

$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

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 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 Fr. Mitchell Bechtold: 320-256-9512 mlbechtold@outlook.com Fr. Oswaldo Roche: 320-256-9513 froswaldo@stmarysofmelrose.com Office Email: pam@stmarysofmelrose.com 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.

<u>Marriage</u>

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, <u>Home Bound Communion</u> <u>Pastoral Visitation</u> 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.



A Manifestation to the World

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, *"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."* Matthew 2:1–2

The Magi were most likely from Persia, modern-day Iran. They were men who regularly engaged in a study of the stars. They were not Jewish but were most likely aware of the popular belief of the Jewish people that a king would be born who would save them.

These Magi were called by God to encounter the Savior of the World. Interestingly, God used something very familiar to them as an instrument of their calling: the stars. It was among their belief that when someone of great importance was born, this birth was accompanied by a new star. So when they saw this new, bright and brilliant star, they were filled with curiosity and hope. One of the most significant aspects of this story is that they responded. God called them through the use of a star, and they chose to follow this sign, embarking on a long and arduous journey.

God often uses those things most familiar to us that are part of our daily life to send forth His calling. Recall, for example, that many of the Apostles were fishermen, and Jesus used their occupation to call them, making them "fishers of men." He especially used the miraculous catch of fish to clearly indicate to them that they had a new calling.

In our own lives, God is constantly calling us to seek Him out and worship Him. He will often use some of the most ordinary parts of our lives to send forth that calling. How is He calling you? In what way is He sending you a star to follow? Many times when God speaks, we ignore His voice. We must learn from these Magi and diligently respond when He calls. We must not hesitate and must seek to daily be attentive to the ways that God invites us to deeper trust, surrender and worship.

Reflect, today, upon God's call in your life. Are you listening? Are you responding? Are you ready and willing to abandon all else in life so as to serve His holy will? Seek Him, wait on Him and respond. Doing so will be the best decision you ever make.

Lord, I love You and pray that I will be open to Your guiding hand in my life. May I always be attentive to the countless ways that You call to me each and every day. And may I always respond to You with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You. **ONE IN FAITH SUNDAY BULLETIN**

JANUARY 5, 2025

Adoration

ACC Mass Times and Intentions \sim January 6–12

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Sт. 1	Mary - M	Ielrose	Імм	IACULATE C	ONCEPTION - New Munich	ner 💠 Belevi
Mo	6:30 pm	Misa en Español †Encarnacion Luis de la Cruz	Th Sa	8:15 am 4:00 pm	†Lori & †Mary Ann Zierden †Viola Olmscheid	
Tu	8:00 am	No Mass	ST.	Rose of I	Lima - St. Rosa	
We Th *Fr	8:00 am 8:00 am 8:30 am	No Mass No Mass SM School Mass	Tu Su	8:15 am 10:00 am	†Steve Tschida For the People	The second se
		†Colleen Butte	St.	Michael	- Spring Hill	
Sa *Su Su	5:00 pm 10:00 am 12:30 pm	For the People †Gene Petermeier Misa en Español	Tu Su	8:00 am 10:00 am	Spring Hill Men's Society †Vernon Welle	<i>St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa</i> <u>NO</u> adoration Tuesday, January 7
Su	12.50 pm	†4to Aniversario luctuoso de	St.	ANDREW -	- Greenwald	Immaculate Conception - New Munich
		Angelica Hernandez Becerra	Th	8:00 am	SJSA School Mass †Sandra Jostock	First Thursday of the month 7:00 - 8:00 am
SAC	red Heaf	ат - Freeport	Sa	4:00 pm	†Melvin, †Erma, & †Dennis Poepping	
We	8:15 am	SH School Mass †Pat Schleper			eire Grove	<i>St. Mary - Melrose</i> First Thursday of the month 6:30 pm
Fr	8:15 am	†Robert "Bob" Hoeschen Anniversary	We	8:00 am	†Donna Athmann	in Spanish (en Español)
Su	8:00 am	†Wesley Prax	Su	8:00 am	†Aloysius "Al" Luetmer	<i>Sacred Heart - Freeport</i> Fridays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
	4	Mana		C '4 C	4 V T 1 1 1	, Pill

*Mass will be livestreamed. Visit: <u>oneinfaith.org</u> for the YouTube link.

ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News: ~ St. Mary ~ St. Michael ~ St. Andrew ~ St. John ~

•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.



Bulletin Advertisements Thank you to all who have chosen to advertise on the back of our One In Faith Area Catholic Community bulletin for the upcoming year! It is greatly appreciated, and we hope it is beneficial to your business as well. There are still spots open on the back of the bulletin. If you are interested in advertising or have questions, please contact Amy Hoeschen at 320-836-2143.



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.

Go and Make Disciples Anyone in grade 11 through adult are invited to a monthly Faith Formation event from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport. We will have a meal and discuss the Rosary and Sacramentals. Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, January 8. Come and bring a friend for a fun filled faith enrichment night.

Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo holds retreats throughout the year. Enhance your faith life with one of the retreats below. For more

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



information or to register, please call 763-682-1394 or visit www.kingshouse.com. •Men's Silent Retreat - January 10-12 (Weekend)

Parish News:

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

- •Christmas Flower Memorials Thank you to everyone who made donations for Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one. Much beauty was added to the churches this Christmas season. If you would like a list of those remembered by the donors, please contact the Tri-Parish Office for a copy. It can also be found on the Tri-Parish website.
- •Blessed Epiphany Items Salt, chalk, and water will be available for use in your homes after the weekend Masses, January 4/5. 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.
- •Thank You St. Joseph the Worker Knights of Columbus council would like to congratulate all the winners of the December calendar raffle. We also would like to thank everyone that supported this fundraiser.

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/.

Committed Adorers: We are looking for some individuals or



couples to be committed adorers for the Wednesday Evening Praise and Worship Adoration Nights at Sacred Heart. The dates are January 8, 2025; February 12, 2025; March 19, 2025; and April 9, 2025 from 5:30-8:30 pm. If you are able to commit to 30 minutes or more one month, a few months, or several months, that would be great. Please contact Amy at 320-836-2143 to sign up.

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.

One in Faith ACC News Continued on page 7

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

************** Weekly Offerings **************

	•	8	
Total			\$8,582.00
Regular Adult Offering			4,210.00
Plate/Loose			947.00
Designated Funds			3,425.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

2024 Winners

2024 11	mucis	9	
12-29	\$25	Jason Westerhaus - Sauk Centre	
12-30	\$25	Matt & Ashley Van Beck - Alban	у
12-31	\$1,00	0 Nathan & Nancy Ellering - Fargo	o, ND
2025 W	inners	3	CALENDAR
01-01	\$25	St. Mary's Church	RAFFLE
01-02	\$25	Dean Mohs - Grey Eagle	
01-03	\$25		WANES
01-04	\$25	Kay Sawyer - Melrose	

Died in the Hope of Resurrection...

†Elizabeth "Betty" Dickenson, 88 *†*Clarence Wenker, 96

The Scriptures This Week Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

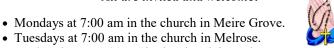
Mo	Christmas Weekday (Saint André Bes	ssette, Religious)
	1 Jn 3:22—4:6	Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tu	Christmas Weekday (1 Jn 4:7-10	Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest) Mk 6:34-44
We	Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 4:11-18	Mk 6:45-52

Th	Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 4:19—5:4	Lk 4:14-22a		
Fr	Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 5:5-13	Lk 5:12-16		
Sa	Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 5:14-21	Jn 3:22-30		
Nex	Next Sunday - The Baptism of the Lord			

Public Rosary...

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



Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

• Tuesdays at 7:00 am in the church in Melrose.

Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7

- 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.

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

*********** Weekly Offerings **********				
Total	\$27,263.90			
Regular Adult Offering	5,161.85			
Plate	302.00			
Votive	111.00			
School Support	600.00			
Central MN Catholic Magazine	25.00			
Christmas Envelopes	18,975.00			
Christmas Plate	2,069.05			
Solemnity of Mary	20.00			

Parish Events

We We	01/08 01/08	1	Praise & Worship Adoration Elementary Faith Formation Grades 1-6 Faith Formation Grades 7-10
		7:00 pm	Go & Make Disciples
Fr	01/10	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	01/10	9:00 am	Adoration

Thank You to the Freeport State Bank for their generous donation of \$1,000 to the parish. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

Sponsor a Votive Candle The parish has several candles available to be sponsored each month; one on the Blessed Virgin Mary altar, one on the St. Joseph altar, two near the Our Lady of Guadelupe print, and the miliary candle by the votive stand. There are candles available for sponsorship throughout 2025. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.

Prayer Requests... Please call the parish office to be added to this list. For the Sick: Fred Pfau, 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

One in Faith ACC Schools Gift Card Programs

A gift card rebate program that allows you to purchase your everyday items with gift cards and earn money for our area Catholic schools without paying any extra money! A percentage of each gift card will be donated back to the area Catholic schools. Each school has a variety of local and national gift cards available to purchase.

*Gift Cards are great gift ideas!







CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Physical Address: 650 Main Street New Munich, MN 56356

Church Basement 320-837-5217

******** Weekly Offering ********

Total	\$12,619.31
Regular Adult Offering	1,867.69
Plate	131.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine	25.00
Christmas Envelopes	9,524.00
Christmas Plate	507.00
Building/Maintenance	164.62
Thanksgiving Envelopes	260.00
Christmas Flowers	75.00
Religious Retirement	10.00
Immaculate Conception	55.00

Parish Events

Su 01/05 10:30 am Private Event We 01/08 5:30 pm Praise & Worship - FR 6:00 pm Elem. FF Grades 1-6 - FR We 01/08 We 01/08 7:00 pm FF Grades 7-10 - FR 7:00 pm Go & Make Disciples - FR We 01/08 01/11 3:30 pm Individual Confessions Sa

Thank You to the Freeport State Bank for their generous donation of \$1,000 to the parish. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.



God's Housekeepers for the month of January: *Donna Welle, Cindy Heinen, Lu Rademacher, Lisa Hennen, Michelle Rademacher, and

Ann Holdvogt. The first person on the list should contact the others to schedule a cleaning time. Thank you for being "God's Housekeepers" for our church this month.

ONE IN FAITH SUNDAY BULLETIN

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

******** Weekly Offering ********

Total	\$13,690.85
Regular Adult Offering	1,623.85
Plate	687.00
Christmas Envelopes	10,775.00
Christmas Plate	300.00
Christmas Flowers	5.00
Solemnity of Mary	50.00
Building/Maintenance	250.00

Parish Events

Su	01/05	11:00 am	Private Event
Tu	01/07	9:00 am	Quilting
Tu	01/07	7:00 pm	OCIA Meeting
We	01/08	5:30 pm	Praise & Worship - FR
We	01/08	6:00 pm	Elem. FF Grades 1-6 - FR
We	01/08	7:00 pm	FF Grades 7-10 - FR
We	01/08	7:00 pm	Go & Make Disciples - FR
Fr	01/10	7:30 pm	Rosary

Thank You to the Freeport State Bank for their generous donation of \$1,000 to the parish. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

Quilting Come join us in St. Rose. The quilters will be quilting on Tuesdays. Starting on January 7 at 9:00 am. Lunch is provided, everyone is welcome.

Sponsor a Votive Candle The parish is looking for someone to sponsor the 2 candles on the St. Rose of Lima statue stand. There are also other candles available to be sponsored for the upcoming months. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.

