



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

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 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

froswaldo@stmarysofmelrose.com

Office Email: pam@stmarysofmelrose.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

Website: www.oneinfaith.org

Facebook: Church of St. Mary, Melrose

Mailing Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE

Melrose, MN 56352

Freeport - New Munich - St. Rosa Office:

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

Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Office Phone: 320-836-2143

Office Email: triparish@albanytel.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

Website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org

Facebook: Tri Parish

Mailing Address: PO Box 155

Freeport, MN 56331

Bulletin Announcements

Deadline: Tuesday before 9:00 am

Email information to: bulletin@catholic-centered.org

Confession Times

◆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.**

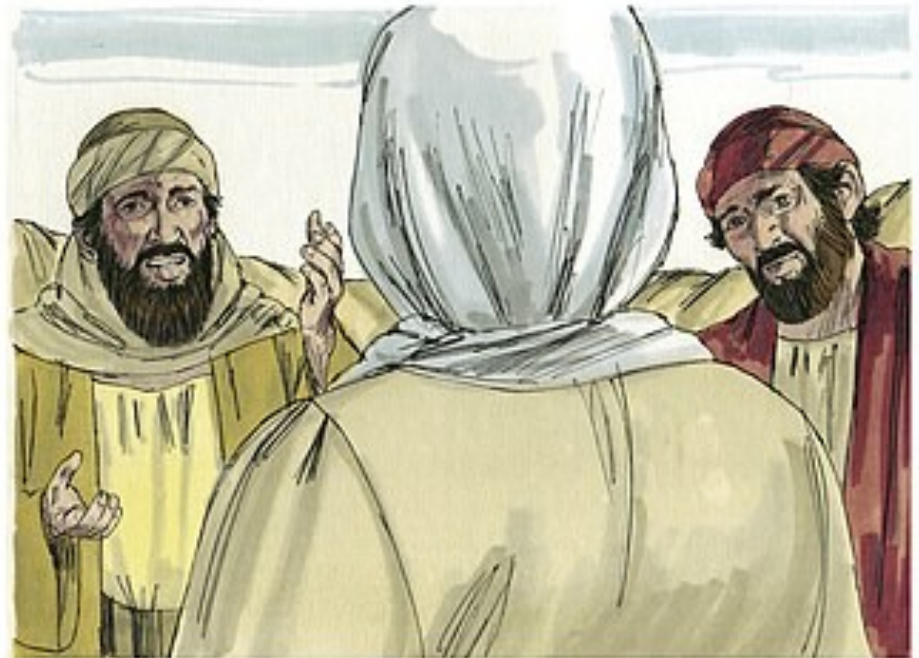
*Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes are required.

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.



Dispelling Confusion

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. Luke 24:13-16

These two disciples were overwhelmed by grief and bewildered by the events that had taken place. As they walked the seven-mile journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they expressed their sadness and confusion. Jesus, Whom they had hoped "would be the one to redeem Israel," was brutally tortured and crucified before their eyes. After His death, He was buried, and that very morning they heard reports from some of the women, as well as Peter and John, that His body was missing from the tomb. What's more, the burial cloth was neatly rolled up in the tomb, and the women informed the disciples that they saw "a vision of angels who announced that he was alive." The two did not know what to think.

As the story unfolds, Jesus appeared to them as they walked and conversed with them, "but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him." Jesus' hidden presence teaches us that He is often with us, in our midst, yet we do not recognize Him. Distractions, trials, or our own misconceptions can dull our spiritual senses. We often fail to perceive His presence in the Eucharist, the Scriptures, the Church, during our prayer, and in one another.

Jesus' loving rebuke of these two disciples was intended to wake them up: "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Every time we stumble from spiritual blindness, which leads to confusion, our Lord lovingly says the same to us. We must take that rebuke with humility, acknowledging our blindness and inability to perceive His constant presence.

