



# 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

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**March 30, 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

frosvaldo@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.

## **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.



# SEEKING THE LOST

**Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable. Luke 15:1-3**

This is good news! Our Lord "welcomes sinners and eats with them." For that reason, there is room at His table for you!

Sometimes it's hard to admit that we are sinners. Of course we know in our minds that we are. But our pride can easily lead us to justify our sin, downplay it and conclude that we are not that bad after all. If you find yourself thinking this way, be careful. Doing so will make you like the Pharisees and scribes in the passage above. Clearly they did not see themselves as sinners, which is why they condemned Jesus for welcoming sinners and eating with them.

The passage above comes from the beginning of Chapter 15 of Luke's Gospel and serves as an introduction to three subsequent parables. First, our Lord tells the Parable of the Lost Sheep, then the Parable of the Lost Coin, and then the Parable found in the rest of today's Gospel passage, the Parable of the Lost Son. In the first parable, the shepherd who finds his lost sheep rejoices. In the second parable, the woman who finds her lost coin rejoices. And in the parable we read today, the father who finds his lost son rejoices and throws a party to celebrate.

Return, again, to the passage above that introduces these three parables: "Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus." Once they drew near, Jesus spoke to them about the joy of finding that which was lost. Perhaps as Jesus initially spoke about the finding of the lost sheep and lost coin, this would have resonated with these tax collectors and sinners to a certain degree. But then our Lord tells them the long and detailed story about this boy who disrespects his father, takes his inheritance, squanders it on illicit living, and ends up with nothing. The story expresses the confusion of this boy, his desperation, his guilt and his shame. We learn of his interior thinking, reasoning, fears and anxiety.

**Continued on page 5**

## ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ MARCH 31 - APRIL 6

## ADORATION

**ST. MARY - Melrose**

Mo	6:30 pm	<b>Misa en Español</b> †Maria Vargas Aguilera †Guadalupe Salas
Tu	8:00 am	†Jim & †Ruth Graham
We	8:00 am	†Caroline Pohlmann
Th	8:00 am	<b>NO MASS</b>
*Fr	8:30 am	<b>SM School Mass</b> †Ron Heinen
Sa	5:00 pm	†Richard Hellermann
*Su	10:00 am	†Paul Spaeth
Su	12:30 pm	<b>Misa en Español</b> †Rodolfo Chavez †Maria del Rosario Rodriguez

**SACRED HEART - Freeport**

We	8:15 am	<b>SH School Mass</b> †Deceased Members of the Locnikar Family
Fr	8:15 am	†Jack Eveslage
Sa	8:00 am	<b>First Saturday Mass</b> †Rich Boeckermann & Family
Su	10:00 am	<b>First Communion Mass</b> First Communicants

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich**

Th	8:15 am	†Alfred & †Lorraine Schaefer
Sa	4:00 pm	†Norb & †Marilyn Schaefer

**ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa**

Tu	8:15 am	†Richard Herges
Su	8:00 am	For the People

**ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill**

Tu	8:00 am	†David Schoenborn
Su	10:00 am	†Bob Terres

**ST. ANDREW - Greenwald**

Th	8:00 am	<b>SJSA School Mass</b> †Marilyn Lieser
Sa	4:00 pm	For the People

**ST. JOHN - Meire Grove**

We	8:00 am	†Joanne Butkowsky
Su	8:00 am	†Norm Wehlage

**\*Mass will be livestreamed.**

Visit: [oneinfaith.org](http://oneinfaith.org) for the YouTube link.

**St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa**

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

**Immaculate Conception - New Munich**

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

**St. Mary - Melrose**

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

**Sacred Heart - Freeport**

Fridays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



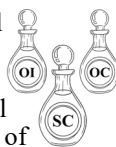
## ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS



**Colored Easter Eggs for Sale:** Order your dyed Easter Eggs to support our Tri-Parish Youth. \$10.00 per dozen. Call the Parish Office in Freeport at 320-836-2143 to place your order.

**Go and Make Disciples** Anyone in grade 11 through adult is invited to a monthly Faith Formation event on Wednesday, April 2 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport. We will have a meal and explore Divine Mercy, the Catechism, and Sacred Art if time allows. Come and bring a friend for a fun filled faith enrichment night.

**Chrism Mass for the Diocese of St. Cloud** will be held Thursday, April 10 at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Mary, St. Cloud. This solemn liturgy takes place once a year at the Cathedral, during which Bishop Neary will consecrate the holy oils (the Oil of Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and the Sacred Chrism) used in parishes of our diocese throughout the coming year.