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 Sacred He 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 10-11 and 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. The theme this year is "Staying Moe 25," which includes a buffet-style dinner with a free will offering from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Come dressed in your best "Disco" attire, which may include beads, peace signs, neon, glow in the dark, and more. Be creative as there will be a prize for the best dressed. There will also be live music throughout the evening. The \$100 Disco for Dollars raffle tickets with a top prize of \$20,000 are available now at 10:00 am Masses, 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, and St. Rosa Lumber. Winners will be drawn on Saturday, 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. Visit our auction website for more details. http://www.bidpal.net/smsmelrose

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL Physical Address: 102 St. Michael Avenue N.

Spring Hill, MN 56352 Church Basement 320-987-3405

******** Weekly Offering ********

Total	\$1,649.00
Regular Adult Offering	344.00
Children	4.00
Plate/Loose	91.00
Thanksgiving	200.00
Maintenance Fund	10.00
Christmas	1,000.00

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, January 12 - 10:00 am (S) Kenny Niehoff (L) Lisa Wuertz (U) Allen Lieser & Jeff Lieser (EM) (B) Mark Schoenberg (EM) (C) John & Sharon Schulzetenberg (Sacristan) John & Sharon Schulzetenberg (RL) Marilyn Gruber (CC) Sandra Gruber & Kathy LeClaire (HK: January 5 - 18) Jenn Tshida, Renee

Van Drehle, & Daisha Welle **2025 Contribution Envelopes** are

labeled and in the back of the church. If you don't see yours and wish to get them, please contact the parish office.

Ministry Schedules are available on the website and in the church.



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.

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

******** Weekly Offering ********

•	0
Total	\$9,009.00
Regular Adult Offering	1,165.00
Plate/Loose	86.00
Votives	3.00
Fuel Fund	500.00
Christmas	7,255.00

Liturgical Ministries Saturday, January 11 - 4:00 pm

(S) Sophia Kasper & Lydia Kasper
(L) Herman Lensing
(U) Matthew Kasper & Herman Lensing
(GB) Kristen Pattinson & Family
(EM) (B) Kris Winter
(EM) (C) Herman Lensing & Mary Opatrny
(HK - January) *Lisa Bertram, Sheryl Braun, Kate Buermann, & Sara Dehmer

Ministry Schedules are available on the website and in the church.

2025 Contribution Envelopes

Beginning with the January 2025 mailing, your contribution envelopes will arrive in your mailbox on a bimonthly schedule. If you haven't received yours, please contact the parish office.

EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)

St. Andrew's parishioners, if you are interested in EFT, please have signed forms to the office before Friday, January 10.



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

******** Weekly Offering ********

Total	\$1,933.94
Regular Adult Offering	1,549.00
Children	0.25
Plate/Loose	273.69
Votives	11.00
Immaculate Conception	\$1,933.94 1,549.00 0.25 273.69 11.00 100.00

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, January 12 - 8:00 am

(S) Isaac Zenzen & Collin Kelzer
(L) Kurt Meyer
(U) Herb Imdieke & Jerry Imdieke
(GB) Dan & Char Meyer
(EM) Abby Zenzen, Daryl Zenzen, Nick
Kelzer, & Jim Leukam
(HK - January) *Cindy Schneider, Karen
Schneider, Linda Schneider, Joy
Silbernick, Julie Wehlage, & Abby Zenzen

Ministry Schedules are available on the website and in the church.

2025 Contribution Envelopes are labeled and in the back of the church. If you don't see yours and wish to get them, please contact the parish office.



