

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

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 27, 2025

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

Melrose - Spring Hill -Greenwald - Meire Grove Office:

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

Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Office Phone: 320-256-4207 Fr. Mitchell Bechtold: 320-256-9512

mlbechtold@outlook.com

Fr. Oswaldo Roche: 320-256-9513

froswaldo@stmarysofmelrose.com

Office Email: pam@stmarysofmelrose.com

Website: www.oneinfaith.org

Facebook: Church of St. Mary, Melrose Mailing Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE Melrose, MN 56352

Freeport - New Munich - St. Rosa Office:

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

Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Office Phone: 320-836-2143 Email: triparish@albanytel.com

Website: www.sacredheartfreeport.org

Facebook: Tri Parish

Mailing Address: PO Box 155 Freeport, MN 56331

Bulletin Announcements

Deadline: Tuesday before 9:00 am Email information to: bulletin@catholic-centered.org

Confession Times

◆Fridays 7:45 am Sacred Heart

◆Saturdays 3:30 pm Immaculate Conception

◆Saturdays 3:30 pm St. Andrew ◆Saturdays 4:30 pm St. Mary

◆Or by appointment. Call the Parish Office.

Marriage

Couples are to begin preparation 6-12 months in advance and **must** call the respective Parish Office **before setting a date**.

*Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes are required.

Baptism & OCIA

If you are interested in having your child baptized or participating in the OCIA program, contact the respective Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick, 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.



Kowolska, a Polish cloistered nun who died in 1938. In the year 2000, she was canonized by Saint Pope John Paul II, and the Feast of Mercy inversal Feast of the Church. To better understand this Feast let's

Mercy! This Feast originated from the private

revelations given to Sr. Maria Faustina

was instituted as a universal Feast of the Church. To better understand this Feast, let's read some of the private revelations Jesus gave to Saint Faustina:

"Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (*Diary* #300).

"This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of my tender mercies" (*Diary* #420).

"On one occasion, I heard these words: My daughter, tell the whole world about My Inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flows are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy" (*Diary* #699).

"Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to our neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to absolve yourself from it" (*Diary* #742).

"Souls perish in spite of My bitter Passion. I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My Mercy. If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity" (*Diary* #965).

"I want to grant complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy" (*Diary* #1109).

Continued on page 5

ACC Mass Times and Intentions \sim April 28 - May 4

ADORATION

St. Mary - Melrose			
Mo	6:30 pm	Misa en Español	
	-	†Alfonzo Mireles	
		†Guadalupe Hernandez	
		†Jaime Mireles	
Tu	8:00 am	†Erma Kettler	
We	8:00 am	†Gerry & †Mary Thueringen	
Th	8:00 am	†Clarence & †Monica Ritter	
*Fr	8:30 am	SM School Mass	
		†Bernie Arceneau	
Sa	5:00 pm	†Arlene Litchy	
*Su	10:00 am	†Dick, †Rose, & †Dale Van Beck	
Su	12:30 pm	Misa en Español	
		†Luisa Gonzalez	
SAC	SACRED HEART - Freeport		

SH School Mass We 8:15 am †Deceased/Living Members of Elmer & Florence Austing Family 8:15 am †Marilyn Terhaar Fr 8:00 am First Saturday Mass †Alcuin & †Loretta Renneker Su 8:00 am †Deceased/Living Members of Margaret & Cyril Scherer Family

Imm Th Sa	8:15 am	ONCEPTION - New Munich †Jeff Rieland For the People
Tu		Josie Needham †Anthony Rolfes
Tu	8:00 am	- Spring Hill †Monica Barten For the People
ST. Th		Greenwald SJSA School Mass †Deceased & Living Members of the Jane Welle Family

Sa	4:00 pm	of the Jane Welle Family †Lloyd Lucken
Sт	John - M	eire Grove
We	8:00 am	†Leo & †Anna Mae Schneider
Su	8:00 am	†Deceased Members of the

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

Edwin Frieler Family

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 ~

• Thank You to everyone who made donations for Easter flowers and the environment in memory of a loved one. Much beauty was added to the churches this Easter season. A list of those remembered by the donors can be found in the churches.

