



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

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 8, 2024

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

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

Email: triparish@albanytel.com

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 Immaculate Conception
- ◆Saturdays 3:30 pm St. Andrew
- ◆Saturdays 4:30 pm St. Mary
- ◆Or by appointment. Call the Parish Office.

Marriage

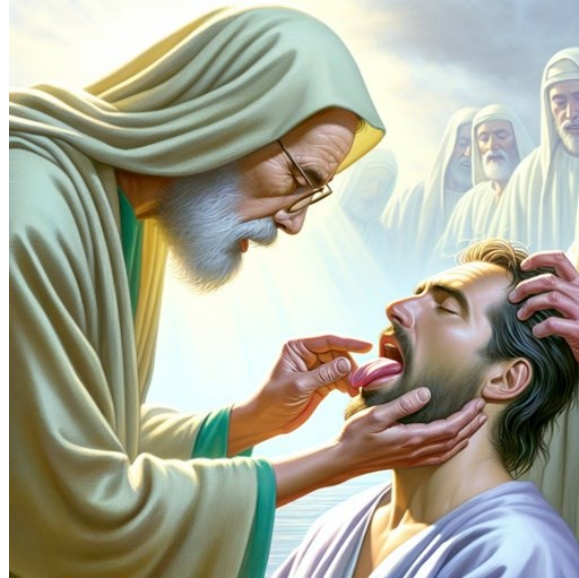
Couples are to begin preparation 6-12 months in advance and **must** call the respective Parish Office **before setting a date**. Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes are required.

Baptism & RCIA

If you are interested in having your child baptized or participating in the RCIA program, contact the respective Parish Office.

**Anointing of the Sick, Home Bound 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.



*Humble
Instruments
of
Grace*

He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!"—And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. Mark 7:33-35

One interesting point in this story is that the people who brought this deaf and mute man to Jesus begged Him to "lay his hand on him" so as to heal him. But what did Jesus do? Instead, He took the man away from the crowd, put His divine finger into the man's ears, touched the man's tongue with His own sacred saliva and the man was cured. At first, the act of putting your finger into someone else's ear and touching their tongue with your own saliva may seem repulsive. Normally it would be. To understand these two actions, we must understand the symbolism.

The image of a finger is used a number of times in the Scriptures to refer to God's power. In the Book of Exodus after the plague of the gnats, Pharaoh's magicians said that this was clearly done "by the finger of God" (Exodus 8:19). On the mountain when Moses received the Ten Commandments we know that it was also God's finger that wrote them (Exodus 31:18). In the book of Daniel, a finger appeared and wrote a prophetic message on a wall (Daniel 5:5). In the New Testament, Jesus cast out a demon "by the finger of God" (Luke 11:20) and in today's Gospel He healed this man's hearing with His finger. The "finger of God" is understood as the power of God and an action of the Holy Spirit. Thus, by using His sacred finger to heal, Jesus was symbolically revealing that He fully exercised the power of God and acted in perfect union with the Holy Spirit and the Father.

The image of saliva is also interesting. Perhaps you have noticed that when an animal has a wound it often licks that wound. This is a natural instinct but also one that makes sense. Saliva has a certain medicinal power of healing. It contains antibacterial agents. Therefore, since normal saliva can help heal a wound, Jesus's saliva is able to heal in a supernatural way. Recall, also, that Jesus healed a blind man by spitting on the ground and then smearing the mud on his eyes (John 9:6).

Did Jesus need to use His finger and His saliva to heal this man? Certainly not. He could have done it with a mere thought. But He chose to use His body as an instrument of His healing power. Doing so reveals to us that Jesus' humanity became the source of unity between God and man. Even His finger and His saliva unite us to God. Everything about the Son of God in His human form dispensed grace, healing and mercy. Even that which may, at first, seem most repulsive.

