



ONE IN FAITH Area Catholic Community of

St. Mary - Melrose, Sacred Heart - Freeport
Immaculate Conception - New Munich
St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa, St. Michael - Spring Hill
St. Andrew - Greenwald, St. John - Meire Grove

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

Fr. Daniel Walz, Pastor
Fr. Mitchell Bechtold, Pastor
Fr. Oswaldo Roche, Parochial Vicar

**Melrose - Spring Hill -
Greenwald - Meire Grove Office:**

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Office Phone: 320-256-4207

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Website: www.oneinfaith.org

Facebook: Church of St. Mary, Melrose

Mailing Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
Melrose, MN 56352

Freeport - New Munich - St. Rosa Office:

Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Office Phone: 320-836-2143

Email: triparish@albanytel.com

Website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org

Facebook: Tri Parish

Mailing Address: PO Box 155

Freeport, MN 56331

Bulletin Announcements

Deadline: Tuesday before 9:00 am

Email information to: bulletin@catholic-centered.org

Confession Times

- ◆Fridays 7:45 am Sacred Heart
- ◆Saturdays 3:30 pm Immaculate Conception
- ◆Saturdays 3:30 pm St. Andrew
- ◆Saturdays 4:30 pm St. Mary
- ◆Or by appointment. Call the Parish Office.

Marriage

Couples are to begin preparation 6-12 months in advance and **must** call the respective Parish Office **before setting a date.**

*Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes are required.

Baptism & OCIA

If you are interested in having your child baptized or participating in the OCIA program, contact the respective Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick, Home Bound Communion Pastoral Visitation Joining/Leaving a Parish

If you have any of the above or other pastoral needs, please call the respective Parish Office or check the parish websites.



You are My Beloved Son

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, ***"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."*** Mark 1:9-11

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes for us the Christmas Season and transitions us into the beginning of Ordinary Time. From a Scriptural point of view, this event in Jesus' life is also a transitional moment from His hidden life in Nazareth to the beginning of His public ministry. As we commemorate this glorious event, it's important to ponder a simple question: Why was Jesus baptized? Recall that John's baptism was one of repentance, an act by which he invited his followers to turn from sin and to turn to God. But Jesus was sinless, so what was the reason for His Baptism?

First of all, we see in the quoted passage above that Jesus' true identity was made manifest through His humble act of baptism. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased," spoke the voice of the Father in Heaven. Furthermore, we are told that the Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove. Thus, Jesus' baptism is in part a public declaration of Who He is. He is the Son of God, a divine Person Who is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. This public testimony is an "epiphany," a manifestation of His true identity for all to see as He prepares to begin His public ministry.

Second, by His baptism, Jesus' incredible humility is made manifest. He is the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, but He allows Himself to become identified with sinners. By sharing in an act that was focused upon repentance, Jesus speaks volumes through His action of baptism. He came to unite Himself with us sinners, to enter our sin and to enter into our death. By entering the water, He symbolically enters into death itself, which is the result of our sin, and rises triumphantly, allowing us to also rise with Him to new life. For this reason, Jesus' baptism was a way of Him "baptizing" the waters, so to speak, so that water itself, from that moment onward, would be endowed with His divine presence and could be communicated to all who are baptized after Him. Therefore, sinful humanity is now able to meet divinity through baptism.

Lastly, when we share in this new baptism, through water that has now been sanctified by our divine Lord, we see in Jesus' baptism a revelation of who we become in Him. Just as the Father spoke and declared Him as His Son, and just as the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, so also in our baptism we become the adopted children of the Father and are filled with the Holy Spirit. Thus, Jesus' baptism gives clarity as to whom we become in Christian baptism.

Lord, I thank You for Your humble act of baptism by which You opened the Heavens to all who are sinners. May I open my heart to the unfathomable grace of my own baptism each and every day and more fully live with You as a child of the Father, filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus, I trust in You.

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ JANUARY 13 – 19

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm Misa en Español
Por las almas del Purgatorio y
†Guadalupe Garcia Moreno
Tu 8:00 am †Leona Bertram
We 8:00 am †Ralph Muellner
Th 8:00 am †Caroline Pohlmann
*Fr 8:30 am SM School Mass
†Jean Hellermann
Sa 5:00 pm †Victor & †Dorine Sunderman
*SU 10:00 am †Ron Leners
Su 12:30 pm Misa en Español
2do Aniversario Luctuoso de
Gilberto Orozco Vazquez

SACRED HEART - Freeport

We 8:15 am SH School Mass
†Olivia & †Cyril Schneider
We 7:00 pm Faith Formation Families
Fr 8:15 am †Joe Rueter
Su 8:00 am For the People

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th 8:15 am †Norb & †Marilyn Schaefer
Sa 4:00 pm †Cel Rieland

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am †Jim Matchinsky
Su 10:00 am †Deceased/Living Toenyan Family

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am †Vernon Welle
Su 10:00 am For the People

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am SJSA School Mass
†Deceased Members of
Edwin Frieler Family
Sa 4:00 pm †Luella Marthaler
†Joan Marthaler-Gerads

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Norm Wehlage
Su 8:00 am †Lucille Imdieke



St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa

First Tuesday of the month
7:00 - 8:00 am

Immaculate Conception - New Munich

First Thursday of the month
7:00 - 8:00 am

St. Mary - Melrose

First Thursday of the month 6:30 pm
in Spanish (en Español)

Sacred Heart - Freeport

Fridays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

*Mass will be livestreamed. Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

~ St. Mary ~ St. Michael ~ St. Andrew ~ St. John ~

- Children's Envelopes are available in the parish office. If you would like your child/ren to have them, please contact the office and we will assign them.
•Sharing Your Talents Do you love to play the piano? Do you love church music? Please consider sharing your talents at Mass. Teen and adult piano players who have studied for several years will receive one-on-one training in liturgical music. You will be supported as you start to play for Masses. Training is free, scheduling is flexible, and music will be provided. Playing at Mass is rewarding and a great way to share your talent. Please contact Sarah Woeste at 320-256-9516 for more information.

