



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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2, 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.



God's Providential Care

"Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds.

They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full. Matthew 14:17-20

In the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, there are two distinct miraculous feedings of large crowds. Today's Gospel depicts the first one, given primarily to Jewish people near the Sea of Galilee. Five thousand men (not counting women and children) were fed from five loaves and two fish, resulting in twelve baskets left over. This feeding of the five thousand is notably the only miracle of Jesus recorded in all four Gospels, underscoring its significance. Matthew and Mark also recount a second miraculous feeding—this time of four thousand people—in the largely pagan region of the Decapolis, using seven loaves and a few fish, with seven baskets left over.

Continued on page 5

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ AUGUST 3 - 9

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Tu	6:30 pm	Misa en español (Melrose)
We	8:00 am	†Norm Wehlage (Meire Grove)
Th	8:00 am	†Gene Athmann (Spring Hill)
Fr	8:00 am	†Clarence Schaefer (Melrose)
Sa	5:00 pm	†Maureen Luetmer (Meire Grove)
*Su	9:00 am	†Frank & †Vangie Hartung,
		†Allan & †Sue Hartung (Melrose)
Su	11:30 am	Misa en Español (Melrose)
		Por el Pueblo

SACRED HEART - Freeport

Tu	8:15 am	†Jeanette Zehrer
We	8:15 am	†Jeanette Barth
		†Steven Petermeier
Th	8:15 am	†Mae, †Lawrence, & †John Wiechmann
Fr	8:15 am	†Eberhard "Ebe" Hinnenkamp
Su	8:00 am	For the People

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Sa	4:00 pm	†Vernon Rieland
		†Joe Rieland
		†Giles Rieland

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Su	10:00 am	†Al & †Esther Beuning
----	----------	-----------------------

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



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

ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

~ St. Mary Melrose & Meire Grove Campus ~
Communities of Melrose, Meire Grove, Spring Hill, Greenwald

- **All Ministers from Spring Hill and Greenwald** who would like to be scheduled in Meire Grove or Melrose should contact the parish office.
- **Contribution Envelopes** If you are attending a Mass outside of your registered parish or ACC, you can still drop your contribution envelope into the collection. The envelope will get back to our office and into the intended account.

Employment Opportunity... 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 PO Box 155, Freeport, MN 56331 or call 320-836-2143.



CAUTION!! Road work has begun in front of the church, parish office, and school in Freeport. If you need to visit the office, we encourage you to use the back door which can be accessed by sidewalks in the back. The front door is still accessible, but you have to cross grass to get to it. You can access the parking lot by using the driveway at the back of the parish property. You can also park on Main Street. Please be safe.

Adore at George! Outdoor Eucharistic Adoration at Lake George 1101 7th St S, St. Cloud, MN on the south end of the lake with Fr. Derek Wiechmann on Tuesday, August 25, starting at 3:00 pm with Exposition, reading, homily and testimony, and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Silent Prayer, prayer teams, and confession available at 4:00 pm. Praise and worship starting at 6:00 pm followed by Benediction and closing prayer at 7:15 pm. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and a bottle of water. Unless there is lightning, the event will happen rain or shine!



"Journey with St. Francis" Everyone is welcome to participate in the mini pilgrimage at the Franciscan Sisters Campus, 116 8th Ave. SE, Little Falls, MN on Thursday, August 13. Registration at 8:30 am, then get a tour and history of Franciscans from 9:00 - 10:30 am, followed by Mass at 11:00 am. Stay and have lunch with the Sisters at noon and continue your visit. There is no fee but pre-registration is required. Call Linda Borgerding at 320-293-1839 to register. Sponsored by St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. (no bus, carpooling encouraged)

Parish News:

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

- **Children's Liturgy of the Word** With the school year right around the corner, we are looking for help with Children's Liturgy of the Word in Freeport, New Munich, and St. Rosa during weekend Masses. If you like working with children and sharing your faith with them, this could be the ministry for you. We need to have one confirmed member and one youth present during Children's Liturgy of the Word. If a Mass time in one of the parishes is better for you, you are more than welcome to help in that parish. If we do not have volunteers to carry out this ministry, it will not be available to your young people. Please contact the office in Freeport if you are interested in helping with this ministry.
- **Social Media:** Start following our social media pages to see behind the scenes, to find inspiration, to learn more about our faith, to have a laugh, and to stay informed!

