



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

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 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
frosvaldo@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.



When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, *"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."* When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

Matthew 2:1-3

Why did God use a star to reveal the birth of the King of Kings to foreigners from the East? To Mary, Joseph, and even the shepherds, God sent an angel to announce the Good News. But to the Magi, He chose to use a medium they understood—a star.

The Magi, originally a priestly caste from Persia, were skilled in astrology, astronomy, dream interpretation, and other forms of wisdom and divination. The three Magi mentioned in Matthew's Gospel were clearly experts in astrology, carefully studying the night sky. On the night of Christ's birth, they made an extraordinary discovery: a new star had appeared in the sky. They knew it was a sign of great significance. According to their beliefs, the appearance of a new star heralded the birth of a new king.

This star was not just a celestial phenomenon; it symbolized the light of Christ breaking into the world, guiding all nations—Jew and Gentile alike—toward the Savior. Just as God drew humble Jewish shepherds to the newborn King, He also drew representatives of the Gentiles to adore Him, for Jesus came to save all of humanity.

The divine initiative to include the Gentiles was not a new concept but a fulfillment of a promise made to Abraham: "All the families of the earth will find blessing in you" (*Genesis 12:3*). The prophets and Psalms echo this theme, emphasizing that all nations will come to the Lord (see *Isaiah 2:2-4*; Psalm 67). In Jesus' public ministry, we see His outreach to the Gentiles, a mission that continued in the early Church, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. At the time of Jesus' birth, however, the Jewish emphasis was primarily on being the chosen people. The story of the Epiphany reveals God's universal call to holiness from the very beginning of Jesus' life, establishing that His mission was for all people, not just for Israel.

Because of this universal call to holiness, we who believe in Christ and live our Catholic faith must avoid becoming isolated or insular, creating a small, self-contained world. Instead, we are called to live our faith in a way that is welcoming to all and engaged with the broader world, reflecting the universal mission of the Church. Being Catholic is not merely a cultural heritage; it is the spiritual means of eternal salvation that everyone needs. The word "epiphany" means "manifestation," and Christ must be made manifest to all, becoming the King of every soul.

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ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ JANUARY 5 - 11

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo	6:30 pm	Misa en Español †Betty Dickenson
Tu	8:00 am	NO MASS
We	8:00 am	NO MASS
Th	8:00 am	NO MASS
*Fr	8:30 am	NO MASS
Sa	5:00 pm	†Sylvester & †Alvina Woeste
*Su	9:00 am	†Edward & Florence Hinnenkamp †Bernice Garbina
Su	11:30 am	Misa en Español †Angelica Hernandez Becerra

SACRED HEART - Freeport

We	8:15 am	William Wiechman
Fr	8:15 am	Herman Wiechman
Su	8:00 am	†Wesley Prax

*Mass will be livestreamed.

Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th	8:15 am	Fr. Roger Klassen
Sa	4:00 pm	Poor Souls in Purgatory

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu	8:15 am	†Anthony Rolfes
Su	10:00 am	For the People

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu	8:00 am	†Holy Souls in Purgatory
Su	10:00 am	For the People

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th	8:00 am	†Mathew Kasper
Sa	4:00 pm	†David Walz

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We	8:00 am	†Maureen Luetmer
Su	8:00 am	†Sr. Suzanne Slominski, OSB

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa

First Tuesday of the month
7:00 - 8:00 am

Immaculate Conception - New Munich

First Thursday of the month
7:00 - 8:00 am

St. Mary - Melrose

First Thursday of the month 6:30 pm
in Spanish (en Español)
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.



ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

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

- **Children's Envelopes** are available in the parish office. If you would like your child/ren to have them, please contact the office and we will assign them.
- **Thank You** to Freeport State Bank for the warm Christmas greetings and the generous Christmas gifts given to our four parishes. We are sincerely grateful for the continued support and appreciate their dedication to the communities they serve.

Updating Contact Information Please notify the respective parish office to add, remove, or modify phone numbers, addresses, and any other information that has changed. If you are receiving contribution envelopes and do not wish to, or have not been receiving them and want to, please contact the respective parish office.

Bulletin Advertisements Thank you to all who have chosen to advertise on the back of our One In Faith Area Catholic Community bulletin for the upcoming year! It is greatly appreciated, and we hope it is beneficial to your business as well. There are still spots open on the back of the bulletin. If you are interested in advertising or have questions, please contact Amy Hoeschen at 320-836-2143.



