



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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 10, 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.

Vigilance, Attentiveness, Action



Jesus said to his disciples: “Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master’s return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have the servants recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.” Luke 12:35-37

Vigilance, hard work, determination, attentiveness, fidelity—these are some of the qualities that Jesus is speaking about. To “gird your loins” means that you are immediately prepared for some challenging task. You are ready for the hard work ahead and are committed to it. To “light your lamps” implies that you are not in the dark but that your mind is enlightened in such a way that you are able to see that which is the will of God.

As we go through life, it is easy to become complacent in the things of faith. It is easy to become lazy, disinterested, distracted, and unfocused. This parable goes on to speak of a thief who tries to break into a house in the middle of the night. This is Jesus’ way of saying that the evil one, with his lies and attacks, is constant, vicious, forceful, and unpredictable. For that reason, we must never grow tired of being vigilant in the spiritual life and must always be attentive to the light of God’s voice.

How attentive are you to the mission of Christ on a daily basis? This is an essential question to answer honestly. Most people will find that they become distracted from the mission God has given to them. We experience countless things every day that compete for our attention. Many of those competing voices might not appear to be sinful. For example, perhaps a certain hobby has become the dominant focus of your free time. Or perhaps responsibilities at work have spilled over into your family time. Or perhaps some painful or even enjoyable experience has had your full attention for some time. Though it is obvious that sinful distractions in life are evil, it might not always be as obvious that there are many other neutral distractions that are a real problem. The problems they can produce are a lack of attentiveness to the will of God and a lack of readiness to engage the will of God the moment He calls.

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ACC MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS ~ AUGUST 11 - 17

ST. MARY - Melrose

Mo	6:30 pm	Misa en Español †Encarnacion Luis de la Cruz †Charlie Gebeke
Tu	7:30 am	†Rae Kuzma
We	7:30 am	†Catherine Primus
Th	7:30 am	Feast of the Assumption †Mary Elfering
*Fr	7:30 am	Misa de la Asunción en Español †Belester Vazquez Sobreira †Charlie & †Arlene Pflipsen
Fr	6:30 pm	†Millie Toenyan
Sa	5:00 pm	Misa en Español †Daniel Montanez Martinez
*Su	9:00 am	
Su	11:30 am	

SACRED HEART - Freeport

We	8:15 am	†Claude Hoeschen
Fr	8:15 am	Feast of the Assumption †David Soenneker
Su	8:00 am	For the People

*Mass will be livestreamed.

Visit: oneinfaith.org for the YouTube link.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - New Munich

Th	7:00 pm	Feast of the Assumption For the People
Sa	4:00 pm	†Veron & †Joe Rieland
St. ROSE OF LIMA - St. Rosa		
Tu	8:15 am	†Viola Borgerding
Fr	7:00 pm	Feast of the Assumption †Deceased Members of the Hartung Family
Su	10:00 am	†Victor, †Bruce, & †Dan Elfering
St. MICHAEL - Spring Hill		
Tu	8:00 am	†Lawrence Fleischhacker
Fr	7:30 pm	Feast of the Assumption For the People
Su	10:00 am	†Kathleen Meyer
St. ANDREW - Greenwald		
Th	8:00 am	†Mathias Welle
Sa	4:00 pm	For the People
St. JOHN - Meire Grove		
We	8:00 am	†Deceased Relatives of Denis & Emily Schneider
Su	8:00 am	†Ray & †Carol Schneider

ADORATION

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

No Adoration on Friday, August 15



ONE IN FAITH AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish News:

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

•**Attention Eucharistic Ministers** Meetings will be held for anyone who is bringing communion to the homebound, hospital or nursing home. Please attend either Wednesday, August 13 at 9:15 am or Saturday, August 16 at 9:00 am. Both meetings will be held at St. Mary's in the Gathering Space.

One In Faith ACC Employment Opportunity...

•**Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry (DFFYM)** Sacred Heart, Immaculate Conception, and St. Rose of Lima is seeking a PT/FT DFFYM. Individuals interested in this position are asked to send a letter of interest and resume to ahoeschen@catholic-centered.org. For more information, please contact Amy Hoeschen PO Box 155, Freeport, MN 56331 or call 320-836-2143.