Updating Contact Information Please notify the respective parish office to add, remove, or modify phone numbers, addresses, and any other information that has changed. If you are receiving contribution envelopes and do not wish to, or have not been receiving them and want to, please contact the respective parish office.



MCCL Bus to the Capitol Sauk Centre MCCL will be sponsoring a bus to the Capitol in St. Paul for the March For Life on Wednesday, January 22. This bus will leave from Wal-Mart in Sauk Centre at 9:00 am and should arrive at St. Mary's Church Parking Lot by 9:15 am. To reserve a seat on the bus please call 320-250-9904. Please dress warm and bring a bag lunch.

Jubilee Year 2025 Pope Francis has declared the new Jubilee Year as the Year of Pilgrims of Hope. This Jubilee Year officially opened at the diocesan level on Sunday, December 29, 2024. More details about these celebrations can be found in the Minnesota Catholic Magazine's December issue or by visiting https://stcdio.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/.

Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo holds retreats throughout the year. Enhance your faith life with one of the retreats below. For more information or to register, please call 763-682-1394 or visit www.kingshouse.com.

•Women's Silent Retreat - January 17-19 (Weekend)

Parish News:

~ Sacred Heart ~ Immaculate Conception ~ St. Rose of Lima ~

•Blessed Epiphany Chalk Please remember the chalk is blessed. After using the chalk, please return it to the church or Tri-Parish Office, or bury it in the ground.



Prayer Requests for the Sick If you or a loved one would like to be added to the prayer list, please email bulletin@catholic-centered.org or call one of the parish offices.

Stewardship as a Way of Life "John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit..." (Luke 3:16) The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus - the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

Vespers/March for Life...Vespers: Sunday, January 19, at Church of St. Anthony, 2405 1st St N, St Cloud, MN 56303. Rosary at 3:30 pm and Vespers at 4:00 pm. Bishop Patrick Neary will preside. The service includes music, prayer, scripture and reflection for the millions of children who have been aborted since 1973. Monetary donations accepted to Mother Mary's Fund to assist pregnancy resource centers in the Diocese of St. Cloud. March: Wednesday, January 22, at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul, MN. The Sauk Centre MCCL will be sponsoring a bus to the Capitol in St. Paul. Please see the "MCCL Bus to the Capitol" notice on this page for more information on busing to this event. The Diocese of Saint Cloud is also coordinating a bus to St. Paul. A free-will offering will be accepted to help with the transportation cost. Bus will depart at 7:45 am from St. Mary's Cathedral. Registration is required. Deadline to register for the bus is Wednesday, January 15. For more information or to register, visit https://www.stcdio.org/march4life2025 or call 320-258-7615.



CHURCH OF ST. MARY
 Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
 Melrose, MN 56352

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART
 Physical Address: 106 3rd Avenue NE Freeport, MN 56331
 Church Basement 320-836-2191

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offerings ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$13,468.66
Regular Adult Offering	10,461.00
Plate/Loose	1,334.66
Designated Funds	1,673.00

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offerings ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$9,655.85
Regular Adult Offering.....	3,802.85
Plate.....	3,196.00
Votive.....	323.00
School Support.....	10.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine.....	50.00
Building/Maintenance	175.00
Epiphany Supplies	179.00
Solemnity of Mary Envelopes	1,750.00
Solemnity of Mary Plate	170.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

01-05	\$25	Karl & Jill Funk - Melrose
01-06	\$25	Judy Hennen - Freeport
01-07	\$25	Kevin Costello - Grey Eagle
01-08	\$25	Abby Zenzen - Sauk Centre
01-09	\$25	Nancy Rausch - Prior Lake
01-10	\$25	Judy Hennen - Freeport
01-11	\$25	Bernie & Lisa Brixius - Melrose



Thank You to all the wonderful volunteers who helped with the Christmas Environment. All your hard work created a great worship space for the Christmas season.

Parish Events

Mo	01/13	9:00 am	Take Down Church Decor
We	01/15	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grade 2
We	01/15	7:00 pm	Mid-Year Faith Formation Mass
Fr	01/17	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	01/17	9:00 am	Adoration
Su	01/19	9:00 am	Catholic Schools Week Social

Prayer Requests...

Please call the parish office to be added to this list.