Prayer Requests for the Sick If you or a loved one would like to be added to the prayer list, please email bulletin@catholic-centered.org or call one of the parish offices.

Currently Accepting Nominations SJSA school board is taking nominations for the School Supporter Award which will be given at the Steak & Wine Dinner & Auction on Saturday, February 7 at the Greenwald Pub. The Supporter Award is for individuals who have made a great impact on SJSA or who have been involved with the school in a positive way. Nominations are open until Friday, January 16. Please call the school at 320-987-3133 or Kathy Gilk at 320-290-6603.

Go and Make Disciples Everyone in grade 11 through adult is invited to a monthly Faith Formation event from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the lab in the basement of Sacred Heart School in Freeport. We will have snacks and discuss various Catholic topics. Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, January 7. Come and bring a friend for a fun filled faith enrichment night.



Adoration at Sacred Heart will be suspended until after the painting project is finished. Please watch the bulletin for when it will begin again.

Parish News:

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

- **Blessed Epiphany Items** Salt, chalk, and water will be available for use in your homes after the weekend Masses, January 3/4. Please remember the chalk is blessed. After using the chalk, please return it to the church or Tri-Parish Office, or bury it in the ground.
- **Parish Directories** If you had your photo taken or submitted a photo to be included in the directory and have not picked up your directory, please contact the Parish Office in Freeport.
- **Christmas Flower Memorials** Thank you to everyone who made donations for Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one. Much beauty was added to the churches this Christmas season. A list of those remembered by the donors can be found on the Tri-Parish website. If you would like a hard copy, please contact the Parish Office in Freeport.
- **Sponsor Couples Needed** The Tri-Parish is looking for married couples who would be willing to assist with mentoring engaged couples to help them prepare for a Christian marriage. Typically you would mentor one couple a year, at most, meeting with them 4-5 times prior to their wedding. Training is provided by the diocese. Please prayerfully consider this ministry. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport.

Are You Looking for Some Infant/Toddler Love?

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

Time to Expand Your Circle of Friends? Try a TEC Retreat. "God has a wonderful way of connecting the dots in our lives to people that will honor who we are, right where we are" (Tiffany Wilson). A TEC retreat will expand your circle of friends with those who will lift you up, support you, encourage you, and bring you closer to God. Come meet some new friends. Register for one of our three-day TEC retreats. www.cmtec.org. Together Encountering Christ (TEC) is open to both youth (age 16+) as well as adults and is located just north of Little Falls. The next TEC Retreats are January 17-19 and February 14-16.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
Melrose, MN 56352

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ **Weekly Offerings** ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Total	\$43,542.37
Regular Adult Offering	15,567.00
Plate/Loose	695.57
Designated Funds	1,158.80
Christmas	26,121.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

12-28	\$25	St. Mary's Church
12-29	\$25	Bill & Mary Spanier, Melrose
12-30	\$25	Adam Walz % Gary Walz, Melrose
12-31	\$1,000	Bob & Shelly Boeckermann, Grey Eagle

**Died in the Hope of Resurrection...**

†John Waldorf, 75

Heartfelt Thank You to all the wonderful volunteers who helped create our Christmas environment, both inside and outside. Your time, care, and hard work made our worship space truly beautiful for the Christmas season.

We Are Hiring! Our parish is seeking a part time **Bilingual Administrative Assistant** to provide administrative and clerical support, assist with communications, and serve as a warm, welcoming first point of contact for parishioners and visitors—both in person and by phone. This position requires fluency in Spanish and English to support our diverse and vibrant Catholic community. To apply or learn more, please contact the parish office.



Adoration Beginning January 10, every Saturday until further notice, St. Mary's will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00 - 9:00 am with confessions available most Saturdays. All are welcome!

From Eagle's Healing Nest: St. Mary's, Thank you all for your support! We love and appreciate you!! May peace, hope, and love be with you always. Merry Christmas!

Open Gym The 3rd Saturday of each month, there will be Open Gym at St. Mary's School from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, for children in grades Kindergarten through 6th grade. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend!

