

ONE IN FAITH Area Catholic Community of

St. Mary - Melrose, Sacred Heart - Freeport Immaculate Conception - New Munich St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa, St. Michael - Spring Hill St. Andrew - Greenwald, St. John - Meire Grove

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 26, 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

froswaldo@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**.

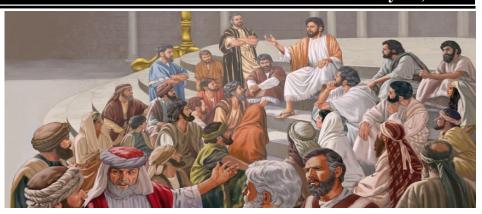
*Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes are required.

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, 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.



Enthused by the Gospel

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. Luke 4:14–15

This Gospel passage reveals to us the very beginnings of Jesus' public ministry. He began His public ministry immediately after spending forty days in the desert being tempted by the devil. As He began, He went to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit." Many people heard about Him and welcomed Him with much enthusiasm.

Though Jesus was initially welcomed with praise, we know that things quickly changed. Some eventually became so hostile that they put Jesus to death, but it's useful to ponder the initial response He received. This initial response is one that must become continuously new in our lives. The initial response was that He "was praised by all."

Jesus would later teach about this initial experience many would have toward the Gospel when He taught the Parable of the Sower. Recall that the seed that was sown on rocky ground, that fell among thorns, and that was sown in good soil all began to grow. Only that which was sown on the path failed to grow, because the birds came and ate it up. This latter case describes those who are completely indifferent to the Gospel. But in today's Gospel, the "all" are those who at least paid attention and initially responded with enthusiasm. The seed began to grow in these three scenarios—but, of course, in only one of those cases did the seed ultimately bear good fruit.

Another way to look at this initial encounter with the Gospel is to consider a child. In almost every case, when a child is presented with the Gospel, they will begin to respond and even find excitement in the faith. But, as many parents have seen, this initial welcome is sometimes followed by a rejection of the Gospel later in life.

When did you initially encounter the Gospel? For some it was during childhood. For others, there was a powerful experience of conversion later in life. Think of that initial encounter you had and the ways that you were excited by your newfound faith. Has that experience continued and grown in your life? Or has your initial praise of God and enthusiasm dwindled or even died?

Reflect, today, upon the fact that God wants us to continuously experience the Gospel as something new and transforming. The newness of the life of grace must never wear off. Ponder this experience in your life and try to see yourself as one of the people in today's Gospel who heard Jesus for the first time. Ponder their enthusiasm and join in their praise of our Lord so that you will be motivated to let God and the preaching of His holy Word continuously transform you.

Glorious Word of God, You have come to set us free by revealing to us Your love and mercy and by bestowing that grace upon us. Please open my mind and heart to Your holy Word so that I will be driven by a holy love to serve and follow You all the days of my life. Jesus, I trust in You.

my catholic. life

ACC Mass Times and Intentions \sim January 27 – February 2

Sa

ST.	St. Mary - Melrose			
Mo	6:30 pm	Misa en Español		
		†Por las almas del Purgatorio y		
		†Enrique Garcia Parra		
Tu	8:00 am	†Leo & †Gracie Eveslage		
We	8:00 am	†Arlene Messerich		
Th	8:00 am	†Charlie Gebeke		
*Fr	8:30 am	SM School Mass		
		†Donna Kociemba		
Sa	5:00 pm	†Eddie Bussmann		
	-	†Jeffrey Bussmann		
*Su	10:00 am	†Donna Kociemba		
Su	12:30 pm	Misa en Español		
	•	†Encarnación Luis de la Cruz		

SACRED HEART - Freeport 8:15 am **SH School Mass**

Fr Sa	8:15 am 8:00 am	Paige Wiechman †Genevieve Dumont First Saturday Mass
		†Rich Boeckermann and Family
~	0.00	1m D

8:00 am †Teresa Braun

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

	TICCE III	Officer from the first tradition
Th	8:15 am	†Joe & †Eric Mergen
Sa	4:00 pm	†Don Gaebel Anniversary

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa

8:15 am †Vernon & †Kenneth Vos 10:00 am For the People Su

St. Michael - Spring Hill

8:00 am †Bob Terres Su 10:00 am †Lorraine Schwieters

St. Andrew - Greenwald

8:00 am SJSA School Mass †Dan Schoenberg 4:00 pm †Peter Van Beck

St. John - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Joanne Butkowski Su 8:00 am For the People

*Mass will be livestreamed.

Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

ADORATION

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 ~

- Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Next Sunday we will celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. February 2 marks 40 days since Christmas when Jesus was presented in the temple. We recall Simeon & Anna recognizing the Lord who Simeon prophesied would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." We will bless & carry candles at the beginning of Mass to symbolize Christ the Light of the World. You may bring a candle from home to be blessed.
- •Palm Branches may be dropped off at St. Mary's. These will be burned for use on Ash Wednesday (March 5).
- •Confirmation Prayer Trees have been placed in the parishes of St. Michael's, St. Andrew's, St. John's and St. Mary's. Each dove on the tree has the name of a Confirmation candidate. We invite you to take a dove or two home with you and pray for the candidates, that they may be open to the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives! Confirmation will take place at 3:00 pm on Sunday, May 4 at St. Mary's in Melrose. Everyone – especially anyone from our 7 ACC parishes – is welcome to join us in celebrating this sacrament with our young people!
- •Help Needed Additional Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans, and Altar Servers are needed for St. Mary's 5:00 pm and 10:00 am Masses. Training will be provided and scheduling is flexible. Please call Sarah Woeste in the office at 320-256-9516.
- Due to an Increase in Cold & Flu we will be temporarily suspending the common cup. In the Blessed Sacrament we receive the whole Christ: body, blood, soul and divinity. While receiving Communion under the form of bread only, we receive the totus Christus ("whole Christ"), receiving Communion under both forms is a more complete participation in the Eucharist. We look forward to when we will begin to offer the common cup again.
- Family Faith Formation Night Parishioners are invited to attend the Family Faith Formation guest speaker from Terebinth Refuge on Wednesday, January 29 at 7:15 pm at St. Mary's. The speaker will talk about healthy relationships in general, as well as about the work that Terebinth Refuge does in St. Cloud. Terebinth is "a Christ-centered resource offering hope, healing, freedom, and a safe place for sexually exploited and trafficked women. We bring education and awareness to the St. Cloud area in efforts to prevent human trafficking."

Parish News:

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

- •Year-end Contributions Statements have been mailed out. You will also find an Electronic Financial Church Support form. This form allows you to electronically support the church on a monthly or semi-monthly basis.
- •Candlemas...The Presentation of the Lord is on February 2. Candles will be blessed during the weekend Masses on February 1/2 for use in your homes.
- •St. Blaise Blessing of Throats The Feast of St. Blaise is on February 3. The Blessing of Throats will be offered after the weekend Masses on February 1/2.
- Anointing of the Sick will take place at the weekend Masses on February 8/9. For those that would like the laying of hands for this anointing, please sit in the front few pews.

BINGO Please join the Tri-Parish Confirmation Class on Sunday, February 23 at Sacred Heart Church Basement for Bingo. Free lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 pm with a purchase of a card. Bingo will start promptly at



1:00 pm. Cash prizes. \$10 per card for 20 games plus 2 black-out games. No checks or credit cards please. All proceeds will be given to Alec Beuning.

Go and Make Disciples Anyone in grade 11 through adult are invited to a monthly Faith Formation event from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport. We will have a meal and discuss the Rosary and Sacramentals. Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, February 5. Come and bring a friend for a fun filled faith enrichment night.



Order of Christian Initiation This year our ACC is blessed with having individuals who are pursuing the Catholic faith! Amanda Fuechtmann, Makenzie Herzog, Joran Carlson, Aiden Hopfer, Natasha Crowe, Linnea

Ingold, Karen Ramirez, Carlos Montanez, Dulce Ramirez, Jorge Alvarez, and Carlos Aguilar are respectfully asking for prayers on this journey. To say the least...these individuals are excited and enthused about learning the Catholic faith. Please encourage, support and pray for them during their journey through this life-changing experience.