**Thank You** to all those that made Big Buck Bingo a success! The event brought in roughly \$20,000 for the Sacred Heart School Endowment Fund. Thank you to Freeport State Bank for their donation to cover the food costs for the event.



**Mass Time Change/Switch** First Communion for Sacred Heart, St. Rose of Lima, and Immaculate Conception will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Parish on Sunday, April 6 at 10:00 am. This will be the only Mass in Freeport that morning. St. Rose of Lima will have the 8:00 am Mass on Sunday, April 6.

**Thank You** to everyone who attended our Spring Bingo. Thank you to all the volunteers and to the people for their donations. It was a great success. Hope to see you all in the fall. Congratulations to Audrey Overman for winning the quilt.

**Pilgrims of Hope Lenten Retreat Schedule** at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo. Enhance your faith life with one of the retreats below. For more information or to register, please call 763-682-1394 or visit [www.kingshouse.com](http://www.kingshouse.com).

- Men & Women's Silent Lenten Retreat - April 1-3 (Midweek)
- LENTEN Wine & The Word - Tuesday, April 8 (7:00 - 8:00 pm)

**Parish News:**

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

- First Communion Mass Choir Practice** We will have rehearsal on Saturday, April 5 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. Students from 4th grade through high school are welcome. Please come and share your talents and help to make this day special for our 2nd graders. First Communion Mass will be on Sunday, April 6 at 10:00 am at Sacred Heart Church.
- Forty Cans For Lent** St. Joseph the Worker Council Knights of Columbus will be supporting the Melrose Food Shelf during this Season of Lent with their Forty Cans For Lent food drive. There will be totes in each of the Tri-Parish churches for you to place food items. Please consider donating to this worthy cause as we try to collect 500 pounds of food! Thank You.
- Funeral Subs Needed** We are in need of parishioners, men and women, to be on a sub list for serving at funerals. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to be a funeral sub. Contact the Parish Office in Freeport to sign up by Wednesday, April 16.



**Eucharistic Adoration:** Consider taking an hour to come adore and be with our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration.

The Tri-Parish invites all the faithful for a special opportunity to kick off Holy Week and grow in relationship with God. Eucharistic Adoration will begin on Friday, April 11 after the 8:15 am Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Freeport and extend through the night until Saturday, April 12 at 9:00 am. Volunteers are needed around the clock, particularly after 1:00 pm on Friday. Sign-up sheets are available in all three parishes. We cannot leave our Lord alone.

**Special Prayer Service** Abbot Douglas and the monks of Saint John's Abbey invite you to take part in a special prayer service at the Abbey Church on Saturday, April 12, the evening before Palm Sunday. Beginning at 7:00 pm, the service, with its special music and prayer setting, is an opportunity to enhance the beginning of your Holy Week. A reception will follow in the Great Hall, and will include light refreshments. Please join us for this special vigil service, on Saturday, April 12, at 7:00 pm. And feel free to bring a friend or two. All are welcome.

One in Faith ACC News Continued on page 6



**CHURCH OF ST. MARY**

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

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ **Weekly Offerings** ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$5,817.80</b>
Regular Adult Offering .....	4,197.00
Plate/Loose .....	988.80
Designated Funds .....	632.00

**St. Mary's Calendar Raffle**

03-23	\$25	Gerald & Melanie Wensman - Melrose
03-24	\$25	Tanya Middendorf - Melrose
03-25	\$25	St. Mary's Church
03-26	\$25	St. Mary's Church
03-27	\$25	Dennis & Marlene Doetkott - Melrose
03-28	\$25	David Orth - Melrose
03-29	\$25	Dustin & Jenna Frieler - Greenwald

**Baptized in Christ...**

♥Lane Donald Burns      ♥Lener Tadeo Salgado Cruz  
♥Brody Michael Leukam

**St. Mary's Mission Society** meeting on Wednesday, April 9 at St. Mary's Church at 8:45 am. All are welcome!

**Finance Meeting** at St. Mary's on Thursday, April 3, at 5:30 pm.



**Calling All Singers & Musicians!** If you would like to sing or play an instrument for any of the Holy Week liturgies at St. Mary's please contact Sarah Woeste 320-256-9516. A Bilingual rehearsal for Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil will be on Monday, March 31 from 7:15-8:15 pm in church. All are welcome!

