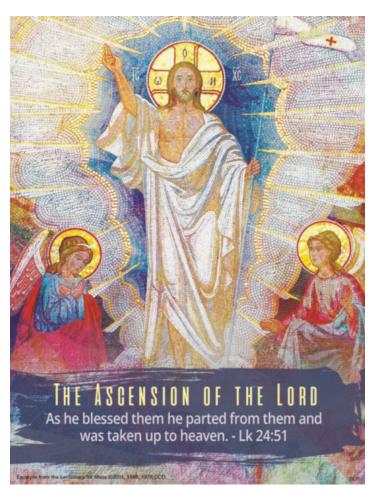


to our

Parishes on the Prairie Area Catholic Community

St. Donatus, Brooten
St. Alexius, West Union
St. Francis de Sales, Belgrade
Sts. Peter & Paul, Elrosa
Our Lady of the Angels, Sauk Centre
St. Paul's, Sauk Centre





Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm....St. Paul's, Sauk Centre Saturday 5:00 pm....St. Francis de Sales, Belgrade Saturday 5:00 pm....Our Lady of the Angels, Sauk Centre Saturday 8:00 pm....St. Paul's, Sauk Centre Sunday 8:00 am....St. Paul's, Sauk Centre Sunday 8:15 am....St. Donatus, Brooten Sunday 8:30 am....St. Alexius, West Union Sunday 10:00 am....St. Paul's, Sauk Centre Sunday 10:15 am....Sts. Peter & Paul, Elrosa Sunday 10:30 am....Our Lady of the Angels, Sauk Centre

Reconciliation Schedule

Thursday 4:00 pm....St. Paul's
Saturday 3:00 pm....St. Paul's
Saturday 4:00 pm....St. Francis de Sales
Saturday 4:00 pm....Our Lady of the Angels
Sunday 8:00 am....St. Alexius

Websites

www.parishesontheprairie.org www.holyfamilysc.org www.centreforchrist.org www.stclouddiocese.org

Fr. Greg Paffel, Pastor Fr. Jeremy Theis, Parochial Vicar Fr. Rick Aubol, Parochial Vicar Dcn. Tom McFadden

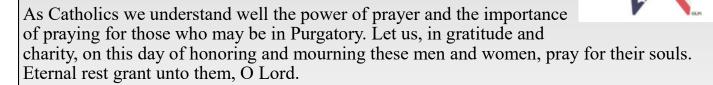
Priest Emergency Number 320-351-2631

Memorial Day



On May 30, America celebrates Memorial Day as a federal holiday. Memorial Day is set aside as a day to honor and mourn military men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. We owe a great debt of gratitude to those who have given all, thus enabling

us to enjoy the many freedoms we have.



Locations and times of local ceremonies:

The Brooten American Legion will host a Memorial Day program on Monday, May 30, beginning at 10 am at Memorial Park along Highway 55.

The Belgrade V.F.W. Saboe-Levorson Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1825 will host a Memorial Day program at Olson Auditorium, B-B-E high school in Belgrade on Monday, May 30 beginning at 11 am.

Sauk Centre will also host a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 30. This event begins at 11:00 am and will be held at the Greenwood Cemetery on the east end of town.

~Fr. Theis



South Office

St. Donatus, St. Francis de Sales and Sts. Peter & Paul 541 Martin Ave, PO Box 69 Belgrade, MN 56312 Office Hours: Tuesday- Thursday 8:00 am-3:00 pm

Janae Nemmers, Secretary254-8218 francisdesales@mediacombb.net Colleen Borgerding, K-5 Faith Formation

borgerdingcolleen@gmail.com

Centre for Christ Offices

West Office

St. Alexius

11 Oak St, West Union, MN 56389

Jessica Minette, Secretary 352-2563

Christina Rousslang, DRE......980-0475

320-351-5580 Kathy Knoblach: kathy@centreforchrist.org

Amy Trisko: Amy@centreforchrist.org Shari Saltmarsh: shari@centreforchrist.org

Holy Family School

Lynn Peterson, Principal Office352-6535 North Office

Our Lady's & St. Paul's 304 Sinclair Lewis Ave. Sauk Centre, MN 56378

stalexiuschurch@gmail.com Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9:00 am-4:30pm Fri 9:00 am-1:00 pm

stalexiusfaithformation@yahoo.com Whitney Rutten, Danielle Ritter and Cindy Sunderman...... 352-2196 stpaulschurch@mainstreetcom.com

