



ONE IN FAITH Area Catholic Community of

Church of St. Mary

Campuses in Melrose & Meire Grove, serving the communities of
Melrose, Meire Grove, Greenwald & Spring Hill

Church of the Sacred Heart Freeport

Church of the Immaculate Conception New Munich

Church of St. Rose of Lima St. Rosa

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 9, 2026

Fr. Daniel Walz, Pastor
Fr. Mitchell Bechtold, Pastor

Melrose 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: 320-247-4907 (call or text)
mlbechtold@outlook.com

Office Email: oif@stmarysofmelrose.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@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

Fr. Daniel Walz: frwalz@catholic-centered.org

Office Email: triparish@albanytel.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

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 8:00 am During Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - St. Mary - Melrose
- ♦Saturdays 3:30 pm Immaculate Conception
- ♦Saturdays 4:30 pm St. Mary - Meire Grove
- ♦Sundays 11:00 am St. Mary - Melrose
- ♦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 - Homebound 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.



Overcoming Fear with Faith

"Take Courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Matthew 14:27-31

Fear always clouds our vision. Today's Gospel takes place the night after Jesus fed the 5,000 on a mountain near the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee, using only five barley loaves and two fish. Afterward, He withdrew to pray alone and sent the disciples ahead of Him by boat, directing them toward the town of Gennesaret, just south of Capernaum. While great miracles occurred the next day in Gennesaret, something just as remarkable took place during the night's journey across the sea.

The disciples found themselves rowing against a strong headwind, making the journey slow, arduous, and perilous. This scene is a vivid image of our journey through life.

Continued on page 5

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ AUGUST 10 - 16

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Tu	6:30 pm	Misa en español (Melrose) †Encarnacion Luis de la Cruz
We	8:00 am	†Clarence Schaefer (Meire Grove)
Th	8:00 am	†Ben Gruenes (Spring Hill)
Fr	8:00 am	†Steven Petermeier (Melrose)
Sa	5:00 pm	For the People (Meire Grove)
Sa	7:30 pm	†Genevieve "Gennie" Welle (Spring Hill)
*Su	9:00 am	†Elmer & †Anna Hellermann †Richard Hellermann (Melrose)
Su	11:30 am	Misa en Español (Melrose) †Souls in Purgatory †Deceased/Living of the Carrillo Garcia Family

SACRED HEART - Freeport

Tu	8:15 am	†Richard Mickelson
We	8:15 am	†James "Jim" Thoma
Th	8:15 am	†Alan Van Drehle Anniversary
Fr	8:15 am	†Robert "Bob" Roelike Anniversary
Sa	8:00 am	†Deceased Members of the Herkenhoff Family
Su	8:00 am	†LaVern & †Alice Fuechtmann
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich		
Sa	4:00 pm	†Ryan Pflipsen Anniversary
ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa		
Su	10:00 am	For the People

St. Mary - Melrose
First Thursday of the month 6:30 pm
in Spanish (en Español) and
Saturdays, 8:00 am - 9:00 am
in English

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 Melrose & Meire Grove Campus ~
Communities of Melrose, Meire Grove, Spring Hill, Greenwald

- **This Weekend, We Welcome Fr. Lawrence Muuna**, who will celebrate our Masses and share a mission appeal supporting Catholic education in the Diocese of Meru, Kenya.
- **Annual Reports** for 2025-2026 are complete and available for all four parishes in their respective churches and the parish office.
- **Contribution Envelopes** Ever wonder what a contribution envelope is for in your packet? A list of envelopes with explanations and a schedule is now available on the website, in the churches, and in the parish office.
- **Staff Newsletter** has been sent out on the Evangelus app. It is also available in the kiosks, at the parish office, or on our website. Please take a moment to read the updates from the office.



Save the Date: 2026 Sacred Heart Parish Festival will be on Sunday, July 18, 2027.