**Prayer Requests...**

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

**For the Sick:** Shirley Laing, Lori Austing, Sandy Welle, Beatrice Massmann, Dorothy Schneider, Tony Niehaus

**Contact Persons for Prayer Line Requests:**

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

**The Scriptures This Week**

**Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I**

<b>Mo</b>	<b>Lenten Weekday</b>	
	Is 65:17-21	Jn 4:43-54
<b>Tu</b>	<b>Lenten Weekday</b>	
	Ez 47:1-9, 12	Jn 5:1-16
<b>We</b>	<b>Lenten Weekday</b> ( <i>Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit</i> )	
	Is 49:8-15	Jn 5:17-30
<b>Th</b>	<b>Lenten Weekday</b>	
	Ex 32:7-14	Jn 5:31-47
<b>Fr</b>	<b>Lenten Weekday</b> ( <i>Saint Isidore, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</i> )	
	Wis 2:1a, 12-22	Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
<b>Sa</b>	<b>Lenten Weekday</b> ( <i>Saint Vincent Ferrer, Priest</i> )	
	Jer 11:18-20	Jn 7:40-53
<b>Next Sunday - Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>		
	Is 43:16-21	Phil 3:8-14
		Jn 8:1-11

**CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART**

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

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ **Weekly Offerings** ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$8,400.71</b>
Regular Adult Offering.....	6,992.85
Plate.....	504.84
Votive.....	118.02
School Support .....	550.00
Easter Flowers .....	160.00
Building/Maintenance .....	75.00

**Parish Events**

Su	03/30	1:00 pm	Lenten Study
Tu	04/01	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
We	04/02	9:00 am	Stations of the Cross
We	04/02	1:00 pm	SHS Confessions
We	04/02	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grade 2
We	04/02	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 7-10
We	04/02	7:00 pm	Go & Make Disciples
Th	04/03	7:00 pm	OCIA Meeting
Fr	04/04	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	04/04	9:00 am	Stations of the Cross
Fr	04/04	9:00 am	Adoration
Fr	04/04	7:00 pm	Communal Confessions
Sa	04/05	8:00 am	First Saturday Mass
Su	04/06	10:00 am	First Communion Mass
Su	04/06	11:00 am	Private Event
Su	04/06	1:00 pm	Lenten Study in the Sacristy
Mo	04/07	6:30 pm	Youth Pizza Night



**Thank You** The family of Viola Borgerding would like to thank Fr. Dan Walz and Fr. Roger Klassen for presiding at the Mass, to the Musicians, the funeral lunch group, all who helped at the Mass and those who brought food for the lunch. We also want to thank everyone for their donations to Sacred Heart School and for Masses in Viola's memory. All donations not specified for a specific use will be donated to the school as well. Also, thanks to everyone for your prayers and expressions of sympathy. It is sincerely appreciated!

*~Cliff Borgerding, Marian Brunette, Yvonne Cullen,  
Neal Borgerding, and Ann Sieben and their families*

**Save the Date...** The Sacred Heart Parish festival will be Sunday, July 20, 2025. The theme of the parade is Minnesota Winter. If you are interested in having a float in the parade, contact Andy Grieve at 320-260-5615 or email [freeportmnparche@gmail.com](mailto:freeportmnparche@gmail.com). More details about the event to follow.

**Embroiderers Needed** If you enjoy embroidering or appliquéing, the festival quilting group would like assistance with dish towels. You can stop at the Tri-Parish Office entryway and pick up a packet to complete and return. The packets will have 7 dish towels and applique patterns. Please sign the towels out and return to the parish office when complete. Thank you!



**Attention St. Joseph Society Members** If you haven't received your raffle tickets, they are in the back of the church for you to pick up. Please return **all sold and unsold tickets and money** to the Parish Office in Freeport or drop them in the collection no later than Wednesday, May 14.



**Sponsor a Votive Candle** The parish is looking for someone to sponsor the following candles: 1 on the Blessed Virgin Mary Altar and 1 military remembrance candle by the votive stand. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.

**CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

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

## ◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$4,292.27
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,089.77
Plate.....	545.00
Easter Flowers.....	100.00
Catholic Relief Services.....	20.00
Building/Maintenance.....	37.50
Easter .....	500.00
Bishop's Annual Appeal .....	1,000.00

**Parish Events**

Su 03/30	1:00 pm	Lenten Study - FR
We 04/02	6:00 pm	FF Grade 2 - FR
We 04/02	7:00 pm	FF Grades 7-10 - FR
We 04/02	7:00 pm	Go & Make Disciples - FR
Th 04/03	7:00 am	Adoration
Th 04/03	8:45 am	Stations of the Cross
Th 04/03	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Fr 04/04	7:00 pm	Communal Confessions - FR
Sa 04/05	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions
Su 04/06	10:00 am	First Communion Mass - FR
Su 04/06	1:00 pm	Lenten Study in the Sacristy - FR
Mo 04/07	6:30 pm	Youth Pizza Night - FR



**God's Housekeepers** for the month of April: \*Stacy Hoppe, Tami Funk, Michelle Wenker, Terri Hoppe, Amy Van Beck, and Karen Sand. 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.