Banns of Matrimony:

I Hallie Feldewerd♥Kole Barten, 2-01 NM

For the Sick: Fred Pfau, Dorothy Schneider, Sandy Welle, Vivian Weber

Contact Persons for Prayer Line Requests:

◆Sacred Heart - Judy Caveny	320-248-8830
◆Immaculate Conception - Bernice Zink	320-837-5321
◆St. Rose of Lima - Kayla Harren	320-333-8461
◆St. Michael - Sharon Schulzetenberg	320-248-7702
◆St. Mary's	320-256-3878



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

One In Faith ACC Catholic Schools Dinner & Auction Fundraisers



◆SHS 30th Annual Wine & Dine Dinner and Auction will be held on Saturday, January 25. We will have an online Silent Auction (more info to follow in the next few weeks) as well as a live auction on the night of the event. The fundraiser will also include a \$100 cash raffle with a top prize of \$20,000. Dinner and Raffle tickets are available from all SHS families as well as at the school and parish office. We will also be selling after Masses in the Tri-Parish this weekend as well as January 18 - 19.



◆34th Annual Steak & Wine Dinner & Auction to support St. John's - St. Andrew's Catholic School will be Saturday, February 8, at The Greenwald Pub. Tickets cost \$35 and are now available at the school, Meire Grove Gas & Grocery, Freeport State Bank in Greenwald, as well as the night of the event at the Pub. Online auction takes place the week leading up to the event, with the live auction taking place on Saturday night. Donny Brang will be playing live music during supper. More info to come!



◆23rd St. Mary's Annual Auction 4 Education will be held on Saturday, March 1, at the American Legion in Melrose. Doors open at 5:00. The night will start with a game of Family Feud. How well do you know the students at SMS? A free-will offering meal will be served from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Disco for Dollar \$100 Raffle tickets can be purchased after Masses and are available at St. Mary's School & Parish Office, All Stars Sports Bar & Grill, Double "R" Bar & Grill, Freeport State Bank - Melrose, Hennen Lumber, Kraemer Lumber, Magnifi Financial - Melrose, Melrose Bowl, St. Rosa Lumber. Winners will be drawn on March 1 at the Legion. We will again use our online platform to bid for silent auction items, while the classroom projects will be auctioned live in person at the Legion. Please come dressed in your best Disco attire. Visit our auction website for more details. <http://www.bidpal.net/smsmelrose>



Join us at each of these fundraisers for a great meal and lots of fun. All are welcome!

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Physical Address: 650 Main Street
 New Munich, MN 56356
Church Basement 320-837-5217

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA
Physical Address: 28905 County Road 17
 St. Rosa, MN 56331
Church Basement 320-836-2537

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL
Physical Address: 102 St. Michael Avenue N.
 Spring Hill, MN 56352
Church Basement 320-987-3405

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$6,063.82
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,502.69
Plate.....	194.50
Christmas Envelopes.....	1,720.00
Building/Maintenance.....	239.62
Epiphany Supplies	116.01
Solemnity of Mary Envelopes	1,115.00
Solemnity of Mary Plate	176.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$3,087.70
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,504.85
Plate.....	322.00
Christmas Envelopes.....	250.00
Epiphany Supplies	103.85
Solemnity of Mary Envelopes	800.00
Solemnity of Mary Plate	107.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,406.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	389.00
Children	4.00
Plate/Loose	115.00
Fuel Fund.....	100.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	593.00
School Subsidy.....	5.00
Christmas.....	200.00

Parish Events

We 01/15	6:00 pm	FF Grade 2 - FR
We 01/15	7:00 pm	FF Mid-Year Mass - FR
Sa 01/18	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions
Su 01/19	9:00 am	Catholic Schools Week Social - FR

Parish Events

Tu 01/14	9:00 am	Quilting
We 01/15	6:00 pm	FF Grade 2 - FR
We 01/15	7:00 pm	FF Mid-Year Mass - FR
Fr 01/17	7:30 pm	Rosary
Su 01/19	9:00 am	Catholic Schools Week Social - FR
Su 01/19	9:00 am	Family Gathering

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, January 19 - 10:00 am
 (S) Olivia Kalthoff & Stella Schoenberg
 (L) Ralph Klassen
 (U) Roger Meyer & Mark Schoenberg
 (EM) (B) Nick Waldorf
 (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
 (Sacristan) Ruth Heinen
 (RL) Kathy Welle
 (CC) Stan Heinen & Melvin Kalthoff
 (HK: January 5 - 18) Jenn Tshida, Renee Van Drehle, & Daisha Welle

*This is my beloved
 Son,
 listen to Him*



Quilting... Come join us in St. Rose. The quilters will be quilting on Tuesdays at 9:00 am. Lunch is provided, everyone is welcome.

Coffee and Rolls St. Michael's Catholic United Financial is sponsoring Coffee and Rolls after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 19 in the church basement. Everyone is invited, please join us!

Mass Time Switch Please note the January 26 weekend Mass times will switch. The 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, January 25 will be at St. Michael's Church in Spring Hill and the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday is at St. Andrew's.



Public Rosary...

We have many intentions to pray for and much to be thankful for.
All are invited and welcome!



- Mondays at 7:00 am in the church in Meire Grove.
- Tuesdays at 7:00 am in the church in Melrose.
- Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in the church in Melrose.
- Every Thursday except the first Thursday at 6:30 pm in Spanish in the church in Melrose.
- Fridays at 7:30 pm at the church in St. Rosa.
- 30 minutes prior to each weekday and weekend Mass in Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa, and Spring Hill.
- 20 minutes prior to each weekday and weekend Mass in Greenwald.