Employment Opportunity... Sacred Heart is seeking a part-time Parish Groundskeeper/Custodian. This individual oversees the care of the parish grounds and buildings. Individuals interested in this position are asked to send a letter of interest and resume to ahoeschen@catholic-centered.org. For more information, please contact Amy Hoeschen at PO Box 155, Freeport, MN 56331 or call 320-836-2143.



CAUTION!! Road work has begun in front of the church, parish office, and school in Freeport. If you need to visit the office, we encourage you to use the back door, which can be accessed by sidewalks in the back. The front door is still accessible, but you have to cross grass to get to it. You can access the parking lot by using the driveway at the back of the parish property. You can also park on Main Street. Please be safe.

Adore at George! Outdoor Eucharistic Adoration at Lake George 1101 7th St S, St. Cloud, MN on the south end of the lake with Fr. Derek Wiechmann on Tuesday, August 25, starting at 3:00 pm with Exposition, reading, homily and testimony, and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Silent Prayer, prayer teams, and confession available at 4:00 pm. Praise and worship starting at 6:00 pm followed by Benediction and closing prayer at 7:15 pm. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and a bottle of water. Unless there is lightning, the event will happen rain or shine!

Toddler Care If you are looking for Toddler care at Sacred Heart School, we have some openings. Please contact Chrystal at 320-836-2585.

Parish News:

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

- **Children's Liturgy of the Word** With the school year right around the corner, we are looking for help with Children's Liturgy of the Word in Freeport, New Munich, and St. Rosa during weekend Masses. If you like working with children and sharing your faith with them, this could be the ministry for you. We need to have one confirmed member and one youth present during Children's Liturgy of the Word. If a Mass time in one of the parishes is better for you, you are more than welcome to help in that parish. If we do not have volunteers to carry out this ministry, it will not be available to your young people. Please contact the office in Freeport if you are interested in helping with this ministry.
- **Social Media:** Start following our social media pages to see behind the scenes, to find inspiration, to learn more about our faith, to have a laugh, and to stay informed!

♦ **Instagram:**

*[Tri-Parish Community](#) can be found @triparishcommunity

*[Tri-Parish Youth Group](#) can be found @triparishyouthgroup

♦ **Facebook:**

*[Tri-Parish Community](#) can be found by searching "Tri Parish" - be sure to put a space between Tri and Parish.

The Road to Holiness: Finding Our Identity in the Eucharistic Heart of Christ with instructor Fred Blonigen at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, St. Cloud. This six-session series meeting is Tuesdays from September 8 to October 13 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

- **September 8:** Rediscovering with Amazement God's Greatest Gift to Humanity: The Holy Eucharist
- **September 15:** Praying, Understanding, and Living the Holy Mass with the Faith and Fervor of the Saints
- **September 22:** Eucharistic Adoration: How to Defeat the Culture of Death
- **September 29:** Sacred Heart Devotion and the Holy Eucharist: The Mystery of God's Infinite Love for Us.
- **October 06:** The Path of Sanctity: Imitating the Eucharistic Saints
- **October 13:** Questions and Answers on the Eucharist



Are You Feeling Like Your Cross is Getting Too Heavy to Carry? Are you in need of Simon of Cyrene to come to your aid? **CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA** is a weekend Catholic retreat program that is designed to help you carry your cross. The next retreat is scheduled for September 18 - 20, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. Cost of the weekend is \$70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

Melrose Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
Melrose, MN 56352

Meire Grove Physical Address: 20 State Highway 4 S.
Meire Grove, MN 56352

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

St. Mary - Melrose

Total.....	\$6,469.00
Regular Adult Offering	5,003.00
Plate/Loose	1,088.00
Designated Funds	378.00

Spring Hill	\$850.00
Greenwald	\$2,307.00

St. Mary - Meire Grove

Total	\$3,457.50
Regular Adult Offering.....	3,335.00
Children's	0.50
Plate/Loose	82.00
Votives	40.00