> Adam Saltmarsh, Business Steward 320-352-2196 business@parishesontheprairie.org

> > Prayer Chains

320-266-1909
320-346-2428
320-254-3305
320-697-5537
320-352-3192
320-260-8478

Priest Emergency Number 320-351-2631

Bulletin News Deadline Mondays at 12:00 Noon. Email Janae Nemmers at francisdesales@mediacombb.net or call her office and leave a message at 320-254-8218.

carlamoritz@holyfamilysc.org

301 EASTERN AVE, BROOTEN, MN 56316



Ministry Schedule Sunday, June 5

8:15 am

Lector: Trisha Delhamer

EMs: Jessica Radermacher, Scott Jacobson, Judy Detloff

Ushers: Ken Radermacher & Aaron Radermacher Servers: Kylie Weller & Lilly Radermacher Counters: Bonnie Winter & Tony Rooney

Eucharistic Adoration

First Saturday 10:00 am-12 noon Every Wednesday 8:45 am-6:00 pm Everyone Welcome!

AMASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 1

8:15 am †Willie, Ken & Melvin Roonev

Sunday, June 5

8:15 am †Travis Radermacher



May 22, 2022

Adult	56.50 20.00 56.05 545.00
Total	

Happy Birthday, Martin! All are welcome to help Martin Schmitz celebrate his birthday on Sunday, May 29, from 1-4 pm at his home.

Lawn Mowing As no one has stepped forward yet for the Lawn Mowing Coordinator, Tony Rooney will assume the position until someone does. So you may be getting a call/reminder from Tony when your group is scheduled to mow lawn. Also note, we have purchased a used lawnmower for the church that may be used at the church or cemetery if needed. If you wish to use it for your month please call Tony (320-424-0508) to make arrangements. Extra copies of the Lawn Mowing Schedule can be found in the back of church.

St. ALEXIUS

Wednesday, June 1 6:30 pm †Sr. Mary Lou Eltgroth Sunday, June 5

Note! Mass time on Wednesday.



Ministry Schedule Sunday, June 5 8:30 am

Lector: Karen Deters

Gift bearers: The Hinnenkamp Family

EMs: Jim Bottelberghe, Kelly and Maryls

Marthaler

Rosary: Maria Minette

Sacristan: Marlys Marthaler Servers: Silas and Zander Borgerding,

Brody Laven

May Ushers: Harvey Neubauer &

Phil Pittman

AMASS SCHEDULE

8:30 am †Anna Hinnenkamp

June 1, is at 6:30 pm.



Vacation Bible School

June 6 -9 from 5:30 pm-8 pm. A

giving tree can be

found in the church entry with a list of food items needed for VBS. Thank you! Please bring children down to the church basement to start out with supper each day. Sunday, June 12, the children will sing a couple songs at the end of Mass.



11 OAK STREET, WEST UNION, MN 56389

May 22, 2022

Adult\$3,2	263.00
Loose	260.00
Youth	24.25
Votive	10.00
Cemetery 1	60.00
Peters Pence	20.00
Catholic Home Missions	10.00
Catholic Magazine	25.00
CRS <u>1</u>	00.00
Total <u>\$3,8</u>	<u> 372.25</u>





Ministry Schedule Saturday, June 4 5:00 pm

Lector: Sue Disrud

EMs: Josie Dingmann, Christina &

Paul Rooney

Ushers: Matt Dingmann, Bob Dingmann, Roy Lensing, Lionel Radermacher

Servers: Volunteers

Counters: Doug & Teresa Winter

Rosary Leader: Rita Walz

AMASS SCHEDULE

Monday, May 30
8:00 am No Communion Service
Tuesday, May 31
8:15 am †Corinne Bahe
Friday, June 3
First Friday
8:15 am †Dave Braegelman

Belgrade Nursing Home Not Open to the Public

10:00 am Family Members of Cap Weller

Saturday, June 4

5:00 pm †Living & Deceased Members of CUF



May 22, 2022

Adult	\$1,199.00
Loose	121.00
Online Giving	<u>1,065.00</u>
Total	<u>\$2,885.00</u>

First Friday Adoration
Friday, June 3, 8:45-11:30 am.
All are welcome!



