



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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 6, 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.

The Joy of



RECONCILIATION

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." Matthew 18:15

When someone sins against us, especially in a grievous way, anger and condemnation can quickly arise as strong temptations. Our natural sense of justice often takes over, and we may find ourselves rationalizing a response rooted in judgment rather than compassion. In today's Gospel, however, Jesus offers the much better path—to seek reconciliation, not division. The ultimate goal is to win the sinner back to God and restore the bond of communion.

Sin touches every human relationship, with the sole exception of the one shared between Jesus and His Blessed Mother. Their mutual and perfect charity rendered sin and division entirely absent from their union. What a sublime and singular gift they shared!

But we are not perfect. Even the most loving and holy relationships are affected by human weakness, and sin inevitably creeps in. We sin against others, and others sin against us. Sometimes the sin is deliberate and deeply wounding. Other times, it stems from weakness or the absence of fully formed virtue. Regardless of its source, every sin inflicts harm and weakens the communion we are called to share and deeply desire.

In today's Gospel, while Jesus appears to be addressing serious sin that severs a person from sanctifying grace—mortal sin—the same principles apply to all offenses, even venial sins and spiritual imperfections. The Christian response to sin must always be grounded in mercy. Whether we are correcting or being corrected, the goal must always be to heal, to restore, and to deepen our unity in Christ.

Continued on page 5

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ SEPTEMBER 7 - 13

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Tu 6:30 pm **Misa en español (Melrose)**
†Wilfred "Wif" Finken

We 8:00 am Outdoor Mass @ Grotto
†Maureen Luetmer (Meire Grove)

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
†Lawrence Hortsch (Greenwald)

*Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
†Rick Klaphake (Melrose)

Sa 5:00 pm †Clarence Schaefer (Meire Grove)

*Su 9:00 am For the People (Melrose)

Su 11:30 am **Misa en Español (Melrose)**
†Jose Luis Montañez Becerra

*Mass will be livestreamed.

Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

SACRED HEART - Freeport

Tu 10:00 am **SH School Mass**
†Robert Stoermann

We 8:15 am †Deceased/Living St. Rose of Lima
Catholic United Financial Members

Th 8:15 am †Deceased/Living Members of
Catholic Order of Foresters St. Leo Court

Fr 8:15 am †Deceased Members of the Zwack Family

Su 8:00 am †Bernie Laing

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Sa 4:00 pm For the People

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Su 10:00 am †Deceased Members of Roger &
Mary Ann Engelmeyer Family

St. Mary - Melrose

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

Sacred Heart - Freeport

Fridays, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Do You Have Questions About the Catholic Faith? Are

you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Have you been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic? The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is the Catholic Church's way of welcoming new members. It can also be the path to prepare for First Eucharist and/or Confirmation for baptized Catholics. OCIA is much more than a program. It is a learning and loving process in which conversion of the heart brings one to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact one of the parish offices or Deacon Ernie Kociemba at kociemba@meltel.net or call 320-248-5124 by Monday, September 21.

Parish Office Closure The Parish Offices in Melrose and Freeport will be closed on Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.

That Man Is You! Becoming a Man After God's Own Heart

That Man is You! is an interactive men's program that combines the latest findings of modern science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop authentic male leaders capable of transforming themselves, their families and greater society. Join us for food, fellowship, and faith every Saturday starting Saturday, September 12 at St. Mary's - Melrose from 6:00-7:30 am. All men are welcome. Register online at <https://programs.paradisusdei.org/join/07CC24>. Contact Bob Arceneau with any questions at 320-267-2616 or barcneau@outlook.com.

She Shall Be Called Woman is a transformative journey designed to meet the deepest longings of the feminine heart. Our program is a sanctuary for women seeking to be truly seen, known, and loved, as they grow in their relationship with the Lord. Through vibrant conversations, authentic speakers, and enriching prayer experiences, we equip you with the tools to embark on a profound spiritual journey. Join us for food, fellowship, and faith on Sunday evenings starting Sunday, September 27 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at St. Mary's Church. All women from all parishes are welcome! Learn more at www.SheShallBeCalledWoman.com.



