



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

First Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2026

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

froswald@stmarysofmelrose.com

Office Email: pam@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

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 3:30 pm St. Andrew
- ◆Saturdays 3:30 pm Immaculate Conception
- ◆Saturdays 4:30 pm St. Mary
- ◆Sundays 11:00 am 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
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.



Battling the tempter this Lent

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." Matthew 4:1-3

In His great humility and compassion for us, Jesus, the Incarnate Son of God, allowed Himself to endure something that we sinful human beings encounter every day—temptation. God's glorious plan from the beginning included the creation of both humans and pure spirits—angels—to form one glorious Kingdom of God. Original Sin, the fall of the angels, and our struggle against temptation were not part of God's original intention, but they became realities due to the misuse of free will, both by angels and by humans. Free will was necessary for both angels and humans to love God freely, which led to a third of the angels and many humans turning away from Him.

Theologians such as Saint Thomas Aquinas and Saint Augustine offer profound insights into God's original plan for His Kingdom. In that plan, angels were believed to have been tasked with assisting humans in their journey toward perfection through enlightenment and contemplation. Some choirs of angels were tasked with the governance of the cosmos, guiding the physical world in harmony with God's will.

Tragically, the fall of a third of the angels, along with the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, has resulted in a world filled with struggle and sin. The fallen angels—now demons—use their natural gifts to deceive, confuse, and tempt. Those who were once responsible for guiding the cosmos now seek to sow chaos, contributing to the existence of natural disasters, disease, and death. While Catholic angelology is speculative, based on a limited amount of biblical revelation, it is important to recognize the role of angels and demons as we enter this sacred season of Lent.

Continued on page 3

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 1

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 †Sergio Hernandez
 Tu 8:00 am †Harriette Scherer
 We 8:00 am †Mike Pohlmann
 Th 8:00 am †Erma Moorman
 *Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
 †Olmscheid Family
 Sa 5:00 pm Family of Herman & Margaret
 Hinnenkamp
 *Su 9:00 am †Bob Kemper
 Su 11:30 am **Misa en Español**
 †Belester Vazquez Sobreira

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th 8:15 am †Kim Fuechtmann
 Sa 4:00 pm †Ron Hoppe

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am †Jeffrey "Jeff" Austing
 Su 10:00 am For the People

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am †Melvin Schulzetenberg
 Su 10:00 am †Lisa Schoenberg

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †Mathew Kasper
 Sa 4:00 pm †Jackie, †Charlene, &
 †Kate Ohmann

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Raphael & †Dolores Imdieke
 Su 8:00 am For the People

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)
 and
 Saturdays, 8:00 - 9:00 am

Sacred Heart - Freeport

Adoration is suspended
until further notice due to painting
of the interior of the church.



*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 ~

•Prayer Trees are at the Entrances of our 4 Parishes

St. Andrew, St. John, St. Mary, and St. Michael. We invite you to take a dove ornament or a chalice ornament and pray for that young person throughout Lent, as they prepare to celebrate Confirmation or First Eucharist in the Easter season. There is no obligation to do so, but if you would like to give that young person a note of encouragement or blessing, you can leave a card or note with their name on it at the parish office and we will get it to them.



Fr. Dan Is In Need Of Your Prayers. It has been confirmed that he suffered a stroke early Monday morning. While he is facing a road to recovery, we are happy to share that he still sounds like himself and is in great spirits—his signature sense of humor is fully intact! He is out of the hospital and resting. Let's join

together in praying for his patience, rest, and a complete, steady healing. We kindly ask that you give him privacy, time and space to rest and recover.

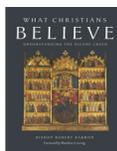
2026 Catholic United Financial Catholic Schools Raffle

is underway and will continue through Tuesday, February 24. New feature this year is that all the prizes (total of \$30,000) will be cash prizes. The Grand Prize is \$20,000 followed by \$5,000 and \$1,000. The remaining will be several \$500 and \$100 prizes. Tickets are just \$10 each! In our ACC, Sacred Heart School is participating in the raffle, and tickets are available in the Sacred Heart School office, Parish Office in Freeport, or from any Sacred Heart School family. Tickets will also be sold after Masses in the Tri-Parish.

One In Faith ACC Employment Opportunity...



•Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry (DFFYM) Sacred Heart, Immaculate Conception, and St. Rose of Lima is seeking a PT/FT DFFYM. Individuals interested in this position are asked to send a letter of interest and resume to ahoeschencatholiccentered.org. For more information, please contact Amy Hoeschen, PO Box 155, Freeport, MN 56331 or call 320-836-2143.



Lenten Book Study Join us this Lent as we read

Bishop Barron's "What Christians Believe: Understanding the Nicene Creed." We will meet Sunday afternoons in the Tri-Parish office. Books are free and available at Freeport, New Munich and St. Rosa parishes. Our first gathering will be at 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 22. Subsequent meetings will be at 1:00 pm. Please reach out to Jessica Goebel jessicafinnegan@msn.com or Amy Hoeschen ahoeschencatholiccentered.org or 320-290-5088 for more information. **All are welcome!**

Go and Make Disciples Everyone in grade 11 through adult is

invited to a monthly Faith Formation event from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in Sacred Heart School in Freeport. We will have snacks and discuss various Catholic topics. Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, March 4. Come and bring a friend for a fun filled faith enrichment night.

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser Saturday, March 7

from 5:00 - 8:00 pm in the Immaculate Conception Church Basement, New Munich. Our ACC youth attending the Steubenville Youth Conference in St. Paul this July invite you to join them for a pasta dinner. The youth will be serving a pasta buffet (Traditional and Gluten Friendly), dessert bar, refreshments, and more! All proceeds will go towards the cost of the conference and the transportation needed. We look forward to seeing you all there!



BINGO Please join the Tri-Parish Confirmation Class

on Sunday, February 22 at Immaculate Conception Church Basement for Bingo. Free lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 pm with a purchase of a card. Bingo will start promptly at 1:00 pm. Cash prizes. \$10 per card for 20 games plus 2 black-out games. No checks or credit cards please. Recipients of the proceeds will be Katie, Atalie, and Emilia Berg & Glen and Jeanette Bueckers.

Lenten Enrichment Materials and Lent Brochures

which include schedules for Ash Wednesday, Easter Triduum, confessions, and more are available in the churches. Feel free to take anything that will help you on your faith journey this Lent.



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

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

Total.....	\$12,242.00
Regular Adult Offering	10,513.00
Plate/Loose	753.00
Designated Funds	976.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle



02-15	\$25	Herb Inderrieden, Melrose
02-16	\$25	Trisha & Jason Kraemer, Melrose
02-17	\$25	Matt & Shari Rieland, Melrose
02-18	\$75	Katie Kraker, Melrose
02-19	\$25	Adam Helmin, St. Joseph
02-20	\$25	Perry Ellering, Melrose
02-21	\$25	Judy & Mike Beuning, Melrose

Newsletter St. Mary's staff has launched a quarterly newsletter! The first edition was sent out through Evangelus on Wednesday, February 11 and has already received great feedback. If you're not signed up for the app and don't want to miss it, please contact the parish office.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

- Communal Celebration with Individual Confession**
- Wednesday, March 4—4:30 & 7:00 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
 - Sunday, March 8—2:00 pm—*St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove*
 - Friday, March 13—7:00 pm—*Immaculate Conception, New Munich*
- Individual Confession**
- Fridays of Lent—7:45 am—*Sacred Heart, Freeport*
 - Saturdays of Lent—3:30 pm—*Immaculate Conception, New Munich*
 - Saturdays of Lent—3:30 pm—*St. Andrew, Greenwald*
 - Saturdays of Lent—4:30 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
 - Saturday, March 7 before/after First Saturday Mass—
Sacred Heart, Freeport
 - Saturday, March 14—9:00 am—*St. Michael, Spring Hill*
 - Saturday, March 21—9:00 am—*St. Andrew, Greenwald*
 - Saturday, March 28—9:00 am—*St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove*
 - Or by appointment; Call Melrose Office 320-256-4207 or
 Freeport Office 320-836-2143



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

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

Total.....	\$6,510.64
Regular Adult Offering	4,778.54
Plate	253.00
Votive	20.00
School Support	279.10
Church Painting	1,000.00
Building/Maintenance	55.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine	125.00

Parish Events

Su	02/22	12:00 pm	Confirmation Bingo - NM
Su	02/22	3:00 pm	Lenten Bible Study - Tri-Parish Office
Mo	02/23		Church Painting Continues
Tu	02/24	2:45 pm	SHS Strings Practice
Tu	02/24	7:10 pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting - NM
We	02/25	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 1-6
We	02/25	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Parent Class
We	02/25	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 7-10
Fr	02/27	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	02/27		NO Adoration
Su	03/01	3:00 pm	Lenten Bible Study - Tri-Parish Office

