



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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2026

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

froswald@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

- ◆Fridays 7:45 am Sacred Heart
- ◆Saturdays 3:30 pm St. Andrew
- ◆Saturdays 3:30 pm Immaculate Conception
- ◆Saturdays 4:30 pm St. Mary
- ◆Sundays 11:00 am 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.

Spiritual Sight Restored

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." John 9:1-3



Imagine being blind throughout your life and then suddenly being healed. All of the sounds you had heard from childhood, all that you had touched, tasted, or smelled suddenly took on new form within your imagination as these images registered with sight for the first time. Colors suddenly made sense. Large items, such as trees that you had only heard in the wind and touched with your hands, could be seen from a distance, glimmering in the sunlight. Your mind suddenly perceived in a new way the utensils, clothing, and other items you used daily. Just as the blind man was filled with awe at receiving his sight, so too is the soul overwhelmed when freed from the blindness of sin and brought into the light of God's grace.

The healed blind man was given a gift that those who can see from birth are not. Perceiving and understanding the physical world only through four of his senses, and then adding the powerful fifth sense of sight later in life, provided immediate wonder and awe, filling him with profound gratitude for something most of us take for granted.

Think of a person who lives a sinful life for many years and understands life only through the distortions of sin and selfishness. Once set free from sin, the person's spiritual eyes are opened. Those who experience such a conversion are given a blessing that those who have been faithful throughout their lives do not receive in the same way. They understand the contrast between spiritual blindness and sight, and the newfound freedom they receive after conversion provides a greater understanding of the gift of God's grace and its transforming effects. They will never forget the weight of bondage once caused by their sin.

One reason God permitted this man to be born blind and live that way into adulthood was to illustrate the contrast between spiritual darkness and light. This is part of what Jesus means when He says this man was born blind "so that the works of God might be made visible through him." The miracle not only illustrated Jesus' divine power but also symbolized the much deeper spiritual healing He offers to all. Just as the blind man received physical sight, we are offered the gift of spiritual sight through grace.

Continued on page 3

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ MARCH 9 –15

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm **Misa en español**
 †Sergio Hernandez
 Tu 8:00 am †Bernadine Rieland
 We 8:00 am †Clarence Wenker
 Th 8:00 am †Erma Moorman
 *Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
 †Todd Bussmann
 Sa 5:00 pm †Jerome A. Cremers
 *Su 9:00 am †Frank & †Vangie Hartung
 †Allan & †Sue Hartung
 Su 11:30 am **Misa en Español**
 †Jose Luis Ambriz
 †Maria Piedad Becerra

SACRED HEART - Freeport

We 8:15 am **NO MASS**
 Fr 8:15 am **SH School Mass**
 Lawrence & Hilda Notch Family
 Su 8:00 am †Deceased/Living Members of the
 Jerome & Mary Ann Butkowski Family

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th 8:15 am †Lois Schaefer
 Sa 4:00 pm †Ruth Searcy

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am †Claude Toenyan Anniversary
 Su 10:00 am For the People

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am †Marlene Lieser
 Su 10:00 am For the People

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †Adam & †Cecilia Van Beck
 Sa 4:00 pm †John & †Leona Frieler,
 †Jim Frieler & †Darlene Frieler

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Clarence Schaefer
 Su 8:00 am †Albin & †JoAnn Zenzen

St. Mary - Melrose
 First Thursday of the month 6:30 pm
 in Spanish (en Español)
 and
 Saturdays, 8:00 - 9:00 am
Sacred Heart - Freeport
Adoration is suspended
until further notice due to painting
of the interior of the church.



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

ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

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

•Dear St. Andrew, St. Michael, & St. John's Parishioners,

The Melrose Area Food Shelf thanks you from the bottom of our heart for your generous donations of 135 pounds of food. Because of your goodness, many in our communities will have enough to eat. Thanks & Blessings! MAFS

No Mass on Wednesday, March 18 at 8:15 am at Sacred Heart due to a funeral.

One In Faith ACC Employment Opportunity...

•Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry The Church of St. Mary's, Melrose, is seeking a full-time Director to oversee K-12 Faith Formation, Sacrament Preparation, and Youth Ministry. Applicants must be practicing Catholics in good standing, experience in teaching faith formation at different grade levels, able to meet diocesan Safe Environment requirements, and available for flexible scheduling (may include some evenings/weekends). Reliable transportation is required and salary is based on experience. For information or to apply: oif@stmarysofmelrose.com



Congratulations! Our One in Faith ACC would like to congratulate the following individuals as they joined the Church through Eucharist and/or Confirmation at the weekend Masses, February 14/15. **St. Mary:** Hannah Tschida, Anthony Ambriz, Kylee Blenker, Bryanne Feldewerd, and Sara Lukaswicz, **Immaculate Conception:** Jamie Hoover, **St. Michael:** Elizabeth Bertram.

Chrism Mass for the Diocese of St. Cloud will be held Thursday, March 26 at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Mary, St. Cloud. This solemn liturgy takes place once a year at the Cathedral, during which Bishop Neary will consecrate the holy oils (the Oil of Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and the Sacred Chrism) used in parishes of our diocese throughout the coming year.



Parish News:

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

•Weekday Mass Changes--in light of Fr. Dan's health, he met with the leadership of the 3 parishes, and it was decided that to aid with his healing it would be best to change the start date of moving all weekday Masses (Sacred Heart, Immaculate Conception, and St. Rose of Lima) to Freeport. **This will begin April 7, 2026.** It was also decided that if there is a funeral, the morning Mass that day will be cancelled.

•Forty Cans For Lent St. Joseph the Worker Knights of Columbus will again be sponsoring the Forty Cans For Lent program. This program donates food items and/or cash to the Melrose Food Shelf. There are totes in each of the three churches in the Tri-Parish where you can place your items or cash. This is a great way for you to make a difference for those that are in need! The Knights of Columbus would like to Thank You for any donation that you can make! May your Lenten Journey bring you closer to God!

Special Prayer Service Abbot Douglas and the monks of Saint John's Abbey invite you to a special prayer service at the Abbey Church on Saturday, March 28, the eve of Palm Sunday. The service begins at 7:00 pm and features a beautiful music setting and prayer - an inspiring way to enter into Holy Week. A reception with light refreshments will follow in the Great Hall. Please join us for this special vigil service, on Saturday, March 28, at 7:00 pm. And feel free to bring a friend or two. All are welcome.

Colored Easter Eggs for Sale: Order your dyed Easter Eggs to support our Tri-Parish Youth. \$5 per dozen. Call the Parish Office in Freeport at 320-836-2143 to place your order.

Lenten Book Study Join us this Lent as we read Bishop Barron's "What Christians Believe: Understanding the Nicene Creed." We meet Sunday afternoons at 1:00 pm in the Tri-Parish Office. We will be reading the following chapters each week: March 15 - Chapter 4, March 22 - Chapter 5, March 29 - Chapter 6. Books are free and available at Freeport, New Munich and St. Rosa parishes. **All are welcome!**

One in Faith ACC News Continued on page 7

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

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

Total.....	\$8,713.88
Regular Adult Offering	6,861.00
Plate/Loose	1,112.88
Designated Funds	740.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle



03-08	\$25	Mary Koetten, Little Falls
03-09	\$25	Jon & Jodi Maus, Melrose
03-10	\$25	Megan Viere, Melrose
03-11	\$50	Steve Hennen, Freeport
03-12	\$25	Bob & Julie Mayers, Melrose
03-13	\$25	Lora Fourre, Freeport
03-14	\$25	Darlene Bussmann, Melrose

Died in the Hope of Resurrection...

†Geraldine "Gerry" Meyer, 98 †Patricia "Pat" Roehrl, 92
 †Norma Jepperson, 93



Spiritual Sight Restored

cont. 'd from pg. 1



We are born with poor spiritual sight. Our fallen human nature, which suffers from concupiscence, tends toward selfishness and sin. Although capable of love and affection, a child is prone to selfishness, anger, emotional outbursts, and other "childish" behavior. Over time, with the guidance of good mentors, children begin to understand the value of greater patience and selfless acts of love, kindness, and generosity. Those who are not well-formed as adolescents or who choose to rebel selfishly in their later years never gain a clearer spiritual sight. The world around them remains blurry, and divine wisdom never penetrates their eyes of faith.

The story of the man born blind is an opportunity for each of us to examine how clearly we perceive our lives and the world around us. Just as the man was healed, we need healing from the blindness caused by our fallen nature. God's grace restores our spiritual sight, allowing His light to illuminate all we encounter in life.

