

Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:15 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Weekdays: 8:30 am Tues., Wed. & Fri., 7:00 am
Thurs. (Church) & 9:15 am Thurs. (Lake Shore Inn)

Televised Mass on Channel 8: 9:20 am Sunday
and 4:00 pm Monday/Mediacom Channel 8/107.2

Reconciliation

Saturday - 4:00 pm and
1/2 hour before Masses on Sunday

Baptism Preparation Sessions

Class for all expectant parents is required.

Marriage

Arrange at least 6 months in advance.

Parish Office Hours

9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Thursday

9:00 am to 1:00 pm Friday

Address 111 NW 4th St. **Phone** 835-1222

E-mail office@sacredheartwaseca.org

Parish Website www.sacredheartwaseca.org

Staff

Pastor Fr. Thê Hoáng **Email** thoang@dowr.org

Parish Deacon Deacon Preston Doyle

Director of Music Ministry Troy Anderson

Administrator Assistant Kimberley Juarez

Business/IT Manager Bill Kasper

School & Parish Custodian Trevor Shultz

Faith Formation Office 835-1500

Faith Formation Co-Coordinators Gr. K-12

Lisa Jorgenson & Edna Burns

RCIA Barb Hoehn

School Principal LeAnn Dahle 835-2780

School Administrative Assistant Carly
Broughten

Food Service Director Marya Eustice

Children's House 835-2780

School Website

www.sacredheartschoolwaseca.com

Parish Councils & Boards

Parish Pastoral Council Mike Fell

Finance Council Jenny Bulfer

Welcome Team Kathy Miller

Endowment Fund Mary Williams

Board of Education Abby Bartz

Parish & Diocesan Organizations

Knights of Columbus Kevin Walter

4th Degree Knights Bob Carda 507-234-5752

Catholic United Financial Barb Hoehn

Catholic Daughters Pat Foley

Fall Festival Kellie: 521-2266, Angie: 837-9412,
Marya Eustice: 461-1679

Social Concerns

Eucharistic Adoration Laura Rohde 461-3123

Secular Franciscans Sarah Gahlon 507-682-1030

Prayer Chain Pat McShane 835-1298

Respect Life Ministry Arlys Fell/Kathy Miller

St. Vincent de Paul Society 507-201-7075

Church of the SACRED HEART

4th Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

"Committed for Life, Service & Sacrament"



Christmas Eve Mass—4:00pm/7:00pm

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord—Mass 10:00am



We are now in the Third Sunday of Advent! Time sure does fly by so quickly! We are continuing to explore the beauty of the Holy Mass. Last weekend we talked about the Prayers of the Faithful, for this weekend we are going to talk about the preparation of the altar and what happens.

Before Covid 19, we would often have families bring up the unconsecrated bread and wine for the priest to receive and to bring it to the altar. This may seem just a simple action of bringing up the gifts which consist of bread and wine. This is symbolic of our old Jewish tradition of presenting gifts and sacrifices to the priest so that he could offer them on behalf of the people. What merely looks like bread and wine will soon change in a process called transubstantiation. This means that the substance of bread and wine actually becomes the Body and Blood of Christ. This action of the faithful bringing the gifts to the priest means that we are offering ourselves back to God with our prayers and our lives.

The priest then ascends to the sanctuary to offer the ultimate sacrifice for himself and the people that he serves. He takes the corporal which is a special altar linen that is square in shape to catch any particles of the body of Christ that might fall. Then he uncovers the pall which is the hard square shape that sits on top of the chalice. He takes the bread and asks God's blessing for it as well as pouring the wine and water in the chalice by saying, "As the priest pours a little drop of water in the wine during the preparation of the gifts, he says in a low voice (a secret one!), **"By the mystery of this water in wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity."**

Michael Grosch writes about this practice in his article, The Secret Prayers of the Mass, "So when we mix the two, it's a symbol of what's happening with the Eucharist. Human beings are amazing creations, but we're nothing on our own – we need God. Unlike water and oil, water and wine mix completely, so if we are the water, Jesus is the wine, and we see the point of his becoming a man. St. Athanasius (296-373 AD) said, **"God became man, so that man might become like God."** Jesus, the Son of God, (symbolized in this case by wine) completely humbled himself, so that we (symbolized by the water) could be built up and share completely and inseparably in his divine life."