•**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.

•**Hiring a Long-Term Substitute at Sacred Heart School** for the 2025/2026 school year. This position would cover from the end of September through December. Please contact the school office at 320-836-2591 or admin@shsfreeport.org if you are interested or have any questions.

Natural Family Planning... God's Plan for Marriage: Natural Family Planning! Based on 50+ years of ongoing scientific research, the Billings Ovulation Method is a highly effective way to postpone or achieve pregnancy and monitor reproductive health without drugs or devices. It is supported by the Catholic Church because it respects God's design for married love. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in: Sauk Centre on Thursday, August 14, 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!

**Parish News:**

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

•**Children's Liturgy of the Word** With the school year right around the corner, we are looking for help with Children's Liturgy of the Word in Freeport, New Munich, and St. Rosa during weekend Masses. If you like working with children and sharing your faith with them, this could be the ministry for you. We need to have one confirmed member and one youth present during Children's Liturgy of the Word. If a Mass time in one of the parishes is better for you, you are more than welcome to help in that parish. If we do not have volunteers to carry out this ministry, it will not be available to your young people. Please contact the Tri-Parish Office in Freeport if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

With Sincere Thanks to all who donated to the Catholic Relief Services Collection and to the Rice Bowl program in this challenging time. CRS operates on a grassroots level in over 100 countries around the world and donations like yours continue to make this possible. This is the primary outreach of the Catholic Church in the United States to assist with the global needs of our brothers and sisters in faith. You also contribute toward local hunger relief with 25% of the Rice Bowl funds being distributed throughout our diocese to organizations like area food shelves which are seeing increasing needs during this time. On behalf of those who benefit from your kindness and generosity, our heartfelt gratitude!

Parish Office Closure The Parish Offices in Melrose and Freeport will be closed on Friday, August 15 for Feast of the Assumption.

One In Faith ACC Pastoral Council Meeting The One In Faith Pastoral Council will meet Tuesday, August 12 at 7:00 pm at the Church of St. Mary, Fireside Room. If you are wanting to be added to the agenda please contact Lisa Wuertz at 320-219-3624 or plwuertz@mcltel.net before Monday, August 11.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
Melrose, MN 56352

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

Total	\$8,181.00
Regular Adult Offering	5,836.00
Plate/Loose	1,136.00
Designated Funds	1,209.00

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

08-03	\$25	Margaret Imdieke, Melrose
08-04	\$25	Darlene Bussmann, Melrose
08-05	\$25	St. Mary's Church
08-06	\$25	Amanda Kemper (Mike), Melrose
08-07	\$25	Joe Hennen, Freeport
08-08	\$50	Matt & Cindy Anderson, Melrose
08-09	\$25	Mark Morton & Linda Bierschbach, Melrose

**The Scriptures This Week**

Year C, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo	Saint Clare, Virgin (<i>Memorial</i>)	
	Dt 10:12-22	Mt 17:22-27
Tu	Weekday (<i>Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious</i>)	
	Dt 31:1-8	Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
We	Weekday (<i>Saints Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Prist, Martyrs</i>)	
	Dt 34:1-12	Mt 18:15-20
Th	Weekday (<i>Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr</i>)	
	Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17	Mt 18:21—19:1
Fr	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (<i>Solemnity</i>)	
	Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2	1 Cor 15:54b-57
		Lk 11:27-28
	Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab	1 Cor 15:20-27
		Lk 1:39-56
Sa	Weekday (<i>Saint Stephen of Hungary; BVM</i>)	
	Jos 24:14-29	Mt 19:13-15
Next Sunday	- Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	Jer 38:4-6, 8-10	Heb 12:1-4
		Lk 12:49-53

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

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

Total	\$4,983.44
Regular Adult Offering	4,068.54
Plate	336.00
Votive	313.90
School Support	220.00

Parish Events

Su	08/10	9:15 am	Baptism
We	08/13	6:30 pm	Book Study
Fr	08/15	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	08/15		NO Adoration

2026 Sacred Heart Parish Festival will be on Sunday, July 19, 2026.

Prayer Requests...

