



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

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 29, 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

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.



The Family as a Communion of Love

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. Luke 2:39-40

Today we honor family life in general by pausing to ponder the particular and beautiful hidden life within the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In many ways, their daily life together would have been very similar to other families at that time. But in other ways, their life together is entirely unique and provides us with a perfect model for all families.

By God's providence and design, the family life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was spoken of in the Scripture very little. We read of the birth of Jesus, the presentation in the Temple, the flight into Egypt and the finding of Jesus in the Temple at age twelve. But other than these stories of their life together, we know very little.

The line from today's Gospel quoted above does, however, give us some insight worth pondering. First, we see that this family "fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord..." Though this is in reference to Jesus being presented in the Temple, it should also be understood to apply to all aspects of their life together. Family life, just like our individual lives, must be ordered by the laws of our Lord.

The primary law of the Lord regarding family life is that it must share in the very unity and "communion of love" found in the life of the Most Holy Trinity. Each person of the Holy Trinity has perfect respect for the other, gives selflessly to each other without reserve, and receives each person in their totality. It is their love that makes them one and enables them to act together in perfect harmony as a communion of divine Persons. Though Saint Joseph was not immaculate in his nature, the perfection of love did live in his divine Son and in his immaculate wife. This overwhelming gift of their perfect love would have daily drawn him into the perfection of their lives.

Ponder your own closest relationships today. If you are blessed with a close family, ponder them. If not, ponder the persons put into your life who you are called to love with familial love. Who are you to be there for in good times and in bad? Who are you to sacrifice your life for without reserve? Who are you to offer respect, compassion, time, energy, mercy, generosity and every other virtue? And how well do you fulfill

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ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ DEC. 30 - JAN. 5, 2025 **ADORATION**

ST. MARY - Melrose
 Mo 6:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 †Refugio Hernandez
 †Manuel Juarez
 *Tu 5:00 pm **Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass**
 †Ralph Inderrieden
 Tu 7:00 pm **Misa en Español**
 †Hector Ambriz
 *We 10:00 am **Solemnity of Mary Mass**
 †Jeanette Barth
 Th 8:00 am †Hank Westerhaus
 *Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
 †Will Schafer
 Sa 5:00 pm †Sherry Rausch
 *Su 10:00 am †Sandy, †Margaret, & †Jerry Sand
 Su 12:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 Por el Pueblo

SACRED HEART - Freeport
 We 8:00 am **Solemnity of Mary Mass**
 †Sue Worms
 Fr 8:15 am †Ed Hennen
 Sa 8:00 am **First Saturday Mass**
 †Neil Middendorf
 Su 8:00 am For the People

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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich
 Tu 4:00 pm **Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass**
 For the People
 Th 8:15 am †Deceased/Living Members of
 the Catholic Order of Foresters
 Sa 4:00 pm †Flossie Hoppe

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa
 Tu 8:15 am **NO MASS**
 We 9:00 am **Solemnity of Mary Mass**
 †Claude Toenyan
 Su 10:00 am †Decease/Living Members of
 the Segura Family

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill
 Tu 8:00 am **NO MASS**
 We 10:00 am **Solemnity of Mary Mass**
 †Mike & †Jeanette Heinen
 †Donnie Feldewerd
 Su 10:00 am

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald
 Tu 4:00 pm **Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass**
 †Dan Schoenberg
 Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †Charlene Ohmann
 Sa 4:00 pm †Elmer & †Vivian Bertram

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove
 We 8:00 am **Solemnity of Mary Mass**
 For the People
 Su 8:00 am †Joanne Butkowski



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 ~

•**Votive Candles** As of January 1, the suggested donation for votive candles will increase to \$4 per candle.

Parish Office Holiday Hours for Melrose and Freeport office are as follows:
December 31: 9:00 am - Noon **January 1:** Closed

Prayer Requests for the Sick The prayer requests for the sick will be cleared out December 31. If you would like to be added back to the prayer list, please email bulletin@catholic-centered.org or call one of the parish offices.

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, January 8. Come and bring a friend for a fun filled faith enrichment night.

