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

Second Sunday of Advent **December 4, 2022**

Fr. Marvin Enneking, Pastor
Fr. Daniel Walz, Pastor
Fr. Arockiya Newton, Parochial Vicar

Melrose - Spring Hill -
Greenwald - Meire Grove Office:

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Office Phone: 320-256-4207
Email: stmarys@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

ACC Bulletin Announcement Deadline
Tuesday before 9:00 am
Email announcements to:
bulletin@catholic-centered.org

Confession Times
- Fridays 7:45 am Sacred Heart
- Saturdays 3:30 pm St. Andrew
- Saturdays 3:30 pm Immaculate Conception
- 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 & RCIA
If you are interested in having your child baptized or participating in the RCIA program, contact the respective Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick, Home Bound 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.

Public Repentance

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." Matthew 3:7–8

This was both a very intense and yet very holy encounter. It was intense in that Saint John the Baptist, who had become quite popular and respected and was considered a great prophet, spoke harshly toward the Pharisees and Sadducees. "You brood of vipers!" he says. This was not the way the Pharisees and Sadducees were normally spoken to.

John speaks this way because it was the truth. These religious leaders were not leading anyone closer to God. One only needs to ponder all that Jesus would eventually say to the Pharisees and Sadducees to understand what kind of people these religious leaders had become.

So this passage is certainly intense. But it is also very holy. It is holy because this "brood of vipers" needed to be chastised. They needed to be condemned and challenged. They needed to be humbled. And there is nothing more humbling than sincerely repenting of one's sins in a public way.

Notice that John does not dismiss the leaders outright. Rather, he requires of them "evidence" of their repentance. Why? Because of the spiritual damage these men did to the people of Israel on account of their pride, self-righteousness, hypocrisy, love of public honors, condemnation of others, etc. They had so distorted the faith that the good of their souls required public repentance. It required that everyone see sincere good fruits flowing from their lives as a sign that they had changed. Though this is a tall order for the Pharisees and Sadducees, it's the way to holiness for them.

The same is true for us. If you have allowed yourself to fall into some of the same traps as the Pharisees and Sadducees, then you, too, will greatly benefit from clear and humble public change. If you have struggled with self-righteousness, a critical tongue, a "holier than thou" attitude or a judgmental attitude toward others, then you might have great need for a humble and public repentance.

Reflect, today, upon the Pharisees and Sadducees. Try to understand their sin and the reason John called them a "brood of vipers." If you see any of their pride and self-righteousness within your own soul, then listen to this exhortation from John the Baptist as if it were spoken to you directly. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." Do this, and God will free you through the gift of true humility.

My humble Lord, You call all people to repentance with great humility and sincerity. Please help me to see my sin and to never shy away from facing it, so that You can free me from that filth and set me more firmly on the path to holiness. Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

ACC Mass Times and Intentions ~ December 5 - 11

St. Mary - Melrose

Mo	6:30 pm	**Misa en Español** †Refugio Juarez †Manuel Juarez
Tu	7:30 am	††Norbert & Leona Schaefer
We	7:30 am	†Dolores Hiltner
***Th**	**8:30 am**	**St. Mary's School Mass** **Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** †Carol Billigmeier
Th	**6:30 pm**	**Misa en Español** **Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** †Maria Sanchez Perez †Guadalupe Sanchez
Fr	7:30 am	†Pat Revermann
Sa	**6:00 pm**	**Fest of Our Lady of Guadelaupe Bilingual Mass** †Joe Middendorf For the People
*Su	10:00 am	††Leander & Julia Kettler & Family
Su	12:30 pm	**Misa en Español** Aniversario de bodas de Jorge Carrillo & Lorena Juarez

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

Sacred Heart - Freeport

We	8:15 am	††Joe & Jean Schulzetenburg
Th	**8:15 am**	**Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** ††Al & Valeria Mareck
Fr	8:15 am	†Bob Van Heel
Su	8:00 am	For the People

Immaculate Conception - New Munich

We	**7:00 pm**	**Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** †Otto Thelen Anniversary
Th	8:15 am	**NO MASS**
Sa	4:00 pm	†Ervin Thielen

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa

Tu	8:15 am	†Rose Mary Rohe Anniversary
Th	**7:00 pm**	**Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** For the People
Su	10:00 am	†Joanie Dobmeier

St. Michael - Spring Hill

Tu	8:00 am	†Hortense Walz
Th	**7:30 pm**	**Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** ††John & Dorine Schwagel
Su	10:00 am	†Christ Wander