St. Mary's - Meire Grove Liturgical Ministries

Saturday, August 15 - 5:00 pm

(S) Faith Meyer & Grace Meyer

(L) Missy Illies

(U) Jayme Klaphake & Tom Loxtercamp

(GB) Marvin & Rita Meyer

(EM) Nick Kelzer & Jim Leukam

(HK - August) *Virginia Nathe, Geri Primus, Cindy Schneider, Karen Schneider, Linda Schneider, & Joy Silbernack

St. Mary's - Melrose Calendar Raffle

08-02	\$25	Doris Olmscheid, Melrose
08-03	\$25	Mary Gebeke, Melrose
08-04	\$25	Blanca Barragan, Melrose
08-05	\$25	Gene Middendorf, Melrose
08-06	\$25	Donna Sand, Melrose
08-07	\$25	Gary Klasen, Farmington
08-08	\$25	Audrey & Joe Spengler, Albany



Died in the Hope of Resurrection... †Dale Ruehle, 86

Temporary Help Needed St. Mary's Church is seeking a temporary, part-time grounds and maintenance person beginning Wednesday, August 19 for approximately six to eight weeks. Duties will include general groundskeeping and maintenance for the church, school and cemeteries. For more information please contact Fr. Mitchell or Pam at the parish office.



St. Mary's Cemetery offers a columbarium for the respectful placement of cremated remains. The first name plaques have recently been installed. Please contact the parish office for more information or to purchase a single or double niche.

Finance Council An open forum is available at the beginning of finance council meetings which are usually on or near the fourth Thursday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm Wednesday, August 26. Please contact the parish office for more information or to be added to the agenda.

St. Mary - Meire Grove Mass Intention Openings are available on Wednesdays and Saturdays in Meire Grove through the end of November. Each family may schedule one Mass intention per year. Please contact the parish office to reserve a date. Thank you!

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

Physical Address: 106 3rd Avenue NE Freeport, MN 56331
Church Basement 320-836-2191

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

Total.....	\$2,798.90
Regular Adult Offering	2,266.00
Plate	377.90
School Support	130.00
Assumption Envelope	25.00

Parish Events

Fr 08/14	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr 08/14	9:00 am	Adoration
Sa 08/15	8:00 am	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass
Mo 08/17	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym

Save the Date: 2027 Sacred Heart Parish Festival will be on Sunday, July 18, 2027.

Festival Chairs Needed Sacred Heart Parish is looking for a couple of people to help chair next year's festival. If you are able and willing to help, contact the office. Please prayerfully consider helping out with this important fundraiser for our parish.

Public Rosary...

We have much to pray for and even more to be thankful for.
All are invited and welcome!

St. Mary - Melrose

- Wednesday: 1:00 pm
- Thursday (Spanish): 6:30 pm
(Except the 1st Thursday)

St. Mary - Meire Grove

- Monday: 7:00 am
- Saturday: 4:30 pm

Spring Hill

- Thursday: 7:30 am

Sacred Heart, Freeport

- Tuesday: 7:45 am
- Wednesday: 7:45 am
- Thursday: 7:45 am
- Friday: 7:45 am
- Sunday: 7:30 am

Immaculate Conception, New Munich

- Saturday: 3:30 pm

St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa

- Friday: 7:30 pm
- Sunday: 9:30 am



Rosary Rally at 10:00 am, Saturday, August 22 in Spring Hill at the church. All are welcome.

Greenwald Catholic United Financial Picnic will be on Friday, August 14, at 6:00 pm at the park in Greenwald. Everyone is welcome and food will be provided.



CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,364.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,928.00
Plate	336.00
Building/Maintenance	100.00

Parish Events

Sa 08/15 3:30 pm Individual Confessions
Mo 08/17 6:30 pm Youth Night at SHS Gym

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

Physical Address: 28905 County Road 17
St. Rosa, MN 56331
Church Basement 320-836-2537

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,192.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,423.00
Plate	419.00
Venezuela Earthquake Aid	250.00
SHS Endowment	100.00

Parish Events

Fr 08/14 7:30 pm Rosary
Su 08/16 11:00 am Baptism
Mo 08/17 6:30 pm Youth Night at SHS Gym

Reminder Pink Cash Raffle Tickets, if you have them sold, please return before Mass or at St. Rosa Lumber. There are still tickets available if anyone needs more to sell. Contact Lillian 320-293-8333. They all need to be returned by Saturday, August 29. We appreciate you selling and buying!!



