



ONE IN FAITH Area Catholic Community of

St. Mary - Melrose, Sacred Heart - Freeport

Immaculate Conception - New Munich

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa, St. Michael - Spring Hill

St. Andrew - Greenwald, St. John - Meire Grove

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 31, 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@stmarysofamelrose.com

Office Email: pam@stmarysofamelrose.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@stmarysofamelrose.com

Website: www.oneinfaith.org

Facebook: Church of St. Mary, Melrose

Mailing Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE

Melrose, MN 56352

Freeport - New Munich - St. Rosa Office:

Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Office Phone: 320-836-2143

Office Email: triparish@albanytel.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

Website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org

Facebook: Tri Parish

Mailing Address: PO Box 155

Freeport, MN 56331

Bulletin Announcements

Deadline: Tuesday before 9:00 am

Email information to: bulletin@catholic-centered.org

Confession Times

♦Fridays 7:45 am Sacred Heart

♦Saturdays 3:30 pm 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.**

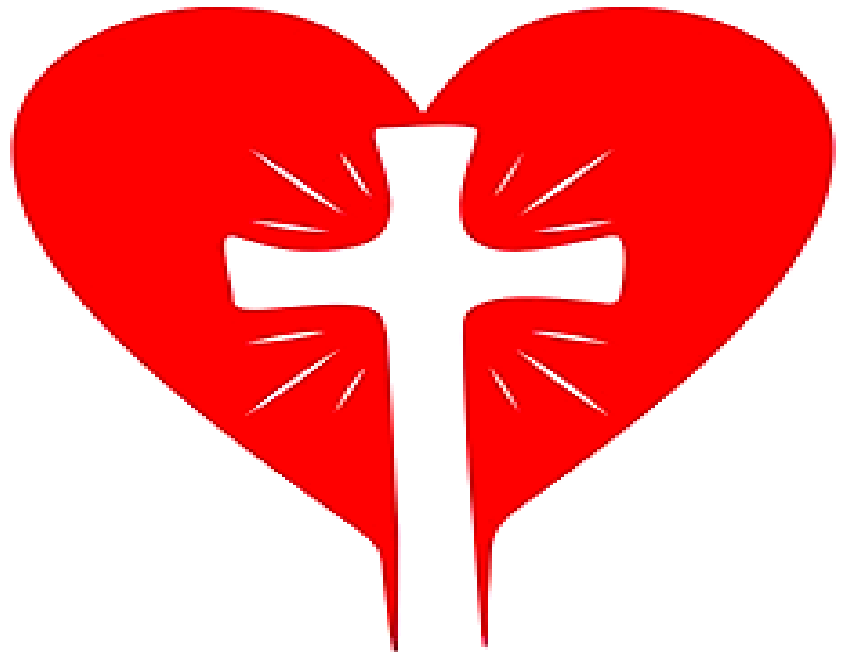
*Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes are required.

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.



Motivations of Love

"When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you.

For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." Luke 14:12-14

This Gospel passage goes to the heart of our motivations in life. Because of our fallen human nature, we can easily do what we do for selfish reasons. We want payment for our labors and acknowledgement for our acts of kindness. We want to get ahead in life and try to elevate ourselves over others. But Jesus makes it clear that our motivation for everything we do must only be the glory of God and the love of others.

The poor, crippled, lame and blind in this passage refer to those who are in need of our love. This certainly will include friends and family. When we encounter those in need, we must offer our love, not because we get something out of it, but because it is the right thing to do. The payment we receive in this case comes directly and exclusively from God. It's not a payment of societal recognition or praise. It's not a payment of material things. It's not a payment that helps us get ahead in life. It's a payment of grace that makes us holy. This is the only motivation we should have in life—a motivation for holiness by glorifying God through our love of Him and others.

