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**

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time **November 15, 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 - Melrose
♦Sundays	11:30 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.

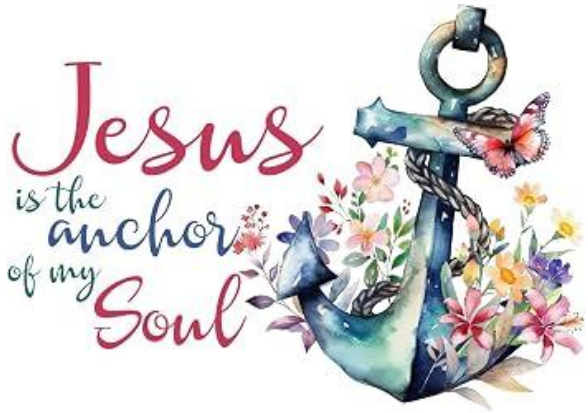
Baptism & OCIA

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 Capacity of Your Soul



Jesus told his disciples this parable: ***"A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one-to each according to his ability. Then he went away."*** Matthew 25:14-15

Today's parable comes from Jesus' eschatological discourse (Matthew 24–25), delivered near the end of His public ministry. It speaks of the Final Judgment and calls us to vigilance, fidelity, and spiritual fruitfulness as we await the return of our Divine Master. This eschatological reminder of God's Final Judgment is especially fitting as we near the end of the Liturgical Year, in anticipation of the Solemnity of Christ the King next weekend.

The story begins with a master who, before departing on a journey, entrusts his possessions to his servants, "each according to his ability." In this image, Jesus reveals Himself as the Master, whose journey begins with His Ascension into Heaven. The talents—a unit of currency—represent the spiritual gifts, graces, charisms, and opportunities God entrusts to each soul for the building up of His Kingdom.

This raises a profound question: Why are these gifts given in differing measures? Why does one soul receive five talents, another two, and another only one? Is God unjust in the distribution of His mercy? The answer lies in the mystery that, although every soul has the capacity to receive the infinite God who dwells within, not all cooperate with His grace to the same degree.

Saint Teresa of Ávila reflects beautifully on this truth in the opening pages of her spiritual masterpiece, *The Interior Castle*. She teaches that the soul is like a magnificent castle, in which God dwells in the innermost chamber. The spiritual life is a journey through the many "mansions" of this castle, drawing ever closer to union with the One who already resides within. Saint Teresa

Continued on page 2

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ NOVEMBER 16 – 22

ST. MARY - MELROSE

***Mo**	**8:30 am**	**SM School Mass (Melrose)**
		†Joe Primus
Tu	6:30 pm	**Misa en español (Melrose)**
		†Carol Poepping
We	8:00 am	†John Nathe (Meire Grove)
Th	8:00 am	**SJSA School Mass (Greenwald)**
		†Karlyann Boecker
Fr	8:30 am	†Daniel Schwieters (Melrose)
Sa	5:00 pm	†Richard & †Dolores Hiltner (Melrose)
Su	7:30 am	†Clarence Schaefer (Meire Grove)
*Su	9:30 am	†Thomas Kluempke
		†Bernard Hollermann (Melrose)
Su	12:00 pm	**Misa en Español (Melrose)**
		Por el Pueblo

SACRED HEART - FREEPORT

Tu	8:15 am	†Lawrence "Max" Sand
We	8:15 am	**SH School Mass**
		†Richard Nienaber
Th	8:15 am	†Shirley Steinhofer
Fr	8:15 am	Herman & William Wiechman
Su	8:00 am	For the People

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - NEW MUNICH

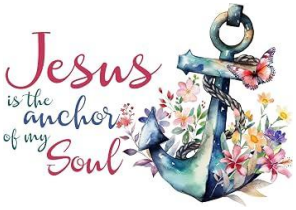
Sa	4:00 pm	†Deceased/Living Members of Walter & Pauline Buschman Family

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - ST. ROSA

Su	10:00 am	†Dennis Ritter

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

REFLECTION Continued from Page 1



affirms that the soul is of "great beauty" and "great capacity" because God is present within us (I.I #2). God has already placed within each soul every spiritual treasure—every grace and gift we need. Yet our experience of those treasures—whether five talents, two, or one depends upon our willingness to embark on the inner journey of prayer, purification, and transformation.

