



ONE IN FAITH Area Catholic Community of

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

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 2025

Fr. Daniel Walz, Pastor
Fr. Mitchell Bechtold, Pastor
Fr. Oswaldo Roche, Parochial Vicar

**Melrose - Spring Hill -
Greenwald - Meire Grove Office:**

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Office Phone: 320-256-4207

Fr. Mitchell Bechtold: 320-256-9512

mlbechtold@outlook.com

Fr. Oswaldo Roche: 320-256-9513

frosvaldo@stmarysofmelrose.com

Office Email: pam@stmarysofmelrose.com

Faith Formation: faithformation@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

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.



"Hating" So As To Love

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, *"If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple."* Luke 14:25-26

Why would Jesus exhort the "great crowds" to hate their families? In fact, Jesus went even further than that. He said they must also hate their own lives. If they do not, then they cannot be His disciples. One thing that this shocking teaching did was to shake people out of their lukewarm faith. Sometimes we think of Jesus only as a kind and gentle soul Who always brightens people's days. We see images painted of the smiling Jesus Who always made people feel welcomed and loved. And though these images have truth, it is also true that one way He brightened their days was by challenging them to the core of their being to convert. And that is what Jesus does today in our Gospel.

To hate your father, mother, children, siblings and even your very self is obviously not a reference to the sin of hate that flows from anger. In this case, the word "hate" refers to the best way to love others and to love even your own self. To begin, let's look at the conclusion. Jesus said that this form of hate is a requirement of being His disciple. This is the key. Unless we are first and foremost a disciple of Christ, we cannot love others and we will not even love ourselves in the proper way. "Hate" in this context refers to selfish attachments. This means that people and things can easily get in the way of our love of God. When they do, we must see them as an obstacle to both the love of God, as well as to the authentic love of others and even ourselves. For example, if a family member were to demand in some way that you love them more than you love God, then this must be rejected with passion. This could be referred to as holy hatred of the temptation, not the person. Say a spouse criticizes you for

Continued on page 5

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ SEPTEMBER 8 - 14

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo	6:30 pm	Misa en Español †Belester Vazquez Sobreya
Tu	8:00 am	†Stacy Meyer
We	8:00 am	†Betty Schaefer
Th	8:00 am	†Rudy & †Helen Grahek
*Fr	8:30 am	SM School Mass †Dick, †Rose, & †Dale Van Beck
Sa	5:00 pm	†Dennis & †Crescentia Kraemer
*Su	9:00 am	†Richard Hellermann †Elmer Hellermann
Su	11:30 am	Misa en Español †Odaliz Orozco Acevedo

SACRED HEART - Freeport

We	8:15 am	Leo, Adalyn, & Maria Wiechman
We	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Mass Faith Formation Families
Fr	8:15 am	†Deceased Members of the Zwack Family
Su	8:00 am	†Bernie Laing Anniversary

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th	8:15 am	†Jeff Rieland
Sa	4:00 pm	†Joe Spanier
Tu	8:15 am	ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa †Deceased/Living Members of Al & Helen Blommel Family
Su	10:00 am	For the People
Tu	8:00 am	ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill †Joseph "Joe" Seifermann
Su	10:00 am	For the People
Th	8:00 am	ST. ANDREW - Greenwald SJSA School Mass †Darlene Frieler
Sa	4:00 pm	†Lloyd Lucken
We	8:00 am	ST. JOHN - Meire Grove Poor Souls Society
Su	8:00 am	†Raphael & †Dolores Imdieke

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



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

ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

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

•**Annual Financial Reports** are in the kiosks or the backs of the churches for anyone who wants to view them.

Parish News:

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

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

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.

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.



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

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.

**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.

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.