One in Faith ACC News Continued on page 7

103.00

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

******* Weekly Offerings *********		
Total	\$6,138.00	
Regular Adult Offering	4,411.00	
Plate/Loose	1,081.00	
Designated Funds	646.00	
Christmas Masses		
Regular	\$22,397.00	
Plate/Loose	2,471,75	

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

01-19	\$25	Neal & Karen Klaphake - Melros
01-20	\$25	St. Mary's Church
01-21	\$25	Donna Sand - Melrose
01-22	\$25	Vonnie Zirbes - Sauk Centre
01-23	\$50	Kris & Pam Pundsack - Freeport
01-24	\$25	Andria Reste - Melrose

Ivanna Meyer - Melrose



Baptized in Christ... Ethan Ernest Arnzen

Died in the Hope of Resurrection... †Luverne Hinnenkamp, 91

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

January 26, Sunday

\$25

01-25

- ◆St. Mary's School Catholic Schools Week Breakfast in St. Mary's School Gym. Serving from 8:30 am 12:00 pm. Pancakes, sausage, eggs, and more. Tickets sold in advance and at the door; to-go options available. Adults (13 years old and up) \$10. Children (6-12 years old) \$5. Children (5 and under) Free.
- ◆Greenwald Lions Sausage & Pancake Breakfast serving from 8:30 am 12:30 pm at the Greenwald Pub.
- ◆Snowmobile Blessing Roving Hillbillies Snowmobile Club 56th Annual Snowmobile Blessing at St. Rose Lions/JC Park. Fun, Food, Drinks & Meat Raffle start at 12:00 pm, Blessing of the snowmobiles at 2:00 pm, Grand Raffle Drawing held at 4:00 pm. Need not be present to win.

January 28, Tuesday

• Online Evening Prayer with Young Adults Young adults ages 18+ are invited to pray online together with other young adults and School Sisters of Notre Dame from across the U.S. and Canada at 7:00 pm. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/1-28-25/.

February 2, Sunday

•Candlemas Christmas Concert at 2:00 pm at Seven Dolors Church in Albany. Enjoy hot cocoa, apple cider, coffee and cookies after. All are welcome.

February 5, Wednesday

◆ Feet First Clinic in Freeport is CANCELLED.

February 9, Sunday

• <u>Albany Legion Post 482 Smorgasbord Breakfast</u> Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at Church of Seven Dolors parish hall in Albany, Proceeds go towards community and veterans projects.

February 11, Tuesday

• American Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by the Freeport Lions Club from 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Freeport Community Center. Give the precious gift of lift. Appointment are needed. We are always in need of people with type "O" blood. Schedule your appointment online at redcross.org or call Janet at 320-836-2837 or 320-282-2904.

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

********* Weekly Offerings Total. \$4,715.10 Regular Adult Offering. 4,149.85 Plate. 359.25 Votive. 78.00 Central MN Catholic Magazine. 25.00

School Support.....

		Farish Events
01/26	9:00 am	Baptism
01/28	7:10 pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting
01/29	6:00 pm	Faith Formation Grade 2
01/29	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 7-10
01/30	5:00 pm	Fred Pfau Wake & Prayer Service
01/31	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
01/31	9:00 am	Adoration
02/01	8:00 am	First Saturday Mass
02/02	1:00 pm	Radiating Joy Watch Party
	01/28 01/29 01/29 01/30 01/31 01/31 02/01	01/28 7:10 pm 01/29 6:00 pm 01/29 7:00 pm 01/30 5:00 pm 01/31 7:45 am 01/31 9:00 am 02/01 8:00 am

Parish Events



Sponsor a Votive Candle The parish is looking for someone to sponsor the following candles for the month of February: 1 on the St. Joseph Altar and 1 military remembrance candle by the votive stand. If you are

interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.

Prayer Requests...

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

Banns of Matrimony:

II Lori Ehlert♥Russ Herdering, 2 - 7 SR III Hallie Feldewerd♥Kole Barten, 2 - 1 NM

<u>For the Sick:</u> Shirley Laing, Lori Austing, Beatrice Massmann, Sandy Welle, Dorothy Schneider, Tony Niehaus, Vivian Weber

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

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,

reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦♦**

<i>,</i> 8	
Total	\$2,206.11
Regular Adult Offering	1,553.69
Plate	310.00
Building/Maintenance	134.62
Votive	157.80
Thanksgiving	\$2,206.11 1,553.69 310.00 134.62 157.80 50.00

Parish Events

ı				
	Tu	01/28	6:30 pm	Catholic Order of Foresters Mtg.
	Tu	01/28	7:10 pm	Knights of Columbus Mtg FR
	We	01/29	6:00 pm	FF Grade 2 - FR
	We	01/29	7:00 pm	FF Grades 7-10 - FR
	Th	01/30	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
	Fr	01/31	-	Wedding Rehearsal
	Sa	02/01	1:00 pm	Feldewerd/Barten Wedding
	Sa	02/01	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions
	Su	02/02	1:00 pm	Radiating Joy Watch Party - FR

Thank You to Catholic United Financial for their matching grant of \$1,000 to go towards Faith Formation.