Have Extra Fresh Produce from your garden that you don't know what to do with? Bring it with you to church! Starting Sunday, July 26, there will be a table set up in the gathering space to share your bountiful harvest within our parish family!

Parish Festival News:

- ◆Parishioner Parish Festival envelopes/tickets are available to pick up in the gathering space of the church.
- ◆Albany Bakery is willing to make cakes and deliver them on Saturday prior to the festival if a parishioner prefers & orders. Please call them to order.

Stewardship as a Way of Life:

*"He said, 'Come.'
Peter got out of the boat
and began to walk
on the water toward Jesus."*

Matthew 14:29

When you hear Jesus calling, do you respond immediately and trust that He knows what He's doing? If so, you are walking on water! When we say "yes" to Jesus, we feel the power of his presence in our lives. We can feel the freedom it gives us! Listen how Jesus is calling you to live the extraordinary life He has intended for you.

**HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA**

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

August 9, Sunday

◆**Annual Church Bazaar** at the Church of Seven Dolors, Albany. 10:00 am Polka Mass, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm homemade chicken dinner, 3:00 pm quilt auction, 6:00 pm grand and cash raffle drawings. Games, food, beverages and entertainment by The Nite Owls and Two for the Road throughout the day.

◆**2026 BoniFest** St. Boniface Parish Festival. 10:00 am parade, 11:00 am—4:30 pm food and beverage stands open, 11:00 am—4:00 pm kids games/inflatables (weather permitting), 11:00 am—1:30 pm music by "The Muffin Man", 2:00 pm live quilt auction, 4:00 pm general raffle and car raffle, 4:30 pm festival closes.

August 11, Tuesday

◆**American Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Freeport Community Center sponsored by the Freeport Lions Club from 12:30 - 6:30 pm. Appointments are needed. Give the precious gift of life. We are always in need of people with type "O" blood. Schedule your appointment online at redcross.org or call Janet Butkowski at 320-836-2837 or 320-282-2904.

August 14, Friday

◆**Burger Night** at the American Legion Post 101, Melrose. Baskets starting at \$10. Doors open at 3:00 pm. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Take-outs available.

August 20, Thursday

◆**Freeport Senior Citizens Meeting** at 12:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. 500 cards and Bingo will be played.

◆**Cream Can Supper** at the Melrose Senior Center starting at 5:30 pm located in the lower level of the Melrose City Offices.

Hosted by the Melrose Area Senior Citizens. There is a sign up sheet at the Melrose City Office. Payment of \$10 needs to be made at the time of sign up - there will be no refunds. (**Deadline to sign up is Tuesday, August 18.**)

August 24, Monday

◆**American Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Church of St. Mary, Melrose sponsored by Melrose Area High School from 12:00 - 6:00 pm.

August 25, Tuesday

◆**Bologna Daze** at Elrosa Bar & Lounge serving from 5:00 - 7:30 pm. Music by Jerry & Joyce Dance Band. \$12 all you can eat. Sponsored by: Elrosa Senior Citizens.

August 30, Sunday

◆**28th Annual Quilt Bingo** at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Center in Richmond, MN. Bingo starts at 6:30 pm. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Food available. Cost \$15 per packet good for 15 regular games. Must be 18 to play.

August 31, Monday

◆**American Red Cross Blood Drive** at Holy Spirit Catholic Church 2405 Walden Way, St. Cloud, MN from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Schedule your appointment online at RedCrossBlood.org and enter Holy Spirit Catholic Church or call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

September 19, Saturday

◆**Fall Family Festival** at Holy Spirit Church 2405 Walden Way St. Cloud, MN 56301. The event starts at 4:00 pm with Mass. Brats, hot dogs and sides served from 5:00 - 7:00 pm free-will offering. Bingo for all ages at 6:30 pm. Karaoke, bounce house, train rides, gaga ball and more. All kids' activities are free!

