

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

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 16, 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

froswaldo@stmarysofmelrose.com

Office Email: pam@stmarysofmelrose.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

Website: www.oneinfaith.org Facebook: Church of St. Mary, Melrose Mailing Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE Melrose, MN 56352

Freeport - New Munich - St. Rosa Office:

Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm **Office Phone:** 320-836-2143

Office Email: triparish@albanytel.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

Website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org

Facebook: Tri Parish

Mailing Address: PO Box 155 Freeport, MN 56331

Bulletin Announcements

Deadline: Tuesday before 9:00 am

Email information to: bulletin@catholic-centered.org

Confession Times

7:45 am Sacred Heart ◆Fridays

◆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.



COURAGE AND STRENGTH

"Before all this happens, however, they will seize and persecute you, they will hand you over to the synagogues and to prisons, and they will have you led before kings and governors because of my name. It will lead to your giving testimony. Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute." Luke 21:12-15

It could be said that these are among the least consoling words that Jesus ever spoke. Imagine what His disciples would have thought upon hearing this. Some of them might have changed their minds about following Jesus and walked away. Why would anyone want to be seized and persecuted, or thrown into prison? Jesus even went on to say that "they will put some of you to death."

Though these words might not, at first, seem all that consoling, they were inspired words and, therefore, must be inspiring. By analogy, imagine an army general in charge of troops defending their families and homeland from hostile invaders. If that general were to say similar words to the troops, acknowledging that some of them would be captured and even killed, it would be a reality check for sure. But it would also inspire a certain courage and drive. In that moment, the soldiers would need courage to face the challenge that awaited them. Therefore, by being honest with them, the general would stir up their courage and strengthen their resolve to enter the battle.

We must hear Jesus' words today as His battle cry, spoken to encourage us. He is warning us that the secular and unchristian world will be hostile. The leader of the kingdom of darkness, the devil, is very active and, with his legion of demons and followers, is seeking to destroy us. For our part, we must decide whether we will retreat and hide, or enter the battle for the salvation of souls.

Continued on page 5

ACC Mass Times and Intentions \sim November 17 - 23

St. Mary - Melrose Mo 6:30 pm Misa en Español †Rafael Rodriguez Medel †Maria Guadalupe Maldonado Partida 8:00 am Tu †Ralph Muellner We 8:00 am †Jeanette Barth †Steven Petermeier 8:00 am Th †Deceased Members of the **Duevel Family** *Fr **SM School Mass** 8:30 am †Stacy Meyer 5:00 pm †Vic & Dorine Sunderman Sa 9:00 am †Eymard & †Lucille Orth *Su 11:30 am Misa en Español Th †Rafael Rodriguez Medel †Maria Guadalupe Maldonado Partida SACRED HEART - Freeport

8:15 am SH School Mass

		†Bernard & †Eleanor Thell
Fr	8:15 am	†Alois "Al" Beste
Su	8:00 am	†Joyce Eveslage

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

8:15 am †Ruth Searcy Sa 4:00 pm For the People

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am †Deceased/Living Al & Rose Wiechman Family 10:00 am Su †Dennis Ritter Anniversary

St. Michael - Spring Hill

†Deceased/Living Members of 8:00 am St. Mary's Mission Society 10:00 am For the People

St. Andrew - Greenwald SJSA School Mass 8:00 am

†Marilyn Lieser

†Tony, †Darlene, & †Mark Kulzer 4:00 pm

St. John - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Al Luetmer Su 8:00 am †John Nathe

*Mass will be livestreamed. Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

ADORATION

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

Praise & Worship Adoration Wednesday, November 19 ~ 7:30 - 8:30 pm Fridays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

~ St. Mary ~ St. Michael ~ St. Andrew ~ St. John ~

- •The Central Minnesota Catholic is the magazine of the Diocese of St. Cloud. You can access the digital edition at https://thecentralminnesotacatholic.org/. If you currently receive the magazine by mail and prefer not to, please contact the parish office so we can remove your name from the mailing list. Likewise, if you aren't receiving it and would like to, let us know and we'll be happy to add you.
- EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) All four of the churches have the option for EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer). If you are interested in signing up to handle your contributions to the church in this way, forms can be found on the website or at the parish office.