Continued on page 7

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ SEPTEMBER 9-15

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 Por las almas del purgatorio
 Tu 7:30 am †Marie & †Richard Winning
 We 7:30 am †Catherine Primus
 Th 7:30 am †Dolores Maleska
 Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
 †Brady Rademacher
 †Rich Boeckermann
 Sa 5:00 pm For the People
 *Su 10:00 am †Richard Hellermann
 Su 12:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 †Carmen Garcia
 †Pedro Ramirez

SACRED HEART - Freeport

We 8:15 am **SH School Mass**
 †Deceased/Living Members of
 the Zwack Family
 We **6:30 pm** Faith Formation Families
 Fr 8:15 am Special Intentions John Haren Family
 Su 8:00 am †Alcuin & †Loretta Renneker

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th 8:15 am †Kenny Feldewerd &
 †Dorene Feldewerd
 Sa 4:00 pm For the People

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am †Merville "Merv" Steen
 Su 10:00 am †Roger & †Mary Ann Engelmeier

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am †Philip Theiler
 Su 10:00 am Stan & Ruth Ann Heinen

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †Deceased Relatives of Jane Welle
 Sa 4:00 pm †Rosie & †Perry Meyer

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Leo & †Anna Mae Schneider
 Su 8:00 am †Vincent & †Rosie Schmiesing

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

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)

Sacred Heart - Freeport

Fridays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

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

•We Are Celebrating! Fr. Mitchell will be formally installed as pastor of St. Andrew, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary and St. Michael at a special Installation Mass at St. Mary's in Melrose at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, September 17, with Fr. Scott Pogatchnik, Vicar General of the St. Cloud Diocese, presiding. Everyone is welcome! Refreshments and fellowship will follow.

One In Faith ACC Pastoral Council Meeting The One In Faith Pastoral Council will meet Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 pm at the Church of St. Mary, Fireside Room. If you are wanting to be added to the agenda, please contact Lisa Wuertz at 320-219-3624 or plwuertz@meltel.net before September 9.

Special Collection: Catholic Campaign for Human Development Our diocese will take up a special collection the weekend of September 14-15 for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty office of the USCCB, which focuses on poverty education, peace outreach and grants to grassroots organizations working to fight poverty across the U.S. Funds collected are used for grants locally and nationally, with at least 25% of all funds remaining in our diocese to help local organizations. Please give generously as we work together to help our neighbors on the margins.

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 - September 10-12 (Midweek)
- Women's Silent Retreat - September 20-22 (Weekend)
- Women's Silent Retreat - September 24-26 (Midweek)
- Men's Silent Retreat - September 27-29 (Weekend)

Rural Catholic Middle Ages Singles Group: Join us for prayer, topical information, discussions, and social activities for people ages 30-60 who are looking to socialize with other single adults. We meet at 7:00 pm on the second Saturday (September 14) of each month at All Saints-St. Mary's Church basement in Holdingford (on River Street). Call or text Janel at 320-290-2877 for more information.

Parish News:

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

•St. Cloud Novena Booklets Please return them to the church after you are finished with them. Thank you.

54-day Rosary Novena Please join other faithful Catholics in praying a 54-day Rosary Novena starting on September 11 and ending on November 3 (the Sunday before the Presidential Election). The 54-day Novena is split into two parts, praying the first 27 days in Petition to God for favors or blessings, and last 27 days in Thanksgiving to God for His many blessings and those coming from praying this novena. Let's offer this novena for all families, world peace, peace in our hearts, our country and our homes, and for the United States to elect politicians that will protect religious freedoms for Catholics and Christians to continue to practice their faith, and that will protect the rights to life for the most vulnerable, the unborn, the elderly, and the infirmed. Our Blessed Mother Mary has spoken of the need to pray the Rosary in many of her apparitions on Earth, especially in Fatima, Portugal, and has said that many graces and promises are granted to the faithful from our Lord to those who pray the Rosary. The families that pray together, stay together!