♦ **Instagram:**

*Tri-Parish Community can be found @triparishcommunity

*Tri-Parish Youth Group can be found @triparishyouthgroup

♦ **Facebook:**

*Tri-Parish Community can be found by searching "Tri Parish" - be sure to put a space between Tri and Parish.

The Road to Holiness: Finding Our Identity in the Eucharistic Heart of Christ with instructor Fred Blonigen at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, St. Cloud. This six session meeting is Tuesdays from September 8 to October 13 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

- **September 8:** Rediscovering with Amazement God's Greatest Gift to Humanity: The Holy Eucharist
- **September 15:** Praying, Understanding, and Living the Holy Mass with the Faith and Fervor of the Saints
- **September 22:** Eucharistic Adoration: How to Defeat the Culture of Death
- **September 29:** Sacred Heart Devotion and the Holy Eucharist: The Mystery of God's Infinite Love for Us.
- **October 06:** The Path of Sanctity: Imitating the Eucharistic Saints
- **October 13:** Questions and Answers on the Eucharist

Faith as Small as a Mustard Seed Can Move Mountains. Are you climbing a mountain in your life right now? CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA is a weekend retreat program that commemorates the Paschal Mystery in a community setting. The next weekend is scheduled for September 18 - 20, 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.



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.....	\$10,042.00
Regular Adult Offering	8,304.00
Plate/Loose	1,002.00
Designated Funds	736.00

Spring Hill	\$1,325.30
Greenwald	\$790.00

St. Mary - Meire Grove

Total	\$1,212.50
Regular Adult Offering.....	865.00
EFT	140.00
Children's	.50
Plate/Loose	170.00
Votives	37.00

St. Mary's - Meire Grove Liturgical Ministries
Saturday, August 8 - 5:00 pm

(S) Isaac Zenzen & Volunteer Needed

(L) Karen Meyer

(U) Jerry Imdieke & Nick Kelzer

(GB) Martha Meyer & Family

(EM) Karl Meyer, Sue Meyer, Abby Zenzen, Daryl Zenzen

(HK - August) *Virginia Meyer, Geri Primus, Cindy Schneider, Karen Schneider, Linda Schneider, & Joy Silbernack

St. Mary's - Melrose Calendar Raffle

07-26	\$25	Tina & Jamie Terres, Melrose
07-27	\$25	Tricia Klaphake, Melrose
07-28	\$25	Donte & Serena Theiler, Meire Grove
07-29	\$25	Gail Hiedeman, Becker
07-30	\$25	Susan Terres, Melrose
07-31	\$25	Missy Leukam, Sauk Centre
08-01	\$25	Fr. Mitchell Bechtold, Melrose



Baptized in Christ... Emmett James Gilbert (Meire Grove)

Died in the Hope of Resurrection... †Genevieve "Gennie" Welle, 89 (Spring Hill), †Harriette Scherer, 97 (Melrose), †Margaret "Marge" Thull, 81 (Greenwald)

Fellowship... Come and enjoy refreshments and cookies after 9:00 am and 11:30 am Masses today, Sunday, August 2. Hope to see you there.



Music Ministry at St. Mary's - Melrose is welcoming new members. If you enjoy singing with a choir or playing your instrument we have a place for you. Please contact Sarah Woeste in the office for more information.

The Parish Life Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on their committee. Please contact the parish office if you'd like to help with these fun and rewarding things: hospitality, parish and school staff appreciation, fall picnic, parades, and community service projects.



Cemetery Help We encourage volunteers to assist anytime. Thank you for helping keep our cemeteries beautiful and welcoming!

St. Mary's News con.'t on page 4

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

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

Total.....	\$4,991.96
Regular Adult Offering	3,918.46
Votive	177.00
School Support	105.00
Venezuela Earthquake Aid	771.50
Building/Maintenance	20.00

Parish Events

Mo 08/03 6:30 pm	Youth Night at SHS Gym
We 08/05 10:30 am	Lawrence Sand Memorial Mass
Fr 08/07 7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr 08/07 9:00 am	Adoration

We Welcome the Following Families to our Parish...

