

January 30, 2021

The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to our Five Star Area Catholic Community



St. Joseph, Clarissa - Christ the King, Browerville - St. Mary of Mount Carmel, Long Prairie - St. Joseph, Grey Eagle - St. John the Baptist, Swanville

Pastoral Staff



Fr. Mitchell Bechtold 320-247-4907  
mlbechtold@outlook.com



Fr. Ron Dockendorf 320-290-4902  
rfron@sytekcom.com



Fr. Omar Guanchez 320-357-0815  
oguanchez@stmaryslp.org



Deacon James Schulzetenberg 320-987-3200  
jschulzetenberg@stmaryslp.org

St. Mary of Mount Carmel, Long Prairie

**Tuesday, February 1**

7:00 p.m. Mass † Donald & Bernice Nalezny

**Wednesday, February 2**

8:30 a.m. Mass † Jerry John

**Thursday, February 3**

8:30 a.m. Mass † John Huncha

**Friday, February 4**

8:30 a.m. Mass † Rose Becker

**Saturday, February 5**

5:00 p.m. Mass † Curt Graves

**Sunday, February 6**

8:00 a.m. Mass † Martin & Edna Hengemuhle

10:00 a.m. Mass † For the People of Our Parish

11:45 a.m. Mass Español † Marisela Vargas

St. Joseph, Grey Eagle & St. John's, Swanville

**Monday, January 31**

8:30 a.m. Mass **SJS** Intention of Fr. Ron

**Tuesday, February 1**

8:30 a.m. Mass **SJGE** † Leander Meyer

**Wednesday, February 2**

5:30 p.m. Mass **SJS** Intention of Fr. Ron

**Thursday, February 3**

8:30 a.m. Mass **SJGE** † Poor Souls

**Saturday, February 5**

4:30 p.m. Mass **SJGE** For the People of Our Parishes

**Sunday, February 6**

8:30 a.m. Mass **SJS** † Alvin VanHeel

10:30 a.m. Mass **SJGE** † Roman Hellerman

St. Joseph, Clarissa & Christ the King, Browerville

**Tuesday, February 1**

8:30 a.m. Mass **SJC** † Albie Notch

**Wednesday, February 2**

11:00 a.m. Mass **CTK** † Paula Discher

**Thursday, February 3**

8:30 a.m. Mass **SJC** † Don Lemm

10:30 a.m. CTCCC No Mass

**Friday, February 4**

8:30 a.m. Mass **CTK** † Chuck Williams

**Sunday, February 6**

8:30 a.m. Mass **CTK** For the People of Our Parishes

10:30 a.m. Mass **SJC** † Frank and Dorine Firkus



4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

[He said to them], "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" - Lk 4:21-22

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 2022

- Sunday:** Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/  
1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30
- Monday:** 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 5:1-20
- Tuesday:** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk  
5:21-43
- Wednesday:** Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
- Thursday:** 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13
- Friday:** Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29
- Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34
- Next Sunday:** Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 [1c]/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-  
8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

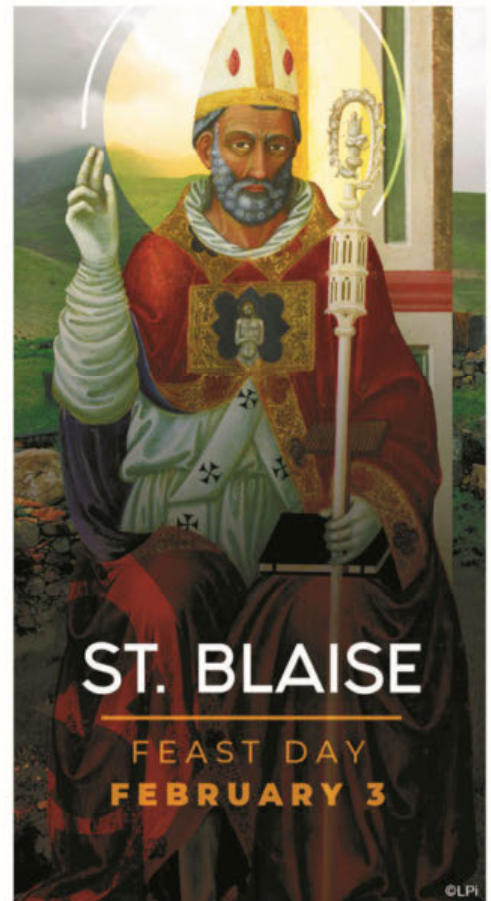
## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 2022

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Celebrate Catholic Schools Week
- Monday:** St. John Bosco, Priest
- Wednesday:** The Presentation of the Lord; World Day for Consecrated Life
- Thursday:** St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop
- Saturday:** St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Paul Miki and Companions,  
Martyrs

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

Prophets possess an intimate knowledge of God and act on their experience of God. Prophetic messages usually challenge the status quo and draw us up and out of ourselves, focusing us on the bigger picture. We often think of ourselves and our own needs first. When we listen to someone speak, we judge the merit of the message by its degree of usefulness. If the message or vision contains no personal benefit or profit but a call to stretch and grow, we can become indignant. Prophets are usually the ones whose message challenges us and calls us to see things differently and love more perfectly and deeply. God is love. When listening to St. Paul speak about love we witness the unfolding of this type of unconditional, other centered, self-sacrificial perfect God. It is an invitation to life, freedom, and happiness that can be offered to us only by God. Jesus, who is God and Love incarnate, calls us to this richer expression of love. Are we ready to listen and be challenged and stretched?