Sacred Heart School 1K/5K Run and Walk

The 14th annual Sacred Heart School 1K/5K Fun Run and Walk is coming up soon. Join us on Saturday, September 28 for a fun event for the whole family. We are looking for individuals and businesses to help sponsor the event. We would like to get all expenses covered with donations so the registration fees can ALL go back to the school and to the children. If you are willing to donate, please send your donation to Sacred Heart School PO Box 39 Freeport, MN 56331. You can register online or pick up a registration form at school. Walkers are more than welcome, no need to run the race. Get active on a nice fall morning and support Sacred Heart School. Thank you in advance for your generosity, and we look forward to seeing you on Saturday, September 28. The 1K starts at 10:30 am and the 5K will follow around 11:00 am. Freeport Fall Fest will have many family activities to keep you busy in the morning and after the race, so plan to stay in town and enjoy the day! If you have any questions or need more information, feel free to contact Amy Van Beck at amyvanbeck@hotmail.com or 320-290-8801.




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

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

Total.....	\$10,160.00
Regular Adult Offering	8,705.00
Plate/Loose	1,013.00
Designated Funds	442.00


St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

09-01	\$25	Glenn & Vickie Hinnenkamp - Melrose
09-02	\$50	Alison Westendorf - Bloomington
09-03	\$25	Lynne Revermann - St. Cloud
09-04	\$25	Deb Duclos - Melrose
09-05	\$25	Madelyn Klaphake - Melrose
09-06	\$25	Roger Meyer - Melrose
09-07	\$25	Lori Drossel - Melrose



Baptized in Christ...
 ♥Madeline Botello Juarez ♥Yahir Botello Juarez
 ♥Ambar Arleth Valencia Hernandez ♥Luis Antonio Valencia


Died in the Hope of Resurrection...
 † Arlene Messerich, 86

 **Fellowship** There will be refreshments served after all the Masses this next weekend, September 14-15 at St. Mary's. Please plan to come and stay awhile!!

St. Mary's Parish Gathering this Sunday from 4:00 - 7:00 pm.

Who Will Win \$20,000? The St. Mary's Parish Raffle drawing is this Sunday at 6:00 pm at church! Tickets are \$100 and only 1,000 will be sold. You can get yours before and after Masses or at the event unless they sell out sooner!

New Ministry Schedules are available in the kiosks for those who do not receive it via email.

 **Adult Altar Servers Needed** Fr. Mitchell is looking for two adult altar servers to assist with funerals at St. Mary's. In addition to the usual duties, the altar server will help with preparing the incense for the end of Mass. For more information please contact Fr. Mitchell.

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


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

Total.....	\$4,358.85
Regular Adult Offering.....	3,757.85
Plate/Loose.....	339.00
Votive.....	109.00
Building/Maintenance.....	153.00

Parish Events

Su	09/08	9:00 am	Catholic United Financial Meeting
Tu	09/10	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
We	09/11	6:30 pm	Faith Formation Beginning of Year Mass/Fellowship
Fr	09/13	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	09/13	9:00 am	Adoration
Sa	09/14	12:00 pm	Baptism

Children's Liturgy is offered during most Sunday Masses throughout the year. Children, pre-k through those preparing for First Holy Communion, are invited to participate in Children's Liturgy. For those who have received the Sacrament of the Eucharist, we ask that they remain and are active participants in the Mass.

 **Quarterly Meeting** Catholic United #101 will be having a quarterly meeting on Sunday, September 8 after the 8:00 am Mass in Freeport. Coffee and Rolls will be served. Topics of discussion will include the Matching Grant Breakfast and suggestions/ideas for upcoming activities. All members are invited to attend.

Mark Your Calendar Sacred Heart Catholic United Financial Matching Grant Breakfast will be held on Sunday, October 13 in Freeport.

“He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”
 If you feel Christ encouraging you to be a transformative instrument as a priest or religious brother or sister, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 320-251-5001 or Julie.Jacobs@gw.stedio.org.
 That none of us will be a hindrance to those men called to take up their cross and follow Jesus as priests, we pray to the Lord.

