Volunteers Needed
Altar Servers	Calvin Olson Dexter Olson Frances Olson	Julia Young James Young Claire Young
Lector	Perry Olson	Joshua Snyder
Eucharistic Minister	Melissa Olson Dakota Johnson Jon Vennes Mike Sander	Deacon Stephen Young

MASS MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR DECEMBER 27 & 28

	Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Sunday 10 a.m.
Rosary	Cindy Obenchain	Carolyn Johnson	Paula Wahl
Greeters	Allan & Deb Haman	Debby Brothers Karen McDonald	Paul Rudser-Stolba Family
Altar Servers	Camden Lee	Dexter Olson Calvin Olson	Julia Young Clare Young
Lector	Chris Wright	Perry Olson	Barb Johnson
Eucharistic Minister	Mike Sander	Melissa Olson	Deacon Stephen Young
In-Home Ministry		Deb Mellum	
Scrip Sales	NO SCRIP	NO SCRIP	NO SCRIP

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.

NOVEMBER 2025 OFFERTORY

	Actual	Budget
Adult Collections	\$16,488	\$19,167
Student Envelopes	\$0	\$0
Loose Collection	\$2,619	\$2,167
Holy Day Collection	\$672	\$3,000
ACH/Online Giving	\$6,476	\$6,833

November Totals	\$26,254	\$31,167
November Shortage	(\$4,913)	

ONLINE GIVING FUNDS

Christmas Flowers: Active 12-1-2025 through 12-21-2025

Christmas: Active 12-14-2025 through 12-28-2025

Solemnity of Mary: Active 12-28-2025 through 1-11-2026

EASY OFFERTORY GIVING WITH ACH

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!



ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!

We have a particular need for altar servers for the Saturday 4:30 p.m. Mass. This is a great way for children to become more connected to Mass. Children and adults are encouraged to serve in this ministry. Contact the parish office to learn more about server training.

FIND OUR PARISH
ON SOCIAL MEDIA



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



DOWNLOAD THE MYPARISH APP
AND SET ST. THERESE AS YOUR
HOME PARISH



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

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

Little Lions Preschool Registration Opening Soon: At Little Lions Preschool, we help children grow with inspired minds, faithful hearts, and lives of virtue. Registration opens soon for our 2-Day Morning, 3-Day Morning, 5-Day Afternoon, and Full-Day Kindergarten Readiness classes. For more information, contact Megan Selk at mselk@brhs.com or 701-833-3355.



Gift Cards make the Best Christmas Gifts! Buy your Scrip Gift Cards soon - time is running short - We have cards for groceries, gas, clothing, household items, coffee, dining out, Amazon, home building & repair, vehicles & car care, just a lot of choices of cards. We sell those cards in the gathering space after Mass and in the parish office during the week and at Bishop Ryan. So do your Christmas shopping right here with gift cards. 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.

Another Christmas Gift Idea: Make a payment toward a Bishop Ryan's student's tuition account, choosing your grandchild, neighbor, friend or stranger.



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD *Growing our Flock*

The Materials

The materials in the atrium are often three-dimensional wood representations of a particular scripture or are items that represent what can be found in Baptism or Eucharist. They are attractively displayed and invite the children to explore and deepen their experience of the presentation at their own pace and rhythm. The most important characteristic of the materials are their close link to the biblical and liturgical sources. The shelves might include maps of Israel, miniature



environments representing the elements of the parables or the historical events from the infancy or paschal narratives that have been shown to satisfy the spiritual needs of the child. The model altar and its articles convey the centrality of the Eucharist. The Baptismal font and other liturgical items initiate the child into the liturgical life of the church.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MESSAGE

In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus will be named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. May each Christmas find us more and more like him: more humble, more holy, more happy and more full of God. Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helped those who are poor and suffering to find Emmanuel and they also came to know that "God is with us." 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.

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE MASS DECEMBER 28

During this Jubilee Year of Hope, several special Jubilee Masses have been celebrated at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Bismarck. A Mass in celebration of the closing of the Jubilee Year will take place on Sunday, December 28 at 11:30 AM. Consider making a pilgrimage and attending this special Mass. Groups wanting to make a pilgrimage should contact the Cathedral parish office at 701-223-1033. For more information, go to cathedralparish.com/jubilee-2025.