Continued on page 5

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ APRIL 20 - 26

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm **Misa en español**
 †Juan Orozco Ambriz
 Tu 8:00 am †Grant Lindberg
 We 8:00 am †Donna Athmann
 Th 8:00 am †Archie Meemken
 †Sharon Meyer
 *Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
 †Kevin Olmscheid
 Sa 5:00 pm †Jean Hellermann
 *Su 9:00 am †Jeanette Barth
 †Steven Petermeier
 Su 11:30 am **Misa en Español**
 †Guadalupe Ramirez

SACRED HEART - Freeport

Tu 8:15 am Special Intention
 We 8:15 am **SH School Mass**
 Poor Souls in Purgatory
 Th 8:15 am †Kade Feldewerd
 Fr 8:15 am †David "Dave" Humbert
 Su 8:00 am For the People

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

We 7:00 pm Faith Formation Families
 Sa 4:00 pm †Norb & †Lue Humbert
 †Nathan Roering

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Su 10:00 am †Joe Wiechmann Anniversary

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am †Benjamin Gruenes
 Sa 4:00 pm For the People

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †David Walz
 †Marilyn Lieser
 Su 10:00 am **SJSA First Communion Mass**
 †Ron Kettler

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Al Luetmer
 Su 8:00 am †Raphael & †Dolores Imdieke

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 ~

•Mass Intentions At this time, there are no available dates to schedule Mass intentions through the end of June. Once the Bishop's decree is released and the Mass schedule is finalized, we will be able to resume scheduling. Please note that with fewer Masses being offered, the number of available Mass intentions will be very limited.



Mass Schedule Change

Mass Time Change/Switch First Communion for Sacred Heart, St. Rose of Lima, and Immaculate Conception will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Parish on Sunday, May 3 at 10:00 am. This will be the only Mass in Freeport that morning.

St. Rose of Lima will have the 8:00 am Mass on Sunday, May 3.

ACC Book Study As we are all going through the All Things New process together we would like to invite individuals from across our ACC and beyond to join us for a book study. The book is Radical Hospitality. We have some books at no cost until they run out. The study will be on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm. The study will begin on May 6 and run through mid-June. It will be led by Jessica Goebel and Amy Hoeschen. Please reach out to the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport to sign up 320-836-2143.

Chili/Chicken Soup Supper The Immaculate Conception St. Joseph's Society will be holding its annual chili and chicken soup supper on Thursday, April 23 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm in the church basement in New Munich. Tickets: Adults \$10, Children 5-12 \$6, Under 5 free.



Adoration at the Capitol with Bishop Neary
 Join Bishop Neary and Minnesota Catholic Conference staff First Friday, May 1 at the capitol in St. Paul. Adoration available 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Capitol Vault Room B15. Visit www.MNCatholic.org/adoration to RSVP and get a free parking pass as well as directions. Questions call Minnesota Catholic Conference 651-227-8777.



Parish News:

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

•May Ministry Schedule was mailed or emailed to all ministers. It is also available on the Tri-Parish website. If you are unable to fulfill your ministry, please find a replacement. Thank you for sharing your time and talent with your parish.

•Friday Adorers The Tri-Parish is looking for individuals who would be an adorer for Adoration which is held on Fridays from 9:00 am-1:00 pm at Sacred Heart, Freeport. If you are willing to help out, please contact the parish office in Freeport. We are willing to work around your schedule, so even if you can only help out once a month, please prayerfully consider spending time with our Lord.

Spring Mission Rally sponsored by the Diocese of St. Cloud Mission Office. Join others Thursday, April 30 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, St. Cloud, MN from 7:30 am-1:00 pm. The day will begin with registration and fellowship followed by Mass with Bishop Neary, meetings with missionaries, a tasty hot lunch, discussion and reflection, fair trade sales, and more. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Mission Office at 320-251-1100 by Monday, April 20. Cost is \$10 per person.

Humane Vitae Award Now Receiving Nominations for the 2026 Humanae Vitae Award! Many in our diocese have dedicated themselves to the promotion of Natural Family Planning (NFP) and the principles of Humanae Vitae. Submit your nomination in writing (500 words or less). Tell us about a person(s) who has demonstrated courage to promote NFP, and to uphold the teachings of Humanae Vitae. For details, visit <https://stcloud.org/event/humanae-vitae-award-2026/contact> or contact Sheila Reineke at sheila.reineke@gw.stcloud.org or 320-258-7609. Send nominations before April 27 to: Office of Marriage and Family Natural Family Planning Advisory Committee 305 - 7th Avenue North, Suite 100, Saint Cloud, MN 56303 or e-mail: omf@gw.stcloud.org