One in Faith ACC News Continued on page 6

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

*Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
Melrose, MN 56352*

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

Total.....	\$11,674.13
Regular Adult Offering	9,306.13
Plate/Loose	873.00
Designated Funds	1,495.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

08-31	\$25	Joan Ellering, Melrose
09-01	\$50	Judy Roelike, Sauk Centre
09-02	\$25	Jason & Candice Hellermann, Melrose
09-03	\$25	Maria Spychala, Cold Spring
09-04	\$25	Priscilla Reeve, North St. Paul
09-05	\$25	Marson & Gwen Michels, Melrose
09-06	\$25	Elmer & Virginia Meyer, Melrose

**Baptized in Christ...**

♥Gianna Ivy Becerra ♥Mauricio Ilan Juarez Valencia

Daily Mass Time Change The daily Mass time at St. Mary's is now 8:00 am Tuesday through Thursday, and 8:30 am on Fridays.

All Are Welcome! St. Mary's Spirituality Group meets every Tuesday at 10:00 am at the St. Mary's parish conference room. Prayer, Book Study, Discussion! Come when it works for you!



Fellowship There will be refreshments served after all Masses this next weekend, September 13-14 at St. Mary's. Please plan to stay and enjoy each other's company.

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!**

08/31	\$25	Joan Boeckermann - Albany
09/01	\$25	Chris Hoppe - Freeport
09/02	\$25	Madison Christenson - Fargo, ND
09/03	\$25	Gwen Shaw - Melrose
09/04	\$25	Julie Gerads - Melrose
09/05	\$25	Heath Burg - Richmond
09/06	\$25	Karen Gerads - Albany

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

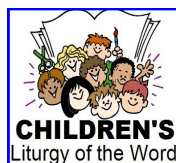
◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆ **Weekly Offerings** ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$3,675.64
Regular Adult Offering	3,214.54
Plate	436.10
Building/Maintenance	25.00

Parish Events

We	09/10	7:00 pm	Faith Formation Mass - All Grades
Fr	09/12	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	09/12	9:00 am	Adoration
Sa	09/13	11:30 am	Baptism
Su	09/14	9:00 am	Catholic United Financial Quarterly Mtg.
Su	09/14	9:00 am	Baptism

Baptized in Christ... We welcome **Reid Ann Rademacher**, the daughter of Kyle & Brooke, to our parish. Reid Ann was baptized on Monday, September 1.



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.

Embroiderers Needed If you enjoy embroidering or appliquéing, the festival quilting group would like assistance with dish towels. You can stop at the Tri-Parish Office entryway and pick up a packet to complete and return. The packets will have 7 dish towels and applique patterns. Please sign the towels out and return to the parish office when complete. Thank you!

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.

**The Scriptures This Week****Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I**

Mo	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast) Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30 Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Tu	Saint Peter Claver, Priest (Memorial) Col 2:6-15 Lk 6:12-19
We	Weekday Col 3:1-11 Lk 6:20-26
Th	Weekday Col 3:12-17 Lk 6:27-38
Fr	Weekday (The Most Holy Name of Mary) 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14 Lk 6:39-42
Sa	Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Memorial) 1 Tm 1:15-17 Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Feast) Nm 21:4b-9 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,214.83
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,889.33
Plate	263.00
Building/Maintenance.....	62.50

Parish Events

Mo 09/08 6:00 pm Private Event
Mo 09/08 7:00 pm Harvest Supper
Committee Mtg.
Tu 09/09 6:30 pm Catholic Order of
Foresters Mtg.
We 09/10 7:00 pm Faith Formation Mass -
All Grades - FR
Sa 09/13 3:30 pm Individual Confessions
Su 09/14 1:00 pm Private Event

Baptized in Christ... We welcome **Lorraine Monica Mayers**, the daughter of Eric & Callista Mayers, to our parish. Lorraine Monica was baptized on Saturday, August 30.

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.



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.

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,896.72
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,561.46
Plate	1,335.26

Parish Events

Su 09/07 11:00 am Catholic United Financial
Quarterly Meeting
We 09/10 7:00 pm Faith Formation Mass -
All Grades - FR
Fr 09/12 7:30 pm Rosary

Welcome to our Parish... We welcome Grant Revermann to our parish.

Raffle Winners A list of raffle winners can be found on the Tri-Parish website and Facebook page, or by contacting the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport for a copy.