**Knights of
Columbus®**

St. John the Apostle
#1150

**Breakfast Sunday,
December 21st**

St. John the Apostle

9am-Noon

Menu:

Pancakes, French Toast
(*Gluten Free French Toast
will be available), Sausage,
Scrambled Eggs, Juice, Milk
& Coffee

Free-will offering to support:
Bismarck Diocese Seminarians



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.



Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m.

Christmas Day
9:00 a.m.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR IDEAS FOR YEAR-END GIVING OPTIONS THAT MAY HELP OUR PARISH?

1. As the year comes to a close, you may be looking for creative ways to make a year-end donation to support the parish. We have provided many attractive options that may also include tax savings for you! Please see our flyer (insert the location of your flyer, i.e. inserted in the bulletin, on the tables by the doors, etc.) or visit our office to discuss other great options.

2. We want to thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish. It is through your support that we can fulfill the mission of the Church. If you are looking for ways to make a year-end donation, please see our informational flyers (insert the location of your flyer, i.e. inserted in the bulletin, on the tables by the doors, etc.) or visit parish staff to learn about more great opportunities.

3. As always, we are grateful for your support and generosity. Your donations and support of our parish are a tremendous testament to your faith. For those looking to make a year-end donation, we have provided materials that highlight great giving opportunities, many of which provide you with tax advantages!

Gifts of Retirement Assets

Put your money where your faith is - first



Church of St. Therese,
the Little Flower

Beneficiary Designation Gifts from your Retirement Accounts

Donating part or all of your unused retirement assets such as a gift from your IRA, 401(k), 403(b), pension, other tax deferred plan is an excellent way to make a gift to support your parish or your parish's endowment fund. If you are like most people, you probably will not use all of your retirement assets during your lifetime.

The benefits of making a gift of retirement assets are :

1

You avoid potential estate tax on retirement assets.

2

Your heirs would avoid income tax on any retirement assets funded on a pre-tax basis.

3

You receive a potential estate tax savings from an estate tax reduction.



To make a gift from your retirement assets, you will need to contact your investment firm and fill out their paperwork.

Also, please contact our office at 701-838-1520 to inform us of this gift.

Scan to Donate



To your parish



To your parish endowment fund



The Nativity of the Lord

Our hearts are aglow with the joy of Christmas! Our senses are alive with the season, from the rich smells of evergreen and gingerbread to the feel of crisp air on our skin and the warmth of a loved one's embrace. At some point in the holiday hustle and bustle, take a few moments of quiet. In the silence, reflect on the other senses of the season. Imagine the cool damp of an animal stable, the earthy smell of hay and feed, and the crisp night air blowing in softly. Imagine kneeling beside an exhausted, joyful mother and a relieved, protective father. Imagine an infant wrapped in cloth scraps held out to your open arms. Imagine holding the infant Jesus. As his eyes meet yours, welcome into your heart the greatest gift of Christmas.

Merry Christmas from all of us at
Church of St. Therese, the Little Flower!

Christmas Blessing

On this blessed Christmas day,
may the joy and goodness of the sweet baby Jesus fill our
home and our hearts.

Jesus, bless every member of our family, near and far.
May peace prevail, goodness reign, and love triumph.
Amen.



701.839.0989

524 31st Avenue SW • Minot, ND

www.minotsfinest.com

Proudly serving Minot & MAFB
for over 35 years!



Local
Parishioner



701.839.6669

JESSE GOERTZEN
FINANCIAL ADVISOR

JJGoertzen@firstcommand.com



Chris Wright Financial Advisor

Proud Little Flower Parishioner for 25 Years!

Edward Jones

Minot • 701-838-9484

EdwardJones.com

chris.wright@edwardjones.com

Faith-Based Financial Guidance You Can Trust: • Provide clear, ethical financial guidance grounded in Catholic values • Align investments with Church teaching and responsible stewardship • Support your family's goals through prudent, transparent planning

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary • Flood Detection
- Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Gary Stang

gstang@4LPi.com

(800) 950-9952 x5838

**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION NEED
A NEWSLETTER?**

Engaging, ad-supported
print and digital newsletters
to reach your community.

