



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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 18, 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.



An Alliance in Christ

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap him in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone’s opinion, for you do not regard a person’s status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?” Matthew 22:15-17

The Herodians were a political group who supported the rule of Herod Antipas and his dynasty. They favored collaboration with the Roman Empire and upheld the Herodian line as the legitimate rulers over Judea. For the sake of national stability, they promoted political compromise.

The Pharisees, on the other hand, were a religious sect devoted to the Law of Moses and the strict observance of Jewish customs, though often corrupted by legalism. They viewed Gentile rule as a threat to the sanctity of God’s covenant and wielded great influence over the people due to their outward piety and perceived religious authority.

Given their stark political and theological differences, the alliance formed between the Pharisees and the Herodians in their plot against Jesus is both startling and revealing. Despite their longstanding enmity, they found common ground in their mutual hatred of Jesus. The Pharisees sought to undermine His credibility among the people, while the Herodians hoped to present Him as a threat to Roman authority. Together, they constructed a trap, hoping Jesus would either speak against the Law or against Caesar—either of which would serve their purposes.

Hatred, envy, jealousy, pride, and self-righteousness can forge what appears to be unity—even among rivals—but it is a unity rooted in darkness, a counterfeit communion built on shared agendas rather than truth. It is the kind of alliance in which satan himself rejoices. Such false unity always unravels. Anything built on pride and sin cannot stand. Unity can only endure where truth, humility, and love prevail.

Continued on page 2

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ OCTOBER 19 - 25

ST. MARY - MELROSE

Tu	6:30 pm	Misa en español (Melrose) †Mary Banker
We	8:00 am	†Clarence Schaefer (Meire Grove)
Th	8:00 am	SJSA School Mass (Greenwald) †Deceased relatives of David & Mary Welle
*Fr	8:30 am	SM School Mass (Melrose) †Donna Kociemba
Sa	5:00 pm	†Victor & †Bertha Schoenberg †Adam & †Cecila Van Beck (Melrose)
Su	7:30 am	†Joyce, †Trista, & †Mary Yarke (Meire Grove)
*Su	9:30 am	For the People (Melrose)
Su	12:00 pm	Misa en Español (Melrose) †Maria Sanchez Perez

SACRED HEART - FREEPORT

Tu	8:15 am	†Dorothy Van Heel
We	8:15 am	SH School Mass †Lori Austing Anniversary
Th	8:15 am	†Kade Feldewerd Anniversary
Fr	8:15 am	†Shirley Steinhof
Su	8:00 am	†Cyrilla Michael

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - NEW MUNICH

Sa	4:00 pm	For the People
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ST. ROSE OF LIMA - ST. ROSA

Su	10:00 am	†Richard Austing, Sr.
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**Mass will be livestreamed. Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.*

REFLECTION Continued from Page 1



As we look around us, we see many such counterfeit alliances formed not by shared conviction in what is good and true, but by convenience in opposing what threatens personal influence or power. Individuals and groups unite to silence voices that speak uncomfortable truths. This is frequently seen in politics and culture, but is also tragically found even within the church. In every case, truth is twisted, motives are disguised, and God's pure and holy will becomes the object of attack. When such unholy alliances take root within the church, they do grave damage to our common mission to proclaim the Gospel in truth.

True Christian unity is not grounded in shared ambitions or human agendas, but in the Person of Jesus Christ. It is expressed through charity, humility, and fidelity to God's will. It is not built on calculation or convenience but on the self-emptying love of Christ, who calls us to die to self and live for Him. Our only agenda must be that God be glorified and His children drawn into His glory and sanctification. As members of His Body, the church, our unity must reflect the communion of the Most Holy Trinity, rooted in divine love, not in political expediency or pride.

