



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

First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

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 & 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.

GOING
ON
THE
OFFENSIVE



Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. Luke 4:1-2

If someone is attacked or feels threatened, it is common to be defensive. For example, if soldiers suddenly find themselves under attack from an enemy, they will most likely take up a defensive position. Similarly, when we feel personally attacked by another or are tempted by the devil, we will often try to defend ourselves. However, within the worlds of games, sports and military activity, there is a common adage that says, "the best defense is a good offense." In other words, the best way to keep the opponent from winning is to go on the offensive rather than to sit back and take up a defensive position.

In many ways, this is what Jesus did when He entered the desert. He was aware that the evil one wanted to destroy Him. Therefore, when Jesus entered the desert for 40 days to pray and fast, He did so in a sort of offensive attack upon the devil. Jesus' temptations in the desert were not primarily difficulties He had to endure and resist. Rather, they were first and foremost ineffective attacks from the evil one, because Jesus had already embraced the opposite virtues.

What temptations and sins are among your greatest struggles? In what ways do you find yourself experiencing defeat? In what ways have you taken up a defensive position to try to overcome your struggles? Too often we approach temptations in the wrong way. We see them as attacks from the evil one that we must resist and defend ourselves against. And though that is true, it is not the full truth. The full truth is that the best way to overcome the struggles we face is to confront them directly in a vigorous and offensive way by choosing the opposite virtue.

Consider the three temptations Jesus overcame in the desert: gluttony, vainglory and greed. Jesus' entrance into the desert for those 40 days was the way by which He destroyed these temptations before they were even presented to Him. By voluntarily choosing to fast from food for those 40 days, Jesus rendered the temptation toward gluttony ineffective. By choosing the humility of entering into the solitude of the desert to be alone with His Father, Jesus robbed the temptation toward vainglory of its power. By choosing a life of poverty and simplicity, He overcame any temptation toward earthly wealth, even before it was offered to Him.

Continued on page 4

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ MARCH 10 - 16

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 †Esperanza Mireles Ambriz
 Tu 8:00 am †Erma Kettler
 We 8:00 am †Lawrence & †Melania Wenning
 Th 8:00 am †Albert Oevermann
 Fr 8:30 am †Joe Rueter
 Sa 5:00 pm †Lydia Schulzetenberg
 *Su 10:00 am †Arlene Messerich
 Su 12:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 Por el Pueblo

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th 8:15 am †Steve Feldewerd
 Sa 4:00 pm †Lois Schaefer

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am †Deceased/Living of the
 Margaret & Cyril Scherer Family
 Su 10:00 am For the People

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am †Marlene Lieser
 Su 10:00 am †Marcella Lieser

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †Charlene Ohmann
 Sa 4:00 pm †Peter Van Beck

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Lucille Imdieke
 Su 8:00 am †Aloysius "Al" Luetmer

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



SACRED HEART - Freeport

We 8:15 am **SH School Mass**
 †Vern & †Kevin Stroeing
 †Gary Marn
 Fr 8:15 am †Leo Eveslage
 Su 8:00 am †LaVern Fuechtmann

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Times and Locations
 can be found on page 3

Stations of the Cross
 Times and Locations
 can be found on page 7

ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:
 ~ St. Mary ~ St. Michael ~ St. Andrew ~ St. John ~

•**Anointing of the Sick** St. Andrew's, St. Mary's, St. John the Baptist, and St. Michael's parishes will offer Anointing of the Sick following weekend Masses on March 15 & 16.

Your Vocation as a Grandparent! All are invited to a light supper and conversation; we hope to exchange ideas on how we share our faith with our grandchildren. RSVP appreciated but not required; you can sign up in the gathering space at St. Mary's or call the St. Mary's parish office. Everyone in our 7-parish One-In-Faith ACC is invited! Saturday, March 15, 6:00 - 7:30 pm, St. Mary, Melrose.

Lenten Mini-Retreat... For those who have previously made a Central Minnesota TEC weekend, you are invited to a Lenten Mini-Retreat March 29 - 30 at the TEC center in Little Falls. The retreat will focus on the 3 pillars of Lent--prayer, fasting and almsgiving. For more information, visit the following link or contact the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1KXUuUMOMxqREANiqXLcIxI4ah_t4I-eg1PHK1fDCmnM/viewform?edit_requested=true.

BINGO Please join us for BINGO at St. Mary's Church in Melrose on March 23 at 5:30 pm. Cost is \$15 for 20 games. Cash and meat prizes. Free lunch includes hot turkey sandwich, chips, pickle and cookie. Beverages are available for sale. Variety of games such as Good Neighbor Bingo and Blackout. There will also be a quilt raffle. Fun for the entire family. Sorry, no checks, cash only. Proceeds go to the St. Mary's Mission Society of Melrose.