**Elevator & Expansion Update...**

Thank you to all those who have made contributions to this fund. Currently, there is \$225,000 remaining in loans. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this fund.

**Parish Seamstresses and Crafters**

This year the Parish & Quilt Raffle will be on June 7, so it is time again to plan for the "Quilt & Fancy Work" raffle. If any of you have fancy or crafty items (doilies, afghans, towels, etc.) to donate for the raffle – please call or contact Jean Hopfer, Quilt Raffle Chm. 320-837-5239 before Thursday, April 3, so we will have time to get the raffle tickets printed with the information on them and have them ready to send out with the parish raffle tickets. Thanks in advance for sharing your talents to contribute to the Christian Women's main source of funds. Also, if anyone would like to donate cash toward the expenses of the quilt, we'd appreciate that very much.

**CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA**

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

## ◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$3,876.73
Regular Adult Offering.....	3,674.23
Plate.....	182.50
Easter Flowers .....	20.00

**Parish Events**

Su 03/30	11:00 am	Catholic United Financial Member Breakfast
Su 03/30	1:00 pm	Lenten Study - FR
Mo 03/31	7:00 pm	Christian Women Meeting
Tu 04/01	7:00 am	Adoration
Tu 04/01	8:45 am	Stations of the Cross
Tu 04/01	9:00 am	Quilting
Tu 04/01	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
We 04/02	6:00 pm	FF Grade 2 - FR
We 04/02	7:00 pm	FF Grades 7-10 - FR
We 04/02	7:00 pm	Go & Make Disciples - FR
Fr 04/04	7:00 pm	Communal Confessions - FR
Fr 04/04		No Rosary
Su 04/06	10:00 am	First Communion Mass - FR
Su 04/06	1:00 pm	Lenten Study in the Sacristy - FR
Mo 04/07	6:30 pm	Youth Pizza Night - FR

**Spring Meeting...** St. Rosa Christian Women Spring Meeting is set for Monday, March 31 at 7:00 pm in the Church basement. Hope to see you there! A Vice President is still needed for our St. Rose Christian Women.

**Bake Sale** On Sunday, April 6 the Christian Women will be hosting a bake sale at the Lions Breakfast. Please drop off your baked items by 9:00 am on Sunday, April 6.



**Quilting...** The quilters in St. Rose will be quilting at least until Tuesday, April 15. With the possibility of a quilt left for Tuesday, April 22.

The "Quilt & Fancy Work" raffle. If any of you have fancy or crafty items (doilies, afghans, towels, etc.) to donate for the raffle – please call or contact Jean Hopfer, Quilt Raffle Chm. 320-837-5239 before Thursday, April 3, so we will have time to get the raffle tickets printed with the information on them and have them ready to send out with the parish raffle tickets. Thanks in advance for sharing your talents to contribute to the Christian Women's main source of funds. Also, if anyone would like to donate cash toward the expenses of the quilt, we'd appreciate that very much.

**CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL**

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

## ◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total .....	\$1,606.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,229.00
Children .....	2.00
Plate/Loose .....	80.00
Maintenance Fund .....	185.00
Fuel Fund.....	40.00
Easter Flowers .....	25.00
Ash Wednesday .....	20.00
Central & Eastern Europe .....	15.00
Rice Bowl .....	10.00

**Liturgical Ministries****Sunday, April 6 - 10:00 am**

(S) Olivia Kalthoff & Stella Schoenberg  
(L) Ralph Klassen  
(U) Roger Meyer & Mark Schoenberg  
(EM) (B) Jenny Kalthoff  
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood  
(Sacristan) Ruth Heinen  
(RL) Kathy Welle  
(CC) Chico Welle & Steve Welle  
(HK: March 30-April 12) Cindy Bertram, Deb Bertram, and Jane Bertram

**Thank You** The family of Kathleen Meyer would like to thank Fr. Marv Enneking for the beautiful service and the Spring Hill Choir for the beautiful music. Also thank you to Lisa Feldewerd and Amy Orbeck for all they did and everyone in Group 3 for serving the meal. You are all greatly appreciated!