Reflect today on the unity to which you are called. Do you form alliances based on personal ambition or on wholehearted worship of God? Reflect especially upon your involvement within the church and consider whether, even unintentionally, you act more like a politician or lobbyist than a true disciple of Christ. Commit yourself not to an agenda, but to Jesus. Worship Him, surrender your life to Him, and allow Him to unite you with other members of His Body, the church. Such unity is the only unity that endures all things and bears lasting fruit.

My Jesus and Head of Your Church, You call all Christians to form a spiritual bond that is forged through union with You. Grant me the grace of humility and charity, so that I may work within Your Church not with a personal agenda, but with mercy and truth. May I seek Your will alone and set aside my own ideas and preferences, choosing only You and Your eternal glory.

Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

ADORATION

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 - 2:00 pm

The Scriptures This Week

Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo	USA: Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs (Memorial) Eph 2:1-10 Lk 12:13-21
Tu	Weekday (USA: Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest) Eph 2:12-22 Lk 12:35-38
We	Weekday Eph 3:2-12 Lk 12:39-48
Th	Weekday (Saint John Paul II, Pope) Eph 3:14-21 Lk 12:49-53
Fr	Weekday (Saint John of Capistrano, Priest) Eph 4:1-6 Lk 12:54-59
Sa	Weekday (Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop; BVM) Eph 4:7-16 Lk 13:1-9
Next Sunday - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	Ex 22:20-26 1 Thes 1:5c-10
	Mt 22:34-40

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	\$9,836.00
Regular Adult Offering	4,684.00
Plate/Loose	4,245.00
Designated Funds	907.00

Spring Hill	\$390.00
Greenwald	\$280.00

St. Mary – Meire Grove

Total	\$2,786.50
Regular Adult Offering	1,415.00
Children's	0.50
Plate/Loose	163.00
Votives	48.00
Designated	1,160.00

St. Mary's - Melrose Calendar Raffle

10-11	\$25	Kelly O'Brien, Minneapolis
10-12	\$25	Judy & Mike Beuning, Melrose
10-13	\$25	Eli Rahn c/o Tim Rahn, Melrose
10-14	\$25	Nathan Klaphake, Maple Grove
10-15	\$25	Chase & Sam Viere, Freeport
10-16	\$25	Gail Schlicht, Melrose
10-17	\$25	Steve Hennen, Freeport

**Baptized in Christ...**

♥Brooks Robert Dingmann

♥Cameron Henry Gaebel

Matching Grant Potato Pancake Supper in Meire Grove is today, Sunday, October 18. Serving from 3:00 to 7:00 pm. Takeouts will be available.



St. Mary's of Melrose Christian Women will meet Tuesday, October 20, at 6:00 pm in the conference room at church.



Daily Raffle will again take place for the month of November. Raffle tickets have been given out to members of Catholic Financial and members of the community. Reminder the tickets need to be turned in by October 20 to either Mike Barten, Angie Barten or Greenwald Farm Center. If you would like to purchase more tickets or didn't receive any, please contact one of the above. All proceeds will be going to support SJSA Catholic School. Thank you in advance for your support.

Save the Dates: ♦Spring Hill Annual Worn-A-Bit Rummage and Bake Sale is set for Saturday, October 24 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm and Sunday, October 25 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (Sunday will be \$2 a bag) in St. Michael's church basement. Lunch available both days. ♦**St. Mary's Christian Women Dues Collection & Craft Sale** - November 14 & 15.

The October Staff Newsletter was sent out on the Evangelus app last week. 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.

The Outdoor Water for the church grounds and cemetery has been turned off for the season.

Fill the Truck: October 24 & 25 The St. Mary's Parish Life Committee is again asking our Catholic community to come together to help stock the Melrose Area Food Shelf! Before and after all Masses on October 24 & 25, look for a vehicle in the parking lot of each church where you can drop off your donations. Items especially needed include: **Food:** White rice, dried beans (pinto, red and black), canned vegetables (green beans, peas, corn, carrots, refried beans and pork & beans), cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, and pasta. **Personal Care:** Bar soap, body wash and shampoo. **Baby Care:** Diapers (sizes 1–6) and baby wipes. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference for families in need right here in our community. Let's fill those trucks and share God's love with our neighbors! Thank you for your generosity!