Lenten Enrichment Materials and Lent Brochures which include schedules for Ash Wednesday, Easter Triduum, confessions, and more are available in the churches. Feel free to take anything that will help you on your faith journey this Lent.

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

Parish News:
 ~ Sacred Heart ~ Immaculate Conception ~ St. Rose of Lima ~

•**Forty Cans For Lent** St. Joseph the Worker Council Knights of Columbus will be supporting the Melrose Food Shelf during this Season of Lent with their Forty Cans For Lent food drive. There will be totes in each of the Tri-Parish churches for you to place food items. Please consider donating to this worthy cause as we try to collect 500 pounds of food! Thank You.

Be Not Afraid! Of course, you don't have to have a faith crisis to attend a Koinonia retreat, some of us just like to meet new people and share our gifts and talents. Maybe that is what you like to do too. Central Minnesota Koinonia is a Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St. Cloud Diocese and designed for adults. The next weekend is scheduled for March 21 - 23, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, MN. Cost of the weekend is \$70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.



Natural Family Planning... God's Plan for Marriage: Natural Family Planning! NFP follows the natural cycle God has given each woman. It has no dangerous side effects, and no harmful soul effects. NFP allows you to give yourself to your spouse completely, freely, and faithfully. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in: Sauk Centre on Thursday, March 20 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!

Need Some Direction In Your Life? We invite you to join us as "companions" to encounter Jesus on the road to Calvary in this live production. Experience Holy Week in a new light. Performances are: April 9 at 7:00 pm, April 11 at 7:30 pm, April 12 at 7:30 pm and Palm Sunday, April 13 at 1:00 pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church (44055 Hwy 238, Freeport).



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

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

Total.....	\$10,418.29
Regular Adult Offering	8,473.00
Plate/Loose	1,122.54
Designated Funds	822.75

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle



03-02	\$25	Eric Seanger - Melrose
03-03	\$25	Joey Klaphake - Melrose
03-04	\$25	Marjorie Koopmeiners - Melrose
03-05	\$25	Chloe Ellering - Spicer
03-06	\$25	St. Mary's Church
03-07	\$50	Keith & Marina Ostendorf - Savage
03-08	\$25	Mike & Angela Feldewerd - Melrose

St. Mary's Mission Society meeting on Wednesday, March 12 at St. Mary's Church at 8:45 am. All are welcome!

Spring Quilt Raffle Members of the Mission Society will be present to sell chances for their spring quilt before and after the Masses the weekend of March 15/16. Tickets are \$1. Please support the missions with this fundraiser.

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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Communal Celebration with Individual Confession

- Wednesday, April 2—4:30 & 7:00 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
- Friday, April 4—7:00 pm—*Sacred Heart, Freeport*
- Sunday, April 6—7:00 pm—*St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove*

Individual Confession

- Fridays of Lent—7:45 am—*Sacred Heart, Freeport*
- Saturdays of Lent—3:30 pm—*Immaculate Conception, New Munich*
- Saturdays of Lent—3:30 pm—*St. Andrew, Greenwald*
- Saturdays of Lent—4:30 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
- Saturday, April 5 before/after First Saturday Mass—*Sacred Heart, Freeport*
- Friday, April 11—5:30 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
- Friday, April 11—7:30 pm—*St. Michael, Spring Hill*
- Monday, April 14—5:30 pm—*St. Mary, Melrose*
- Monday, April 14—7:30 pm—*St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove*
- Or by appointment; Call Melrose Office 320-256-4207 or Freeport Office 320-836-2143



CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

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

Total.....	\$4,895.85
Regular Adult Offering.....	3,767.85
Plate.....	490.00
Votive.....	88.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine.....	25.00
School Support.....	55.00
Easter	250.00
Easter Flowers	85.00
Catholic Home Missions	50.00
Holy Land	25.00
Catholic Relief Services	5.00
Building/Maintenance	30.00
Rice Bowl	25.00

Parish Events

Su	03/09	8:30 am	Freeport Lion's Breakfast
Su	03/09	1:00 pm	Lenten Study
Mo	03/10	6:30 pm	Youth Group Movie Night
We	03/12	9:00 am	Stations of the Cross
Fr	03/14	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	03/14	9:00 am	Stations of the Cross
Fr	03/14	9:00 am	Adoration
Su	03/16	9:00 am	Catholic United Financial Quarterly Mtg.
Su	03/16	1:00 pm	Lenten Study

Baptized in Christ... We welcome **Liberty Berneice Eastman**, the daughter of Benjamin Eastman & Courtney Klaphake, to our parish. Liberty Berneice was baptized on Sunday, March 2.

