



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-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 5, 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.



Nourished by Faith

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.” The Lord replied, “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.” Luke 17:5-6

Is it possible to completely uproot a tree and plant it in the sea? It's certainly hard to imagine how. It is especially hard to imagine doing so with a simple command of faith. Uprooting a tree is hard enough to imagine, but it is even more difficult to imagine a tree being planted in the sea. Though water is necessary, one cannot plant a tree in the sea and expect it to grow. But that's partly the point. We often underestimate the power of true faith. Saint Matthew's Gospel says that faith can move mountains. Saint Luke's says it can uproot a tree and replant it in the sea. All it takes to do so is faith the size of a mustard seed.

How much faith is equal to a mustard seed? A mustard seed is small, very small. It measures only about one millimeter in length. People who worked the soil at that time would have known that it was among the smallest of seeds they planted. For that reason, Jesus uses this familiar image to teach the apostles that faith, even a little faith, is powerful.

Jesus' teaching comes in response to a prayer on the part of the apostles. “Increase our faith,” they said. Jesus' response, inviting them to have only a little faith, implies that their faith was quite weak. To increase their faith to the size of a mustard seed suggests that they did not even have a little faith yet. Most likely they were aware of that fact, and that was the reason they asked Jesus to increase their faith. They perceived their lacking and turned to Him Who could help.

One of the first steps to increasing faith is to humbly admit our lack of faith. In our pride, we often want to convince ourselves and others that we are filled with faith. But if that were the case, God would be doing incredible things through us. He would be doing that which is otherwise humanly impossible.

Continued on page 5

ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ OCTOBER 6 - 12

ADORATION

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo 6:30 pm **NO Misa en Español**
 Tu 8:00 am **NO Mass**
 We 8:00 am **NO Mass**
 Th 8:00 am **NO Mass**
 *Fr 8:30 am **SM School Mass**
 †Jeffrey Hinnenkamp
 Sa 5:00 pm For the People
 *Su 9:00 am †Cheyenne Pundsack
 Su 11:30 am **Misa en Español**
 †Juana Alvarez
 †Demesio Ramirez

SACRED HEART - Freeport

We 8:15 am **No Mass**
 Fr 8:15 am †Viola & †Edwin Meyer
 Su 8:00 am For the People

*Mass will be livestreamed.

Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th 8:15 am †Sheryl Brazeau
 Sa 7:00 pm Confirmands

ST. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa

Tu 8:15 am **No Mass**
 Su 10:00 am †Leo Eveslage Anniversary

ST. MICHAEL - Spring Hill

Tu 8:00 am **No Mass**
 Su 10:00 am †David Schoenborn

ST. ANDREW - Greenwald

Th 8:00 am **SJSA School Mass**
 †Francella Thelen
 Sa 4:00 pm †Gary Winter

ST. JOHN - Meire Grove

We 8:00 am **No Mass**
 Su 8:00 am †Raphael & †Dolores Imdieke

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa

NO Adoration Tuesday, October 7

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 ~

•**Lectors:** The 2026 Lector Workbooks are available for pickup in the sacristy.

•**October is Respect Life Month** To help foster a culture of life and support mothers in need, bassinets will be placed in our churches to collect new baby items. Donations will be given to Options for Women in Sauk Centre, which provides material assistance and classes for women facing unplanned pregnancies. Over the past year, the center has welcomed more than 840 visits. Items especially needed include:

- New baby clothes (boys preferred), sizes 3 months-4T
- Enfamil Formula (Regular & Gentlease)
- Diapers (sizes 1-6)
- New car seats
- Wipes, baby wash, and baby healthcare items

Please also remember their current and future clients in your prayers. The mission of Options for Women is to reach out with mercy and compassion to those facing life-changing decisions about an unplanned pregnancy, sharing a message of hope and life.



Sacred Heart School is Currently Hiring in our Infant and Toddler Care Center from 7:30 - 10:30 am and/or from 2:30 - 5:30 pm. If you are interested, please contact the school at 320-836-2591.

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.

Mass Time Change The youth of Sacred Heart, Immaculate Conception, and St. Rose of Lima parishes will be confirmed at Immaculate Conception on Saturday, October 11 at 7:00 pm. Please note that there will be no 4:00 pm Mass on that day. Please pray for all who will be confirmed.

**Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)**

Do you have questions about the Catholic faith? Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Are you Catholic but haven't been confirmed? We will have an informational meeting on Thursday, October 16 at 7:00 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Melrose. 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. Please contact one of the parish offices or come to this meeting if you are interested in learning more about this program.



Time to Expand Your Circle of Friends? Try a TEC Retreat. "God has a wonderful way of connecting the dots in our lives to people that will honor who we are, right where we are" (Tiffany Wilson). A TEC retreat will expand your circle of friends with those who will lift you up, support you, encourage you, and bring you closer to God. Come meet some new friends. Register for one of our three-day TEC retreats. www.cmttec.org. Together Encountering Christ (TEC) is open to both youth (age 16+) as well as adults and is located just north of Little Falls. The next retreat weekend is Friday, October 17 - Sunday, October 19 MEA Weekend.

**Catholic Parishes Celebrate Council of Catholic Women (CCW) Sunday**

Bishop Patrick M. Neary C.S.C. has proclaimed Sunday, October 12, 2025 as Council of Catholic Women Sunday in the Diocese of Saint Cloud. The National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) is an organization of concerned women established by the Bishops of the United States (USCCB) in 1920 to offer women the opportunity to increase their knowledge of the Church, strengthen their leadership skills, and deepen their spirituality through prayer and service. Council of Catholic Women (CCW) Sunday is the day to highlight the activities and leadership carried out by Catholic Women. All parish Christian Mothers/Women's organizations are affiliates of the NCCW. Today, Council of Catholic Women Sunday, we celebrate the women of our parish who provide leadership and activities for our parish through the Spirituality, Service, Leadership, Legislation, Reverence Life, Scholarship and Historian committees. Ladies, THANK YOU for all you do for the Council of Catholic Women.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

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

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

Total.....	\$15,632.75
Regular Adult Offering	13,846.00
Plate/Loose	1,076.00
Designated Funds	710.75

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

09-28	\$25	Peggy Thompson, Melrose
09-29	\$25	Liliana Walz Seviour % Gary Walz, Melrose
09-30	\$25	Erin Lester, Melrose
10-01	\$25	Duane Rothstein, Melrose
10-02	\$25	Dan Schmidt, Melrose
10-03	\$50	Allie Geertsema, Clearwater
10-04	\$25	Victor & Florence Middendorf, Melrose

**Died in the Hope of Resurrection...**

†Gerald Koopmeiners, 82

St. Mary's Mission Society Meeting on Wednesday, October 8 at St. Mary's Church at 8:45 am.



Sound System St. Mary's has received a quote of \$58,767.63 to replace damaged speakers and upgrade the church sound system and has obtained Finance Council and Diocesan approval to move forward. Since

we gather to hear the Word of God, it is essential that everyone in our worship space can hear clearly. We invite you to prayerfully consider supporting this important project with a donation. Envelopes labeled Sound System Replace/Upgrade can be found in the back of the church.

Fellowship: There will be refreshments served after all Masses this next weekend, October 11-12 at St. Mary's. Please plan to stay and enjoy each other's company!

October is Mission Month All parishioners are members of the Mission Society. All, both male and female, are encouraged to attend our meetings. We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 8:45 am at St. Mary's. We are asking all parishioners to donate a free will offering to the Mission Society. We used to call it "dues." As we reflect on our MANY blessings, we realize we have been given much. We are called - as a parish - to respond to those in need. Place your donation in any envelope, write "mission" on it, and place in the collection or bring to the office. Please be generous in your support of the St. Mary's Mission Society! Thank you.

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!**

**CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART**

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

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

Total.....	\$3,014.70
Regular Adult Offering	2,445.54
Plate	336.16
Votive	43.00
School Support	190.00

Parish Events

Su	10/05	2:00 pm	Alois "Al" Beste Visitation
Mo	10/06	10:30 am	Alois "Al" Beste Visitation & Funeral
Tu	10/07	6:00 pm	Christian Women Meeting
We	10/08	7:00 pm	Confirmation Practice- NM
Fr	10/10	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	10/10	9:00 am	Adoration
Sa	10/11	7:00 pm	Confirmation Mass - NM
Su	10/12	8:30 am	Catholic United Financial Matching Grant Breakfast
Mo	10/13	6:30 pm	YG Pizza & Rosary Making Night

Welcome to our Parish... We welcome Annabelle Lester to our parish.