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

Banns of Matrimony:

II Juana Orozco Vazquez♥Rene Ramirez, 8-23 M

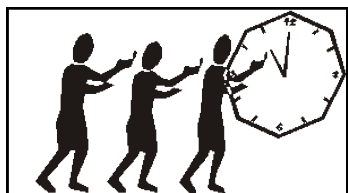
For the Sick: Ted Hoeschen, Tillie Bueckers, Kathy Elfering, Sandy Welle, Joyce Hauser, Dorothy Schneider, Michelle Russel, Lori Austing

Contact Persons for Prayer Line Requests:

Sacred Heart - <i>Judy Caveny</i>	320-248-8830
Immaculate Conception - <i>Bernice Zink</i>	320-837-5321
St. Rose of Lima - <i>Kayla Harren</i>	320-333-8461
St. Michael - <i>Sharon Schulzetenberg</i>	320-248-7702
St. Mary's	320-256-3878

Vigilance, Attentiveness, Action

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*Be like servants awaiting
their Master's return*

Imagine, for example, that a very important person calls you to ask for a favor. Most likely you would drop all you were doing and respond immediately. But, sadly, when the King of the Universe attempts to speak to us and inspire us to some mission, we can be too distracted to even listen, let alone respond with immediacy and zeal. This is a problem. If, however, a person is continually attentive to the voice of God and responds to His interior promptings as soon as they are received, then Jesus says that this person is truly blessed and that He will "have the servants recline at table, and proceed to wait on them." In other words, the result of being vigilant in our attentiveness to the inspirations of God is that God Himself will

reward us with His service. He will invite us to the table of spiritual rest, peace, joy, and fulfillment. He will serve us His mercy, which will be more than we could ever imagine.

Reflect, today, upon the call from God to always be attentive to His voice the instant He speaks. Reflect upon how aware you are of His constant presence in your life and His ongoing communication. Know that if you can form a habit of always listening, then you will never miss out on the grace-filled mission given to you by our Lord. Always listen to Him, seek out His still and gentle voice, and be ready to respond to Him every time He calls.

My ever-speaking Lord, You have so much to say and so much to reveal. Please enlighten my mind and strengthen my resolve to always listen to you and respond with all my heart. Your will is perfect and will lead me to a life of the deepest joy and fulfillment. May I believe this with all my heart and act accordingly.

Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$4,308.83
Regular Adult Offering.....	4,105.33
Plate	166.00
Building/Maintenance.....	37.50

Parish Events

We 08/13 6:00 pm Baptism
We 08/13 6:30 pm Book Study - FR
Sa 08/16 3:30 pm Individual Confessions

Elevator and Expansion Update:

The parish has an outstanding loan to the New Munich Investors for \$190,000. Please consider making a contribution to help pay off the final loan taken out to make the church handicap accessible.

Sacred Heart School**Calendar Raffle Winners!**

08/03	\$25	Andrew Holdvogt - Melrose
08/04	\$25	Matt & Ashley Herdering - Freeport
08/05	\$25	Jerald Wilwerding - Freeport
08/06	\$25	Anne Blenker - Freeport
08/07	\$25	Ashley Thompson - Burtrum
08/08	\$25	Shawn Scherping - Freeport
08/09	\$25	Karen Rademacher - Freeport

CHURCH OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total.....	\$2,185.46
Regular Adult Offering.....	1,603.46
Plate	582.00

Parish Events

We 08/13 6:30 pm Book Study - FR
Fr 08/15 NO Rosary

Reminder Pink Cash Raffle tickets, if you have them sold please return before Mass or at St. Rosa Lumber. There are still tickets available if anyone needs more to sell. Contact Lillian 320-293-8333. They all need to be returned by Sunday, August 24. We appreciate you selling and buying!

Festival News:

- **Parishioner Parish Festival envelopes/tickets** are available to pick up in the gathering space of the church.
- **Please review the work schedule** and if you are unable to work your shift, please assist with finding a replacement.
- **Albany Bakery** is willing to make cakes and deliver them on Saturday prior to the festival if a parishioner prefers & orders. Please call them to order.