Winter Retreat 2025 The Rue and Monastic Life in Art, January 24-26. This retreat offers a unique opportunity to explore the timeless wisdom of the rule of Saint Benedict through the lens of art and personal reflection. Brother Simon-HOA, A Monk of Saint John's Abbey for 30 years, will share his insights on Benedictine values, humility, hospitality, conversation, and prayer and work as expressed in his video art and his monastic journey. Begins with supper at 5:30 pm on Friday and concludes Sunday after a morning conference and an optional 10:30 am Mass. Cost: Single occupancy room: \$250. Double occupancy room: \$435. Suite: \$475. All rates include meals. To register, contact our spiritual life office at 320-363-2573 or email us at spiritalife@osb.org or visit our website to register online www.abbeyguesthouse.org.

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

•**Christmas Flower Memorials** Thank you to everyone who made donations for Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one. Much beauty was added to the churches this Christmas season. If you would like a list of those remembered by the donors, please contact the Tri-Parish Office for a copy. It can also be found on the Tri-Parish website.

•**Calling All TECites:** The Tri-Parish Office is compiling a listing of parishioners who have attended TEC retreats in the past. Please contact the parish office to be added to the list.

•**“Shower for Baby Jesus”** The Christian Women organizations from Immaculate Conception, Sacred Heart, and St. Rose of Lima are hosting a “Baby Shower for Jesus” this Advent. There is a bassinet in each of the churches to put new or like-new items for infants through age 4. Car seats and diapers are an especially difficult item for the site to obtain. All donations will be given to Options for Women, a crisis pregnancy center in Sauk Centre. If considering monetary donations, please make checks out to Christian Women of St. Rosa, Freeport or New Munich or dropped in collection notating which church.

Jubilee Year 2025 Pope Francis has declared the new Jubilee Year as the Year of Pilgrims of Hope. This Jubilee Year will officially open at the diocesan level on Sunday, December 29, 2024, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, with a solemn Mass for Opening the Jubilee Year at the Cathedral of St. Mary in St. Cloud at 6:00 pm, beginning in the lower level. After gathering, a candlelight pilgrimage procession will proceed from the lower level to the front doors of the cathedral and veneration of the diocesan Jubilee Cross. More details about these celebrations were highlighted in the Central Minnesota Catholic Magazine's December issue or by visiting <https://stedio.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>.

One in Faith ACC News Continued on page 7


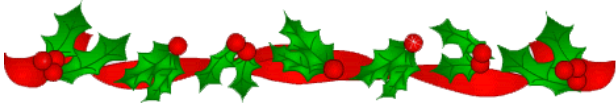
CHURCH OF ST. MARY
 Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
 Melrose, MN 56352

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

Total.....	\$18,396.83
Regular Adult Offering	13,918.53
Plate/Loose	1,175.30
Designated Funds	3,303.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

12-22	\$25	Monika Kraker - Melrose
12-23	\$25	Brandon Tschida - Melrose
12-24	\$25	Linda Blommer - St. Joseph
12-25	\$350	Matthew Viere - Sauk Centre
12-26	\$25	Gina Harren - Grey Eagle
12-27	\$50	Char & Art Westendorf - Melrose
12-28	\$25	Kathy Kettler - Sauk Centre

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

- January 5, Sunday**
 ♦Green Grove Rod & Gun Club All You Can Eat Breakfast. Serving from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Greenwald Pub. Proceeds for Wildlife Projects.
- January 8, Wednesday**
 ♦Soup Luncheon The Melrose Area Senior Citizens invite you to join them for their Soup Luncheon, at the Melrose Senior Center, located in the Melrose City Center. Serving from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. If anyone would like to contribute a pot of soup or some bread for the luncheon, please contact Pat Seanger at 320-248-6630. Freewill offering. All are welcome!
- ♦Feet First Clinic at the Senior Center in Freeport. Please call to make an appointment 320-836-2450. Free will offering.
- January 11, Saturday**
 ♦Green Grove Rod & Gun Club Gun Bingo & Raffle Drawing at Horseshoe Bar & Ballroom in Spring Hill. Proceeds go toward local high school archery and trap teams. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Bingo starts at 7:00 pm.
- January 15, Wednesday**
 ♦Blood Drive at the American Legion in Melrose from 12:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Please call 1-800-REDCROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org enter: Melrose to schedule an appointment.
- January 16, Thursday**
 ♦Freeport Senior Citizens meeting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

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


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

Total.....	\$9,232.42
Regular Adult Offering.....	6,407.85
Plate/Loose.....	419.56
Votive	250.01
School Support	518.00
Christmas	1,515.00
Christmas Flowers	110.00
Immaculate Conception	12.00

Parish Events

Fr	01/03	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	01/03	9:00 am	Adoration
Sa	01/04	8:00 am	First Saturday Mass

May She Rest in Peace... Our parish offers prayers and sympathy to the family of †**Rosemary "Rosie" Rolfes**, who passed away Saturday, December 21. Her funeral was celebrated here on Friday, December 27.