May He Rest in Peace Our parish offers prayers and sympathy to the family of †Alois "Al" Beste, who passed away Monday, September 29. His funeral will be celebrated here on Monday, October 6.



Community Garden Please remove all items from the garden by Tuesday, October 14, so it can be plowed. Thank you.

Annual Meeting Freeport Christian Women are hosting their Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 7 beginning at 6:00 pm in the Sacred Heart Church basement. Join us for a light meal, a quick year in review and a fun round of Trivia. All Freeport Christian Women and those interested in joining are invited attend. Door prizes will be given out as well.

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!



Catholic United Financial  **Matching Grant Breakfast** Catholic United Financial PVT #101 of Freeport will be hosting a Matching Grant Breakfast on Sunday, October 12. Menu includes Pep's Pork Sausage, Swany White Pancakes with a variety of toppings, Eggs, Sweet Bread, Beverage. We will serve from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm in the church basement. All proceeds, including the \$1,000 matching grant, will be donated to Sacred Heart School.



Sacred Heart School
Calendar Raffle Winners!

09/28	\$25	Joan Boeckermann - Albany
09/29	\$25	Pat Murphy - Greenwald
09/30	\$25	Scott Michels - Osakis
10/01	\$25	Nick Gilk - Richmond
10/02	\$25	Abby/Brad Herkenhoff - Freeport
10/03	\$25	Joanne Middendorf - Sauk Centre
10/04	\$25	Allen Wieling - Melrose

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,379.83
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,979.33
Plate	303.00
Building/Maintenance.....	87.50
Human Development	10.00

Parish Events

We 10/08 7:00 pm Confirmation Practice
Th 10/09 7:00 pm Choir Practice
Sa 10/11 No Individual Confessions
Sa 10/11 7:00 pm Confirmation Mass/Social
Mo 10/13 6:30 pm YG Pizza & Rosary
Making Night - FR

Wedding... Congratulations to **Dustin & Tara (Christian) Rademacher** who were married at Sacred Heart on Saturday, September 27. May God bless you with many years of happiness together.



America Needs Fatima Rosary will be on Saturday, October 18 at 11:00 am on the Immaculate Conception Parking Lot. This is weather permitting. If not it will be moved into the Church.

Confirmation Social Saturday, October 11 after the 7:00 pm Mass in New Munich. Everyone is welcome. **Servers Requested:** Chairs: Jim & Shelly Hoppe, Co-Chairs: Jeff & Mary Hoppe, Servers: Janice Hoppe, Tom & Terri Hoppe, Sheila Humbert, Jacob & Courtney Indieke. All servers please bring cake or bars. Thank you in advance for serving.



God's Housekeepers for the month of October: *Sandi Feldewerd, Judy Thielen, Lisa Hennen, Jan Fuechtmann, Judy Olmscheid and Robin Neal. 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.....	\$3,591.46
Regular Adult Offering.....	3,173.46
Plate	386.00
Votive	32.00

Parish Events

Mo 10/06 7:00 pm Christian Women Fall Mtg.
Tu 10/07 No Adoration
Tu 10/07 7:00 pm Choir Practice
We 10/08 7:00 pm Confirmation Practice - NM
Fr 10/10 7:30 pm Rosary
Sa 10/11 7:00 pm Confirmation Mass - NM
Mo 10/13 6:30 pm YG Pizza & Rosary
Making Night - FR

St. Rosa Christian Women Fall Meeting is set for Monday, October 6 at 7:00 pm in the Church basement. Hope to see you there!

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$932.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	382.00
Plate/Loose	100.00
Fuel Fund	70.00
Maintenance Fund	320.00
Campaign for Human Development	20.00
Cemetery	40.00

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, October 12 - 10:00 am

(S) Olivia Kalthoff
(L) Gary P. Lieser
(U) Randy Barten & Pat Bertram
(EM) (B) Kathy Welle
(EM) (C) Conrad Gruber & Sandra Gruber
(Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
(RL) Kathy Welle
(CC) Sandra Gruber & Kathy LeClaire
(HK: October 5 - 18) Darlene Schoenberg, Jackie Schoenberg, & Sharon Schoenberg

Ministry Schedules are available on the website and in the church.