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$940.00
Regular Adult Offering.....	215.00
Plate/Loose	35.00
Maintenance Fund	350.00
School Support.....	40.00
Food Relief	45.00
Annual Appeal.....	255.00

Liturgical Ministries**Feast of the Assumption with****Bishop Neary**

Friday, August 15 - 7:30 pm

(S) Olivia & Lukas Kalthoff
(L) Darlene Schoenberg
(U) Conrad Gruber & Stan Heinen
(EM) (B) Sandra Gruber
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood
(Sacristan) Ruth Heinen
(RL) Marilyn Gruber
(CC) Mark Schoenberg & Rick Terres

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday, August 17 - 10:00 am

(S) Stella & Jameson Schoenberg
(L) Lisa Wuertz
(U) Dan Hemmesch & Adam Kalthoff
(EM) (B) Ruth Heinen
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood
(Sacristan) Lisa Feldewerd
(RL) Kathy Welle
(CC) Chico Welle & Steve Welle
(HK: August 10 - 23) Amanda Moscho, Ruth Moscho, & Mary Nietfeld

Attention Lectors There will be Lector Training at St. Michael's on Monday, August 11, at 6:30 pm. If you are currently a lector, or interested in becoming one, please attend the training.

Attention Servers There will be Server Training at St. Michael's on Monday, August 11, at 7:15 pm. All current servers are asked to attend.

Breakfast Anyone? Catholic United Financial will be having their annual matching grant breakfast, Sunday, September 7 in Spring Hill. Save the date!

EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) St. Michael's now has the option for EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)! If you are interested in signing up to handle your contributions to the church in this way, please pick up a form at the church, check the parish website (oneinfaith.org/stmichaels), or stop in the parish office. The first transaction is scheduled for Friday, August 15, 2025. Please have signed forms to the office by Monday, August 11.

One in Faith ACC Is Invited to Celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



- ◆ **Outdoor Mass** with Bishop Neary Friday, August 15 at 7:30 pm at St. Michael's Parish in Spring Hill.
- In case of inclement weather, Mass will be held in church.
- Poor Clares collection will be taken.
- Bring your own chair.
- Refreshments will be served after Mass.

Everyone is welcome! Please bring a friend!

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$3,913.00
Regular Adult Offering	1,540.00
Plate/Loose	1,229.00
Votives	24.00
Annual Appeal	990.00
Spraying Fund	130.00

Liturgical Ministries**Saturday, August 16 - 4:00 pm**

(S) Zachary Rieland
(L) Linda Heinze
(U) Daniel Nietfeld & Harold Rademacher
(GB) Jon & Laurel Worms
(EM) (B) Mary Opatrny
(EM) (C) No Precious Blood
(HK - August) *Trista Roelike, Joyce Schoenber,
Sharon Schwieters & Margaret Silbernick

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

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

◆◆◆◆ Weekly Offering ◆◆◆◆

Total	\$1,681.25
Regular Adult Offering.....	765.00
Children	0.25
Plate/Loose	548.00
Votives.....	28.00
School Support	60.00
Steeple Lighting	60.00
Annual Appeal	220.00

Liturgical Ministries**Sunday, August 17 - 8:00 am**

(S) Cole Funk & Luke Funk
(L) Char Meyer
(U) Dennis Schmiesing & Don Schneider
(GB) Don & Cindy Schneider
(EM) Abby Zenzen & Daryl Zenzen
(HK - August) *Amy Klaphake, Ruth Klaphake, Mary Kay Leukam, Theresa Loxtercamp, Sheri Luetmer, & Irene Marthaler

Finance Council Nominations:

Nominations for a position on the St. John's Finance Council (formerly called the Leadership Council) will take place next Sunday, August 17 at the 8:00 am Mass at St. John's in Meire Grove. Parishioners will be able to nominate individuals they feel would be good candidates for this position. The position is for a three-year term. The term of Tom Klaphake is up. Tom has served one term and is eligible for re-nomination, but has indicated that he will decline re-nomination. The election for this position is scheduled to be held on Sunday, September 7.

Attention Lectors There will be Lector Training at St. John's on Wednesday, August 13, at 6:30 pm. If you are currently a lector, or interested in becoming one, please attend the training.