An All Souls Day Mass of Remembrance will be held at St. Mary's in Melrose on Monday, November 2 at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. During Mass, there will be a special time of remembrance for members of our 4 parishes who have died in the past year. Their names will be read and their photos will be shown on the screens. Refreshments will be served following Mass.

Readings on the Screens Fr. Mitchell recently met with Bishop Patrick and was given permission to project bilingual scripture readings on the screens at St. Mary's because of our diverse population.

Ministry Highlights will be provided leading up to our Fall Stewardship Appeal. For more information on these and other ministries, please contact Sarah Woeste at 320-256-9516. **Sacristan-** Sacristans prepare and care for the various liturgical signs and symbols used during the sacraments: holy water, holy oils, incense, candles, and the gifts of bread and wine. Most often, they prepare for daily and weekend Masses by setting up the gifts of bread and wine, the vessels used for communion, the books and any other items needed during Mass. Sacristans arrive about 30 minutes before Mass and stay after Mass to put the supplies away. People interested in this ministry will shadow a current sacristan to learn the ministry. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** assist the priest and deacon with distributing the Body and Blood of Christ to the assembly at Mass. Their ministry calls them to be bearers of Christ for others and to bring Christ, in the Body and Blood, to those who wish to receive. Eucharistic Ministers can also bring communion to those who cannot come to Mass to receive. Additional Eucharistic Ministers are always welcome and needed.

Accompanist The Saturday 5:00 pm Mass at St. Mary's is in need of an accompanist once or twice a month. If you have keyboard or guitar skills, we can use your help. Contact Sarah Woeste for more details at 320-256-9516.

October is Respect Life Month Help us build a culture of life by supporting Options for Women in Sauk Centre, a faith-based pregnancy resource center that offers hope, compassion, education, and practical assistance to women facing unexpected pregnancies. Bassinets will be located at St. Mary's and St. John's churches throughout October to collect the following items: •New or gently used clothing, sizes 3 mo. - 4T, •Enfamil formula, •Diapers, especially sizes 5 and 6, •Baby healthcare items, •Pack 'n Plays, •New car seats. Monetary donations are also welcome. Envelopes will be available near the bassinets. Thank you for helping mothers and babies in our community!

TRI-PARISH NEWS:

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

●**All Souls' Remembrance** St. John's Abbey has invited our parishes to submit names of deceased loved ones as part of their All Souls' Remembrance ministry. In the entry of our parishes, there is a sign-up sheet to add deceased loved ones' names. We will collect these names through the month of October and submit them to St. John's for them to pray for these individuals during the month of November.

●**Food Shelf Collection** The Tri-Parish Youth will NOT be trick or treating for the food shelf this year, however, there will be totes set up in the churches for you to drop off food donations. If you prefer to make cash donations, they can be dropped off at the Tri-Parish Office or in the Sunday collection. Please drop off all donations by Saturday, October 31. Thank you for supporting this cause.

●**November Ministry Schedule** was mailed or emailed to all ministers. It is also available on the Tri-Parish website. If you are unable to fulfill your ministry, please find a replacement. Thank you for sharing your time and talent with our parish.

●**Volunteers Needed:** We are seeking volunteers to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Immaculate Conception, Sacred Heart, and St. Rose of Lima. This ministry is a meaningful opportunity to assist the priest in distributing Holy Communion during Mass. Training for this ministry will occur later this year. If you would like to learn more, please contact the Tri-Parish office at 320-836-2143. Thank you for prayerfully considering this important service to our parish community

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

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offerings ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Total	\$4,463.46
Regular Adult Offering	3,766.46
Plate	372.00
Votive	205.00
School Support	20.00
Building Maintenance	100.00

Parish Events

Mo 10/19	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
Tu 10/20	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
We 10/21	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 1-6
We 10/21	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 7-10
Fr 10/23	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr 10/23	9:00 am	Adoration
Fr 10/23	4:00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Sa 10/24	7:00 am	Wedding Prep/Pictures
Sa 10/24	1:00 pm	Carlson/Eiynnek Wedding

Welcome to our Parish... We welcome Ethan & Emily Harren to our parish.