Save the Date: St. Michael's Annual Worn-A-Bit Rummage & Bake Sale is set for October 25 & 26. Volunteers needed!

**HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA**

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

October 5, Sunday

◆Melrose Fire Department Pancake Breakfast served from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. 5 & under eat free. Your support is appreciated. Any Melrose Firemen have tickets.

◆St. Margarets Catholic United Financial Matching Grant Breakfast, Lake Henry. Serving from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm in the church basement. Adults \$10 at the door, Ages 1-10 \$5, 5 and under free.

◆Harvest Sunday Celebration 9:00 am Mass with Bishop Neary, 7:30 am - noon Breakfast, Bake Sale, Fall Garden Market, Jewelry Sale, 10:00 am - noon Meat Raffle, Cake Walk, Kids Activities at Church of St. Augustine 106 Wilson Ave SE, St. Cloud.

October 8, Wednesday

◆Soup Luncheon Join the Melrose Area Senior Citizens for their monthly Soup Luncheon, from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, at the Melrose Area Senior Center, located in the Melrose City Center. Free will offering! All are welcome!

October 12, Sunday

◆Matching Grant Breakfast sponsored by Catholic United Financial PVT #101 of Freeport. Serving from 8:30 am to 12 noon in the Sacred Heart church basement. Benefits Sacred Heart School.

◆All You Care to Eat Breakfast Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at Holy Spirit Church 2405 Walden Way St. Cloud, MN 56301. Adult \$12. Children Ages 5-12 \$6. Children 4 and under Free.

◆Chicken & Ham Dinner Hosted by the Knights of Columbus St. Isidore Council No. 9307 Holdingford. Serving at the Pelican Lake Ballroom in St. Anna from 3:30 - 6:30 pm. Adults \$15. Children ages 5-12 \$10. Children under 4 free. Take out orders available.

October 16, Thursday

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

October 17, Friday

◆Central Minnesota Aging with Attitude Expo, Sauk Centre High School. Free & Open to the public. 8:00 - 8:45 am Registration & Exhibitors, 8:45 - 9:00 am Welcome Announcements, 9:00 - 10:00 am Keynote Speaker, Patty Wetterling, 10:00 - 10:30 am Exhibitors, 10:30 - 11:15 am and 11:30 am - 12:15 pm Break Out Sessions, 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch, Exhibitors, Entertainment & Door Prizes

October 18, Saturday

◆Johnathan Hiltner's Benefit Meal & Silent Auction at the Greenwald Pub from 4:00 - 8:00 pm. Johnathan was unexpectedly diagnosed with a rare type of glioblastoma, an aggressive brain cancer in May of 2025.

October 19, Sunday

◆All You Care to Eat Breakfast Serving from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at St. Anthony Parish Center 2405 1st St. N. St. Cloud, MN 56303. Adult \$12. Grades 7-12 \$6. PreK-Grade 6 are Free.

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,653.00
Regular Adult Offering	465.00
EFT	800.00
Plate/Loose	70.00
Votives	21.00
Fuel Fund	155.00
Maintenance Fund	35.00
Cemetery	100.00
Campaign for Human Development	7.00

Liturgical Ministries**Saturday, October 11 - 4:00 pm**

(S) Leo Kasper & Clara Kasper
(L) Julie Kulzer
(U) Dan Boecker & Dan Eveslage
(GB) Pete & Linda Heinze
(EM) (B) Kris Winter
(EM) (C) Mike Barten & Clarine Beier
(HK - October) *Judy Wehlage, Ruth Wehlage, Bev Winter, & Carol Winter

Updated Census Forms are due to the parish office by Wednesday, October 15, or call Katie at the parish office at 320-256-4207 and she can complete the form with you via the phone. Thank you!

Ministry Schedules are available on the website and in the church.