St. Andrew - Greenwald

Th	**8:00 am**	**SJSA School Mass** **Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** †Jim Haskamp
Sa	4:00 pm	††Ray & Mary Ann Barten

St. John - Meire Grove

We	8:00 am	†Joe Schneider
Th	**7:30 pm**	**Solemnity of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** †Aloys "Red" Meyer
Su	8:00 am	†Joyce Yarke

Adoration

St. Rose of Lima - St. Rosa
Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:00 am

Immaculate Conception - New Munich
No Adoration Thursday, December 8

Sacred Heart - Freeport
No Adoration Wednesday, December 7
Fridays 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

One In Faith Area Catholic Community News

Parish News:
~ St. Mary ~ St. Michael ~ St. Andrew ~ St. John ~

♦**St. Michael, St. Andrew, and St. John Parishes:** The St John's, St. Andrew's, and St. Michael's Catholic United Financial Councils have purchased 2023 Calendars for our tri-parishes. They are located in our churches - please feel free to take one. Also, **2023 Lector Books** are available in the sacristy for pick up.

Bulletin Deadline Change The bulletin deadline for the December 11 bulletin will be Monday, December 5 at 9:00 am.

Office Closures The parish offices in Melrose and Freeport will be closed on Thursday, December 8 in observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Fundraiser is

underway. Cost is just $25, and you have 366 opportunities to win cash prizes. Connect with any SHS family or call the school 320-836-2591 or the Parish Office 320-836-2143 if you are interested in purchasing for yourself and/or for gifts.

Best Advent Ever Has Advent become a time of stress and busyness? Reclaim the peace that can only come from simplicity this Christmas. Join the Best Advent Ever by signing up for daily video reflections at www.dynamiccatholic.com. You will be able to choose from two paths that will help you journey through Advent toward a peaceful Christmas!

Advent Retreats at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo are held 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 & Women's Silent Advent Retreat December 9-11.

Bishop's Annual Appeal Blessings to all of you in this season of Advent. Thank you to those who have already supported diocesan ministries through the Appeal. As of November 18, the Appeal raised $1,250,850 in gifts and pledges toward the goal of $1,400,000 with gifts from 7,509 households. Every dollar raised goes directly to ministries that support our Catholic faith and is not used for any other purpose. Learn more at www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Jeff Cavins is Returning to St. Andrew in Elk River
Jeff is recognized both nationally and internationally as an exciting public speaker and bible teacher. He communicates the Catholic faith at a level that everyone can understand, taking theological truths and expressing them in a practical way. He is the creator and founder of the Great Adventure Bible Study series, The Bible Timeline: the Story of Salvation published by Ascension Press, and he produced the Bible in a Year podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz. You are invited to join us and bring a friend. Remaining topic for 2022: December 14: *How You Can Hear Gods Voice* from 6:30 - 7:45 pm in the Worship Space at St. Andrew Catholic Church 566 - 4th Street NW, Elk River, MN 55330.

Meals on Wheels is seeking a part time volunteer delivery person for a Melrose route. For information, please contact 320-845-4070 or albanysrdining@ccstcloud.org.

Looking For A Way To Help Your Parish? We are looking for help with Mass ministries. There are many opportunities for you to help with the Mass. You can be a sacristan and be behind the scenes setting up and taking down for Mass. You can share the Word of God by becoming a lector. You can be commissioned to distribute communion by being an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister. There is also need for servers and ushers. Please prayerfully consider taking on one of these roles. Contact your parish office if you are interested in helping with any of these ministries.

Church of St. Mary

Physical Address: 755 Kraft Drive SE
Melrose, MN 56352

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offerings ♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

Total	**$19,848.00**
Regular Adult Offering	8,540.00
Loose	1,290.00
Matching Funds	1,950.00
Thanksgiving	6,951.00
Christmas	1,000.00
Designated Funds	117.00
St. Mary's School Endowment	$0.00
Phase II Building	**$47,211.85**
Phase II Matching Funds	**$121,713.25**
Rectory	**$79,779.65**
Total: Phase II/Rectory	**$248,704.75**

St. Mary's Calendar Raffle

11-27	$25	Fred Imdieke - Melrose
11-28	$25	Robert Roske - Melrose
11-29	$25	Cheryl Enneking - Melrose
11-30	$250	Emma Mackendanz - Melrose
12-01	$25	Marge Haider - Grey Eagle
12-02	$25	Mark Fuchs - Melrose
12-03	$25	Shawn & Stacy Meyer - Melrose

Fellowship…There will be refreshments served after the 10:00 am Mass this next weekend, December 11, at St. Mary's. SMS gift cards will also be available. Please plan to come and stay awhile!!