Visit lpicommunities.com



RYAN

FAMILY DEALERSHIPS

DRIVERYAN.COM



www.ikeatingfurniture.com

(701) 852-3536

Don't Sleep in Church... Sleep on a Tempur-Pedic



701-852-1700

**MINOT'S OWN
FOR 20+ YEARS!**

Visit planetpizzaND.com !!

Hours:

Sun. Noon-9pm • Mon.-Thur. 11am-9pm
Fri. & Sat. 11am-10pm

SHORT STAFFED?

Place an ad here to find new
local talent for your business.



CALL 800-950-9952



No matter your business, and no matter your balance
when talking about your finances you deserve

Accessible Expertise.

CORNERSTONE BANK

ThompsonLarson

Funeral Homes

(701) 852-3446

www.thompsonlarson.com



Office Solutions

1713 E. Broadway, Suite 100
Bismarck, ND 58504
701-238-8000



Office Equipment Inc.

17 East Central Avenue
Fargo, ND 58103
701-638-8024

www.firesideos.com



**FIRST
INTERNATIONAL
BANK & TRUST**

Member FDIC

live first®



COLDWELL BANKER

1ST MINOT, INC.

ED STECKLER

Parishioner

701-720-1861

701-858-0777



3816 S.
Broadway
Minot, ND



**PREFERRED
PARTNERS
REAL ESTATE**

MIKE PELLENWESSEL

Broker/Owner

cell: 833-8430 • office: 852-4663

Simple Works Contracting

Licensed & Insured

Home Improvements & Carpentry

Cabinetry • Framing • Roofing • Siding
Decks • Flooring • Windows • Doors
Trim • Sheetrock • Texture • Painting

Luke | 701-833-2106 | Minot, ND

The Modest Hare



Kelsy Audet

HAIRSTYLIST

(701) 578-5231

Men, Women, & Children Welcome!

Tues-Fri 2pm-7pm, Sat 9am-2pm
by appointment

[f The Modest Hare](https://www.facebook.com/TheModestHare) [@TheModestHare](https://www.instagram.com/TheModestHare)

**Jerome's
COLLISION CENTER**

Your Collision Experts
Serving the Minot area
for 50 years

We're the best at what we do

(701) 852-5126

www.jeromescollision.com
2705 N BROADWAY, MINOT ND 58703



*Oil Change \$39.95 -

Get 10th FREE

*Alignments \$99.95

*Aftermarket Wheels *Lift Kits

701-838-1823

<https://harrystireservice.com>



INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER

Eaton & Associates • Children • Teens • Adults • Family

Mary Solberg, PhD LCSW

ADHD • Anxiety • Crisis Counseling • Depression • Grief
Individual/Couples Mental Illness • Military • Trauma ...

(701) 578-4491 (text)

(701) 839-0474 (Office)

1705 4th Avenue NW, Minot, ND

**HIGHT
CONSTRUCTION**

WE SPECIALIZE IN DESIGN/BUILD

(701) 839-5819

www.hightconstruction.com

Email: jacob@hightconstruction.com Serving Minot Since 1982



Gene Evans & John Schaefer

701-720-7220

jpxexcavation@outlook.com

- Install New And Repair Old Sewer Systems
- Certified Septic System Inspections
- All Your Digging Needs • Competitive Pricing

Call for Consult or Price Quotes

**Ralph's
Plumbing & Heating Inc.**

MINOT, ND • 701-838-1435

STANLEY, ND • 701-629-6415

Residential | Commercial | Bathroom Remodels
Boilers | Furnaces | A/Cs | New Construction
Family Owned & Operated Since 1985 MP #0713

catholicmatch®

North Dakota

CatholicMatch.com/ND

**NEVER MISS
OUR BULLETIN!**

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed
to you every week.

Visit www.parishesonline.com



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary • Flood Detection
- Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502



We Do
Shingles
Too!

JESSEN ROOFING

Gravel Asphalt Roofs • Single Ply Rubber Roof Systems

Serving Minot For 40+ Years

www.jessenroofing.com • 701-838-2687



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lp.com

St Therese, Church of the Little Flower, Minot, ND

A 4C 02-1077