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

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

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Total..... | \$17,152.50 |
| Regular Adult Offering | 12,537.00 |
| Designated Funds | 4,615.50 |

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

| | | |
|-------|------|-------------------------------------|
| 04-12 | \$25 | Dick Christenson, Melrose |
| 04-13 | \$25 | Roselyn Matchinsky, Melrose |
| 04-14 | \$25 | Roger & Mary Jane Pundsack, Melrose |
| 04-15 | \$25 | Ron & Sandy Meyer, Grey Eagle |
| 04-16 | \$25 | Bob & Rita Klassen, Melrose |
| 04-17 | \$25 | Leon Middendorf, St. Cloud |
| 04-18 | \$25 | Michael & Darlene Stevens, Melrose |



Baptized in Christ... ♥Nora Celine Welle

Christian Women Meeting Please join us for a Christian Women meeting on Tuesday, April 21, at 6:00 pm in the conference room at St. Mary's Church. New members are welcome!

Stewardship as a Way of Life:

"If you invoke as Father Him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning."

1 Peter 1:17

From the stewardship perspective, our consumer society is in need of an exile in a strange land. Stewardship calls us to resist the "me first" values glamorized by our society.

The Scriptures This Week
 Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

| | | |
|--|--|-------------|
| Mo | Easter Weekday Acts 6:8-15 | Jn 6:22-29 |
| Tu | Easter Weekday (Saint Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church) Acts 7:51—8:1a | Jn 6:30-35 |
| We | Easter Weekday Acts 8:1b-8 | Jn 6:35-40 |
| Th | Easter Weekday (Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr) Acts 8:26-40 | Jn 6:44-51 |
| Fr | Easter Weekday (Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr) Acts 9:1-20 | Jn 6:52-59 |
| Sa | Saint Mark, Evangelist Feast 1 Pt 5:5b-14 | Mk 16:15-20 |
| Next Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Pt 2:20b-25 Jn 10:1-10 | | |

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


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

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Total..... | \$9,312.46 |
| Regular Adult Offering | 6,118.46 |
| Plate | 222.00 |
| Votive | 42.00 |
| Building/Maintenance | 45.00 |
| School Support | 200.00 |
| Easter Envelopes | 1,740.00 |
| Painting | 525.00 |
| SHS Endowment | 50.00 |
| Rice Bowl | 135.00 |
| Holy Land | 235.00 |

Parish Events


| | | | |
|----|-------|---------|--|
| Mo | 04/20 | | Church Painting Continues |
| Mo | 04/20 | 6:30 pm | Youth Night @ SHS Gym |
| Tu | 04/21 | 2:45 pm | SHS Strings Practice |
| We | 04/22 | 7:00 pm | Faith Formation All Grades Mass, Fellowship, & Registration - NM |
| Fr | 04/24 | 7:45 am | Individual Confessions |
| Fr | 04/24 | | NO Adoration |
| Su | 04/26 | 9:00 am | St. Joseph Society Annual Meeting |

Community Garden If you are interested in reserving rows in the community garden, please call the Tri-Parish Office at 320-836-2143. Each row is spaced 5 feet apart and will be assigned on a first call basis.



St. Joseph Society Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, April 26 after the 8:00 am Mass in the church basement. Coffee, rolls, and juice will be served. 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 24. 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.



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

Banns of Matrimony:
 I Jenna Ritten♥Brian Rademacher, 5-9 SH

For the Sick: Lorraine Curto, Dolores Notch, Bethany Downs, Joyce Houser, Lyle Gross, Dorothy Schneider, Len Frieze, Fr. Roger Klassen, 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. Michael: Sharon Schulzetenberg | 320-248-7702 |
| St. Mary's | 320-256-3878 |

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Total..... | \$3,841.92 |
| Regular Adult Offering..... | 2,111.92 |
| Plate | 268.00 |
| Building/Maintenance | 1,142.00 |
| School Support | 20.00 |
| Easter Envelopes | 220.00 |
| Easter Flowers | 25.00 |
| Central MN Catholic Magazine ... | 25.00 |
| Holy Land | 10.00 |
| Rice Bowl | 20.00 |

Parish Events

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Mo 04/20 6:30 pm | Youth Night @ SHS Gym - FR |
| Tu 04/21 6:30 pm | Catholic Order of Foresters Mtg |
| We 04/22 7:00 pm | FF All Grades Mass, Fellowship, & Registration |
| Th 04/23 8:00 am | Chili/Soup Supper Setup |
| Th 04/23 5:00 pm | St. Joseph Society Chili/ Soup Supper |
| Sa 04/25 3:30 pm | Individual Confessions |
| Sa 04/25 4:00 pm | Youth Choir Sing |

Chili/Chicken Soup Supper...
Thursday, April 23. See ACC news for details.



CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA


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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Total..... | \$3,336.08 |
| Regular Adult Offering..... | 1,298.08 |
| Plate | 493.00 |
| School Support | 60.00 |
| Holy Land | 10.00 |
| Easter Envelopes | 1,475.00 |

Parish Events

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Mo 04/20 6:30 pm | Youth Night @ SHS Gym - FR |
| Tu 04/21 7:00 pm | Choir Practice |
| We 04/22 7:00 pm | FF All Grades Mass, Fellowship, & Registration - NM |
| Fr 04/24 7:30 pm | Rosary |
| Su 04/26 11:00 am | Private Event |

 **Thank You** The Christian Women would like to say thank you to everyone who donated and/or purchased baked goods at the Christian Women bake sale! We had an excellent variety of goodies to purchase and have much appreciation for the support we received!

A Vice President is still needed for our St. Rose Christian Women. Please prayerfully consider and reach out to Sarah Toenyan if you would like to fill this position.

Spring Cleaning Time is Here! Let's come together to make our church shine! All are invited to come and help clean the church Monday, May 4, starting at 4:00 pm. If you can spare a little time, please join us. Many hands make light work!



CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

Physical Address: 102 St. Michael Avenue N.
Spring Hill, MN 56352

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Total | \$992.48 |
| Regular Adult Offering..... | 145.00 |
| Plate/Loose | 130.00 |
| Fuel Fund | 50.00 |
| Maintenance Fund | 270.00 |
| Easter | 225.00 |
| Holy Land | 110.00 |
| Rice Bowl | 62.48 |
| Parish Raffle Deposit | \$11,170.00 |

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday, April 25 - 4:00 pm

- (S) Olivia Kalthoff
- (L) Lisa Wuertz
- (U) Bob Welle & Chico Welle
- (EM) (B) Kathy Welle
- (EM) (C) Mark Schoenberg & Nick Waldorf
- (Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
- (RL) Kathy Welle
- (CC) Doreen Schwieters & Tom Stalboerger
- (HK: April 19 - May 2) Jenny Kalthoff, Luann Kalthoff, & Shirley Klaphake

Thank You to all who made the spaghetti dinner and bake sale a great success, it's appreciated!!



Thank You to everyone who supported our parish cash raffle. The winners were as follows:

- \$1,000 Kevin Klaphake
- \$500 Mitchell Welle
- \$500 Dan Welle
- \$250 Bob Orbeck
- \$100 Genny Welle
- \$100 Domnick Terhaar
- \$100 Virg Primus
- \$100 Ronald Lieser
- \$100 Mike Orbeck
- \$100 Peter Heinze
- \$100 Duane Moscho
- \$100 Ruth Moscho
- \$100 Rueben Bertram
- \$100 Ken E. Lieser



Public Rosary...

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



St. Mary, Melrose

- Weekdays & Saturdays a half hour before Mass
- Wednesday: 1:00 pm
- Thursday (Spanish): 6:30 pm (Except the 1st Thursday)

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

St. Michael, Spring Hill

- Tuesday: 7:30 am
- Sunday: 9:30 am

St. Andrew, Greenwald

- Thursday: 7:40 am
- Saturday: 3:40 pm

St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove

- Sunday: 7:30 am
- Monday: 7:00 am



Meet the First Communicants



Tri-Parish First Communion Mass

Church of the Sacred Heart– May 3, 2026 at 10:00 am

Please pray for these young members of our parishes as they are preparing to receive Jesus for the first time.