Christmas Flowers If you wish to donate toward Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one, please put your money in an envelope, include the name or names of the loved one, and mark it "Christmas Flowers." Thank you!

Baptized in Christ… Jaelyn Marie Gaebel & Paityn Ann Justin

St. Mary's Mission Society meeting Wednesday, December 14 at St. Mary's church at 8:30 am. All are welcome.

Church of the Sacred Heart

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

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offerings ♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

Adult Envelopes	$2,892.46
Plate	449.00
Total Weekly Contributions	**$3,341.46**

Other Donations

Votive	$80.00
Thanksgiving Envelopes	7,779.13
Thanksgiving Plate	298.00
School Support	820.00
Christmas Flowers	170.00

Parish Events

Su	12/04	2:00 pm	Youth Group Caroling
Tu	12/06	5:30 am	Men's Group
We	12/07		**NO** Adoration
Fr	12/09	7:45 am	Individual Confessions
Fr	12/09	9:00 am	Adoration
Fr	12/09	2:30 pm	Confirmation Service Project
Fr	12/09	2:45 pm	Youth Choir Practice
Sa	12/10	8:00 am	Confirmation Service Project
Su	12/11	9:00 am	CUF Member Breakfast

Welcome to our Parish…We would like to welcome Jill Thelen to our parish.

2023 Calendars are available in the back of the church.

Thank You to the Catholic United Financial Foundation for the $500 Technology Education Grant. These funds will help cover the cost for a TV in an elementary faith formation classroom.

Catholic United Financial #101 will be hosting a Membership Breakfast on Sunday, December 11 after the 8:00 am Mass. All members and their families are invited to attend. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast, fellowship, and prizes. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Shelf.

Celebrating Advent We welcome your participation in any or all of these options as we celebrate Advent at St Mary's.

Come to our Advent Reconciliation Liturgies on Wednesday, December 14. We will have two services that day at 5:00 and 7:00 pm.

Our Christian Women Group is sponsoring a Shower for Baby Jesus. New baby items – from newborn to size 4 – will be collected and given to Options for Women, a crisis pregnancy center in Sauk Centre.

Donate new socks to the St Mary's School Advent Sock Drive. These socks will be distributed to the Food Shelf, Place of Hope, Eagles Nest, and Anna Marie's Alliance.

Get the empty manger ready for Jesus by placing straw in it throughout Advent. The straw will be an outward symbol of the good works we have done. We want to have the manger well prepared in time for Christmas!

And finally, we invite you to explore our Giving Tree. The tree will have ornaments of two different colors – one is a financial gift, and the other is an "action" gift. These financial gifts represent expenses already in the St. Mary's budget that are often overlooked when thinking of parish expenses. Place the ornament you chose along with your financial gift (and name if you want it on your year end statement) in an envelope and put in the collection. Many of the "action" gifts would work well as a family project. We welcome this holy season of Advent!

Don't Forget to Turn in Your Commitment Card We're still in the midst of our annual Stewardship Renewal. If you haven't returned your Commitment Card or completed one online at the parish website, www.oneinfaith.org/stmarys, it is NOT too late. Returning your card is an important part of being an active member of Church of St. Mary. Please take this opportunity to discern how God is calling you to grow closer to Him this year.

Raffle Calendars We are in the last month! All raffle tickets need to be turned in before the end of the year.

Church of Immaculate Conception

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦♦

Adult Envelopes ……..	$1,984.96
Plate……..	248.00
Total Weekly Contributions	**$2,232.96**

Other Donations

Building/Maintenance…….	$67.50
Thanksgiving Envelopes ……..	3,365.00
Thanksgiving Plate ……..	1,420.00
Christmas Flowers …….	130.00
Christmas Envelopes ……..	100.00
Harvest Supper ……	30.00

Parish Events

Su	12/04	8:00 am	Family Gathering
Su	12/04	2:00 pm	Youth Group Caroling - FR
Tu	12/06	5:30 am	Men's Group - FR
Th	12/08		**No** Adoration
Th	12/08	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Fr	12/09	2:30 pm	Confirmation S.P. - FR
Sa	12/10	8:00 am	Confirmation S.P. - FR
Sa	12/10	3:30 pm	Individual Confessions

Church Expansion with Handicap Accessibility Update: The parish intention is to go forward with the expansion. At this time, roughly $490,000 has been pledged or is in hand. The parish financial committee still needs to meet with the diocese finance council for final approval. The date of this meeting is undetermined at this time.