**Cash Raffle Tickets** have been distributed. Please return ticket stubs, money, and any unsold tickets to Sue Meyer, Karen Rademacher or Duane Moscho or put in the St. Michael's collection marked "cash raffle" by Sunday, March 30. There are about 100 raffle tickets left, if anyone wants some tickets, please contact Duane, Sue or Karen. Thanks for your participation.

**Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale** on Sunday, April 6, Spring Hill Church basement from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm hosted by Catholic United Financial.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS****Week of March 31–April 6**

4-01 Tuesday	8:45 am	St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa
4-02 Wednesday	9:00 am	Sacred Heart, Freeport
4-02 Wednesday	7:30 pm	St. Michael, Spring Hill
4-02 Wednesday	7:30 pm	St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove
4-03 Thursday	8:45 am	Immaculate Conception, New Munich
4-04 Friday	9:00 am	Sacred Heart, Freeport
4-04 Friday	2:00 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald (Led by SJSA Students)
4-04 Friday	6:30 pm	St. Mary, Melrose (Spanish)
4-05 Saturday	4:00 pm	St. Mary, Melrose

**SHADOW STATIONS**

Presented by the 6th Grade Class from Sacred Heart School  
Wednesday, April 9—7:00 pm—Sacred Heart School Gymnasium  
Thursday, April 10—1:30 pm—Sacred Heart School Gymnasium

**LIVING STATIONS**

Presented by St. Mary's School  
Wednesday, April 9—1:00 pm—St. Mary, Melrose

**EASTER PROGRAM**

Presented by SJSA School  
Tuesday, April 15—1:00 pm & 7:00 pm—St. John the Baptist,  
Meire Grove



**CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW**

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

## ◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,177.00</b>
Regular Adult Offering .....	895.00
Plate/Loose .....	135.00
Votives .....	22.00
Maintenance Fund .....	25.00
Fuel Fund .....	100.00

**Liturgical Ministries****Saturday, April 5 - 4:00 pm**

(S) Matthew Dehmer & Noah Dehmer  
(L) Julie Kulzer  
(U) Eric Dehmer & Bill Frieler  
(GB) Jeff & Wanda Ahrens  
(EM) (B) Clarine Beier  
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood  
(HK - April) \*Bridget Kasper, Deb Keller,  
Cassandra Kettner, and Doris Kraemer

**CHURCH OF ST. JOHN**

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

## ◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,772.50</b>
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,304.00
Children's .....	0.50
Plate/Loose .....	161.00
Votives.....	47.00
Maintenance Fund .....	65.00
Catholic Magazine .....	20.00
Easter Flowers .....	175.00

**Liturgical Ministries****Sunday, April 6 - 8:00 am**

(S) Faith Meyer & Miranda Meyer  
(L) Doug Meyer  
(U) Jerry Imdieke & Nick Kelzer  
(GB) Mike & Julie Wehlage  
(EM) Karl Meyer & Sue Meyer  
(HK - April) \*Irene Marthaler, Char Meyer,  
Sue Meyer, Geri Meyer, Heidi Meyer, and  
Karen Meyer

**HISPANIC MINISTRY****Preparación bautismal:**

La clase de preparación bautismal ya se realizó el sábado pasado. Si aún hay personas interesadas en la preparación bautismal hable con el

diácono Jesús Hernández después de misa para registrarse para la próxima sesión de clases que se llevará a cabo en el mes de Mayo.

**Orden de iniciación cristiana para adultos:**

se invita a todas las personas que no han recibido ningún sacramento de iniciación (bautismo, confirmación y primera comunión) o personas que deseen convertirse en Católicos a que hablen con el diácono Jorge Carrillo para pedir información sobre el programa y comenzar a planear sus preparación.



## Sacred Heart School

### Calendar Raffle Winners!

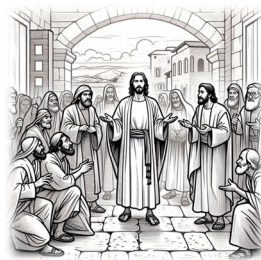
03/23	\$25	Nick Shaw - Freeport
03/24	\$25	Calli Mayers - Freeport
03/25	\$25	Dean Poepping - Melrose
03/26	\$25	Zackry Einerwold - Andover
03/27	\$25	Mark & Bev Wiechman - Freeport
03/28	\$25	Zach Blonigen - Watkins
03/29	\$40	Don & Irene Lieser - Sauk Centre

**Spring Fundraiser** Today Sunday, March 30, in the Meire Grove Church basement. Bake Sale begins immediately following the 8:00 am Mass. Hot Sandwich Lunch provided by Catholic United Financial starting at 11:00 am. Bingo starts at noon. 20 games for \$15, includes lunch. Cash prizes, good neighbor, and more. Root Beer Floats available for \$2. Parish Raffle Drawing at 1:00 pm; need not be present to win. \$20/ticket. Grand prize \$2,000.