- ♥Matthew & Mattie Beste
- ♥Tyler & Maretta Welle
- ♥Bethany Gerads
- ♥Mitchell Yamry

Festival Chairs Needed Sacred Heart Parish is looking for a couple people to help chair next year's festival. If you are able and willing to help, contact the office. Please prayerfully consider helping out with this important fundraiser for our parish.



to Ron Bertram for his many years of service as parish groundskeeper/custodian.

Raffle Winners The list of raffle winners can be found on the Tri-Parish website and Facebook page, the Sacred Heart Parish Festival Facebook Page, or by contacting the Parish Office in Freeport. Thank you to all who donated toward the raffle and purchased tickets.



CAUTION!! Road work has begun in front of the church, parish office, and school in Freeport. If you need to visit the office, we encourage you to use the back door which can be accessed by sidewalks in the back. The front door is still accessible, but you have to cross grass to get to it. You can access the parking lot by using the driveway at the back of the parish property. You can also park on Main Street. Please be safe.

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!

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

Spring Hill

- Thursday: 7:30 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



CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,630.92
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,896.92
Assumption Envelope	5.00
Building/Maintenance	120.00
Venezuela Earthquake Aid	609.00

Parish Events

Mo 08/03 6:30 pm Youth Night at SHS Gym
Sa 08/08 3:30 pm Individual Confessions

Loan to the New Munich Investors for the Elevator Expansion Update. Another payment was made putting the loan balance at \$70,000. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to help pay this last stretch of the loan off.



CAUTION!! Road work has begun in front of the church, parish office, and school in Freeport. If you need to visit the office, we encourage you to use the back door which can be accessed by sidewalks in the back. The front door is still accessible, but you have to cross grass to get to it. You can access the parking lot by using the driveway at the back of the parish property. You can also park on Main Street. Please be safe.



Stewardship as a Way of Life:

“Jesus said to them, ‘There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves’.”

Matthew 14:16

This is what Jesus said right before he fed the five thousand men. How often do we really place our trust in Jesus when the situation looks grim? With Jesus, no gift is too small or insignificant when offered with love, but we have to do our part. We should trust that Jesus will provide all that we need. We need to believe that Jesus has better plan in store for us.

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$5,329.13
Regular Adult Offering.....	4,193.08
Venezuela Earthquake Aid	1,136.05

Parish Events

Mo 08/03 6:30 pm Youth Night at SHS Gym
Fr 08/07 7:30 pm Rosary

Baptized in Christ...

♥We welcome **Remi Ann Toenyan**, the daughter of Daniel & Samantha Toenyan, to our parish. Remi Ann was baptized on Saturday, July 25.

♥We welcome **Rylee Anne Schultz**, the daughter of Derrick & Brianna Schultz, to our parish. Rylee Anne was baptized on Sunday, July 26.



Have Extra Fresh Produce from your garden that you don't know what to do with? Bring it with you to Church! Starting Sunday, July 26, there will be a table set up in the gathering space to share your bountiful harvest within our parish family!

Parish Festival News:

◆Parishioner Parish Festival envelopes/tickets are available to pick up in the gathering space of the church.

◆Albany Bakery is willing to make cakes and deliver them on Saturday prior to the festival if a parishioner prefers & orders. Please call them to order.

CAUTION!! Road work has begun in front of the church, parish office, and school in Freeport. If you need to visit the office, we encourage you to use the back door which can be accessed by sidewalks in the back. The front door is still accessible, but you have to cross grass to get to it. You can access the parking lot by using the driveway at the back of the parish property. You can also park on Main Street. Please be safe.

**HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA**

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

August 5, Wednesday

◆**Night to Unite** at the Sauk River Park in Melrose from 3:00 - 8:00 pm. Farmers Market from 3:00 - 7:00 pm. Community Dance Party and free ice cream from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, and meet area First Responders.