 **Sponsor a Votive Candle** The parish has several candles available to be sponsored each month; one on the Blessed Virgin Mary altar, one on the St. Joseph altar, two near the Our Lady of Guadalupe print, and the military candle by the votive stand. There are candles available for sponsorship throughout 2025. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.


2025 Calendars are in the back of the church.

Sacristy/Sanctuary Cleaning The parish is looking for volunteers to help clean the sacristy and sanctuary. Cleaners typically work in teams of 2 and are assigned to clean once every 1-2 months. Please contact the Parish Office in Freeport if you have questions or are willing to assist with this ministry.

Shower for Baby Jesus... For information see "Parish News: Sacred Heart ~ Immaculate Conception ~ St. Rose of Lima" on page 2

Knights of Columbus
 St. Joseph the Worker Council
 December 2024
 Calendar Raffle Winners

12-23	\$20	Joann Euteneuer
12-24	\$40	Melvin Goebel
12-25	\$250	Zach Wiechman
12-26	\$20	Eric Schmiesing
12-27	\$40	Daniel Eveslage
12-28	\$60	John Arnzen
12-29	\$100	Dick Koll
12-30	\$20	Betty Glaser
12-31	\$100	Juliana Boecker




The Family as a Communion of Love... cont'd from page 1
 this duty of love?

Reflect, today, upon the fact that God wants you to share in a communion of life, not only with the Most Holy Trinity but also with those around you, especially your family. Try to ponder the hidden life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and seek to make their family relationship the model for how you love others. May their perfect communion of love be a model for us all.

Lord, draw me into the life, love and communion that You lived with Your Immaculate Mother and Saint Joseph. I offer You myself, my family and all those to whom I am called to love with a special love. May I imitate Your family love and life in all my relationships. Help me to know how to change and grow so that I may more fully share in Your family life. Jesus, I trust in You.

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.....	\$3,890.46
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,769.69
Plate/Loose	206.15
Thanksgiving Envelopes.....	180.00
Christmas.....	650.00
Christmas Flowers.....	50.00
Building/Maintenance.....	34.62

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,536.85
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,058.85
Plate/Loose	403.00
Christmas Envelopes.....	50.00
Christmas Flowers.....	25.00

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$8,624.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	433.00
Children	9.00
Plate/Loose	82.00
Fuel Fund.....	3,170.00
Christmas Flowers	20.00
Immaculate Conception	10.00
Maintenance Fund.....	590.00
Christmas.....	4,310.00

Parish Events

Th 01/02 7:00 am	Adoration
Sa 01/04 3:30 pm	Individual Confessions
Sa 01/04 5:00 pm	Winter Raffle Drawing
Su 01/05 10:30 am	Private Event

Parish Events

Th 01/02 7:00 pm	OCIA Meeting
Fr 01/03 7:30 pm	Rosary
Su 01/05 11:00 am	Private Event

Calendar Raffle Winners
 December 2024

12-23 \$40	Justin Bushman
12-24 \$40	Roger Massmann
12-25 \$200	Tanya Christenson
12-26 \$40	John Rademacher
12-27 \$40	Clem Boeckers
12-28 \$40	Sandy Warzecka
12-29 \$100	Dorothy Massmann
12-30 \$40	Ron Schaefer
12-31 \$40	Carl & Kathy Schultzetzenberg

Shower for Baby Jesus... For more information see "Parish News: Sacred Heart ~ Immaculate Conception ~ St. Rose of Lima" on page 2.

Sponsor a Votive Candle
 The parish is looking for someone to sponsor the 2 candles on the St. Rose of Lima statue stand. There are also other candles available to be sponsored for the upcoming months. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.