Bulletin Deadline Change and Office Closures

The Parish Offices in Melrose and Freeport will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27-28 for the Thanksgiving holiday. With this closure, the bulletin will need to be printed early. All notices must

be to the bulletin editor by 9:00 am Monday, November 24. If possible, please send your announcements by Friday, November 21.

Trick-or-Treating for the Food Shelf Report Thank you everyone that donated to our youth who were Trick-or-Treating for the Food Shelf. Due to your generous donation, we were able to donate 364 pounds of food and supplies to the Melrose Food Shelf.

Advent Enrichment Materials and Advent Brochures

with confessions opportunities, Advent Service Projects, Mass times, and more are available in the churches. Feel free to take them to enhance your Advent. Additional Advent programs can be found 7 online, including Dynamic Catholic's Best Advent Ever with Matthew Kelly and Ascension Press' Face to Face with Fr. Mike Schmitz. Visit their websites to sign up or for more information.



Do You Love Spending Time With Infants/Toddlers? Sacred Heart School is currently hiring in our Infant and Toddler Care Center from 7:30 - 10:30 am and/or from 2:30 - 5:30 pm. If you are interested, please contact the school at 320-836-2591.

All Things New Information Sessions Please plan to attend the meeting on Tuesday, November 19 at 7:00 pm to learn about the One in Faith proposal that was submitted to the Diocesan CAP committee, the committee's response, and the next steps in the process.

- •West Meeting at St. Mary's in Melrose St. Michael, St. Andrew, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary
- •East Meeting at Sacred Heart in Freeport St. Rose of Lima, Immaculate Conception, Sacred Heart

Praise and Worship Adoration We will be having Praise and Worship Adoration with our 7-10 grade Faith Formation Students at Sacred Heart, Freeport, on Wednesday, November 19, from 7:30-8:30 pm. All are welcome and invited to come for an evening sharing Adoration of our Lord with our youth!

Low Gluten Hosts are available for individuals that have a gluten intolerance. Please note, these hosts still contain gluten, less than 0.001% gluten, and are not completely gluten free. If you would like to have more information about the low gluten hosts, please contact the Parish Office in Freeport. When you are planning to have a low gluten host for Mass, it will be necessary to have the host within a pyx (the parish can provide a pyx) and placed upon the altar for consecration. You will need to let Father know that you are present prior to Mass, and that you will be in his Communion line.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a private weekend away from the distractions of daily life for couples in good marriages. Give your marriage this gift! The next available Weekend is November 22-23 in Alexandria, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: northmnwwme.org or contact Miki at applications@northmnwwme.org or 507-227-8229.

Voices of Hope - Bishop's Annual Appeal: Our diocese is richly blessed with exceptional lay and ordained people who faithfully serve the Church in a variety of ways. Diocesan ministries work diligently to form, educate and support all people who are answering the call to service in the Church through our offices for vocations, the deaconate, faith formation, lay ministry formation and many more. Make a gift today at www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

\$58,767

Raised \$48,813

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

******* Weekly Offerings ********		
Total	\$11,868.92	
Regular Adult Offering	9,103.92	
Plate/Loose		
Designated Funds	1,776.00	

		St. Mary's Calendar Raffle	CALENDAR
11-09	\$25	Mindy Arnzen, Melrose	
11-10	\$25	Chuck & Sue Walz, Melrose	
11-11	\$50	Sarah E. Klaphake, Maple Grove	
11-12	\$25	Jason & Candice Hellermann, Melrose	
11-13	\$25	Tom Herges, Scotland, SD	
11-14	\$25	Robert & Pamela Roske, Melrose	
11-15	\$25	Mike & Carol Kraemer, Melrose	

Sound System Thank you for your generous Sound System Goal support of our Sound System project! To date, we've received \$48,813 in gifts and pledges-83% of our goal! Contributions may be mailed, placed in the collection, or brought to the parish office.

Church Anniversary Celebration

The 5 Year Anniversary of our new church building will be on Thursday, November 20. We will celebrate with a Daily Mass at 8:00

am followed by a light breakfast with Fr. Mitchell's world famous, first time ever made quiche.

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle Tickets can be purchased before and after Saturday evening Masses and at some Sunday Masses, the parish office, Magnifi Financial-Melrose Branch, or Freeport State Bank-Melrose Branch. Be sure to get yours before 9:00 am on Wednesday, December 31!



Rosary Request If anyone has extra rosaries they are no longer using, please bring them to the parish office.