Welcome to our Parish... We welcome John & Stephanie Uittenbogaard to our parish.

Catholic United Financial  **Quarterly Meeting** Catholic United Financial PVT #101 will be holding a quarterly meeting on Sunday, March 16 at 9:00 am in the Sacred Heart Church Basement. Rolls and coffee will be served. All members are invited to join us for a short business meeting followed by discussion of activities for the year. We welcome any new ideas! Hope to see you there.

The Scriptures This Week
 Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo	Lenten Weekday Lv 19:1-2, 11-18	Mt 25:31-46
Tu	Lenten Weekday Is 55:10-11	Mt 6:7-15
We	Lenten Weekday Jon 3:1-10	Lk 11:29-32
Th	Lenten Weekday Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25	Mt 7:7-12
Fr	Lenten Weekday Ez 18:21-28	Mt 5:20-26
Sa	Lenten Weekday Dt 26:16-19	Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday - Second Sunday of Lent	Gn 15:5-12, 17-18	Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1 Lk 9:28b-36

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.....	\$4,480.27
Regular Adult Offering.....	3,695.77
Plate.....	437.00
Easter Flowers	130.00
Central MN Catholic Magazine.....	150.00
Building/Maintenance.....	67.50

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,234.43
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,599.23
Plate.....	435.20
Catholic Relief Services	200.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,455.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	796.00
Children	4.00
Plate/Loose	115.00
Fuel Fund.....	500.00
Central MN Catholic	20.00
Ash Wednesday	20.00

Parish Events

Su 03/09	1:00 pm	Lenten Study - FR
Mo 03/10	6:30 pm	Youth Group Movie Night - FR
Tu 03/11	9:00 am	Quilting
We 03/12	9:00 am	Quilting
Th 03/13	8:45 am	Stations of the Cross
Th 03/13	9:00 am	Quilting
Th 03/13	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Sa 03/15	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions
Su 03/16	11:00 am	Private Event
Su 03/16	1:00 pm	Lenten Study - FR

Parish Events

Su 03/09	1:00 pm	Lenten Study - FR
Mo 03/10	6:30 pm	Youth Group Movie Night - FR
Tu 03/11	8:45 am	Stations of the Cross
Tu 03/11	9:00 am	Quilting
Fr 03/14	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Fr 03/14		No Rosary
Su 03/16	1:00 pm	Lenten Study - FR

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, March 16 - 10:00 am

- (S) Olivia Kalthoff & Stella Schoenberg
- (L) Pete LeClaire
- (U) Dan Hemmesch & Adam Kalthoff
- (EM) (B) Darlene Schoenberg
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
- (RL) Marilyn Gruber
- (CC) Amy Orbeck & Marvin Rademacher
- (HK: March 16-29) Linda Athmann, Kim Barten & Krystal Barten

Welcome to our Parish... We welcome Ethan & Lexie Winter, and their daughter, Kinzley, to our parish.

God's Housekeepers for the month of March: *Bettie Frieler, Jean Hopfer, Sharon Salzer, Jenna Thull, Shelly Hoppe, and Cathy Sand. 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.

Quilting... The New Munich Christian Women are quilting on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday every week until we have sewed 4 quilts. We welcome any new sewers. If you do not sew, we would appreciate volunteers to bring lunch. Call Julie Boecker at 320-250-0088 and let her know.

Quilting... Come join us in St. Rose. The quilters will be quilting on Tuesdays at 9:00 am. Lunch is provided, everyone is welcome.

St. Rosa Christian Women Spring Meeting is set for Monday, March 31 at 7:00 pm in the Church basement. Hope to see you there! A Vice President is still needed for our St. Rose Christian Women.

Bake Sale On Sunday, April 6 the Christian Women will be hosting a bake sale at the Lions Breakfast. Please drop off your baked items by 9:00 am on Sunday, April 6.

St. Michael's Parish Leadership Council will meet Tuesday, March 11 at 7:30 pm in the church basement.

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!



GOING ON THE OFFENSIVE cont'd from page 1



As we begin this forty-day Lenten journey, reflect, today, upon the sins and temptations in your life that need to be overcome. If you find yourself in an ongoing defensive position toward certain struggles, especially if you find yourself losing the battle at times, it's time to change your strategy. Embrace the opposite virtue of the sins you are most tempted with this Lent. Embrace those virtues in an offensive manner. Choose kindness if you struggle with anger. Choose fasting if you struggle with gluttony. Choose generosity if you struggle with greed. Whatever your struggle, turn to the virtue you need the most and make it your focus this Lent so that you, too, will be well-prepared to reject the evil one and his lies when temptation comes your way.