Elevator and Expansion Update:

The overall cost of the project came in at \$1,119,314.31. The parish took out a loan of \$150,000 from the Diocese of St. Cloud and an additional loan from the New Munich Investors for \$200,000. The loan through the diocese is currently down to \$40,000 thanks to all those who have made pledges and donations. The parish is looking for individuals who would be interested in covering one or multiple loan payments (roughly \$1,400). Once the loan at the diocese is paid in full, then the New Munich Investors loan will need to be paid in monthly payments. Please contact Amy at the office if you are interested in committing to a loan payment(s) or if you would like to donate to the project.

CORRECTION: Thank you to the **Catholic Order of Foresters** for their generous donation of \$1,921.08 from the local court as well as \$1,500 from the high court. Last week it was listed as a donation from Catholic United Financial.

Shower for Baby Jesus... For more information see "Parish News: Sacred Heart ~ Immaculate Conception ~ St. Rose of Lima" on page 2.



God's Housekeepers for the month of January: *Donna Welle, Cindy Heinen, Lu Rademacher, Lisa Hennen, Michelle Rademacher, and Ann Holdvogt. 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.

Winter Raffle If you have not yet returned your raffle tickets, please do so immediately. Unsold/Sold tickets and money can be returned to Worms Lumber, New Munich Gas & Grocery, or the Tri-Parish office in Freeport. All tickets must be accounted for, consequently, if you cannot sell the ticket(s), please return them as soon as possible. The drawing will be held on January 4, 2025 following the 4:00 pm Mass.



Liturgical Ministries
Solemnity of Mary Mass
Wednesday, January 1 - 10:00 am

- (S) Olivia Kalthoff & Stella Schoenberg
- (L) Pete LeClaire
- (U) Dan Hemmes & Adam Kalthoff
- (EM) (B) Allen Lieser
- (EM) (C) Gary P. Lieser & Karen Rademacher
- (Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
- (RL) Marilyn Gruber
- (CC) Mark Schoenberg & Rick Terres

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, January 5 - 10:00 am

- (S) Landon Schmidt & Eleanor Schmidt
- (L) Gary P. Liser
- (U) Melvin Kalthoff & Jim Klassen
- (EM) (B) Darlene Schoenberg
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (Sacristan) Kathy Welle
- (RL) Kathy Welle
- (CC) Chico Welle & Steve Welle
- (HK: Dec. 22 - Jan. 4) Jamie Terres, Jane Terres, & Maggie Terres

2025 Contribution Envelopes are labeled and in the back of the church. If you don't see yours and wish to get them, please contact the parish office.



Sacred Heart School
Calendar Raffle Winners!

12/22	\$25	Lisa Hilsgen - St. Joseph
12/23	\$25	Joan & Gary Roering - Grey Eagle
12/24	\$150	Chris Klaphake - Melrose
12/25	\$250	Shannon Ritter - Freeport
12/26	\$25	Steven Olson - St. Joseph
12/27	\$25	Cori Welle Button - Bellingham, WA
12/28	\$25	Lorene Koopmeiners - St. Cloud
12/29	\$25	Barry Hellermann - Melrose
12/30	\$25	Al Bueckers - Albany
12/31	\$120	Mark Middendorf - Freeport

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis, in his papal bull '*Spes Non Confundit*' ("Hope does not disappoint"), has proclaimed Jubilee 2025. It begins in Rome on Dec. 24 with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica. In local dioceses it will begin on Holy Family Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024.

The word "jubilee" comes from the Hebrew word *yobel*, which refers to the ram's horn used to announce a jubilee in the Old Testament. A Jubilee is a holy year focused on the forgiveness of sin, conversion and joyful celebration. Passing through holy doors symbolizes a pilgrim's journey of conversion.

All are encouraged to obtain a jubilee indulgence by participating in a pilgrimage, meeting the normal conditions: Pray for the pope's intentions, make a good confession and receive Holy Communion close to the time of earning the indulgence and be sincerely repentant of your sins, to the point of no longer having any sense of attachment to sin.

It is appropriate, but not necessary, that the sacramental Confession and especially Holy Communion and the prayer for the Pope's intentions take place on the same day that the indulgenced work is performed; but it is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within several days (about 20) before or after the indulgenced act. Prayer for the Pope's intentions is left to the choice of the faithful, but an "Our Father" and a "Hail Mary" are suggested.