So, is God unjust in the distribution of His mercy? Certainly not. Each of us is capable of receiving and manifesting that mercy in abundance. The extent to which this takes place is revealed in today's parable, along with the sobering truth that such gifts can be lost through negligence and complacency.

The servants entrusted with five and two talents represent those who actively cooperate with the grace of God dwelling within. That cooperation leads to spiritual transformation and growth, doubling the gifts received and preparing the soul for even greater fruitfulness.

By contrast, the servant who buried the one talent he received represents those who, despite having the infinite God within, remain closed to His grace. To bury the talent is to ignore the divine gifts by hiding them through fear, laziness, or indifference. The result is severe: "Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich… And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth" (Matthew 25:28–30).

Reflect today on the stark contrasts among these servants, and humbly consider which best represents you. God wants you to be spiritually rich. He desires that you use the interior treasure of grace flowing from His indwelling presence. He wants to multiply every spiritual gift you have and use them for His glory and the salvation of souls. Are you willing to work diligently to cooperate with all that God has given you? Do you desire spiritual riches in superabundance? Or are you lazy, ignoring God's invitations? Resolve to grow rich in grace—so that when Jesus returns in glory, it will be a day of great rejoicing, not one of darkness, wailing, and grinding of teeth.

Most generous Lord, You desire to bestow upon us Your graces in superabundance. I pray that I will always be open to Your generosity and will cooperate fully with Your graced presence in my life. May my cooperation be diligent, so that the capacity of my soul may increase and manifest Your glory in exponential ways. 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 – 1:00 pm

The Scriptures This Week

Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo **Weekday** *(Saint Margaret of Scotland; Saint Gertrude, Virgin)*
Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5 Lk 18:35-43

Tu **Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious** *(Memorial)*
Rv 3:1-6, 14-22 Lk 19:1-10

We **Weekday** *(The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles; USA: Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin)*
Rv 4:1-11 Lk 19:11-28
Or, for the Optional Memorial of the Dedication,
Acts 28:11-16, 30-31 Mt 14:22-33

Th **Weekday**
Rv 5:1-10 Lk 19:41-44

Fr **Weekday**
Rv 10:8-11 Lk 19:45-48

Sa **The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** *(Memorial)*
Rv 11:4-12 Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday – Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe *(Solemnity)*
Ez 34:11-12, 15-17 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28
Mt 25:31-46

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 ……	**$19,621.50**
Regular Adult Offering ……..	17,887.00
Plate/Loose ……..	1,143.00
Designated Funds ……	591.50
Spring Hill ……..	**$320.00**
Greenwald ……..	**$95.00**

St. Mary – Meire Grove

Total ……	**$3,802.56**
Regular Adult Offering ……..	1,310.00
Children's ……	0.50
Plate/Loose ……..	186.06
School Support ……	250.00
Votive ……..	56.00
Catholic United Financial ……	2,000.00

St. Mary's - Melrose Calendar Raffle

11-08	$25	Pat Seanger, Melrose
11-09	$25	Bailey Rahn, Melrose
11-10	$25	Rose Waldorf, Elrosa
11-11	$25	Alvin Schneider, Melrose
11-12	$25	Jenn Tschida, Paynesville
11-13	$25	Susan Terres, Melrose
11-14	$25	Mike & Sharon Zierden, Melrose



Baptized in Christ… Olivia Jo Rieland

Special Monday Mass at St. Mary's – All Are Welcome! St. Mary's School will celebrate a special Mass at 8:30 am on Monday, November 16, to begin its accreditation visit and welcome the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA) visiting team. Although we do not normally have Mass on Mondays, we invite all parishioners to join our students, staff, and school community for this special celebration. Come pray with us as we ask God's blessings upon our school and all those involved in the accreditation process. All are welcome!



St. Michael's Men's Society Breakfast on Sunday, November 22 from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm at the church in Spring Hill. Serving sausage, eggs, fried potatoes, applesauce, and beverages. Adults $10; children ages 6-12: $3. Tickets are available at the door. Extra tickets are available at Extra Innings and Horseshoe. We will also be having a bake sale!