Thank You from the St. Rose Festival Committee to everyone who made our festival a great success; without all of your help, the Festival would not be possible. Mark your calendars for next year's festival September 6, 2026. *Devin & Christine Middendorf, Jessica & Michael Lehner, and Devin & Elisha Kemper.*

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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


◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$781.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	526.00
Children	12.00
Plate/Loose	68.00
Maintenance Fund	100.00
Gaza Relief	75.00

Liturgical Ministries**Sunday, September 14 - 8:00 am**

(S) Kenny Niehoff & Noah Terres
(L) Darlene Schoenberg
(U) Rick Terres & Robert Van Drehle
(EM) (B) Gary P. Lieser
(EM) (C) Karen Rademacher
Darlene Schoenberg
(Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
(RL) Kathy Welle
(CC) Amy Orbeck & Marvin Rademacher
(HK: September 7-20) Mary Ann Orbeck,
Cheri Poepping, & Melissa Poepping

CUF Matching Grant Breakfast

Catholic United Financial will be having their annual matching grant breakfast and bake sale, today Sunday, September 7 in Spring Hill from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm.  See you there!

Rosary Rally Please join us at 10:00 am on Saturday, September 13, at St. Michael's Church, for a rosary rally. All are welcome!

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. Please see the "Happenings Around the Area" section on pg 7 for more information.

Thank You to Peter Welle at PAK Electric for fixing the light in the kitchen free of charge. We appreciate his donation!

St. Rose of Lima Parish 2025 Building Fund Cash Raffle Drawing Winners



\$20,000 Chris Engelmeyer, Melrose
\$3,000 Jeremy Freudenrich, Grey Eagle
\$2,000 Dale & Lisa Middendorf, Sauk Centre
\$1,000 Joe Hennen, Freeport
\$500 Tom Schneider, Sauk Centre
\$500 Lorrie Hellmann, Holdingford
\$500 Adam & Jaclyn Wiechmann, Freeport
\$500 Dustin Wiechmann, Burtrum
\$500 Michael Lehner, Freeport
\$500 Dave Rahn, Melrose
\$500 Rick & Irene Gruber, Melrose
\$500 Dale Dirkes, Avon
\$500 Randy & Amanda Hartung, Freeport
\$500 St. Rose of Lima Building Fund
\$500 Kris & Pam Pundsack, Freeport
\$100 Lisa Sprenger, Long Prairie
\$100 Dick Austing, Freeport
\$100 Matt Beutz, Freeport
\$100 Jerry & Janet Butkowski, Freeport
\$100 Erma Klein, Fort White, Florida

Congratulations to all the Winners!

Prayer Requests...

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

Banns of Matrimony:

I Tara Christian♥Dustin Rademacher, 9-27 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



One In Faith ACC Communication

How Do We Best Serve the Church's Mission Today?

By: Brenda Kresky, Director of Pastoral Planning, Diocese of St. Cloud

One of the most common concerns I hear is: “We have too many buildings.” This speaks directly to the heart of stewardship, mission and planning. The real question behind the statement is: How do we best serve the Church’s mission today? Some have also said, “It’s just a building — the people are the Church.” While true, our buildings are sacred spaces where baptisms, weddings, funerals and sacraments have taken place. These spaces hold our family and cultural history, and their significance should not be dismissed lightly.

Yet, as stewards, we must ask: Are our buildings helping or hindering the mission? This requires both pastoral sensitivity and practical wisdom. Listening to people’s feelings matters but so does helping the community see that consolidating or repurposing space is not a loss — it’s a way to strengthen mission and shift resources from maintenance to ministry.

Stewardship and pastoral planning are more than administrative tasks — they are spiritual practices rooted in prayer and discernment; they are interwoven dimensions of pastoral life. They guide how we respond to God’s call in a particular time and place. Stewardship is about recognizing our gifts, taking co-responsibility and joyfully living our faith. When we see ourselves as stewards — not consumers—we engage more deeply in the mission of the Church. Stewardship provides that spiritual and practical foundation that makes pastoral planning fruitful. Pastoral planning helps parishes assess changing realities and make faithful decisions. It asks not, “How do we keep doing what we’ve always done?” but “What is God asking of us now at this moment in history?” This process demands honest dialogue, spiritual vision and community involvement. Done well, it leads to vibrant, mission-focused communities.