St. Anne's Christian Women will meet Monday, February 3 at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Space. We welcome all members to attend.



CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦♦**

Total	\$1,774.10 1,283.85 193.00 292.25 5.00
Regular Adult Offering	1,283.85
Plate	193.00
Votive	292.25
Special Needs	5.00

Parish Events

	Tu	01/28	9:00 am	Quilting
	Tu	01/28	7:10 pm	Knights of Columbus Mtg FR FF Grade 2 - FR FF Grades 7-10 - FR
	We	01/29	6:00 pm	FF Grade 2 - FR
	We	01/29	7:00 pm	FF Grades 7-10 - FR
	Fr	01/31	7:30 pm	Rosary
	Su	02/02	1:00 pm	Rosary Radiating Joy Watch Party - FR
П				

Welcome to our Parish...We welcome Paul & Deb Theisen to our parish.

Food For Thought The St. Rose Christian Women are doing a cash fund drive during the month of January for Food For Thought. This is a program to provide food to local students who do not always have adequate access to food over the weekends. Please send donations to St. Rose Christian Women, c/o Sarah Herdering 41404 Co Rd 167, Melrose, MN 56352. Thank you!

Sponsor a Votive Candle The parish is looking for someone to

sponsor the following candles during 2025: 1 on the Blessed Virgin Mary Statue Stand and 2 on the St. Rose of Lima Statue Stand. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.

Vice President Needed St. Rose Christian Women are still in need of a Vice President. Please consider signing up for this 2 year term.

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

One In Faith ACC Catholic Schools Dinner & Auction Fundraisers

•34th Annual Steak & Wine Dinner & Auction to support St. John's - St. Andrew's Catholic School will be Saturday, February 8, at The Greenwald Pub. Tickets cost \$35 and are now available at the school, Meire Grove Gas & Grocery, Freeport State Bank in Greenwald, as well as the night of the event at the Pub. Online auction takes place the week leading up to the event, with the live auction taking place on Saturday night. Donny Brang will be playing live music during supper. More info to come!

•23rd St. Mary's Annual Auction 4 Education will be held on Saturday, March 1, at the American Legion in Melrose. Doors open at 5:00 pm. The night will start with a game of Family Feud. How well do you know the students at SMS? A free-will offering meal

will be served from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Disco for Dollar \$100 Raffle tickets can be purchased after Masses and are available at St. Mary's School & Parish Office, All Stars Sports Bar & Grill, Double "R" Bar & Grill, Freeport State Bank - Melrose, Hennen Lumber, Kraemer Lumber, Magnifi Financial - Melrose, Melrose Bowl, St. Rosa Lumber. Winners will be drawn on March 1 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 Disco attire. Visit our auction website for more details. http://www.bidpal.net/smsmelrose

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

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦	
Total Regular Adult Offering. Children Plate/Loose Fuel Fund.	\$921.00
Regular Adult Offering	304.00
Children	8.00
Plate/Loose	194.00
Fuel Fund	415.00

Christmas Mass

C		
Regular		\$15,635.00
Plate/Loos	se	446.00

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, February 2 - 10:00 am

(S) Kenny Niehoff

(L) Gary P. Lieser

(U) Nick Waldorf & Bob Welle

(EM) (B) Jenny Kalthoff

(EM) (C) No Precious Blood

(Sacristan) Kathy Welle

(RL) Kathy Welle

(CC) Amy Orbeck & Marvin Rademacher (HK: February 2-15) Donna Welle, Kathy Welle (Chico), & Kathy Welle (Ron)

Baptized in Christ...

Levi Lawrence Welle

Thank You The St. Rosa Christian Women would like to thank everyone who donated items to our Baby Shower for Jesus. All the items were dropped off with Options for Women and will provide comfort to those in need.