Attention Servers There will be Server Training at St. John's on Wednesday, August 13, at 7:15 pm. All current servers are asked to attend.

Volunteers Needed The tall shrubs that surround our grotto need trimming and shaping usually once a year. If someone would like to volunteer for this task, it would be so appreciated! Please call Char at 320-248-1019 Thank you!!

EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) St. John's now has the option for EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)! If you are interested in signing up to handle your contributions to the church in this way, please pick up a form at the church, check the parish website (oneinfaith.org/stjohns), or stop in the parish office. The first transaction is scheduled for Friday, August 15, 2025. Please have signed forms to the office by Monday, August 11.

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Padrinos de Bautismo: a todos los padres de Familia que desean bautizar a sus hijos, les recordamos que los padrinos de bautismo deberán ser católicos confirmados y practicantes. Esto significa que deben ser mayor de 16 años, deben estar confirmados, asistir frecuentemente a Misa, si están casados deben estar casados por la Iglesia y si son solteros deben ser solteros no separados. Para más información hable con el diácono Jesus Hernandez o hable a la oficina parroquial.



¡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.

**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 para pedir información sobre el programa y comenzar a planear sus preparación.

Barley Days St. Andrew's Parish Raffle Winners

\$3,000	Jon Worms
\$2,000	Lee Uphoff
\$1,000	Amy Stueve
\$750	Jim & Helen Poepping
\$500	Rose Rademacher
\$500	Mike Wiechmann
\$500	Eugene & Marlene Blommel
\$250	Rita Frieler
\$250	Jasmine Fleischhacker
\$250	Lance Stueve
\$100	Mike Kulzer
\$100	Eugene & Marlene Blommel
\$100	Nick Worms
\$100	Marilyn Welle
\$100	Dale Schleper
\$100	Cindy Ludwig
\$100	Mark Larson
\$100	Deb Keller
\$100	Mitch Van Havermaet
\$100	Kari Zimmer

**Public Rosary...****We have much to pray for and even more to be thankful for.**

- 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.

All are invited and welcome!

- 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.



FAITH FORMATION

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: faithformation@catholic-centered.org

- **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.
- **Faith Formation Registration:** If you missed registration night, your packet was mailed to you. If you didn't receive it, contact the parish office. Please turn in all registration forms and fees for 2025/2026 as soon as possible. You can drop them off at the Parish Office in Freeport or mail to PO Box 155, Freeport.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofamelrose.com

- **Confirmation (11th or 12th graders): Opening night** of Confirmation is Wednesday, August 27 7:15 - 8:30 pm. This gathering will be the first class of the year. As part of the class, we will have a special blessing of Confirmation candidates and their parents/guardians, so if both parents can attend, that would be fabulous! Please at least have 1 parent attend. We will also share information about the calendar and Diocesan Confirmation requirements. Kahoot quiz, prizes, and ice cream sundaes at the end!
- **First Eucharist/Communion: Opening Day** is Sunday, September 7 from 10:00-11:15 am (between the Sunday morning Masses). We ask that all students attend with one parent or guardian. We'll give you lots of information about the year to come, and then we'll have our first class together (and we'll have cookies too!). **Note:** This gathering is for all families with a child who is receiving First Communion this year, regardless of the age of the child.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Continued

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

YOUTH MINISTRY

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

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

- ♥ **Messy Wiffle Ball** will be held on Tuesday, August 19, at 6:00 - 7:30 pm at Sacred Heart Church grounds. Anyone in grades 6-12 are invited and permission forms can be found in the back of each church and on the Tri-Parish website. Please turn the forms in no later than Friday, August 15. Bring your family and friends for this fun-filled night. A light meal will be served after.

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 Klapshake
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:
Kathy Gilk, Adam Kalthoff, Kate
Kelzer, Kurt Meyer, Trista Roelike,
Jenny Wilson, and Kristi Zimmer
Phone: 320-987-3133
www.sjsaschool.org

- ♥ **Parents look for open house letters** in your mailboxes this week! We are under a month away from the start of school and we are all getting excited to see you again!
- ♥ **We are looking for help in our aftercare program throughout the year.** We have a lot of girls moving off to college and we are looking to hire a few more people to help out after school from 3:00-5:30 pm. Must be 16 years old. Please contact the school if you are interested. 320-836-2591.
- ♥ **We are also looking to hire a long-term sub** for the 25/26 school year. This position would cover from the end of September through December. Please contact the school office at 320-836-2591 or admin@shsfreeport.org if you are interested or have any questions.
- ♥ **The SHS Office Will be Open Periodically** throughout the summer. You can stop in, email avanbeck@shsfreeport.org or call if you need anything.