We face real challenges: declining Catholic population, fewer priests, aging facilities and shifting demographics. This moment calls for intentional planning — not to simply survive, but to renew. It may be helpful to reframe the conversation: Stewardship asks: What buildings can we care for with excellence? Pastoral planning asks: What spaces do we need to carry out our mission today and tomorrow?

By integrating both, we move to a mindset of faithful possibility. As our diocese navigates uncertainty and change, the integration of stewardship and pastoral planning is more critical than ever. These practices ensure that the Church remains faithful to its traditions but responsive to the needs of today. They call forth the gifts of all the baptized and invite every Catholic to take part in shaping the future. Stewardship and pastoral planning are not quick fixes, but long-term commitments. They require vision, courage, and hope. Guided by the Holy Spirit and rooted in Christ, our communities can face the future with confidence – knowing that we are building not only sustainable parishes but also a more vibrant, missionary Church.

Please do everything you can to keep yourself informed. We encourage you to visit the diocesan website at <https://stcdio.org/all-things-new/> where you can find detailed information about the current reality, ACC information, and many resources.



CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,912.00
Regular Adult Offering	935.00
EFT	800.00
Plate/Loose	127.00
Votives	20.00
Gaza Relief	30.00

Liturgical Ministries**Saturday, September 13 - 4:00 pm**

(S) Aubrey Stepan & Emily Stepan
(L) Isaiah Gilk
(U) Dale Winter & Ron Winter
(GB) Clarine Beier & Mary Opatrny
(EM) (B) Mike Barten
(EM) (C) Clarine Beier & Herman Lensing
(HK - September) *Jen Stepan, Amy Stueve, Linda Trisko, & Kay Van Beck

Council Meetings St. Andrew's Finance & Leadership Councils will meet in the SJSA School basement on Tuesday, September 9, at 7:00 pm. All 10 members will meet at 7:00 pm. At this meeting, we will discuss merging the two groups into one Finance Council.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$2,030.25
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,755.00
Children	0.25
Plate/Loose	129.00
Votives.....	61.00
Gaza Relief	85.00

Liturgical Ministries**Sunday, September 14 - 10:00 am**

(S) Morgan Funk & Paige Funk
(L) Karen Meyer
(U) Gene Imdieke & Herb Imdieke
(GB) Mike & Julie Wehlage
(EM) Nick Kelzer, Jim Leukam,
Char Meyer & Dan Meyer
(HK - September) *Char Meyer, Sue Meyer, Geri Meyer, Heidi Meyer, Karen Meyer, & Martha Meyer

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. Please see the "Happenings Around the Area" section on pg 7 for more information.

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Bodas en 2026: Se le invita a todas las parejas que están planeando recibir el sacramento del matrimonio el próximo año en nuestra parroquia a que pasen a la oficina parroquial a agendar su fecha. Es importante comenzar su preparación por lo menos 6 meses antes de la fecha planeada ya que a veces el proceso puede prolongarse más de lo planeado.

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.

**"Hating" So As To Love** Cont'd. from page 1

attending Mass and tries to stop you from doing so. If you listen to them, then you are placing them before God. Or say someone hurts you and you choose to forgive them, only to have a family member challenge you and try to stir up anger in you toward that person. If you listen to them, then you are not listening to God. In these cases, we must "hate" in the sense that we reject the temptation.

What about yourself? How do you hate yourself? This is a reference to the many ways that our disordered appetites are drawn to sin. If we indulge in the disordered desires, or even worse, if we treat those disordered desires as normal and good for us, then we have chosen the disordered desire over God. In that case, we must learn to hate and reject the selfish and disordered desire, choosing God and His will alone.

When we are able to choose the love of God first and foremost in our lives, rejecting the temptations that come through others and even the temptations within our disordered desires, then, and only then, are we in a position to love others and ourselves, in the right way. Jesus obviously wants us to love others and ourselves. But this is only possible when our love is pure and holy and flows from the love of God. Any other form of "love" is not love at all. It is a selfish attachment that hinders our true mission as lovers of God and instruments of that love to others.