Summer Cash Raffle 2023 We are looking for a few chair couples for this event. Contact Amy at the Tri-Parish Office if you have any questions or are interested in chairing. This is an important fundraiser for the parish. Please prayerfully consider taking this on. Many hands make for light work.

Feast of Immaculate Conception Social
After the Immaculate Conception Mass on Wednesday, December 7, the Christian Women will host a social in the church basement.

Servers Requested:
Chair: Steve & Shirley Worms
Helpers: Ruth Wiechmann, Linda Wielenberg, Shawn and Staci Wolbeck, and Ruth Wieling. Please bring cake or bars. Thank you in advance for serving. Please join us in celebrating our Patronal Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception. Everyone is welcome.

God's Housekeepers for December
Juliana Boecker, Lisa Maus, Joyce Schulzetenberg, and Jackie Massmann. 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 ♦♦♦♦♦

Adult Envelopes ……	$1,558.54
Plate……	325.91
Total Weekly Contributions	**$1,884.45**

Other Donations

Thanksgiving Envelopes ……	$3,832.00
Thanksgiving Plate ……	41.25
Christmas Flowers ……	15.00

Parish Events

Su	12/04	11:00 am	CUF Mtg/Christmas Party
Su	12/04	2:00 pm	Youth Group Caroling - FR
Tu	12/06	5:30 am	Men's Group - FR
Tu	12/06	7:00 am	Adoration
Tu	12/06	7:00 pm	CW Christmas Party
Fr	12/09	2:30 pm	Confirmation S.P. - FR
Fr	12/09	7:00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Fr	12/09		**No** Rosary
Sa	12/10	8:00 am	Confirmation S.P. - FR
Sa	12/10	12:00 pm	Wedding Pictures
Sa	12/10	2:00 pm	Boeckermann/Ambriz Wedding

The Christian Women will be hosting a Happy Hour at Pine Villa. If you would like to donate wine or spirits, please bring to the Christmas Party.

Instrumentalists Needed for Christmas Eve 7:00 pm Mass in St. Rose. I have beginning level music for trombone, alto saxophone, trumpet, flute, clarinet, tuba, baritone, French horn, baritone sax, and baritone. Any high school or adult players out there, please consider sharing your musical gifts! Please contact Amy Wilwerding 320-290-7729 by Tuesday, December 15 if you are interested.

Christian Women Christmas Party
The St. Rose Christian Women will be having their Christmas party on Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00 pm at the St. Rose Church. Bring a $15 gift if you would like to participate in the gift exchange.

Painting and Renovation is completed. The renovation project came in at roughly $405,000. The finance council was planning and budgeting for this project by building up the building maintenance funds over the last few years. It was paid for using:

- Building Maintenance Funds
- Designated Donations
- Cash Raffle '21-'22
- General Parish Funds.

Thank you to all who contributed through their time, talent, and treasure to make this project a success.

St. Rose of Lima Parish News continued on page 7

Church of St. Michael

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦♦

Total …….	**$9,286.50**
Regular Adult Offering ……	776.00
Children……	5.00
Plate/Loose ……	240.00
Votives …….……	179.00
Thanksgiving……	6,385.00
Fuel Fund……...	920.00
Maintenance……..	90.00
Bake Sale……...	462.50
Military Donation……...	229.00

Liturgical Ministries

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday, December 8 - 7:30 pm

(S) Gabby or Celia Schoenberg
(L) Pete LeClaire
(U) Chico Welle & Ron Welle
(EU) (B) Karen Rademacher
(Sacristan) Ruth Heinen
(RL) Kathy Welle

Sunday, December 11 - 10:00 am

(S) Jack or Sam Orbeck
(L) Lisa Wuertz
(U) Jeff Lieser & Roger Meyer
(EU) (B) Melvin Kalthoff
(Sacristan) Kathy Welle
(RL) Tony & Mary Gruenes
(CC) Peter Wuertz & Roger Meyer
(HK - Dec. 11 - 24) Lou Spanier, Mary Ann Spanier, & Mary Stalboerger

Finance & Parish Council Meet Tuesday, December 6 in the church basement. Finance Council at 7:30 pm and Parish Council at 8:00 pm.

St. Mary's Mission Annual Meeting and Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 10 at 2:00 pm in the church basement. There will be a potluck lunch and a $5 gift exchange. New members are welcome.