Battling the tempter this Lent
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Today's Gospel focuses on the activity of the most powerful fallen angel—satan, originally named Lucifer, meaning “Light-Bearer.” Tradition holds that he was among the highest of the angels, possibly a Seraphim. According to Saint Thomas Aquinas, Lucifer's fall resulted from pride: He desired to be a god unto himself, to create and govern according to his own will, refusing to serve God. This cosmic reality, of which both Jesus and satan were fully aware, sets the stage for and adds profound significance to their encounter in the desert.

In this dramatic confrontation, Jesus, by allowing Himself to be tempted, begins the ultimate defeat of satan, a victory that will culminate in Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection. This is the only recorded instance in which Jesus permits satan to tempt Him directly. While satan remained active throughout Jesus' ministry, seeking to disrupt His mission, this moment in the desert addresses temptation specifically. By rejecting each temptation, Jesus not only demonstrates how to overcome the devil but also empowers humanity with the grace needed to resist temptation through His triumph on the Cross.

As we enter into the first full week of Lent, reflect today on the temptations you face in your own life. Though satan is powerful and highly intelligent, he is no match for the grace of God. By uniting ourselves to Christ, we are strengthened to resist all that satan and his demons throw at us. Victory over temptation is not achieved by our own strength but through Christ's grace, which He freely offers to all who turn to Him.

My victorious Lord, You faced satan with courage, the once-beautiful angel who fell from grace through pride and envy. Now he seeks to destroy those whom You love. Give me Your strength and courage this Lent as I confront my own temptations, so that united with You, I may share in Your victory.
Jesus, I trust in You.

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,681.67
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,045.92
Plate	513.00
Votive	122.75

Parish Events

- Su 02/22 10:00 am Bingo Set Up
- Su 02/22 12:00 pm Confirmation Bingo
- Su 02/22 3:00 pm Lenten Bible Study - FR
- Tu 02/24 9:00 am Quilting
- Tu 02/24 7:10 pm Knights of Columbus Mtg.
- We 02/25 9:00 am Quilting
- We 02/25 6:00 pm FF Grades 1-6 - FR
- We 02/25 6:00 pm FF Parent Class - FR
- We 02/25 7:00 pm FF Grades 7-10 - FR
- Th 02/26 8:45 am Stations of the Cross
- Th 02/26 9:00 am Quilting
- Th 02/26 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- Sa 02/28 Lion's Breakfast Set Up
- Sa 02/28 3:30 pm Individual Confessions
- Su 03/01 6:00 am Breakfast Set Up
- Su 03/01 8:30 am NM Lion's Breakfast
- Su 03/01 8:30 am Bake Sale
- Su 03/01 3:00 pm Lenten Bible Study - FR

Bake Sale St. Anne's Christian Women will hold a bake sale in conjunction with the New Munich Lion's Breakfast on Sunday, March 1. Parish members with the last names beginning with A-M are asked to bring baked items to the church basement Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning. If you choose not to bake you are asked to donate \$10. Thank you for your support.



God's Housekeepers for the month of March: *Jean Hopfer, Sharon Salzer, Jenna Thull, Shelly Hoppe, and Bettie Frieler. 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.

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$1,726.26
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,195.46
Plate	359.80
Votive	146.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine ...	25.00

Parish Events

- Su 02/22 12:00 pm Confirmation Bingo - NM
- Su 02/22 3:00 pm Lenten Bible Study - FR
- Tu 02/24 8:45 am Stations of the Cross
- Tu 02/24 9:00 am Quilting
- Tu 02/24 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- Tu 02/24 7:10 pm Knights of Columbus Mtg. - NM
- We 02/25 6:00 pm FF Grades 1-6 - FR
- We 02/25 6:00 pm FF Parent Class - FR
- We 02/25 7:00 pm FF Grades 7-10 - FR
- Fr 02/27 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
- Fr 02/27 No Rosary
- Su 03/01 11:00 am Catholic United Financial Mtg.
- Su 03/01 3:00 pm Lenten Bible Study - FR

Quilting and Meeting for St. Loretta's Mission Group on Thursday, March 5. Members and non-members are welcome. Quilting begins 9:00 am, meeting 1:00 pm. Potluck lunch.