Parish-Wide Census The Church of St. John the Baptist is conducting a parish-wide Census. Forms were mailed to households last week. Please make any corrections or updates and return the forms to the parish office by Friday, October 31, or call Katie at the parish office at 320-256-4207 and she can complete the form with you via the phone. Thank you for your cooperation in this very important endeavor.

Ministry Schedules are available on the website and in the church.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$3,485.41
Regular Adult Offering.....	2,915.00
Children's	0.25
Plate/Loose	247.00
Votives.....	33.16
Maintenance Fund	60.00
Fuel Fund	200.00
Campaign for Human Development	30.00

Liturgical Ministries**Sunday, October 12 - 8:00 am**

(S) Faith Meyer & Mya Nathe
(L) Doug Meyer
(U) Elmer Meyer & Karl Meyer
(GB) Jim & Kay Leukam
(EM) Karl Meyer, Sue Meyer
Abby Zenzen, & Daryl Zenzen
(HK - October) *Rita Meyer, Virginia Meyer, Brenda Nathe, Virginia Nathe, Geri Primus, & Cindy Schneider

Church Basement Cleaning Monday, October 6 beginning at 6:00 pm.

Save the Date! Catholic United Financial
St. John's Catholic United Financial Potato Pancake & Sausage Supper in St. John's church basement will be Sunday, October 19. Advanced tickets are available from any St. John's parishioner.

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.

¡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.

Obra de teatro: invitamos a todas las personas que deseen participar en la obra de teatro de las apariciones de la virgen de Guadalupe a que se inscriban para iniciar con nuestros ensayos. Los interesados por favor hablen con Pedro Hernandez o llamen a la oficina parroquial.

Koinonia en Español: el retiro Koinonia se llevará a cabo del 10-12 de octubre. Los interesados habalen con Azucena Hernandez o Magdalena Montañez.

**Nourished by Faith** Cont'd. from page 1

Obviously, faith does not give us magical powers by which we can literally command a tree to uproot itself and plant itself in the sea. This imagery is meant to tell us that faith will work miracles of faith, not necessarily physical miracles. In fact, if God ever did use us and our faith to work a physical miracle, it would only happen because it was a motivation for the far more important gift of the increase of faith.

What, then, can a little faith do? It can uproot sin from your heart and from the hearts of those around you. It can nourish you and others in ways that seem impossible. Just as a tree cannot normally be planted in the sea and survive, the gift of faith, even a little faith, will enable the soul to be nourished and strengthened in ways that otherwise seem impossible. A martyr perfectly illustrates this fact. Normally, persecution and death are not considered to be nourishing to a person. But when a person has faith and suffers martyrdom on account of Christ, then their soul will be fed by the persecution itself. And that is among the greatest of miracles possible. Suffering, persecution, illness, poverty, and every other difficulty imaginable are transformed by God into a source of nourishment when we endure them with true faith.

Reflect, today, upon the prayer of the apostles: "Increase our faith." Some of the greatest mystics taught that faith darkens the intellect. By this darkening, they mean that, by faith, God will lead us into the unknown, on a path that He alone is aware of. We will become instruments of His transforming grace in ways that are completely beyond our natural abilities. Pray for an increase of faith. When our Lord hears your humble prayer, by which you also confess your lack of faith, He will increase that faith, uproot sin and evil, and plant your soul in places in which you become nourished in ways that you could have never imagined possible.

Most glorious Lord, Increase my faith. Give me a pure faith—a faith that enables You to lead me down the unknown path to Your glory. With this gift of faith, please use me to bring forth Your miraculous power by which sin is uprooted and souls are nourished by You alone. Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
 Amy Van Beck
SHS BOARD:
 Miranda Beuning, Bethanie Ettle,
 Ben Kalthoff, Tamara Welle,
 Lindsay Frieler, and Chris Klapake
 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

♥**SOUP FOR SALE!** We have quarts and gallons of our yummy Chicken Noodle Soup for sale. \$10 a quart and \$30 a gallon! Please contact the school if you would like some.

♥**Thank You to Famo Feeds** for their donation to busing to the various field trips we have gone on already this school year! We appreciate your generosity!

♥**We are Looking for Help** in our Infant and Toddler Care Center from 7:30-10:30 am and/or from 2:30 to 5:30 pm. If you are interested, please contact the SHS Office.