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦**

Total	\$1,105.00
Regular Adult Offering	560.00
Plate/Loose	330.00
Votives	20.00
School Subsidy	175.00
CM Catholic Magazine	20.00

Liturgical Ministries Saturday, February 1 - 4:00 pm

- (S) Jada Worms & Luke Worms
- (L) Kathy Gilk
- (U) Harold Rademacher & Roger Schoenberg
- (GB) Joe & Sharon Schwieters
- (EM) (B) Kris Winter
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (HK February) *Rita Eveslage, Amy Frieler, Betty Frieler, & Kathy Gilk



Help Needed Additional musicians, especially singers, are needed for our Saturday 4:00 pm

Masses. Training in Catholic liturgy will be provided and scheduling is flexible. Contact Sarah Woeste at 320-256-9516.



FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

- •Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class: Wednesday, January 29 Home Lesson.
- •Grade 2: Next Class: Wednesday, January 29 at 6:00 pm. Meet at the parish office.
- •Grades 7-10: Next Class: Wednesday, January 29 at 7:00 pm. Bring your Bible, books, notebook, and pen. Meet in your classroom.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information:

faithformation@stmarvsofmelrose.com

•Grades 7-12: Next Class: Wednesday, January 29 from 7:15 - 8:30 pm at St. Mary's Church. Safe Environment guest speaker from Terebinth Refuge. This evening's presentation is for all students, grades 7-12; parents are encouraged to Parishioners are also welcome!

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

******** Weekly Offering ******** Regular Adult Offering..... 1,235.00 Children.... 0.25 Plate/Loose 41.00 44.00 Votives..... Fuel Fund..... 120.00 **Christmas Mass** Regular.... \$8,785.00 Plate/Loose..... 428.00

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, February 2 - 8:00 am

- (S) Morgan Funk & Paige Funk
- (L) Missy Illies
- (U) Doug Meyer & Elmer Meyer
- (GB) Karl & Geri Meyer
- (EM) Nick Kelzer & Jim Leukam
- (HK February) *Ann Brang, Janice Funk, Kathy Illies, Darlene Imdieke, Joni Imdieke, & Sharon Imdieke

HISPANIC MINISTRY

¡Fiesta de la presentación del Señor! Para el domingo 2 de febrero toda la asamblea le será permitido traer una vela para realizar el rito de la bendición de las velas. Al mismo tiempo extendemos una invitación para que planeen quedarse con nosotros después de la Misa de 12:30 pm para compartir los tradicionales tamales del

¡Festival de Familias Diocesana: ¡Este lunes (27 de enero) es su última oportunidad para registrarse para el Festival de Familias Diocesana! Registrese en https:// stcdio.org/event/2025-festival-of-families/ por solo

\$25 por familia. Para aquellos que no puedan reunirse con nosotros, oren por el éxito de este evento, diseñado para involucrar a las familias en su fe católica. Que

día de la Candelaria.



las familias de nuestra diócesis se acerquen más entre sí en la fe y nutran su relación con nuestro Dios amoroso que nos acompaña en nuestra vida diaria.

Your words, Lord, are Spirit, and life

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

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

- ♥Skiing at Andes Tower Hills sponsored by the Tri-Parish Youth Group, Sunday, February 9 from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm. This event is open to One in Faith youth grades 6 - 12. We will have a fun filled afternoon skiing. Deadline to register is Wednesday, January 29. Contact Alyssa for more information, 320-429-0770 or youthministry@catholiccentered.org. Registration forms are available on the Tri-Parish website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org.
- **Castaway Retreat for Grades 9-12:** Friday Sunday, March 28-30 at the Castaway Club Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes, MN. Castaway has been an energizing experience for our young Church in the Diocese of St. Cloud for 52 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 - \$200. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, February 5 with a \$100 non-refundable deposit. Registration forms are available on the parish websites. Contact Chrystal Sand at csand@catholic-centered.org or 320-836-2143, or Pam Pundsack at pam@stmarysofmelrose.org or 320-256-9503 with questions.
- ▶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.