Catholic United Financial Council #126 Annual Meeting and Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 11 at 1:00 pm in the church basement. Kids' games start at 1:00 pm. Santa will come at 2:30 pm. There will be a potluck lunch. All are welcome.

Christmas Flowers/Monetary Offering

If anyone prefers to make a monetary offering for Christmas Flowers, use the December 18 envelope marked "Christmas Flower Offering," and flowers will be purchased for you before Christmas. If you choose to buy flowers yourself, bring them to the back of the Church any time and mark them appropriately.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES®

RMHC gives children what they need most – their families

Providing a home-away-from-home to keep families together during a child's serious illness is what Ronald McDonald House Charities, Upper Midwest is all about. **Each year, we serve over 5,000 families** at our four Twin Cities locations.

Families are never required to pay for our services – including lodging, meals, schooling, and more – so **we rely on our generous community to support our efforts.**

If it takes a village to care for an ailing child, it takes a community to support the Ronald McDonald House. A house built by generous strangers, compassionate organizations and caring individuals.

A House that Love Built.

How can you help?

You can donate items on their Wish List or cash. Wish List items are on the back of this flyer.

Collect pop tabs.

Please drop items off in designated boxes in the back of all three churches or the Tri-Parish office no later than Tuesday, December 13th. Cash donations can be dropped off in the collection marked "RMHC" or at the Tri-Parish office.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Wish List Items

- Cash Donations
- Gift Cards
- AA Batteries
- Foaming Hand Soap
- Heavy Duty 10" Paper Plates
- 20 oz. Paper Bowls
- Hot to-go Cups with Lids
- Toile Paper
- Ziploc Bags
- Tall Kitchen Drawstring Bags
- Hand Sanitizer
- Liquid Dishwasher Soap
- Juice Boxes
- Shelf-stable Individual Meals
- Fruit Cups
- Beef/Turkey Jerky
- Pop Tarts
- Individual-sized Bags of Nuts
- Microwave Popcorn
- Soft Fruit Snacks
- Chewy Granola Bars

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES®

Church of St. Andrew

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦♦

Total	**$2,964.00**
Regular Adult Offering	520.00
Plate/Loose	217.00
Votives	6.00
Fuel Fund	300.00
All Saints Day	260.00
Thanksgiving	1,420.00
Maintenance	25.00
Rosie Meyer Funeral	100.00
Military Donation	116.00

Liturgical Ministries

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday, December 8 - 8:00 am
SJSA School Mass
All Ministries done by SJSA

Saturday, December 10 - 4:00 pm

(S) Dominic Finken & Savannah Finken
(L) Peter Finken
(U) Dan Nietfeld & Harold Rademacher
(GB) Jim & Ruth Wehlage
(EU) (B) Mary Opatrny
(HK - December) *Joan Rademacher, Connie Petermeier, RoseAnn Rademacher, Joyce Schoenberg, Sharon Schwieters, & Margaret Silbernick

Died in the Hope of Resurrection…
†Rose Mary "Rosie" Meyer, 86

Finance & Parish Council will meet Tuesday, December 13 in the Greenwald Parish house. Finance Council at 7:00 pm and Parish Council at 7:30 pm.

Church of St. John

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

♦♦♦♦♦ Weekly Offering ♦♦♦♦♦

Total	**$9,383.71**
Regular Adult Offering	995.00
Children	5.50
Plate/Loose	126.00
Votives	72.00
Thanksgiving	2,605.00
Maintenance	140.00
Military Donation	378.00
Snow Stockpile (City)	200.00
Claims	4,862.21

Liturgical Ministries

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday, December 8 - 7:30 pm

(S) Carter Kelzer, Logan Kelzer
(L) Doug Meyer
(U) Ken Schneider, Marvin Schneider
(EM) Karl Meyer

Sunday, December 11 - 8:00 am

(S) Faith Meyer & Kayla Meyer
(L) Karen Meyer
(U) Tim Meyer & Jeron Nathe
(GB) Jamey & Shannon Groetsch
(EU) (B) Karl Meyer & Char Meyer
(HK-December) *Geri Primus, Cindy Schneider, Karen Schneider, Virginia Meyer, Brenda Nathe, & Virginia Nathe

Died in the Hope of Resurrection…
†John Nathe, 82

Thank You The family of Rose Mary "Rosie" Meyer would like to thank all of their family, friends, and neighbors for their compassion and caring during Rosie's illness and passing. A special thank you to Fr. Marvin Enneking and Fr. Mitchell Bechtold for the beautiful funeral Mass. Thanks to Donny Brang for the beautiful music and Clarine Beier for getting the church ready and being Eucharistic Minister. Thank you to the St. Andrew's Christian Women for serving the meal and for all who brought desserts. Thank you also to the Greenwald Pub for the wonderful meal.