The Scriptures This Week
 Year B, Weekdays - Cycle II

Mo	Saint Peter Claver, Priest	1 Cor 5:1-8	Lk 6:6-11
Tu		1 Cor 6:1-11	Lk 6:12-19
We		1 Cor 7:25-31	Lk 6:20-26
Th		1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13	Lk 6:27-38
Fr	Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27	Lk 6:39-42
Sa	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Nm 21:4b-9	Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17
Next Sunday - Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time			
		Is 50:4c-9a	Jas 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35

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

Banns of Matrimony:
 II Mikayla Von Wahlde♥Dylan Fleischhacker, 9-21 SR
 II Kasey Bertram♥Nicholas Topp, 9-21 SH
 III Kendra Lange♥Zach Austing, 9-10 SR

For the Sick: Regine Muellner, Joan Schlicht, Tony Niehaus, John Niehaus, Alex Hoppe, Sandy Welle, Joyce Hauser, Ron Heinen, Lori Austing, Petra Oevermann

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

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.....	\$2,903.31
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,315.69
Plate/Loose	413.00
Building/Maintenance	34.62
Votive.....	100.00
Cash Bazaar.....	40.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,787.58
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,468.85
Plate/Loose	1,318.73

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$2,246.75
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,077.00
Children.....	11.75
Plate/Loose	13.00
Fuel Fund.....	100.00
Maintenance Fund.....	45.00

Parish Events

Tu 09/10 6:30 pm	Catholic United Financial Mtg.
We 09/11 6:30 pm	FF Beginning of Year Mass/Fellowship - FR
Th 09/12 7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Sa 09/14 3:30 pm	Individual Confessions

Parish Events

Su 09/08 11:00 am	Catholic United Financial Meeting
Tu 09/10 4:00 pm	Wedding Prep
Tu 09/10 5:00 pm	Lange/Austing Wedding
We 09/11 6:30 pm	FF Beginning of Year Mass/Fellowship - FR
Fr 09/13 7:30 pm	Rosary

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, September 15 - 10:00 am

(S) Gabby or Celia Schoenberg
 (L) Gary P. Lieser
 (U) Rick Terres & Robert Van Drehle
 (EM) (B) Nick Waldorf
 (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
 (Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
 (RL) Kathy Welle
 (CC) Chico Welle & Steve Welle
 (HK: September 1-14) Ruth Moscho, Mary Niefeld, & Amy Orbeck

Save the Date: Catholic Order of Foresters Court, St. Leo Court #786 of New Munich Annual Matching Fund Breakfast on Sunday, October 6 in the church basement.

Raffle Winners A list of raffle winners can be found in the back of church and on the Tri-Parish website and Facebook page.



Choir Practice The New Munich Choir is practicing on Thursday, September 12 at 7:00 pm. This is a wonderful time to join the choir. Adults and students 9-12 grade are welcome. If you have any questions, or would like to know more about music ministries in our parish, call Calli at 320-290-4583. Thank you!



Breakfast and Bake Sale
 St. Michael's Matching Grant Catholic United Financial Council #126 will be hosting a breakfast and bake sale in the church basement today, Sunday, September 8 from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. They will be serving sausage, eggs, fried potatoes, applesauce, peaches, and coffee cake. Adults \$9 in advance or \$9.50 at the door. Children ages 6-12 \$4 and 5 and under are free.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