Sincerely,
Fr. Thê



Offering of First Fruits

	Week	Month to Date	Year to Date
Adult Envelope	\$ 4,132.41	\$12,788.91	\$264,895.09
Other Income	\$ 4,132.41	\$ 459.01	\$275,092.15
Total Income	\$ 4,132.41	\$13,247.92	\$539,987.24
Youth Offering	\$		
Expenses Year to date	\$424,722.40		
YTD Income/Deficit	\$115,264.84		

	Goal	Pledged to date
Catholic Ministries Appeal	\$ 49,284.00	\$ 33,925.00
# of Donors	Percent to goal	Remaining Balance
		\$ 15,359.00



Please remember in your prayers all those of our parish who are ill or injured, especially, **Jean Byron, Marlene Robinson, Darcy Barnes, Donna**

Harguth, Richard Olsen, Tom Collins, Lowell Denn, Lorelle Sexton, Harold Schlepp, Jeanne Hofmeister, Loraine Smith, Russ Ingram, Theresa Neigebauer, Angel Teran, Betty McIntire, Carol Anthony, Esther Quevedo, Rich Perreault, Norma Bonnie-Baffoe, Marilyn Smith, Max Lande, Alice Waligaski and Greg Pittman. Call the parish office at 835-1222 if you or anyone you know is in need of prayers.

Our sympathy to friends and family of Ed Frederick on the passing of his brother William Frederick and to the Matt and Kerry McGuire on the passing of Kerry's sister Korrine Rietfort.



Special Masses
Christmas Eve Mass December 24, at 4:00pm and 7:00pm
Christmas Day December 25, at 10:00am



Church decorating for Christmas will be done on December 22, 2021 at 4:00pm. **We are looking for help with the decorating.** Many hands make light work. Come and enjoy the fellowship with others. **The manger scene will be set up on December 19, 2021 at 6:00pm by the Confirmation students.**

**Readings for the week of December 19, 21**

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Friday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Sharing the Gospel with Children

When Mary visited Elizabeth, they were both waiting for their babies to be born. Elizabeth's baby would grow up to be John the Baptist. Mary's baby would grow up to be Jesus our savior. Mary and Elizabeth were excited to see each other, not only because they loved each other, but also because they both loved God very much. It makes God happy when we love our relatives and friends, just like Mary and Elizabeth did.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to love you. Take care of my family, my cousins, and all my relatives at Christmastime and always. Amen.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a picture of your relatives visiting one another at Christmas.

Mission for the Week

If your relatives come to visit you, welcome them with a cheerful greeting. If you go to visit them during the Christmas season tell them how much God loves them. © LPIResourceCenter.com

ADORATION: Are you ready for the Greatest Gift of all ?

Rejoice and be glad as we wait in hope and love. May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. And may Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

Adoration schedule at Christmas and New Year's: Adoration will close at 9:00 a.m. on Friday December 24 so that families and friends can plan to be together and welcome Jesus on Christmas Eve. The Blessed Sacrament remains treasured in the tabernacle. Jesus is still truly present! Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord! It's really a great opportunity to come into a quiet peaceful church any time during Christmas. Bring your family and loved ones, reflect on the nativity scene, pray, share what's in your heart, rejoice, and just be in His Presence. Adoration will be open as scheduled New Year's Eve Friday December 31. If you need a substitute adorer, please place your name, date & time needed in the sub notebook and call your hourly captain.



Before Christianity came to be, trees that remained green all year round ward off evil spirits and were special to people during the winter. It wasn't until the sixteenth century in Germany that trees were brought inside and decorated. When does the Christmas tree go up in your home or parish? Continue the tradition by gathering together and blessing this special symbol.

You may bless the tree as soon as you put it up, or you can wait until after you have decorated it. When you are ready to do the blessing, gather everyone around the tree and designate someone to lead the following prayer.

You will need water or holy water (if available) to celebrate this blessing.

Leader: Loving God, we stand before you once again. We stand here ready to celebrate the birth of your son, Jesus. (Have everyone extend a hand in a gesture of blessing. Sprinkle water or holy water on the tree while praying the following prayer.)

Leader: Bless this tree, this sign of life and freshness and perseverance in our midst. It stands as a reminder that you are born anew in us each day. Bless our family and friends as we celebrate this joyous season. Keep us safe in our travels, kind in our conversations, and gracious in our giving and receiving. We ask you this in confidence because we know you love us.

Baby Jesus' Wish List

Odds are you've got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What's the gift Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

If you've ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read — a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There's a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it's a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it's a wish list that can really confuse you. What's God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He's customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It's God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. "Do this, but don't do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy."

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God's people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God's real wish list didn't really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It's far simpler, but luckily, it's something we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.



December 19, 2021
4th Sunday of Advent

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life’s necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world’s ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn’t God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world’s ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God’s vessel so that God’s greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God’s fix for the world’s difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God’s instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.