Wedding... Congratulations to **Mitchell & Emily (Scherping) Brown**, who were married at Sacred Heart on Saturday, October 10. May God bless you with many years of happiness together.

Sponsor a Votive Candle The parish is looking for someone to sponsor the military remembrance candle by the votive stand. There are also other candles available to be sponsored for the upcoming months. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.

Thank You Sacred Heart Catholic United Financial #101 appreciates and thanks everyone who came to support the Pancake/Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, October 11. It was very successful, and all Breakfast and Raffle Proceeds as well as the \$2,000 Matching Fund from Catholic United will be donated to Sacred Heart School. Raffle Winners were:

\$100 Cash – Kirby Wensmann (Melrose)
\$50 Coborns Card – Bryan Scherping (Freeport)
\$25 D'Lish Card – Barb Blenker (Albany)
\$25 Charlie's Card – Loren Wiechman (St. Rose)
\$50 Walmart Card – Jackie & Austin Peterson (Litchfield)

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

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offerings ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Total	\$4,551.92
Regular Adult Offering	3,076.92
Plate	350.00
Cash Bazaar	300.00
Building/Maintenance	825.00

Parish Events

Su 10/18	11:00 am	Baptism
Mo 10/19	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
Tu 10/20	9:00 am	Annual Church Cleaning
We 10/21	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Gr 1-6 – FR
We 10/21	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Gr 7-10 – FR
We 10/21	7:00 pm	Harvest Supper & Winter Raffle Meeting
Th 10/22	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Sa 10/24	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions



Annual Church Cleaning will be on Tuesday, October 20, beginning at 9:00 am. Lists are available indicating what needs to be done. Please bring a bucket and rags. Cleaning supplies will be provided. Lunch and refreshments will be served. Those families that are unable to help clean are asked to donate \$10 toward the cost of lunch and cleaning supplies. Donations can be dropped off in the church basement, collection basket, or Tri-Parish Office. Thank you for helping maintain our beautiful church. We welcome guys and gals. Many hands make for less hard work.

St. Ann's Christian Women Committee

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

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offerings ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,869.08
Regular Adult Offering	1,451.08
Plate	328.00
Votive	90.00

Parish Events

Mo 10/19	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
Tu 10/20	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
We 10/21	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Gr 1-6 – FR
We 10/21	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Gr 7-10 – FR
Fr 10/23	7:30 pm	Rosary
Sa 10/24		Catholic United Financial Breakfast Setup
Su 10/25	8:30 am	Catholic United Financial Breakfast

Festival News... Thank you to all who came and supported the St. Rose of Lima Festival. Overall, the festival brought in \$79,236.11. Mark your calendar for next year's festival, September 5, 2027.

FAITH FORMATION**Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:**Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

•**Grades 1-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, October 21, at 6:00 pm. All classes will meet in their designated classrooms in the Tri-Parish Office. **Reminder** that parents need to come into the office and pick up their children from the classroom.

•**Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, October 21, at 7:05 pm.

Service Project:

•**Card Making** will be on Wednesday, November 4, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Sacred Heart Church Basement. Students in grades 6-12 will be making Christmas cards. Permission slips are available on the website, www.sacredheartfreeport.org. Deadline is Wednesday, October 28.

YOUTH MINISTRY**Tri-Parish Youth Ministry:**Contact Information: youthministry@catholic-centered.org

•**Youth Night** Monday, October 19 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Sacred Heart School Gym in Freeport! Open to grades 9-12 from any parish!