Congratulations! Our One in Faith ACC would like to congratulate the following individuals as they joined the Church through Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation at Easter Vigil. St. Mary: Amanda Fuechtmann, Karen Ramirez, Carlos Montanez, Dulce Ramirez, Jorge Alvarez, Carlos Aguilar, Sacred Heart: Joran Carlson,



Immaculate Conception: Aiden Hopfer, Natasha Crowe, St. Rose of Lima: Makenzie Herzog.

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 and study Sacred Art. Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, May 7. Come and bring a friend for a fun filled faith enrichment night.

> Vacation Bible School June 9 - 13 on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church in Freeport from 9:00 - 11:30 am. Send your children, ages 4 through entering grade 5, for a wild good time! This summer's theme is True North. Children will be "Trusting Jesus in a Wild World." True North is filled with Bible stories, music, games, and other fun ways to

learn that God is with you every day, no matter what. Registration forms are available Tri-Parish website. Deadline to signup is Thursday, May 15. Don't miss the best week of the summer!

Volunteers Needed for Vacation Bible School June 9-13 on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church in Freeport. Students entering grade 6 through adults are invited to prayerfully consider joining us for an amazing start to your summer! Registration forms are available on the Tri-Parish website. Deadline to sign up is Thursday, May 15. Don't miss the best week of the summer!

Parish News:

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

- Easter Flower Memorials Thank you to all who made donations for Easter flowers in memory of a loved one. The church looks very jubilant as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection! If you would like a list of those remembered by the donors, please contact the Tri-Parish Office or check the Tri-Parish website.
- Photo Directory It's been nearly 10 years since we have updated our photo directory. Professional photographers will be at each of the three parishes on the following days to take family portraits. We would love to have every family participate. There will be no cost to you to have your picture taken. More information will be coming. Mark your calendar to take your picture on one of these days:

Immaculate Conception June 24-28 Sacred Heart July 8-12 July 17-19 St. Rose



America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally Please join us on Saturday, May 10 at 11:00 am on the Immaculate Conception Parking Lot for this Rosary Rally. In case of rain, it will be inside the Church.

Nominations Sought for the 2025 Humanae Vitae Award This year will mark the 57th Anniversary of Humanae Vitae! In celebration, we'll host our annual diocesan Humanae Vitae Mass & Award Presentation on Thursday, July 24 at Saint Mary's Cathedral, Saint Cloud at 7:00 pm with Bishop Patrick Neary. We are blessed to have people in our diocese who have dedicated themselves to the promotion of Natural Family Planning and the principles of Humanae Vitae. Please nominate a person(s) who has demonstrated courage in promoting Natural Family Planning by submitting your nomination in writing (500 words or less). For more information visit: https://stcdio.org/event/2025-humanae-vitae-mass-award-reception/ Send, fax, or e-mail nominations before April 29 to the Office of Marriage and Family, Natural Family Planning Advisory Committee, 305-7th Avenue North Suite 100, Saint Cloud, MN 56303 e-mail: omf@gw.stcdio.org Fax: 320-258-7658 Questions? Contact Sheila Reineke at sheila.reineke@gw.stcdio.org or 320-258-7609.

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

************ Weekly Offerings Total. \$21,660.57 Regular Adult Offering 5,200.00 Easter 11,590.00 Holy Land 1,307.27 Plate/Loose 2,422.00 Designated Funds 1,141.30

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

04-20	\$225	Terry & Jan Meyer - Circle Pines
04-21	\$25	Kathy Klasen - Melrose
04-22	\$25	Randy Wieling - Brainerd
04-23	\$25	St. Mary's School
04-24	\$25	Carter Tschida - Greenwald
04-25	\$25	Eric Seanger - Melrose
04-26	\$25	Mel Roehrl - Melrose



St. Mary's Garage Sale St. Mary's Catholic Church is having a garage sale at the old parish rectory garage on Saturday, May 3, from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. We will be selling desks, bookshelves, lamps, chairs, and rectory and church items that are no longer needed.

Prayer Requests...