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 make great gifts!**

♦ Loot for Learning (Sacred Heart School, Freeport- 320-836-2591)
♦ SMS$4Kids (St. Mary's School, Melrose- 320-256-4257)
♦ Scrip (St. John's/St. Andrew's School, Greenwald- 320-987-3133)

Hispanic Ministry

Uno en Fe ~ Formación de Fe y Ministerio Juvenil

(Melrose, Meire Grove, Greenwald, Spring Hill)
Faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

•**Grados 7/8:** Clase miércoles, 7 de Diciembre, 7:15-8:30 pm, St. Mary's Church. Múltiples oradores invitados le presentarán diferentes ministerios litúrgicos. ¡Traigan sus Biblias! Estudiantes y algunos padres.
•**Todos los grados:** jueves 8 de diciembre, fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción. ¡Por favor, vaya a la misa que sea más conveniente para su familia!
•**Primera Reconciliación/Primera Comunión:** Clase el sábado 10 de diciembre, 9:30 - 11:00 am. Solo estudiantes.

Rosario y Oración con la comunidad de Oración Santa María los últimos tres jueves del mes a las 6:30 pm. ¡Todos son bien venidos!

Habrá Adoración al Santísimo cada Primer Jueves del Mes a las 6:30 pm.

Celebrando el Adviento
Damos la bienvenida a su participación en cualquiera o todas estas opciones mientras celebramos el Adviento en St. Mary's.

Venga a nuestras Liturgias de Reconciliación de Adviento el miércoles 14 de diciembre. Tendremos dos servicios ese día, 5:00 y 7:00 p.m.

Nuestro Grupo de Mujeres Cristianas está patrocinando un "baby shower" para el Niño Jesús. Los artículos nuevos para bebés, desde recién nacidos hasta la talla 4, se recolectarán y entregarán a Options for Women, un centro de embarazo en crisis en Sauk Centre.

Done calcetines nuevos a la colecta de calcetines de Adviento de St. Mary's School. Estos calcetines se distribuirán en Food Shelf, Place of Hope, Eagles Nest y Anna Marie's Alliance.

Prepara el pesebre vacío para Jesús colocando paja en él durante todo el Adviento. La paja será un símbolo exterior de las buenas obras que hemos hecho. ¡Queremos tener el pesebre bien preparado a tiempo para Navidad!

Y finalmente, lo invitamos a explorar nuestro Árbol de Donaciones. El árbol tendrá adornos de dos colores diferentes: uno es un regalo financiero y el otro es un regalo de "acción". Estos obsequios financieros representan gastos que ya están en el presupuesto de St. Mary's que a menudo se pasan por alto cuando se piensa en los gastos de la parroquia. Coloque el adorno que Ud. eligie junto con su regalo financiero (y nombre si lo desea en su estado de cuenta de fin de año) en un sobre y colóquelo en la colección. Muchos de los obsequios de "acción" funcionarían bien como un proyecto familiar.

¡Damos la bienvenida a este santo tiempo de Adviento!

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry

Faith Formation:

Freeport, New Munich, St. Rosa:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org

- **Grades 1-12: Winter Family Fellowship Night** Wednesday, December 14 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Families are strongly encouraged to join us for a fun night of activities, snacks, and fellowship. This is in place of class. All students are expected to attend.
- **Grade 1, 3-6: Next Class:** Wednesday, December 7 - Classroom Lesson.
- **Grade 2: First Confession:** Wednesday, December 14 at 6:00 pm.

Melrose, Spring Hill, Greenwald, Meire Grove:

Contact Information: faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **Grades 7-8: Next Class:** Wednesday, December 7, 7:15 - 8:30 pm, St. Mary's Church. Multiple guest speakers will introduce you to different liturgical ministries. Bring your Bibles! Students and some parents.
- **All grades:** Thursday, December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Please go to whichever Mass is most convenient for your family!
- **First Reconciliation/First Communion:** Class on Saturday, December 10, 9:30 - 11:00 am. Students only.