Stewardship as a Way of Life:

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end" (Revelation 22:13).

This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: putting God first in all that we do — not only when we are at Mass and parish activities, but when we are in the world, at work or at school. Living grateful-

ly and generously is an intentional lifestyle. Every decision you make either moves you closer to God or farther away. Choose wisely!



News for BBE Parishes

- St. John's St. Andrew's Catholic School in Greenwald offers an all-day Wednesday preschool. Kindergarten is Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. If you are looking for a small, faith-based, community school-check out SJSA! Call the school at 320-987-3133 for more information. Check out our school website at signature signature of the school of
- Ecumenical Gathering Residents Encounter Christ will be the topic for this year's Ecumenical Gathering on June 15 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Parish Center in Belgrade. Jerald Quarfot will speak regarding his prison ministry with Residents Encounter Christ(REC). REC is a two day retreat weekend centered on the Paschal Mystery, the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Central Minnesota REC through the guidance of the Holy Spirit provides the incarcerated (those in jail or prison) to personally encounter Jesus Christ within themselves and others by witnessing and experiencing Christian community, the sacraments and Paschal Mystery. Maggie Harp will be the accompanist for the singing. A free will offering will be taken.

4 St. Francis de Sales

STS. PETER & PAUL

302 STATE ST., ELROSA MN 56325



Ministry Schedule Sunday, June 5

10:15 am

Lector: Katie Gregory

EMs: Joe Heinze, Aimee Huston,

Cheryl Weller

Ushers: Art Marthaler & Jeff Zenzen Servers: Teresa Heinze & Darin Huston

Counters: Roxane Kampsen & Linda Hieserich



AMASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 2 8:15 am †Jim Kampsen Sunday, June 5 10:15 am For the People





May 22, 2022

Adult	162.17 84.00 36.00 920.00 110.00
Mass Intentions	110.00 95.00 <u>175.00</u>
Total	<u>\$2,157.17</u>

If anyone would like to go to the FFF day in Melrose on June 16, contact Toni Borgerding, 320-290-3677, by June 8. Your registration will be paid by the Elrosa PCCW.

Thank you to the ladies who put the "Women of Sts Peter & Paul Church Yearbook" together. Please pick up your copy from the back of church. There should be one for every woman of the parish.

Observances for the week of May 29, 2022

Sunday: 7th Sunday of Easter; The Ascension of the Lord; St. Paul VI, Pope;

World Communications Day

Monday: Memorial Day

Tuesday: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Justin, Martyr

Thursday: Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

Friday: St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday; St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr



Readings Week

Readings for the week of May 29, 2022

Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/ Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 7:55-60/Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9 [1a, 9a]/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/Jn 17:20-26

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56 Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19 Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19 Saturday: *Morning*: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or J1 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30/

Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39*Extended Vigil*: Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/JI 3:1-5/ Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 *Day*: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34/1 Cor

12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Sts. Peter & Paul's 5



Ministry Schedule Saturday, June 4

Saturday, June 4 5:00pm

EMs: Cindy Sunderman, Lola Welle, Tom Trutna

Lectors: Janet Zenzen, Deb Holt Servers: Need Volunteers

Ushers: Pat Robischon, Gerald Haskamp, John Weimerskirch, Bruce Westbrock

Rosary: Cindy Sunderman Gift Bearers: Paul Froseth Family

Sunday, June 5 10:30 am

EMs: John & Linda Klein, Deb Bosl Lectors: Becky Wolbeck, Melinda Doubek Servers: Phil & Christopher Polipnick, Tyler Herickhoff