Reflect, today, upon the passion that you must have to reject all forms of sin. This includes sin that tempts you through the mediation of your family and friends. It also includes every form of temptation that arises within you on account of your disordered human nature. This holy hatred is an act of love in that it seeks to eliminate everything that keeps you from true love. Choose, today, to be a faithful disciple of Jesus and commit yourself to reject all that seeks to interfere with this choice. Doing so will not only increase your love for God, it will also increase your love for others, and even your love for your own soul.

My passionate Lord, You exhorted the crowds to reject every form of temptation that interfered with their love of You. Please fill my soul with a holy hatred for sin and all temptation so that I can reject them with passion. May I love You above all things and from that love, love others and even my own soul with Your Sacred Heart. Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **Faith Formation Registration** If you still need to register your child (ren), please call the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport at 320-836-2143 or drop off your registration packet at the Tri-Parish 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.** Reminder: A parent meeting will be held after Mass in the church. At least one parent from each family is asked to attend.
- **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 1-10 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. **All students must attend class, even if they are not participating in Safe Environment training.**
- **Grades 1-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, September 17 at 6:00 pm. All grade 1-6 classes will meet in their designated classroom in the Tri-Parish office. Please follow room signs.
- **Grades 7-10: Next Class:** Wednesday, September 17 at 7:00 pm.
 - **Grade 7:** Tri-Parish Office First Level Living Room
 - **Grade 8:** Sacred Heart School Art Room
 - **Grade 9:** Sacred Heart School Auditorium
 - **Grade 10:** Sacred Heart Church Basement
- **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 24 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.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com


- **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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Join us for

Mass in the Haybarn

To celebrate the start of the new school year!



Sunday, September 14th
 Holy Mass at 5:00PM
 Meal and yard games to follow, including kickball!!

Youth in grades 6-12 and their families are invited!!

Hellermann Acres
 31969 County Road 175,
 Melrose, MN 56352

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

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!



Finding Peace in Christ A Catholic Virtual Retreat for Stress and Anxiety

You weren't created to live in stress, burnout, or spiritual exhaustion. Join us for a 4-week virtual retreat to reclaim peace, rewire your mindset and realign your soul with God's truth. Spirit-led journey grounded in Catholic theology, Scripture, and the latest findings in neuroscience. You'll receive guidance, insight and tools from Catholic therapist and seasoned retreat leader Jim Otremba, who has helped thousands navigate anxiety and stress with faith-filled confidence. Cost: \$47/person. Limit: 100 participants. Retreat Schedule (Live on Zoom) Each Sunday 7:00 - 8:00 pm. September 28, October 5, 12, and 19. Each session includes 45 minutes of teaching and 15 minutes of live Q&A with Jim. To register please visit studio.org/event/finding-peace-in-christ-a-catholic-virtual-retreat-for-stress-and-anxiety

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.

- **Pilgrims of Hope Women's Silent Retreat** - September 12-14 (Weekend)
- **Pilgrims of Hope Women's Silent Retreat** - September 16-18 (Midweek)
- **Pilgrims of Hope Men's Silent Retreat** - September 26-28 (Weekend)
- **Serenity (12-Step)** "A Pilgrimage Through the Doors of Hope" Men & Women Retreat - October 3-5 (Weekend)



Is the Light of Christ in You? Are you looking for that light? How can you bring the light of Christ to someone else if you don't have it within yourself? **CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA** is sponsored by the St. Cloud Diocese and designed for adults, the next weekend is scheduled for September 19-21, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. Cost of the weekend is \$70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.

Voices of Hope - Bishop's Annual Appeal 2025: Thank you so much to those of you who have already supported diocesan ministries in 2025 through the Appeal. As of Monday, August 25, the Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2025 has raised gifts and pledges of \$1,180,155 toward our goal of \$1,500,000 (78.68%). This was made possible through the generous donations of 5,799 people across the 16 counties of our diocese. Please pray for the success of the Bishop's Annual Appeal and its ongoing support of diocesan ministries. To support these ministries, visit www.stedio.org/annualappeal.