Andrew Beste

Parents: Daniel & Rachel Beste
Parish: Sacred Heart



Olivia Eckblad

Parents: Adam & Jennifer Eckblad
Parish: Immaculate Conception



Hudson Frieler

Parents: Aaron & Lindsay Frieler
Parish: St. Joseph



Ryker Gieske

Parents: Timothy Gieske & Holly Halonen
Parish: Sacred Heart



Owen Herkenhoff

Parents: Brad & Jenelle Herkenhoff
Parish: St. Rose of Lima



Lexi Herzog

Parents: Jaron & Carey Herzog
Parish: Sacred Heart



William Herzog

Parents: Jaron & Carey Herzog
Parish: Sacred Heart



Dominic Hoium

Parents: Kyle & Emily Hoium
Parish: Sacred Heart



Zélie Holdvogt

Parents: John & Tatum Holdvogt
Parish: Immaculate Conception



Bennett Kalthoff

Parents: Ben & Kate Kalthoff
Parish: Sacred Heart



Easton Kundert

Parents: Christopher & Jessica Kundert
Parish: Sacred Heart



Stella Kundert

Parents: Christopher & Jessica Kundert
Parish: Sacred Heart



Raymond Mages

Parents: Steven Mages & Melanie Herkenhoff-Mages
Parish: Sacred Heart



Elliott Massmann

Parents: Joseph Massmann & Jessica Massmann
Parish: Immaculate Conception



Everett Massmann

Parents: Joshua & DeAnna Massmann
Parish: Immaculate Conception



Amiya Mayer

Parent: Kimberly Mayer
Parish: Sacred Heart



Raya Meyer
 Parents: Adam & Ashley
 Meyer
 Parish: St. Rose of Lima



Henry Moscho
 Parents: Michael & Lisa
 Moscho
 Parish: St. Martin



Graden Rademacker
 Parents: Nick & Alyssa
 Rademacher
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Adelle Renneker
 Parents: Jake & Tabitha
 Renneker
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Loretta Terres
 Parents: Nathan & Amy
 Terres
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Addelyn Thielen
 Parents: Chad & Jacki
 Thielen
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Raymond Thielen
 Parents: Chad & Jacki
 Thielen
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Amelia Waltzing
 Parents: Mitchell & Jody
 Waltzing
 Parish: St. Rose of Lima



Dale Wilwerding
 Parents: Justin & Lindsay
 Wilwerding
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Ethan Wilwerding
 Parents: Justin & Lindsay
 Wilwerding
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Lacey Wilwerding
 Parents: Justin & Lindsay
 Wilwerding
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Audrey Zachmann
 Parents: Mark & Emily
 Zachmann
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Rylee Zenner
 Parents: Daniel & Elizabeth
 Zenner
 Parish: Sacred Heart



Kaleb Zenzen
 Parents: Brock Zenzen &
 Taylor Fox
 Parish: Immaculate Conception

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW
Physical Address: 211 W 2nd Avenue N.
 Greenwald, MN 56335

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN
Physical Address: 20 State Highway 4 S.
 Meire Grove, MN 56352

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Total | \$4,223.00 |
| Regular Adult Offering | 825.00 |
| EFT | 1,300.00 |
| Plate/Loose | 67.00 |
| Holy Land | 45.00 |
| School Support | 11.00 |
| Easter | 975.00 |
| Cemetery | 1,000.00 |

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Total | \$4,128.50 |
| Regular Adult Offering..... | 1,010.00 |
| EFT | 140.00 |
| Children's | 0.50 |
| Plate/Loose | 196.00 |
| Votives | 52.00 |
| Easter | 2,730.00 |

Liturgical Ministries
SJSA First Communion Mass
Sunday, April 26 - 10:00 am

(S) Connor Roelike & Clara Kasper
 (L) SJSA Students
 (U) Tim Lucken & Dave Nathe
 (GB) SJSA Students
 (EM) (B) Herman Lensing
 (EM) (C) Mary Opatrny & Kris Winter
 (HK - April) *Cassandra Kettner, Doris Kraemer, Julie Kulzer, & Rose Lensing

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, April 26 - 8:00 am

(S) Cole Funk & Luke Funk
 (L) Rita Meyer
 (U) Mike Wehlage & Daryl Zenzen
 (GB) Ken & Linda Schneider
 (EM) Nick Kelzer, Jim Leukam
 Char Meyer & Dan Meyer
 (HK - April) *Linda Schneider, Joy Silbernick, Julie Wehlage, Abby Zenzen, Janice Funk, & Darlene Imdieke