The Star of Bethlehem

Cont'd. from page 1



As we celebrate the Epiphany, be open to the ways God might want to use you to share the light of faith with those who are not yet faithful Catholics. We must be

like the star of Bethlehem, drawing others to Christ in ways they can understand and accept. This is best accomplished when we place ourselves at God's service, ready to be used as instruments of His grace. God alone knows how to draw all people to Himself, and when we offer ourselves to His service, He will inspire us and use us to be that shining light, guiding others out of darkness and into His marvelous light.

My Lord and Light of the World, You desire to shine brightly for all to see, so that all may be drawn to You, the one and only Savior of all. Please use me as You will, to be like that star over Bethlehem. Give me wisdom, love, and courage to shine brightly, radiating Your light for all to see. 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	\$30,665.81
Regular Adult Offering	5,488.54
Plate	3,329.00
Votive	72.00
Building/Maintenance	30.00
School Support	410.00
Christmas Envelopes	18,213.00
Christmas Plate	2,043.27
Solemnity of Mary Envelopes	25.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine	25.00
Immaculate Conception Envelopes	5.00
Church Painting	1,000.00
Christmas Flowers	25.00

Parish Events

Mo	01/05	Church Painting Begins
Tu	01/06	2:45 pm SHS Strings Practice
We	01/07	1:00 pm Altar Server Training
We	01/07	5:30 pm Altar Server Training
We	01/07	6:00 pm Faith Formation Grades 1-6
We	01/07	7:00 pm Faith Formation Grades 7-10
We	01/07	7:00 pm Go & Make Disciples
Th	01/08	3:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
Fr	01/09	7:45 am Individual Confessions
Fr	01/09	NO Adoration

Church Repainting The interior of the church will be repainted beginning January 5, 2026. All Masses after that date at Sacred Heart will take place in the church basement. Donations are being accepted to help cover the cost of this project.



Children's Liturgy There will be no children's liturgy while the church is being repainted. Watch the bulletin for when we are able to start back up again.



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!

The Scriptures This Week

Year A, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo	Saint John Neumann, Bishop (Memorial)	1 Jn 3:22—4:6	Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tu	Christmas Weekday (Saint André Bessette, Religious)	1 Jn 4:7-10	Mk 6:34-44
We	Christmas Weekday (Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest)	1 Jn 4:11-18	Mk 6:45-52
Th	Christmas Weekday	1 Jn 4:19—5:4	Lk 4:14-22a
Fr	Christmas Weekday	1 Jn 5:5-13	Lk 5:12-16
Sa	Christmas Weekday	1 Jn 5:14-21	Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday	The Baptism of the Lord (Feast)	Is 42:1-4, 6-7	Acts 10:34-38
			Mt 3:13-17

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦

Total.....	\$13,761.83
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,644.33
Plate	474.00
Building/Maintenance.....	217.50
Christmas Envelopes	9,645.00
Christmas Plate	576.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine ...	45.00
Cash Bazaar	150.00
Solemnity of Mary Envelopes	10.00

Parish Events

Su 01/04 10:00 am Private Event
We 01/07 6:00 pm FF Grades 1-6 - FR
We 01/07 7:00 pm FF Grades 7-10 - FR
We 01/07 7:00 pm Go & Make Disciples - FR
Sa 01/10 3:30 pm Individual Confessions

God's Housekeepers for the month of

January: *Lu Rademacher, Cindy Heinen, Lisa Hennen, Michelle Rademacher, Ann Holdvogt, and Donna Welle. The first person on the list should contact the others to schedule a cleaning time. Thank you for being "God's Housekeepers" for our church this month.

C.U.F. Calendar Raffle Winners:

Dec. 22 \$40 June Schwieters
Dec. 23 \$40 Sandy Mattox
Dec. 24 \$40 Tom Fuechtmann
Dec. 25 \$200 Tanner Schwieters
Dec. 26 \$40 Julie Boecker
Dec. 27 \$40 Roger Meyer
Dec. 28 \$100 Gary Feldewerd
Dec. 29 \$40 Greg Gabel
Dec. 30 \$40 Joyce Winter
Dec. 31 \$40 Roger Meyer

**Prayer Requests...**

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

For the Sick: Len Frieze, Dave Humbert, 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 ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦

Total.....	\$14,435.42
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,143.46
Plate	358.00
Votive	237.00
Building/Maintenance	100.00
Christmas Envelopes	11,325.05
Christmas Plate	1,221.91
Solemnity of Mary Envelopes	50.00

Parish Events

Tu 01/06 7:00 am Adoration
Tu 01/06 9:00 am Quilting
We 01/07 6:00 pm FF Grades 1-6 - FR
We 01/07 7:00 pm FF Grades 7-10 - FR
We 01/07 7:00 pm Go & Make Disciples - FR
Fr 01/09 7:30 pm Rosary

Quilting will begin on Tuesday, January 6 starting at 9:00 am in the church basement. All are welcome. Lunch provided. We will likely be quilting well into April.

**CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL**

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦

Total	\$15,598.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	290.00
Children	4.00
Plate/Loose	134.00
Religious Retirement	20.00
Maintenance Fund	280.00
Fuel Fund	1,305.00
Christmas	13,565.00

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, January 11 - 10:00 am

(S) Lukas Kalthoff & Noah Terres
(L) Darlene Schoenberg
(U) Melvin Kalthoff & Jim Klassen
(EM) (B) Melvin Kalthoff
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood
(Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
(RL) Kathy Welle
(CC) Peter Wuertz & Roger Meyer
(HK: January 11 - 24) Kathy (Chico) Welle, Kathy (Ron) Welle, & Tia Welle

Coffee & Rolls St. Michael's Catholic United Financial is sponsoring



Coffee & Rolls after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 18 in the church basement. Everyone is invited, please join us!!

**One In Faith ACC Catholic Schools
Dinner & Auction Fundraisers**

♦SHS 31st Annual Wine & Dine Dinner and Auction will be held on Saturday, January 24. We will have an online Silent Auction (more info to follow in the next few weeks) as well as a live auction on the night of the event. The fundraiser will also include a \$100 cash raffle with a top prize of \$20,000. Dinner and Raffle tickets are available from all SHS families as well as at the school and parish offices. We will also be selling after

Masses in the Tri-Parish this weekend as well as January 10-11 and 17-18.

♦The 24th St. Mary's Annual Auction 4 Education will be held on Saturday, March 7, at the American Legion in Melrose. Doors open at 5:00 pm. The night will start with a game of Family Feud. A free-will offering meal will be served from 5:00-8:00pm. Pot O' Gold \$100 Raffle tickets can be purchased after Masses and are available at St. Mary's School & Parish Office, All Stars Sports Bar & Grill, Freeport State Bank - Melrose, Hennen Lumber, Kraemer Lumber, Magnifi Financial - Melrose, Melrose Bowl, Some Like It Hot, and St. Rosa Lumber. Winners will be drawn on Saturday, March 7 at the Legion. We will again use our online platform to bid for silent auction items, while the classroom projects will be auctioned live in person at the Legion. Please come dressed in your best Shamrocks and Shenanigans outfit. Visit our auction website for more details.



♦34th Annual Steak & Wine Dinner & Auction to support St. John's - St. Andrew's Catholic School will be Saturday, February 7, at The Greenwald Pub. More info to come!

Join us at each of these fundraisers for a great meal and lots of fun.
All are welcome!

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$9,547.00
Regular Adult Offering	823.00
EFT	900.00
Plate/Loose	389.00
Votives	17.00
Cemetery	175.00
Religious Retirement	250.00
Maintenance Fund	150.00
Fuel Fund	305.00
School Support	300.00
Christmas	6,238.00

Liturgical Ministries**Saturday, January 10 - 4:00 pm**

(S) Leo Kasper & Clara Kasper
(L) Isaiah Gilk
(U) Bill Frieler & Duane Frieler
(GB) Jeff & Wanda Ahrens
(EM) (B) Herman Lensing
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood
(HK - Jan.) *Sheryl Braun, Kate Buermann,
Sara Dehmer, & Rita Eveslage

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$10,836.78
Regular Adult Offering.....	975.00
Children's26
EFT	140.00
Plate/Loose	181.00
Votives	83.00
Fuel Fund	25.00
Maintenance Fund	10.00
Christmas Crib	35.52
Christmas	9,387.00

Liturgical Ministries**Sunday, January 11 - 8:00 am**

(S) Morgan Funk & Paige Funk
(L) Rita Meyer
(U) John Primus & Ray Primus
(GB) Nick & Kate Kelzer
(EM) Karl Meyer & Sue Meyer
(HK - January) *Ruth Klaphake, Mary
Kay Leukam, Theresa Loxtercamp, Sheri
Luetmer, Irene Marthaler, & Char Meyer

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Habrá Adoración al Santísimo cada
Primer Jueves del Mes a las 6:30 pm.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

January 4, Sunday

◆**All You Can Eat Breakfast** Hosted by
Green Grove Rod & Gun Club at the
Greenwald Pub. Serving from 9:00 am -
12:30 pm. Proceeds for Wildlife Projects.