PATHWAYS 4 YOUTH During the month of February, the St. Rose Christian Women are doing a donation drive for the Pathways 4 Youth Program. This is a resource center for youth ages 16-24 experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the St. Cloud area. They offer a safe, secure, non judgmental space and services to meet individual needs and to support their growth. They also assist youth with area resources and building connections within the community. There will be a tote in the gathering area with a list of needs attached to the tote. For any monetary donations, please send to the parish office at: Tri-Parish Office PO Box 155, Freeport, MN 56331 Attn: St. Rose Christian Women/Jan H.

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$875.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	87.00
Plate/Loose	142.00
Votives	311.00
Fuel Fund	235.00
Maintenance Fund	100.00

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, March 1 - 10:00 am

- (S) Olivia Kalthoff
- (L) Lisa Wuertz
- (U) Randy Barten & Pat Bertram
- (EM) (B) Nick Waldorf
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (Sacristan) Ruth Heinen
- (RL) Marilyn Gruber
- (CC) Peter Wuertz & Roger Meyer
- (HK: February 22 - March 7) Krystal Barten, Cindy Bertram, & Deb Bertram

Sausage & Ham Supper at St. Michael's in Spring Hill from 4:00 - 8:00 pm on Sunday, March 1. Please support this event sponsored by the Spring Hill Baseball Team, Recreation Club, & St. Michael's Parish. Each family is asked to please bring a pan of bars.



STATIONS of the CROSS

February 23 - March 1

Tuesday	2-24	after 8:15 am Mass	St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa
Wednesday	2-25	7:30 pm	St. Michael, Spring Hill
Wednesday	2-25	7:30 pm	St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove
Thursday	2-26	after 8:00 am Mass	St. Andrew, Greenwald
Thursday	2-26	after 8:15 am Mass	Immaculate Conception, New Munich
Friday	2-27	2:00 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald (Led by SJSA)
Friday	2-27	6:30 pm	St. Mary, Melrose (Spanish)
Friday	2-27	7:00 pm	St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa
Saturday	2-28	4:00 pm	St. Mary, Melrose

One In Faith ACC Catholic Schools Dinner & Auction Fundraiser



◆The 24th St. Mary's Annual Auction 4 Education will be held on Saturday, March 7, at the American Legion in Melrose. Doors open at 5:00 pm. The night will start with a game of Family Feud. A free-will offering meal will be served from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Pot O' Gold \$100 Raffle tickets can be purchased after Masses and are available at St. Mary's School & Parish Office, All Stars Sports Bar & Grill, Freeport State Bank - Melrose, Hennen Lumber, Kraemer Lumber, Magnifi Financial - Melrose, Melrose Bowl, Some Like It Hot, and St. Rosa Lumber. Winners will be drawn on Saturday, March 7 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 Shamrocks and Shenanigans outfit. Visit our auction website for more details.

Join us for a great meal and lots of fun. All are welcome!

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

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

HISPANIC MINISTRY

 **Habr  Adoraci n al Sant simo**
 cada Primer Jueves del Mes a las
 6:30 pm.

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$2,759.00
Regular Adult Offering	625.00
EFT	1,300.00
Plate/Loose	199.00
Fuel Fund	20.00
Cemetery	535.00
Catholic Magazine	80.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$2,208.50
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,720.00
EFT	140.00
Children’s	0.50
Plate/Loose	150.00
Votives	58.00
Catholic Magazine	140.00

Liturgical Ministries
Saturday, February 28 - 4:00 pm

(S) Leo Kasper & Clara Kasper
 (L) Linda Heinze
 (U) Jim Wehlage & David Welle
 (GB) Bridget Kasper & Family
 (EM) (B) Kris Winter
 (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
 (HK - February) *Amy Frieler, Betty Frieler, Kathy Gilk, & Linda Heinze

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, March 1- 8:00 am

(S) Carter Kelzer & Collin Kelzer
 (L) Rita Meyer
 (U) Jayme Klaphake & Tom Loxtercamp
 (GB) Elmer & Virginia Meyer
 (EM) Char Meyer & Dan Meyer
 (HK - February) *Sue Meyer, Geri Meyer, Heidi Meyer, Karen Meyer, Martha Meyer, & Rita Meyer

Stewardship as a Way of Life:

“It is written: ‘The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.’” Matthew 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other “gods” we have put before God.