Ushers: Duane Leukam, Richard Bertram, James Bosl, Steve Zenzen

Rosery: Mike & Melinda Doubek

Gift Bearers: Norb & Rita Hendricks Family

AMASS SCHEDULE

Monday, May 30

7:00 am †Evelyn & Ferdinand Stepan, Lylan Stepan

Tuesday, May 31

5th Tuesday-No Assisted Living Mass Friday, June 3

7:00 am †Shirley Schirmers

Saturday, June 4

9:00 am †Lambert Nathe, Verena Nathe, Tracy Winter 5:00 pm †Dennis Berns

Sunday, June 5

10:30 am †Bob Schmiesing



May 22, 2022

Adult	382.00 84.90 80.00 255.00 80.00 30.00
Total	

First Saturday Devotions at Our Lady of the Angels

Saturday, June 4, 2022 7:45 am Confessions 8:00 am Adoration 8:30 am Rosary 9:00 am Mass



News For SA/OLA/SP

- **Searching Souls** Join other searching souls every Monday at 6:30 pm at Centre for Christ for videos and small group discussions with a different topic each week to grow in our Catholic faith together! Call 320-761-3590 for more information. "Like" the Searching Souls Ministries Facebook Group!
 - -May 30: Pentecost with a Bonfire, BBQ, and Rosary
 - -June 6: Vatican II Gaudium et Specs (at St. Paul's Church at 6:30 pm)
- Please join us for our Annual Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday, June 19, 2022! We will begin immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of the Angels and process to St. Paul's and back. It will take approximately one hour. First Communicants are invited to especially participate and be dressed in their First Holy Communion clothes. You will be walking in the front of the Procession with baskets of flower petals to drop for Jesus as our Priests carry the Monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament! Something new this year! Bring a picture or small statue of your favorite saint especially those devoted to the Eucharist such as: St. Francis, St. Thomas Acquinas, St. Alphonse Liguori, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Clare or St. Gemma. This is such a beautiful occasion to honor Jesus so please plan to join us for the procession!
- Parish Office closed on Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. Have a safe and enjoyable weekend!



Ministry Schedule

Saturday, June 4 4:00 pm

EMs: Becky Winters, Mary Peterson,
Dennis Boeckers, Kate Uphus
Greeters: Mark Haskamp, David Weir,

Linda Frericks

Lectors: Kris Hokanson, Becky Winters

Rosary: Jim & Carol Backes

Servers: Isaiah Hokanson, Need Volunteer

Gift Bearers: Ushers:

8:00 pm

EMs: Lisa Lahr, Tiffany Klaphake

Greeter: *Need Volunteers* Lector: Olivia Uphus

Servers: Jacob, Grant, & Jaden Lahr

Gift Bearers: Ushers:

Sunday, June 5 8:00 am

EMs: Nick Wheeler, Jean Zwilling, Bernie & Linda Herickhoff Greeters: Virgil & Jean Zwilling, Ruth &

Shannon Pohlmann

Lectors: Carla Moritz, David Tholl

Rosary: Julie Meyer

Servers: Hayden & Sophia Tschida,

Aiden Middendorf

Gift Bearers: Ushers:

10:00 am

EMs: Adam & Shari Saltmarsh, Julie Beack, Amanda Ritter, Helen Lassle

Greeters: Mary & Mike Thomas, Bob Deem Lectors: Steve Schreifels, Marty Primus

Rosary: Charlotte Johnson

Servers: Cory Marthaler, Luke Wanderscheid,

Analise Saltmarsh

Gift Bearers: Ushers:

PRAYER GATHERING

Come gather together for prayer every Monday at 4:00 pm, at St. Paul's Church. Let your intentions become a united prayer to the Lord.

AMASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 31
8:30 am †Eusebio Bulair
Wednesday, June 1
7:00 am †Vic Wiener
Thursday, June 2
8:30 am †Lyle Karasch
Nursing HomeNot Open to the Public
15 am †Living & Deceas

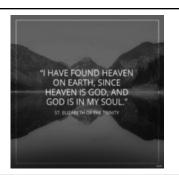
10:15 am †Living & Deceased Members of the Kulzer Family

Saturday, June 4

4:00 pm †Laura Lee 8:00 pm †Edna Polipnick

Sunday, June 5

8:00 am †Tina Kulzer 10:00 am †Vern Beste (Anniv.)