**Public Rosary...**

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

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

**seeking THE LOST** cont'd from page 1

As you ponder this parable, try to understand the effect that it would have had upon the tax collectors and sinners who all drew near to our Lord. They were spiritually hungry, just as the prodigal son was. They had a past full of regret, just as this boy. They were unsatisfied in life and were looking for a way out, just as this son of the loving father was. For these reasons, those tax collectors and sinners who drew near Jesus would have been mesmerized by all that Jesus taught them and filled with hope that they, too, could share in the joy that was so generously bestowed upon this wayward son.

Reflect, today, upon the touching image of these tax collectors and sinners drawing near to Jesus. Though they may have had a certain fear and caution, they would have also had hope. Try to understand what they must have thought and felt as they heard this story of the father's abundant mercy. Think about how they would have related as they discovered that there was hope for them, too. If you struggle with being like the scribes and Pharisees, reject that temptation. Instead, see yourself as one of those sinners who drew near to our Lord and you will be the cause of joy in the Heart of the Father in Heaven.

**Most loving and compassionate Lord, tax collectors and sinners were drawn to You. They found in You someone Who could free them from the burdens they carried within. Please help me to see myself as one of those humble souls in need of You and Your mercy. I reject my pride that leads me to self-justification and pray for humility so that I can come to You and gladden the Heart of the Father in Heaven. Jesus, I trust in You.**

mycatholic.life



## FAITH FORMATION

### Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: [csand@catholic-centered.org](mailto:csand@catholic-centered.org)

- **Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, April 2. Home Lesson.
- **Grade 2: Next Class:** Wednesday, April 2 at 6:00 pm. Meet at the parish office.
- **First Communion Mass:** Sunday, April 6 at 10:00 am at Sacred Heart in Freeport.
- **Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, April 2 at 7:00 pm. Bring your Bible, books, notebook, and pen. Meet in your classroom.

### Service Project:

- **Egg Dying Service Project** for Grades 6-12 Wednesday, April 16 from 6:45 - 8:15 pm at Immaculate Conception Church basement. Permission forms are available on the Tri-Parish website: [www.sacredheartfreeport.org](http://www.sacredheartfreeport.org). Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, April 9.

### Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: [faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com](mailto:faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com)

- **All Grades: Class and Prayer: Lent Reconciliation Liturgies:** Wednesday, April 2, 4:30 or 7:00 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and parents. Confirmation students provide liturgical ministries.
- **Grades 7-8:** Saturday, April 5 10:30 am Roadside Cleanup Service Project in Meire Grove, followed by lunch.
- **First Communion Students AND Parents:**
  - **Lent Reconciliation liturgy:** Wednesday April 2, 4:30 OR 7:00 pm (choose whichever time is better for your family!). At both liturgies, we will have a section of the church reserved so that First Communion families can sit together.
  - **Learning Centers:** Sunday, April 6, 11:15 am - 12:15 pm at St. Mary's Church.

## ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

### **Tenebrae - A Tradition at St. Mary's Cathedral**

Everyone is welcome at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud on Good Friday evening, April 18, at 8:00 pm for Tenebrae, which is Latin for shadows or darkness. At this event, participants will experience the gradual extinction of all lights in the church, symbolizing the temporary triumph of the prince of darkness over the Light of the World, and loud noises created at the end of the service by the assembly and ministers, suggesting the earthquake described in the Passion Narratives. This is a family event and all are welcome.



### **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.cmttec.org](http://www.cmttec.org). Together Encountering Christ (TEC) is open to both youth (age 16+) as well as adults and is located just north of Little Falls. Next retreat is April 11-13.