My tempted Lord, You resisted all temptation in Your life by choosing every good virtue and living them to perfection. Please help me to see the virtues I need the most right now and give me the strength I need to run toward them this Lent with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You.

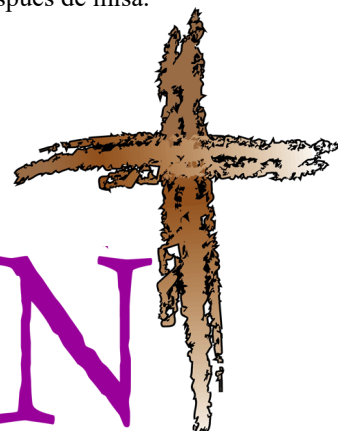
CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW
Physical Address: 211 W 2nd Avenue N.
 Greenwald, MN 56335
Church Basement 320-987-3160

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

HISPANIC MINISTRY

¡Preparación prebautismal! La clase de preparación bautismal en español se llevará a cabo el día 22 de marzo a las 12:00 pm en la iglesia. Si ustedes están pensando en bautizar o ser padrinos, los invitamos a asistir a nuestra clase. Para más información hable con el Diacono Jesus Hernandez.

¡Retiro parroquial de cuaresma! la Iglesia de Santa Maria los invita a usted y a su familia a un retiro de cuaresma en español el día sábado 29 de marzo de 8:00 am a 4:00 pm. Si usted está interesado o interesada hable con el diácono Jorge Carrillo después de misa.



◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$2,083.00
Regular Adult Offering	1,700.00
Plate/Loose	260.00
Votives	38.00
School Subsidy	5.00
Maintenance Fund	35.00
Fuel Fund	5.00
Central MN Catholic	40.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,882.50
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,624.00
Children	0.50
Plate/Loose	112.00
Votives.....	61.00
School Subsidy	25.00
Steeple Lighting	60.00

Liturgical Ministries
Saturday, March 15 - 4:00 pm
 (S) Aubrey Stepan & Emily Stepan
 (L) Kathy Gilk
 (U) Jeff Ahrens & Jason Barten
 (GB) Ron & Carol Winter
 (EM) (B) Clarine Beier
 (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
 (HK - March) *Linda Heinze, Deb Imdieke, Carol Inderrieden, & Ronnie Inderrieden

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, March 16 - 8:00 am
 (S) Cole Funk & Luke Funk
 (L) Missy Illies
 (U) Matt Silbernack & Mike Wehlage
 (GB) Ken & Linda Schneider
 (EM) Karl Meyer & Sue Meyer
 (HK - March) *Kate Kelzer, Amy Klaphake, Ruth Klaphak, Mary Kay Leukam, Theresa Loxtercamp, & Sheri Luetmer

Finance and Leadership Meetings
 St. Andrew's Parish Finance and Leadership councils will meet in the SJSA school basement on Thursday, March 13. Finance will meet at 6:15 pm and Leadership at 7:00 pm.

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

March 9, Sunday
 ♦Freeport Lions Breakfast serving from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm in the Sacred Heart church basement. Pancakes, sausage, potatoes, eggs, assorted toppings, and beverages. Adults \$10, children 5-10 \$5, under 5 free. All are welcome.

March 12, Wednesday
 ♦Soup Luncheon The Melrose Area Senior Citizens invite you to join them for their March Soup Luncheon at the Senior Center located in the Melrose City Offices. Serving from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. Freewill offering, all are welcome!

March 14, Friday
 ♦"All You Can Eat" Fish Fry hosted by the Melrose American Legion. Serving from 4:30 - 8:00 pm. Take outs are available. Your support is very much appreciated! All are welcome!

♦Lenten Fish Fry at St. Elizabeth church in Foley. Serving from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. Adults: \$15. Children 6-10: \$7. Children 5 and under: free. Deep fried fish, potato, vegetable, haluski, meatless pasta bake, bread, and dessert. Take out orders available please call 320-355-2459 for take out orders. Proceeds for the upkeep of our church. Gun raffle drawing of winner on Friday, April 4. Meat Raffle on April 4.

March 14, Friday Cont'd
 ♦Fish Fry at St. Nicholas Church of Belle River 9473 County Road 3 NE Carlos, MN. Serving from 4:30 - 7:00 pm. Gluten free fish and meal option available.

March 15, Saturday
 ♦St. Francis Sewing Circle is hosting a visitors' day to work on quilts for our upcoming bazaar. Everyone is welcome. Coffee and sweets ready by 9:00 am, lunch will be served around 12:00 pm, and an afternoon snack later in the afternoon. Come for the whole day or just a few hours, whatever you feel you can. There will be multiple quilts set up for you to choose to work on. Please call Rosie at 320-260-8989 with any questions.