Continued on page 5

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ SEPTEMBER 1 - 7

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm **Misa en Español**
 †Manuel Ramirez
 †Aurora Raya

Tu 8:00 am †Catherine Primus

We 8:00 am †Arlene Messerich

Th 8:00 am †Deceased/Living Members of the
 John R. Helsper Family

*Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
 †Brenda Seanger
 †Josh Mollner

Sa 5:00 pm †Bernie Arceneau

*Su 9:00 am For the People

Su 11:30 am **Misa en Español**
 †Mariano Rodriguez
 †Jose Rodriguez

SACRED HEART - Freeport

Tu 10:00 am **SH School Mass**
 Loren Wiechman

We 8:15 am Bernice & Lester Zink

Fr 8:15 am †Arnie Hoeschen

Sa 8:00 am **First Saturday Mass**
 †Rich Boeckermann & Family

Su 8:00 am For the People

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th 8:15 am †Alan Van Drehle Anniversary

Sa 4:00 pm †Joe Rieland

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am †Rosemary "Rosie" Osendorf

Su 10:00 am †Deceased Members of the Roger
 & Mary Ann Engelmeier Family

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am †Vernon Welle

Su 10:00 am †Daniel Schwieters

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †Marilyn Lieser

Sa 4:00 pm †Dorreen Arens

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am †Joyce & †Mary Yarle

Su 8:00 am †Norm Wehlage

***Mass will be livestreamed.**

Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa

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

Immaculate Conception - New Munich

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

St. Mary - Melrose

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

Sacred Heart - Freeport

Fridays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

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

• **Communion in Pyx** If you will be bringing communion to someone and need a host in your pyx, please receive communion from a priest.

• **Sincere Thanks** to you and your whole parish community for welcoming a missionary to speak on the evangelizing work of the church as part of the Missionary Cooperation Plan (MCP). As Catholics, we believe that we are all children of God, one family in Christ, one community and together we journey in faith. We have much to learn and share with each other! The MCP program provides a wonderful and valuable opportunity for our parishioners to hear and learn about a Catholic community of faith in another part of the country or from around the world and gives them an opportunity to directly support our missionary congregations and newly formed or struggling dioceses. We are deeply grateful for your hospitality toward your visiting missionary and for the generosity of the staff, parishioners and visitors of your parish community. May God continue to bless you and your parishes with abundant grace and love. Peace and Blessings now and always,

Elizabeth Brown, Director

Parish News:

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

• Attention All Parishioners Your Assistance Is Crucial

We completed the first phase of the photo directory by obtaining updated photos of our parishioners. We now want to ensure the contact information is correct in the directory. If you did not have your picture taken with the photographer, you will receive a mailing from the office asking you to review and update your contact information. It is very important that everyone who receives the letter responds timely so we can update our parish records. Even if you don't have any changes, we still need a response from you.

• **St. Cloud Novena Booklets** Please return them to the church after you are finished with them. Thank you. The Feast of St. Cloud is Sunday, September 7.

• **Parish Fiscal Year Financial Reports** for July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 are in the kiosk or the back of the church for anyone who wants to view. On the back of the financial report are the parish statistics that are sent to the diocese annually giving the number of Catholics in the parish. If you have any questions, please contact Amy at 320-836-2143.

One In Faith ACC Employment Opportunity...

• **Hiring After Care Assistants** Do you enjoy working with school-age children? Sacred Heart School is hiring part-time Assistants for the After Care Program this fall. Hours would be 3:00 - 5:30 pm. Call the school office at 320-836-2591 for application information.

Parish Office Closure The Parish Offices in Melrose and Freeport will be closed on Monday, September 1 for Labor Day.

Do You Want to Share Your Catholic Faith with Others?

The One in Faith ACC is seeking out individuals who would like to assist with the OCIA program. We are looking for catechists, sponsors, mentors, etc. If you are interested in helping with this program, please contact one of the parish offices or Deacon Ernie Kociemba at kociemba@meltel.net or call 320-248-5124.

NET Retreat Team Housing: We are looking for housing for the NET Team who are hosting a retreat on Saturday, September 20, for our 10th graders. This is a great opportunity to spend some time with these young adults who are on fire about their faith. This year we will have 5 men and 8 women missionaries needing housing on September 19 and September 20. They request that a minimum of 2 students are housed together. They bring their own pillows and sleeping bags. We would like to ask you to bring them to and from Immaculate Conception in New Munich on September 20. The retreat will run from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. If you are interested in hosting or have further questions, please contact Kasia at 320-836-2143.