May 22, 2022

Adult Plate Votive HFS	1,068.77
Build. Repair/Maint Cemetery Peter Pence	160.00
Ascension	25.00 40.00



Banns I

Renee Elizabeth Roberts Leo Anthony Van Beck

St. Paul's Church Lectors

Please notify Lisa Lahr if you would like to change the Mass that you lector at or if you want to be removed from the schedule. She will be preparing the next lector schedule for July-December. Thank you!

St. Faustina Chapel of Divine Mercy

CONTACTS: LINDA 352-0105, 320-491-8225 OR LINDAFRERICKS2@GMAIL.COM; MARIA 320-267-3230 OR GRETCHEN 320-248-1778

COMMITTED ADORERS NEEDED FOR THESE HOURS:

Sunday– 1PM & 2PM, Monday - 2PM, Tuesday– 3 AM, Wednesday– 1AM, 11 AM & 2PM, Thursday -1AM, Friday- 3AM

PRAYER PARTNER or PRAYER SUB REQUESTED for THESE COMMITTED ADORERS:

Monday-2PM, & Saturday-12AM(midnight), 1 AM, 3AM

There are several books missing from the chapel library. If you brought a book home to read, please return the book(s) to the chapel. We would prefer that all chapel library books remain in the chapel to be read at the chapel. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL & NEWS FOR ALL



Holy	Family	School Weekly Calendar Raffle
5/22	\$20	Mark & Brenda Breitbach, Sauk Centre
5/23	\$20	Michael & Cindy Heveron, Villard
5/24	\$20	Mark & Jen Klaphake, Sauk Centre
5/25	\$20	Bruce & Cali Dickhoff, Sauk Centre
5/26	\$75	Tama Spanier, Sauk Centre
5/27	\$20	Ken & Deb Gieske, Sauk Centre
5/28	\$20	Tom Schmidt, Annandale



Holy Family School is accepting resumes for a 3rd grade teaching position beginning the 2022-23 school year. This position requires a teaching license within the State of Minnesota. Resumes or inquiries can be sent to Holy Family School, 231 Sinclair Lewis Ave., Sauk Centre MN 56378 or at this email address leyerson@holyfamilyschool.org. Questions can be directed to 320-352-6535. Position will remain open until filled.

News for All Six Parishes

- An important update for the men's group. Please note that we are changing our meeting time to after the 5:00 pm Mass every other Saturday night (6/4, 6/18) rather than every other Sunday morning. Meetings will still be in St Paul's Church basement.
- YOUTH MINISTER/FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR JOB OPENING

This position will work in faith formation and youth ministry for five of our parishes within our Area Catholic Community (ACC). In three parishes, for over half the time, this person would be responsible for youth ministry and faith formation for grades 6-12. In two parishes, this person would be responsible for a middle school Youth Ministry (grades 6-8) and assist with 9-12 grade Youth Ministry. Some events are the same for the whole ACC. This position is full-time for 12 months of the year. To apply for this position, please send your resume and references to Adam Saltmarsh, business@parishesontheprairie.org. For more information and a complete job description, please refer to our website, www.parishesontheprairie.org.



Anniversary Celebration of Ordinations

May 17	Fr. Jim Maderak	31 Years
June 2	Fr. Greg Paffel	21 Years
June 8	Deacon Tom McFadden	20 Years
June 15	Fr. Rick Aubol	3 years
June 21	Fr. Jeremy Theis	8 years

Continued on page 10

Parishes on the Prairie Area Catholic Community Prayer Corner

If you or someone you know in our ACC is sick or ill, please call our Parish Office at 320-254-8218 to add them to our Prayer Corner. Please pray daily for those in need of healing in our parishes.



All those in Nursing Homes, family of †Margaret Hoffman, family of †David Borgerding, family of †Trix Kleinschmidt

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION



BBE Faith Formation

Totus Tuus is a fun and energetic Catholic youth program taught by college age students. From catechetical sessions, Sacraments, and Mass to songs, games and skits – your child is sure to have fun while learning more about their faith! Totus Tuus will be in Elrosa July 9-15. More information coming soon!



The Faith Formation office at Centre For Christ will not have "Go Make Disciples" regular staff hours for June and July. We will be in for VBS and

Totus Tuus. If you need to reach someone, please email them directly or leave a message at 351-5580 and someone will get back to you. Have a GREAT summer!

