

December 7th, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHURCH OF ST. THERESE, THE LITTLE FLOWER

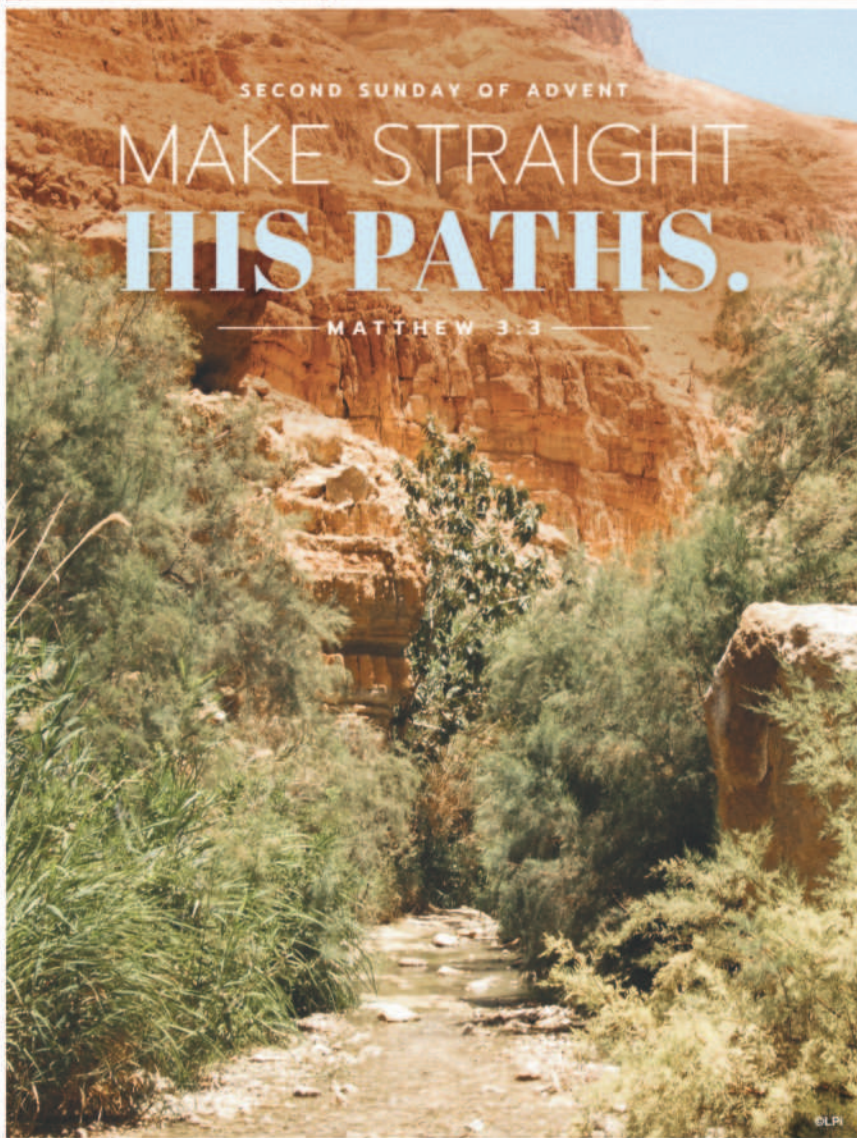
Minot, North Dakota



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.

MATTHEW 3:3



THIS WEEK:

Monday, December 8th

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass: 8:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 9th

8:00 a.m. Mass

5:00 p.m. Environment Committee

Wednesday, December 10th

8:00 a.m. Mass

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Adoration

6:00 p.m. CGS

Thursday, December 11th

8:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, December 12th

8:00 a.m. Mass

Saturday, December 13th

9:00 a.m. Serra Club Mass & Meeting

4:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 14th

Third Sunday of Advent

Mass: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m. - Noon: KC Breakfast

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

Dec. 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent
Matthew 3:1-12

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating "locusts and wild honey" (Mark 1:6). It's not just a strange historical detail. It's a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw — barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to fill in all the gaps, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was like eating locusts. But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other, about their first child, then their second. And they wanted to be close to God. Something innocent and beautiful was unfolding. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

This Advent, maybe we're each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it's time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith — prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It's time to eat some locusts. But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, the joy of serving someone else, new life, good intentions of our friends. That's the honey. Savor it!