CHURCH OF ST. MARY

Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
Melrose, MN 56352

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

Total.....	\$5,153.00
Regular Adult Offering	3,490.00
Plate/Loose	934.00
Designated Funds	729.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

08-24	\$25	Jess Roering, Lino Lakes
08-25	\$25	Susan Terres, Melrose
08-26	\$25	Dennis J. Rademacher, Melrose
08-27	\$25	Joe & Vivian Weber, Sauk Centre
08-28	\$25	Perry & Danielle Ellering, Melrose
08-29	\$50	Marvin & Edna Goebel, Albany
08-30	\$25	Jonathan Ruoff, Melrose

**Baptized in Christ...**

- ♥Joy Katye Santos Bailon ♥Tanairy Ramirez Orozco
♥Ada Cecilia Schliep ♥Ayla Lee Schliep

Daily Mass Time Change: Beginning Tuesday, September 2, the daily Mass time at St. Mary's will be 8:00 am Tuesday through Thursday, and 8:30 am on Fridays.

You Are Invited to the 4th Annual Parish Get-Together after Mass on Saturday, September 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Please join us for food, music, entertainment, and fellowship!

The Scriptures This Week

Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo	Weekday	
	1 Thes 4:13-18	Lk 4:16-30
Tu	Weekday	
	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11	Lk 4:31-37
We	Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church	
	(Memorial)	
	Col 1:1-8	Lk 4:38-44
Th	Weekday	
	Col 1:9-14	Lk 5:1-11
Fr	Weekday	
	Col 1:15-20	Lk 5:33-39
Sa	Weekday (BVM)	
	Col 1:21-23	Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday - Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time		
	Wis 9:13-18b Phlm 9-10, 12-17	Lk 14:25-33

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

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

Total.....	\$4,587.14
Regular Adult Offering	3,857.54
Plate	380.00
Votive	79.60
School Support	270.00

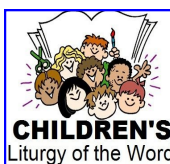
Parish Events

Mo	09/01	10:00 am	Baptism
We	09/03	7:00 pm	Confirmation Class
Fr	09/05	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	09/05	9:00 am	Adoration
Fr	09/05	6:00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Sa	09/06	8:00 am	First Saturday Mass
Sa	09/06	2:00 pm	Herzog/Gerads Wedding

Baptized in Christ... We welcome **Isaiah Daniel Pung**, the son of Joshua & Stefani, to our parish. Isaiah Daniel was baptized on Sunday, August 24.

Welcome to our Parish...

- We welcome Kyle & Emily Hoium, and their children, Dominic, Gabriel, and Alexander, to our parish.
- We welcome Luke & Kasia Van Beck to our parish.



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

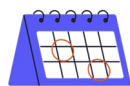
Sponsor a Votive Candle The parish is looking for someone to sponsor the military remembrance candle by the votive stand. There are also other candles available to be sponsored for the upcoming months. If you are interested, please contact the Tri-Parish Office. The suggested donation for a month is \$16.

Quarterly Meeting Sacred Heart Catholic United Financial PVT #101 will be having a quarterly meeting on Sunday, September 14 after the 8:00 am Mass in Freeport. Rolls and coffee will be served. Business meeting will include discussion of details for the Matching Grant Breakfast to be held in October as well as suggestions/ideas for upcoming activities. All members are invited to attend.

**Public Rosary...**

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

- Sundays at 7:30 am in the church in Meire Grove.
- 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.

**Sacred Heart School**

Calendar Raffle Winners!

08/24	\$25	Missy Bueckers - Freeport
08/25	\$25	LeRoy & MaryAnn Blommel - Grey Eagle
08/26	\$25	Keith Sand - New London
08/27	\$25	Herman Massmann - Melrose
08/28	\$25	Lindsay Frieler - Grey Eagle
08/29	\$25	Courtney Fiedler - New Munich
08/30	\$25	Molly Grieb/Joyce Hoeschen - Freeport

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,432.83
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,023.33
Plate	305.00
Building/Maintenance.....	37.50
Votive	67.00

Parish Events

We 09/03 7:00 pm Confirmation Class - FR
Th 09/04 7:00 am Adoration
Sa 09/06 3:30 pm Individual Confessions
Mo 09/08 6:00 pm Private Event
Mo 09/08 7:00 pm Harvest Supper
Committee Mtg.