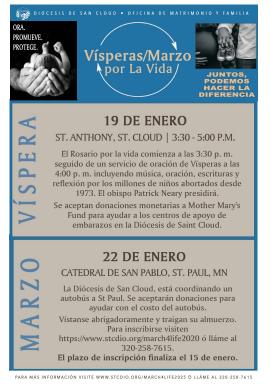
HISPANIC MINISTRY

¡Festival de Familias Diocesana:

¿Está buscando algo de diversión familiar en pleno invierno? Reúnase con nosotros en St. Francis Xavier en Sartell de 11:00 a. m. a 4:00 p. m. para un día de diversión



celebrando nuestra fe católica. El costo es solo \$25 por familia (sin importar el tamaño) e incluirá un carnaval gratuito, juegos familiares, almuerzo, actividades apropiadas para cada edad y Misa. Registre a su familia en: <u>https://stcdio.org/event/2025-festival-offamilies/</u>



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

January 5, Sunday

•<u>Green Grove Rod & Gun Club All You</u> <u>Can Eat Breakfast</u>. Serving from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Greenwald Pub. Proceeds for Wildlife Projects.

January 8, Wednesday

•<u>Soup Luncheon</u> The Melrose Area Senior Citizens invite you to join them for their Soup Luncheon, at the Melrose Senior Center, located in the Melrose City Center. Serving from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. If anyone would like to contribute a pot of soup or some bread for the luncheon, please contact Pat Seanger at 320-248-6630. Freewill offering. All are welcome!

•<u>Feet First Clinic</u> at the Senior Center in Freeport. Please call to make an appointment 320-836-2450. Free will offering.

January 11, Saturday

◆<u>Green Grove Rod & Gun Club Gun</u> <u>Bingo & Raffle Drawing</u> at Horseshoe Bar & Ballroom in Spring Hill. Proceeds go toward local high school archery and trap teams. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Bingo starts at 7:00 pm.

January 15, Wednesday

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

January 16, Thursday

• Freeport Senior Citizens meeting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

January 18, Saturday

•<u>Breakfast & Bibles</u> with guest speaker Jaime Liestman at St. Martin Parish Hall in St. Martin, MN from 9:00 - 10:30 am. \$20 per ticket to register for this event please visit www.gracevineco.com/ourevents. Reach out to Grace Hopfer with questions at 320-333-8412 or graceandvineco@gmail.com.

January 25, Saturday

•<u>Sacred Heart School Wine & Dine</u> at the Freeport Community Center beginning at 4:30 pm. See pg 4 for more information.



FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information: youthministry@catholic-centered.org or faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- •Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class: Wednesday, January 8 at 6:00 pm. Classroom Lesson. Meet at the parish office.
- •Grade 2: Next Class: Wednesday, January 8 at 6:00 pm. Meet at the parish office.
- •Grades 7-10: Next Class: Wednesday, January 8 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.
- •Grades 1-10: Wednesday, January 15 Mid-Year Mass at 7:00 pm. Families are encouraged to attend with their students. <u>All students are expected to attend Mass.</u>

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: <u>faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com</u>

•Grades 9-10: Next Class: Wednesday, January 8 from 7:15-8:30 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and some parents.

•Confirmation Students: Rite of Calling at weekend Masses on January 11/12 at your own parish.

•First Communion Students: Next Class: Saturday, January 11 from 9:00-10:30 am at St. Mary's Church. Students only.

•Learning Centers on Sunday, January 12 at St. Mary's Church from 11:15 am-12:15 pm. Students and parents.

•**Big Thanks** to all who participated in the Giving Tree activity in Meire Grove, Greenwald, and Spring Hill churches. The Melrose Food Shelf was VERY grateful for all the donations!!

•More Thanks to the elementary Faith Formation students who helped clean St. Mary's Church the night of their last class before Christmas!

- ◆Grades 6-12 are invited to join us in the Sacred Heart school gym for Jersey Night on Friday, January 10 from 6:30 8:00 pm. Wear your favorite jersey or support your favorite team! Forms can be found on the website or contact Alyssa at 320-429-0770 with questions!
- ♥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 <u>csand@catholic-centered.org</u>, or Pam Pundsack at 320-256-9503 or <u>pam@stmarysofmelrose.org</u> 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.