John didn't avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we'll be ready — really ready — for the coming of Christ.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 2025

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent
Monday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
Wednesday: Our Lady of Loreto
Thursday: St. Damasus I, Pope
Friday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Saturday: St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

8:00 a.m. +Robert Schempp by Kathy Fetting

5:30 p.m. For the Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

+Mike Feist by Jerome & Karen Hager

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

+Mitchell Watne by Suzanne Watne

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

+Kristi Sand by Mylan Sand

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

+Tim Ahmann by Jean Ternes

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

+Dewey & Donna Christen by William Christen

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

8:30 a.m. +Greg Keller by Raymond & Rita Richard

10:00 a.m. For the Parish

+Indicates Deceased



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.



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

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!



ONLINE GIVING FUNDS

Thanksgiving Charity: Now through 12-14-2025

Feast of Immaculate Conception: Active 12-1-2025 through 12-14-2025

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe

When Mary appeared to Juan Diego as Our Lady of Guadalupe, she had encouraging words for him.

"Am I not here, I who am your mother?" In the image on Juan Diego's tilma (tunic), Mary identifies herself with the Aztec people. She has their hair and features, their symbolic maternity dress. She incorporated their important symbols of the sun, moon, and stars. Today's Mass includes two Gospel options. Both are familiar passages from the Gospel of Luke - the Annunciation and the Visitation. Both are equally relevant to today's feast because Mary's yes to Christ isn't only to care for him but to come to us. Our Lady of Guadalupe is pregnant. The image bears witness to Mary's yes to conceive the Savior of the World. But even in her pregnancy, she goes to care for Elizabeth. Now Mother to all the world, Mary comes to the aid of her children, reminding them of her presence among them.



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! **Please see our informational flyers in each bulletin through the end of the year for more information or contact our parish staff to learn more.**



ATTENTION MASS MINISTERS!

The Office is looking at January/February Mass Ministry schedule. Please call the office for any upcoming conflicts in your schedule for those months. We appreciate your time and effort with your stewardship. Thank you.

MASS MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR DECEMBER 13 & 14

	Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Sunday 10 a.m.
Rosary	Alice Leonard	Karen McDonald	Brenda Artz
Greeters	Paula Sidener Sue Peterson	Clarence & Amy Aberle	David & Brenda Feller
Altar Servers	Camden Lee	Curt Saari Hadley Duchscherer Tucker Duchscherer	Danica Stolba Luke Bacor
Lector	Diane Zander	Joshua Snyder	Cathy Haarstad
Eucharistic Minister	Jon Vennes	Carolyn Johnson	Deacon Young
In-Home Ministry	Carolyn Johnson		
Scrip Sales	Katy Larcombe	Lisa Krogman	Paula Rudser-Stolba

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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

Job Opportunity: Bishop Ryan Catholic School has a Custodial position available. For more information and to apply, visit our website: www.bishopryan.com click on Contact and Employment.

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.

ADVENT NOTES

Advent Retreat

"The Word Became Flesh"

John 1:14



A Four-Part Series on the Incarnation

During the Four Saturdays of Advent

Nov 29th: Who Came?

Dec 6th: Why Did Jesus Come?

Dec 13th: How Did Jesus Come?

Dec 20th: What Was Accomplished?

Our Lady of Grace
707 16th Ave SW
Minot, ND 58701

Schedule Each Saturday Evening

6:30pm: Eucharistic Exposition

and Evening Prayer

6:45pm: Talk by Fr. Eric Artz

7:15pm - 8:00pm: Time for Adoration
and Confession

*Need not stay for the entire program.