Do You Want to Share Your Catholic Faith with Others? The One in Faith ACC is seeking out individuals who would like to assist with the OCIA program. We are looking for catechists, sponsors, mentors, etc. If you are interested in helping with this program, please contact one of the parish offices or Deacon Ernie Kociemba at kociemba@meltel.net or call 320-248-5124.

Parish News:

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

• **Parish Fiscal Year Financial Reports** for July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 are in the kiosk or the back of the church for anyone who wants to view. On the back of the financial report are the parish statistics that are sent to the diocese annually giving the number of Catholics in the parish. If you have any questions, please contact Amy at 320-836-2143.

• **Living the Promise Grant** Thank you to the Living the Promise campaign for their grant payments towards Catholic Education as follows:

Sacred Heart:

- \$2,300 Sacred Heart School
- \$440 Adult Faith Formation
- \$600 Youth Faith Formation

Immaculate Conception:

- \$440 Adult Faith Formation
- \$600 Youth Faith Formation

St. Rose of Lima:

- \$440 Adult Faith Formation
- \$600 Youth Faith Formation

• **St. Cloud Novena Booklets** Please return them to the church after you are finished with them. Thank you. The Feast of St. Cloud is Monday, September 7.

• **Faith Formation Teachers Needed** We are in need of faith formation teachers for some of our elementary, Jr High, and High School classes. If we do not have enough catechists, we may not be able to offer class. If you are passionate about our youth knowing Jesus and wanting vocations to increase in our Diocese, please reach out to Alexandra and Father Dan about becoming a Catechist. Anyone in 11th and 12th grade, as well as adults, are invited and encouraged to help out. You may teach in pairs as well.

Employment Opportunity...

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

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

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.....	\$9,644.32
Regular Adult Offering	8,069.00
Plate/Loose	935.00
Designated Funds	640.32

Spring Hill	\$390.00
Greenwald	\$350.00

St. Mary - Meire Grove

Total	\$1,637.60
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,070.00
Children's	.50
Plate/Loose	218.35
Votives	48.75
Maintenance Fund	300.00

St. Mary's - Meire Grove Liturgical Ministries
Saturday, September 12 - 5:00 pm

(S) Faith Meyer & Grace Meyer

(L) Kurt Meyer

(U) Tim Meyer & Andrew Primus

(GB) Marvin & Karen Schneider

(EM) Karl Meyer & Sue Meyer

(HK - September) *Abby Zenzen, Janice Funk, Darlene Imdieke, Joni Imdieke, & Sharon Imdieke

St. Mary's - Melrose Calendar Raffle

08-30	\$25	Chuck Schlicht, Melrose
08-31	\$25	Lyle & Sharon Barthel, Melrose
09-01	\$25	Kathy Klasen, Melrose
09-02	\$25	Sara & Matt Heinen, Melrose
09-03	\$25	Chuck Kraker, Melrose
09-04	\$25	Alvin Schneider, Melrose
09-05	\$25	Glen & Ann Schwieters, Melrose



The Daily Mass in Meire Grove on Wednesday, September 9, will be outdoors by the grotto. Everyone is invited!

Thank You to everyone who helped with Cemetery Cleanup at St. Mary's! Your help with this important project was greatly appreciated.

Spirituality Group meets every Tuesday from 10:00 to 11:00 am at the St. Mary's parish meeting room. All are welcome! Each week begins with a prayer. A group discussion stems from the book that is being read. No registration necessary. Come whenever you can!

Come Spend Time with Jesus Join Fr. Mitchell every Saturday at 8:00 am for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Step away from the busyness of life, rest in Christ's presence, and bring Him your joys, worries, and needs. Whether you stay for a few minutes or the full hour, come and experience the peace found in His presence. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available most Saturdays.



Youth Choir All youth grades 6-12 are invited to sing with the Youth Choir next Sunday for the 9:00 am Mass. Please arrive by 8:15 am if you can join us. All music is provided. Questions contact the office.