August 9, Sunday

◆**Annual Church Bazaar** at the Church of Seven Dolor, Albany. 10:00 am Polka Mass, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm Homemade chicken dinner, 3:00 pm Quilt auction, 6:00 pm Grand and Cash raffle drawings. Games, food, beverages and entertainment by The Nite Owls and Two for the Road throughout the day.

August 11, Tuesday

◆**American Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Freeport Community Center sponsored by the Freeport Lions Club from 12:30 - 6:30 pm. Appointments are needed. Give the precious gift of life. We are always in need of people with type “O” blood. Schedule your appointment online at redcross.org or call Janet Butkowski at 320-836-2837 or 320-282-2904.

August 20, Thursday

◆**Freeport Senior Citizens Meeting** at 12:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. 500 cards and Bingo will be played.

August 25, Tuesday

◆**Bologna Daze** at Elrosa Bar & Lounge serving from 5:00 - 7:30 pm. Music by Jerry & Joyce Dance Band. \$12 all you can eat. Sponsored by: Elrosa Senior Citizens.

August 31, Monday

◆**American Red Cross Blood Drive** at Holy Spirit Catholic Church 2405 Walden Way, St. Cloud, MN from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Schedule your appointment online at RedCrossBlood.org and enter Holy Spirit Catholic Church or call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

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, hotdogs 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!

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **Faith Formation Registration:** Please contact the Tri-Parish Office if you are interested in signing up your child in grades 1-10 for Faith Formation. Call 320-836-2143 or email faithformation@catholic-centered.org.
- **The First Night of Faith Formation** will be Wednesday, September 9. Parents are required to attend the parent meeting 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 Classes** with Father Dan start Wednesday, August 19 at 7:00 pm in the Nave of the Church. Confirmation Mass will be on Sunday, October 4 at 1:00 pm.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.org

- **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 call 320-256-9501.
- **Save the Date:** Saturday, August 8. We will have a summer retreat for our young people in grades 6-12. The theme of this summer retreat will be the four gospels. It is called Impressions. If you are interested in helping with this summer program or you know that your child would like to attend, please let Mark Kociemba know by email or you can call the faith formation office at 320-256-9501. Registration forms will be available at all of the kiosks and at the faith formation table by the office. Registration has begun. All 6-12 graders from both parishes are welcome to attend.
- **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.
- **Our New Faith Formation Program Life Teen** requires volunteers to help lead small group and be present for our young people. Please consider helping our with faith formation and youth Ministry. if you have questions please email Mark Kociemba at faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com or call 256-9501. You are needed to help us lead our youth closer to Christ.
- **First Faith Formation Classes** will be held September 9 at Saint Mary's Catholic School. 1st, and 3rd-5th grade will be from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm and 6-12 grades will be from 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm. 11th grade confirmation will meet at the church from 7:15 to 8:30 pm.



Faith Formation

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

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

- **Youth Night** Monday, August 3 at 6:30 pm in the Sacred Heart School Gym!

God's Providential Care cont. 'd from pg 1



This first miracle takes place within the context of Jesus' sorrowful heart, as He mourns the death of His cousin, John the Baptist. Jesus knew that John's death occurred for the Father's glory and according to His permissive will. Yet this divine perspective did not eliminate His human sorrow. Holy sorrow is a profound expression of love in the face of suffering.

Because Jesus' love was perfect, His sorrow was genuine and deep. The depth of His sorrow is evident from His deliberate choice to withdraw by boat to be alone, to fully embrace His grief. It is beautiful to note that Jesus' divinity does not overshadow or diminish His humanity. Rather, with divine love, He fully accepts John's death, and with a genuinely human heart, He properly mourns. In Jesus, humanity and divinity intertwine perfectly.

Upon disembarking, Jesus finds that a large crowd has followed Him on foot, anticipating His arrival, hungry for His teachings and miracles. Here we encounter a second revelation of Jesus' divinity shining through His humanity. Seeing the crowd and perceiving their brokenness, sinfulness, and suffering, "his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick." The Greek word translated here as "pity" indicates a deeply felt, visceral compassion. This compassion, divine in origin, flows perfectly through Jesus' sacred humanity. His compassionate gaze vividly reveals God's merciful love: Jesus does not merely sympathize; He acts decisively, healing the sick and alleviating their suffering. His divine love compels Him to act for the good of His people.