•**Youth Night at Fall Farm Fest** Anyone in grades 9-12 are invited for a fun night at the Van Beck Ranch on Monday, October 26 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Cost is \$10 and covers festivities, one beverage, and one snack. Additional items will be available for purchase. Please bring cash if interested. To reserve your spot or for any questions, contact Kasia at youthministry@catholic-centered.org or 218-821-3269 prior to October 26. Forms are available on the Tri Parish website and in each of the churches and are due on or before October 26.

•**St. Cloud Diocese Apostle Games Grades 9-12:** Sunday, October 25. This year, the St. Cloud Diocese is excited to announce the exciting, competitive, and enriching Apostle Games coming to our very own St. Cloud State University! The day will be filled with prayer, food, games, and Mass. We invite and encourage all our youth to embark on this fun-filled day celebrating National Youth Day. If interested, please pick up an interest form at the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport or in the back of the church in Freeport, New Munich, or St. Rose. For more information, contact Alexandra at 320-836-2143 or faithformation@catholic-centered.org.



Breakfast Please join us on Sunday, October 25, from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm in the church basement. We will be serving pancakes with toppings, eggs, sausage, hashbrowns, fruit, and beverages. Everyone is welcome! Freewill offering.

Christian Women News:

•**Bake Sale!** The Christian Women will be hosting a bake sale during the Catholic United Financial Breakfast Sunday, October 25. The Christian Women are asked to bring baked goods and drop off Saturday evening or by 8:30 am Sunday. Thank you!

•**Winter Meeting and Christmas Party** will be Tuesday, December 8, at 7:00 pm. Join us for a fun get together! \$15 gift exchange. All women of the parish 19 and older are invited!

FAITH FORMATION**Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:**Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

•**Next Class:** Wednesday, October 21, for grades 1, 3-12.

•**The Phone at the Parish Office** does not receive text messages. Please only call 320-256-950. Thank you.

YOUTH MINISTRY**St. Mary's Youth Ministry:**Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

•**Support Our Youth Ministry!** Your generosity helps provide meaningful faith experiences for our youth! Donations to St. Mary's Youth Ministry support Castaway, summer camp, retreats, and other activities that help our young people grow closer to Christ. The projected cost of all activities is over \$14,000. Any contribution, large or small, would defray the cost for the youth as well as the parish and would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate, please place your gift in an envelope labeled "St. Mary's Youth Ministry." For questions, please contact Mark Kociemba. Thank you for investing in the faith of our youth!

•**Calling All 6th-8th Graders!** Join us for Youth Group on Wednesday, October 28, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at St. Mary's Gym! Come ready for an evening of fun, faith, and fellowship as we learn and give thanks for God's many blessings. All students in grades 6-8 throughout the ACC are invited, and parents are welcome to attend!

•**Summer Camp Is Coming—Don't Miss Out!** Students currently in grades 5-8 are invited to join Youth Ministry for summer camp at Camp Cana in Missouri! Space is limited to 15 youth and 2 adult chaperones. If interested, please contact Mark Kociemba.

•**Thank You, Roadside Clean-Up Volunteers!** A big thank-you to everyone who helped with Saturday's roadside clean-up! Your willingness to care for God's creation and help keep our roadways clean is truly appreciated. Special thanks to Meire Grove Gas and Grocery for generously providing ice cream for our volunteers. It was a delicious way to celebrate a job well done!

•**BINGO Fundraiser—Thank You!** Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, or attended our BINGO fundraiser! Your generosity and support help provide opportunities for our youth to grow in faith and closer to Christ. A special thank-you to Denise Kociemba, Cindy Hemmesch, Elisha Seanger, Kurt and Heidi Meyer, and our BINGO caller, Pam Pundsack, for helping make the event a success. We are grateful to everyone who contributed their time and talents!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



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

www.smsmelrosemn.org

School Phone: 320-256-4257



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 Kristi Zimmer

www.sjsaschool.org

School Phone: 320-987-3133

♥**Thank you** to everyone who donated to our Care-A-Thon. Our goal this year is \$18,000. The fundraiser involved students participating in a service project - cleaning gravestones in each of the parishes of our Tri-Parish community and then holding a prayer service to pray for requests we received from friends, family, parishioners, etc. A group also visited Tree of Life Assisted Living in New Munich.