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



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



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 all students, staff and administration at SHS! We are so excited to start our 25/26 School year!!

♥ **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.

♥ **Thank You to Freeport State Bank** for putting on another very successful FSB Golf Outing! It helped raise \$7,500 for Sacred Heart School. We are so grateful for this fundraiser and the community support!

♥ **Thank You to Magnifi** for treating the teachers and staff to breakfast and tumblers for our back to school workshops last week!

♥ **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.

♥ **Pick up a registration form** at the school or view our Facebook page to print off a 1K form. We will also have race day registration!

♦ **The Next School Board Meeting** is on Wednesday, September 17, at 6:30 pm in the school lounge.

♦ **Personal Safety Training** Each year, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops requires that our Catholic schools offer training for all children and youth about personal safety. In addition, each adult member who works or volunteers in the school also completes a Safe Environment training and has a background check done.

♦ **Our Annual Prayer-a-Thon/Marathon** event will be held on Friday, October 3. The pledges raised by our students will help with everyday operating costs. The prayer requests collected are prayed throughout the year in the classrooms. Our goal is to raise \$23,000. Please watch for envelopes at Mass starting on September 13 & 14.

♦ **SJSA Students will Participate** in a field trip to Pioneer Days in Albany on Thursday, September 11.

♦ **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!

♦ **Thank you to Freeport State Bank** for their support of our area Catholic Schools. SJSA received a check for \$7,500 from proceeds of the Freeport State Bank Golf Tournament. Thank you to everyone who supported this fun event!

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

September 7, Sunday

♦ **Matching Grant Breakfast**, Spring Hill. Serving from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the St. Michael church basement. Sponsored by Catholic United Financial.

♦ **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 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.

September 14, Sunday

♦ **Visitors from Germany**, Meire Grove. The city of Garrel's *Heimatverein* (local heritage club) is doing a 24-person, 14-day tour of the Midwest, visiting areas where their emigrants settled. One stop is Stearns County because the Melrose Kemper family emigrated from Garrel, and there are Deters family ties between Garrel and Meire Grove. The Germans would love to visit with anyone who wants to come for all or part of the day, especially descendants of the two families. 9:30 am - Bus arrives. 10:00 am - Mass. 11:00 am - Greenwald Pub Catered meal (\$14) in the church basement. 1:00 pm - Meire Grove Band Concert in the City Hall. 2:00 pm - Cemetery visit and bus tour to see the Deters, Kemper, and other farms. 5:00 pm - Catered supper and local history slideshow in the City Hall, with more visiting until the Germans bus back to Mpls.

September 14, Sunday Cont'd.

♦ **Breakfast at St. John the Baptist Parish Hall** in Swanville. Sponsored by Grey Eagle/Swanville Knights of Columbus. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Freewill donation. All proceeds will go to help young adults attend SEEK 2026 in Columbus, Ohio.

September 18, Thursday

♦ **Freeport Senior Citizens meeting** at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

September 21, Sunday

♦ **St. Donatus Catholic Church of Brooten's Annual Turkey & Ham Dinner** at the Padua Pub Reception Hall in Padua. Serving from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. Take outs will also be available.

♦ **All You Care to Eat Breakfast** at St. Anthony Parish Center in St. Cloud. Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Adults \$12. Grades 7-12 \$6. PreK-6 Free.

September 23, Tuesday

♦ **American Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Melrose American Legion from 12:30 - 6:30 pm. Please call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Melrose to schedule an appointment.

♦ **Night of Live Music** at New Munich City Hall from 6:30 - 8:30 pm to enjoy the music of the Jerry and Joyce Band. This is sponsored by the New Munich Lions and the Catholic United Financial Council #42. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

♦ **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/9-23-25/.