The miracle itself recalls God's providential care for the Israelites during their forty years in the desert, when manna appeared each morning, providing sufficient food for each day. That miracle, coupled with today's Gospel, teaches us a consistent truth: God always provides for us when we turn to Him, seeking Him earnestly as the crowd did.

The multiplication of the loaves and fish also foreshadows the Eucharist, likely the reason it is recorded in all four Gospels. In the Eucharist, God provides abundantly for our spiritual nourishment. When received with faith and trust in God's providence, Jesus' Body and Blood nourishes every virtue within us, empowering us to flourish spiritually. The Eucharist prepares us for eternal life, where we anticipate sharing in the eternal Wedding Banquet of Heaven—a perfect, everlasting celebration free from all sin, sickness, and suffering.

Reflect today on Jesus' tender care. He looks upon your needs with the same compassion He showed to the crowds in the wilderness. Consider especially how He desires to feed you daily through the Most Holy Eucharist, the true Bread from Heaven. Bring to Him whatever you have, even if it seems small or insufficient—your struggles, weariness, prayers, and hopes—and trust that in His hands, they will be multiplied for the good of your soul and the souls of others. Let this miraculous feeding stir within you a deeper faith in God's providence and a more fervent desire for the Eucharist, where Christ Himself is our sustenance, our healing, and our foretaste of eternal joy.

*My Eucharistic Lord, the Gift of the Eucharist is beyond my comprehension. Just as the crowds were amazed at the multiplication of the loaves and fish, astonish me with an understanding of the Eucharist and Your providential care that fills my heart with openness and gratitude to You.
 Jesus, I trust in You.*

mycatholic.life

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Amy Van Beek
SMS BOARD:
 Myranda Beuning, Bethanie Ettle,
 Ben Kalthoff, Mike Moscho,
 Lindsay Frieler, and Chris Klaphake
 www.shsfreeport.org School Phone: 320-836-2591
 Toddler Center Phone: 320-836-2585



PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Autumn Nelson
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Briana Worms
SMS BOARD:
 Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch,
 Jake Primus, Becky Hukriede,
 Lindsey Gruber, and Greta Rademacher
 Phone: 320-256-4257
 www.smsmelrosemn.org



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

♥ **A HUGE Thank you to Freeport State Bank** for the very generous donation of \$7,500 from the FSB Golf Classic fundraiser. We appreciate your support and generosity.

♥ **Thank you to Famo Feeds** for sponsoring our SHS golf team at the FSB tournament. We are honored to represent your business and we thank you for your continued support of SHS.

♥ **REMINDER:** SHS will be purchasing most school supplies in bulk, watch for a list soon of the few items that parents can pick up.

♥ **Thank you to the Freeport Lions** for sponsoring the buses for our summercare program. They are able to visit local splash pads and the zoo. We appreciate your support and help with busing our students.

♥ **SHS is Hiring** part time individuals to work in our before and after school program. Hours will be from 7:00-8:00 am and 3:00-5:30 pm Monday-Friday and also when there is no school. Interested applicants must be 16 years of age and must be able to help with homework and have a genuine interest in caring for children. Applicants can fill out an application at SHS school.

♥ **Toddler Care** If you are looking for Toddler care at SHS, we have some openings. Please contact Chrystal at 320-836-2585.

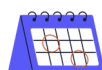
♥ **The School Office Will Be Open Periodically** throughout the summer. If you need something, please send a fast direct message. Or call the office at 320-836-2591.

♦ **If You Need To Contact The School** over the summer, email anelson@smsmn.org or call 320-256-4257 and leave a message.

♦ **There Are Still Openings** for prospective 2026-2027 Little Saints and students in Kindergarten through 6th grade. If interested, call 320-256-4257, email anelson@smsmn.org, or visit our school website smsmelrosemn.org.

