

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church Web Page: the Weekly Bulletin, Altar Server Schedule, Reader Schedule, REFF Class Schedule, and various links are now available on the City of New Rockford Website. The address is www.cityofnewrockford.com. Just click on Organizations>Churches>St. John Catholic Church.

2017 Calendars and Offertory Envelopes are available at the entrance of the church . . . Our thanks to the Nicolai Chiropractic Center and Napa Auto Parts/Do It Best for sponsoring the 2017 Calendars. These calendars are published by Catholic Extension which helps strengthen the presence and mission of the Catholic Church in under-resourced Catholic communities across the country. The focus of each month of 2017 is on a particular teaching of Pope Francis Exhortation on global concerns as expressed in Laudato Si (Care for Our Common Home).

"RETURN---How to Draw Your Child Back To The Church" Is a book every Catholic parent needs to read, as you struggle with a child or adult who's stopped going to Mass, no longer believes in God, or found another religion. The author, Brandon Vogt, is founder of StrangeNotions.com, the central place of dialogue between Catholics and atheists. Matthew Kelly's book, "Rediscover Jesus" is also available. These books are available for \$2.00 each.

Stewardship Moment: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God: "And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). Mary is the perfect role model for living a stewardship lifestyle. She listened to God and said 'yes' to His invitation to be the Holy Mother of His son. She also trusted in God providence on a daily basis. As we start a new year, take time every day to listen to how God is calling you; trust that He has a better plan for you than you could ever imagine.

A Special word of thanks to all who have sent me and our staff cards and gifts . . . A word of appreciation for the following: Liturgical ministers, young and old, who help assist with weekday and weekend Masses, Board and Council members who help direct the parish activities, Caring Hearts ready to serve a meal at the drop of a hat, Knights of Columbus who help with the social and spiritual life of the Parish, and REFF teachers who labor each week to help our young ones learn the basics of faith. There are many volunteers who work behind the scenes, and we appreciate each and every one of you. A special thanks to Jared Kolles who built the Stable for our Nativity Set and the Parish Council members who paid for the Stable. Your financial support for the parish keeps our facilities and programs up and running. God Bless You as we enter another challenging year of witnessing to the faith and love planted in our hearts through Baptism and the Sacraments of the Church.

Sharon Eversvik, Parish Secretary and REFF Coordinator, will be on medical leave for the next two weeks, undergoing surgery in Grand Forks on Dec. 27, followed by recovery into January . . . Your prayers for a successful surgery and recovery will be appreciated. Thank you for your patience with office matters.

New Year's Day/Octave of Christmas observes the Feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God . . . The schedule of Masses for next weekend will follow the normal schedule for the two parishes. Pope Francis has again asked that we observe this Feast as a "Day of Prayer for World Peace" and seeking peace through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace.

The New Rockford Knights of Columbus January Meeting . . . Monday, January 2, 7:00pm, with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 6:45pm. All Knights are invited to attend and help begin a new year of fellowship and service to community. Anyone interested in becoming a Knight, call a Knight or the Parish Office.

REFF . . . 1) All REFF Teachers will have an In-Service Session on **Wednesday, January 4, 7:00-8:30pm**, in the Rectory. **2) REFF Classes begin Wednesday, January 11.** Grades 7-12 will have a NET Retreat from 3:45pm to 8:30pm at St. John's, with the NET Team from Minneapolis/St. Paul directing this amazing event.

January Events to put on your calendar . . . 1) NET Retreat for Grades 7-12, Wednesday, **January 11**, St. John's. **2) A Turkey Dinner** served by the Knights of Columbus, Sunday, **January 22**, after the 10:30am Mass. **3) Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, January 23** and the National March for Life.