March 20, Thursday
 ♦Freeport Senior Citizens Meeting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

March 21, Friday
 ♦"All You Can Eat" Fish Fry hosted by the Melrose American Legion. Serving from 4:30 - 8:00 pm. Take outs are available. Your support is very much appreciated! All are welcome!

♦Fish Fry at the Church of St. Mary, Alexandria, MN in the gymnasium. Serving from 4:30 - 7:00 pm.

March 21, Friday Cont'd
 ♦Lenten Fish Fry at Sts. Peter and Pauls Church in Foley. Serving from 4:00 - 6:30 pm. Adults: \$15. Children 6-10: \$7. Children 5 and under: free. Fish, potatoes, homemade bread, salad, green beans, macaroni and cheese, and dessert. Drive thru available.

March 22, Saturday
 ♦Lenten Retreat-Seven Sorrows of Mary at All Saints - St. Mary's in Holdingford church basement. Doors open at 8:30 am with formal program starting at 9:00 am and ending at 11:30 am. The retreat will consist of a short talk on th Seven Sorrows Devotion, A talk on "Hope", in this the Jubilee Year of Hope. We will pray the Seven Sorrows Rosary and Litany (bring your rosaries). We will have Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, refreshments, lunch, and socializing to follow after 11:30 am. All are welcome to attend and there is no charge for this event.

March 25, Tuesday
 ♦Firearms Safety Informational Meeting for Green Grove Rod and Gun Club at 6:00 pm at Meire Grove City Hall. You must attend this meeting in order to participate in the training and field day. Must be 11 years of age to participate. For questions please call Matt Silbernack 320-470-0944, Brian Schmiesing 320-293-7976, or Brian Yarke 320-267-4371.

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 12. Home Lesson.
 - **Grade 2: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 19 at 6:00 pm. Meet at the parish office.
 - **First Communion Retreat:** Saturday, March 22 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church Basement.
 - **Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 19 at 7:00 pm. Bring your Bible, books, notebook, and pen. Meet in your classroom.
- Service Project:**
- **Casino Night at the Tree of Life** Wednesday, March 12, from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Tree of Life Assisted Living in New Munich. Contact Chrystal if you are interested in attending.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 12 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and some parents.
- **Grades 9-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, March 12 from 7:15 - 8:30 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and some parents.

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

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

- ♥ **Movie Night** Monday, March 10 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 *Miracles From Heaven*. If you are interested in attending, please let Chrystal know.
- ♥ **NCYC** The Diocese of Saint Cloud will be bringing a group to Indianapolis, Indiana November 19 - 23 for NCYC 2025: I Am | Yo Soy. NCYC is a time for high school youth from around the nation to gather and celebrate being Catholic through prayer, Mass, and activities. The cost to attend is \$940. Deadline to register is April 15. Registration forms are available on the parish websites. Contact Chrystal Sand at 320-836-2143 or csand@catholic-centered.org, or Pam Pundsack at 320-256-9503 or pam@stmarysofmelrose.org with questions.
- ♥ **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 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.

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2



Voices of Hope - Bishop's Annual Appeal 2025: If you have yet to see our 2025 video, please take a moment to learn more about ministries that bring hope and help build the kingdom of God right here in Central Minnesota. You can use your smartphone or visit Voices of Hope: Bishop's Annual Appeal 2025.

Stewardship as a Way of Life *"I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me."* - (Deuteronomy 26:10) This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your "first fruits" - the first and best that you have to offer? Or do you give from what you have leftover? Second, do you realize that everything you have and that everything you are has been given to you by God? We aren't owners of anything, we are merely stewards of God's gifts. Pray for a grateful and generous heart, every day, in all circumstances.

Theology Day at Saint John's University in Collegeville is a chance for people in our communities who are seeking a deeper spiritual life or understanding of their faith and its place in their everyday lives to learn from and interact with the theologians of Saint John's School of Theology and Seminary. It offers a chance for these scholars to gain insights and grow in their faith, as well. Enhance your spiritual life with one of the events listed below. All events are held from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm in Emmaus Hall. For more information or to register, please call 320-363-3560 or visit www.theologyday.com.

- Heavenly Queen and Earthly Mother: Typologies of the Virgin Mary in Art from West to East - Friday, March 14
- Ancient Christian Practices to Sustain Community - Friday, March 28

Catholic Sisters Week Every year from March 8-14 is Catholic Sisters Week (CSW), a chance to spotlight the missions, charisms and communities of women religious and their impact on the world today. For this year's 10th anniversary of CSW, we are participating in the #LikeACatholicSister campaign, sharing a story of one sister each day. To learn more, visit ssnd.org/catholic-sisters-week-2025/ or catholicsistersweek.org.