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

- **♦ A Big Thank You** to all who have donated, bought dinner and raffle tickets and came out to help us celebrate our Wine and Dine this weekend.
- ◆SHS Ski trip is rescheduled for Wednesday, January 29 due to the cold weather last week.
- ◆Sacred Heart Strings will perform at the St. Martin Parish on Sunday, February 2.
- **♥Congratulations to Jaci Christensen** who was the Spelling Bee representative from
- **▼End of the Quarter** at SHS was this past week.
- **▼Full-time Openings** available for our Toddler Care Program! Please contact the school office for more information.
- **▼The SHS Annual Report is Available** in the back of church as well as on our Facebook page. If you would like a hard copy, please contact the school office at 320-836-2591.

◆Catholic Schools Week Special Days:

- Monday, January 27 Celebrating our Community: Jersey Day! Classes will be writing letters to members of our community who care for others: the Nursing Home, Rose View, Hospice, and Home Health Care workers.
- •Tuesday, January 28 Celebrating the Student: Inside Out/Backwards Day! Students will get to sit by someone new at lunch and partner read with students from a different
- Wednesday, January 29 Celebrating Vocations: Students dress like Staff, and Staff dress like Students! Each grade will have the opportunity to learn about the different ministries people are involved in within our church.
- Thursday, January 30 Celebrating God's Creation: Funny/Fuzzy Sock Day. Little Saints-3rd graders will be sledding near the St. Mary's School, and 4th - 6th graders will be Skiing at Andes Tower Hills.
- Friday, January 31 Celebrating Faculty and Staff: St. Mary's Spirit Day! Mini-courses after lunch.
- ◆St. Mary's School's Auction 4 Education information can
- be found on page 4.





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

- **◆Congratulations to our Second Graders** who received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation last weekend.
- ◆Thank You to Mindy and Jason Arnzen, who organized the Family Fun Night. It was a great night for SMS families to hang out together and build community while having fun as families.
- ◆Thank You to Amanda and Luke Fuechtmann, for chairing the school breakfast again and all the parents who volunteered their time to make this a successful event. Thank you also to all who supported the breakfast.
- ◆Registration for Preschool-6th Grade will begin in February for current SMS families and March for those families not currently enrolled at SMS. If you are new to the community or just considering sending your child to St. Mary's School, please call to schedule a visit or to receive the new registration materials in March. 320-256-4257.



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.sisaschool.org

- Celebrating Catholic Schools Week January **26 - 31.** The student council has a fun week planned to celebrate our Catholic school.
 - •Sunday CSW Kick-Off Mass at 10:00 am at St. Andrew's Church in Greenwald.
 - •Monday PJ Day and Staff Appreciation lunch.
 - Tuesday Hat Day and Mini-Courses.
 - •Wednesday Wacky Wednesday and Preschool and Kindergarten Carnival.
 - •Thursday Student Mass and Bowling at Melrose Bowl.
 - •Friday Dress As Your Teacher Day and Woody's Pizza for lunch with an ice cream sundae bar in the afternoon sponsored by Stearns County Dairy Association.
- •SJSA Received a Check for \$518 from the Arvig School Partnership Program. Arvig will donate \$1 each month to the local school of your choice with no additional cost to you if you're an Arvig customer. If you haven't signed up, please do so at www.arvig.net/supportyourschool. Thank you to those who have chosen St. John's -St. Andrew's as their partner school.
- •SJSA Catholic Schools Week Service Project SJSA students will be collecting pennies for Fr. Danny Ohmann's Charity "The Watatulu Education Fund" in Africa where Fr. Danny served as a missionary. If you would like to donate, please drop off or send your donation to the school.
- •34th Annual Steak and Wine Dinner and **Auction** information can be found on page 4.

The Scriptures This Week Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo Weekday (Saint Angela Merici, Virgin) Heb 9:15, 24-28 Mk 3:22-30 Tu Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

Heb 10:1-10 Mk 3:31-35

We Weekday Heb 10:11-18 Mk 4:1-20

Th Weekday Heb 10:19-25 Mk 4:21-25

Saint John Bosco, Priest (Memorial) Heb 10:32-39 Mk 4:26-34

Weekday (BVM) Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday - The Presentation of the Lord (Feast) Mal 3:1-4 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

Caught Up In God's Love Listening To The Call Single women ages 18-45 are invited to a weekend of personal and communal reflection to learn how to recognize God's invitations in your life. Join the School Sisters of Notre Dame in St. Louis, Missouri February 21 - 23, Friday - Saturday. This weekend retreat is an opportunity to learn – through conversation, contemplation, prayer and spiritual guidance – how to recognize God's invitation for your life. There is no charge to participate. All meals and private rooms with bathroom are included. Assistance with transportation cost is available if needed. Learn more and register by Friday, February 7 at ssnd.org/events/retreat225/. Questions contact us at sisters@ssnd.org