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

- ◆ **Get your glove ready!** Registration is now open for the St. Rosa co-ed youth, ages 9-14, SkyDome softball league. **Register by Monday, May 4.** Sign-up forms are available at RJ's Country Store in St. Rosa.
- April 19, Sunday**
- ◆ **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.
- April 21, Tuesday**
- ◆ **Pro-Life Essentials** with Cathy Blaeser MCCL Co-Executive Director. Join us at The Gathering Place, St. Francis Xavier Parish 219 2nd St. N., Sartell, MN. Every parishioner is welcome! Sponsored by St. Monica Christian Women.
- April 24, Friday**
- ◆ **Burger Night** at the Melrose American Legion Post 101. Baskets starting at \$10. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30, take outs available. Doors open at 3:00 pm.
- April 26, Sunday**
- ◆ **54th Annual Swanycake & Sausage Supper** Sponsored by the Holy Name Society, Christian Mothers & Women and the St. Anthony Parish, Saint Anthony - State Highway 238. Serving from 3:00 - 8:30 pm. Adults \$11.50 in advance or \$12 at the door. Children tickets are sold at the door. Ages 6-12 \$6 and children ages 5 and under are free.
- ◆ **Chicken & Ham Dinner** hosted by the Knights of Columbus St. Isidore Council No. 9307 Holdingford, at the Pelican Lake Ballroom St. Anna, MN. Serving from 3:30 - 6:30 pm. Advance adult tickets \$14 and at the door \$15. Children aged 5-12 \$10 and 4 and under are free. Take out orders available.
- ◆ **St. Anthony's Spring Fiesta** at St. Anthony's Parish Center 2410 1st St. N, St. Cloud, MN. Serving from 4:00 - 7:30 pm. Adults: \$11. Children ages 6-12: \$5. Cash and quilt raffle \$10 per ticket.
- April 28, Tuesday**
- ◆ **Online Evening Prayer with Young Adults** The world needs our prayers! Young adults ages 18+ are invited to pray online together with other young adults and School Sisters of Notre Dame from across the U.S. and Canada at 7:00 pm. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/4-28-26/.
- April 30, Thursday**
- ◆ **Behold Your Mother: Cultivating a Deeper Devotion to Mary through the Holy Rosary** St. Athanasius Charitable Fund is hosting a talk by Fred Blonigen at St. Joseph's Catholic Church 106 North 7th Ave, Waite Park, MN from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Social Q & A to follow.



*Dispelling
 Confusion*
 cont.'d from pg 1

Jesus then “interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures.” This opening of their minds to the spiritual Gift of Understanding is key. By humbly acknowledging our spiritual blindness and the foolish way we often go about our daily lives, we dispose ourselves to this precious gift. The Gift of Understanding cannot be acquired by our own effort. Only after we honestly humble ourselves before God will He open our minds to all we need to know and understand.

Once they arrived in Emmaus and invited this divine Stranger to stay with them for the night, Jesus agreed. As they dined, “while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.” The Lord Himself, the great High Priest, gave them the Eucharist, and suddenly “their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight.”

Though our Lord vanished from their sight, He remained with them, as He does with us today. His presence in the Eucharist is His True Presence, His Divine Essence. By revealing Himself in the Scriptures and the Breaking of the Bread, He teaches us that He is always with us in His Word and in the Sacraments. We consume His Word through daily meditation, study, and the teachings of the Church. His True Presence is with us when we attend Mass and participate in the Sacraments.

Reflect today on the initial confusion of these two disciples, filled with sorrow and bewilderment as they grappled with recent events. Contrast this with the growth in faith they likely experienced in the months and years ahead. Little by little, they grew in understanding and belief, allowing their misconceptions about who the Messiah would be—not a political leader, but the Savior of the World—to be dispelled. Whenever you face confusion, turn to the example of these disciples and learn from the lessons taught through them. Seek Christ in His Word and Sacraments, trusting that He will dispel doubts and guide you to greater faith.

Ever-present Lord, please humble me so that I turn more fully to You, hearing Your voice and recognizing Your presence. When I am confused or uncertain, please intervene and open my mind to You and to Your Truth so that I will believe with all my heart and follow wherever You lead. Jesus, I trust in You.