God's Housekeepers for the month of September: *Diane Boeckers, Linda Feldewerd, Georgine Nathe, Peggy Thelen, Joelle Niebergall and Char Mayers. 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.



Save the Date Sunday, September 28 Annual "Matching Fund Breakfast," Immaculate Conception Church basement, Catholic Order of Foresters Court, St. Leo Court #786 of New Munich.

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$1,312.46
Regular Adult Offering.....	953.46
Plate	359.00

Parish Events

Su 08/31 10:00 am Mass & Parish Festival
Tu 09/02 7:00 am Adoration
We 09/03 7:00 pm Confirmation Class - FR
Fr 09/05 7:30 pm Rosary
Su 09/07 11:00 am Catholic United Financial
Quarterly Meeting

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$760.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	552.00
Plate/Loose	26.00
Maintenance Fund	50.00
Assumption	40.00
Gaza Relief	92.00

Liturgical Ministries**Sunday, September 7 - 10:00 am**

(S) Stella & Jameson Schoenberg
(L) Gary P. Lieser
(U) Roger Meyer & Mark Schoenberg
(EM) (B) Allen Lieser
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood
(Sacristan) Ruth Heinen
(RL) Marilyn Gruber
(CC) Peter Wurtz & Roger Meyer
(HK: August 24 - September 6)
Amy Orbeck, Betty Orbeck, & Kim Orbeck

Parish Leadership Council will meet Tuesday, September 2 at 7:30 pm in the church basement.

Mass Time Change On Sunday, September 14, St. Michael's will have Mass at 8:00 am and St. John's at 10:00 am, because 24 Germans from the city of Garrel's local heritage society will be visiting Meire Grove that day.

Catholic United Financial Breakfast Anyone?

Catholic United Financial will be having their annual matching grant breakfast and bake sale, Sunday, September 7 in Spring Hill from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. Anyone wishing to donate to the bake sale please bring baked goods to the church basement Sunday morning. See you there!

Prayer Requests...

Please call the parish office to be added to this

Banns of Matrimony:

III Makenzie Herzog♥Isaiah Gerads, 9-6 FR

For the Sick: Diane Scherer, Anne Wolke, Ted Hoeschen, Tillie Bueckers, Kathy Elfering, Sandy Welle, Joyce Hauser, Dorothy Schneider, Michelle Russel, Lori Austing

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

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

August 31, Sunday

◆**St. Rose of Lima Fall Festival**, St. Rosa. See pg. 7 of this bulletin for more information.
◆**Crosier Alumni Potluck Picnic** at Ellison Park in Monticello, MN from 2:00 - 5:00 pm. If you attended any of the Crosier schools - join us! Sloppy Joes will be provided. Please bring your beverage and a side dish to share. Bring along family, friends, or other alumni! Questions please contact Pete "Moose" Sherrard at 763-245-8095 or Jim "Knob" Meyer at 320-380-4584.

September 1, Monday (Labor Day)

◆**St. Stephen Parish Festival**, St. Stephen. 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Dinner begins at 11:00 am, Live Music, Games, Fun, Stands, Sales, Food, Beverages, Auctions and Raffles all day.

September 6, Saturday

◆**St. Mary's Parish Get-together** St. Mary's Church, Melrose. See pg. 7 of this bulletin for more information.

◆**St. Mary's Cathedral Block Party** 25 - 8th Ave. S., St. Cloud. Begins with Mass at 4:00 pm in the Cathedral, followed by music, food, beer garden, kids' games, silent auction and Bingo at 5:00 pm. Mason Dixon Line takes the stage from 6:00 - 10:00 pm.

◆**Pork Chop, Sweet Corn, & Trimmings Supper** hosted by Lake Henry Legion Post 612 from 5:00 - 9:00 pm. Free will offering. All are welcome!

September 7, Sunday

◆**Matching Grant Breakfast and Bake Sale**, Spring Hill. Sponsored by Catholic United Financial serving from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm.

◆**St. Augustine Parish Breakfast** Serving from 7:30 am until 12:00 pm at The church of St. Augustine on Wilson Ave SE in St. Cloud. Prices: Adults \$12, Youth ages 5-12 \$7, ages 4 and under eat for free. Sunday Mass is celebrated at 9:00 am.