All ages welcome - child friendly activities
available in the gathering space.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY DECEMBER 8TH - Mass at 8AM & 5:30PM

	8AM	5:30PM
Rosary	Debby Brothers	Paula Wahl
Altar Server	Paul Kalamaha	Dakota Johnson
Lector	Carolyn Johnson	Wanda Kalamaha
Usher	Gary Levi	Kathy Wentz
Eucharistic Minister	Karen McDonald	Deacon Young

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.).

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, December 7th
2:00 p.m. at Little Flower

Sunday, December 14th
2:00 p.m. at St. Leo's

Wednesday, December 17th
6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace

Prayer for Advent – Peace

Come, Lord Jesus! Bring your peace to our world.
Inspire reconciliation, heal divisions, bind wounds,
rewrite scripts. You are the Prince of Peace, bring that
light into every space. Amen. ©LPi

ROSARY & MEDAL DONATIONS NEEDED

Please donate your spare rosaries and medals. They can be new or used, but must be unbroken. Place them in the basket in the main entry of the church between now & Dec. 14th. They will be sent to Riverton, Wyoming, and from there, distributed to missions around the world by Beads of Peace Rosary Makers. Please donate only Rosaries and medals because other items are too costly to send overseas. Thank you!



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Growing our Flock

God and the Child with the Adult

An interpersonal relationship is always a mystery, all the more so when that relationship is between God and the child.

We believe that there is a deep bond between God and the child which produces in the child the desire to draw nearer to God. The catechist's role is to prepare the environment and to give selected presentations from scripture and liturgy that "call forth" the child's response rather than "pours in" information. The catechist listens with the child and together they ask, "God, who are you? How do you love us?" The adult reflects with the child on the questions generated by the presentations with the materials offered to the child to aid the child's reflection.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MESSAGE

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord." This is what Advent is all about, for we are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

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 to celebrate Christmas. 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.

We have been blessed again this year to be a part of the TWICE BLESSED campaign through the INSPIRITUS Community Health Foundation. The campaign goes through the end of December. Donations made will be matched 1-1 during this campaign. We hope that you will consider donating to this campaign on our behalf. The website is twiceblessednd.com.

We would like to leave you with three thoughts:

1. Do you feel the calling to join a ministry that helps those in need? Our meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. We say the rosary at 5:10 followed by the meeting. We'd love to see you come, even if it's just to see what we're all about! Please call Janel at 701-557-3919 for meeting location.
2. Remember that we can't help those in need if we don't have the funds to do so. Your donation to the TWICE BLESSED campaign or individually throughout the year are crucial to our ministry.

DAKOTA HOPE CLINIC IS TWICE BLESSED

Inspiritus (formerly St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation) has provided us an opportunity to receive a grant of **\$10,000** when you give to Dakota Hope Clinic through Inspiritus. An added bonus, if you give to Dakota Hope Clinic, you can count your donation towards your North Dakota Income Taxes as a credit. ND Century Code § 57-38-01.39. Ask your accountant about Schedule MCP.

You can give two ways: online at

www.TwiceBlessedND.com

Or by mailing a check to Inspiritus at 308 2nd Ave. SW, Minot, ND 58701

Checks should be made out to **INSPIRITUS** and mailed directly to them. (Make a note that it is for Dakota Hope Clinic.)

The deadline is December 31st, 2025 and we need your help to get there. Right now your donation can go twice as far!

BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR PARISH

If you regularly attend Little Flower, but haven't formally registered with the parish, we invite you to do so! Scan the QR code for a printable registration form or stop by the parish office to fill one out.



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**Church of St. Therese,
the Little Flower**

Beneficiary Designation Gifts from your Life Insurance Policies

Donating part or all of your life insurance policy is an excellent way to make a gift to support your parish or your parish's endowment fund. If you have a life insurance policy that has outlasted its original purpose, consider making a gift of your insurance policy. For example, you may have purchased a policy to provide for minor children and they are now financially independent adults.

Scan to Donate



To make a gift from your life insurance, you will need to contact your insurance agency and fill out the paperwork.

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



**To your
parish**



**To your parish
endowment fund**



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SUNDAY

14

DECEMBER

8:30AM - 12PM



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