Donations are still being accepted.

♥The Sacred Heart Caring Coats Drive began on Monday, October 5. If you have any new or gently used coats, hats, or mittens that you are not using anymore, we will gladly take your donations and get them to those in need.

♥**Thank you** to everyone that came to support Sacred Heart School at the Catholic United Financial Matching Grant Breakfast on Sunday, October 11. We had a great turnout! We appreciate your support.

♥**MEA Break** was on Thursday, October 15 and Friday, October 16.

♥**SHS will have an accreditation team** here the week of October 19. We are in the process of getting accredited through WCEA.

Looking Ahead:

♥The **Fire Department** will visit SHS on Tuesday, October 20.

♥The **3rd and 4th graders** will go on a field trip to Vintage Village on Thursday, October 29.

♥Our **Vocabulary Parade** will be on Friday, October 30 at 1:30 pm.

♦**SMS families will sell Harry's Pizzas** now through Wednesday, October 21. Pepperoni, sausage, cheese, 4 meat, chicken bacon ranch, breakfast, and chicken alfredo - \$12 a pizza. Contact any SMS family, the school at 320-256-4257, or stop in the church office. The delivery date is Thursday, November 5, in the school gym.

♦**The Catholic Church recognizes October as Mission Month and the Month of the Rosary.** St. Mary's School children will pray the World Mission Rosary at Church on Wednesday, October 21, at 1:00 pm. All are welcome to join us as a community for this prayer.

♦St. Mary's School will celebrate **Grandparents Day** on Friday, October 23. Kindergarten through 6th grade will begin the day with Mass at church at 8:30 am, followed by a program at 10:15 am with preschool-6th grade at church, and ending the day with lunch at school.

♦**Thank you** to Magnifi Financial for volunteering at St. Mary's School on Monday, October 12. We appreciated their help preparing faith bags to hand out once a month to little ones at church, preparing for Grandparents Day, and putting together classroom projects.

♦**SJSA fifth and sixth grade students** helped the Greenwald Lions with their roadside/ditch clean-up on Wednesday, October 7. Thank you to Woody's and the Lions for treating the students to pizza and pop afterwards.

♦**Thank you** to the members of Magnifi Financial for volunteering their time at SJSA on Monday, October 12, and dedicating a day full of service to our local communities. We are grateful for your help laminating and cutting materials for our teachers and staff.

♦**SJSA School Board** meets Tuesday, October 20, at 7:30 pm in the school basement.

♦**Softener Salt Sale pick-up** will be Thursday, October 29, at the Greenwald Elevator. Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser!



Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners!

10/11	\$25	Madison Sand - Holdingford
10/12	\$25	Steve & Bonita Scholz - Melrose
10/13	\$25	Judy Becker - Albany
10/14	\$25	Keaton LeClaire - Crystal
10/15	\$25	Jerry & Deb Meyer - Rogers
10/16	\$25	Nancy Roske - Grey Eagle
10/17	\$25	Derek Iverson - Avon

Prayer Requests...

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

Banns of Matrimony:

III Joran Carlson♥Dominic Eiyneck, 10/24 - FR

For the Sick: Pat Bushman, Carol, Bethany Downs, Cali Dickhoff, 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

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)
 Saturday: 4:30 pm

St. Mary – Meire Grove

Monday: 7:00 am

Greenwald

Thursday: 7:40 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

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS

For Sale: Electric piano \$50 OBO. If interested, please contact Amy at 320-836-2143.



Wreaths, Centerpieces, and Poinsettias...