 <p>KRAEMER Heating & A/C LLC "We're Family, Not A Franchise"</p>	<p>"Services adaptable to your needs"</p> <p>WealthCare Inc. Bookkeeping • Payroll • Tax Advisory • Insurance www.wealthcare-inc.com</p> <p>Eden Valley Cold Spring Melrose 101 Stearns Ave. E 210 Main Street 306 E Main St. Eden Valley, MN 55229 Cold Spring, MN 56220 Melrose, MN 56352 (320) 455-7079 (320) 465-7079 (320) 256-7079</p>	 <p>PATTON & SCHAD FUNERAL & CREATION SERVICES Honoring Life's Memories 256-4249 Linda Holm, owner/operator</p>	<p>Paul Kollmann Monument (320) 363-4571 25% off per 1 transaction Top Quality Products / Please contact me for free Consultations Competitive & transparent pricing paulkollmann.com</p>	 <p>FREEPORT STATE BANK Freeport • Melrose • Greenwald www.freeportstatebank.com</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Freeport</td> <td>836-2126</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Melrose</td> <td>256-7208</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenwald</td> <td>987-2265</td> </tr> </table>	Freeport	836-2126	Melrose	256-7208	Greenwald	987-2265
Freeport	836-2126									
Melrose	256-7208									
Greenwald	987-2265									
<p>ST. ROSA LUMBER INC. ARNZEN CONSTRUCTION, INC. AGRICULTURE • COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL Residential - Commerical - Agricultural 320-836-2284 29033 Co. Rd. 17, Freeport</p>	<p>Albany Mutual TELEPHONE Internet ALBANY FIBER COMMUNICATIONS Managed WiFi 320.845.2101 AFCComm.net We Connect YOU to the World!</p>	 <p>Creskide WOODWORKS LLC CABINETS • TRIM • FURNITURE</p>	<p>New Munich Mutual Insurance Co. 512 Main St. Suite 2 Sauk Centre, MN 56378 320-351-3300 Manager: Darcy Pfeffer</p>	<p>Building Relationships Since 1958 BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value. KRAEMER LUMBER CO., INC.</p>						
 <p>COFFEE • CAFE • GIFTS TRUE NORTH Marketplace</p>	<p>Freeport Lions Club BAR BINGO / MEAT RAFFLE Saturdays November - March Freeport MN Lions Club</p>	<p>BILL KEMPER EXCAVATING BASEMENTS • WATER LINES • SEPTIC SYSTEMS • EXCAVATING • PERC TEST & DESIGN • GRAVEL • SEWER & WATER 320-256-3982 320-250-2068</p>	<p>RJ's Country Store St. Rosa BAIT * GAS * ATM GROCERIES</p>	<p>Interstate Service Center 216 Country Club Road Melrose, MN 56352 Phone: (320) 256-2160 Free alignment with four tire purchase</p>	<p>ALL STARS Sports Bar & Grill 320-836-2154</p>					
<p>Hoeschen Auto Complete Auto Repair Specialists Dan Hoeschen, Owner • 320-836-2130 In business since 1980 MICHELIN UNIROVAL BF Goodrich and many other brands!</p>	<p>Spanier/Nathe Cabinets Custom Made Cabinets for your whole house Mike Nathe cell: 320-290-0505 35428 County Road 13 • Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-3985</p>	<p>MAGNIFI FINANCIAL</p>	<p>FREEPORT COMMUNITY CENTER FOR HALL RENTAL CALL 320-836-2526</p>	<p>TREE WORKS Nolan Sand Melrose, MN 320-429-0606</p>	<p>Klapphake FEED MILL INC. MELROSE, MN Proud to be a part of the Ag Industry</p>					
<p>Oak Electric Service Inc. THOMAS HOPPE 36484 300th Ave. Melrose, MN 56352 320-837-5853</p>	<p>Hennen Floor Covering, Inc. FREEPORT</p>	<p>Munson Feed Company, Inc. Box 184, Melrose, MN 56352 Pete Jr., Mike, Josh Terres and employees Business Phone 256-4219 Manufacturers of Munson's QUALITY Livestock and Poultry Feeds</p>	<p>REVERMANN LAW Estate Planning Business Real Estate Probate</p>	<p>MELROSE 320.256.4205 WAITE PARK 320.258.9383 revermannlaw.com</p>						