**"Be Still and Know:" A Contemplative Retreat for Social Justice Leaders** Doing social ministry work can be hard, and many could use encouragement and hope through the challenges of our ministries today. But how do we care for ourselves, while striving to care for our communities? How do we create intentional space for prayer as we do this work individually and collectively? Join the Diocesan Social Concerns team for a day that will explore these questions and invite us into prayer. Saturday, April 12 from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm (with boxed lunch to go, or optional continued fellowship immediately following) at Center for Christ, Sauk Centre (235 Main St. S. Sauk Centre, MN 56378). Cost: \$35. The retreat will be limited to 25 participants. Register by Monday, March 31 online at: <https://forms.office.com/r/geFNDgwDjN>.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

[youthministry@catholic-centered.org](mailto:youthministry@catholic-centered.org)

or

[faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com](mailto:faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com)

♥ **NCYC** The Diocese of Saint Cloud will be bringing a group to Indianapolis, Indiana November 19 - 23 for NCYC 2025: I Am | Yo Soy. NCYC is a time for high school youth from around the nation to gather and celebrate being Catholic through prayer, Mass, and activities. The cost to attend is \$940. Deadline to register is April 15. Registration forms are available on the parish websites. Contact Chrystal Sand at 320-836-2143 or [csand@catholic-centered.org](mailto:csand@catholic-centered.org), or Pam Pundsack at 320-256-9503 or [pam@stmarysofmelrose.org](mailto:pam@stmarysofmelrose.org) with questions.

♥ **Pizza Making & Games** Monday, April 7 from 6:30 - 7:45 pm at Sacred Heart Church Basement. Sponsored by the Tri-Parish Youth Group. Join us as we make homemade pizzas and play games. Any students in grades 6-12 are able to attend. Permission forms are on the Tri-Parish website: [www.sacredheartfreeport.org](http://www.sacredheartfreeport.org). Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, April 2.

### **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!**



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

### **Communal Celebration with Individual Confession**

- Wednesday, April 2—4:30 & 7:00 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
- Friday, April 4—7:00 pm—*Sacred Heart, Freeport*
- Sunday, April 6—7:00 pm—*St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove*

### **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, April 5 before/after First Saturday Mass—*Sacred Heart, Freeport*
- Friday, April 11—5:30 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
- Friday, April 11—7:30 pm—*St. Michael, Spring Hill*
- Monday, April 14—5:30 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
- Monday, April 14—7:30 pm—*St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove*
- Or by appointment; Call Melrose Office 320-256-4207 or Freeport Office 320-836-2143

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



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

Myranda Beuning, Julie Job,  
 Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle,  
 Lindsay Frieler, and Jenelle Herkenhoff

www.shsfreeport.org School Phone: 320-836-2591  
 Toddler Center Phone: 320-836-2585



**PASTOR:** Fr. Mitchell Bechtold  
**PRINCIPAL:** Autumn Nelson  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**  
 Briana Worms  
**SMS BOARD:**

Cory Ellering, Bob Arceneau,  
 Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch,  
 Jake Primus, and Pat Christenson

Phone: 320-256-4257  
 www.smsmelrosemn.org



**PASTOR:** Fr. Mitchell Bechtold  
**PRINCIPAL:** Mary Miller  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**  
 Kristen Pattinson  
**SJSA BOARD:**

Kathy Gilk, Adam Kalthoff, Kate  
 Kelzer, Kurt Meyer, Trista Roelike,  
 Jenny Wilson, and Kristi Zimmer

Phone: 320-987-3133  
 www.sjsaschool.org

♥ **Sacred Heart School** will be having **All School Confession** on Wednesday, April 2.

♥ **Congratulations to all the 2nd Graders** in the Tri-Parish that completed their First Communion Retreat last weekend. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 6.

♥ **SHS Registration** for the 2025/2026 school year PreK - 6th grade is open. If you are interested in registering your child for school next year, please contact the office.

♥ **Lenten Project** SHS will be collecting money, school supplies, basic toiletries, and toys for Stoves for Guatemala as their Lenten Project. Any money or items you would like to donate can be brought to Sacred Heart School.

♥ **Shadow Stations** will take place on Wednesday, April 9 and Thursday, April 10.

♥ **SHS Designer Purse Bingo** will be on Saturday, April 12 at the Freeport Community Center.

♥ **Toddler Open House** will take place in May. More details to come.

♦ **We are Excited to Announce** that the Auction4Education has raised an amazing total of \$154,145. Many thanks to all the SMS families, friends, community, and parish members for making this event such a wonderful success!

♦ **School Board Candidates** Cory Ellering and Bob Arceneau's terms on the School Board will end at the end of this school year. Candidates interested in running for a position on the board should submit a bio of 125-150 words to Autumn Nelson at [anelson@smsmn.org](mailto:anelson@smsmn.org) by Tuesday, April 1.