Baptized in Christ... Maya Faye Ahrens



Bake Sale & Bingo Sunday, March 22, at St. John the Baptist church. Bake Sale immediately following the 8:00 am Mass. Bingo starts at noon - \$15 for 20 games; prizes include turkeys, hams and cash. Lunch starting at 11:00 am included in the cost of Bingo. Raffle drawing: Tickets \$20 each; Grand prize = \$2,000

Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, May 10** - 8:00 am Baccalaureate Mass followed by breakfast in the church basement for all.
- Sunday, June 7** - 8:00 am Corpus Christi Mass with Procession followed by fellowship and a Meire Grove Band concert.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

February 22, Sunday

◆**Holy Spirit Parish’s Bouja Fundraiser** A healthy, meaty, vegetable stew - ready to serve! \$20 per gallon, \$10 per half gallon. Pre-purchase tickets: Holy Spirit website: spiritandsaints.org, Holy Spirit Parish office: 2405 Walden Way, The Boot Shack: 2221 Roosevelt Rd (the week prior) and The Bouja Shack: 1615 - 11th Ave. S. St. Cloud, Saturday mornings from 7:30 am - 9:00 am prior to each “Bouja Sunday” and “Bouja Sunday” beginning at 7:00 am until sold out. Drive-thru pick-up Bouja Sunday at The Bouja Shack from 8:30 am - 11:00 am. Gift certificates are available at the parish office. For more information call 320-251-3764.

February 24, Tuesday

◆**Online Evening Prayer with Young Adults** Young adults ages 18+ are invited to pray online together with other young adults and School Sisters of Notre Dame from across the U.S. and Canada at 7:00 pm and every fourth Tuesday of the month through June. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/2-24-26/.

February 27, Friday

◆**Fish Fry** at Melrose American Legion Post 101. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm, take outs available. Doors open at 3:00 pm.
 ◆**Lenten Fish Fry** at St. Elizabeth Church 16454 125th Ave NE Foley, MN. Serving from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. Adults \$15. Children 6-10 \$7. Children 5 and under are free. Take out orders available call 320-355-2459.
 ◆**Lenten Fish Fry** at St. Anthony Parish Center 2410 1st Street N., St. Cloud, MN. Serving from 4:00 - 7:00 pm. Take out dinners are also available. Adults: \$15. Children ages 6-12: \$10. Children 5 and under are free. Building has an elevator located in the northwest corner of the building by door #4.

February 28, Saturday

◆**Sip, Savor & Socialize** Beer, Wine, & Liquor Tasting at the Freeport Community Center Sponsored by Spiritz Liquor and Freeport Lions Club. \$20 advance or \$25 at the door. Tickets available at Spiritz Liquor, D’Lish, and any Freeport Lions member. Must be 21 to attend.

March 1, Sunday

◆**Pancake and Sausage Breakfast** hosted by the New Munich Lions. Serving from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm at Immaculate Conception church basement in New Munich.

◆**St. Margaret’s Parish Breakfast** at Lake Henry. Serving from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

◆**Annual Quilt Bingo & Cash Raffle** at St. Joseph’s Parish of Morrill in the Parish Hall 33018 Nature Rd. Foley, MN. Bingo starts at 1:00 pm. \$14 per card for 20 games and 2 black-out games. 50/50 pot, bake sale, and snacks. Free lunch will be provided after bingo. Cash raffle tickets \$10.

March 6, Friday

◆**Fish Fry** at Melrose American Legion Post 101. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm, take outs available. Doors open at 3:00 pm.

◆**Lenten Fish Fry** at St. Joseph’s Parish - Morrill 33018 Nature Rd. Foley, MN. Serving from 4:30 - 7:00 pm. Adults \$15. Children 6-10 \$8. Children 5 and under are free. Dine in or take out call 320-355-9401.

March 8, Sunday

◆**Freeport Lions Annual Breakfast** held at the Freeport Community Center. Serving from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. Adults \$10. Children ages 5-10 \$5. Children ages 5 and under are free. Proceeds go towards Freeport Lions Club community projects.