- ♦ **Open House for parents and students** is Tuesday, August 26, from 4:00 - 7:00 pm.
- ♦ **The first day of school** for all preschool - 6th grade students will be Tuesday, September 2.
- ♦ **The school supply list** can be found on our school website www.smsmelrosemn.org.
- ♦ **Are you over 55 and like working with children?** If so, have you considered being a Foster Grandparent? This is a wonderful opportunity to share your gifts and talents by investing your time with children, building meaningful relationships, and enriching the lives of all involved. St. Mary's School is looking for helpers like this. If you, or someone you know may be interested in being a Foster Grandparent at St. Mary's School, please contact Pat Scherf 320-293-0682 or pat.scherf@ccstcloud.org.

- ♦ **Mark your calendars!** SJSA Open House for preschool is Wednesday, August 27 from 4:00-5:00 pm. Open House for grades K-6 is Thursday, August 28 from 5:00-7:00 pm with a parent meeting at 6:00 pm.
- ♦ **SJSA has openings in grades preschool - 6th grade** for the 2025-2026 school year. If you are looking for small class size in a caring and faith based environment, check us out! If you would like to visit the school, call the office at 320-987-3133 or email Mary at sjsamarym@gmail.com.
- ♦ **SJSA received a Living the Promise grant** of \$2,325 from The Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of St. Cloud. The grant will be used to pay for religion curriculum in grades preschool - 6th grade. Thank you to everyone who supports the Catholic Foundation.
- ♦ **SJSA News Continued on Page 7**

ONE IN FAITH ACC NEWS CON'T FROM PG 2

Holy Family Mini-Fest 2025, Little Falls, August 15 - 17. Reconnect with God. Be supported in your faith. Have fun as a family. Come experience the beauty and wonder of God alongside fellow Catholics at the historical Holy Family Church and Belle Prairie Park along the Mississippi River. For more information contact hfoffice@havenofmercycatholic.org or Cindy Loidolt at 320-639-1210.



Poor Clares Benefit On Saturday, August 23, there will be a Poor Clares Benefit from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the home of Pat Borgmann, 321 Morning View Lane in Sauk Centre, MN. The Poor Clares Monastery is located in Sauk Rapids. These sisters live a cloistered life dedicated to God through sacrifice and prayer. If you have any prayer requests, please be assured that they will be passed on to them. Donations to the Poor Clares are also welcome. Refreshments and rolls will be served. For more info/questions email: jkohorst33@gmail.com or call: 320-766-1061.

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

•Men's & Women's Silent Weekend Retreat - August 22-24 "Fingers Crossed" Presented by Fr. Charlie Lachowitzer

Adore @ George Outdoor Adoration at Lake George with Fr. Derek Wiechmann Tuesday, August 26. Schedule: 3:00 pm start with Exposition, Reading and Homily, Divine Mercy Chaplet. 4:00 pm Silent Prayer, Prayer Teams, Confession available. 6:00 pm Praise and Worship. 7:15 pm Benediction and Closing Prayer. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and a bottle of water. Unless there is lightning, the event will happen rain or shine at Lake George 1101—7th Street S., St. Cloud. Located at the south end of the lake. *"It is true that going out on to the street implies the risk of accidents happening, as they would to any ordinary man or woman. But if the church stays wrapped up in itself, it will age. And if I had to choose between a wounded church that goes out on the streets and a sick, withdrawn church, I would definitely choose the first one."* Pope Francis, 2012