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

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

Banns of Matrimony:

II Georgianna Toenies♥Rodrigo Ernesto Milla Vigil, 5 - 9 M

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 Easter Weekday (Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest)

Acts 4:23-31 Jn 3:1-8

Tu Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

(Memorial)

Acts 4:32-37 Jn 3:7b-15

We Easter Weekday (Saint Pius V, Pope)

Acts 5:17-26 Jn 3:16-21

Th Easter Weekday (Saint Joseph the Worker)

Acts 5:27-33 Jn 3:31-36

Fr Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

(Memorial)

Acts 5:34-42 Jn 6:1-15

a Saints Philip and James, Apostles (Feast) 1 Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14

Next Sunday - Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 Rv 5:11-14 Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

**************** Weekly Offerings ************** Total..... \$20,964.67 Regular Adult Offering..... 2,633.85 Votive..... 123.00 Building/Maintenance 120.00 Central MN Catholic Magazine 50.00 School Support 400.00 Easter Envelopes 13,609.00 Easter Plate 1,458.75 Holy Land Envelopes 614.00 Holy Land Plate 465.00 Rice Bowl Envelopes 470.00 Rice Bowl Plate 394.07 Easter Vigil Plate 97.00 Bishop's Annual Appeal 400.00 Easter Flowers 130.00

Parish Events

04/27	9:00 am	St. Joseph's Society Annual Meeting
05/02	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
05/02	9:00 am	Adoration
05/03	8:00 am	First Saturday Mass
	05/02 05/02	05/02 7:45 am 05/02 9:00 am

May She Rest in Peace Our parish offers prayers and sympathy to the family of †Viola Meyer, who passed away Thursday, April 17. Her funeral was celebrated here on Saturday, April 26.

Community Garden If you are interested in reserving rows in the community garden, please call the Tri-Parish Office at 320-836-2143. Each row is spaced 5 feet apart and will be assigned on a first call basis.



St. Joseph Society Members Please return <u>all sold and unsold tickets and money</u> to the Parish Office in Freeport or drop them in the collection no later than Wednesday, May 14.

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!

Have Mercy On Us

Hnd

On The Whole World

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦**

vivivi vicenty offering	* * * * *
Total	\$10,141.27
Regular Adult Offering	1,310.77
Votive	112.00
Easter Flowers	40.00
Easter Envelopes	6,218.00
Easter Plate	441.00
Holy Land Envelopes	704.00
Holy Land Plate	356.00
Rice Bowl Envelopes	655.00
Easter Vigil Plate	97.00
Building/Maintenance	207.50

Parish Events

Th	05/01	7:00 am	Adoration	
Sa	05/03	3:30 pm	Individual	Confessions

God's Housekeepers for the month of May: *Mary Krueger, Linda Wielenberg, Jody Klaphake, Cindy Schmiesing, Christie Zink, and Maureen Schaefer. 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.

Elevator & Expansion Update...

Thank you to all those who have made contributions to this fund. Currently, there is \$225,000 remaining in loans. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this fund.

Graduation Social: Saturday, May 17



Please join us in a social to celebrate the graduation of our students. Social will follow the 4:00 pm Mass. All are welcome. Servers Requested: Chair: John

& Dorothy Funk, Co-Chair: Judy Gaebel, Servers: Tim & Megan Gaebel, Kevin & Sharon Goebel, Matt & Cindy Heinen, Thomas & Lisa Hennen. All servers please bring cake or bars. Thank you in advance for serving.



CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦♦**

**** Weekly Offering	****
Total	\$12,609.23
Regular Adult Offering	649.23
Votive	231.00
Easter Envelopes	7,630.00
Easter Plate	599.00
Easter Flowers	25.00
Rice Bowl Envelopes	2,420.00
Holy Land Envelopes	700.00
Holy Land Plate	159.00
Easter Vigil Plate	96.00
Building/Maintenance	100.00

Parish Events

Su	04/27	8:30 am	Youth Choir Practice
Su	04/27	11:00 am	Baptism
Tu	04/29	9:00 am	Quilting
Tu	04/29	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
Fr	05/02	7:30 pm	Rosary
Mo	05/05	4:30 pm	Youth Choir Practice Baptism Quilting Choir Practice Rosary Spring Church Cleaning

Church Cleaning St. Rose Christian Women will get together Monday, May 5 to clean the Church. We are starting at 4:30 pm, but welcome volunteers anytime that works in your schedule! We will have pizza around 5:30 pm. This invitation is open to more than the Christian Women, so please bring others! Many hands make light work!



CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦♦**

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Total	\$10,337.00
Regular Adult Offering	200.00
Easter	7,400.00
Holy Land	613.00
Children	4.00
Perpetual Cemetery	300.00
Fuel Fund	1,795.00
Easter Flowers	25.00

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, May 4 - 10:00 am

- (S) Kenny Niehoff
- (L) Darlene Schoenberg
- (U) Peter Wuertz & Randy Barten
- (EM) (B) Gary P. Lieser
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
- (RL) Kathy Welle
- (CC) Doreen Schwieters & Tom Stalboerger (HK: April 20 May 3) Melissa Frieler, Sandra Gruber, & Ruth Heinen



Sacred Heart School

Calendar Raffle Winners!

- 04/20 \$250 Connor Quinn Melrose
- 04/21 \$25 Joni Ellering Melrose
- 04/22 \$25 Kathy Berg Albert Lea
- 04/23 \$25 Ryan Burg Freeport
- 04/24 \$25 Albert Schleper Freeport
- 04/25 \$25 Tim Hennen Freeport
- 04/26 \$25 Darlene Masters Hanover

3rd Annual One In Faith ACC

Divine Mercy Sunday...

Please join us for the Divine Mercy Sunday service at St. Michael's Church in Spring Hill on Sunday, April 27. This is our third annual ACC Divine Mercy Sunday event and we hope to continue this feast day in the future to recognize the graces granted by our Lord. Please feel free to come for a portion of, or all of the events in the afternoon.



Schedule of Events:

Adoration from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Individual Confessions from 2:15 pm - 4:00 pm
Diving Marcy Chaplet et 2:00 pm

Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 pm (Sung by the St. Michael's Choir)

Closing of Adoration at 4:00 pm Social in the church basement

Please see the insert in the April 13 bulletin for more information.

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

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

♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering **♦♦♦♦**

Titte it components	* * * * *
Total	\$4,524.00
Regular Adult Offering	800.00
Easter	3,478.00
Votives	8.00
Easter Flowers	50.00
Rice Bowl	10.00
Holy Land	128.00
Cemetery	50.00

Liturgical Ministries Saturday, May 3 - 4:00 pm

- (S) Aubrey Stepan & Emily Stepan
- (L) Herman Lensing
- (U) Tim Lucken & Dave Nathe
- (GB) Steve & Kathy Gilk
- (EM) (B) Kris Winter
- (EM) (C) No Precious Blood
- (HK May) *Julie Kulzer, Rose Lensing, Mariann Lucken, & Lorene Meyer

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

******** Weekly Offering ******** Regular Adult Offering..... Easter 5.123.00 36.00 Votives..... Holy Land 686.00

200.00

Liturgical Ministries Sunday, May 4 - 8:00 am

(S) Isaac Zenzen & Collin Kelzer

Fuel Fund

- (L) Char Meyer
- (U) Tim Meyer & Jeron Nathe
- (GB) Nick & Kate Kelzer
- (EM) Char Meyer & Dan Meyer
- (HK May) *Martha Meyer, Rita Meyer, Virginia Meyer, Brenda Nathe, Virginia Nathe, & Geri Primus

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Preparación bautismal: La clase de preparación bautismal ya se realizó el sábado pasado. Si aún hay personas interesadas en la preparación bautismal hable con el diácono Jesús Hernandez después de misa para registrarse para la próxima sesión de clases que se llevará a cabo en el mes de Mayo.

Orden de iniciación cristiana para

adultos: se invita a todas las personas que no han recibido ningún sacramento de iniciación (bautismo, confirmación



primera comunión) o personas que deseen convertirse en Católicos a que hablen con el Jorge diácono Carrillo para pedir información sobre el programa y comenzar a planear sus preparacion.

One in Faith ACC Schools Gift Card Programs

A gift card rebate program that allows you to purchase your everyday items with gift cards and earn money for our area Catholic schools without paying any extra money!

A percentage of each gift card will be donated back to the area Catholic schools. Each school has a variety of local and national gift cards available to purchase.