♦ **St. Mary's School** is Selling **Harry's Pizza** from now until Wednesday, April 2. Please contact a current SMS family, the parish office, or the school to place an order. Orders can be picked up at the school gym on Wednesday, April 16, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

♦ All are invited to the **Living Stations** presented by St. Mary's School students on Wednesday, April 9, at 1:00 pm in the church.

♦ **St. Mary's Kindergarten Roundup** is set for Friday, April 11. Students will spend the day in activities from 8:00 am to 2:45 pm. If you have a prospective kindergartener for the 2025-2026 school year and haven't already enrolled, contact us by calling 320-256-4257.

♦ **"Camp Kindergarten"** Kindergarten Roundup is Monday, April 7 from 7:45 am - 2:30 pm. Prospective kindergarteners will spend the day in kindergarten with the current class. A healthy snack and hot lunch are provided. Call the school at 320-987-3133 to register.

♦ **Students in grades 2-6** will go to confession after Mass on Thursday, April 3.

♦ **SJSA 3rd and 4th graders** will lead Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 4 at 2:00 pm at St. Andrew's Church in Greenwald.

♦ **SJSA students will present Living Stations of the Cross** on Tuesday, April 15 at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm at St. John's Church in Meire Grove. Refreshments will be served after each program. All are welcome.

## HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

## March 30, Sunday

♦ **Spring Fundraiser** at St. John the Baptist Church in Meire Grove. Bake Sale begins immediately following the 8:00 am Mass. Hot Sandwich Lunch provided by Catholic United Financial starting at 11:00 am. Bingo starts at noon. 20 games for \$15, includes lunch. Cash prizes, good neighbor, and more. Root Beer Floats available for \$2. Parish Raffle Drawing at 1:00 pm; need not be present to win. \$20/ticket. Grand prize \$2,000.

## April 4, Friday

♦ **Fish Fry** at the Church of St. Mary, Alexandria, MN in the gymnasium. Serving from 4:00 - 7:00 pm.

♦ **Lenten Fish Fry** at St. Elizabeth Church in Foley. Serving from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. Adults: \$15. Children 6-10: \$7. Children 5 and under: free. Take out orders available please call 320-355-2459 for take out orders. Proceeds for the upkeep of our church.

♦ **Farming Lions 20th Annual Fish Fry** at Trappers Pub and Grub. Serving from 4:30 - 8:30 pm.

♦ **"All You Can Eat" Fish Fry** hosted by the Melrose American Legion. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Take outs are available. Your support is very much appreciated! All are welcome!

## April 6, Sunday

♦ **Matching Grant Breakfast** from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Elrosa. Adults—\$10, Students 6 - 11—\$5, 5 and under—Free. Sponsored by St. James - Elrosa Catholic United Financial.

♦ **Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale** hosted by St. Michael's Catholic United Financial. Serving from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm in the Spring Hill Church basement.

## April 6, Sunday Cont'd

♦ **Chicken & Ham Dinner** hosted by the Holidingford Knights of Columbus 9307 at the Pelican Lake Ballroom, St. Anna. Serving from 3:30 - 6:30 pm. Prices: Adults \$15, Children ages 5-12 \$10. Take outs available.

## April 11, Friday

♦ **Lenten Fish Fry** at Sts. Peter and Pauls Church in Foley. Serving from 4:00 - 6:30 pm. Adults: \$15. Children 6-10: \$7. Children 5 and under: free.

♦ **Smelt & Fish Fry** from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Upsala. Adults: \$18, Ages 5-12: \$8, 4 & under: Free. Cash raffle drawing at 7:30 pm. Dine-in or carry-out.

♦ **"All You Can Eat" Fish Fry** hosted by the Melrose American Legion. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Take outs are available. Your support is very much appreciated! All are welcome!

♦ **Fish Fry** at the Church of St. Mary, Alexandria, MN in the gymnasium. Serving from 4:30 - 7:00 pm.

## April 12, Saturday

♦ **Palm Braiding with Lois Maciej and Caramel Roll Sales Pre-Order** at St. Stephen Parish Hall in St. Stephen. Two classes from 12:30 - 2:30 pm or 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Pre-registration is required if you would like to make a Palm Fan so supplies can be ordered. An adult must accompany a child. **Last day to register for Palm Fan and order caramel rolls is Sunday, April 6.** Sign up call the St. Stephen Parish office at 320-251-1520.

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