The Scriptures This Week

Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious (Memorial)

1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63

Weekday (The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles; USA: Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin) 2 Mc 6:18-31 Lk 19:1-10

Or

For the Optional Memorial of the Dedication

Acts 28:11-16, 30-31 Mt 14:22-33

We Weekday

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31 Lk 19:11-28

Weekday

1 Mc 2:15-29 Lk 19:41-44

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Memorial) 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59 Lk 19:45-48

Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr (Memorial)

Lk 20:27-40 1 Mc 6:1-13

Next Sunday - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)

2 Sm 5:1-3 Col 1:12-20 Lk 23:35-43

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

**************** Weekly Offerings ************** Total..... \$9,088.32 4,616.54 Regular Adult Offering Plate 396.00 Votive 278.00 School Support 50.00 School Endowment 50.00 75.00 All Saints All Souls 50.00 Thanksgiving 180.00 Immaculate Conception 25.00 Christmas 100.00 Solemnity of Mary 25.00 Christmas Flowers 65.00 Choir Loft 3,177.78

			Parish Events
Mo	11/17	6:30 pm	Youth Group Hot Chocolate Bomb Making
Tu	11/18	2:45 pm	SHS Strings Practice
Tu	11/18	7:00 pm	All Things New Meeting
We	11/19	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 1-6
We	11/19	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Parent Class
We	11/19	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 7-10
We	11/19	7:30 pm	Praise & Worship Adoration
Fr	11/21	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	11/21	9:00 am	Adoration
Sa	11/22	5:30 pm	Baptism

2025 Calendars are in the back of the church.

Interior Painting of the Church will take place beginning January 5, 2026. The cost of this project is \$385,000. The last time the interior of the church was painted in its entirety was in 1979. Please watch the bulletin for updates on this project. Donations are being accepted to help cover the cost.

Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners! \$25 Duane Hellmann - Freeport 11/09 11/10 \$25 Dan Zenner - Paynesville 11/11 \$40 Joe Hennen - Freeport 11/11 \$40 Heather Eisenschenk - Cold Spring \$25 Steve Christenson - Viroqua, WI 11/12 11/13 \$25 Mary Ann Harren - Freeport

Public Rosary...

\$25 Carol Herdering - Melrose

11/15 \$25 Albert Schleper - Freeport

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

- Sundays at 7:30 am in the church in Meire Grove.
- Mondays at 7:00 am in the church in Meire Grove.
- Tuesdays at 7:00 am in the church in Melrose.

11/14

- 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.



CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦♦**

\$2,253.83
1,833.33
203.00
37.50
100.00
80.00

Parish Events

ı				
	Mo	11/17	6:30 pm	Youth Group Hot Chocolate
				Bomb Making - FR
	Tu	11/18	1:00 pm	Winter Raffle Meeting
	Tu	11/18	7:00 pm	All Things New Mtg-FR
	We	11/19	6:00 pm	FF Grades 1-6 - FR
	We	11/19	6:00 pm	FF Parent Class - FR
	We	11/19		FF Grades 7-10 - FR
				Praise & Worship
			•	Adoration - FR
	Th	11/20	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
	Fr	11/21	•	Harvest Supper Setup
	Sa	11/22		Harvest Supper Setup
	Sa	11/22	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions
	Sa			Harvest Supper



Harvest Supper Saturday, November 22 Immaculate Conception Church basement, New Munich, after 4:00 pm

Mass until 8:00 pm. Menu: Loin Chops, Potatoes (German & small red), Sauerkraut, Beans, Beverages & Desserts. Tickets: \$10 - Adult, Ages 6-10 - \$5, Age 5 and under – Free. Parish Winter Raffle tickets will be available. Proceeds: Help meet ongoing parish expenses. For additional information please call 320-248-2231 or 320-250-6288.

Mass Intentions... There are Masses available for the month of December. If you would like to have a Mass offered for a loved one or a special intention, please contact the Parish Office in Freeport by Wednesday, November 19. The suggested stipend for a Mass is \$10.