September 13, Saturday

◆**Relay For Life of Central Minnesota** 40 years of Impact at the Sartell Community Center from 1:00 - 10:00 pm.

◆**Holy Spirit's Fall Family Festival** 2405 Walden Way St. Cloud, MN 56301. Bingo, Brats & Bounce! 4:00 pm starting with Mass. 5:00 - 7:00 pm brats (hotdogs) & sides *free will offering. Beer/wine. 6:30 pm Bingo for all ages. Karaoke, bounce house, train rides, gaga ball and more! All kids activities are free.

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$710.00
Regular Adult Offering	280.00
Plate/Loose	160.00
Votives	24.00
Maintenance Fund	5.00
Assumption	5.00
Gaza Relief	236.00

Liturgical Ministries**Saturday, September 6 - 4:00 pm**

(S) Sophia Kasper & Lydia Kasper
(L) Herman Lensing
(U) James Wehlage & David Welle
(GB) Jason & Angie Barten
(EM) (B) Kris Winter
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood
(HK - September) *Jen Stepan, Amy Stueve, Linda Trisko, & Kay Van Beck

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,554.25
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,015.00
Children	0.25
Plate/Loose	242.00
Votives.....	33.00
Maintenance Fund	85.00
Assumption	20.00
Gaza Relief	159.00

Liturgical Ministries
Sunday, September 7 - 8:00 am

(S) Faith Meyer & Mya Nathe
(L) Rita Meyer
(U) Daryl Zenzen & Chad Funk
(GB) Matt & Joy Silbernack
(EM) Abby Zenzen & Daryl Zenzen
(HK - September) *Char Meyer, Sue Meyer, Geri Meyer, Heidi Meyer, Karen Meyer, & Martha Meyer

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Coros Parroquiales: Los coros parroquiales hispanos están invitando a todas las personas que tienen talento para cantar o tocar algún instrumento a que se registren para formar parte del ministerio de música. Los coros necesitan más integrantes y todos son bienvenidos.

**Orden de iniciación cristiana para adultos:**

se invita a todas las personas que no han recibido ningún sacramento de iniciación (bautismo, confirmación y primera comunión) o personas que deseen convertirse en católicos a que hablen con el diácono Jorge Carrillo o la oficina parroquial para pedir información sobre el programa y comenzar a planear su preparación.

¡Necesitamos servidores! Los invitamos a que se unan a cualquier ministerio parroquial para ofrecer su tiempo y talento al Señor y a su Iglesia. Los ministerios en los que ustedes pueden servir son: ministros extraordinario de la comunión, lectores, sacristanes y monaguillos. Si están interesados hablen con cualquier diácono o llamen a la oficina parroquial para más información.

Mass Time Change On Sunday, September 14, St. Michael's will have Mass at 8:00 am and St. John's at 10:00 am, because 24 Germans from the city of Garrel's local heritage society will be visiting Meire Grove that day.



Election Nomination Finalists The following parishioners have accepted nomination to be on the ballot for the election of a position on the St. John's Finance Council: Ruth Klaphake and Ken Schneider. The election will be held next Sunday, September 7 at the 8:00 am Mass at St. John's in Meire Grove.

**Motivations of Love** Cont'd. from page 1

Think about your motivations in life. Why do you do what you do every day? Clearly we all have certain responsibilities that must be met, such as earning a living, caring for the home and family, strengthening our relationships, etc. But why do you do these things? What is the source of your motivation? Is your motivation based on pure love?

When our love is pure, we are motivated to act in one way or another because we see that it is our holy duty toward God or an act that will benefit another. For example, a loving and holy parent will work hard to earn a living not because they want to get rich so as to indulge in the things of this world, but because they love and care for their family and want to provide for their material needs. Or a friend will seek to be there and listen to another friend not because it is advantageous for them, but because they love their friend and want to provide a listening ear when they need it. True love always looks at the good of the other, looking for the ways they are spiritually poor, crippled, lame and blind so that they can help them in accord with God's will. True love always seeks to fill a void with what is needed at that moment.