- September 8, Sunday**
 ♦ St. Michael's Matching Grant Breakfast and Bake Sale hosted by St. Michael's Catholic United Financial Council #126 in the Spring Hill church basement. Serving from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. Adults \$9 advance or \$9.50 at door. Children 6-12 \$4 and 5 and under are free.
 ♦ 2024 Forever Young Let There Be Peace at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Melrose at 4:00 pm. Freewill offering and food shelf item.
- September 10, Tuesday**
 ♦ 2024 Forever Young Let There Be Peace at Our Savior's Lutheran church in Albany at 7:00 pm. Freewill offering and food shelf item.
- September 11, Wednesday**
 ♦ Quilting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All are welcome.
- September 15, Sunday**
 ♦ Breakfast at St. John the Baptist Parish Hall in Swanville. Sponsored by Grey Eagle/Swanville Knights of Columbus. Serving from 8:00 - 11:00 am. Freewill donation. All proceeds will go to help fund local Knights of Columbus charitable activities.
 ♦ Annual Turkey & Ham Dinner hosted by St. Donatus Catholic Church of Brooten's at the Padua Pub Reception Hall in Padua. Serving from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. Take outs will also be available. Hope to see you there!
 ♦ 2024 Forever Young Let There Be Peace at First Lutheran Church in Sauk Centre at 7:00 pm. Freewill offering and food shelf item.
- September 18, Wednesday**
 ♦ Quilting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All are welcome.
- September 19, Thursday**
 ♦ Freeport Senior Citizens meeting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.
- September 24, Tuesday**
 ♦ American Red Cross Blood Drive at the Melrose American Legion from 12:30 - 6:30 pm. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Melrose to schedule an appointment.
 ♦ Bologna Daze at Elrosa Bar & Lounge serving from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Music by Local Musicians. \$10 all you can eat bologna, potato wedges, sauerkraut, baked beans, homemade bread and dessert. Sponsored by: Elrosa Senior Citizens.

Public Rosary... 

We have many intentions to pray for and much to be thankful for.
All are invited and welcome!

- Mondays at 7:00 am in the church in Meire Grove.
- Tuesdays at 7:00 am in the church in Melrose.
- Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in the church in Melrose.
- Every Thursday except the first Thursday at 6:30 pm in Spanish in the church in Melrose.
- Fridays at 7:30 pm at the church in St. Rosa.
- 30 minutes prior to each weekday and weekend Mass in Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa, and Spring Hill.
- 20 minutes prior to each weekday and weekend Mass in Greenwald.

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

¡Registrate en la parroquia! Si asistes frecuentemente a la celebración de la Misa en nuestra parroquia y no te has registrado como miembro de está, te invitamos a que te registres y formes parte de nuestra gran comunidad hispana registrada. ¡Ya somos casi 500 feligreses hispanos registrados en la parroquia de Santa Maria! Si tienes preguntas al respecto llama al 320-256-9500 de 8:00am-12:00pm para asistencia en español.

¿Eres adulto y aún no has recibido todos tus sacramentos de iniciación (Bautismo, Confirmación y Primera Comunion)? el Ministerio Hispano de la



Iglesia de Santa Maria cuenta con el Programa RICA que ayuda a preparar a todos aquellos adultos que aún no han recibido los sacramentos de iniciación y de igual manera prepara aquellas personas que no eran católicas pero desean entrar en total comunión con la Iglesia Católica. Si a usted le interesa entrar a este programa o conoce a alguien que desea prepararse para recibir sus sacramentos, hable con los diacono Jorge Carrillo o Jesus Hernandez para registrarse o llame a la oficina parroquial de Lunes a Viernes de 8:00 am a 12:00 pm para asistencia en Español.

Aprendiendo a Evangelizar: Invitamos a todas las personas que hablan Español a una clase que nos prepara y nos enseña a conocer más a profundidad nuestra Fe Católica. Si usted está interesado o interesada, lo esperamos aquí en la iglesia todos los Sábados de 8:00 a 9:30 am.