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information:

faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1-6: Next class** Wednesday, February 25 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms.
- **Parent Class:** Wednesday, February 25 in the Sacred Heart Church Basement from 6:00 - 7:00 pm.
- **Grades 7-10: Next class** Wednesday, February 25 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information:

faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **First Communion: Next Class:** Sunday, February 22, 10:00-11:15 am. St. Mary's Church. Students and parents.
- **Grades 9/10: Next Class:** Wednesday, February 25, 7:15-8:30 pm. St. Mary's Church. Students and some parents.
- **3rd Parent Gathering: Young People and Mental Health,** Wednesday, February 25 at 6:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Parents/guardians/grandparents are invited to join us for our 3rd parent gathering of the year. We are offering these gatherings throughout the year to give adults the opportunity to talk with each other about challenging issues our young people face today. We will have information about resources in our community, as well as really good food!

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

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

- **Baking Night:** Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us Monday, March 2, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Freeport Church basement for some cookie baking! We will bake cookies and enjoy fellowship with games and worship music. Permission forms will be available on the website or at the Parish Office in Freeport and due on Wednesday, February 25.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
Amy Van Beck
SHS BOARD:

Myranda Beuning, Bethanie Ettle,
Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle,
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, Pat Christenson,
Lindsey Gruber, and Greta Rademacher
Phone: 320-256-4257
www.smsmelrosemn.org



PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Mary Miller
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

• Sacred Heart School is participating in the **2026 Catholic United Financial Catholic Schools Raffle**. 100% of the proceeds stay at SHS and the students are very excited about this year's goal. They hope to raise enough money to get a new GaGa pit with protective turf, as well as some outdoor picnic tables and a garbage can for the playground area. All prizes are cash this year, with the top prize being \$20,000. Tickets are just \$10 and are available from any SHS family as well as the school and parish offices.

• **Wine and Dine Numbers** are almost completely final and we raised over \$130,000! We are SO GRATEFUL for all the support, donations, those that attended the event, the chairpersons that helped put it on, all our parents for selling tickets and working the night of the event, etc. It takes everyone to make the event successful and we are very appreciative of them all! Thank you for your support of Sacred Heart School!

• **Auction Items** are available to view starting on Sunday, February 22. Bidding opens on Sunday, March 1.

• **Thank You** for supporting our Catholic Schools Week breakfast in January. Our profit on the breakfast was \$6,545.

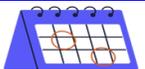
• If you haven't purchased your **"Pot o' Gold" Ticket**, there's still time. Or maybe you've purchased one and still want another one. Think about going in with a couple of friends on the next ticket. The winners will be chosen on Saturday, March 7, at 7:00 pm at the American Legion. Visit our auction website for more details <https://onecau.se/smsmelrose>

• Attend our **Winter Open House** for preschool through 6th grade on Monday, March 2, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm and discover the benefits of Catholic education. Please RSVP using the QR code.

• **Registration for Preschool-6th Grade** is open to current SMS families and to families not currently enrolled at SMS after Monday, March 2.

• SJSA 3rd and 4th Graders will lead **Stations of the Cross** at 2:00 pm on Friday, February 27 at St. Andrew's Church in Greenwald. All are welcome to join us.

• **Save the Date** Kindergarten Round-Up is Monday, April 13. More details to come!



Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners!

02/15	\$25	Tom & Doris Studniski - Avon
02/16	\$25	Gary Bielesjeski - Morehead City, NC
02/17	\$25	Bob & Tamara Welle - Freeport
02/18	\$40	Chad Rademacher - Melrose
02/19	\$25	Jessica Kundert - Freeport
02/20	\$25	Joe Soenneker - Melrose
02/21	\$25	Josh & Stephani Pung - Freeport

Prayer Requests...

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

For the Sick: Dorothy Schneider, Len Frieze, Dave Humbert, Fr. Roger Klassen, Michelle Russel

Contact Persons for Prayer Line Requests:

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

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2



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.

Thank You to all of the people who came out to gave the precious gift of life on Tuesday, February 10. The American Red Cross blood drive at the Freeport Community Center had a great turn out with 73 units of blood collected. This is an awesome amount and helps to save hundreds of lives. Thank you for all the that gave for the first time! A great HUGE thank you goes out to my workers who volunteer their time year after year. See you August 11.



~Janet Butkowski

He Meets Us On The Way A Lenten Mission of healing and hope. Join Centered on Christ Catholic Community for our 2026 Lenten Mission series, where we will experience the love, hope and healing that Jesus has for each one of us. Come as you are, bring a friend, and experience the love and transformation of the Cross. February 24 - *We Are Not Meant To Carry It Alone*; March 3 - *The God Who Sees* and March 10 - *Jesus Holds Nothing Back*. Sessions begin at 6:30 pm and will include dynamic speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and prayer teams to help you meet Jesus in a deeper way. Saint Boniface Catholic Church 501 Main Street, Cold Spring, MN.