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦		
Total	\$4,157.46	
Regular Adult Offering	3,313.46	
Plate	449.00	
Votive	195.00	
Cemetery Fund	200.00	

Parish Events

Su	11/16	11:00 am	Baptism
			Private Event
Mo	11/17	6:30 pm	Youth Group Hot Chocolate
		_	Bomb Making - FR
Tu	11/18	7:00 pm	All Things New Mtg-FR
			FF Grades 1-6 - FR
			FF Parent Class - FR
We	11/19	7:00 pm	FF Grades 7-10 - FR
We	11/19	7:30 pm	Praise & Worship
		_	Adoration - FR
Fr	11/21	7:30 pm	Rosary

Mass Intentions... There are Masses available for the month of December. If you would like to have a Mass offered for a loved one or a special intention, please contact the Parish Office in Freeport by Wednesday, November 19. The suggested stipend for a Mass is \$10.

St. Rose Christian Women News...

•We are in need of a new vice president. Please contact Lisa Herdering with any questions.

•Christmas meeting and party will be Monday, December 1 at 7:00 pm Join us for a fun get together. \$15 gift exchange.



CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦♦**

Total	\$2,007.51
Regular Adult Offering	302.00
Plate/Loose	29.00
Cemetery	25.00
Fuel Fund	170.00
All Saints	20.00
Military	5.00
Worn-A-Bit Sale	1,456.51

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, November 23 - 10:00 am

(S) Stella & Jameson Schoenberg

(L) Darlene Schoenberg

(U) Jeff Lieser & Roger Meyer

(EM) (B) Darlene Schoenberg

(EM) (C) John & Sharon Schulzetenberg

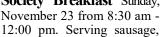
(Sacristan) John & Sharon Schulzetenberg (RL) Kathy Welle

(CC) Chico Welle & Steve Welle

(HK: November 16-29)

Bre Terres, Brenda Terres, & Jamie Terres

St. Micheal's Men's Society Breakfast Sunday,



eggs, fried potatoes, applesauce, and beverage. Cost: \$10 Adults and \$3 Ages 6-12. There will also be a bake sale.

2026 Contribution Envelopes We have changed companies and beginning with the January 2026 mailing, your personalized contribution envelopes will arrive in your mailbox on a bimonthly schedule. If you haven't received yours by the end of December, please contact the parish office.

Save the Dates:

•St. Mary's Mission Society Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 6. More information to follow.

•Catholic United Financial Council #126 of Spring Hill will have their annual meeting and Christmas Party on Sunday, December 7. More details to follow.



Prayer Requests...

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

Banns of Matrimony:

I Kendra Schmitz♥Luke Dehmer, 12-6 SH

<u>For the Sick:</u> Ron & Patty Finken, James (Chip) Posch, Fr. Roger Klassen, Anne Wolke, Ted Hoeschen, Tillie Bueckers, Kathy Elfering, Sandy Welle, Joyce Hauser, Dorothy Schneider, Michelle Russel

Contact Persons for Prayer Line Requests:

Sacred Heart:	Judy Caveny	320-248-8830
Immaculate Conception	on: 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

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.







CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦		
Total	\$1,031.00	
Regular Adult Offering	745.00	
Plate/Loose	116.00	
Votives	10.00	
Maintenance Fund	40.00	
School Support	100.00	
Military	20.00	

Liturgical Ministries Saturday, November 22 - 4:00 pm

- (S) Isaiah Gilk & Jackson Gilk
- (L) Julie Kulzer
- (U) Harold Rademacher & Roger Schoenberg
- (GB) Joe & Sharon Schwieters
- (EM) (B) Clarine Beier
- (EM) (C) Herman Lensing & Mary Opatrny
- (HK November) *Kris Winter, Laurel Worms, Steph Worms, & Wanda Ahrens

Calendar Raffle Winners Catholic United Financial #324 Catholic United

Raffle Winners week #2:



- 11/09 \$50 Steven Gilk
- 11/10 \$25 David Nathe 11/11 \$25
- Tyler Rademacher
- 11/12 \$25 Brent Niehoff
- 11/13 \$25 Doreen Wenker
- 11/14 \$25 Herb Inderieden
- 11/15 \$50 Lori Young

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦♦		
Total		
Regular Adult Offering	4,645.00	
Children's	0.25	
Plate/Loose	372.00	
Votives	54.00	
Fuel Fund	20.00	
Military	65.00	

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, November 23 - 8:00 am

- (S) Morgan Funk & Paige Funk
- (L) Char Meyer
- (U) Marvin Schneider & Matt Silbernick
- (GB) Elmer & Virginia Meyer
- (EM) Abby Zenzen, Daryl Zenzen, Nick Kelzer, & Jim Leukam
- (HK November) *Karen Schneider, Linda Schneider, Joy Silbernick, Julie Wehlage, Abby Zenzen, & Janice Funk

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HISPANIC MINISTRY

Vigilia de Cristo Rey: El Ministerio Hispano invita a toda la comunidad a una noche de oración y adoración eucarística el día sábado 22 de Noviembre a las 6:30 pm.