All Souls Book of Remembrance Throughout November, parishioners are invited to write the names of their deceased loved ones in the All Souls Book of Remembrance, located in the gathering space at St. Mary's. As we remember those who have gone before us, we give thanks for the gift of their lives and lift them up in prayer. May our prayers bring comfort and peace as we place our hope in Christ's promise of eternal life.

Raise Your Voice in Song This Christmas Season! St. Mary's Parish Choir is looking for new members, and we'd love to have you join us! With the Christmas season approaching, now is the perfect time to share your gift of music and help make our liturgies even more beautiful. Our next rehearsal is Monday, November 16, from 5:45–7:00 pm. For more information, contact Sarah Woeste at the parish office at 320-256-9516. Come sing with us!



Bake Sale Next Weekend - Calling All Bakers! The St. Mary's Parish Life Committee is hosting a bake sale November 21 & 22, and we need your help! Bring your favorite baked goods to donate before Mass, then stop by after Mass to purchase some delicious treats! All proceeds will be used to purchase winter hats and mittens for students in Melrose Area Public Schools through the Food for Thought program. Thank you for helping keep local children warm this winter!

Mass of Unity: This weekend, parishes throughout the Diocese of St. Cloud joined together in prayer for healing, reconciliation, and unity as we continue our journey through All Things New. At the request of the Bishop's office, all parishes were invited to use specially prepared prayers and homily materials reflecting these intentions. May this shared prayer strengthen our faith, bring healing where it is needed, and help us move forward together with open hearts, understanding, and trust in God's guidance.

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle – Have You Gotten Your Ticket Yet? Don't miss your chance to participate in this year's Calendar Raffle! Tickets are just $20 each and make great gifts, too! Pick yours up at the parish office, Magnifi Financial (Melrose Branch), or Freeport State Bank (Melrose Branch). The deadline to purchase your tickets is Thursday, December 31, at 9:00 am. Thank you for supporting St. Mary's!

Annual Stewardship Appeal – Thank You for Sharing Your Gifts! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has returned a stewardship commitment card and offered their time and talents to our parish! Ministry leaders have received their updated volunteer lists, and new liturgical ministers have been contacted and will be included in the winter schedule. There's still time to get involved! If you haven't returned your commitment card but would like to serve in a ministry, please contact the parish office at 320-256-4207 this week. Every helping hand makes a difference, and we are grateful for all who help keep our parish ministries thriving!

Matching Grant Calendar Raffle
Winners for Week 2 are listed below:

11/07	$50	Tanner Schwieters
11/08	$25	Roger Schoenberg
11/09	$25	Al & Veronica Inderieden
11/10	$25	Butch Bauer
11/11	$100	Lisa Bertram
11/12	$25	David Welle
11/13	$50	Doreen Wenker

Thank You for Your Generosity! A heartfelt thank you to the generous parishioner who donated funds to cover the cost of cleaning the windows at St. Mary's Church. Your thoughtful gift helps us maintain the beauty of our church and keep it a welcoming place for all who come to worship. We are grateful for your kindness and continued support of our parish!

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Next weekend, we will take up a special collection to support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, which helps individuals and communities working to break the cycle of poverty across the United States. Your generosity helps provide opportunities for those in need to build a better future. Please prayerfully consider supporting this important mission by using your collection envelope or one available in church. Thank you for making a difference!

TRI-PARISH NEWS:
~Sacred Heart ~ Immaculate Conception ~ St. Rose of Lima~

●Seeking Committee Members Fr. Dan wants to form a committee that will assist in the process of merging the three parish corporations of Sacred Heart, Immaculate Conception, and St. Rose of Lima into one corporation. He would like to have representatives from each of the three parish corporations in the process. If you are interested and would be willing to serve on this committee, please reach out to the Tri-Parish office 320-836-2143 no later than November 30, 2026.

●Youth Food Shelf Collection Report Thank you everyone that donated to our Youth Food Shelf Collection. Due to your generous donation, we were able to donate 500 pounds of food and supplies to the Melrose Food Shelf.