First Friday Adoration at the Capitol Join the Minnesota Catholic Conference staff First Fridays March 6, April 10, and May 1 at the capitol March - May. Adoration available 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Capitol Vault. Visit www.MNCatholic.org/events to RSVP and get a free parking pass as well as directions. Questions call Minnesota Catholic Conference 651-227-8777.



Theology on Draft Series The Diocese of St. Cloud is sponsoring a Theology on Draft evening in 2026, titled "Won't you be my neighbor?" Young adults ages 18-39 are invited to this evening to learn and share faith, fellowship, food and refreshments. Our speaker for this evening is Craig Gould. Thursday, February 26 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Willy T's at the Holiday Inn 5637 Highway 29 S. Alexandria, MN 56308. For more information please visit www.stcldio.org.

Hearts of Mercy - Bishop's Annual Appeal:

Blessings to you as we enter this first week of Lent. If you have yet to see our 2026 Video, please take a moment to learn more about ministries that form agents of compassion and build the kingdom of God right here in Central Minnesota. You can visit: <https://youtu.be/IfuRqcZTnDI>



Lenten Series Technology and Our Mental Health Looking Through the Lens of Our Faith Hosted by the St. Frances Xavier Health & Wellness Team in Sartell. Guest Speaker Bethany Tollefson DNP, MSN, RN, PHN. On the evenings of Thursday, March 12, 19, and 26. The evening will begin with the optional soup and sandwich dinner from 5:30 - 6:00 pm and conclude with the speaker from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. All are welcome! Join us for one or all of the nights. Free will offering will be accepted for dinner. St. Francis Xavier gathering space 219 2nd Street S., Sartell, MN. Sign up by calling Sandee Kremers 320-252-1363 or skremers@stfrancissartell.org.



Blessed are They Who...Married Couples Weekend Retreat (Not Silent) – March 6-8 at Christ the King Retreat Center. At the heart of the teaching of Jesus is the

Sermon on the Mount. At the heart of the Sermon on the Mount are the Beatitudes. Jesus asks that we see the world in a new way, where weakness is strength and poverty is wealth. During our 2026 retreats, we will seek to embrace this challenging vision. King's House is set on Buffalo Lake. All private sleeping rooms have a lake view and its own bathroom & shower. Meals are included. \$50 deposit with registration. Register online at www.kingshouse.com/events or call 763-682-1394 to make a reservation.

A Great New Year Resolution is to TAKE time for yourself. Take time now and register for a Lenten Retreat. "Praying for the Prodigal" Lenten retreat will be held Saturday, March 14 at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Morris. Speakers include Jason Prigge & Roxane Salonen, the Chaplet to St. Monica, Mass and lunch. Cost: \$25 by Monday, March 2 or \$30 at the door. Invite your spouse & friends. Need more info-contact Sarah 320-333-0721.

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

<p>St. Mary, Melrose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Weekdays a half hour before Mass •Wednesday: 1:00 pm •Thursday (Spanish): 6:30 pm (Except the 1st Thursday) <p>Sacred Heart, Freeport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wednesday: 7:45 am •Friday: 7:45 am •Sunday: 7:30 am <p>Immaculate Conception, New Munich</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Thursday: 7:45 am •Saturday: 3:30 pm 	<p>St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tuesday: 7:45 am •Friday: 7:30 pm •Sunday: 9:30 am <p>St. Michael, Spring Hill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tuesday: 7:30 am •Sunday: 9:30 am <p>St. Andrew, Greenwald</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Thursday: 7:40 am •Saturday: 3:40 pm <p>St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sunday: 7:30 am •Monday: 7:00 am
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The Scriptures This Week		
Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II		
Mo	Lenten Weekday (<i>Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr</i>) Lv 19:1-2, 11-18	Mt 25:31-46
Tu	Lenten Weekday Is 55:10-11	Mt 6:7-15
We	Lenten Weekday Jon 3:1-10	Lk 11:29-32
Th	Lenten Weekday Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25	Mt 7:7-12
Fr	Lenten Weekday (<i>Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church</i>) Ez 18:21-28	Mt 5:20-26
Sa	Lenten Weekday Dt 26:16-19	Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday - Second Sunday of Lent		
	Gn 12:1-4a 2 Tm 1:8b-10	Mt 17:1-9

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