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **All Grades** Spring Fellowship and closing Mass: Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 pm at Immaculate Conception in New Munich. Join us for Mass, fellowship, snacks, and registration for Faith Formation 2026/2027 and this summer's VBS.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **First Communion: Required Learning Centers:** Sunday, April 19 from 10:00 - 11:15 am at St. Mary's Church. Students and parents.
- **Grades 7-8: Last Class:** Wednesday, April 22 from 7:15 - 8:30 pm. Class and end of year party. Students and some parent. Parents: Please register for next year's Faith Formation classes before or after class. Thanks!

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

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

- **Youth Night** Students in grades 9-12 are invited to join our Youth Leadership Team this Monday, April 20 from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Sacred Heart School Gym for our next Youth Night! This week's youth lead talk will be on dealing with stress and anxiety, and how to surrender it to God. We will also be playing gym games, listening to music, and praying. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



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

- ♥ **SHS** held a **Parent Forum** on Monday, April 13 discussing the Anxious Generation book. We also had Stacy Klassen come to speak about the book and offer suggestions and strategies to help parents out in this digital age. Thank you Stacy and to everyone that attended!
- ♥ **Sacred Heart School** hosted their **Designer Bingo** on Saturday, April 18! **Thank you** to all who attended this super fun night out supporting Sacred Heart School.
- ♥ The **SHS 2nd Graders** had their **First Communion Retreat** on Saturday, April 18 in the SHS Gym. May God bless them as they continue to prepare for their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 3.

- ♦ **6th Grade Class** will host a **Festival of Nations** in St. Mary's School Gym on Friday, April 24. Community members are welcome to visit the festival from 10:15 - 11:00 am and from 1:00 - 2:15 pm.
- ♦ **Thank You**, Stearns Electric, and their Operation Round Up program, for their \$500 donation that went towards a new milk/breakfast cooler.
- ♦ **2nd Graders** will receive the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** on April 25 & 26 and May 3. Please pray for them as they continue their journey of becoming Disciples of Christ.

- **SJSA School Board Meets** Tuesday, April 21 at 7:00 pm in the school basement. Please note the time change. The Board will have a school budget meeting with St. John's and St. Andrew's finance councils at 7:00 pm and continue their meeting with other school business afterwards.
- **SJSA is Selling Harry's Pizza** Friday, April 17 - Thursday, May 7. Please contact a current SJSA family or call the school office at 320-987-3133 to place your order. Pizza pick-up is Saturday, May 16 from 9:00 - 10:00 am in the school basement. It's time to stock up for summer! Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

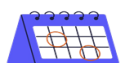
LOOKING AHEAD:

- ♥ **Move Up Day** at SHS is on Tuesday, April 21. All students will spend the morning in the class that they will be in next year.
- ♥ **Principal for the Day** will be on Thursday, April 23. This is a special day that is auctioned off at our Wine and Dine Fundraiser.
- ♥ The **3rd Graders** will present their **Saint Projects** in the Auditorium on Friday, April 24.

One in Faith ACC Schools Gift Card Programs

A gift card rebate program that allows you to purchase your everyday items with gift cards and earn money for our area Catholic schools without paying any extra money!

A percentage of each gift card will be donated back to the area Catholic schools. Each school has a variety of local and national gift cards available to purchase.



**Sacred Heart School
 Calendar Raffle Winners!**

| | | |
|-------|------|----------------------------------|
| 04/12 | \$25 | Larry & Helen Krippner - Kimball |
| 04/13 | \$25 | Judy Olmscheid - Freeport |
| 04/14 | \$25 | Mitch Zarbok - Villard |
| 04/15 | \$25 | Deb Burg - Richmond |
| 04/16 | \$25 | Ashley Platz - Holdingford |
| 04/17 | \$25 | Amber Wocken - Minneapolis |
| 04/18 | \$25 | Ed & Kayla Harden - Rice |



ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

Catholic Charities Senior Dining Meals on Wheels is in need of Meals on Wheels volunteers for Thursdays in Melrose and 3 to 5 days a week for New Munich/Meire Grove. If you can help, please contact the Albany office at 320-845-4070 for more information.