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

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

Total.....	\$4,566.07
Regular Adult Offering	4,083.46
Plate	378.50
Votive	104.11

Parish Events

Mo	09/07	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
We	09/09	6:00 pm	Parent Meeting & Safe Environment for Grades 1-6
We	09/09	7:00 pm	Parent Meeting & Safe Environment for Grades 7-10
We	09/09	7:00 pm	Confirmation Class
Fr	09/11	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	09/11	9:00 am	Adoration
Su	09/13	9:00 am	Catholic United Financial Meeting

May They Rest in Peace... Our parish offers prayers and sympathy to the families of:

†**Dolores Notch**, who passed away Monday, August 24. Her funeral was celebrated here on Saturday, August 29.

†**Dorothy Van Heel**, who passed away on Monday, August 24. Her funeral will be celebrated here on Saturday, September 12 at 11:30 am. Visitation for Dorothy will be held at the church from 10:00 am to 11:30 am prior to Mass.

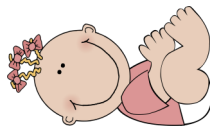
Welcome to our Parish... We welcome Allen & Calliena Kociemba, and their children, Tatum, Cayden, and Deluca, to our parish.



Quarterly Meeting of Sacred Heart Catholic United Financial #101 will be held on Sunday, September 13 following the 8:00 am Mass. Coffee and Rolls will be served. All members are welcome - we would love to have more members attending to help us keep Council #101 alive and vibrant. The meetings are usually short - typically less than an hour.

Children's Liturgy is offered during most Sunday Masses throughout the year. Children, pre-k through those preparing for First Holy Communion, are invited to participate in Children's Liturgy. For those who have received the Sacrament of the Eucharist, we ask that they remain and are active participants in the Mass.

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!



Expecting a Baby or planning for baptism? Choosing their Godparent(s) is important. According to the 1983 Code of Canon Law, those who serve as Godparents must be at least 16 years of age; must have received First Eucharist and Confirmation; must be a practicing Catholic, and may not be the parent of the person being Baptized. A person to be baptized needs only one Godparent though traditionally there are two: one man and one woman. If you have any questions, please talk to Fr. Mitchell or contact the parish office!

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,866.92
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,253.92
Plate	453.00
Building/Maintenance	130.00
Thanksgiving	30.00

Parish Events

Mo 09/07 6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
We 09/09 6:00 pm	Parent Meeting & Safe Environment Gr. 1-6 - FR
We 09/09 7:00 pm	Parent Meeting & Safe Environment Gr. 7-10 - FR
We 09/09 7:00 pm	Confirmation Class - FR
We 09/09 7:00 pm	Winter Raffle & Harvest Supper
Sa 09/12 3:30 pm	Individual Confessions



God's Housekeepers for the month of September: *Jackie Massmann, Juliana Boecker, Sheila Humbert, Lisa Maus, and Joyce Schultzenberg. 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.

Save the Date: Sunday, September 27 for the Annual "Matching Fund Breakfast," Immaculate Conception Church basement, Catholic Order of Foresters Court, St. Leo Court # 786 of New Munich.

**Prayer Requests...**

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

Banns of Matrimony:

- I Gwen Welle♥Joey Gomez, 9/26 - FR
- I Melissa George♥Dustin Gregory, 9/26 - M
- II Kelsey Fleischacker♥Kolby Becker, 9/19 - SR
- III Mikenzie Gessell♥Christopher Meyer, 9/12 - M

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

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$3,461.09
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,984.08
Plate	467.01
Assumption Envelope	10.00

Parish Events

Su 09/06 10:00 am	Parish Festival
Mo 09/07 6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
We 09/09 6:00 pm	Parent Meeting & Safe Environment Gr. 1-6 - FR
We 09/09 7:00 pm	Parent Meeting & Safe Environment Gr. 7-10 - FR
We 09/09 7:00 pm	Confirmation Class - FR
Fr 09/11 7:30 pm	Rosary
Su 09/13 11:00 am	Catholic United Financial Mtg.