The good news for us is that when our motivations are pure and selfless, looking only to glorify God and care for others, God will lavish upon us eternal rewards that begin now. We will grow rich in virtue and rich in the fruits of the Holy Spirit. We will obtain joy, peace, strength, courage, love, goodness and so much more. These good things are the true riches in life and can only be bestowed by God upon a soul whose motivations in life are pure, selfless, sacrificial and merciful.

Reflect, today, upon what motivates you each and every day. Do you think more about yourself when acting or more about God and others? Hopefully you will discover within your motivation a burning desire to serve others and glorify God in everything you do. But where you do see selfishness, know that this motivation can never fulfill you. Humble yourself by turning your attention to the love of God and the needs of others, and make serving them your exclusive mission. Doing so will result in God lavishing upon you more than you could ever imagine.

My merciful Lord, You came to earth to serve, not to be served, and to give Your life to others in an act of the most pure and holy love. I open myself to that gift of Your divine love and pray that, as I receive Your love, I may love You and others in the same selfless way. Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **Beginning of the Year Mailings** were sent out. Please watch for them in your mailbox. If you do not receive them, please reach out to the office.
- **Grades 1-11:** Wednesday, September 10 beginning of the year Mass at 7:00 pm. Families are encouraged to attend with their students. **All students are expected to attend Mass.**
- **Notice of Safe Environment Training** Each year the United States Conference of Bishops in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People require that our Catholic Schools and Faith Formation programs offer training for all children about personal safety. We will be having this training for grades 1-11 on Wednesday, September 10 following the beginning of the year Mass. If a parent chooses not to have their child(ren) take part in this program, a Declination Statement must be signed and returned to the Faith Formation office prior to the date of training. You can find the Declination Statement form on our website under the Faith Formation tab.
- **Grade 10: NET Retreat 2025-2026** 10th graders save the date of Saturday, September 20 from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm for the required NET Retreat. This retreat will be held at Immaculate Conception in New Munich.
- **Grade 11: Next Class:** Wednesday, September 3 at 7:00 pm. Please meet in the Sacred Heart School gym. Enter using the door on the east side of the building by the gym.
- **Reminder:** Meet the Candidate is due Wednesday, September 3.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **First Eucharist/Communion: Opening Day** is Sunday, September 7 from 10:00-11:15 am (between the Sunday morning Masses). We ask that all students attend with one parent or guardian. We'll give you lots of information about the year to come, and then we'll have our first class together (and we'll have cookies too!). **Note:** This gathering is for all families with a child who is receiving First Communion this year, regardless of the age of the child.
- **Grades 1-10: Opening night of Faith Formation!** Wednesday, September 10 6:00 - 7:00 pm or 7:15 - 8:15 pm (please choose whichever time works best for your family). Blessing of families, Kahoot quizzes, and prizes! Calendars for the year! Ice cream sundaes! We ask that all students attend with at least 1 parent/guardian. See you there! (PS: come early or stay late to play some bean bags!) **Note:** First Communion students do **NOT** need to attend this evening.
- **10th and 11th graders - Save the Date!** The Diocese of St. Cloud requires that all Confirmation candidates attend a retreat before celebrating the Sacrament Confirmation (they may attend in their 10th or 11th grade year). Our One in Faith ACC is offering a **NET retreat on Saturday, September 20 11:00 am - 5:00 pm.** Please plan on attending, unless you have a different Diocesan retreat (e.g., a 2-day Castaway or 3-day TEC retreat) in mind!

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

Do You Have Questions About the Catholic Faith?



Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Have you been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic? The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is the Catholic Church's way of welcoming new members. It can also be the path to prepare for First Eucharist and/or Confirmation for baptized Catholics. OCIA is much more than a program. It is a learning and loving process in which conversion of the heart brings one to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact one of the parish offices or Deacon Ernie Kociemba at kociemba@meltel.net or call 320-248-5124 by Saturday, September 20.

Mark Your Calendar Sacred Heart Catholic United Financial #101 Matching Grant Breakfast will be held on Sunday, October 12 in Freeport.