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

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offerings ♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

Total	**$4,790.96**
Regular Adult Offering	3,868.46
Plate	348.50
Votive	309.00
All Souls Envelopes	60.00
All Saints Envelopes	20.00
Thanksgiving	25.00
Christmas Flowers	20.00
Immaculate Conception Envelopes	20.00
Solemnity of Mary Envelopes	20.00
Christmas Envelopes	100.00

Parish Events

Mo 11/16	5:30 pm	Joy in the Journey Practice
Mo 11/16	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
Tu 11/17	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
We 11/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 1-6
We 11/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Parent Class
We 11/18	7:05 pm	Faith Formation Grades 7-10
Fr 11/20	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr 11/20	9:00 am	Adoration
Sa 11/21	10:00 am	Baptism

2027 Calendars are in the back of the church.

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

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offerings ♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

Total	**$3,178.17**
Regular Adult Offering	2,281.92
Plate	436.25
Building/Maintenance	100.00
Cash Bazaar	50.00
All Saints Envelopes	105.00
All Souls Envelopes	205.00



Harvest Supper Saturday, November 21 in the church basement. Serving from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Menu: Loin Chops, Potatoes (German & small red) Sauerkraut, Beans, Beverages & Desserts. Tickets: $15 – Adult, Ages 6-10 - $5, Age 5 and under Free. Parish Winter Raffle tickets will be available. Proceeds: Help meet on-going parish expenses. For additional information call 320-248-2231 or 320-250-6288.

Parish Events

Mo 11/16	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
We 11/18	3:00 pm	Winter Raffle/Harvest Supper Committee Mtg.
We 11/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Gr 1-6 – FR
We 11/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Parent Class – FR
We 11/18	7:05 pm	Faith Formation Gr 7-10 – FR
Th 11/19	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Fr 11/20		Harvest Supper Setup
Sa 11/21	10:00 am	Harvest Supper Setup
Sa 11/21	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions
Sa 11/21	5:00 pm	Harvest Supper
Mo 11/23	6:30 pm	Catholic United Financial Member Christmas Party



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

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offerings ♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

Total	**$3.973.08**
Regular Adult Offering	3,395.08
Plate	548.00
All Saints Envelopes	20.00
All Souls Envelopes	10.00

Christian Women News… Christmas Meeting and Party will be Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 pm. Join us for a fun get together! $15 gift exchange!



Parish Events

Mo 11/16	6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
Tu 11/17	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
We 11/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Gr 1-6 – FR
We 11/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Parent Class – FR
We 11/18	7:05 pm	Faith Formation Gr 7-10 – FR
Fr 11/20	7:30 pm	Rosary

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

•**Grades 1-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, November 18, at 6:00 pm. **Reminder** that parents need to come into the office and pick up their children from the classroom.

•**Parent Class:** Parents of students in grades 1-6 will meet in the Sacred Heart Church Basement on Wednesday, November 18 from 6:00-6:55 pm while the students are in class.

•**Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, November 18, at 7:05 pm.

•**10th Grade Confirmation Retreat Save the Date:** Sunday, January 10, 2027. If there is a snowstorm, Sunday, January 17, 2027, is our backup date. Watch for more information.

•**Wreath & Poinsettia Pick Up** Tuesday, November 24 from 4:30 - 5:45 pm in Sacred Heart Church basement. The poinsettias will need a warm vehicle to transport them. This is the only date for pick up. If you are unable to pick up your wreaths and poinsettias on the designated date, you will need to make arrangements for someone else to pick them up.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

•**Next Class:** Wednesday, November 18, for grades 1, 3-10 and Confirmation.

•**Grades 6-8:** Students will begin exploring the Holy Spirit and how He guides, strengthens, and helps us in our daily lives.

•**Grades 9-10:** Students will learn about God's mercy and forgiveness, how we can be healed from sin, and the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation as they prepare for Wednesday, December 2.

•**Parish-Wide Reconciliation Service: Wednesday, December 2.** All parishioners are warmly invited to join our Faith Formation students for this opportunity to receive God's mercy and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As we enter the Advent season, may we take time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Tri-Parish Youth Ministry:

Contact Information: youthministry@catholic-centered.org

•**Youth Night** Monday, November 16, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Sacred Heart School Gym in Freeport! Open to grades 9-12 from any parish!

St. Mary's Youth Ministry:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

•**Youth Group- Join Us for Faith, Fun, & Friendship!** Our next Youth Group meeting will be Wednesday, December 30, from 6:30–8:00 pm at St. Mary's School. All students in grades 6-8 are invited to join us for an evening of fun, friendship, and faith!