The Scriptures This Week
 Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo	Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time)	Heb 1:1-6	Mk 1:14-20
Tu	Weekday	Heb 2:5-12	Mk 1:21-28
We	Weekday	Heb 2:14-18	Mk 1:29-39
Th	Weekday	Heb 3:7-14	Mk 1:40-45
Fr	Saint Anthony, Abbot (Memorial)	Heb 4:1-5, 11	Mk 2:1-12
Sa	Weekday	Heb 4:12-16	Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time		Is 62:1-5	1 Cor 12:4-11
			Jn 2:1-11

Sacred Heart School
Calendar Raffle Winners!

01/01	\$250	Brenda Knutson - Browerville
01/01	\$50	Tami Greenslade - Rochester
01/02	\$25	Jeanette Gerads - Freeport
01/03	\$25	Glen & Peggy Stangler - Albany
01/04	\$25	Dan Zenner - Paynesville
01/05	\$25	Dick Koll - Melrose
01/06	\$25	Mark & Tina Heidgerken - Melrose
01/07	\$25	Don & Deb Hellermann - Melrose
01/08	\$25	Darlene Masters - Hanover
01/09	\$25	Jan Hoffmann - Grey Eagle
01/10	\$25	Hailey Owskey - Albany
01/11	\$25	Matt & Rhonda Schmidt - Melrose



In this Jubilee Year, the faithful are able to obtain a Plenary Indulgence by carrying out certain acts which are explained in the General Decree issued by Bishop Patrick Neary. This decree was included as an insert to the December 29, 2024 One In Faith Area Catholic Community bulletin and can be found at <https://stcdio.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>. Below is an explanation of what an indulgence is. All are highly encouraged to take advantage of receiving these special graces.



What is an indulgence?

By Jenna Marie Cooper, OSV News

Q: Please explain what an indulgence is and how it can reduce or eliminate the time a soul must spend in purgatory.

A: Indulgences are perhaps one of the more misunderstood parts of Catholic practice. But indulgences are deeply rooted in several key Catholic theological concepts, such as the nature of purgatory, the Church’s authority, the spiritual power of prayer and sacrifice and the communion of saints.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives us a quick working definition of an indulgence when it states: “Through indulgences the faithful can obtain the remission of temporal punishment resulting from sin for themselves and also for the souls in Purgatory.” (CCC, No. 1498)

Canon 992 of the Code of Canon Law further tells us: “A member of Christ’s faithful who is properly disposed and who fulfils certain specific conditions, may gain an indulgence by the help of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, authoritatively dispenses and applies the treasury of the merits of Christ and the Saints.”

Breaking this down into more practical terms, an indulgence is a spiritual benefit attached to certain pious acts specified by the Holy Father — such as, for example, visiting a designated pilgrimage site during a Jubilee Year which can eliminate (in the case of a “plenary indulgence”) or reduce (with a “partial indulgence”) the amount of time a soul spends in purgatory.

In addition to devoutly completing the pious act in question, the one seeking to earn a plenary indulgence must also: **1. Pray for the pope’s intentions; 2. Make a good confession and receive Holy Communion close to the time of earning the indulgence; and, 3. Be sincerely repentant of their sins, to the point of no longer having any sense of attachment to sin.**

While the process of earning an indulgence is relatively straightforward, the spiritual mechanics of how and why indulgences work can be a bit more subtle.

First of all, it’s important to keep in mind that souls in purgatory are all destined for heaven, and thus that they have already repented of and been forgiven for their sins. We also need to understand that, strictly speaking, purgatory is a state outside of linear time as we experience it on earth. So even though we speak of purgatory as a time of “temporal punishment,” this does not mean that purgatory is akin to a jail sentence with indulgences being like a sort of parole.

Recalling the reminder of the Catechism of the Catholic Church that “every sin, even venial, entails an unhealthy attachment to creatures, which must be purified either here on earth, or after death” (CCC, No. 1472), we can more accurately understand purgatory as a phase of spiritual purification to prepare souls still affected by the spiritual consequences of their sins to enter eventually into the full presence of God in heaven.

Just as our prayers and sacrifices can help us and others grow closer to God in this life, the Church teaches that we can help the souls in purgatory move farther along on their spiritual journey even after their deaths. While our simple prayers can always help the souls in purgatory, indulgences are an especially powerful means of providing this kind of spiritual assistance.

Indulgences work because we believe that many of the Church’s saints already prayed, sacrificed and patiently suffered enough during their earthly lives to have already been purified enough to enter heaven; and that all their additional good deeds on top of what was needed for their own salvation created a kind of “surplus” of grace which the catechism refers to as “the Church’s treasury.” (CCC, No. 1476)

Because the Holy Father, as the successor to St. Peter, shares in St. Peter’s power to “bind and loose” (Matthew 16:19), the pope therefore has the power to distribute the extra grace in the Church’s treasury to souls that need it. Indulgences are essentially the means by which the pope distributes these spiritual goods.

Jenna Marie Cooper, who holds a licentiate in canon law, is a consecrated virgin and a canonist whose column appears weekly at OSV News.