♥**Big Thank You to Albany Mutual Telephone** for the grant that will help pay for our new secure entry systems into our buildings as well as other projects. We are so thankful for these community partnerships!

♥**The Catholic United Financial Breakfast** is coming up on Sunday, October 12! Tickets are available from SHS families as well as other CUF members and at the door.

♥**Anyone in the Community is Welcome** to come to SHS on Monday, October 6 to watch the Social Dilemma movie at 7:00 pm. We will then have a parent forum on Monday, October 13 at 7:00 pm to discuss the movie and the impact it is having on our youth.

♥**Thank You to Freeport State Bank** for displaying the SHS logo on their marquee! It is amazing to see our logo so prominently displayed in town.

♥**The SHS Caring Coat Drive** will start on Monday, October 6! If you have any new or gently used winter coats, hats, mittens, snowpants, etc. for youth in our communities, please bring them into SHS. The Caring Coat Drive will run from Monday, October 6 - Saturday, November 1.

♥**Sacred Heart School Annual Care-A-Thon Fundraiser** took place on Friday, October 3. Thank you for your donations to our students at SHS! We are still accepting donations for our Care-A-Thon. You can mail in donations or drop them off at school. Fundraisers like the 1K, Care-A-Thon, etc. are what help keep our school affordable and successful!

♦**The Next School Board Meeting** is on Wednesday, October 8, at 6:30 pm.

♦**The Melrose Fire Department Visited** St. Mary's School this past week. We appreciate their dedication to keeping our community safe and showing our kids the importance of service and helping others.

♦**Grandparents Day** will be celebrated at St. Mary's School on Wednesday, October 15. Kindergarten through 6th grade will begin the day with Mass at church at 8:30 am, followed by a program at 10:15 am with preschool-6th grade at church, and ending the day with lunch at school.

♦**NO School** on Thursday & Friday, October 16-17, due to Education MN.

♦**SJSA Oktoberfest** is Wednesday, October 15 from 5:30 - 8:30 pm in the St. John's Church basement in Meire Grove. The student performance is at **7:30 pm**. Please join us for food, fellowship, and a live polka band.

♦**SJSA Workathon** is Friday, October 10. The students will be raking leaves and doing outside clean-up in Greenwald. If you would like your yard raked, please call the school at 320-987-3133. Please support our students as they seek pledges to reach our fundraising goal of \$18,000.

♦**Greenwald Elevator Softener Salt Sale** The Greenwald Elevator is having a salt sale with proceeds benefiting SJSA. Salt can be ordered by the bag or pallet now through Tuesday, October 15. The pick up date is Thursday, November 6 at the Greenwald Elevator. You can place your order with any SJSA family, by calling the school at 320-987-3133, or by calling the Greenwald Elevator at 320-987-3159.

♦**The Melrose Fire Department will visit** SJSA on Wednesday, October 8 as part of National Fire Safety Week.

♦**No School at SJSA** Thursday & Friday, October 16 and 17, due to the Education Minnesota break.

The Scriptures This Week

Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo	Weekday (<i>Saint Bruno, Priest; USA: Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin</i>) Jon 1:1—2:2, 11	Lk 10:25-37
Tu	Our Lady of the Rosary (<i>Memorial</i>) Jon 3:1-10	Lk 10:38-42
We	Weekday Jon 4:1-11	Lk 11:1-4
Th	Weekday (<i>Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest</i>) Mal 3:13-20b	Lk 11:5-13
Fr	Weekday Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2	Lk 11:15-26
Sa	Weekday (<i>Saint John XXIII, Pope; BVM</i>) Jl 4:12-21	Lk 11:27-28
Next	Sunday - Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Kgs 5:14-17 2 Tm 2:8-13 Lk 17:11-19	

Prayer Requests...

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

For the Sick: Judy Meyer, Fr. Roger Klassen, 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

FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information:

faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1-6: No Class** Wednesday, October 8.
- **Grades 7-10: No Class** Wednesday, October 8.
- **Grade 11: Confirmation Practice:** Wednesday, October 8 at 7:00 pm. Please meet at Immaculate Conception, New Munich.
 - ♦ **The Rite of Confirmation** will take place on Saturday, October 11 at 7:00 pm at the Church of the Immaculate Conception. Students and sponsors meet in the church basement at 6:00 pm.