◆**Parish Breakfast** at Church of St. Augustine
106 Wilson Ave SE St. Cloud, MN. Serving
from 7:30 am - 12:00 pm. Adults \$12. Ages
5-12 \$7. Children 4 and under are free.

January 10, Saturday

◆**Raffle & Gun Bingo** Hosted by Green
Grove Rod & Gun Club at the Melrose
American Legion. Proceeds go toward local
high school archery and trap teams. Doors
open at 5:00 pm and Bingo starts at 7:00 pm.

January 11, Sunday

◆**All You Care To Eat Breakfast** at Holy
Spirit Church 2405 Walden Way St. Cloud,
MN. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.
Adults \$12. Ages 5-12 \$6. Children 4 and
under are free.

◆**Knights of Columbus Breakfast** at Saint
Boniface, Cold Spring. Serving from
8:30 am - 12:00 pm. Age 13-Adult \$12.
Ages 6-12 \$6. 5 and under are free.

January 14, Wednesday

◆**January Soup Luncheon** Sponsored by the
Melrose Area Senior Citizens will be held
from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at the Melrose
Area Senior Center, located in the lower
level of the Melrose City offices. Freewill
offering, all are welcome!

January 18, Sunday

◆**Coffee & Rolls** Sponsored by St. Michael's
Catholic United Financial at St. Michael's
Church basement in Spring Hill. Serving
after the 10:00 am Mass. Everyone is
invited, please join us!!

◆**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. Grades 7-12 \$6.
PreK-6 are free.

◆**Holy Spirit Parish's Bouja Fundraiser** A
healthy, meaty, vegetable stew - ready to
serve! \$20 per gallon, \$10 per half gallon.
Pre-purchase tickets: Holy Spirit website:
spiritandsaints.org, Holy Spirit Parish
office: 2405 Walden Way, The Boot Shack:
2221 Roosevelt Rd (the week prior) and The
Bouja Shack: 1615 - 11th Ave. S. St. Cloud,
Saturday mornings from 7:30 am - 9:00 am
prior to each "Bouja Sunday" and "Bouja
Sunday" beginning at 7:00 am until sold
out. Drive-thru pick-up Bouja Sunday at
The Bouja Shack from 8:30 am - 11:00 am.
Gift certificates are available at the parish
office. For more information call 320-251-3764.

**Public Rosary...**

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

St. Mary, Melrose

- Tuesday: 7:00 am
- Wednesday: 1:00 pm
- Thursday (Spanish): 6:30 pm
(Except the 1st Thursday)

Sacred Heart, Freeport

- Wednesday: 7:45 am
- Friday: 7:45 am
- Sunday: 7:30 am

Immaculate Conception, New Munich

- Thursday: 7:45 am
- Saturday: 3:30 pm

St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa

- Tuesday: 7:45 am
- 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



FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information:

faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1-6: Next class** Wednesday, January 7, from 6:00-7:00 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms in the parish office. Parents, please pick up from the church basement at 7:00 pm.
- **Grades 7-10: Next class** Wednesday, January 7, from 7:00-8:30 pm. Students will meet in their classrooms. **10th grade Classroom location change.** Your classroom will now be in the school gym due to the painting project.
- **Faith Formation Mass** on January 14 is canceled due to the painting project in Sacred Heart Church. Students will have class as usual in place of Mass.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information:

faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **Grades 1, 3-6** - Wednesday, January 7, 6:00 pm - Roseview Manor Service Project - game night with the residents - sign up for one session for the year.
- **Grades 7/8, 9/10, Confirmation** - Wednesday, January 7, 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm, ST. MARY'S SCHOOL (NOT the church) - Safe Environment Speaker
- **First Communion Class** - Sunday, January 11, 10:00 am -11:15 am (between the 9:00 and 11:30 am Masses) - First Reconciliation Learning Centers for students and parents



YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information:

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

- **Skiing at Andes Tower Hills** Sunday, February 8 from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm. We will have a fun filled afternoon skiing. Deadline to register is Wednesday, January 14. Registration forms are available on the Tri-Parish website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org.
- **Movie Night** Monday, January 12 from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Freeport Church Basement. Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join the youth group as they gather to watch God's Not Dead. Deadline to register is Wednesday, January 7. Registration forms are available on the Tri-Parish website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org.
- **Middle School Lock-In for Grades 6-8:** Mark your calendars for Saturday evening through Sunday morning, January 24-25 at the St. Cloud YMCA. This lock-in will have swimming, rock climbing, Mass, prayer experiences, the game room, movies, basketball, Ga Ga ball, dodgeball and so much more. Come together with other youth in our diocese, make new friends, take time to relax, laugh, eat great food, and renew your spirit while strengthening your relationship with God. Registration forms are available on the Tri-Parish website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org. Cost is \$40 until Thursday, January 15, then \$50 through January 22. Additional cost for busing TBD. Contact Kasia in the Parish Office in Freeport with any questions.
- **Castaway Retreat** for Grades 9-12: Friday, March 20 through Sunday, March 22, 2026, at the Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes, MN. Castaway has been an energizing experience for our young Church in the Diocese of St. Cloud for over 50 years. This retreat is a weekend filled with powerful prayer, fun skits, inspirational speakers, awesome music, an incredible Mass, and many faith-growing opportunities. Come together with over 300 others and make new friends, take time to relax, laugh, eat fantastic food, and renew your spirit while strengthening your relationship with God. Cost is \$210 through Friday, February 13, and \$230 after that. To register, please turn in a Youth Interest Form along with a \$110 non-refundable deposit. Forms are available in the churches and on the parish websites. Contact either parish office with questions. Please turn in your Interest Forms by the end of January to secure your spot.

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

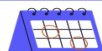


PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Mary Miller
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Kristen Pattinson
SJSA BOARD:
 Amber Bueckers, Kathy Gilk, Adam
 Kalthoff, Kate Kelzer, Heidi Meyer,
 Trista Roelike, and Jenny Wilson
 Phone: 320-987-3133
www.sjsaschool.org

- **Wine & Dine Raffle/Dinner Tickets** SHS Families will be selling our Wine and Dine raffle and dinner tickets the next few weekends after Mass.
- **Classes will resume** on Monday, January 5.
- **Wishing you all a very Happy New Year!**
- **LOOKING AHEAD:**
- **Catholic School's Week** January 18-24.
- **Sacred Heart School Wine and Dine** Fundraiser will be on Saturday, January 24.

- **St. Mary's School is seeking a long-term substitute teacher** for the 5th grade classroom, from mid-March through the end of the school year. Email Autumn Nelson at anelson@smsmn.org to inquire.
- **Save the Date** for St. Mary's Catholic Schools Week Breakfast in the school gym on Sunday, January 25 from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. All are welcome!
- There will be an **Open House** for our **Little Saints** program from 9:30 am -12:00 pm on Sunday, January 25.

- **Classes will resume** on Monday, January 5.
- **Mark Your Calendars!** SJSA Steak and Wine Dinner and Auction is Saturday, February 7 at the Greenwald Pub. Donny Brang will once again be playing for the event. If you would like to donate to this event, please contact the school. More info to come!



Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners!

12/28	\$25	Judy Kluempke - Melrose
12/29	\$25	Matt & Kayla Schmitz - Grey Eagle
12/30	\$25	Bill Blommel - Willmar
12/31	\$120	Joe & Danielle Toenyan - Sauk Centre

- St. Mary's School is holding an **SMS\$4Kids Incentive Drive** until January 22 to raise funds for playground equipment. You can help by starting or continuing to use the scrip program for your daily shopping or upcoming holiday purchases.
- **St. Mary's School's Auction 4 Education** will be held on Saturday, March 7, at the Legion. The theme this year is Shamrocks and Shenanigans. Pot O' Gold \$100 Raffle tickets are available now. Visit our auction website for more details.



ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2



Marriage & Natural Family Planning: Faithfully Yours: Discover Natural Family Planning (NFP)! NFP cooperates with nature and God's plan for married love. The Billings Ovulation Method is a natural, highly effective method for postponing or achieving pregnancy without the use of drugs or devices. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in Sauk Centre on Thursday, January 15 and Thursday, February 19 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!

Stewardship as a Way of Life: *"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."* Matthew 2:11 The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

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.