National Eucharist Revival

Year 3—Year of Mission

Pillar 1—Eucharistic Encounter



We have entered the last phase of the National Eucharistic Revival, the Year of Mission. This next phase of the Revival invites us to go out and share the love of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist to transform the world! This phase is organized into 4 pillars. The First Pillar is Eucharistic Encounter, encouraging missionary disciples to encounter Christ frequently through the Eucharist. Below are some ways the faithful are invited to encounter Christ. The other three pillars will be shared in future bulletins.

- ◆ Commit to praying the Eucharistic Gospel Reflection Process each week (see below).
- ◆ Be open to encountering Christ in Mass, in prayer, and in worship.
- ◆ Rediscover “the sense of adoration in silence.”
- ◆ Open your heart and mind daily to Christ in his Word.
- ◆ Be open to encountering Christ in all people, especially in the least, the last, and the lost.
- ◆ Ask Jesus if the apostolic activity you are about to undertake—or have already begun—is truly what he calls you to do, being receptive to his voice, and embracing his call with a humble and joyful spirit.
- ◆ Embrace your relationship with Jesus as the foundation of your identity and mission.

The Year of Mission Playbook which can be found at <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/year-of-mission>.

Eucharistic Gospel Reflection Process

Take: Prayerfully read the Gospel for the coming Sunday. Notice what word or phrase “cuts to the heart” (Acts 2:37) as you listened to the Gospel. What word carries within it God’s presence for you?

Bless: Consider how this word/phrase reveals God’s goodness, invites you to deeper conversion, or informs or illuminates a missionary moment you’ve experienced recently. Share the word/phrase and your connection/reflection.

Break: As you reflect on this passage and your experience, how do you sense God inviting you to be “bread, broken for others” as you live this Eucharistic life united to Jesus, the Bread of Life? Share how you feel called to live this truth.

Give: Share a resolution based on your reflection and offer a brief prayer asking the Holy Spirit to strengthen you to act on it. Resolve to make a renewed gift of self for the life of the world.

Conclusion: Eucharistic Revival Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you give us your flesh and blood for the life of the world, and you desire that all people come to the Supper of the Sacrifice of the Lamb. Renew in your Church the truth, beauty, and goodness contained in the Most Blessed Eucharist.

Jesus living in the Eucharist, come and live in me.

Jesus healing in the Eucharist, come and heal me.

Jesus sacrificing yourself in the Eucharist, come and suffer in me.

Jesus rising in the Eucharist, come and rise to new life in me.

Jesus loving in the Eucharist, come and love in me.

Lord Jesus Christ, through the paschal mystery of your death and resurrection made present in every Holy Mass, pour out your healing love on your Church and on our world. Grant that as we lift you up during this time of Eucharistic Revival, your Holy Spirit may draw all people to join us at this Banquet of Life. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Eucharist, Pray for us.

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

Physical Address: 211 W 2nd Avenue N.
Greenwald, MN 56335
Church Basement 320-987-3160

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$2,772.00
Regular Adult Offering	2,150.00
Plate/Loose	218.00
Votives	19.00
Christmas.....	300.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	20.00
School Subsidy.....	65.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday, January 18 - 4:00 pm

- (S) Aubrey Stepan & Emily Stepan
- (L) Isaiah Gilk
- (U) Tim Lucken & Dave Nathe
- (GB) Roger & Joyce Schoenberg
- (EM) (B) Mike Barten
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (HK - January) *Lisa Bertram, Sheryl Braun, Kate Buermann, & Sara Dehmer

Mass Time Switch Please note the January 26 weekend Mass times will switch. The 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, January 25 will be at St. Michael's Church in Spring Hill and the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday is at St. Andrew's.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

Physical Address: 20 State Highway 4 S.
Meire Grove, MN 56352
Church Basement 320-987-3631

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$3,856.91
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,550.00
Children.....	0.25
Plate/Loose	471.00
Votives.....	74.00
Steeple Lighting.....	60.00
Christmas Crib.....	6.66
School Subsidy.....	25.00
Christmas.....	1,200.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	470.00

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, January 19 - 8:00 am

- (S) Faith Meyer & Miranda Meyer
- (L) Rita Meyer
- (U) Nick Kelzer & Jayme Klaphake
- (GB) Dean & Karen Meyer
- (EM) Char Meyer & Dan Meyer
- (HK - January) *Cindy Schneider, Karen Schneider, Linda Schneider, Joy Silbernick, Julie Wehlage, & Abby Zenzen

HISPANIC MINISTRY

¡Agradecimiento! El consejo parroquial Hispano de la Iglesia de Santa Maria agradece a todas las personas que nos apoyaron en las celebraciones pasadas de Navidad. Nuestra meta es volver a crear el ambiente de fraternidad, unidad y comunidad que había antes de la pandemia. Seguiremos trabajando para que nuestras tradiciones sigan viviendo en nuestra comunidad y se sigan transmitiendo entre las nuevas generaciones. ¡Gracias a todos también por participar en los eventos y celebraciones que planeamos y les deseamos un año 2025 lleno de bendiciones, amor y prosperidad!