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **The First Night of Faith Formation** will be Wednesday, September 9. Parents are required to attend the parent meeting, and students will go off to their classroom to complete their Safe Environment course. Grades 1-6 will be from 6:00-7:00 pm, and Grades 7-10 will be from 7:00-8:00 pm.
- **11th Grade Confirmation Classes** with Father Dan start Wednesday, August 19 at 7:00 pm in the Nave of the Church. Confirmation Mass will be on Sunday, October 4, at 1:00 pm.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.org

- **Faith Formation Registration** It is not too late to turn in your Faith Formation registration forms. We want to see all of our youth participating in faith formation. Forms can be found on the Faith Formation table by the office or in the kiosks in the church. They can also be found on the website or by emailing Mark Kociemba or call 320-256-9501.
- **Parent & Youth Advisory Committee/Board** If you would like to be part of the parent advisory committee or the youth advisory board for faith formation or youth ministry, please contact Mark Kociemba.
- **Our New Faith Formation Program Life Teen** requires volunteers to help lead small group and be present for our young people. Please consider helping out with faith formation and youth ministry. If you have questions please email Mark Kociemba at faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com or call 256-9501. You are needed to help us lead our youth closer to Christ.
- **First Faith Formation Classes** will be held Wednesday, September 9 at Saint Mary's Catholic School. Grades 1 and 3-5 will be from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm and grades 6-12 will be from 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm. 11th grade confirmation will meet at the church from 7:15 to 8:30 pm.



Faith Formation

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

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

- **Youth Night** Monday, August 17 at 6:30 pm in the Sacred Heart School Gym!



Overcoming Fear with Faith

cont.'d from pg 1

Life is rarely "a bowl of cherries," as the saying goes. It can often feel laborious, filled with hardships, and some trials may seem never-ending. If life feels this way, today's Gospel is especially for you.

During the fourth watch of the night, between 3:00 and 6:00 am, as the disciples continued struggling against the waves, they saw a figure walking on the sea, coming toward them. While we may be familiar with the idea of Jesus walking on water, for the disciples, this would have been an unimaginable and terrifying sight. They did not recognize Him—not because His appearance had changed, but because fear blinded them. This still happens in our lives. We can misinterpret suffering or divine silence as abandonment. But Jesus allowed their fear precisely so He could confront it directly: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." In His divine wisdom, Jesus knew that countless disciples would read this story and ponder this moment until the end of time.

What message is He giving us? The courage that comes from recognizing God in our midst allows us to conquer fear—especially in our moments of suffering, when the path ahead seems hard, dangerous, and without end.

By a supernatural instinct, Peter utters the perfect prayer in this moment of uncertainty: "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you..." When we recognize God amid our trials, focus our gaze on Him, and pray this prayer, God will always answer, "Come."

Peter sets the pattern for this bold, trusting prayer, but he falters in remaining faithful to it. Yet even this is allowed by God, for our instruction. Making an act of courageous faith does not guarantee we will not stumble. Peter sank not because he lacked faith entirely, but because fear began to overwhelm his trust. And in this, Jesus teaches us another lesson: Even when our faith wavers, we must not give in to despair. Peter did not drown—he cried out once more, "Lord, save me!" and Jesus immediately reached out His hand.

Despair is the true enemy of faith. Though fear and the growing force of the wind weakened Peter's faith, he remained hopeful even in his weakness. And it was this hope—however trembling—that moved Jesus to stretch out His divine hand and save him.

Reflect today on any trial or suffering you endure that tempts you to fear. Confront that fear head-on. Rebuke it. Look for Jesus, who comes to you in the midst of the trial, walking on and through that very storm. Know that it is truly Him, drawing near. As you overcome fear, keep your eyes fixed on Him, not on the storm. This is what strengthens our faith and enables us to keep moving forward toward the goal: Jesus' hand of divine grace.