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,171.61
Regular Adult Offering	925.00
Plate/Loose	109.00
Votives.....	27.00
Cemetery Fund.....	100.00
Maintenance Fund.....	5.00
School Subsidy.....	5.61

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,283.25
Regular Adult Offering.....	765.00
Children.....	0.25
Plate/Loose	229.00
Votives.....	64.00
Donation.....	200.00
School Subsidy.....	25.00

Liturgical Ministries
Saturday, September 14- 4:00 pm
 (S) Aubrey Stepan & Emily Stepan
 (L) Cassandra Kettner
 (U) Gary Bertram & Dan Boecker
 (GB) Jim & Ruth Wehlage
 (EM) (B) Kris Winter & Clarine Beier
 (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
 (HK - September) *Margaret Silbernack, Jen Stepan, Amy Stueve, & Linda Trisko

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, September 15 - 8:00 am
 (S) Isaac Zenzen & Collin Kelzer
 (L) Rita Meyer
 (U) Jeron Nathe & Andrew Primus
 (GB) Dean & Karen Meyer
 (EM) (B) Daryl Zenzen & Nick Kelzer
 (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
 (HK - September) *Julie Wehlage, Abby Zenzen, Kathy Illies, Darlene Imdieke, Joni Imdieke, & Sharon Imdieke

You're Invited
 To St. Mary's
 Parish Get-together and
 Our Parish Raffle drawing!
 All are welcome!

Sunday, September 8th, 2024
 4:00 to 7:00pm at St. Mary's Church

Come for food, music, entertainment
 and fellowship!

Brats, hot dogs, sauerkraut, Mexican rice,
 pickles, chips and beverages.




Sacred Heart School
Calendar Raffle Winners!

09/01	\$25	Troy & Sue Frieler - Freeport
09/02	\$25	Dave Ehlert - Freeport
09/03	\$25	Sharon Czech - Clearwater
09/04	\$25	Courtney Fiedler - New Munich
09/05	\$25	Lucy Rieland - Melrose
09/06	\$25	Eli Massengale - Melrose
09/07	\$25	Judy Hennen - Freeport

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.
***Gift cards are great gift ideas!**

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Amy Van Beck
SHS BOARD:
 Myranda Beuning, Julie Job,
 Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle,
 Lindsay Frieler, and Jenelle Herkenhoff
 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:
 Cory Ellering, Bob Arceneau,
 Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch,
 Jake Primus, and Pat Christenson
 Phone: 320-256-4257
 www.smsmelrosemn.org



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

- ♥We welcomed our new students and staff to the 2024/2025 school year on Tuesday, September 3. With our toddler and PreK students we have 163 students enrolled at SHS! We have been blessed with great enrollment and support for the school.
- ♥Thank you to Freeport State Bank for the amazing donation to the school from the FSB Golf Classic. We appreciate your donation and support to help our school continue to grow and thrive.
- ♥The 14th Annual SHS 1K and 5K is coming up on Saturday, September 28! Registration is open and forms are available at the school. Hope to see you there!

- ♦The Next School Board Meeting is on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30 pm in the school lounge.
- ♦Our Annual Prayer-a-Thon/Marathon event will be held on Friday, October 4. The pledges raised by our students will help with everyday operating costs. The prayer requests collected are prayed throughout the year in the classrooms. Our goal is to raise \$23,000. Please watch for envelopes at Mass starting on September 14 & 15.
- ♦Safe Environment Training Each year the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People requires that our Catholic schools offer training for all children and youth about personal safety. In addition, each adult member who works or volunteers in the school also completes a Safe Environment training and has a background check done.

- Harry's Pizza Sale SJSA is selling Harry's Pizza now until Thursday, September 19. If you would like to order pizzas, please call the school office at 320-987-3133 or contact an SJSA family. Pizza pick-up will be Saturday, September 28 from 9:00 - 10:00 am in the school basement.
- Thank you to Freeport State Bank for their support of our area Catholic Schools. SJSA received a check for \$6,500 from proceeds of the Freeport State Bank Golf Tournament. Thank you to everyone who supported this fun event!

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

Do You Have Questions About the Catholic Faith?



Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Have you been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic? The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is the Catholic Church's way of welcoming new members. It can also be the path to prepare for First Eucharist and/or Confirmation for baptized Catholics. RCIA is much more than a program. It is a learning and loving process in which conversion of the heart brings one to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact one of the parish offices or Deacon Ernie Kociemba at kociemba@meltel.net or call 320-248-5124.