Online Evening Prayer with Young Adults Young adults ages 18+ are invited to pray online together with other young adults and School Sisters of Notre Dame from across the U.S. and Canada on Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 pm. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/3-25-25/.

Pilgrims of Hope Lenten Retreat Schedule at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo. 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 Lenten Retreat - March 14-16 (Weekend)
- Women's Silent Lenten Retreat - March 28-30 (Weekend)
- Men & Women's Silent Lenten Retreat - April 1-3 (Midweek)

A Call to the Sacramental Life All Things New: Honoring the past, inspiring the future. The sacraments are outward signs of grace that God gives to people to help them live a life close to Jesus. Beginning this month, ACC's will meet with diocesan planning committees to begin, guided by an invitation to encourage full, conscious and active participation of the faithful in sacramental life of the church, to reflect on the future for our communities. How can your participation in the sacraments this week be nurturing for you and those you encounter?

Worldwide Marriage Encounter... "It felt like a honeymoon... I couldn't wait to get home and see her at the end of the day." husband who attended a Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Bring back the honeymoon in your marriage. The next available weekends are April 5-6 in Brainerd, MN and April 25-27 in Crookston, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: northmnwwme.org or contact Miki at applications@northmnwwme.org or 507-227-8229.



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

- ♥ **SHS Registration** for the 2025/2026 school year PreK - 6th grade opened on Monday, March 3. Info and forms were sent home with current students in their Monday folders. If you are interested in registering your child for school next year, please contact the office.
- ♥ **SHS Kicked off their Lenten Project** this week. They will be collecting money, school supplies, basic toiletries and toys for Stoves for Guatemala.
- ♥ **Parent-Teacher Conferences** will take place the week of March 10 - 13.
- ♥ **No School** on Friday, March 14.
- LOOKING AHEAD:**
- ♥ **Our 2nd graders will Celebrate** their First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 6.
- ♥ **Shadow Stations** will take place on Wednesday, April 9 and Thursday, April 10.
- ♥ **SHS Designer Purse Bingo** will be on Saturday, April 12. More details to come.
- ♥ **Toddler Open House** will take place in April. More details to come.



Sacred Heart School
Calendar Raffle Winners!

03/02	\$25	Art & Rosie Kerfeld - Freeport
03/03	\$25	Emily Stone - Kandiyohi
03/04	\$25	Shirley Stoermann - Melrose
03/05	\$40	Gerald Koopmeiners - Melrose
03/06	\$25	Haley Schoenberg - Cold Spring
03/07	\$25	Carey Herzog - Melrose
03/08	\$25	Kyle & Wendy Tschida - Sauk Centre



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

- ♦ **Thank You** to everyone who supported the 23rd annual Auction4Education. It was a night to celebrate St. Mary's School and enjoy friendship, good company, music, and a meal. Your gifts of time, talents, and treasures are greatly appreciated. Profits from the night will be shared when they become available.
- ♦ **Thank You** to CSCOE (Catholic Schools Center of Excellence) for their recent grant of \$10,000 to reward, retain, and recruit staff at St. Mary's School.
- ♦ **Attend our Winter Open House** for preschool through 6th grade on Monday, March 10, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm and discover the benefits of Catholic education.
- ♦ **Registration for Preschool-6th Grade is open** for current SMS families and after March 10 for those families not currently enrolled at SMS. If you are new to the community or are considering sending your child to St. Mary's School, please call to schedule a visit or to receive the new registration materials 320-256-4257.
- ♦ **During Lent, Families at SMS** will be collecting dollars and coins to give to four different organizations: Melrose Food Shelf, Fr. Newton, Food for Thought, and Simply Love International. If you would like to participate in giving to one of these organizations, drop your coins off at the parish office or school.
- ♦ **The Greater Melrose Community Foundation** donated \$1,000 to St. Mary's School. Their donation will go towards acoustics in the gym. You can find out more about this new and upcoming foundation to Melrose at the following link. [Greater Melrose Community Foundation](#)
- ♦ **Parent-Teacher Conferences** are scheduled for Monday, March 24 and Wednesday, March 26. No School Friday, March 28.