Reflect today on your own need to see more clearly. We need our spiritual sight restored and sharpened if we are to perceive ourselves and our world with divine Wisdom. It takes humility to admit we have poor spiritual sight, and profound humility to admit if we are spiritually blinded by sin. Learn from the wonder and awe that this healed blind man experienced, and know that our Lord wants us to have clearer spiritual vision.

My healing Lord, because of my fallen human nature and my sin, I often fail to see the light of truth with clarity. Please heal me, as You healed this blind man, so that I will understand my life and Your will more clearly and be filled with wonder and awe at the reception of that gift. Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

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

Total.....	\$5,691.96
Regular Adult Offering	3,422.46
Plate	225.25
Votive	259.25
Building/Maintenance	140.00
Holy Land	25.00
Rice Bowl	20.00
Easter Flowers	175.00
Easter Envelopes	50.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine	75.00
Painting Project	1,300.00

Parish Events

Su	03/15	9:00 am	Catholic United Financial Meeting
Su	03/15	1:00 pm	Lenten Book Study - Tri-Parish Office
Mo	03/16		Church Painting Continues
Mo	03/16	6:30 pm	Youth Night at Sacred Heart School Gym
Tu	03/17	2:45 pm	SHS Strings Practice
We	03/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 1-6
We	03/18	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Parent Class
We	03/18	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 7-10
Fr	03/20	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	03/20		NO Adoration
Su	03/22	1:00 pm	Lenten Book Study - Tri-Parish Office

Baptized in Christ... We welcome Carl Eugene Newhouse, the son of Eric & Lisa Newhouse, to our parish. Carl Eugene was baptized on Saturday, March 7.

Quarterly Meeting Catholic United Financial PVT #101 will be holding a quarterly meeting on Sunday, March 15 at 9:00 am in the Sacred Heart Church Basement. Rolls and coffee will be served.

All members are invited to join us for a short business meeting followed by discussion of activities for the year. We welcome any new ideas! Hope to see you there.

Attention St. Joseph Society Members Your raffle tickets are available for pickup in the church basement. Please return **all sold and unsold tickets and money** to the Parish Office in Freeport or drop them in the collection no later than Wednesday, May 13.

Grand Raffle Donations We are in the process of collecting donations for the Sacred Heart Parish Grand Raffle. If any individual or business would be interested in donating a cash prize for the raffle, please contact the office in Freeport at 320-836-2143 by Friday, April 25. Any donation of \$100 or more will be listed on the raffle ticket as a prize. All other donations will be used to offset advertising and printing costs.

Repainting Project All the work at this point is taking place from the deck level 25 feet up in the air to the ceiling. Repairs have been made and painting and stenciling have begun.



CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$3,335.92
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,586.92
Plate	461.00
Votive	8.00
Building/Maintenance	120.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine ...	25.00
Easter Flowers	135.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$3,600.71
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,834.71
Plate	200.00
Votive	16.00
Easter Envelopes	500.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine ...	50.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,904.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,065.00
Plate/Loose	144.00
Cemetery	25.00
Fuel Fund	500.00
Maintenance Fund	120.00
School Support	20.00
Catholic Relief Service	10.00
Easter Flowers	20.00

Parish Events

- Su 03/15 1:00 pm Lenten Book Study - FR
- We 03/18 10:00 am Trent Atkinson Visitation
- We 03/18 11:00 am Trent Atkinson Funeral
- We 03/18 6:00 pm FF Grades 1-6 - FR
- We 03/18 6:00 pm FF Parent Class - FR
- We 03/18 7:00 pm FF Grades 7-10 - FR
- Th 03/19 8:45 am Stations of the Cross
- Th 03/19 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- Fr 03/20 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
- Sa 03/21 3:30 pm Individual Confessions
- Su 03/22 1:00 pm Lenten Book Study - FR

Parish Events

- Su 03/15 1:00 pm Lenten Book Study - FR
- Tu 03/17 8:45 am Stations of the Cross
- Tu 03/17 9:00 am Quilting
- We 03/18 6:00 pm FF Grades 1-6 - FR
- We 03/18 6:00 pm FF Parent Class - FR
- We 03/18 7:00 pm FF Grades 7-10 - FR
- Fr 03/18 6:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal
- Fr 03/20 7:30 pm Rosary
- Sa 03/21 1:00 pm Tasto/Reber Wedding
- Su 03/22 11:00 am Catholic United Financial Member Breakfast
- Su 03/22 1:00 pm Lenten Book Study - FR