To participate in this Jubilee, some will make pilgrimages to Rome. For those from our diocese unable to do so, the Diocese of St. Cloud will establish its own local celebrations.

The faithful are further encouraged to perform spiritual or corporal works of mercy or carry out works of penance (such as abstaining from meat on Fridays). At sacred places, they are to engage in Eucharistic Adoration and meditation, among other spiritual practices. All are asked to pray for the pope, the Church and all who take part in the Jubilee.

In Old Testament times, jubilee years were honored every 50th year. In Christian times (the practice was begun with Pope Boniface VIII in 1300) jubilees were celebrated every 100 years to mark significant anniversaries. They were later shortened to every 50 years and now to every 25 years.

Jubilee 2025 will conclude in local dioceses on Holy Family Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025, and in Rome on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, Jan. 6, 2026, with the closing of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica.



Printed here is the general decree, made by Bishop Patrick Neary, announcing the Jubilee

GENERAL DECREE *Crux spes nobis*



The Cross gives us hope because it signifies the desire of Jesus to bear, in our place, the punishment for our sins, in short, to save us. Therefore, during this Jubilee of Hope, I call upon all the Faithful of the Diocese of Saint Cloud, by pilgrimages and visits to sacred spaces; by prayers and works of mercy; to bear the burdens of our neighbors, both those here on earth and those being purified on the threshold of Heaven.

To that end, having received special faculties from the Sacred Penitentiary, **I hereby exhort the faithful to carry out any of the following acts to obtain, under the usual conditions, a Plenary Indulgence:**

§1 **A pilgrimage or at least a pious visit to any of the following sacred places** — the Cathedral of St. Mary; the Shrine of St. Cloud in the Cathedral of St. Mary; the Grasshopper Chapel in Cold Spring; the Shrine of St. Odilia in Onamia; the Shrine of St. Peregrine in Collegeville; the Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Sauk Centre; the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, oratory of the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls; the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, oratory of the Benedictine Sisters in St. Joseph; the oratory in the Poor Clare Monastery in Sauk Rapids; any church of your Area Catholic Community which you have not yet visited.

Pilgrimages should be marked by a spirit of prayer and reflection while on the journey and, at the destination, should include the celebration of Mass; or a celebration of the Word of God; or a penitential celebration culminating in the opportunity for individual confession and absolution; or praying the Liturgy of the Hours, the Way of the Cross or the Rosary.

Pious visits should include at least 10 minutes of prayer and meditation before the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with the Our Father, the Creed and the Hail Mary or other Marian invocations.

Those who, because of illness, vows, or other grave cause find it impossible to participate in these pilgrimages and pious visits may still obtain the Plenary Indulgence if, even apart from the usual conditions, they are repentant of sin, pray the Our Father, the Creed, and at least one other prayer, and join themselves in spirit to those making the pilgrimages and pious visits. For their part, pilgrims, pious visitors, and those responsible for sacred places, while being careful not to disrupt sacred celebrations, should use modern means of communication (texts, phone calls, broadcasts via internet, etc.) to enable the homebound and others to better participate.

§2 **An act of charity** — visiting those in need or difficulty, such as the homebound, prisoners, or the ill; fasting for a day from virtual distractions such as media and social networks; making a donation of time or treasure to the poor, to works of the Church, or to the service of the whole human community; any of the Corporal or Spiritual Works of Mercy.

An Extraordinary Opportunity for the Jubilee Year — Two Plenary Indulgences a Day

As a generous grace for this Jubilee, the Holy Father has permitted that, contrary to the usual rule that allows the reception of only one Plenary Indulgence a day, each of the faithful may, with a second reception of Holy Communion in the context of a Eucharistic Liturgy and the completion of a second act to which a Plenary Indulgence is attached, apply that indulgence to the dead.

This decree is promulgated by publication in the Central Minnesota Catholic; it is effective from December 24, 2024, through January 6, 2026.

Given at the Chancery, the Memorial of St. Josaphat, the 12th Day of November, the Year of Our Lord 2024.

+ Patrick M. Neary, c.s.c.