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

- ♦ **Parent - Teacher Conferences** are Thursday, March 13 from 2:30 - 7:00 pm.
- ♦ **No School** Friday, March 14.
- ♦ **Lent Service Project** SJSA students will be making and sending "Day Brightener" cards for nursing home residents and community members for their Lent Service Project.
- ♦ **Mark Your Calendars!** Kindergarten Round-Up is Monday, April 7. More information will be posted in the upcoming weeks.
- ♦ **Registration is Now Open** for grades preschool - 6th grade for the 2025-2026 school year. If you are interested in joining us at SJSA, please call the school at 320-987-3133 to schedule a visit.
- ♦ **Preschool for the 2025-2026 School Year** will be Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:45 am - 2:30 pm.
- ♦ **Thank You** to everyone who supported our Steak and Wine Dinner & Auction. We raised nearly \$76,000. A shout out to SJSA parents for all their time and effort to make this fundraiser a success. We are so grateful to all of you.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Week of March 10-16



3-11 Tuesday	8:45 am	St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa
3-12 Wednesday	9:00 pm	Sacred Heart, Freeport
3-12 Wednesday	7:15 pm	St. Mary, Melrose (Led by Faith Formation Families)
3-12 Wednesday	7:30 pm	St. Michael, Spring Hill
3-12 Wednesday	7:30 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald
3-13 Thursday	8:45 am	Immaculate Conception, New Munich
3-14 Friday	9:00 am	Sacred Heart, Freeport
3-14 Friday	6:30 pm	St. Mary, Melrose (Spanish)
3-14 Friday	7:00 pm	St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa
3-15 Saturday	4:00 pm	St. Mary, Melrose

Prayer Requests...

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

For the Sick: Shirley Laing, Lori Austing, Sandy Welle, Beatrice Massmann, Dorothy Schneider, Tony Niehaus

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

KRAEMER Heating & A/C
 "We're Family, Not A Franchise"

"Services adaptable to your needs"
WealthCare Inc.
 Bookkeeping • Payroll • Tax Advisory • Insurance
 www.wealthcare-inc.com
 Eden Valley 191 Stearns Ave. E. Cold Spring 210 Main Street Melrose 306 E Main St.
 Eden Valley, MN 55229 Cold Spring, MN 55202 Melrose, MN 56352
 (320) 453-7070 (320) 686-7070 (320) 256-7070

PATTON SCHAD FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES
 Honoring Life's Memories
 256-4249
 Linda Holm, owner/operator

Paul Kollmann Monument
 (320) 363-4571
 25% off per 1 transaction
 Top Quality Products / Please contact me for free Consultations
 Competitive & transparent pricing
 paulkollmann.com

"Customer Service Is Our Priority"
FREEMPORT STATE BANK
 Freeport • Melrose • Greenwald
 www.freemportstatebank.com
 Freeport 836-2126
 Melrose 256-7208
 Greenwald 987-2265

ST. ROSA ARNZEN LUMBER INC. CONSTRUCTION, INC.
 AGRICULTURE • COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
 Residential - Commerical - Agricultural
 320-836-2284 | 29033 Co. Rd. 17, Freeport

Albany Mutual TELEPHONE
ALBANY FIBER COMMUNICATIONS
 320.845.2101
 AFComm.net
 We Connect YOU to the World!

Creekside WOODWORKS LLC
 CABINETS • TRIM • FURNITURE

New Munich Mutual Insurance Co.
 512 Main St. Suite 2
 Sauk Centre, MN 56378
 320-351-3300
 Manager: Darcy Pfeffer

Building Relationships Since 1958
 BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A **True Value**
KRAEMER LUMBER CO., INC.

COFFEE • CAFE • GIFTS
TRUE NORTH Marketplace

Freeport Lions Club
 BAR BINGO / MEAT RAFFLE
 Saturdays November - March
 Freeport MN Lions Club

BILL KEMPER EXCAVATING
 BASEMENTS - WATER INES - SEPTIC SYSTEMS - EXCAVATING - PERC TEST & DESIGN - GRAVEL - SEWER & WATER
 320-256-3982
 320-250-2068

RJ's Country Store
 St. Rosa
 BAIT * GAS * ATM
 GROCERIES

Interstate Service Center
 216 Country Club Road
 Melrose, MN 56352
 Phone: (320) 256-2160
 Free alignment with four tire purchase

ALL STARS Sports Bar & Grill
 320-836-2154

Hoeschen Auto
 Complete Auto Repair Specialists
 Dan Hoeschen, Owner • 320-836-2130
 In business since 1980
 MICHELIN UNIROYAL BFGoodrich
 and many other brands!

Spanier/Nathe Cabinets
 Custom Made Cabinets for your whole house
 Mike Nathe cell: 320-290-0505
 35428 County Road 13 • Melrose, MN 56352
 320-256-3985

MAGNIFI FINANCIAL

FREEMPORT COMMUNITY CENTER
 FOR HALL RENTAL CALL
 320-836-2526

ADVERTISE HERE!