The Truth Will Set You Free! Catholic Apologetics with instructor, Fred Blonigen at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 2405 1st St. N., St. Cloud, MN 56303. Tuesdays from September 9 through November 4 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Course Description: Participants will be taught to understand and defend the faith on a wide variety of Catholic teachings, including:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ♥Prayer & Suffering | ♥Sacred Heart Devotion |
| ♥Mental Prayer | ♥Mary and the Eucharist |
| ♥Guardian Angels | ♥Praying to the Saints |
| ♥Diabolical Afflictions | ♥Seven Deadly Sins |
| ♥St. Peter & the Papacy | ♥Tradition & the Bible |
| ♥Canon of the Bible | ♥Heaven, Hell, Purgatory |
| ♥Catholic Moral Teaching | ♥Habits of Holiness |



Voices of Hope - Bishop's Annual Appeal 2025: Solid grounding in the Catholic tradition empowers our youth to face challenges with hope and resilience. The diocese is proud to support vibrant

youth formation programs, 27 Catholic schools serving 4,632 students and religious education for 9,748 youth. In July, \$177,174 in funding from the Bishop's Annual Appeal was distributed directly to parishes to support Catholic schools and religious education programs. To learn more about Catholic education, please use your smartphone or visit <https://youtu.be/-dtf-flu0nA>



SJSA News Cont'd. from page 6

- SJSA received a check** for \$111.50 for aluminum can recycling. The recycling trailer is in the south parking lot of St. John's Church in Meire Grove. Thank you for recycling with SJSA.
- SJSA received a distribution** of \$326.68 from the Stearns County Endowment Fund to assist with scholarships for the 2025-2026 school year. Twenty years ago, an anonymous donor established this endowment to benefit Catholic elementary education in Catholic schools in Stearns County.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA

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

August 10, Sunday

♦**Annual Church Bazaar at Church of Seven Dolors in Albany A** 10:00 am - Polka Mass, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm Dinner served, 3:00 pm - Quilt auction, 6:00 pm - Grand raffle and cash raffle drawings. Bingo, cake walk, pull tabs, \$100 cash wheel, kids games and food/beverages will be available. Entertainment by Two for the Road and Livewire. Please come spend the day with us.

♦**BoniFest Saint Boniface Parish Festival**, Cold Spring. Parade at 10:00 am followed by food, kids games, inflatables (weather permitting), bean bag tournament, live music by the BLT Band, quilt auction under the big tent at Saint Boniface church, Cold Spring at 2:30 pm. View quilts at <https://christcatholic.com>, general raffle, and a car raffle to end the day at 4:15 pm.

August 12, Tuesday

♦**American Red Cross Blood Drive** sponsored by the Freeport Lions Club at the Freeport Community Center from 12:30 - 6:30 pm. Give the precious gift of life. Appointments are needed. We are always in need of people with type "O" blood. Schedule your appointment online at redcross.org or call Janet Butkowski at 320-836-2837 or 320-282-2904.

August 14, Thursday

♦**Free Health Clinic** at the Melrose Senior Center located in the Melrose City Center from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. First Come, first served. You don't need health insurance to see a doctor. Please bring with you the lists of medications that you are currently taking! Contact Julie Gordon 320-251-2700 ext. 53630 or Perla Ramos (Spanish) 320-291-6355 if you have any questions.

August 15, Friday

♦**"All You Can Eat" Fish Fry** hosted by the Melrose American Legion. Serving from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Take outs are available. Your support is very much appreciated!

August 21, Thursday

♦**Freeport Senior Citizens meeting** at 12:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

♦**Cream Can Supper** Hosted by the Melrose Area Senior Citizens from 5:30 - 6:30 pm in the Senior Center, located in the lower level of the Melrose City Center. You may sign up at the Melrose City Center and prepay by Tuesday, August 19. The cost is \$10 per person, non-refundable. Seats are limited. Includes salad, bread, and dessert.

August 24, Sunday

♦**St. Francis of Assisi Parish Festival**, St. Francis. 10:00 am Mass in air conditioned church, 11:00 am dinner indoors, live music, food, games and events outdoor.

♦**Quilt Bingo** at Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Center in Richmond at 6:30 pm. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Refreshments, hot dogs and more available. Cost \$15 per packet good for 15 regular games. Paper bingo cards. Bring your dabbers. Special game sheets \$3 each. Quilt raffle. Must be 18 to play. No checks please.

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