*My saving Lord, though You permit trials in our lives,
 You always offer the grace we need to endure them
 patiently and to overcome them with trust and
 hope in You. Help me, Lord, to always see
 You in my suffering and confusion.
 May I never give in to despair, but instead grow
 in faith as I walk toward You.
 Jesus, I trust in You.*

Faith Over Fear

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Amy Van Beek
SHS BOARD:
 Myranda Beuning, Bethanie Ettle,
 Ben Kalthoff, Mike Moscho,
 Lindsay Frieler, and Chris Klaphake
 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:
 Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch,
 Jake Primus, Becky Hukriede,
 Lindsey Gruber, and Greta Rademacher
 Phone: 320-256-4257
 www.smsmelrosemn.org



PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Hope Klein
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Kristen Pattinson
SJSA BOARD:
 Amber Bueckers, Kathy Gilk, Adam
 Kalthoff, Kate Kelzer, Heidi Meyer,
 Trista Roelike, and Jenny Wilson
 Phone: 320-987-3133
 www.sjsaschool.org

♥**REMINDER:** SHS will be purchasing most school supplies in bulk, watch for a list soon of the few items that parents can pick up.

♥**SHS is Hiring** part-time individuals to work in our before and after school program. Hours will be from 7:00-8:00 am and 3:00-5:30 pm Monday-Friday and also when there is no school. Interested applicants must be 16 years of age and must be able to help with homework and have a genuine interest in caring for children. Applicants can fill out an application at SHS.

♥**The School Office Will Be Open Periodically** throughout the summer. If you need something, please send a fast direct message. Or call the office at 320-836-2591.

♦**Thanks Again to the Freeport State Bank** for hosting the Golf Classic again this summer. They were able to give all three of our parochial schools \$7,500. Thanks also to everyone who supported the event by golfing, sponsoring a hole, or joining us for supper.

♦**Open House for Parents and Students** is Tuesday, August 25, from 4:00 - 7:00 pm.

♦**The First Day of School for All** pre-school through 6th grade students will be Tuesday, September 1.

♦**SJSA has openings in grades preschool through 6th grade** for the 2026-2027 school year. If you are looking for small class sizes in a caring and faith-based environment, check us out! If you would like to visit the school, call the office at 320-987-3133 or email Hope at sjsahopek@gmail.com.

♦**Summer Office Hours** will vary. Please call 320-987-3133 and leave a message or email Hope at sjsahopek@gmail.com.



Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners!

08/02	\$25	Adam & Jackie Wiechman - Freeport
08/03	\$25	Tom & Barb Sand - Melrose
08/04	\$25	Michelle Rademacher - Melrose
08/05	\$25	Shannon Ritter - Freeport
08/06	\$25	Andy Welle - Freeport
08/07	\$25	Jane Austing - Freeport
08/08	\$25	Annie Kunstleben - Albany

One in Faith ACC Is Invited to Celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



♦ **Indoor Mass** Saturday, August 15 at 8:00 am at Sacred Heart, Freeport.

♦ **Indoor Mass** Saturday, August 15 at 7:30 pm in Spring Hill.
 Poor Clares collection will be taken.
 Refreshments will be served after Mass.

Everyone is welcome! Please bring a friend!

Prayer Requests...

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

Banns of Matrimony:

I Madison Westerman♥Grant Revermann, 8/29 - SR
 III Kylee Blenker♥Jack Ellering, 8/15 - St. Joseph

For the Sick: Pat Bushman, Tom Blommel, Carol, Bethany Downs, Cali Dickhoff, Dolores Notch, Dorothy Schneider, Joyce Klaphake Hauser, Ken VanderWeyst, Len Frieze, Marv Stueve, Michelle Russel.