+Patrick M. Neary, CSC
Bishop, Diocese of Saint Cloud
Prot. No. 170-24

Joe Towalski

Joe Towalski
Chancellor

**A sample jubilee passport, like this,
may be found near the church entrance, or online at
<https://stcdio.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>**

Jubilee 2025: "Pilgrims of Hope"

Pope Francis proclaimed 2025 a holy year of hope. The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the holy year because it represents the journey each person makes in this life. The St. Cloud Diocese is home to many sacred sites for people to visit. Some are listed below or you are invited to come up with your own. The Holy Father also encourages people to perform corporal and spiritual works of mercy throughout the year. Cross off each stamp for every act or pilgrimage you make.

***Pilgrims are especially encouraged to visit each of the parishes in their Area Catholic Community.*

Possible pilgrimage sites:

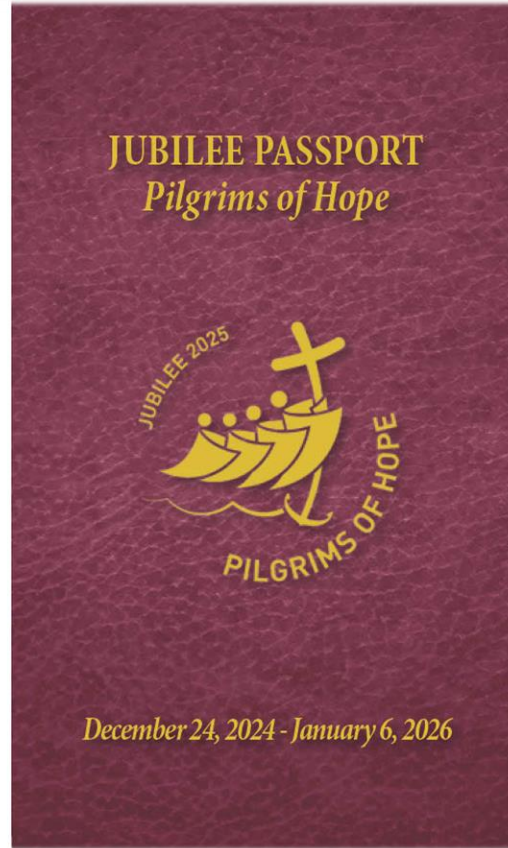
Sacred sites and shrines:

- The Shrine of St. Peregrine, martyr, Saint John's Abbey, Collegeville
- The Shrine of St. Odilia, Crosier Priory, Onamia
- Assumption (Grasshopper) Chapel, Cold Spring
- Divine Mercy Shrine, St. Paul Church, Sauk Centre
- The Shrine of St. Cloud, St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Cloud

Pray with religious communities:

- The monks of St. John's Abbey, Collegeville
- The Crosier Fathers and Brothers, Onamia
- The Poor Clare Sisters, Sauk Rapids
- The Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict, St. Joseph
- The Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Little Falls

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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 ST. ANDREW

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,404.00
Regular Adult Offering	765.00
Children.....	22.00
Plate/Loose	318.00
Votives	14.00
Religious Retirement.....	5.00
Christmas Flowers.....	50.00
Immaculate Conception	5.00
Christmas.....	170.00
Maintenance Fund.....	55.00

Liturgical Ministries

Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass
Tuesday, December 31 - 4:00 pm

- (S) Isaiah Gilk & Jackson Gilk
- (L) Cassandra Kettner
- (U) Steve Gilk & Peter Heinze
- (GB) Alan & Sandy Niehoff
- (EM) (B) Kris Winter
- (EM) (C) Mary Opatrny & Mike Barten

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday, January 4 - 4:00 pm

- (S) Leo Kasper & Claire Kasper
- (L) Julie Kulzer
- (U) Al Inderrieden & Pat Keller
- (GB) Arnold & Alma Nietfeld
- (EM) (B) Clarine Beier
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (HK - January) *Lisa Bertram, Sheryl Braun, Kate Buermann, & Sara Dehmer

2025 Contribution Envelopes

Beginning with the January 2025 mailing, your contribution envelopes will arrive in your mailbox on a bimonthly schedule. If you haven't received yours, please contact the parish office.

EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)

St. Andrew's parishioners, if you are interested in EFT, please have signed forms to the office before Friday, January 10.