¡Festival de Familias Diocesana:

Reúnase con nosotros en St. Francis Xavier en Sartell de 11:00 am a 4:00 pm para un día de diversión y aprendizaje familiar. Los padres elegirán a qué sesiones (en español) asistirán mientras los niños y adolescentes participan en su propio aprendizaje. Registre a su familia por solo \$25 en: <https://stcdio.org/event/2025-festival-of-families/>



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

Look for more information about these and other events in Central Minnesota Catholic Magazine or Local Paper or Online

January 15, Wednesday

◆**Blood Drive** at the American Legion in Melrose from 12:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Please visit www.RedCrossBlood.org enter: Melrose to schedule an appointment or call 1-800-REDCROSS.

January 16, Thursday

◆**Freeport Senior Citizens Meeting** Note: Time Change Meeting changed to 12:00 pm because of a booking later in the day. We will meet at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

January 17, Friday

◆**“All You Can Eat” Fish Fry** at the Melrose American Legion. Please join us from 4:30 - 8:00 pm. Take outs are available.

January 18, Saturday

◆**Tenth Annual Holy Family School Snow Ball Dinner and Auction** at Seven Dolors Church in Albany will include a catered dinner, a live auction, an in person silent auction, a powersport vehicle raffle and a cash raffle. The dinner will be served 4:00 - 8:00 pm. The live auction begins at 8:00 pm. D'Lish Coffee and Catering of Freeport will cater the dinner, which will feature beef tips and smoked pork chops. Dinner tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door.

January 18, Saturday Cont'd.

◆**Breakfast & Bibles** with guest speaker Jaime Liestman at St. Martin Parish Hall in St. Martin, MN from 9:00 - 10:30 am. \$20 per ticket. Register at www.gracevineco.com/ouevents. Questions contact Grace Hopfer at graceandvineco@gmail.com or 320-333-8412

January 19, Sunday

◆**Melrose Lions Breakfast** at the Melrose American legion. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.

January 20, Monday

◆**Red Cross Blood Drive** hosted by Health & Wellness Team of the St. Stephen Catholic Church from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Call 800-Red-Cross or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter: St. Stephen Catholic to schedule an appointment.

January 25, Saturday

◆**Sacred Heart School Wine & Dine** at the Freeport Community Center beginning at 4:30 pm. See page 4 for more information.

January 26, Sunday

◆**St. Mary's School Catholic Schools Week Breakfast** in St. Mary's School Gym. Serving from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. Pancakes, sausage, eggs, and more. Tickets sold in advance and at the door; to-go options available. Adults (13 years old and up) \$10. Children (6-12 years old) \$5. Children (5 and under) Free.

ORA. PROMUEVE. PROTEGE.

Vísperas/Marzo por La Vida

JUNTOS, PODEMOS HACER LA DIFERENCIA

VÍSPERA

19 DE ENERO

ST. ANTHONY, ST. CLOUD | 3:30 - 5:00 P.M.

El Rosario por la vida comienza a las 3:30 p. m. seguido de un servicio de oración de Vísperas a las 4:00 p. m. incluyendo música, oración, escrituras y reflexión por los millones de niños abortados desde 1973. El obispo Patrick Neary presidirá.

Se aceptan donaciones monetarias a Mother Mary's Fund para ayudar a los centros de apoyo de embarazos en la Diócesis de Saint Cloud.

MARZO

22 DE ENERO

CATEDRAL DE SAN PABLO, ST. PAUL, MN

La Diócesis de San Cloud, está coordinando un autobús a St Paul. Se aceptarán donaciones para ayudar con el costo del autobús.

Vístanse abrigadamente y traigan su almuerzo. Para inscribirse visiten <https://www.stcdio.org/march4life2025> ó lláme al 320-258-7615.

El plazo de inscripción finaliza el 15 de enero.

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN VISITE WWW.STCDIO.ORG/MARCH4LIFE2025 Ó LLAME AL 320-258-7615



FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1-10:** Wednesday, January 15 Mid-Year Mass at 7:00 pm. Families are encouraged to attend with their students. **All students are expected to attend Mass.**
- **Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, January 15 Home Lesson.
- **Grade 2: Next Class:** Wednesday, January 15 at 6:00 pm. Meet at the parish office.
- **Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, January 29 at 7:00 pm. Bring your Bible, books, notebook, and pen. Meet in your classroom.
- **Grade 10: Confirmation Student and Parent Interviews:** Wednesday, January 22. Please see mailing or contact Chrystal at the office for scheduled time.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **Confirmation: Next Class:** Wednesday, January 15 from 7:15 - 8:30 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and mentors.
- **First Communion Students and Families:** Saturday, January 18 is our celebration of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation! Please be at St. Mary's Church at **8:45 am** (the liturgy will start at 9:00 am.) Parents, family, and friends are invited to join us in celebrating your child's First Reconciliation! There will be refreshments after the liturgy!