•**Youth Ministry Volunteers Needed!** Interested in helping with Youth Ministry? We'd love to have you involved! Contact Mark Kociemba at 612-430-2351 (cell phone) or 320-256-9051 (no texts, please).

•**Summer Camp Is Coming—Bring a Friend!** Students currently in grades 5–8 are invited to join Youth Ministry for summer camp at Camp Cana in Missouri July 26-31, 2027! Only 13 spots are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't wait to sign up! **Please let Mark Kociemba know by November 20 if you would like to attend.** The first payment of $150 is due November 25, 2026. Contact Mark at faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com or text 612-430-2351.

Stewardship as a Way of Life:

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." - Mt 25:21

God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, to use them wisely, and to be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us. God asks us to be generous with all our gifts, especially the one that means the most to you.

THANKSGIVING MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 25

7:00 pm *Sacred Heart, Freeport*

Thursday, November 26

8:00 am *Sacred Heart, Freeport*
9:00 am *St. Mary, Melrose (Livestream)*
11:30 am *St. Mary, Melrose (Spanish Mass)*



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

♥**SHS had conferences all week** for Infants - 6th grade. Thank you to all the parents who took the time to meet with their children's teachers.

♥**Thank you to all Veterans!** We were blessed to honor you at our Veterans Day Program on Wednesday, November 11. We want to thank the Melrose Legion Post, VFW Post and their Auxiliaries for always making our program so beautiful and honorable.

♥**We want to thank** Bishop Neary for coming to celebrate Mass with us on Wednesday and for visiting with our students.

♥**No School** on Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27.

♥**Johnny Holm** is coming back to Freeport on the Friday after Thanksgiving, November 27. Tickets are available in advance at school.

Sacred Heart School
Calendar Raffle Winners!

11/08	$25	Jayne Pederson – Cape Coral, FL
11/09	$25	Trisha Hoppe – Melrose
11/10	$25	Dale Lambrecht – Burtrum
11/11	$40	Keith & Malibu Sand – New London
11/11	$40	Jared Johnson – Cold Spring
11/12	$25	Josh Pung – Freeport
11/13	$25	Carissa Youngblood – Litchfield
11/14	$25	Ervin Feldewerd – Melrose

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

♦St. Mary's School will celebrate its **Thanksgiving Mass** at 8:30 am on Monday, November 16. We will bring the non-perishable items we've collected for the Melrose Food Shelf to Mass. All are welcome to join us for Mass and bring items for the food shelf.

♦**Thank you** for your support in helping us raise $14,221 for our Harry's Pizza Fundraiser.

♦**You are invited** on a trip to the 1970's and 1980's! The 6th graders will present their Wax Museum on Friday, November 20. All are welcome between 10:00-10:45 am and 1:00-2:00 pm.

♦**Save the Date!** St. Mary's Christmas Program is at the Marit Elliot Performing Arts Center, Melrose Area School, on Wednesday, December 9, at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm. The Little Saints program is also scheduled for December 9 at 10:00 am in the SMS gym.

♦**As of September 30,** St. Mary's School had $1,612,362 in the school endowment fund. Of this amount, $915,409 is principal, which is not to be spent. Additionally, the endowment committee has awarded the school $796,000 since establishing this fund. Thank you for supporting this fund. The endowment committee members are Gary Meyer, Amy Tschida, Alice Schaefer, and Rosie Athmann.

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

●**This week, we celebrate Discover Catholic Schools Week!** We are especially grateful for our parish communities and their continued prayers, encouragement, and support of St. John's–St. Andrew's School. Thank you for being an important part of our SJSA family!

●SJSA's **Ole & Lena's Pizzeria's, soup, pasta, dessert, and coffee sale** is going on now through Wednesday, December 2! Orders can be placed with any SJSA school family or by calling the school. Thank you for supporting our students and school through this delicious fundraiser!



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

Prayer Requests…

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

For the Sick: Gloria Schneider, 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

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS

Bulletin Deadline Change and Office Closures The Parish Offices in Melrose and Freeport will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 26-27 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 23. If possible, please send your announcements by Friday, November 20.