Consejo de Liderazgo Parroquial Hispano ya está trabajando en la planeación de la festividad a nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, por lo cual anunciamos que ya estamos

recibiendo donaciones para realizar esta actividad. Los encargados de recolectar las donaciones este año son Maria Salinas, Guadalupe Montañez, Romeo Garcia y Salustia Cruz. En unas semanas más estaremos dando más información sobre el tema.

¡Necesitamos servidores! Los invitamos a que se unan a cualquier ministerio parroquial para ofrecer su tiempo y talento al Señor y a su Iglesia. Los ministerios en los que ustedes pueden servir son: ministros extraordinario de la comunión, lectores, sacristanes y monaguillos. Si están interesados hablen con cualquier diácono o llamen a la oficina parroquial para más información.

Coros Parroquiales: Los coros parroquiales hispanos están invitando a todas las personas que



tienen talento para cantar o tocar algún instrumento a que se registren para formar parte del ministerio de música. Los coros necesitan más integrantes y todos son bienvenidos.



COURAGE AND STRENGTH Cont'd. from page 1



Though most of us will not endure physical martyrdom for our faith, it will happen to some. But for most of us, the persecution we will endure will be on a different level. We may be mocked or even hated for our refusal to accept immorality within the culture. We may be called hateful when we stand up for the dignity of the unborn child in danger of abortion. We may be deemed superstitious or old fashioned by remaining faithful to Sunday worship and daily prayer. And we may be thought of as out-of-touch or behind the times for refusing to embrace the latest popular fads and secular values. Sometimes this happens even within the family.

Instead of shying away from the various forms of persecution we may experience, we need to allow our Lord to stir up a courage within us that is fueled by love. We must deeply desire the salvation of every soul and remain certain that the only way to salvation is through fidelity to Christ.

When you are challenged by others or by the world, you must trust in Jesus' words. "I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute." When we resist and refute the errors of our age, some people will become hostile. But if we remain faithful to our Lord and speak by His inspiration, then those who are hostile will be affected for the good. Because Jesus said that people will not be able to "resist or refute" the words He inspires us to say, we must know that our words can make a difference in the battle for souls. We must engage the battle with courage and love and rely upon our Lord to lead.

Reflect, today, upon the fact that we are all in a battle for the salvation of souls, beginning with our own. We cannot be passive bystanders. We must move forward with much courage and strength. We must trust in the guidance given to us by our Lord. We must be open to the words He will inspire us to speak when needed. Resolve to follow our Lord into this holy battle, and He will equip you with all you need to be victorious.

My courageous Lord, You endured much suffering in life and embraced it with pure love. Please give me the grace I need to follow You wherever You lead and to be an instrument of Your voice to a world in need. Jesus, I trust in You. mvcatholic.life

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- Grades 1-6: Next Class: Wednesday, November 19 from 6:00 7:00 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms.
- Grades 7-10: Next Class: Wednesday, November 19 from 7:00 8:30 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms.
- Parent Class: Parents of students in grades 1-6 will meet in the Sacred Heart Church Basement on Wednesday, November 19, from 6:00 - 7:00 pm while students are in class. Please drop off your students at the Parish Office then head to the church basement!

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class: Wednesday, November 19, 6:00-7:00 pm, St. Mary's Church. Service project: parade candy. (Parents can stay with children during class, or they can attend the parent support gathering.)
- Grades 7/8: No Class (But optional parent gathering)
- Grades 9/10: No Class (But optional parent gathering)
- Confirmation Class: Next Class: Wednesday, November 19, 7:15-8:30 pm, St. Mary's Church. Topic: What is a Sacrament? What is the Sacrament of Reconciliation? (Parents/ sponsors can choose to stay with their Confirmation student in class, or they can attend the parent support gathering.)
- First Communion: Next Class: Sunday, November 23, 10:00 am -11:15 am. Students and parents.
- Parent Support Gathering! Wednesday, November 19 at 6:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Tonight's topic: Supporting Young People in Times of Grief and Loss. This is the second of four parent support gatherings this year. Our guest speaker will share her wisdom for about 15 minutes; the rest of the evening will be devoted to giving parents time to share their own questions and ideas with each other. Our guest speaker will be Geralyn Nathe-Evans: Geralyn is a licensed nurse with a master's degree in pastoral ministry. Her writing about surviving, living with grief and coping with tragedy is featured in publications of the St. Cloud Catholic Diocese of Minnesota. Through her education, career practice and personal experience with the death of her own husband in 2014, Nathe-Evans is a compassionate, optimistic voice finding the glory and comfort of God in our most trying moments. All are welcome!