Pilgrims of Hope Annual Fall Conference for Catholic Women

The annual Fall Conference of the St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will be held Saturday, September 20, at the Church of St. Benedict, 212 1st Street SW, Avon, MN from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm. Registration of \$20 payable to St. Cloud DCCW due by September 10 and mail to Sue Burg, 39006 Co. Road #151, Avon, MN 56310; \$25 after 9/10 or at the door. Any questions contact Linda Borgerding at 320-293-1839.

Are You Homeschooling Your Children? We would like to invite you to the St. Cloud and surrounding area Home Educated Youth Catholic Group. We will be having get togethers and activities throughout the school year and would love to see you there. For more information please contact Lisa Newhouse at 763-242-0346 or lisa.newhouse89@gmail.com or join our Facebook group HEY Catholic Small Group.



Low Gluten Hosts are available for individuals that have a gluten intolerance. Please note, these hosts still contain gluten, less than 0.001% gluten, and are not completely gluten free. If you would like to have more information about the low gluten hosts, please contact the Parish Office in Freeport. When you are planning to have a low gluten host for Mass, it will be necessary to have the host within a pyx (the parish can provide a pyx) and placed upon the altar for consecration. You will need to let Father know that you are present prior to Mass, and that you will be in his Communion line.

The Stones of Corinth: Looking for Hope in the Ruins

The archaeological remains in ancient Corinth give us crisp insight into the issues facing the community that Paul founded there. A list of their problems looks a lot like ours today: division, socio-economic tension, and social upheaval. Where, in such times, can we look for hope? In this presentation we will utilize what we know about the ancient city to help bring Paul's letter alive for us today. September 5, presentation from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Emmaus Hall, Saint John's University, Collegeville. Free event. Synchronous. Registration is required: www.theologyday.com, 320-363-3560 or theologyday@csbsju.edu.

Marriage & Natural Family Planning:

A Divine Design! Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a genuine and dependable way to plan your family. NFP cooperates with God's design for married love. It is effective, wholesome and healthy. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in Sauk Centre on Thursday, September 18 & October 16 at 6:30 pm at St. Paul's Church or CentraCare Health – Sauk Centre Hospital. For more information, or to register, contact Jill and Isaac Uphus at uphus.nfp@gmail.com or (320) 290-8751. The class is approximately 1½ to 2 hours long. *Note: Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP Instruction and follow-up!



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Amy Van Beck
SHS BOARD:

Myranda Beuning, Bethanie Ettle,
 Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle,
 Lindsay Frieler, and Chris Klaphake

www.shsfreeport.org School Phone: 320-836-2591
 Toddler Center Phone: 320-836-2585

♥**Thank You** to all the parents and students that made it to open house! It was great to see you and we are excited to welcome all the students back in the classroom on Tuesday, September 2.

♥**School is Starting Back Up** on Tuesday, September 2 so please be aware that buses will be coming and going, children will be walking to and from school, playing in the playgrounds, etc. Please use caution when you are near the SHS campus.

♥**We are Looking for some Part-Time Help** in our Infant/Toddler Center. Please contact the school office at 320-836-2591 if you are interested.

♥**SAVE THE DATE** Freeport Fall Fest is Saturday, September 27! SHS will have their 1K race and back by popular demand - Our Famous Rummage Sale Soup! We will be selling the delicious soup at Fall Fest and will also be taking pre-orders. Stay tuned for details.



PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Autumn Nelson
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Briana Worms
SMS BOARD:

Jenn Lubarski, Cindy Hemmesch,
 Jake Primus, Pat Christenson,
 Lindsey Gruber, and Greta Rademacher

Phone: 320-256-4257
 www.smsmelrosemn.org

♦**Welcome Back!** The first day of school for all students in preschool - 6th grade will be Tuesday, September 2.

♦**The First School Mass** will be on Friday, September 5, at 8:30 am. All are welcome!

♦**We are Looking for a Volunteer** to help serve lunch on Wednesdays from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm. If you are interested, please contact the office or Autumn at 320-256-4257 or anelson@smsmn.org.