Youth Ministry:

One in Faith ACC Youth Ministry:

Contact Information: csand@catholic-centered.org or faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com

- **Christmas Caroling** Sunday, December 4 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Meet at Sacred Heart Church basement. We will sing for the residents of the Freeport community by caroling up and down the streets of town. We will end our afternoon with snacks and games in the church basement. If you have not signed up for this event and would like to join us, contact Chrystal Sand at 320-836-2143.
- **Castaway Retreat for Grades 9-12:** Friday - Sunday, March 24-26 at the Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes, MN. Castaways has been an energizing experience for our young Church in the Diocese of St. Cloud for over 48 years. This retreat is a weekend filled with powerful prayer, fun skits, inspirational speakers, awesome music, an incredible Mass, and many faith-growing opportunities. Come together with over 300 others and make new friends, take time to relax, laugh, eat fantastic food, and renew your spirit while strengthening your relationship with God. **Watch for registration details coming soon.**

Catholic Schools News

PASTOR: Fr. Dan Walz
PRINCIPAL: Kristie Harren
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Kathy Welle
SHS BOARD: Nick Shaw, Jamie Engelmeyer, Tamara Welle, Lisa Moscho, Jenelle Herkenhoff and Julie Job
Phone: 320-836-2591 Fax: 320-836-2514
www.shsfreeport.org

- **Mid-quarter Reports** will be going home on Monday, December 5.
- **School Liturgy** on Wednesday, December 7 will be planned by Mrs. Moening and the 4th grade students.
- **Thursday, December 8** is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Sacred Heart School students (K-6) will be attending the 8:15 am Mass.

Looking Ahead:

- **Tri-Parish 2nd grade students** will be celebrating their First Confession on Wednesday, December 14.
- **Sacred Heart School Christmas Program**, "*The Elf Express*," will be presented on Wednesday, December 21 at 1:00 and 7:00 pm in the school gym. All are invited to attend.

Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle Winners

12-04	$25	John Miller - Hugo
12-05	$25	Ryan & Amalia Welle - Byron
12-06	$25	Carey Herzog - Melrose
12-07	$25	Erma Wolbeck - Richmond
12-08	$50	Joel Klein - Freeport
12-09	$25	Jessica Tschida - Grey Eagle
12-10	$25	Betty Walters - Elk River

PASTOR: Fr. Marvin Enneking
PRINCIPAL: Autumn Nelson
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Naomi Klaphake
Phone: 320-256-4257
www.smsmelrosemn.org

- **For Advent,** the students and staff at St. Mary's will collect new socks for men, women, girls, and boys of all ages, to be given to Melrose Food Shelf, Eagle's Healing Nest, Place of Hope, and Anna Marie's Alliance. Please feel free to drop off socks when you go to Mass or leave them at the school entrance.
- **Students in Grades 3-6** received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday, December 1.
- **Advent Prayer Services** will be held on the following Mondays: December 5, 12, and 19 at 2:15 pm in the school gym. You are welcome to join us.
- **Don't forget to use Amazon Smile** to make your Amazon purchases and SMS$4Kids as the holiday season gets closer.
- **Save the Dates:**
  - **St. Mary's Christmas Program** at the Marit Elliot Performing Arts Center, Melrose Area School, on Wednesday, December 14, at 1:00 and 7:00 pm. Little Saints program on Wednesday, December 14, at 9:30 am in the SMS gym.
  - **St. Mary's Catholic School's 21st Annual Auction 4 Education** will be held Saturday, March 4, at the Legion. The theme this year is Luau for Learning.

PASTOR: Fr. Marvin Enneking
PRINCIPAL: Mary Miller
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Kristen Pattinson
SJSA BOARD: Janice Funk, Kurt Meyer, Bridget Kasper, Kristin Zimmer, Kate Kelzer, Trista Roelike, Kathy Gilk
Phone: 320-987-3133 www.sjsaschool.org

- **SJSA students in grades K-6 will present** *The Mystery of Simon Shepherd* on Tuesday, December 20 at 1:00 and 7:30 pm at St. Andrew's Church. Refreshments will be served in the school basement after each program. All are welcome!
- **SJSA Preschool Christmas Program** will be Wednesday, December 21 at 1:45 pm in the school basement.
- **Harry's Pizza Sale** It's time to stock up for the holidays! SJSA students are selling Harry's Pizzas through December 8. You can also order pizzas by calling the school office at 320-987-3133. Pizza pick-up is Saturday, December 17 from 9:00 - 10:00 am at the school. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser!
- **We are looking for nominees** for the SJSA Supporter Award to be presented at this year's St. John's-St. Andrew's Steak and Wine. The award is given to a person in the community who has been a great support to the school in some way. Nominees are due by December 16 so the Board has time to discuss and vote. Please send names to one of the following people:
  Mary Miller 320-987-3133
  Kristi Zimmer 320-249-6702
  Kathy Gilk 320-290-6603

Church of St. Rose of Lima News, Con't

Church and Parish House Roofs needed to be repaired and shingled due to the storms last Fall and Spring. This was not planned for, therefore it was not in the budget. The total bid for the repairs was $127,000. Insurance coverage was $39,000, leaving us with a remainder of $90,000 which the parish will need to borrow from the diocese. Please prayerfully considering making a donation to help cover the costs.