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, March 22 - 10:00 am

- (S) Kenny Niehoff & Hank Primus
- (L) Gary P. Lieser
- (U) Stan Heinen & Dan Hemmesch
- (EM) (B) Sharon Schulzetenberg
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (Sacristan) John & Sharon Schulzetenberg
- (RL) Kathy Welle
- (CC) Mark Schoenberg & Rick Terres
- (HK: March 8 - 21)
- Jane Bertram, Liz Bertram, & Sherry Bertram

Elevator and Expansion Update:

The loan to the New Munich Investors is down to \$100,000. The entire project cost was \$1,119,314.31. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution to helping get this paid off.



Quilting has begun in the church basement. All are welcome. Lunch provided. We will likely be quilting well into April.

Rosary Rally Please join us for a Rosary Rally at 10:00 am on Saturday, March 21, at St. Michael's Church. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale

St. Michael's Catholic United will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale on Sunday, April 12 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in Spring Hill Church basement.



The Scriptures This Week

Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo	Lenten Weekday Is 65:17-21	Jn 4:43-54
Tu	Lenten Weekday (Saint Patrick, Bishop) Ez 47:1-9, 12	Jn 5:1-16
We	Lenten Weekday (Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church) Is 49:8-15	Jn 5:17-30
Th	Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity) 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16	Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Fr	Lenten Weekday Wis 2:1a, 12-22	Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Sa	Lenten Weekday Jer 11:18-20	Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday - Fifth Sunday of Lent		
	Ez 37:12-14	Rom 8:8-11
	Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45	



Public Rosary...

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

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| St. Mary, Melrose | St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa |
| •Weekdays & Saturdays a half hour before Mass | •Tuesday: 7:45 am |
| •Wednesday: 1:00 pm | •Friday: 7:30 pm |
| •Thursday (Spanish): 6:30 pm (Except the 1st Thursday) | •Sunday: 9:30 am |
| Sacred Heart, Freeport | St. Michael, Spring Hill |
| •Wednesday: 7:45 am | •Tuesday: 7:30 am |
| •Friday: 7:45 am | •Sunday: 9:30 am |
| •Sunday: 7:30 am | St. Andrew, Greenwald |
| Immaculate Conception, New Munich | •Thursday: 7:40 am |
| •Thursday: 7:45 am | •Saturday: 3:40 pm |
| •Saturday: 3:30 pm | St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove |
| | •Sunday: 7:30 am |
| | •Monday: 7:00 am |

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

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

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Habr  Adoraci n al Sant simo
 cada Primer Jueves del Mes a las
 6:30 pm.

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,074.00
Regular Adult Offering	700.00
Plate/Loose	113.00
Votives	21.00
Fuel Fund	20.00
School Support	200.00
Rice Bowl	20.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,180.50
Regular Adult Offering.....	975.00
Children's	0.50
Plate/Loose	117.00
Votives	68.00
School Support	10.00
Catholic Relief Services	10.00

Liturgical Ministries
Saturday, March 21 - 4:00 pm

(S) Jada Worms & Luke Worms
 (L) Herman Lensing
 (U) Jon Worms & Jeff Ahrens
 (GB) Kristen Pattinson & Family
 (EM) (B) Herman Lensing
 (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
 (HK - March) *Deb Imdieke, Carol Inderrieden,
 Ronnie Inderrieden, & Bridget Kasper

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, March 22 - 8:00 am

(S) Morgan Funk & Paige Funk
 (L) Jim Leukam
 (U) Kurt Meyer & Marvin Meyer
 (GB) Marvin & Rita Meyer
 (EM) Nick Kelzer & Jim Leukam
 (HK - March) *Virginia Meyer, Brenda
 Nathe, Virginia Nathe, Geri Primus, Cindy
 Schneider, & Karen Schneider



Stewardship as a Way of Life:

“Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent and treasure here on earth.