Spirituality, Beer, and the Monastic Tradition Beer has shaped societies and continues to evolve in response to changing societal values and environmental changes. Looking at the cultural, religious, and ecological dimensions of beer brewing, spanning millennia and continents, Brother Denys will explore various cultures, roles and practices related to beer. This fascinating exploration starts with the Sumerians, highlighting the Goddess Ninkasi and the ancient roots of brewing, to the Middle Ages focusing on Christian monastic traditions and the crucial role beer played in monastic life, to the 19th century discussing the temperance movements in Minnesota and Pennsylvania and the response from German Benedictine brewing traditions. Lastly, we turn to contemporary times, examining modern monastic breweries in Europe and the United States that continue the legacy of ecological stewardship, emphasizing sustainability and responsible practices in brewing. September 20, presentation from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Emmaus Hall - Saint John's University, Colleeville, MN. Synchronous*. Free event. Registration is required: www.theologyday.com, 320-363-3560 or theologyday@csbsju.edu.

Navigating the Extremes of Human Experience According to Biblical Sages

How do we find meaning in our lives? Is it a calculus of joy and sorrow, of victory and defeat? What is worth dying for? These deep questions lie just below the surface of our daily experience and can crop up when we least expect them. How we address these questions of meaning can make all the difference as to whether we are happy or sorrowful. How do I handle disappointment? How do I keep my elation over significant accomplishments in perspective? Maintaining balance in our lives as we strive to know and love God and our neighbor requires ongoing attention in the confidence that God is accompanying, guiding, and strengthening us. We will focus on Psalm 90 and Ecclesiastes 12 to better understand what it means to "gain wisdom of heart" in the limited number of years granted to us on this earth. Friday, September 13, presentation from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Emmaus Hall, Saint John's University, Colleeville. Free event. Synchronous. Registration is required: www.theologyday.com, 320-363-3560 or theologyday@csbsju.edu.



Natural Family Planning... Supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage. Natural Family Planning is a loving way for couples to cooperate with nature and God's plan for married love. It is a natural and highly effective way to achieve and postpone pregnancy. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in: Sauk Centre on Thursday, September 19 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!

House Blessing... If you are interested in having your house blessed by Fr. Dan call the Tri-Parish Office, Freeport (320-836-2143).



FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

- **Faith Formation Registration:** If you missed registration night, your registration packet was mailed to you. Please call the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport at 320-836-2143 if you still need to register.
- **Grades 1-11:** Wednesday, September 11 beginning of the year Mass at 6:30 pm. Families are encouraged to attend with their students. All students are expected to attend Mass.
- **Grade 2: Next Class:** Wednesday, September 18 at 6:00 pm. Please meet in the parish office.
- **Grade 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, September 18 at 7:00 pm. All students must attend class, even if they are not participating in Safe Environment training.
 - **Grade 7:** Meet in the parish office.
 - **Grade 8:** Meet in the Sacred Heart School Art Room.
 - **Grade 9:** Meet in the Sacred Heart School Auditorium.
 - **Grade 10:** Meet in the Sacred Heart Church Basement.
- **Grade 10: NET Retreat Save the NEW Date** 2024-2025 10th graders save the date of Thursday, November 21 from 5:00 - 9:00 pm for the required NET Retreat. This retreat will be held at Immaculate Conception in New Munich.
- **Grade 11: Next Class:** Wednesday, September 18 at 7:00 pm. Please meet in the Sacred Heart School gym. Enter using the door on the east side of the building by the gym.
 - **The Rite of Confirmation** will take place on Saturday, October 12 at 7:00 pm at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.
- **Notice of Safe Environment Training** Each year the United States Conference of Bishops in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People require that our Catholic Schools and Faith Formation programs offer training for all children about personal safety. We will be having this training for grades 7-10 on Wednesday, September 18 and grades 1-6 on Wednesday, October 2. If a parent chooses not to have their child(ren) take part in this program, a Declination Statement must be signed and returned to the Faith Formation office prior to the date of training. You can find the Declination Statement form on our website under the Faith Formation tab.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