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

youthministry@catholic-centered.org or faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **Middle School Lock-In for Grades 6-8:** Saturday - Sunday, January 25-26 starting at 8:00 pm at the St. Cloud YMCA. This lock-in will have Mass, great food, swimming, dodgeball, gaga ball, prayer opportunities, wallyball, a silent disco, game shows, and so much more. Come together with other youth in our diocese, make new friends, take time to relax, laugh, eat great food, and renew your spirit while strengthening your relationship with God. Cost - \$56 prior to January 16 and \$66 after January 16. Registration forms are available on the parish websites. Contact Chrystal Sand at 320-836-2143 or csand@catholic-centered.org, or Pam Pundsack at 320-256-9503 or pam@stmarysofmelrose.org with questions.
- **Castaway Retreat for Grades 9-12:** Friday - Sunday, March 28-30 at the Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes, MN. Castaway has been an energizing experience for our young Church in the Diocese of St. Cloud for 52 years. This retreat is a weekend filled with powerful prayer, fun skits, inspirational speakers, awesome music, an incredible Mass, and many faith-growing opportunities. Come together with over 300 others and make new friends, take time to relax, laugh, eat fantastic food, and renew your spirit while strengthening your relationship with God. Cost - \$200. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, February 5 with a \$100 non-refundable deposit. Registration forms are available on the parish websites. Contact Chrystal Sand at csand@catholic-centered.org or 320-836-2143, or Pam Pundsack at pam@stmarysofmelrose.org or 320-256-9503 with questions.
- **NCYC** The Diocese of Saint Cloud will be bringing a group to Indianapolis, Indiana November 19 - 23 for NCYC 2025: I Am | Yo Soy. NCYC is a time for high school youth from around the nation to gather and celebrate being Catholic through prayer, Mass, and activities. The cost to attend is \$940. Deadline to register is April 15. Registration forms are available on the parish websites. Contact Chrystal Sand at 320-836-2143 or csand@catholic-centered.org, or Pam Pundsack at 320-256-9503 or pam@stmarysofmelrose.org with questions.
- **Bible & Breakfast** Students in grades 7-12 are invited to enjoy scripture and breakfast with peers at the Melrose Area High School Media Center. We will meet on Wednesdays from 7:15-8:00 am. If there is no school or a late start, we will not meet. To register contact Chrystal at 320-266-5554.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
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SJS BOARD:
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 Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle,
 Lindsay Frieler, and Jenelle Herkenhoff
www.shsfreeport.org School Phone: 320-836-2591
 Toddler Center Phone: 320-836-2585



PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Autumn Nelson
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Briana Worms
SMS BOARD:
 Cory Ellering, Bob Arceneau,
 Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch,
 Jake Primus, and Pat Christenson
 Phone: 320-256-4257
www.smsmelrosemn.org



PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Mary Miller
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Kristen Pattinson
SJS BOARD:
 Kathy Gilk, Adam Kalthoff, Kate
 Kelzer, Kurt Meyer, Trista Roelike,
 Jenny Wilson, and Kristi Zimmer
 Phone: 320-987-3133
www.sjsaschool.org

- **Wine and Dine, Cash Raffle, and Dinner Tickets** will be sold at the Tri-Parish Masses in January. Thank you in advance for your support.
- **Catholic School's Week Celebrations** will kick off on Sunday, January 19 with Mass at 8:00 am in Freeport and we will have theme days, fun activities, the ski trip, etc. all week to celebrate.
- **Full-time Openings** available for our Toddler Care Program! Please contact the school office for more information.
- **Sacred Heart School Wine & Dine Fundraiser** information can be found on page 3.

- **2nd Grade Students** will receive their First Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, January 18. Please keep them in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.
- **Catholic Schools Week** will be celebrated from January 26 through January 31. We will celebrate Catholic Schools at the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 26. Breakfast is also served from 8:30 am-12:00 pm in the school gym. All are welcome! Tickets are available from SMS parents or the school office.
- **St. Mary's School's Auction 4 Education** information can be found on page 3.

- **SJSA Received a Check** for \$134.10 for aluminum can recycling. The SJSA recycling trailer is in the south parking lot of St. John's Church in Meire Grove. Thank you for recycling with SJSA.
- **Thank You** to Freeport State Bank for their generous Christmas gift of \$1,500 to SJSA.
- **Thank You** to John Wiese Ford for their generous Christmas gift of \$500 to SJSA.
- **SJSA Catholic Schools Week Service Project** SJSA students will be collecting pennies for Fr. Danny Ohmann's Charity "The Watulu Education Fund" in Africa where Fr. Danny served as a missionary. If you would like to donate, please drop off or send your donation to the school.

- **Catholic Schools Week Mass** SJSA will kick off Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 26 with an all-school Mass at 10:00 am at St. Andrew's Church in Greenwald. **Please note** this is a weekend Mass time switch. The 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, January 25 will be at St. Michael's Church in Spring Hill and the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday is at St. Andrew's.
- **34th Annual Steak and Wine Dinner and Auction** information can be found on page 3.

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2



Bishop's Annual Appeal

Please remember the diocesan ministries that, through your generosity, continue to build the Kingdom of God here in Central Minnesota. They are not possible without your help. Please keep them thriving by making a gift at www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Low Gluten Hosts are available for individuals that have a gluten intolerance. Please note, these hosts still contain gluten, less than 0.001% gluten, and are not completely gluten free. If you would like to have more information about the low gluten hosts, please contact the Parish Office in Freeport. When you are planning to have a low gluten host for Mass, it will be necessary to have the host within a pyx (the parish can provide a pyx) and placed upon the altar for consecration. You will need to let Father know that you are present prior to Mass, and that you will be in his Communion line.