Bake Sale & Bingo Sunday,
 March 22, at St. John the Baptist church. Bake Sale immediately following the 8:00 am Mass. Bingo starts at noon - \$15 for 20 games; prizes include turkeys, hams and cash. Lunch starting at 11:00 am included in the cost of Bingo. Raffle drawing: Tickets \$20 each; Grand prize = \$2,000

Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, May 10 - 8:00 am Baccalaureate Mass followed by breakfast in the church basement for all.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
March 16 - 22

Tuesday	3-17	after 8:15 am Mass	St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa
Wednesday	3-18	7:30 pm	St. Michael, Spring Hill
Wednesday	3-18	7:30 pm	St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove
Thursday	3-19	after 8:00 am Mass	St. Andrew, Greenwald
Thursday	3-19	after 8:15 am Mass	Immaculate Conception, New Munich
Friday	3-20	6:30 pm	St. Mary, Melrose (Spanish)
Friday	3-20	7:00 pm	Immaculate Conception, New Munich
Saturday	3-21	4:00 pm	St. Mary, Melrose

LIVING STATIONS
Presented by St. Mary's School

Wednesday	3-18	1:00 pm	St. Mary, Melrose
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SHADOW STATIONS
Presented by the 6th Grade Class from Sacred Heart School

Wednesday	3-25	7:00 pm	Sacred Heart School Gymnasium
Thursday	3-26	1:30 pm	Sacred Heart School Gymnasium

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Presented by St. John's St. Andrew's School

Tuesday	3-31	1:00 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald
Tuesday	3-31	7:00 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Lenten Penance Service

YOU ARE FORGIVEN

Individual Confession

- Fridays of Lent—7:45 am
Sacred Heart, Freeport
- Saturdays of Lent—3:30 pm
Immaculate Conception, New Munich
- Saturdays of Lent—3:30 pm
St. Andrew, Greenwald
- Saturdays of Lent—4:30 pm
St. Mary, Melrose
- Saturday, March 21—9:00 am
St. Andrew, Greenwald
- Saturday, March 28—9:00 am
St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove
- Or by appointment; Call
 Melrose Office 320-256-4207 or
 Freeport Office 320-836-2143

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information:

faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 18 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms.
- **Parent Night:** Parents of students in grades 1-6 are invited to join us for one last parent class of this Faith Formation year. We will meet in the Sacred Heart Church Basement from 6:00 - 7:00pm while students are in class. Younger children welcome!
- **Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 18 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information:

faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **Grades 9/10: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 18, 7:15 - 8:30 pm. St. Mary's Church. Students and some parents.
- **Elementary Families:** Wednesday, March 18 **5:00-6:00** pm. Meet at Melrose Elementary cafeteria to help pack food for the weekend backpack program! *Please note we start at 5:00 pm!

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

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

- **Youth Night** All students in grades 9-12 are invited to join our Youth Leadership Team in the Sacred Heart School Gym on Monday, March 16 from 6:30-8:00 pm. Students will enjoy a night of gym games, fellowship, music, and prayer.
- **Egg Coloring for Grades 6-12:** Wednesday, April 1 from 6:45 - 8:15 pm at Immaculate Conception Church basement. Permission forms are available on the Tri-Parish website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, March 25.

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



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

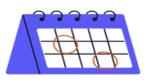


PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Mary Miller
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Kristen Pattinson
SJSA BOARD: Amber Bueckers, Kathy Gilk, Adam Kalthoff, Kate Kelzer, Heidi Meyer, Trista Roelike, and Jenny Wilson
 Phone: 320-987-3133
www.sjsaschool.org

- ♥ **Thank You** to everyone that bought Catholic United Financial Tickets from our families. We are very close to \$11,000! We made most of our goal. The students are very excited for their new GAGA pit and accessories.
- ♥ **SHS Held Conferences** March 9 - March 12.
- ♥ **The Kindergarten Class** will present their Top 20 program and Superkids Parade on Friday, March 20.
- LOOKING AHEAD:**
- ♥ **Shadow Stations** will be on Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00 pm and Thursday, March 26 at 1:30 pm. All are welcome!
- ♥ **No School** on Friday, March 27.
- ♥ **PreK will have a field trip** on Tuesday, March 31.