*Gift Cards are great gift ideas!







Public Rosary...

We have many intentions to pray for and much 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 7:30 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.

The Divine Mercy cont'd from page 1

In addition to the above quotes about the celebration of the Feast of Mercy, below are some quotes revealing more about The Divine Mercy itself:

'Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy" (Diary #300).

"My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners. If only they could understand that I am the best of Fathers to them and that it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy" (Diary #367).

"I desire trust from My creatures. Encourage souls to place great trust in My fathomless mercy. Let the weak, sinful soul have no fear to approach Me, for even if it had more sins than there are grains of sand in the world, all would be drowned in the unmeasurable depths of My mercy" (Diary #1059).

"Tell all people, My daughter, that I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls" (Diary #1074).

"My daughter, write that the greater the misery of a soul, the greater its right to My mercy; urge all souls to trust in the unfathomable abyss of My mercy, because I want to save them all" (Diary #1182).

Reflect, today, upon God's infinite and unfathomable Mercy. The Divine Mercy is especially for those who struggle with sin. Jesus says, "The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy" (Diary #723). The Divine Mercy is the very tenderness and compassion of God. Run to Him, trust in Him, open your soul to Him and allow Him to pour forth an ocean of Mercy on this holy day.

Most Merciful Lord, I desire to receive the superabundance of Your Mercy poured forth from Heaven today. Please open my heart so that I will turn to You in my need. I am a sinner, dear Lord, but for that reason I am in most need of You in my life. Help me to trust in You with all my might. Jesus, I do trust in You!

mycatholic.life

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

- Faith Formation Registration: If you missed registration night, please look for your registration packet in the mail. Please turn in all registration forms and fees for 2025/2026 by Friday, May 16 to avoid an increase in costs. You can drop them off at the Parish Office in Freeport or mail to PO Box 155, Freeport.
- •Grade 1-11: Classes concluded on Wednesday, April 23. A big THANK YOU to our catechists: Megan Gaebel, Aiden Sand, Joria Canfield, Sophia Schmiesing, Mara Hollenkamp, Izzie Van Beck, Carrie Goebel, Noah Goebel, Beth Notch, Ashley Feldewerd, Jessica Goebel, Greg Eiynck, Jamie Eiynck, Andy Welle, Joe Notch, and Amy Hoeschen. Thank you also to all the parents and students for a great year! We look forward to meeting again in the fall for classes.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- •Grades 1, 3-6: LAST CLASS: Wednesday, April 30 from 6:00 7:00 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and Parents. Parents, please arrive a few minutes early or stay a few minutes after class to register for next year! (We get a discount on materials if we order them now, in Spring, rather than waiting until the Fall.)
- •Grades 7/8: LAST CLASS: Wednesday, April 30 from 7:15 8:30 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and some Parents. Parents, please arrive a few minutes early or stay a few minutes after class to register for next year! (We get a discount on materials if we order them now, in Spring, rather than waiting until the Fall.)
- •Confirmation: REQUIRED PRACTICE for Confirmation Liturgy: Wednesday, April 30 from 7:15 - 8:30 pm at St. Mary's Church. Students and Mentors.

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information: youthministry@catholic-centered.org

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. If you are interested in attending, contact Chrystal 320-836-2143 or csand@catholic-centered.org, Pam Pundsack at 320-256-9503 or pam@stmarysofmelrose.org with questions.
- **♥Bible & Breakfast** Students in grades 7-12 are invited to enjoy scripture and breakfast with peers at the Melrose Area High School Media Center. We will meet on Wednesdays from 7:15-8:00 am. If there is no school or a late start, we will not meet. To register contact Chrystal at 320-266-5554.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



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

Myranda Beuning, Julie Job, Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle, Lindsay Frieler, and Jenelle Herkenhoff www.shsfreeport.org School Phone: 320-836-2591 Toddler Center Phone: 320-836-2585

- **♥Stoves For Guatemala** We were able to send a check of almost \$2,000 to Stoves For Guatemala for our Lenten service project. Thank you all for your generosity!
- **▼Thank You** again to the Freeport State Bank for sponsoring our field trip to the movie King of Kings at the Sauk Centre movie theatre. Marlene Blommel has been doing these FSB field trips for many years and we are so thankful for her help planning these fun trips. Enjoy your retirement, Marlene, you deserve it!
- **▼Toddler Center Open House** will take place on Thursday, May 1 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Stop in and see what the toddler center looks like, meet the teachers, and see what a day in the life of a toddler could be at SHS.