Baptized in Christ... We welcome **Henry Jeremy Heinen**, the son of Jeremy & Samantha Heinen, to our parish. Henry Jeremy was baptized on Sunday, August 30.

Congratulations to Grant & Madison (Westerman) Revermann who were married at St. Rose of Lima on Saturday, August 29. May God bless you with many years of happiness together.

Christian Women Tea Party! Come and enjoy a morning of fellowship. Hear a local young women's conversion story while enjoying tea, coffee and pastries. Saturday, September 12, from 9:00-11:00 am at the MillCreek Barn 25772 County Road 17, Freeport. Call or text Sarah to reserve a spot at 320-333-0721. Hope to see you there!



God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:19

St. Mary's News
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Hospitality... On Sunday, September 13 we will NOT be serving cookies and refreshments after Mass, BUT please join us from 4:00 to 7:00 pm for the *Fall Picnic & Golden Ladle Soup Cook-Off*. There will be food (soups, sandwiches, cookies, and refreshments), music, games, and fellowship. Free will offerings go to support the Melrose Food Shelf. Hope to see you ALL there!

**Matching Grant Breakfast**

Next Sunday, September 13 - Matching Grant Breakfast at the Spring Hill Church Basement serving 9:00 am - 12:30 pm.

Have You Moved or changed your phone number recently? Don't forget to contact the parish office with updates so you continue to get information that is sent out!

Ministry Schedules The October - November Liturgical Ministry Schedules for St. Mary's - Meire Grove will be created this week. If you would like to start helping in Meire Grove, please contact Sarah Woeste in the office. Current ministers should enter any "can't serve dates" into Ministry Scheduler Pro by Tuesday, September 8.



Rosary Rally at 10:00 am, Saturday, September 12 in Spring Hill at the church. All are welcome.

Meire Grove Finance Council Openings

Nominations for two positions on the St. John's Finance Council will take place next Saturday, September 12 at the 5:00 pm Mass at St. John's in Meire Grove. Parishioners will be able to nominate individuals they feel would be good candidates for these two positions. Each position is for a three-year term. One position is an open position, and the other position is for the term of Karen Meyer. Karen has served two consecutive terms and is not eligible for renomination. The election for these two positions is scheduled to be held on Saturday, September 26.

Save the Date! The Potato Pancake Supper in Meire Grove will be Sunday, October 18. Serving from 3:00 to 7:00 pm. Takeouts will be available.

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **The First Night of Faith Formation** will be Wednesday, September 9. Parents are required to attend the parent meeting in the Nave of the Church, and students will go off to their classroom to complete their Safe Environment course. Grades 1-6 will be from 6:00-7:00 pm, and Grades 7-10 will be from 7:00-8:00 pm.
- **11th Grade Confirmation Class:** Next class with Father Dan is Wednesday, September 9 at 7:00 pm in the dining room of the Parish office. Confirmation Mass will be on Sunday, October 4, at 1:00 pm.
- **Beginning of Year Mass for Faith Formation** will be Wednesday, September 16 from 7:00-8:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church for all grades 1-11. Parents are highly encouraged to join their child! Students must check in with their Catechist when they arrive at Mass. If your child comes to Mass without their parent, they are required to sit with their Catechist. If your child comes to Mass with their parent, they may sit with their parent elsewhere if they choose. If you are unable to join your child, but know of a parent who will be at Mass that you are ok with your child sitting with, please email Director of Faith Formation, Alexandra, providing this permission at faithformation@catholic-centered.org.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.org

- **First Faith Formation Classes** will be held Wednesday, September 9 at St. Mary's Catholic School. Grades 1, 3-5 will be from 6:00-7:00 pm, and grades 6-12 will be from 7:15-8:30 pm. 11th grade confirmation will meet at the church from 7:15-8:30 pm.
- **First Sacraments** will be held from 10:00-11:15 am starting on Sunday, September 13 at St. Mary Church. If you have questions about Faith Formation, please let Mark Kociemba know at faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com or at 320-256-9501.
- **We are Looking for about 5 Adults and 5 Youth** to help with the Fall Festival on Sunday, September 13. If you are interested, please let Mark Kociemba know.
- **Faith Formation Registration** It is not too late to turn in your Faith Formation registration forms. We want to see all of our youth participating in faith formation. Forms can be found on the Faith Formation table by the office or in the kiosks in the church. They can also be found on the website or by emailing Mark Kociemba or calling 320-256-9501.
- **Parent & Youth Advisory Committee/Board** If you would like to be part of the parent advisory committee or the youth advisory board for faith formation or youth ministry, please contact Mark Kociemba.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Tri-Parish Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