♦ **SJSA has openings in grades preschool—6th grade** for the 2026-2027 school year. If you are looking for small class sizes in a caring and faith based environment, check us out! If you would like to visit the school, call the office at 320-987-3133 or email Hope at sjsahopek@gmail.com.

♦ **Summer Office Hours** will vary. Please call 320-987-3133 and leave a message or email Hope at sjsahopek@gmail.com.



Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners!

07/26	\$25	Sheila Humbert - Melrose
07/27	\$25	Jim & Joanne Ruprecht - Freeport
07/28	\$25	Ashley & Jon Singleton - Mankato
07/29	\$25	Darlene Gruber - Belgrade
07/30	\$25	Jared Johnson - Cold Spring
07/31	\$25	Dave Ehlert - Freeport
08/01	\$25	Amanda Krippner - Kimball

Prayer Requests...

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

Banns of Matrimony:

II Kylee Blenker♥Jack Ellering, 8/15 - St. Joseph

For the Sick: Pat Bushman, Tom Blommel, Carol, Bethany Downs, Cali Dickhoff, Dolores Notch, 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 Is Invited to Celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



♦ **Indoor Mass** Saturday, August 15 at 8:00 am at Sacred Heart, Freeport.

♦ **Outdoor Mass** Saturday, August 15 at 7:30 pm in Spring Hill.

In case of inclement weather, Mass will be held in church.

Poor Clares collection will be taken.

Bring your own chair.

Refreshments will be served after Mass.

Everyone is welcome! Please bring a friend!

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2



Hearts of Mercy - Bishop's Annual Appeal: Please accept our deepest gratitude to those of you who have already supported diocesan ministries this year. As of Monday, July 20, the Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2026 has raised cash and pledge gifts of \$1,183,542 toward our goal of \$1,550,000 (76.36%). This was made possible through the generous donations of 5,559 people throughout the 16 counties of our diocese. For weekly updates on our progress and to help these ministries meet their funding needs, visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Holy Family Mini Fest 2026 Join us August 13 - 16 for a different kind of great Minnesota get-together! Come experience the beauty and wonder of God alongside fellow Catholics at the historical Holy Family Catholic Church and Belle Prairie Park along the Mississippi River just north of Little Falls, MN. Space is limited to 350 people. Register early as it will fill up. Registration is \$300. For more information call/text Kimberly at 320-247-2293 or holyfamilyland@gmail.com or www.holyfamilyland.org.

Embroidered Dish Towels Do you need a bridal shower or wedding gift? Or do you need a new set of dish towels to use at home? Sacred Heart Parish has embroidered dish towels available for sale. They are \$35 for a set of seven and can be purchased at the Freeport Senior Center on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 5:00 pm or by calling Dolores Notch at 320-836-2450.



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 or Melrose. 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.

Healing the Whole Person The 8-Part Group Series Video Series by Dr. Bob Schuchts and Sr. Miriam James Heidland. Come experience 8 talks, community reflections, and healing and restoration. Join Fr. Greg Paffel and St. Stanislaus Church, Bowlus for this 3 day weekend retreat - October 23, 24 & 25. Friday (2pm - 9 pm), Saturday (9:00 am - 3:30 pm), & Sunday (Starts with Weekend Mass at 10 am - 4:30 pm). Early bird registration by October 12 - \$75. Starting October 13, registration will be \$100. If you have any questions about the retreats, contact Janice at 320-640-7623 or at healing@spiritandsaints.org. Registration for Bowlus can also be done at: <https://forms.gle/NZkuqkG6xUnXy4mw7>. Please note: This is a licensed video series used with the permission of the JPPI Healing Center. This is not a JPPI Healing Center event.

Marriage & Natural Family Planning:

A Divine Design! Natural Family Planning (NFP) is natural, effective, and healthy. It cooperates with God's design for married love, empowering couples to responsibly plan their family while strengthening their bond. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in Sauk Centre on Thursday, August 20 and Thursday, September 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. The class is approximately 1½ to 2 hours long. *Note: Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP Instruction and follow-up!