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

- Sixth Grade will host A Festival Of Nations in St. Mary's School Gym on Friday, May 2. Community members are welcome to visit the festival from 10:15 am - 11:00 am and 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm. All are welcome.
- ◆Bishop Neary will be at St. Mary's School on Friday, May 16, to celebrate with the school at 8:30 am Mass. All are welcome.
- ◆There are still openings for prospective 2025-2026 Little Saints and students in Kindergarten through 6th grade. If interested, call or email anelson@smsmn.org.

- **♦ We had a busy week** this past week with the PreK Field trip, Bus Driver Appreciation day, celebrating our 2nd grade teacher, Move up Day, Birthday Dinner, Admin Appreciation Day and a Top 20 performance from our 3rd grade.
- •We are Looking for Volunteers for next school year. If you are interested in helping out at SHS, please contact the school at 320-836-2591. Here are a few areas where we may need volunteer help - reading with students, teacher's aide, lunch room help, toddler center help, kindergarten centers, recess, etc.

SAVE THE DATES:

- **▼SHS Spring Fling** Friday, May 9 from 7:00 9:00 pm.
- **♥PreK Graduation** Thursday, May 15.
- ♦6th Grade Graduation & Last Day of School at SHS Friday, May 23.



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

Kathy Gilk, Adam Kalthoff, Kate Kelzer, Kurt Meyer, Trista Roelike, Jenny Wilson, and Kristi Zimmer

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

- •Congratulations to our Second Graders who will receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 27 at 10:00 am at St. John's Church in Meire Grove. Students receiving the Sacrament are Willow Bueckers, Ryan Hellickson, Lukas Kalthoff, Oliver Kasper, Lucas Kelzer, Grace Meyer, Jameson Schoenberg, and Taya Zimmer.
- •SJSA is Selling Harry's Pizza Friday, April 11 - Thursday, May 8. Please contact a current SJSA family or call the school office at 320-987-3133 to place your order. Pizza pick-up is Saturday, May 17 from 9:00-10:00 am in the school basement. It is time to stock up for summer! Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.
- •SJSA will celebrate Grandparent's Day on Thursday May 1. Bishop Neary will celebrate Mass with us at 8:00 am with a reception and bingo at the school afterwards.



ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

West Central Deanery Spring General Meeting West Central Deanery women and Spiritual Advisors are invited to the Spring general meeting Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at St. Mary Help of Christians Church, 24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN. Registration begins at 5:30 pm with Mass at 6:00 pm. A light supper (\$6) will be served followed by a short meeting and speakers. Please RSVP for the meal, Contact Jean Hopfer, President, 320-837-5239 ecthull@albanytel.com.



Catholic Century Farm Award The Diocese of Saint Cloud would like to honor Catholic families who have farmed and nurtured the same land for 100 years or more. Farm families who meet the criteria will be honored by the Bishop, with a certificate and special

award for their home. Registration deadline is July 1 for presentation in August. If you, or someone you know, has a Catholic Century Farm, visit https://stcdio.org/rural-life/ for more information and to and apply to be honored for your century or more of farming with faith!

Discernment Retreat 2025 God Has a Plan for You! The retreat will start with Mass at 9:00 am Tuesday, June 17 and continue through Thursday, June 19 concluding with Mass at 5:00 pm for participants and families followed by a family potluck meal. Young Men and Women entering 7th Grade and Up - Cost: \$50. Boys and Girls entering grades 4-6 are invited (Cost: \$15) to join the group on Thursday at 12:00 pm for lunch. St. Mary's Church ~ 645 3rd Avenue SE, Milaca, MN. Join us for talks, prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, games and... food! Young men will camp in the church yard and young women will stay in the classrooms. Register by Thursday, May 15 at www.fourpillarsinfaith.org.

First Friday Adoration at the Capitol Join the Minnesota Catholic Conference staff First Fridays (May 2) 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.