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Karna Gloe
 Support Service Specialist
 Catholic Charities Rochester
 (507)287-2047 ext. 121
 FAX: 507-289-3860



For the Week of
December 18 -26

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

5:15 pm **Mass** † Pamela Fitzsimmons

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 am **Mass** † Peter Hansel

10:00 am **Mass** † People of Sacred Heart

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

5:00 am Monday to 5:00 pm Friday Eucharistic Adoration

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21 St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30 am **Mass** † Virginia & Jerry Collins

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:30 am **Mass** † Leo & Veronica Miller

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23 St. John of Kanty, Priest

7:00 am **Mass** † John E. McKay Jr.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 pm **Mass** † James & Agnes Maurer

7:00 pm **Mass** † Kathleen Bagan Wille

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 The Nativity of the Lord

10:00 am **Mass** † Russell Dahnert

5:15pm **Mass** † Julia Lenz

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26 The Holy Family

8:00 am **Mass** † Cletus Hoehn family

SACRED HEART SCHOOL
Winter Fest
JANUARY 29-30, 2022

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 2022
 Concessions, Raffles, Meat Raffles & More Available Throughout the Day
 Bingo | 2:00 p.m. at The Mill
 Kid’s Activities | 2:00-4:00 p.m. at The Mill
 Silent Auction | 2:00-8:30 p.m. at The Mill
 Pork Commercial Dinner | 4:30-7:00 p.m. at The Mill
 Mass | 5:15 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church
 Music | 7:00 p.m. at The Mill
 Live Music with Mark Denn, Mike Denn & Brad Wendland

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022
 Concessions Available
 Mass | 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church
 Pankcake Breakfast | 9:00-11:30 a.m. at The Mill
 Early Bird Bingo | Noon at The Mill
 Super Bingo | 1:00 p.m. at The Mill

WINTERFEST DONATIONS NEEDED



Winterfest is just over a month away and we are looking for Spirits Donations!! Drop off adult beverages (wine, growlers, crowlers or liquor) in the rectory. The donations will be used for the Spirit Wall and Raffles.

Thank you in advance for your donations.



Pope Francis and Bishop Quinn invite you to participate in...

A two-year preparation process for the 26th Ordinary Synod of Bishops, which will take place in Rome in the fall of 2023, has begun. The topic of the Synod will be "synodality", a term which Pope Francis uses to describe our Church's "journeying together" – prayerfully listening to the needs and experiences of God's people in order to faithfully discern the best way forward.

Pope Francis has asked the entire Church to take an active part in the synod, inviting people from all walks of life and from all around the world to **gather together for prayer, sharing experiences, listening, and seeking the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit.**

During this diocesan phase of the Synod, these gatherings will include parishioners, consecrated men and women, people of other Christian communities, and those "on the margins" of society and church life. **There will be listening sessions held in each parish/cluster in the new year which will include prayer, reflection, and discussion on the life of our Church today, and how the Holy Spirit is calling us to continue our mission of proclaiming Jesus Christ to the world.**

"A basic question prompts and guides us:
How does this 'journeying together,' which takes place today on different levels (from the local level to the universal one), allow the Church to proclaim the Gospel in accordance with the mission entrusted to her; and what steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow as a synodal Church?"

The "vital pillars" of the synod process are:

- **Communion:** "God gathers us together as diverse peoples of one faith. We all have a role to play in discerning and living out God's call for his people."
- **Participation:** "A call for the involvement of all who belong to the People of God – laity, consecrated and ordained – to engage in the exercise of deep and respectful listening to one another."
- **Mission:** "The Church exists to evangelize.... Our mission is to witness to the love of God in the midst of the whole human family."
[From the "Handbook for the Synod"]

The goal of the Synod is for the Church "to listen to the living voice of the entire People of God."

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry News and Notes

Here is the FF update for the 12/19 Bulletin. Thank you! Lisa

Youth Faith Formation Topics: Dec 19th – Dec 25th

Sun. Dec 19th
@ 7:00-8:30 PM

Pre-Confirmation: "Divine Design: Christ Established His One Church to Continue His Presence and His Work". This night will help the teens understand that the Church was planned by the Father and founded by Jesus Christ to continue His work of salvation in the world. The teens will also recognize that they play a part in the Church's mission to make disciples.

Confirmation: Class (with sponsor) - Cardinal Virtues; Human Dignity; Respect for Life; Social Justice.

Wed. Dec 22nd

Grades K-8: No classes. Have a wonderful Christmas break!

CHRISTMAS DINNER
For the elderly and those alone during the holiday

Saturday, December 25th
11am-12 pm
Delivery (Waseca) or Pick-up from
Grace Lutheran Church
300 Elm Ave East
Waseca, MN 56093

RSVP by Monday, December 20th by calling
Waseca Senior Center 507-835-4552 or
Grace Lutheran Church 507-835-1709

(Limit of 4 meals per household)
No charge, but free will offering welcomed

Menu: Ham, potatoes, vegetable, salad, roll, cupcake
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