Klaphake FEED MILL INC.
 MELROSE, MN
 Proud to be a part of the Ag Industry
 320-256-4205

Oak Electric Service Inc.
 THOMAS HOPPE
 36484 300th Ave. Melrose, MN 56352
 320-837-5853

Hennen Floor Covering, Inc.
 FREEPORT

Munson Feed Company, Inc.
 Manufacturers of **Munson's QUALITY**
 Livestock and Poultry Feeds
 Box 184, Melrose, MN 56352
 Pete Jr., Mike, Josh Terres and employees
 Business Phone 256-4219

REVERMANN LAW
 Estate Planning | Business | Real Estate | Probate
 WAITE PARK 320.258.9383
 revermannlaw.com

MELROSE IMPLEMENT INC.
 NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE
 Sales - Parts - Service
 Phone 256-4253 - Melrose, MN
 www.melroseimplement.com

WHEELS WATER SERVICE
 37276 County Road 13
 PO Box 233 | Melrose, MN 56352
 320-256-4146
 JAMMIE WIELING

Independent Monument Consultant
 Courtney Imdieke
 320-293-6518
 courtneyimdieke@gmail.com

• Licensed Electrical Contracting
 • Bonded Free Estimates
 • Insured
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

ALBANY 845-2035 HOLDINGFORD 746-9994
 UPSALA 573-6234 ST. CLOUD 252-7004
Miller-Carlin FUNERAL HOMES
 www.millercarlin.com

MELROSE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
 "Neighbor helping Neighbor since 1901"
 Stacy Schiffer, Manager
 303 Main Street East
 Melrose, MN 56352
 256-7290
 www.melrosemutual.com

DAN SCHMIDT PRINTING AND DESIGN SERVICES
DSPI PRINTING, INC. SINCE 1985
 302 East Main Street Melrose, MN 56352
 320.256.3700
 dsprint@meltel.net

Tree of Life ASSISTED LIVING OF NEW MUNICH
 Offers 24-hour customized assisted living, meals, activities, etc.
 Call 320-837-5100 for a tour.

WORMS Lumber & Ready Mix, Inc.
 All your building needs in one place!

Atkinson Well & Pump Ltd.
 "Serving you since 1942"
 Service you can count on 365 days a year
 (320) 836-2597
 Rodney Atkinson
 Ben Atkinson

BELGRADE CO-OP
 AGRONOMY PROPANE REFINED FUELS
 Office locations in Belgrade & Melrose 320-254-8231

MELROSE 1 STOP
 SERVICE CENTER
CAR WASH TRUCK WASH

RAHN'S OIL & PROPANE
 FUEL WITH MUSCLE
 God Bless our Parish Families!

Cornerstone ag services
 Our focus is crop insurance.
 ~ Dana Kerfeld ~
 5 Central Ave. N • St. Stephen, MN 56375
 (320) 257-CROP (2767)
 Cornerstone ag services Our focus is crop insurance.

ADVERTISE HERE!

MAYERS, INC. MELROSE, MN
 256-4479
 Excavating, Water, Sewers, Site Prep., Basements, Sand, Gravel
 Jim 249-7404 Russell 290-5669

For All Your Building Needs
Frericks Construction Inc.
 Melrose, MN
 Lic. #BC-20457080
 Jim 249-7404 Russell 290-5669

MELROSE 1 STOP SERVICE CENTER
CAR WASH TRUCK WASH

Caro feeds
 CERTIFIED SAFE FEED FACILITY
 HACCP CERTIFIED
 RUPP CERTIFIED

Welcome HOME to Brenny
 Your TRUCKING Career starts HERE!
 Call Caro!
 320.363.6999
 WWW.BRENNYTRANSPORTATION.COM

Hennen LUMBER CO. INC.
 Freeport, MN 56331
 (320) 836-2135

MARTINEZ MEAT & GROCERY
 420 E. Main St. - Melrose, MN
 lulmartinezmeat123@gmail.com
 320.256.2363
 Productos Mexicanos fax: 320.256.2364

Engelmeyer LAND SURVEYING
 Land Surveying • GPS Surveys
 Platting • Sub-Division
 Lot • Acreage • Boundary • ALTA Surveys
 320-836-2291
 Or Call 320-256-7298
 www.engelmeyersurveying.com
 David A. Engelmeyer, Land Surveyor
 engelsur@meltel.net | 41701 Co Rd 167 • Melrose

Brenda Kraemer Member Advisor
 • Insurance bkraemer@catholicunited.org
 • Retirement (320) 493-3957
 • Planning
 • Charitable Giving Catholic United Financial
 • Credit Union

CAP Enterprises
 511 3rd Ave SW
 Melrose, MN 56352
 320-256-3900

God Bless America!