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. Mary's (Spring Hill)	
Sharon Schulzetenberg	320-248-7702
St. Mary's (Melrose)	320-256-3878

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

**Hearts of Mercy - Bishop's Annual Appeal:**

The diocese recognizes the need to walk with individuals and their loved ones experiencing mental health challenges by providing spiritual support and accompaniment, practical resources and educational opportunities for mental health awareness. Our Mental Health Ministry Team is working with parishes to form a ministry of presence in the ACCs for those affected by mental illness. Please help support this effort by supporting the appeal at www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Holy Family Mini Fest 2026 Join us August 13 - 16 for a different kind of great Minnesota get-together! Come experience the beauty and wonder of God alongside fellow Catholics at the historical Holy Family Catholic Church and Belle Prairie Park along the Mississippi River just north of Little Falls, MN. Space is limited to 350 people. Register early as it will fill up. Registration is \$300. For more information, call or text Kimberly at 320-247-2293 or holyfamilyland@gmail.com or www.holyfamilyland.org.

Embroidered Dish Towels Do you need a bridal shower or wedding gift? Or do you need a new set of dish towels to use at home? Sacred Heart Parish has embroidered dish towels available for sale. They are \$35 for a set of seven and can be purchased at the Freeport Senior Center on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 5:00 pm or by calling Dolores Notch at 320-836-2450.



Low Gluten Hosts are available for individuals who 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 or Melrose. 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.

Healing the Whole Person The 8-Part Group Series Video Series by Dr. Bob Schuchts and Sr. Miriam James Heidland. Come experience eight talks, community reflections, and healing and restoration. Join Fr. Greg Paffel and St. Stanislaus Church, Bowlus for this three-day weekend retreat - October 23, 24 & 25. Friday (2:00 - 9:00 pm), Saturday (9:00 am - 3:30 pm), & Sunday (Starts with weekend Mass at 10:00 am - 4:30 pm). Early bird registration by Monday, October 12 - \$75. Starting Tuesday, October 13, registration will be \$100. If you have any questions about the retreats, contact Janice at 320-640-7623 or at healing@spiritandsaints.org. Registration for Bowlus can also be done at: <https://forms.gle/NZkuqkG6xUnXy4mw7>. Please note: This is a licensed video series used with the permission of the JPPII Healing Center. This is not a JPPII Healing Center event.

Marriage & Natural Family Planning:

A Divine Design! Natural Family Planning (NFP) is natural, effective, and healthy. It cooperates with God's design for married love, empowering couples to responsibly plan their family while strengthening their bond. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in Sauk Centre on Thursday, August 20 and Thursday, September 17 at 6:30 pm at St. Paul's Church or CentraCare - 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!



2026 Rural Life Celebration This year's Rural Life Celebration will take place on Sunday, August 16 from 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm at the Moenkedick Family Farm (38153 - 431st Street, Perham, MN) in rural Perham. The event will include Mass on the farm with Bishop Neary, the annual Catholic Century Farm and Rural Business Awards presentations, refreshments, and family-friendly activities. This is a rain or shine event. In the case of severe weather, the event will be held at St. Henry's Catholic Church in Perham.

Prayer for Rain

O Mighty God, Your fingerprints are scattered across all of creation. Through each thing You have created, You show Your glory. Your caring and gentle nature are on display for all to see and experience. You open the heavens and bring the waters



down from above. Lord, this very day we ask that You open the flood gates. Bring down nourishing rains, that the land may be quenched and bring forth much fruit. Amen.

The Scriptures This Week

Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo	Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr (<i>Feast</i>) 2 Cor 9:6-10 Jn 12:24-26
Tu	Saint Clare, Virgin (<i>Memorial</i>) Ez 2:8—3:4 Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
We	Weekday (<i>Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious</i>) Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22 Mt 18:15-20
Th	Weekday (<i>Saints Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs</i>) Ez 12:1-12 Mt 18:21—19:1
Fr	Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr (<i>Memorial</i>) Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63 Mt 19:3-12
Sa	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (<i>Solemnity</i>) (Not a Holyday of Obligation this year) Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2 1 Cor 15:54b-57 Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab 1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56

Next Sunday - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7 Rom 11:13-15, 29-32 Mt 15:21-28

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