There's still time to support the Tri-Parish Youth Group Fundraiser. Poinsettias, wreaths, sprays, centerpieces, and tabletop trees are still available. Call the Tri-Parish Office at 320-836-2143 if interested or if you have any questions.

This is a great way to support the Tri-Parish Youth Group and enjoy beautiful Christmas décor.

Theology on Draft "Beyond Comparison: Who You Are Before the World Tells You." The first Theology on Draft is with Alexis Torres. Young adults (ages 18-39) are invited to these evenings to learn and share faith, fellowship, food and refreshments. Appetizers will be served, and participants may purchase refreshments.

• **Tuesday, November 3:** 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Isabella Room at the Alexandria Hotel and Conference Center

• **Thursday, November 12:** 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Great River Bowl

Healing the Whole Person: The Eight-Part Group 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). Registration is \$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.



Bishop's Annual Appeal - Hearts of Mercy:

The Diocesan TV Mass has been a lifeline for the homebound. Because of your generosity, the diocese broadcasts TV Mass weekly in 60 counties.

It also is sent to nursing homes and available to countless others online. Other ministries of the Appeal support of faith formation, family life, our Catholic schools, multicultural ministries, evangelization, and vocational discernment. Will you help keep these ministries strong? Visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

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 Charlene Theis at 320-733-0731.



Prayer for Life A Prayer for Life to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, you came that we might have life—and have it in abundance. Together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you form us in our mothers' wombs and call us to love you for all eternity. As your most precious gift of human life is attacked, draw us ever closer to your Real Presence in the Eucharist. Dispel the darkness of the culture of death, for you are the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. By the power of your Eucharistic Presence, help us to defend the life of every human person at every stage. Transform our hearts to protect and cherish all whose lives are most vulnerable. For you are God. forever and ever. Amen.

Stewardship as a Way of Life: "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

- Matthew 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

October 1-31

♦ **6th Annual Online Auction** hosted by the St. Cloud Mission's Office. The auction will run from October 1 at 12:00 pm until October 31 at 12:00 pm. We invite you to support us by visiting scmo.betterworld.org/auctions/mission-month-auction-2026 to bid on items. Thank you for your continued support!

October 18, Sunday

♦ **Quilt/Ham Bingo** at St. Elizabeth Church in Foley. Bingo starts at 1:00 pm. \$10 per card for 20 games. 2 \$100 blackout games at \$2 per card per blackout game.

♦ **All You Care to Eat Breakfast** at St. Anthony Parish Center in St. Cloud. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Adults \$12. Grades 7-12 \$6 and PreK-6 are free.

October 23, 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 are available. Your support is very much appreciated!

October 24-25, Saturday-Sunday

♦ **Worn-A-Bit Rummage & Bake Sale** at St. Michael's Church Basement, Spring Hill. Saturday from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm and Sunday from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Sunday will be \$2 a bag. Lunch is available both days.

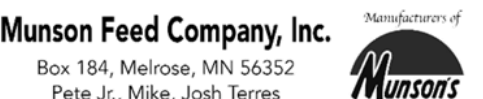
October 25, Sunday

♦ **5th Annual Fall Breakfast and Meat Raffle** hosted by the American Legion and Auxiliary Post 101. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 for adults, \$12 at the door. Children 6-12 \$5. Children 5 and under are free. A portion of the proceeds will go to Melrose Archery & Shooting Sports.

♦ **St. Rose Catholic Unite Financial Breakfast** serving from 8:30 am until 12:00 pm in the St. Rose of Lima church basement. Freewill offering. Everyone is welcome.

♦ **Fall Sausage Supper** at St. Francis de Sales Parish Center, Belgrade. Serving from 2:30 - 6:30 pm. Adults \$12. Children 5-12 \$6. Children four and under are free.

♦ **Quilt Bingo & Raffle** at Church of St. Anthony, St. Cloud. Doors open at 4:00 pm. Bingo starts at 5:30 pm. Handmade quilt and cash prizes.

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