2026 Rural Life Celebration This year's Rural Life Celebration will take place on Sunday, August 16 from 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm at the Moenkedick Family Farm (38153 - 431st Street, Perham, MN) in rural Perham. The event will include Mass on the farm with Bishop Neary, the annual Catholic Century Farm and Rural Business Awards presentations, refreshments, and family-friendly activities. This is a rain or shine event. In the case of severe weather, the event will be held at St. Henry's Catholic Church in Perham.

Prayer for Rain

O Mighty God, Your fingerprints are scattered across all of creation. Through each thing You have created, You show Your glory. Your caring and gentle nature are on display for all to see and experience. You open the heavens and bring the waters



down from above. Lord, this very day we ask that You open the flood gates. Bring down nourishing rains, that the land may be quenched and bring forth much fruit. Amen.



The Scriptures This Week

Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo	Weekday Jer 28:1-17	Mt 14:22-36
Tu	Saint John Vianney, Priest (Memorial) Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22	Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
We	Weekday (The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major) Jer 31:1-7	Mt 15:21-28
Th	The Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast) Dn 7:9-10, 13-14	2 Pt 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9
Fr	Weekday (Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint Cajetan, Priest) Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7	Mt 16:24-28
Sa	Saint Dominic, Priest (Memorial) Hb 1:12—2:4	Mt 17:14-20
Next Sunday - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time		1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a Rom 9:1-5 Mt 14:22-33