Advent Book Study Join us this Advent as we read Illuminate: A Guided Advent Journal for Prayer and Meditation by Fr. John Nepil. We will meet Wednesday nights, November 25 through December 23, from 6:00-7:00 pm in the 3rd grade classroom at Sacred Heart School. Cost will be roughly $14 to cover the cost of the book. Please reach out to Amy Hoeschen 320-290-5088 ahoeschen@catholic-centered.org or Jessica Goebel jessicafinnegan@msn.com. All are welcome!

Advent Enrichment Materials and Advent Brochures with confession 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 online, including Dynamic Catholic's Best Advent Ever with Matthew Kelly and Ascension Press' Joy to the World with Fr. Mike Schmitz. Visit their websites to sign up or for more information.

Journey to Eternity…Whether you use a paper map or a GPS app, do you know where you are going? CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA is a weekend Catholic retreat program for adults sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese and is designed to help you on your faith journey. The next retreat is scheduled for January 22-24, 2027, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. Cost of the weekend is $70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.

Natural Family Planning… A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in Sauk Centre on Thursday, November 19 & December 17 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 at uphus.nfp@gmail.com or 320-290-8751. *Note: Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP Instruction and follow-up!

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.

Healing the Whole Person Retreat The Three Day Journey to Wholeness Join us on this journey to wholeness as we enter into the heart, face the pains and wounds within, and allow Christ's divine love to bring the healing we ardently desire on December 4-6 at Mount Carmel in Alexandria. There is the option to stay on site at Mount Carmel or commute. Commuter cost includes workbook and all meals for $80. On-site participate includes commuter benefits plus sleeping accommodations for $185. Late fee of $25 after Monday, November 23. What to expect? Video presentations from Dr. Bob Schuchts and Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT of the JPII Healing Center. Reflection and small group discussion. Prayer: Mass, Adoration, Confession led by Father Dan Ruprecht. Communal meals and fellowship. To experience Jesus in His mission of spiritual, emotional, and physical healing! Any questions please contact Cassie at 320-460-5325.



Men's Advent Retreat: The Journey to Bethlehem Through the Eyes of St. Joseph What does it mean to trust God when the road ahead is uncertain? All men are invited to a FREE Advent retreat on Saturday, December 12, at Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Rockville, featuring Fr. Derek Wiechmann. Join us for a morning of prayer, fellowship, and reflection. The morning begins with Adoration at 6:00 am, Mass at 6:30 am, a light breakfast at 7:00 am, and retreat reflections at 7:30 am. The retreat concludes at 9:45 am. Hosted by the Rockville Men's Group and the Knights of Columbus. Register at: https://tinyurl.com/mensadventretreat26

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

November 15, Sunday

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

♦Annual Bake & Craft Sale at St. Anthony Church, St. Cloud from 7:30 am – 12:00 pm.

♦Fall Cash & Cards Bingo at St. Francis Xavier School Cafeteria, Sartell. Doors open at 12:30 pm. Bingo starts at 1:00 pm. $15 per card includes 24 games. 5 extra games on throw away cards. Snacks available.

November 19, 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.

November 20, Friday

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

November 21, Saturday

♦Harvest Supper at Immaculate Conception Church basement, New Munich, serving from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Adults $15, Ages 6-10 $5. Age 5 and under are free. Parish Winter Raffle tickets will be available. Proceeds go toward helping meet on-going parish expenses. For additional information please call 320-248-2231 or 320-250-6288.

♦Christmas Craft & Bake Sale at Holy Spirit Church, St. Cloud from 9:00 am – 5:30 pm. Unique assortment of hand-crafted items and gifts.

November 22, Sunday

♦St. Michael's Men's Society Breakfast Serving from 8:30 am until 12:00 pm at the church in Spring Hill. Adults $10, Children ages 6-12 are $3 (at the door). Also having a Bake Sale.

♦Christmas Craft & Bake Sale at Holy Spirit Church, St. Cloud from 9:00 am – 5:30 pm. Unique assortment of hand-crafted items and gifts.

♦Family Turkey Bingo at Holy Family Fellowship Hall, Little Falls. Bingo starts at 1:30 pm. 20 Bingo games for $5. Two blackout games $2 a card. Over 25 door prizes $100 for blackout. Prizes for the children will be drawn throughout the afternoon.

♦Quilt & Turkey Bingo & Raffle at Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Gilman at 6:00 pm. Choice of quilts and door prizes. Handicap accessible. Free lunch. Sponsored by Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic United Financial Council.

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