- ♦ **Thank You** to everyone who supported the 24th annual Auction4Education. It was a great night to raise funds for St. Mary's School and celebrate the goodness of our community.
- ♦ All are invited to the **Living Stations** being presented by St. Mary's School students on Wednesday, March 18, at 1:00 pm in the church.
- ♦ **Parent-Teacher Conferences** are scheduled for Monday, March 24 and Wednesday, March 26.
- ♦ **No School** Friday, March 27.
- ♦ **During Lent**, families at SMS will collect dollars and coins to donate to four organizations: Melrose Food Shelf, Fr. Newton, Food for Thought, and Simply Love International. If you would like to donate to one of these organizations, please drop your coins off at the parish office or school.
- ♦ **St. Mary's Kindergarten Roundup** is set for Thursday, April 2. Students will spend the day in activities from 8:00 am - 2:45 pm. Sign-up will start this week. If you are not currently enrolled at SMS and interested in Kindergarten Roundup, please call the office at 320-256-4257.
- ♦ **St. Mary's School is Selling Harry's Pizza** from March 18 until Wednesday, April 1. Please contact a current SMS family, the parish office, or the school to place an order. Orders can be picked up at the school gym on Thursday, April 16, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

- **SJSA School Board Meets** Tuesday, March 17 at 7:30 pm in the school basement.
- **SJSA students will present *Living Stations of the Cross*** on Tuesday, March 31 at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm at St. Andrew's Church in Greenwald. All are welcome.
- **Kindergarten Round - Up** Join us for a jungle themed kindergarten round - up! Swing, roar, and explore -- discover kindergarten at St. John's - St. Andrew's Catholic School. Monday, April 13 from 7:45 - 2:30 pm. RSVP to the school office at 320-987-3133.



Sacred Heart School
Calendar Raffle Winners!

03/08	\$25	Allaina Pullins - Holdingford
03/09	\$25	Andy Welle - Freeport
03/10	\$25	Lori & James Clysdale - Minneapolis
03/11	\$25	Steve & Pam Herdering - Sauk Centre
03/12	\$25	Jean Benassi - Portland, OR
03/13	\$25	Joni Van Beck - Greenwald
03/14	\$25	Gwen Shaw - Melrose

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

Banns of Matrimony:
 II Sarah Barnard♥James Thomas, 3-28 SR
 III Alyssa Tasto♥Luke Reber, 3-21 SR

For the Sick: Mary Krueger, Dorothy Schneider, Len Frieze, Fr. Roger Klassen, Michelle Russel

Contact Persons for Prayer Line Requests:

Sacred Heart:	
<i>Judy Caveny</i>	320-248-8830
Immaculate Conception:	
<i>Bernice Zink</i>	320-837-5321
St. Rose of Lima:	
<i>Kayla Harren</i>	320-333-8461
St. Michael:	
<i>Sharon Schulzetenberg</i>	320-248-7702
St. Mary's	320-256-3878



ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

Journey with Jesus to Calvary St. Francis of Assisi will be performing "Journey with Jesus to Calvary" again this year. The performance lasts about 75 minutes and covers the events from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. It's an event you don't want to miss! Performance times are Friday, March 27 and Saturday, March 28 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, March 29 at 1:00 pm. The address for St. Francis of Assisi is 44055 Hwy 238, Freeport.



Hearts of Mercy - Bishop's Annual Appeal: Blessings to you as we enter this fourth week of Lent. If you have yet to see our 2026 Video, please take a moment to learn more about ministries that form agents of compassion and build the kingdom of God right here in Central Minnesota. Visit <https://youtu.be/IfuRqcZTnDI>



The Shepherd is Calling at the Mike and Alice Westrich Farm. All are welcome, especially elementary-aged kids and their families, to come to know Jesus, the Good Shepherd, first by understanding more what it means to be a shepherd of sheep! Activities include prayer, skits, crafts, Scripture and hands-on time with lambs. Saturday, April 25, 1:00 - 6:30 pm. Mass held at 4:00 pm with a hog roast to follow. Guests may bring a dish to share. Free will offering is accepted at the event or if you would like to give a gift now to support the event, you can do so at: [stcdio/pay](https://stcdio.org/event/the-shepherd-is-calling-2026/). Please select other donation and in blank box type Vocations. Address: 1652 Abbey Road, Burtrum, MN 56318. RSVP by Friday, April 10 at <https://stcdio.org/event/the-shepherd-is-calling-2026/>.

Made in the Image of God: Seeing Ourselves and Others as the Body of Christ All are invited to join in this diocesan retreat on Saturday, April 18 from 8:30 am-12:30 pm at the Centre for Christ in Sauk Centre. This year's retreat, "Made in the Image of God: Seeing Ourselves and Others as the Body of Christ," will focus on how we care for ourselves and how we serve community, recognizing both as our call in the One Body of Christ. The day will include fellowship, reflection talks, and time to spend in individual reflection and prayer. Registration is \$35, including refreshments and lunch. Space is limited, so register before Wednesday, April 8 online at: <https://forms.office.com/r/5j1rZUfWYz>.