Service Projects:

- **Trick or Treating for the Food Shelf** Students in grades 6 - 12 will be Trick or Treating for the Food Shelf on Friday, October 31 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. We will meet at Sacred Heart Church basement and will cover the towns of Freeport, New Munich, and St. Rosa. Permission forms are available on the website, www.sacredheartfreeport.org. Deadline is Wednesday, October 22.
- **Card Making** will be on Wednesday, November 5 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Sacred Heart Church Basement. Students in grades 6-12 will be making Christmas Cards. Permission slips are available on the website, www.sacredheartfreeport.org. Deadline is Wednesday, October 29.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information:

faithformation@stmarysofamelrose.com

- **Grades 7/8: Out-of-class homework assignment** instead of class this week! (NO class at church on Wednesday, October 8. See text messages for more information.)

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

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

- **Grades 6-12: Pizza and Rosary Making Night:** Monday, October 13 All students grade 6-12 are invited to join the Youth Leadership Team for a night filled with Rosaries, pizza, and fun, in the Sacred Heart Church Basement in Freeport from 6:00-8:00 pm. Please fill out a permission form and return it to the Tri-Parish Office by Wednesday, October 8.
- **Grades 9-12: St. Cloud Diocese Apostle Games:** Sunday, October 26 This year the St. Cloud Diocese is excited to announce the exciting, competitive, and enriching Apostle Games coming to our very own St. Cloud State University! The day will be filled with prayer, food, games, and Mass. We invite and encourage all our youth to embark on this fun-filled day celebrating National Youth Day. If interested, please pick up an interest form at the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport or in the back of the church in Freeport, New Munich, or St. Rose. For more information contact Kasia at 320-836-2143 or faithformation@catholic-centered.org.
- **Hot Chocolate Bomb Making** Grades 6-12 are invited to get messy and creative while making hot chocolate bombs on Monday, November 17 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Sacred Heart Church Basement. Snacks will be provided. Forms are available at the parish offices and on the Tri-Parish website. Deadline is Wednesday, November 12.

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2



40 Days For Life Once Upon a Time the Son of God was Small Enough to Fit Inside a Woman's Womb! Say YES! Join us to pray peacefully to end abortion, any day, any time. Sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/en/st.cloud to connect with other prayer warriors. Pray with us Monday thru Friday from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm from now until Sunday, November 2 at Planned Parenthood 451 E St. Germain St, St. Cloud.

Theology Day is a chance for people in our communities who are seeking a deeper understanding of their faith and its place in their everyday lives to learn from and interact with the theologians of Saint John's School of Theology and Seminary. Pope Francis designated 2025 as a Holy Year, inviting us all to renew ourselves as *Pilgrims of Hope*. In keeping with this powerful theme, this year's Theology Day presentations will explore hopefulness and offer practical insights to carry into daily life. Join us for inspiring conversations, thoughtful reflection, and a community journeying together in faith and hope. Register at www.apps.csbsju.edu/theologyday. Please register at least five days in advance of the presentation date you wish to participate in. There is no opportunity for last minute webinar registrations. ♦ **The Stones of Corinth: Looking for Hope in the Ruins.** Explore with Micah as he uncover Corinth's ancient struggles, how they mirror ours today, and why there is hope for the future. Tuesday, October 28 from 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm (6:00 pm check-in) at Emmaus Hall, St. John's University.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Keep your fingers crossed. Not just a date night—a weekend that transforms your marriage. November 22-23 at St. Mary's, Alexandria. Take a weekend to pause, laugh, and fall in love all over again. Use promo code LOVE40 to save \$40—our gift to you. Visit WWME.org to register or call 507-227-8229.



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** Married Couples Retreat - October 17-19 (Weekend)
- **Autumn Triduum:** Snapshots of Sanctity & Habits of Holiness Silent Retreat for Men & Women – Presented by Fr. Joseph Nassal, C.P.P.S. - October 31-November 2 (Weekend)
- **Pilgrims of Hope** Men's Silent Retreat - November 7-9 (Weekend)

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.



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