<p>WHEELS WATER SERVICE 37276 County Road 13 PO Box 233 Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-4146 JAMMIE WIELING</p>	<p>Independent Monument Consultant Courtney Indieke 320-293-6518 courtneyindieke@gmail.com</p>	<p>MELROSE ELECTRIC, INC. MEMBER OF MINNESOTA ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION 119 8th Ave. W (320) 256-3846 PO Box 234 (320) 256-7359 Melrose, MN 56352 Fax (320) 256-4240</p>	<p>Miller-Carlin FUNERAL HOMES www.miller-carlin.com</p>	<p>MELROSE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY "Neighbor helping Neighbor since 1901" Stacy Schiffer, Manager 303 Main Street East Melrose, MN 56352 256-7290 www.melrosemutual.com</p>	<p>MELROSE IMPLEMENT INC. NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE Sales - Parts - Service Phone 256-4253 - Melrose, MN www.melroseimplement.com</p>					
<p>Tree of Life ASSISTED LIVING OF NEW MUNICH Offers 24-hour customized assisted living, meals, activities, etc. Call 320-837-5100 for a tour.</p>	<p>WORMS Lumber & Ready Mix, Inc. All your building needs in one place!</p>	<p>Atkinson Well & Pump Ltd. "Serving you since 1942" Service you can count on 365 days a year (320) 836-2597 Rodney Atkinson Ben Atkinson</p>	<p>BELGRADE CO-OP AGRONOMY PROPANE REFINED FUELS Office locations in Belgrade & Melrose 320-254-8231</p>	<p>DAN SCHMIDT DSPI PRINTING AND DESIGN SERVICES SINCE 1985 302 East Main Street Melrose, MN 56352 320.256.3700 dsprint@meltel.net</p>						
<p>RAHN'S OIL & PROPANE FUEL WITH MUSCLE God Bless our Parish Families!</p>	<p>Cornerstone ag services Our focus is crop insurance. ~ Dana Kerfeld ~ 5 Central Ave. N • St. Stephen, MN 56375 (320) 267-CROP (2767) Cornerstone ag services Our focus is crop insurance.</p>	<p>CENTURY 21 First Realty, Inc. Buying, Selling, or Investing? Hunter Thelen- Local Realtor Honest guidance. Strong values. Real results. Let's talk today! 320-290-5311 Welcome HOME to Brenny Your TRUCKING Career starts HERE! Call Cara! 320.363.6999 WWW.BRENNYTRANSPORTATION.COM</p>	<p>MAYERS, INC. MELROSE, MN 256-4479 Excavating, Water, Sewers, Site Prep., Basements, Sand, Gravel</p>	<p>For All Your Building Needs Frericks Construction Inc. Melrose, MN Lic. #BC-20457080 Jim 249-7404 Russell 290-5669</p>	<p>MELROSE 1 STOP SERVICE CENTER CAR WASH TRUCK WASH God Bless America!</p>					
	<p>Itamo feeds HACCP CERTIFIED RUPP CERTIFIED www.engelmeyerslandsurveying.com</p>		<p>Hennen LUMBER CO. INC. Freeport, MN 56331 (320) 836-2135</p>	<p>MARTINEZ MEAT & GROCERY 420 E. Main St. • Melrose, MN lulomartinezmeat123@gmail.com 320.256.2363 Productos Mexicanos fax: 320.256.2364</p>						
	<p>Engelmeyer LAND SURVEYING Land Surveying • GPS Surveys Plotting • Sub-Division Lot • Acreage • Boundary • ALTA Surveys 320-836-2291 Or Call 320-256-7298 www.engelmeyerslandsurveying.com David A. Engelmeyer, Land Surveyor engelsur@meltel.net 41701 Co Rd 167 • Melrose</p>	<p>Brenda Kraemer Member Advisor • Insurance bkraemer@catholicunited.org • Retirement (320) 493-3957 • Planning • Charitable Giving Catholic United Financial • Credit Union</p>	<p>CAP Enterprises 511 3rd Ave SW Melrose, MN 56352 320-256-3900</p>							