youthministry@catholic-centered.org

- **Youth Night** Monday, September 7 at 6:30 pm in the Sacred Heart School Gym! Students in grades 9-12 are invited to join us!

St. Mary's Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **First Youth Group Meeting** on Sunday, September 13 from 10:00-11:15 am at St. Mary's School for Youth in grades 6 - 12. Please let Mark Kociemba know if you are interested in being part of the Youth Group by emailing faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com or calling 320-256-9501.

The Joy of



RECONCILIATION

cont.'d from pg 1

To begin applying these spiritual principles, call to mind those toward whom you may harbor resentment. Start with your family, since familial bonds—due to their natural closeness—are especially vulnerable to sin. Resentment born of sin is often present in close relationships. While some wounds may have caused deep fractures, even the most loving bonds can suffer subtle injuries. Prayerfully examine these relationships in your life.

If the wounds are deep and hostilities strong, the path forward is usually clear: Seek to win over your brother, sister, parent, or spouse. And if you are the one who has caused the wound, then humbly acknowledge your sin without excuses. That is always the better path. Always.

To aid this process, it is helpful to recognize a hidden dynamic: Holding onto resentment or anger can bring a certain emotional satisfaction. Though it may seem surprising, this is often the case. Anger energizes the emotions and creates a charged feeling that, while disordered, can feel gratifying—like a drug that fuels addiction.

The first step is to recognize this disordered emotional pattern for what it is. The next step is to realize that a healed and reconciled relationship offers a deeper and more lasting fulfillment that is far superior to the fleeting satisfaction of resentment or hostility. Winning over another—or being won over by one we have wronged—is profoundly rewarding. It transcends emotion and enters the realm of grace, producing true peace and spiritual joy.

Reflect today on the first step of reconciliation outlined by Jesus in the Gospel: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone." Take sin seriously. Acknowledge its presence in your relationships, especially the close ones. See yourself both as one who is sinned against and as one who sins. Identify the offenses that diminish love. Confront those sins with courage and humility. Reject the false comfort of resentment, and seek instead the true consolation that comes from unity and charity. This is the path that leads to a share in the holy love between Jesus and His Blessed Mother—a love they desire us to know and live.

Lord of perfect mercy, Your Sacred Heart burns with a deep desire to win us back to Yourself—fully reconciled and united in love. I repent of my sins before You, and I pray that Your love, living within me, may become a wellspring of mercy for others. I forgive all who have sinned against me, and I repent of the sins I have inflicted upon others. Restore every relationship in my life, Lord, and endow them with the same pure and holy love You shared with Your Blessed Mother.
Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

Stewardship as a Way of Life:

"You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel..."

Ezekiel 33:7

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required? Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts and to give back with increase. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts, especially the one that means the most to us.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Amy Van Beck
SJS 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
SJS BOARD:
 Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch,
 Jake Primus, Becky Hukriede,
 Lindsey Gruber, and Greta Rademacher
 Phone: 320-256-4257
 www.smsmelrosemn.org



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

♥ **The First Day of School** at SHS is on Tuesday, September 8. We will have an all school Mass at 10:00 am to kick off our new school year.



♦ **Personal Safety Training:** Each year, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops requires that our Catholic schools offer training for all children and youth about personal safety. This training will be completed the first few weeks of school. In addition, each adult member who works or volunteers in the school also completes safe environment training and has a background check done.