Gifts for Baby Jesus The Christian Women of St. Rosa have set up a bassinet at the back of church. We are seeking new or like new donations for infants through toddlers which we will drop off periodically through Advent at the Options for Women. Through generous donations they are able to help families in surrounding communities. Options for Women provides many free services including items for infants through toddlers. Recipients will be offered help during pregnancy, access to counseling and education while they earn points toward needed items. Car seats are an especially difficult item for the site to obtain. You are welcome to stop at the site located near Walmart in Sauk Centre. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayer Requests…

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

Banns of Matrimony:

III Claire Boeckermann♥Francisco Ambriz, 12-10 SR

For the Sick:

Jon Tufte, Shari Salina, Gary Harren, Lynn Bussman Mac-Rae, Rita Huls, Rachael Zink, Lilah Job, Nick Rothstein, Terry Thorp

Contact Persons for Prayer Line Requests:

- Sacred Heart - Jennie Hiltner 836-2528
- Immaculate Conception - Bernice Zink 837-5321
- St. Rose of Lima - Kayla Harren 333-8461
- St. Mary's 256-3878

Public Rosary

will be prayed weekly.

We have many intentions to pray for and much to be thankful for.
All are invited and welcome!

- Tuesday at 7:00 am in English in the church in Melrose.
- Wednesday at 1:00 pm in English in the church in Melrose.
- Thursday at 7:00 am in English in the church in Melrose.
- Thursday at 6:30 pm in Spanish in the church in Melrose.

Sacrament of Confession

- **Communal Celebration with Individual Confession:**

Wednesday, December 14	5:00 pm	St. Mary, Melrose
	7:00 pm	St. Mary, Melrose
	7:00 pm	Sacred Heart, Freeport
Thursday, December 15	7:30 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald

- **Individual Celebration:**

Fridays	7:45 am	Sacred Heart, Freeport
Saturdays	3:30 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald
Saturdays	3:30 pm	Immaculate Conception, New Munich
Saturdays	4:30 pm	St. Mary, Melrose
Tuesday, December 20		St. Rose of Lima after 8:15 am Mass, St. Rosa
Wednesday, December 21	7:30 pm	St. Andrew, Greenwald
	7:30 pm	St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove
Thursday, December 22		Immaculate Conception after 8:15 am Mass
	7:30 pm	St. Mary, Melrose
	7:30 pm	St. Michael, Spring Hill

Happenings Around the Area

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

December 7, Wednesday

- Feet First Clinic at the Senior Center in Freeport. New appointments please call 320-836-2450. Free will offering.
- Quilting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All are welcome.

December 14, Wednesday

- Quilting at 1:00 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All are welcome.
- Jeff Cavins will speak at St. Andrew, Elk River 566 4th St NW, Elk River, MN 55330. This event is free for those that wish to attend. Topic for this meeting is "How You Can Hear *Gods Voice*".

December 15, Thursday

- Freeport Senior Citizens meeting at 1:30 pm at the Freeport Senior Center. All area seniors welcome. Bingo and 500 will be played.

December 17, Saturday

- St. Rosa Jaycees present the Annual Santa Claus Day. Santa will be at the St. Rose of Lima Church from 1:00 - 3:00 pm with a Physical Comedian, crafts, face painting, milk, cookies, and pictures with Santa! Come one, come all.
- Santa Claus is coming to Greenwald at1:00 pm in Rec Building Treats and Prizes. Sponsor By Greenwald Rec Club. Everyone Invited!

The Scriptures This Week

Year A, Weekdays - Cycle I

Mo	Is 35:1-10	Lk 5:17-26
Tu	Is 40:1-11	Mt 18:12-14
We	**Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**	
	Is 40:25-31	Mt 11:28-30
Th	**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)**	
	Gn 3:9-15,20	Eph 1:3-6,11-12 Lk 1:26-38
Fr	Is 48:17-19	Mt 11:16-19
Sa	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11	Mt 17:9a,10-13
Next Sunday - Third Sunday of Advent		
	Is 35:1-6a, 10	Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

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