Faith Formation Grades 1-5:

Vacation Bible School starts June 6! Don't forget to sign up your K-5th grade children!

Confirmation

TOB retreat- June 2-3 for our rising 10th graders. Please keep these young people and our leaders in prayer as we have our first annual TOB retreat for our ACC!

CREW: Senior High Youth Group (8th-12th Grade)

Have a great summer and prayers for all the youth attending the Steubenville conference in July.



To sign up for FORMED:

- 1. Visit FORMED.org 2. Click Sign Up
- 3. Select "Sign Up As A Parishioner"
- 4. Find Parishes on the Prairie by parish name, address, or zip code (56378)
- 5. Enter your email and you're in!

FORMED[®]

PICK OF THE WEEK

May 29, 2021

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES WITH DENNIS AND ANGELINA GIRARD

As we celebrate the Visitation this week, we invite you to pray the Joyful Mysteries alongside this spoken Rosary set to music. Enter into some of the most joy-filled moments of Our Lord Jesus Christ's life, alongside the Blessed Virgin, through this devotional prayer and accompanying Scripture passages.



To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

MISCELLANEOUS

Continued from page 8...News for All Six Parishes

- Looking for a fun day out? It's time again for the annual Fun, Food & Fund Day. This year's event will take place at St. Mary's Parish in Melrose on Thursday, June 16, starting with registration and refreshments at 8:30 am. "Take Jesus Home" is the theme of this year's event. Entertainment and silent auction begin at 9:30 am, with Mass at 11 am, followed by lunch. Silent auction closes at 1 pm, at which time Fr. Derek Wiechmann will speak on the National Eucharistic Revival. Pre-registration is \$15 by June 10; \$20 at the door. Handicapped accessible. Send registration to Lora Knafla, 11719 16th Avenue NW, Rice, MN 56367 or contact your parish Christian Mother's president. Sponsored by St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.
- **Are you curious about religious life?** Single women ages 18-45 are invited to learn more about the School Sisters of Notre Dame through a casual, online "Joyful and Alive Conversation" Tuesday, June 7 at 7 pm. Bring your questions and experience God's blessings of being "joyful and alive!" Register by June 6 at ssnd.org/events/6-7-22.

• NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL – ST. CLOUD KICKOFF JUNE 18!

Join us for the diocesan kickoff of the National Eucharistic Revival Saturday, June 18 at 1 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud. The day includes keynoter Father Derek Wiechmann, witness speakers Deacon John Wocken, Michael Haney and Mary Jo Legare-Hoffman, small group activities and refreshments. Eucharistic adoration and confession will be available. The day concludes with 5 pm Mass with the bishop, including a Corpus Christi procession. The event is FREE and all are welcome. To learn more about this national initiative, visit eucharistic ticrevival.org; and local efforts at stedio.org/eucharistic-revival/. Email eucharisticrevivalstcloud@gmail.com with questions.

• **Bishop's Annual Appeal:** Believe, Celebrate, Live! Please remember the diocesan ministries that, through your generosity, continue to build the Kingdom of God here in Central Minnesota. Keep them thriving by making a gift at www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Famous Last Words

A fun way to waste an hour or two on the internet is to Google "famous last words." There are entire websites devoted to chronicling the last utterances of celebrities and historical figures. I think the fascination with parting words stems from the drama of a person's final moment on earth. We want to ascribe some kind of power and significance to the last words they say, especially if they are our loved ones, because it gives us something to carry with us in our grief.

In Jesus' case, every word he ever said had power and significance, but especially those he said before ascending into Heaven: "You will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth."

And then he was gone.

If I were one of the Apostles, I think a small anxiety attack would have commenced at that point. As much as they knew and believed that Christ was still with them, it must have felt awfully lonely standing there staring at an empty sky, with the mother of all homework assignments having just been handed down.

Stewardship is intimidating by nature. The baptismal call is an honor and a gift. But it is also a little scary bearing witness to Christ.

When we doubt ourselves, let's return to Christ's last words and cling to the faith he had in his Father's love for us. He says not "you will be witnesses" but "you are witnesses." We already have what we need. God is within us, and we take Him wherever we go.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

10 Miscellaneous



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