♦ **Our Annual Prayer-a-Thon/Marathon event** will be held on Friday, October 2. The pledges raised by our students will help with everyday operating costs. The prayer requests collected are prayed throughout the year in the classrooms. Our goal is to raise \$30,000. Please watch for envelopes at Mass starting on September 12 & 13.

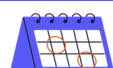
♦ **We Welcome** Mrs. Becky Kapsner, who will be teaching piano lessons at St. Mary's School, which is a separately run program from the school.

♦ **SJSA Harry's Pizza sale** is going on now through Wednesday, September 23. You can place your order with an SJSA family or call the school at 320-987-3133. Pizza pick up is Saturday, October 3 from 9:00-10:00 am in the school basement.

♦ **Greenwald Elevator Softener Salt Sale** The Greenwald Elevator is having a salt sale with proceeds benefiting SJSA. Salt can be ordered by the bag or pallet now through Monday, October 5. The pick up date is Thursday, October 29 at the Greenwald Elevator. You can place your order with any SJSA family, by calling the school at 320-987-3133, or by calling the Greenwald Elevator at 320-987-3159. Thank you for supporting the Greenwald Elevator Salt Sale.

♦ **SJSA Prayer-a-Thon** is Friday, October 9. Students will spend the day lifting out supporters' intentions in prayer through various prayer activities. We will also be holding a prayer service at St. Andrew's church in Greenwald at 1:45 pm. Please support our students as they seek pledges to reach our fundraising goal of \$18,000. Thank you.

♦ **SJSA School Board** meets Tuesday, September 15 at 7:30 pm in the school basement.



Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners!

08/30	\$25	Jon Boeckermann - Albany
08/31	\$25	Nick & Candance Scherping - Freeport
09/01	\$25	Zach & Colleen Wiechman - Freeport
09/02	\$25	Kristi Spohn - Albany
09/03	\$25	Ethan Van Beck - New Munich
09/04	\$25	Ralph Eickhoff - Freeport
09/05	\$25	Lorraine Sand - Melrose



The Scriptures This Week Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo	Weekday 1 Cor 5:1-8	Lk 6:6-11
Tu	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast) Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30 Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23	
We	Saint Peter Claver, Priest (Memorial) 1 Cor 7:25-31	Lk 6:20-26
Th	Weekday 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13	Lk 6:27-38
Fr	Weekday 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27	Lk 6:39-42
Sa	Weekday (The Most Holy Name of Mary; BVM) 1 Cor 10:14-22	Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday - Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sir 27:30—28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35		

Public Rosary...

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

St. Mary - Melrose

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

St. Mary - Meire Grove

- Monday: 7:00 am
- Saturday: 4:30 pm
- 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 CON'T FROM PG 2

Join Us in Jail The Stearns County Jail has a program that allows volunteers to provide or assist with religious activities. A number of us have been participating in Masses, Communion Services, and Catholic discussion groups for many years. This has been extremely beneficial and appreciated by both the inmates and the Sheriff's Office. This ministry has been vital for the continuous development of the faith lives of those who are incarcerated and is rewarding to us. We need additional volunteers so that we may continue or expand our ministry. The Stearns County Jail offers programs this fall consisting of two 4-hour training and safety sessions. Volunteers must attend both sessions and a background check will be required prior to training. Upcoming sessions are Monday, September 14 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm and Tuesday, September 15 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. There are also opportunities in December. Musicians are especially needed. For more information, please call Harry Fleegel at 612-868-0465 or Mary Fleegel at 612-868-0464 God bless you. We look forward to visiting with you about this opportunity.



A Life-Changing Weekend Awaits You Looking to deepen your faith and encounter God in a powerful way? TEC (Together Encountering Christ) is a three-day retreat for individuals ages 16 and older, focused on experiencing the Paschal Mystery — Christ's death, resurrection, and mission. Throughout the weekend, you'll have the chance to reflect on your personal relationship with Christ, hear inspiring talks, engage in meaningful group discussions, and spend time in prayer. TEC offers an open and affirming space for participants to grow in faith and connect with others on a similar journey. Join almost 40,000 people in Central Minnesota who have experienced the transformative power of TEC. Ready to make a lasting change in your life? For more information and to register, visit cmtec.org or call (320) 532-4455. TEC weekends are open to individuals ages 16 and older. The next weekend is October 16 - 18, 2026.