♦**Thank You to Arvig** for their gift of \$1,103 from their School Partnership Program. We have been given \$30,155 from the onset of this program. If you're an Arvig internet customer, sign up for the School Partnership Program, and Arvig will donate \$1 each month to the school of your choice at no additional cost to you. If you are currently participating in this program, you do not need to sign up again. <https://www.arvig.net/>



PASTOR: Fr. Mitchell Bechtold
PRINCIPAL: Mary Miller
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Kristen Pattinson
SJSA BOARD:

Amber Bueckers, Kathy Gilk, Adam Kalthoff, Kate Kelzer, Heidi Meyer, Trista Roelike, and Jenny Wilson

Phone: 320-987-3133
 www.sjsaschool.org

♦**Welcome Back** to a new school year!

♦First Day of School for grades K-6 is Tuesday, September 2.

♦First day of Preschool is Wednesday, September 3.

♦**The First School Mass** is Thursday, September 4 at 8:00 am at St. Andrew's Church in Greenwald.

♦**SJSA Staff** for the 2025-2026 School Year: **Preschool Teacher** Mrs. Hope Klein, **Assistant Teacher** Mrs. Linnea Ingold, **Volunteer** Linda Trisko, **Kindergarten Teacher** Mrs. Hope Klein, **First and Second Grade Teacher** Ms. GeorgieAnne Slatinski, **Volunteer** Joyce Schoenberg, **Third and Fourth Grade Teacher** Ms. Katelyn Groetsch, **Foster Grandparent** Jane Welle, **Fifth and Sixth Grade Teacher**, Mr. Mark Kociemba, **Music** Donny Brang, **School Secretary** Kristen Pattinson, **Principal** Mary Miller, **School Custodians** Isaiah Gilk and Braden Zimmer.

♦**Congratulations** to the SJSA School Board Officers for 2025-2026: **President:** Adam Kalthoff, **Vice President:** Kathy Gilk, **Secretary:** Kate Kelzer, **Finance Committee:** Trista Roelike, Adam Kalthoff, Mary Miller, Brenda Nathe, and Fr. Mitchell, **Public Relations Committee:** Kathy Gilk and Jenny Wilson, **Personnel Committee:** Jenny Wilson, Amber Bueckers, and Kathy Gilk, **Environmental/Recycling Committee:** Amber Bueckers, **Parish Council Reps:** Heidi Meyer St. John's, Kathy Gilk St. Andrew's, Adam Kalthoff St. Michael's.

♦**Barley Days Update** SJSA made \$2,174.63 between the Kids Corner, Mystery Box, Scratch Off, and Cake Walk. Thank you to everyone who supported these stands.

♦**SJSA Harry's Pizza sale** is going on now through September 17. You can place your order with an SJSA family or call the school at 320-987-3133. Pizza pick up is Saturday, September 17 from 9:00-10:00 am in the school basement. Thank you!

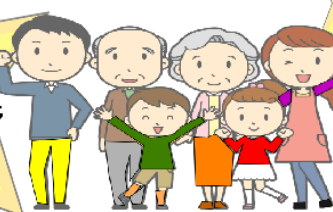


Saturday, September 6th, 2025
 6:00 to 8:00pm at St. Mary's Church

Come for food, music, entertainment and fellowship!

Brats, hot dogs, sauerkraut, Spanish street corn, pickles, chips. Lemonade stand provided by St. Mary's School.

DOOR PRIZES at 7:00 pm!!!
 Need not be present to win.



Children's Games

St. Rose Fall Festival

Sunday, August 31st, 2025

Fun for the Entire Day!

* Food * Games * Bingo * Dice *
 * Cakewalk * Beer Garden * Horse Races *
 \$20,000 Cash Raffle for Church Maintenance
 Unlimited kids' inflatable wristband for \$5

10:00 am Outdoor Polka Mass

Music by: LaVerne and the Starlites
 ~Sponsored by Catholic United Financial

11:00 am Children, Teen & Adult Games, and Food Stands Open

12:30 pm Bean Bag Tournament Sign-Up

\$10 per participant, 75% payout

2:00 pm Quilt Auction

Beautiful Homemade Quilts!!
 To view the quilts, you can visit www.sacredheartfreeport.org or the TriParish Facebook page

4:00 pm Music by The Sunday Stars

(Featuring Donny Brang, Mike Noonan, and Jay Skrukud)

7:00 pm Grand Raffle & Cash Raffle Drawing

Over \$13,000 in cash/gifts to be awarded

St. Rose of Lima Parish - St. Rosa, MN

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