- ▼Full-time Openings available for our Toddler Care Program! Please contact the school office for more information.
- •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.
- ◆Thank You to the Freeport Lions for sponsoring our Holiday Bingo that we had before Christmas break. The kids always look forward to this fun tradition. We appreciate your time and generosity.

▼SHS Wine & Dine Fundraiser information on page 4.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



• Wishing You a Joyful and Prosperous New Year from all of us at St. Mary's School! May this year bring happiness, success, and wonderful opportunities for you and your families.

- •Save the Date for St. Mary's Catholic Schools Week Breakfast in the school gym on Sunday, January 26, from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. All are welcome! Tickets are available from SMS parents or the school office.
- St. Mary's School's Auction 4 Education information on page 4.

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

- Seeking Nominees for the SJSA Supporter Award The award is given to a person in the community who has been a great support to the school in some way. Nominees are due by January 17. Please send names to one of the following people: Mary Miller 320-987-3133, Kristi Zimmer 320-249-6702, or Kathy Gilk 320-290-6603.
- •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 on page 4.

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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 spirlife@osb.org or visit our website to register online www.abbeyguesthouse.org.

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.

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2024 Blessings to you in the New



Year! We are very grateful to those of you who have already supported diocesan

ministries in 2024 through the Appeal. As of November 18, the Bishop's Annul Appeal for 2024 has raised total cash and pledges of \$1,534,169 toward our goal of \$1,450,000 (105.08%). This was made possible through the generous donations of 7,859 people throughout the 16 counties of our diocese. Will you help these ministries meet their funding needs? Visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Time to Expand Your Circle of Friends? Try a TEC Retreat. "God has a wonderful way of connecting the dots in our lives to people that will honor who we are, right where we are" (Tiffany Wilson). A TEC retreat will expand your circle of friends with those who will lift you up, support you, encourage you, and bring you closer to God. Come meet some new friends. Register for one of our three-day TEC retreats. www.cmtec.org. Together Encountering Christ (TEC) is open to both youth (age 16+) as well as adults and is located just north of Little Falls.



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/2025catholic-mens-conference/ for more information. Confessors are also needed (lunch provided) please contact Janet Dusek.

An Epoch In Time history book of St. Rose of Lima Parish is available at the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport. Cost \$35

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





Vespers/March for Life...Vespers: Sunday, January 19, at Church of St. Anthony, 2405 1st St Vespers / March 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 page 2 of this bulletin for more information. 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 January 15. For more information or to register, visit https://www.stcdio.org/ march4life2025 or call 320-258-7615.

Radiating Joy: The Michelle Duppong Story is the story

of Servant of God Michelle Duppong, who bore witness to Christ through heroic suffering and a passion for inviting others to be transformed by His love. Michelle was a native of North Dakota and a FOCUS missionary for whom a Cause of Beatification and Canonization has been initiated. The film, directed by Danny Anderson, tells the story of Michelle's beautiful and faith-filled life, especially during her diagnosis, treatment, and death. There is interest in having this movie



brought to Main Street Theatre in Sauk Centre, however, before they can request the movie and set a date, there would need to be at least 60 people committed to attend the movie. If you are interested in having the opportunity to see this movie, please contact the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport to sign up.

Stewardship as a Way of Life "... They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11) What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold - we should reflect Christ's wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense - represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh - is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.



Diocesan Festival of Families Are you looking for some mid-winter family fun? Join us at St. Francis Xavier in Sartell Sunday, February 2 from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm for a day of fun celebrating

our Catholic faith. Cost is only \$25 per family (no matter the size), and will include a free carnival, family games, lunch, age-appropriate activities and Mass. Register your family at: https://stcdio.org/event/2025-festival-of-families/.

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 11/2 to 2 hours long. *Note: Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP Instruction and follow-up!



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