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. JOHN

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$2,654.25
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,380.00
Children.....	0.25
Plate/Loose	198.00
Votives.....	41.00
Fuel Fund	50.00
Maintenance Fund.....	170.00
Christmas Flowers.....	235.00
Christmas.....	130.00
Thanksgiving.....	50.00
Religious Retirement.....	200.00
Snow Contract.....	200.00

Liturgical Ministries

Solemnity of Mary Mass
Wednesday, January 1 - 8:00 am

- (S) Cole Funk & Luke Funk
- (L) Char Meyer
- (U) Mike Wehlage & Daryl Zenzen
- (GB) Anthony & Sheri Luetmer
- (EM) (B) Nick Kelzer & Jim Leukam
- (EM) (C) Char Meyer & Dan Meyer

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, January 5 - 8:00 am

- (S) Carter Kelzer & Logan Kelzer
- (L) Doug Meyer
- (U) Chad Funk & Gene Imdieke
- (GB) Gary & Irene Marthaler
- (EM) (B) Karl Meyer & Sue Meyer
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (HK - January) *Cindy Schneider, Karen Schneider, Linda Schneider, Joy Silbernick, Julie Wehlage, & Abby Zenzen

Died in the Hope of Resurrection...

†Norman Wehlage, 88

2025 Contribution Envelopes are labeled and in the back of the church. If you don't see yours and wish to get them, please contact the parish office.

HISPANIC MINISTRY



¡Rosca de reyes! El domingo 5 de enero se partirá la rosca de reyes después de misa por este motivo los invitamos a que hagan sus planes para quedarse con nosotros para convivir como Iglesia y hermanos en Cristo que somos.

Regístrese ahora para el segundo anual Festival de Familias Diocesana en St. Francis Xavier en Sartell, de 11:00 a. m. a 4:00 p. m. Habrá algo para toda la familia: sesiones para padres (en español), adolescentes y niños, carnaval, premios, proyectos de servicio y Misa. ¡Traiga a toda su familia por solo \$25! Enlace de registro: <https://stcdio.org/event/2025-festival-of-families/>



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.

FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1, 3-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, January 1. Home Lesson.
- **Grade 2: Next Class:** Wednesday, January 8 at 6:00 pm. Meet at the parish office.
- **Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, January 8 at 7:00 pm. Bring your Bible, books, notebook, and pen. Meet in your classroom.
- **Grade 10: Confirmation Student and Parent Interviews:** Wednesday, January 22. Please see mailing or contact Chrystal at the office for scheduled time.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information:

faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **No Faith Formation Classes over Christmas Break.**

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

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

- ♥ **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.
- ♥ **Middle School Lock-In for Grades 6-8:** Saturday - Sunday, January 25-26 starting at 8:00 pm at the St. Cloud YMCA. This lock-in will have Mass, great food, swimming, dodgeball, gaga ball, prayer opportunities, wallyball, a silent disco, game shows, and so much more. Come together with other youth in our diocese, make new friends, take time to relax, laugh, eat great food, and renew your spirit while strengthening your relationship with God. Cost - \$56 prior to January 16 and \$66 after January 16. 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.

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 Roelike,
 Jenny Wilson, and Kristi Zimmer
 Phone: 320-987-3133
www.sjsaschool.org

- ♥ **We have Full-time Openings for our Toddler Care Program!** Please contact the school office for more information.
 - ♥ **Sacred Heart School Raffle Calendars are HERE!!** We have just a few left and they need to be sold by Tuesday, December 31! Contact a SHS family or the school office if you are still in need of one.
 - ♥ **Christmas Break** Classes will resume on Thursday, January 2.
 - ♥ **Wine and Dine Cash Raffle and Dinner Tickets** will be sold at the Tri-Parish Masses in January. Thank you in advance for your support.
 - ♥ **A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR** to you all! We are so grateful for the continued support from the community and businesses. SHS has been very blessed this year.
- LOOKING AHEAD:**
- ♥ **SHS Wine & Dine Fundraiser** will be on Saturday, January 25 at the Freeport Community Center. Cash raffle tickets and dinner tickets are in circulation. Please reach out to a SHS family or contact the office if you would like a ticket.