Hearts of Mercy - Bishop's Annual Appeal: Diocesan ministries are dedicated to

living out the call to be Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice. You gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal directly supports essential ministries such as vocations, TV Mass and family faith formation, strengthening our faith communities across the diocese. Every dollar raised is dedicated solely to these ministries and is not used for any other purpose. Will you help keep these ministries strong? Visit: www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Introducing the Diocesan Care for Creation Guide In line with one of Bishop Neary's priorities, the diocese is proud to offer a Care for Creation guide. The document includes a message from Bishop Neary, theological foundations for care for creation and practical and prayerful ideas to incorporate as individuals/families, faith communities and schools, as well as resources. Find it online at <https://stcdio.org/care-for-creation>.

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.



All Things New Diocesan-wide Prayer Service All are invited to a diocesan-wide service as Bishop Patrick Neary, CSC, prays for unity for the newly merged parishes, a major milestone in the All Things New diocesan pastoral plan. The prayer service will be held at Sacred Heart Parish in Sauk Rapids on Sunday, May 3 at 7:00 pm and livestreamed at www.stcdio.org/unity-livestream/.



Save the Date: 2026 Rural Life Celebration

This year's Rural Life Celebration will take place on Sunday, August 16 beginning at 1:30 pm at the Moenkedick Family Farm 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.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations We join the Universal Church in observing the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on Sunday, April 26 as we ask the Lord to send laborers into His harvest! This day is a reminder to pray for and support those discerning the priesthood, religious life and other vocations in the Church.

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.



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/>.



Blessed are They Who? 2026 Retreats at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo holds retreats throughout the year. Enhance your faith life with one of the retreats below. For more information or to register, please call 763-682-1394 or visit www.kingshouse.com.

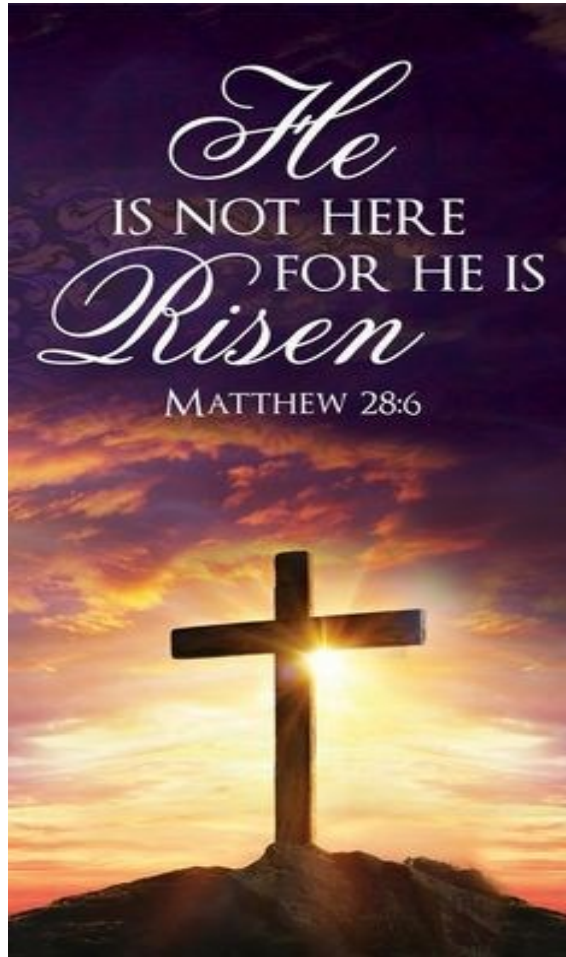
- Women's Silent Retreat - April 24-26 (Weekend)
- Women's Silent Retreat - May 15-17 (Weekend)

Theology Day Can't make it Friday morning? We've got you covered! For the first time ever, Theology Day is coming to Tuesday nights at Emmaus Hall at St. John's University, Collegeville! Enjoy the same thought-provoking presentations and conversation—now with another opportunity to attend. All sessions are from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm. Check-in at 6:00 pm.



Saint John's School of Theology and Seminary

•**"Pilgrims of Hope": The Theology and Practice of Pilgrimage**
Presenter: Chris Conway, Ph.D. - Tuesday, April 21, 2026



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