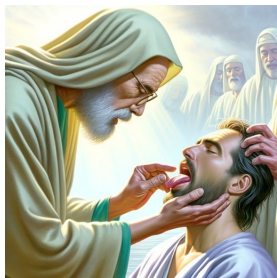
- **Confirmation (11 or 12 graders):** Opening night of Confirmation! St. Mary's Church Melrose. Wednesday, September 11 7:15 - 8:15 pm. To begin the Confirmation year, we will have a special blessing of Confirmation candidates and their parents/guardians, so if both parents can attend, that would be great! Please at least have 1 parent attend. We'll also share information about the calendar & Diocesan Confirmation requirements. Kahoot quiz (and prizes) and ice cream sundaes!
- **Grade 10 and 11: Save the Date!** The Diocese of St. Cloud requires that all Confirmation candidates attend a retreat before celebrating the Sacrament Confirmation (they may attend in their 10 or 11 grade year). Our One in Faith ACC is offering a NET retreat at Immaculate Conception Church in New Munich on Thursday, November 21 5:00 - 9:00 pm. Please plan on attending, unless you have a different Diocesan retreat (e.g., a 2-day Castaway or 3-day TEC retreat) in mind!

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information: youthministry@catholic-centered.org
or faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- ♥ **Bible & Breakfast** Students in grades 7-12 are invited to enjoy scripture and breakfast with peers at the Melrose Area High School Media Center. We will meet on Wednesdays starting September 11 through the end of the school year, from 7:15-8:00 am. If there is no school or a late start, we will not meet. To register contact Chrystal at 320-266-5554.
- ♥ **Mass in the Haybarn** to kickoff the new school year! Sunday, September 22. Event starts with 4:00 pm Mass at Hellermann Acres 31969 Co Rd 175 Melrose, MN 56352. All Youth in grades 6-12, along with their families, are invited, for Mass, followed by a meal and yard games, including kickball!
- ♥ **Youth in grades 9-12 are invited** to join us for the High School Youth Day on Sunday, October 27, at Lake Geneva Christian Center near Alexandria, MN. This event is put on by the St. Cloud Diocese and has a world renown speaker/musician, PJ Anderson, who has even lead worship at multiple World Youth Days! Please fill out a youth interest form (available in the back of the churches or St. Cloud Diocese website) and return them to Pam at St. Mary's church office or drop it off at the Tri-Parish office in Freeport.



Humble Instruments of Grace con't. from page 1

Though there is much we can take from this passage, one thing that should not be missed is that if Jesus chose to use His finger and even his saliva to dispense His power, so, also, He desires to continue using the members of His Body to distribute His grace. By Baptism, you are a member of Christ's Body, the Church. You are His hands and feet, His eyes and voice, His heart and finger, and even His saliva. That last thought is very humbling. But if Jesus can use His saliva for healing, He can use you. If we can humbly understand that, then we will be better disposed to become an instrument of His divine mercy to those who need it. God is able to use us NOT because we are worthy of being used. Rather, He can use us because He has chosen to do so, even in our most humble state.

Reflect, today, upon the image of Jesus healing this deaf and mute man. If you ever feel as though God cannot use you, call to mind the way in which our Lord worked this miracle. If God can use His finger and His saliva, He certainly can use you, no matter how unworthy or sinful you may be. This miracle shows us that God can use all things for His glory for the simple reason that He is God. Humble yourself and offer yourself to God to use you as He wills. Doing so will give God the opportunity to manifest His almighty power through you.

My healing Lord, when You took on human form, You united divinity with humanity. Through Your sacred humanity, You poured forth Your grace and mercy and continue to do so today. Please use me, dear Lord, as an instrument of Your grace. May I always humbly see myself as Your unworthy instrument, whom You choose to use despite my unworthiness. Jesus, I trust in You.

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