- ♦ **The Students and Staff at St. Mary's School** wish you all a peaceful and joyous end to this year and a new year filled with many moments of joy, growth, and blessings.
- ♦ **Thank You** to all the businesses and individuals who donated money to St. Mary's School during this holiday season. Those donations play a crucial role in our students' academic journey and faith development, helping us to nurture the next generation of compassionate, faithful leaders.
- ♦ **Save the Date** for St. Mary's Catholic Schools Week Breakfast in the school gym on Sunday, January 26, from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. All are welcome! Tickets are available from SMS parents or the school office.
- ♦ **School Resumes** on Thursday, January 2.
- ♦ **St. Mary's School's Auction 4 Education** will be held on Saturday, March 1, at the Legion. The theme this year is Stayin' Alive in '25. \$100 Raffle tickets are available now 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.

- ♦ **We are looking for nominees for the SJSA Supporter Award** to be presented at this year's St. John's-St. Andrew's Steak and Wine. The award is given to a person in the community who has been a great support to the school in some way. Nominees are due by January 17 so the Board has time to discuss and vote. Please send names to one of the following people: Mary Miller 320-987-3133, Kristi Zimmer 320-249-6702, or Kathy Gilk 320-290-6603.
- ♦ **SJSA Christmas Break** is Monday, December 23 - Wednesday, January 1. School resumes Thursday, January 2.
- ♦ **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year** from the staff and students at SJSA.
- ♦ **34th Annual Steak and Wine Dinner and Auction** to support St John's - St Andrew's Catholic School will be 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!



ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2



Committed Adorers: We are looking for some individuals or couples to be committed adorers for the Wednesday Evening Praise and Worship Adoration Nights at Sacred Heart. The dates are January 8, 2025; February 12, 2025; March 19, 2025; and April 9, 2025 from 5:30-8:30 pm. If you are able to commit to 30 minutes or more one month, a few months, or several months, that would be great. Please contact Amy at 320-836-2143 to sign up.

End-of-Year Giving: Stock, IRA's and QCD's Gifts of stock are always appreciated, and there are significant tax benefits available to those who give appreciated stock held longer than a year. Those who choose to donate stock are generally entitled to a tax deduction based on the full fair market value of the stock at the time the gift is made, not just the original cost. Additionally, donors do not incur any capital gains tax when stock is given away rather than sold. Please consider a stock gift when donating to your church, Sacred Heart School, St. Mary's School, or St. John's St. Andrew's School. When making a charitable rollover through IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD), we always recommend that you seek professional advice in these matters. If you have any questions about this type of contribution, please contact the parish office in Melrose and Freeport with questions.



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.

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://stcdio.org/vocations/totus-tuus/>, by calling 320-251-5001, or emailing vocations@gw.stcdio.org.

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2024

Thank you so much for your support of diocesan ministries through your prayers and gifts in 2024. May you be blessed with peace and joy in the new year.



Stewardship as a Way of Life "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 John 3:1) During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God's children, it's in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

Radiating Joy: The Michelle Duppong Story is the story

of Servant of God Michelle Duppong, 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. The film, directed by Danny Anderson, tells the story of Michelle's beautiful and faith-filled life, especially during her diagnosis, treatment, and death. There is interest in having this movie brought to Main Street Theatre in Sauk Centre, however, before they can request the movie and set a date, there would need to be at least 60 people committed to attend the movie. If you are interested in having the opportunity to see this movie, please contact the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport to sign up.



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 10-12 (Weekend)
- Women's Silent Retreat - January 17-19 (Weekend)

First Friday Adoration at the Capitol Join the Minnesota Catholic Conference staff First Fridays (January 3) 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.

Prayer Requests...

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

For the Sick: Fred Pfau, Vivian Weber, Dorothy Schneider, Joan Schlicht, John Niehaus, Joyce Hauser, Laura Beuning, Lori Austing, Petra Oevermann, Sandy Welle, 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

The Scriptures This Week

Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

- Mo** Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
1 Jn 2:12-17 Lk 2:36-40
- Tu** Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
1 Jn 2:18-21 Jn 1:1-18
- We** Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21
- Th** Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
1 Jn 2:22-28 Jn 1:19-28
- Fr** Christmas Weekday (The Most Holy Name of Jesus)
1 Jn 2:29—3:6 Jn 1:29-34
- Sa** Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
1 Jn 3:7-10 Jn 1:35-42
- Next Sunday - The Epiphany of the Lord**
Is 60:1-6 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

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