Radiating Joy Coming to Sacred Heart Come join us while we stream the documentary Radiating Joy Sunday, February 2 at 1:00 pm at Sacred Heart Freeport in the church basement. Radiating Joy is the story of Michelle Duppong, a Servant of God who bore witness to Christ through heroic suffering and a passion for inviting others to be transformed by His love. Michelle was a native of North Dakota and a FOCUS missionary for whom a Cause of Beatification and Canonization has been initiated. It tells the story of her beautiful and faith-filled life, especially during her diagnosis, treatment, and death. There will be popcorn and punch available. Feel free to bring your own snacks. The event is free and open to anyone.

Catholic Men's Conference Saturday, February 22,

from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at St. John's University in Collegeville; Bishop Patrick Neary will celebrate Mass at 4:00 pm. Keynote speaker: Father Scott Traynor, JCL, a priest in the Diocese of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is the Vicar for Lay and Clergy Formation. Various Workshops will be available, including topics for young men ages 15 and up. Cost: \$40 or \$35/each for groups of 5, includes morning refreshments and lunch. Cost for young men ages 15 – 22: \$10, scholarships available for the first 50 registrants. Registration deadline: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 Registration Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025CMC. If you have any questions please contact Janet by calling 320-258-7616 or email at janet.dusek@gw.stcdio.org or visit https://stcdio.org/event/2025-catholic-mens-conference/ for more information. Confessors are also needed (lunch provided) please contact Janet Dusek.

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.

•The Eucharist, Divinization, and the Regeneration of the World - Friday, January 31

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 allow 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, February 20 and 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!



Diocesan Festival of Families This Monday (January 27) is your last chance to register for the Diocesan Festival of Families! Register at https://stcdio.org/event/2025-festival-of-families/

for only \$25 per family. For those unable to join us, please pray for the success of this event, designed to engage families in their Catholic faith. May the families of our diocese grow closer to one another in faith and nurture their relationship with a loving God who accompanies them in their daily lives.

Attention College Students Totus Tuus Leaders are needed for 2025. Leaders help with week-long summer Catholic retreats for youth across the diocese by providing lively skits, songs, and lessons in the Catholic faith. Training is provided. Brochures are available in the churches. More information is available at https://stedio.org/vocations/totus-tuus/, by calling 320-251-5001, or emailing vocations@gw.stedio.org.

First Friday Adoration at the Capitol Join the Minnesota Catholic Conference staff First Fridays (February 7) at the capitol January - May. Adoration available 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Governor's Dining Room (located in the lower level of the Minnesota State Capitol). Visit www.MNCatholic.org/events to RSVP. Questions call Minnesota Catholic Conference 651-227-8777. Free parking at MCC's office 525 Park Street, St. Paul.

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 31-February 2 (Weekend)

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

A "Perfect Marriage" is simply two imperfect people who refuse to give up on each other! In this month of love, plan to attend the February 15-16. Marriage Encounter and begin to create the marriage of your dreams. Weekends are held at Mt. Olivet Retreat Center. Register at: www.marriages.org.

"The Secret of the Holy Face" Lenten Retreat Lent will be here before you know it. Make a resolution to attend "The Secret of the Holy Face" Lenten Retreat at St. Michael's Parish in Buckman, MN on Saturday, March 8. Speakers: Cathy Maloney-Hills, OSF and Fr. Robert Altier. 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. \$20 by Friday, February 28; \$25 at the door. Everyone is welcome. Sponsored by St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. See www.stclouddccw.org for more information.

What is a TEC Retreat? How do I sign up?

TEC – Together Encountering Christ is a three-day retreat supported by the St. Cloud Diocese. The retreat is intended for both youth (age 16+) and adults and is modeled after the Paschal Mystery - the Easter message of death, resurrection and sending forth. Youth will often credit TEC for giving meaning to their

faith life, purpose to their everyday life, and a commitment to living their life for Christ. One adult indicated, "outside of my marriage and the birth of my children, TEC is the most important event of my life." Check out what others have experienced by participating in an upcoming TEC weekend. For information and registration details, visit the website at www.cmtec.org or call 320-532-4455.