Please keep the following sick people in your prayers: Ardie Allmaras, Val & Megan Weisenburger, Dan Lies, DeVon Allmaras, Beaty Engels, Dorothy O'Connor, Ted Gathman, Ted Dauenhauer, Edith Gehrtz, Dorothy Theil, Sylvia Spreen, Joe Schmaltz, Donna Wishart, Gerti Omoth, Janice Ridge, Mary & Peter Kuntz, Mildred Lies, Lilly Hartl, Troy Lowe Family, Terry Van Lith, Tandy Sexton, Pat & Kay Caulfield, Jean Dyrness, Theresa Steffen, Sharon Eversvik, and the Kulsrud Family.

"Caring Hearts" . . . Group 4 – Chairpersons: Jake & Lisa Engels – Ben & Gerri Makay. Group 1 – Chairpersons: Ed & Kathy O'Connor – Dave & Karen Rieger. Group 2 – Chairpersons: DeVon Allmaras – Nyle & LaVonne Myhre. Group 3 – Chairpersons: Gene & Nancy Masse – Bart & Andrea Salazar.

"SCHEDULE OF MINISTERS"

DATE	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	SERVERS	USHERS	LECTOR	PIANIST	EUCCHARISTIC GIFTBEARERS
Saturday December 31 5:00pm	*Terri Backer Mary Gehrtz Dianne Allmaras Sandie Nystrom	Bailey Jacobson Hunter Jacobson Kindra Jacobson	Keith Backer Jim Ehni Bruce Gronos Alfred Ritzke	Sandie Nystrom	Heather Klocke	Please Volunteer
Sunday January 1 8:30am	*Kathy Steinbach David Steinbach Laura Risovi Bart Salazar	Billy Steinbach Teddy Allmaras Rebecca Allmaras	Todd Allmaras Jeff Engels Jamie Risovi Joe Seiler	Bart Salazar	Annette Hovey	Please Volunteer
Saturday January 7 5:00pm	*Lisa Engels Delores Georgeson Serena Guler Angie Hopfauf	Katie Allmaras Kendrick Hopfauf Kayahna Hopfauf	Keith Backer Jim Ehni Bruce Gronos Alfred Ritzke	Devon Allmaras	Heather Klocke	Please Volunteer
Sunday January 8 10:30am	*Allison Haley Mary Kay Price Janice Reis Jenna Helseth	Hannah Haley Preston Price Garret Schuster	Todd Allmaras Jeff Engels Jamie Risovi Joe Seiler	Jenna Helseth	Annette Hovey	Please Volunteer
Saturday January 14 5:00pm	*Leann Schafer Jeff Schafer Carter Richter Nancy Ritzke	Bailey Jacobson Hunter Jacobson Kindra Jacobson	Keith Backer Jim Ehni Bruce Gronos Alfred Ritzke	Chelsey Schafer	Heather Klocke	Please Volunteer
Sunday January 15 8:30am	*Bart Salazar Dina Anderson Peggy Duchscherer Leonard Duchscherer	Micah Nicolai Abby Makay Luke Ystaas	Todd Allmaras Jeff Engels Jamie Risovi Joe Seiler	Peggy Duchscherer	Annette Hovey	Please Volunteer

"CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS"

IN MEMORY OF:

*Tony & Grace Lill
Herb, Jerry, & Susie Engels
Brad Weber
Deceased Gathman & Leintz Families
Roger, Jim, Esther, Kenneth, & George Gronos & Agnes, George, Marilyn, & Ruth Ann Fletschock
Tony & Gladys Greff, Jim, Miranda, & Monica Guler
Deceased Members of Rose & Alfred Ritzke, Sr. Families
Rita Schaefer
Lambert Sonny Schafer
Leland Erickson, John & Elsie Schafer, Tony, Grace, & Tony Lill, Jr.
Sebastian & Virginia Schmaltz, Dennis Schmaltz
Mary Cook*

GIVEN BY:

*Anonymous
Engels Family
Jake & Lisa Engels Family
Ted & Pat Gathman
Gronos Family
Randy & Serena Guler Family
Rose & Alfred Ritzke, Sr. Families
Mike & Tiffany Schaefer & Family
Dorothy Schafer
Jeff & Leann Schafer
Joe Schmaltz Family
John Sookov*