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

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

- ◆Hot Chocolate Bomb Making Grades 6-12 are invited to get messy and creative while making hot chocolate bombs on Monday, November 17 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Sacred Heart Church Basement. Snacks will be provided.
- Castaway Retreat for Grades 9-12: Friday, March 20 - Sunday, March 22, 2026, at the Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes, MN. Castaway has been an energizing experience for our young Church in the Diocese of St. Cloud for over 50 years. This retreat is a weekend filled with powerful prayer, fun skits, inspirational speakers, awesome music, an incredible Mass, and many faith-growing opportunities. Come together with over 300 others and make new friends, take time to relax, laugh, eat fantastic food, and renew your spirit while strengthening your relationship with God. Cost is \$210 through Friday, February 13, and \$230 after that. To register, please turn in a Youth Interest Form along with a \$110 non-refundable deposit. Forms are available in the churches and on the parish websites. Contact either parish office with questions.

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

Family Planning

Marriage & Natural Family Planning: Nature Cycles For

A Reason: so does your body Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a healthy way to plan your family. Natural NFP cooperates with God's design for your body. It is effective, wholesome, and great for your marriage. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in Sauk Centre on Thursday, November 20 and Thursday, December 18 at 6:30 pm

at St. Paul's Church or CentraCare Health - Sauk Centre Hospital. For more information, or to register, contact Jill and Isaac Uphus uphus.nfp@gmail.com or 320-290-8751. The class is approximately 1½ to 2 hours long. *Note: Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP Instruction and follow-up!

Join Us on a Pilgrimage to EWTN! January 18–23, 2026 You're invited to join Fr. Mark Botzet in a special 6-day pilgrimage to EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network founded by Mother Angelica in Irondale, AL) and several inspiring Catholic sites, including:

- •The Grotto of the Redemption, West Bend, IA
- •National Shrine Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, IL
- •The Gateway Arch, St. Louis, MO
- •The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Henceville, AL

This unforgettable journey will be a time of prayer, fellowship, and renewal of faith as we visit some of the most meaningful Catholic landmarks in the country (bussing one way and flying back). For more information or to reserve your spot, please see www.jericochristianjourneys.com. Deadline to sign-up is Monday, December 8.

You Knit Me Together in My Mother's Womb. Did you know that God knew you before you were born? CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA is a weekend Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St. Cloud Diocese and is designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. The next retreat is scheduled for January 23-25, 2026, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls. Cost of the weekend is \$70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



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

Myranda Beuning, Bethanie Ettle, Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle, Lindsay Frieler, and Chris Klaphake

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

- ♦Our 1st Grade class will be collecting food shelf items at school and before their Mass on Wednesday, November 19.
- **▼Birthday Dinner** November and first part of August birthdays will celebrate their Birthday dinner on Thursday, November 20.
- ♦ Thank you to all Veterans! We were blessed to honor you at our Veterans Day Program on Tuesday, November 11. We want to thank the Melrose Legion, VFW and their Auxiliaries for always making our program so beautiful and honorable.
- **◆Conferences at SHS** took place the last two weeks. Thank you to all parents that came in to learn more about their students' progress. We appreciate partnering with you to make sure each child is having a positive learning experience.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **♦No School** Wednesday, November 26-Friday, November 28.
- ◆Johnny Holm Friday, November 28 at the Freeport Community Center benefiting SHS.