An Epoch In Time history book of St. Rose of Lima Parish is available at the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport. Cost \$35





Cold Spring MN 55329 Cold Spring, MN 55320 Melrose, MN 55320 3-7070 (320) 685-7070 (320) 256-7070



256-4249 Linda Holm, owner/operator

Albany Mutual

ALBANY FIBER

320.845.2101

AFComm.net

Ve Connect YOU to the World



"Customer Service Is Our Priority" FRFFPORT STATE BANK

836-2126 Freeport Melrose 256-7208 987-2265

BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A

KRAEMER

True Value.

Building Relationships Since 1958

www.freeportstatebank.com

New Munich Mutual

Insurance Co.

512 Main St. Suite $2\,$

Sauk Centre, MN 56378

320-351-3300



CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Residential - Commerical - Agricultural

320-836-2284 | 29033 Co. Rd. 17, Freeport





Freeport Lions Club

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





BASEMENTS - WATER INES - SEPTIC SYSTEMS - EXCAVATING - PERC TEST & DESIGN - GRAVEL - SEWER & WATER



RJ's

MOODWORKS LLC

CABINETS · TRIM · FURNITURE

HERE!

_reekside (

Country Store

BAIT * GAS * ATM **GROCERIES**

Interstate Service Center

(320) 256-2160

Manager:

Darcy Pfeffer

Free alignment with four tire purc

LUMBER CO., INC.

320-836-2154

Hoeschen Ruto

Complete Auto Repair Specialists

In business since 1980







Mike Nathe cell: 320-290-0505 35428 County Road 13 • Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-3985

FINANCIAL

FREEPORT **COMMUNITY** CENTER

FOR HALL RENTAL CALL

320-836-2526

ADVERTISE HFRFI



Proud to be a part of the Ag Industry

Oak Service Inc.

THOMAS HOPPE 36484 300th Ave. Melrose, MN 56352 320-837-5853

ennen Floor Covering, Inc.

FREEPORT

Munson Feed Company, Inc.

Box 184, Melrose, MN 56352 Pete Jr., Mike, Josh Terres and employees

Business Phone 256-4219

Electrical Contracting

Free Estimates



Livestock and Poultry Feed

HOLDINGFORD

746-9994



Estate Planning | Business | Real Estate | Probate

MELROSE 320.256.4205

WAITE PARK 320.258.9383

revermannlaw.com



37276 County Road 13 ox 233 | Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-4146



MEĽROSE





ALBANY

845-2035

FUNERAL HOMES www.millercarlin.com

TELROSE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Stacy Schiffler, Manager 303 Main Street East Melrose, MN 56352

256-7290 www.melrosemutual.com



NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE

Sales - Parts - Service Phone 256-4253 - Melrose, MN www.melroseimplement



Offers 24-hour customized assisted living, meals, activities, etc.

Call 320-837-5100

Lumber & Ready Mix, Inc.

building needs in one place!







AGRONOMY PROPANE REFINED FUELS

Office locations in Belgrade & Melrose 320-254-8231



DANSCHMIDT

320.256.3700 dsprint@meltel.net

ROSE 15

OIL & PROPANE



God Bless our **Parish** Families!



~ Dana Kerfeld ~ 5 Central Ave. N . St. Stephen, MN 56375 (320) 257-CROP (2767)

Cornerstone Our foc

ADVERTISE HERE!

Welcome HOME to Brenn

Call Cara!

320.363.6999

WWW.BRENNYTRASPORTATION.COM

Your TRUCKING

Career starts

HERE!



Excavating, Water, Sewers, Site Prep., Basements. Sand, Gravel

LUMBER CO. INC.

Freeport, MN 56331

(320) 836-2135

ennen

256-4479

Jim

For All Your Building Needs 982 rericks Construction Inc. Melrose, MN

Russell 249-7404 290-5669





320.256.2363 Productos Mexicanos fax: 320.256.2364





God **Bless** America!



Platting • Sub-Division Acreage • Boundary • ALTA Surveys 320-836-2291

Or Call 320-256-7298 Brenda Kraemer . Member Advisor



- Insurance bkraemer@catholicunited.org Retirement
- **Planning**
- Charitable Giving
- Catholic United Financial

(320) 493-3957