 KRAEMER Heating & A/C LLC "We're Family, Not A Franchise"	"Services adaptable to your needs" WealthCare Inc. Bookkeeping • Payroll • Tax Advisory • Insurance www.wealthcare-inc.com Eden Valley Cold Spring Melrose 101 Stearns Ave. E. 210 Main Street 306 E Main St. Eden Valley, MN 56525 Cold Spring, MN 56301 Melrose, MN 56352 (320) 453-7070 (320) 685-7070 (320) 256-7070	 PATTON & SCHAD FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES Honoring Life's Memories 256-4249 Linda Holm, owner/operator	Paul Kollmann Monument (320) 363-4571 25% off per 1 transaction Top Quality Products / Please contact me for free Consultations Competitive & transparent pricing paulkollmann.com	 FREEPORT STATE BANK Freeport • Melrose • Greenwald www.freeportstatebank.com Freeport 836-2126 Melrose 256-7208 Greenwald 987-2265		
ST. ROSA LUMBER INC. ARNZEN CONSTRUCTION, INC. AGRICULTURE • COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL Residential - Commerical - Agricultural 320-836-2284 29033 Co. Rd. 17, Freeport	RJ's Country Store St. Rosa BAIT * GAS * ATM GROCERIES	Creekside WOODWORKS LLC CABINETS • TRIM • FURNITURE	ADVERTISE HERE	Building Relationships Since 1958 BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value KRAEMER LUMBER CO., INC.		
ADVERTISE HERE	Freeport Lions Club BAR BINGO / MEAT RAFFLE Saturdays November - March Freeport MN Lions Club	BILL KEMPER EXCAVATING BASEMENTS - WATER LINES - SEPTIC SYSTEMS - EXCAVATING - PERC TEST & DESIGN - GRAVEL - SEWER & WATER 320-256-3982 320-250-2068	YOUR TRUSTED INSURANCE TEAM Call for a bundle quote today! Kyle Holm, Agent Kyle Holm Agency LLC HOME AUTO LIFE BUSINESS FARM & RANCH	AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE Insure carefully, dream fearlessly. 320-256-3494 408 E Main St Ste 2 Melrose, MN 56352 Visit My Website	ALL STARS Sports Bar & Grill 320-836-2154	
Hoeschen Auto Complete Auto Repair Specialists Dan Hoeschen, Owner • 320-836-2130 In business since 1980 MICHELIN UNIROYAL BFGoodrich and many other brands!	Spanier/Nathe Cabinets Custom Made Cabinets for your whole house Mike Nathe cell: 320-290-0505 35428 County Road 13 • Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-3985	MAGNIFI FINANCIAL	FREEPORT COMMUNITY CENTER FOR HALL RENTAL CALL 320-836-2526	TREE WORKS Nolan Sand Melrose, MN 320-429-0606	Klaphake FEED MILL INC. MELROSE, MN Proud to be a part of the Ag Industry	
Oak Electric Service Inc. THOMAS HOPPE 36484 300th Ave. Melrose, MN 56352 320-837-5853	Hennen Floor Covering, Inc. FREEPORT	Munson Feed Company, Inc. Manufacturers of Box 184, Melrose, MN 56352 Pete Jr., Mike, Josh Terres and employees Business Phone 256-4219 Livestock and Poultry Feeds	revermann lund ross Estate Planning Probate Business Real Estate Employment Melrose 320.256.4205 Waite Park 320.258.9383 rlrlegal.com			
WHEELS WATER SERVICE 37276 County Road 13 PO Box 233 Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-4146 JAMMIE WIELING	Independent Monument Consultant Courtney Indieke 320-293-6518 courtneyindieke@gmail.com	• Licensed • Bonded • Insured Electrical Contracting Free Estimates MELROSE ELECTRIC, INC. MEMBER OF MINNESOTA ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION 119 8th Ave. W (320) 256-3846 PO Box 234 (320) 256-7359 Melrose, MN 56352 Fax (320) 256-4240	ADVERTISE HERE	MELROSE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY "Neighbor helping Neighbor since 1901" Stacy Schiffler, Manager 303 Main Street East Melrose, MN 56352 256-7290 www.melrosemutual.com	MELROSE IMPLEMENT INC. NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE Sales - Parts - Service Phone 256-4253 - Melrose, MN www.melroseimplement.com	
Tree of Life ASSISTED LIVING OF NEW MUNICH Offers 24-hour customized assisted living, private rooms, activities, and adult daycare. Call 320-837-5100 for a tour.	WORMS Lumber & Ready Mix, Inc. All your building needs in one place!	Atkinson Well & Pump Ltd. "Serving you since 1942" Service you can count on 365 days a year (320) 836-2597 Rodney Atkinson Ben Atkinson	BELGRADE CO-OP AGRONOMY PROPANE REFINED FUELS Office locations in Belgrade & Melrose 320-254-8231	DAN SCHMIDT PRINTING AND DESIGN SERVICES SINCE 1985 DSPI PRINTING, INC. 302 East Main Street Melrose, MN 56352 320.256.3700 dsprint@meltel.net		
RAHN'S OIL & PROPANE FUEL WITH MUSCLE God Bless our Parish Families!	Cornerstone ag services Our focus is crop insurance. ~ Dana Kerfeld ~ 5 Central Ave. N • St. Stephen, MN 56375 (320) 257-CROP (2767) Cornerstone ag services Our focus is crop insurance.	ADVERTISE HERE	MAYERS, INC. MELROSE, MN 256-4479 Excavating, Water, Sewers, Site Prep., Basements, Sand, Gravel	For All Your Building Needs Frericks Construction Inc. Melrose, MN Lic. #BC-20457080 Jim 249-7404 Russell 290-5669	MELROSE 1 STOP SERVICE CENTER CAR WASH TRUCK WASH God Bless America!	
Famo feeds	Welcome HOME to Brenny Your TRUCKING Career starts HERE! Call Cara! 320.363.6999 WWW.BRENNYTRANSPORTATION.COM	Hennen LUMBER CO. INC. Freeport, MN 56331 (320) 836-2135	MARTINEZ MEAT & GROCERY 420 E. Main St. - Melrose, MN lulmartinezmeat123@gmail.com 320.256.2363 Productos Mexicanos fax: 320.256.2364	Engelmeyer LAND SURVEYING Land Surveying • GPS Surveys Plotting • Sub-Division Lot • Acreage • Boundary • ALTA Surveys 320-836-2291 Or Call 320-256-7298 www.engelmeyerslandsurveying.com David A. Engelmeyer, Land Surveyor engelsur@meltel.net 41701 Co Rd 167 • Melrose	Brenda Kraemer Member Advisor • Insurance • Retirement • Planning • Charitable Giving • Credit Union bkraemer@catholicunited.org (320) 493-3957 Catholic United Financial	CAP Enterprises 511 3rd Ave SW Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-3900