Winter Retreat 2025 The Rue and Monastic Life in Art, January 24-26. This retreat offers a unique opportunity to explore the timeless wisdom of the rule of Saint Benedict through the lens of art and personal reflection. Brother Simon-HOA, A Monk of Saint John's Abbey for 30 years, will share his insights on Benedictine values, humility, hospitality, conversation, and prayer and work as expressed in his video art and his monastic journey. Begins with supper at 5:30 pm on Friday and concludes Sunday after a morning conference and an optional 10:30 am Mass. Cost: Single occupancy room: \$250. Double occupancy room: \$435. Suite: \$475. All rates include meals. To register, contact our spiritual life office at 320-363-2573 or email us at spirallife@osb.org or visit our website to register online www.abbeyguesthouse.org.



Catholic Men's Conference Saturday, February 22, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at St. John's University in Collegeville; Bishop Patrick Neary will celebrate Mass at 4:00 pm. Keynote speaker: Father Scott Traynor, JCL, a priest in the Diocese of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is the Vicar for Lay and Clergy Formation. Various Workshops will be available, including topics for young men ages 15 and up. Cost: \$40 or \$35/each for groups of 5, includes morning refreshments and lunch. Cost for young men ages 15 - 22: \$10, scholarships available for the first 50 registrants. Registration deadline: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 Registration Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025CMC>. If you have any questions please contact Janet by calling 320-258-7616 or email at janet.dusek@gw.stcdio.org or visit <https://stcdio.org/event/2025-catholic-mens-conference/> for more information. Confessors are also needed (lunch provided) please contact Janet Dusek.



Attention College Students Totus Tuus Leaders are needed for 2025. Leaders help with week-long summer Catholic retreats for youth across the diocese by providing lively skits, songs, and lessons in the Catholic faith. Training is provided. Brochures are available in the churches. More information is available at <https://stcdio.org/vocations/totus-tuus/>, by calling 320-251-5001, or emailing vocations@gw.stcdio.org.



Diocesan Festival of Families Join us at St. Francis Xavier in Sartell Sunday, February 2 from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm for a day of family fun and learning. Parents will choose which breakout session to attend while children and teens are engaged in their own learning. Register your family for only \$25 at: <https://stcdio.org/event/2025-festival-of-families/>.

House Blessing... If you are interested in having your house blessed by Fr. Dan call the Tri-Parish Office, Freeport (320-836-2143).

Theology Day... Ancient Christian Practices to Sustain Community

Understanding differences matters when creating structures that people can step into and be a part of. It is all too easy for a person to feel squeezed out of a community. We cannot be indifferent to the wear and tear that exhaustion and uncaring brings to community life. Belonging is important. When we understand the differences between ourselves and others, we can better empathize with their experiences, challenges, and perspectives. Empathy is a bridge between the emotional and the cognitive—our heads and hearts—that shoulders the fruit of the spirit—kindness, peace, joy, self-control, and love. Our ancient Christian practices matter. When fully engaged, we cannot let the hard moments of life go unattended, unthought out. Time given over to spiritual practices and engaging differences both benefits the individual and grounds one for engagement in life together. Friday, January 24, presentation from 9:00 am -1:00 pm, Emmaus Hall, Saint John's University, Collegeville. Synchronous. Free event. Registration is required: www.theologyday.com, 320-363-3560, or theologyday@csbsju.edu.

Natural Family Planning... Faithfully Yours: Discover Natural Family Planning (NFP)!



NFP cooperates with nature and God's plan for married love. The Billings Ovulation Method is a natural, highly effective method for postponing or achieving pregnancy without the use of drugs or devices. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in: Sauk Centre on Thursday, January 16 at St. Paul's Church or CentraCare Health - Sauk Centre Hospital. For more information, or to register, contact Jill and Isaac Uphus at uphus.nfp@gmail.com or 320-290-8751. The class is approximately 1½ to 2 hours long. *Note: Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP Instruction and follow-up!

First Friday Adoration at the Capitol

Join the Minnesota Catholic Conference staff First Fridays (February 7) at the capitol January - May. Adoration available 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Governor's Dining Room (located in the lower level of the Minnesota State Capitol). Visit www.MNCatholic.org/events to RSVP. Questions call Minnesota Catholic Conference 651-227-8777. Free parking at MCC's office 525 Park Street, St. Paul.



A "Perfect Marriage" is simply two imperfect people who refuse to give up on each other! In this month of love, plan to attend the February 15-16. Marriage Encounter and begin to create the marriage of your dreams. Weekends are held at Mt. Olivet Retreat Center. Register at: www.marriages.org.

**Immaculate Conception Parish
2025 Winter Cash Raffle Winners:**

\$10,000	Mike & Naomi Klaphake	\$250	Jane Johnson
\$2,500	Don & Marcene Austing	\$250	Tanny Fuechtmann
\$1,500	Matt & Christina Zink	\$200	Tom Neal
\$1,000	Dennis Maus	\$200	Carl & Briana Worms
\$1,000	Mary Krueger	\$200	Ray & Flo Mayers
\$500	Loren Niehoff	\$200	Dorothy Funk
\$500	Linda Mastey	\$200	Bruce Funk
\$250	Scott Poepping	\$200	Chris & Deana Middendorf
\$250	Wayne Tschida	\$200	Sharon Becker
\$250	Shiela Humbert	\$200	Erwin Feldewerd
\$250	Kevin & Barb Zierden	\$200	Aaron Wiechmann
\$250	Bob Gieske	\$200	Dan Krueger
\$250	Barb Nathe		

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