Pilgrims of Hope Lenten Retreat Schedule at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo. Enhance your faith life with one of the retreats below. For more information or to register, please call 763-682-1394 or visit www.kingshouse.com.

- •Men & Women's Silent Retreat May 2-4 (Weekend)
- •Women's Retreat May 9-11 (Weekend)

Worldwide Marriage Encounter... "Love one another as I have loved you." John 13:34 Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and experience the love of your spouse like you never have before. The next available Weekends are May 16 - 18 in Buffalo, MN and November 22 - 23 in

Alexandria, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: <u>northmnwwme.org</u> or contact Miki at applications@northmnwwme.org or 507-227-8229.

Divine Mercy Sunday at the Cathedral Celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter, which concludes the Octave of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday was originally based on the Catholic devotion to the Divine Mercy that Faustina Kowalska reported as part of her visions of Jesus and is associated with special promises from Jesus and indulgences issued by the Catholic Church. This year we are happy to announce two speakers at the event. Our first speaker is Leah Brix. She is a published author of <u>St. Joseph's Hammer</u> and the co-founder of Catholic Country Chronicles. She is passionate about the Catholic Faith and making it accessible to everyday people. The second speaker is Fr. Doug Liebsch from the All Called to Christ ACC. Divine Mercy Sunday will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, April 27, from 1:00 - 3:30 pm. There will be Adoration and an opportunity for reconciliation.

Natural Family Planning... God's Plan for Marriage: Natural Family Planning! NFP follows the natural cycle God has given each woman. It has no dangerous side effects, and no harmful soul effects. NFP allows you to give yourself to your spouse completely, freely, and faithfully. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in: Sauk Centre on Thursday, May 15 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!

Raise Your Voice In Song! The St. John's Boys' Choir presents its season finale, Raise Your Voice In Song! on Friday, May 2 in St. Cloud and Saturday, May 3 in Little Falls! This concert features music that uplifts, inspires, and showcases the powerful voices of our talented singers. This is a non-ticketed event, and free-will donations will be graciously accepted (suggested amount: \$15/person). Learn more at www.sjbchoir.org

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

- ◆The New Munich Area Veterans are planning to place a spring order of granite pavers to be installed as part of our veterans memorial in New Munich. All veterans of any military branch living or deceased who have served honorably are eligible. A paver can be purchased in honor of a family member or friend. Our order deadline is Thursday, May 1. For more information please call 320-250-6288 or by US mail to New Munich Area Veterans PO Box 134, New Munich, MN 56356 or email: ssworms@meltel.net. April 27, Sunday
- ◆Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast at the Melrose American Legion serving from 8:30 am 12:00 pm. Dine in or take out. Adults \$12. Children ages 5-10 \$6. Children ages 4 and under are free.
- •53rd Annual Swanycake & Sausage Supper sponsored by the Holy Name Society, Christian Mothers & Women, and the St. Anthony Parish, St. Anothony. The cost is \$11.50 in advance and \$12 at the door. Children's tickets are sold at the door for \$6 for ages 6 to 12. Children ages 5 and under are free. Serving from 3:00 8:30 pm.

April 30-May 3

• Melrose Area Festival of the Arts The Melrose Area Arts Council invites you to visit the art and quilt displays at the Melrose City Center, Senior Activity Center and Freeport State Bank during the Melrose Area Festival of the Arts. There will also be art sales, demos, local author book readings, a variety of workshops, music, and face painting. Everyone is welcome!

May 7, Wednesday

- ◆ Feet First Clinic at the Senior Center in Freeport. Everyone must call to make an appointment 320-836-2450. Free will offering.
- ◆<u>Blood Drive</u> at the American Legion in Melrose from 12:30 6:30 pm. Please call 1-800-REDCROSS or visit <u>RedCrossBlood.org</u> and enter: Melrose to schedule an appointment.

May 15, Thursday

- ◆<u>Pillow Cleaning</u> at the Melrose City Park large shelter from 7:00 am 3:00 pm. Sponsored by SJSA Catholic School.
- ◆ Freeport Senior Citizens meeting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.





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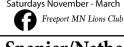
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