- Men's Silent Retreat - January 16-18 (Weekend)
- Women's Silent Retreat - January 23-25 (Weekend)

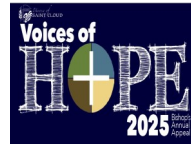
Life Awareness is a retreat program for single Catholic women and men, ages 18–30, interested in learning more about serving our Church and world as future priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and lay ministers/misioners. Join us from Friday, February 20 through Saturday, February 21 at Saint Benedict's Monastery in St. Joseph, Minn., as we explore this question and others together in Christ's company. Please register by Wednesday, February 18 at <https://sbm.osb.org/community/vocations/life-awareness-retreat/> For more information, contact Sister Laura Suhr at lsuhr001@csbsju.edu or 320-363-7100.

Reboot A Life-Changing Event This high-energy, 2-hour event with internationally acclaimed speaker Chris Stefanick will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY! It will help you rediscover the JOY you were created for, and is perfect for everyone... even friends, family, and children (12+) who may not be actively practicing their faith. Please join us at Wadena Memorial Auditorium in Wadena, MN from 7:00 - 9:00 pm on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. To purchase tickets please visit <https://buytickets.at/reallifecatholic/1765324>

Theology Day. Find Out. Pathways of Hope



- Beyond Belief: How Belonging, Joy, and Encounter Awaken Faith for Young People Today** Discover from Donelle what youth and young adults say they need from the church to be catalysts for faith renewal. Presenter: Director Donelle Poling - Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at Emmaus Hall at St. John's University, Collegeville from 6:30 - 9:00 pm.
- The Stones of Corinth: Looking for Hope in the Ruins** Explore with Micah as he uncovers Corinth's ancient struggles, how they mirror ours today, and why there is hope for the future. Presenter: Micah Kiel, Ph.D. - Thursday, January 22, 2026 at Church of St. Mary, Alexandria from 6:30 - 9:00 pm.



Voices of Hope - Bishop's Annual Appeal: Blessings to you in the New Year! We are very grateful to those of you who have already supported diocesan ministries in 2025 through the Appeal. As of December 22, the Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2025 has raised \$1,532,689 toward our goal of \$1,500,000 (102.18%). This was made possible through the generous donations of 6,902 people throughout the 16 counties of our diocese. Your support of these vital ministries make a real difference in people's lives. Visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Catholic Men's Conference 2026 February 28, 2026 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, St. John's University in Collegeville. Keynote speaker: Craig Gould, M.A., Program Director, Notre Dame Vision. Workshop: will be available, including topics for young adults ages 15 and up. Cost: \$40 or \$35/each for groups of 5, includes morning refreshments and lunch. Cost for young adults ages 15 – 22: \$10, scholarships available for the first 50 registrants. Registration deadline: February 17, 2026. Visit <https://stcdio.org/event/catholic-mens-conference-2026/> to register or for more information. You can also contact Jan at 320-258-7615 or jan.zylla@gw.stcdio.org.

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/>.



Did you know you are the salt of the earth and the light of the world? CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA is a weekend Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese and is designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. The next retreat is scheduled for January 23-25, 2026, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. Cost of the weekend is \$70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.

Plan with Faith, Live with Mercy Bishop Neary is inviting all parishioners to take part in a new diocesan initiative to help Catholics prepare for the future with confidence and care. Through a partnership with MyCatholicWill.com, the Diocese of Saint Cloud is offering free access to a trusted online platform where you can:

- Create a Last Will and Testament
- Plan a funeral rooted in Catholic tradition
- Consider a bequest to your parish or diocesan ministries

This is a simple and meaningful way to care for your loved ones and live out our call to stewardship. For more information, visit <https://mycatholicwill.com/stcdio>

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.



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<p>WHEELS WATER SERVICE 37276 County Road 13 PO Box 233 Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-4146 JAMMIE WIELING</p>	<p>Independent Monument Consultant Courtney Indieke 320-293-6518 courtneyindieke@gmail.com</p>	<p>• 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</p>	<p>ADVERTISE HERE</p>	<p>MELROSE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY "Neighbor helping Neighbor since 1901" Stacy Schiffer, Manager 303 Main Street East Melrose, MN 56352 256-7290 www.melrosemutual.com</p>	<p>MELROSE IMPLEMENT INC. NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE Sales - Parts - Service Phone 256-4253 - Melrose, MN www.melroseimplement.com</p>	
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