You're Invited!
To St. Mary's
Fall Picnic
— and —
Golden Ladle Soup Cook-Off
All are welcome!
Sunday, September 13, 2026
4:00 to 7:00pm at St. Mary's Church

Come for food, music, entertainment and fellowship!

Food is: SOUP, SANDWICHES, COOKIES and DRINKS

St. Mary's School Lemonade Stand!

Kids Games

Free Will Offering Proceeds to The Melrose Area Food Shelf.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

September 6, Sunday

♦ **St. Rose of Lima Parish Festival** 10:00 am Outdoor Polka Mass, 11:00 am Games & Food stands open, 12:30 pm Bean Bag Tournament Sign-up, 1:00 pm Horse Races, 2:00 pm Quilt Auction, 4:00 pm Music by The Sunday Stars, 7:00 pm Grand Raffle & Cash Raffle drawings.

September 7, Monday

♦ **St. Stephen Parish Festival** Festival activities from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Games and fun, stands and sales, and food and beverages. Homemade dinner begins at 11:00 am. Auctions/raffles begin at 12:00 pm. Live music from 11:00 am - 6:30 pm.

September 11, Friday

♦ **Burger Night** American Legion Post 101, Melrose invites you to their Burger Night, baskets starting at \$10, serving from 4:30 pm—7:30 pm, take-outs available. Doors open at 3:00 pm.

September 12, Saturday

♦ **Block Party at St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Cloud** Join us as we kick off with Mass at 4:00 pm. After Mass, the festivities roll on with delicious food and ice-cold beverages and games for all ages. Live music will be Honkytonk Heartthrobs and Stone Road. But beyond the celebration, this event has a sacred purpose: sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, and ensuring our campus can support that mission. For more information, contact Kelly Bjork at 320-251-1840.

September 13, Sunday

♦ **Breakfast and Bake Sale** Spring Hill Matching Grant Catholic United Financial Council #126 at Spring Hill church basement, Spring Hill. Serving from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. Adults \$10 in advance or \$10.50 at the door. Children 6-12 \$4. Children 5 and under are free.

♦ **Breakfast** at St. John the Baptist Parish Hall in Swanville. Sponsored by Grey Eagle/Swanville Knights of Columbus. Serving from 8:00 - 11:00 am. Freewill donation. All proceeds will go towards Knights of Columbus charitable activities.

♦ **Fall Picnic & Golden Ladle Soup Cook-Off** 4:00 - 7:00 pm at St. Mary's Church in Melrose. Come for food (soup, sandwiches, cookies and drinks), St. Mary's School Lemonade Stand, entertainment, games, and fellowship!

♦ **Breakfast** at St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Morrill Parish Hall 33018 Nature Rd. Foley, MN. Adults \$15. Ages 5-10 \$8. 4 and under free.

September 17, Thursday

♦ **Freeport Senior Citizens Meeting** at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. 500 cards and Bingo will be played.

September 19, Saturday

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

September 20, Sunday

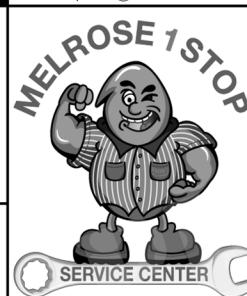
♦ **St. Anthony Church Breakfast** St. Cloud. Serving from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm in the St. Anthony Parish Center, 2405 - 1st St. N. Adults \$12, Grades 7 - 12 \$6, PreK - 6 Free.

♦ **Frantoer Fest** at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Food, bingo, kids games, silent auction, big ticket, and quilt drawing.

September 22, Tuesday

♦ **Catholic United Financial Live Music** at the New Munich City Hall from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. All are Welcome.

♦ **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. Experience evening prayer in the gentle rhythm of the Liturgy of the Hours (psalms, scripture and intercessions), with time for faith sharing in breakout groups. Please register in advance for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/9-22-26/.

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