We are Called to Bring the Love of Christ to the World.

We can help you discover how! 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 March 20 - 22, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls. Cost of the weekend is \$70. For more information and to register go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org.



Be a Totus Tuus Leader Are you in college and considering your summer plans? Consider being a Totus Tuus leader for the Diocese of St. Cloud. You would be a "missionary to the youth" in central Minnesota. The program is just two months long so you would still get some needed rest and family time yet it offers an opportunity for a summer of growing in your own faith and in deeper love of Jesus. We offer a stipend of \$500/week. Please visit this site for more info and to sign up: <https://stcdio.org/vocations/totus-tuus/leaders/>.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

March 15, Sunday

◆ **Free will Offering Fundraising Breakfast** at St. Stephen Church Parish Hall 103 Central Ave S. St. Stephen, MN. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Proceeds will go to Poor Clares Monastery, Sauk Rapids.

◆ **All You Care to Eat Breakfast** at St. Anthony Parish Center 2405 1st St. N., St. Cloud, MN. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Adults \$12. Children grades 7-12 \$6. Children PreK-6 are free.

◆ **3rd Annual Arts & Craft Fair** at St. Francis Xavier Parish School Gym 308 2nd St. N, Sartell, MN from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm. Over 40 area artists and crafters. Food available for purchase. Handcrafted artwork and crafts.

March 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.

March 20, Friday

◆ **Fish Fry** at Melrose American Legion Post 101. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm, take outs available. Doors open at 3:00 pm.

◆ **Farming Lions 21st Annual Fish Fry** at Trappers Pub and Grub Farming, MN. Serving from 4:30 - 8:30 pm.

◆ **Lenten Fish Fry** at St. Elizabeth Church 16454 125th Ave NE Foley, MN. Serving from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. Adults \$15. Children 6-10 \$7. Children 5 and under are free. Take out orders available call 320-355-2459.

March 21/22, Saturday/Sunday

◆ **Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Drive-Thru Fundraiser**, St. Cloud. Full meal deal (2 quarts of sauce, box of noodles and French bread \$23. Pre-order is recommended to help determine amount to cook. Call/text Nathan 320-223-2887 or order online at spiritandsaints.org/holyspirit, click on the KC Spaghetti tab under "Event".

March 24, 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 and every fourth Tuesday of the month through June. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/2-24-26/.

March 27, Friday

◆ **Fish Fry** at Melrose American Legion Post 101. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm, take outs available. Doors open at 3:00 pm.

◆ **Lenten Fish Fry** at St. Joseph's Parish - Morrill 33018 Nature Rd. Foley, MN. Serving from 4:30 - 7:00 pm. Adults \$15. Children 6-10 \$8. Children 5 and under are free. Dine in or take out call 320-355-9401.

March 28, Saturday

◆ **Palm Braiding with Lois Maciej** at St. Stephen Church Parish Hall 103 Central Ave. S., St. Stephen, MN. There will be three classes - do one or all three. Each class will make the cross. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm: Crown of Thorns, class limited to 5 people. For the experienced palm braider. 12:30 - 2:30 pm: Fan, Cone or pyramid. 3:00 - 5:00 pm: Palmetto Rose, Five piece Rose and Leaf. **Pre-register for ALL classes by Sunday, March 22.** Call the Parish Office at 320-251-1520.

March 29, Sunday

◆ **44th Annual St. Martin Baseball Breakfast Fundraiser** at the St. Martin Parish Center. Serving from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Curbside pickup available 8:30 - 11:30 am. Adults: \$12 in advance and \$13 at the door. Children 6-12: \$5. Preschool and under are free.

◆ **Spring Sausage Supper** serving from 2:30 to 6:30 pm at the St. Francis de Sales Parish Center, Belgrade. Tickets: Adults \$10, Children 5 to 12 \$6, Children 4 and under free.

◆ **Ham Bingo** at Holy Family Church Fellowship Hall 18777 Riverwood Drive, Little Falls. Starting at 1:30 pm. 20 Bingo games for \$5. 2 Blackout games for \$1 a card per game. Over 22 Door prizes and \$100 for blackout. Prizes for children will be drawn through our the afternoon.

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