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

Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch, Jake Primus, Pat Christenson, Lindsey Gruber, and Greta Rademacher

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

- ◆Thank you for your support in helping us raise \$13,438 for our Harry's Pizza Fundraiser.
- ◆You are invited on a trip to the 1950's and 1960's! The 6th graders will present their Wax Museum on Friday, November 21. All are welcome between 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm.
- •St. Mary's School will celebrate its Thanksgiving Mass at 8:30 am on Friday, November 21. Each class is working to collect at least 60 food shelf items to celebrate our 60th Anniversary. All are welcome to join us for Mass and bring items for the food shelf.
- •Save the Date! St. Mary's Christmas Program is at the Marit Elliot Performing Arts Center, Melrose Area School, on Wednesday, December 10, at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm. The Little Saints program is also scheduled for December 10 at 10:00 am in the SMS gym.



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

Amber Bueckers, Kathy Gilk, Adam Kalthoff, Kate Kelzer, Heidi Meyer, Trista Roelike, and Jenny Wilson Phone: 320-987-3133 www.sjsaschool.org

- •SJSA Advent Project: SJSA students are collecting the following items for Eagle's Healing Nest as our Advent Service Project: Men's and Women's Gloves, Men's and Women's Socks, Washcloths, Ziploc Bags and Fleece Blankets. Items can be dropped off at the school during school hours
- •SJSA November School Board meeting is postponed due to the All Things New Meeting on Tuesday, November 18.

support our veterans in need.

December 1 - 12. Thank you for helping us



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

November 16, Sunday

- ◆Annual Bake & Craft Sale at Saint Anthony Parish Center 2405 1st St. N St. Cloud, MN 56303. Sale is from 7:30 am 12:00 pm during the Men's family breakfast.
- ◆Fall Cash & Gift Cards Bingo at St. Francis Xavier School cafeteria, Sartell. Doors open at 12:30 pm with Bingo starting at 1:00 pm. \$10 per card includes 24 games. Snacks available. Proceeds will be used to help with needs throughout the surrounding areas. This event is sponsored by St. Monica's Christian Women of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Sartell.

November 20, Thursday

◆ Freeport Senior Citizens meeting at the Freeport Senior Center. NOTE TIME CHANGE: 12:00 pm start. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

November 21, Friday

♦ "All You Can Eat" Fish Fry at the Melrose American Legion. Please join us from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Take outs are available. Your support is very much appreciated!

November 22, Saturday

- ◆ <u>Harvest Supper</u> at Immaculate Conception Church basement, New Munich. Serving after the 4:00 pm Mass until 8:00 pm. Tickets: Adult \$10, Ages 6-10 \$5, Age 5 and under free. Parish Winter Raffle tickets will be available. Proceeds: Help meet ongoing parish expenses. For additional information please call 320-248-2231 or 320-250-6288.
- ◆ <u>Christmas Craft & Bake Sale</u> Join us at Holy Spirit Church 2405 Walden Way, St. Cloud, MN from 9:00 am 5:30 pm for unique assortment of hand crafted items and gifts.

November 23, Sunday

- ◆<u>St. Michael's Men's Society Breakfast</u> at St. Michael's, Spring Hill. Serving from 8:30 am 12:00 pm. Cost: \$10 Adults and \$3 for Ages 6 12. There will also be a bake sale.
- ◆Christmas Craft & Bake Sale Join us at Holy Spirit Church 2405 Walden Way, St. Cloud, MN from 9:00 am 12:30 pm for unique assortment of hand crafted items and gifts.
- ◆ <u>Journeys of Hope</u> Come be inspired with faith stories from April Bechtold, Julie Scegura and Steve Fiecke from 11:15 am 1:30 pm at Immaculate Conception Church, St. Anna. All are welcome for talks, prayer and chili with fixings. Free with no registration needed. Come to prepare for your best Advent ever.
- ◆Turkey Bingo & Cash Raffle at Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church Rockville. A la carte lunch from 12:00 pm until gone. Bingo from 1:30 4:30 pm. Raffle drawing at 4:30 pm. Raffle Tickets \$25 each. Only 850 tickets sold! Grand prize of \$5,000.
- ◆ Family Turkey Bingo at Holy Family Fellowship Hall 18777 Riverwood Dr., Little Falls. Bingo starts at 1:30 pm. 20 Bingo games for \$5. 2 Blackout games \$2. Over 28 door prizes \$100 for Blackout. Prizes for the children will be drawn through out the afternoon!

November 25, Tuesday

♦ Online Evening Prayer with Young Adults Young adults ages 18+ are invited to pray online together with other young adults and School Sisters of Notre Dame from across the U.S. and Canada at 7:00 pm. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/11-25-25/.





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