# ST. BLAISE

FEAST DAY  
FEBRUARY 3

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

You may be familiar with the annual “blessing of throats” that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr. St. Blaise lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country in order to save his life.

History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise’s command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

Today we remember the saint on his feast day by taking two candles, crossing them against the throat, and saying the following prayer:

*Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*



**Five Star Area Catholic Community**  
**Browerville - Grey Eagle - Clarissa - Long Prairie - Swanville**

Synod 2021-2023

The Synod is calling together all the people of God – clergy, religious and laity – to listen, dialogue, discern and pray. The goal of the Synod is not to create a new pastoral plan, but rather to be present with each other, learn from each other, and grow closer to the Lord and His Church.

The Synod is a three-part process. This first part involves all the People of God, coming together to listen and discern. In Fall 2022, the Bishops of the World will gather to pray, to listen and discern what has come from the People. In 2023, the Pope will gather with the Bishops for further prayer and listening and discernment.

Please consider joining a Zoom on Wednesday, February 9 at 11:00 am. entitled ***Our Impact on the Synod: Why does it matter locally?*** The presenter will be Philip Shefveland, a member of the diocesan synod team who will explore how the information we share through the synod process will have a lasting effect right here in our diocese.

Gather some friends and register at:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Jp\\_FH48VR2eHwo1EO5zItA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Jp_FH48VR2eHwo1EO5zItA)

There will be one more Zoom on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Details to follow.

**Adoration of Blessed  
Sacrament  
and  
Sacrament of  
Reconciliation**

**Saint Joseph, Grey Eagle**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday after the  
weekday Masses

**Saint John the Baptist,  
Swanville**

To make an arrangement for  
Confession, please call Fr. Ron at  
320-290-4902.



**Saint Mary of Mount Carmel,  
Long Prairie**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation will be  
in the Cry Room:**

Tuesday 6:30 a.m.

Thursday before & after 8:30 a.m. Mass

Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
is in the Chapel.

**Christ the King, Browerville**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation  
(Confessions):**

Saturday – 8:30 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.

Sunday – 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.

By Appointment – Call Fr. Bechtold  
at 320-247-4907

**Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament:**

Wednesday – 9:50 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.

Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Saturday – 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
(w/ Confessions)

**Saint Joseph, Clarissa**

Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament

Thursday from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.



**St. Joseph Catholic Church  
of Grey Eagle**  
118 Minnesota St., PO Box 366  
Grey Eagle, MN 56336  
**Websites:** [www.stjosephgreyeagle.org](http://www.stjosephgreyeagle.org)

**Parish Office:** 320-285-2545 [sjoseph@meltel.net](mailto:sjoseph@meltel.net)  
Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. & Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
**Secretary/Bookkeeper:** Mary Woeste  
**Faith Formation Coordinator:** Carissa Bitz  
[sjosephff@meltel.net](mailto:sjosephff@meltel.net)

**Offering:** Adult -- \$1,519.00; Loose -- \$534.00 and Central MN Catholic -- \$50.00  
**Total:** \$2,103.00  
**Attendance:** Saturday – 72 and Sunday 75

#### Liturgical Ministers

**SATURDAY, February 5<sup>th</sup> – 4:30 PM**

**Ushers:** Arnie and Clara Berscheid

**Servers:** Nathan Wolbeck and Kylie Kraska

**EM's:** Jim and Linda Gohman, Joanne Pohlmann and Natalie Prasch

**Lector:** Michelle Wolbeck

**SUNDAY, February 6<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 AM**

**Ushers:** Chuck Sprenger and Richard Seifert

**Servers:** Nadia and Anika Berscheid

**EM's:** Ron and Doris Frericks, Nancy Ritter, and Janice Lind

**Lector:** Caroline Erickson

#### Rest in God's Peace

Eternal rest grant to Marion Tembrock whose funeral Mass was celebrated January 21<sup>st</sup>.

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.*

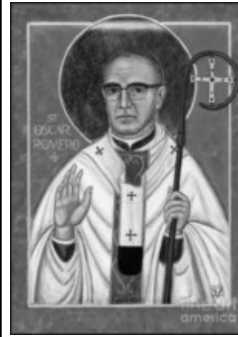
#### Faith Formation

**February 2** - Class

**February 9** - Class and Student-Led Prayer Service, led by 3rd, 4th & 5th graders (for grades 1-11, parents and parishioners)

**February 16** - Class

**February 23** - No Class, First Communion Retreat - 2nd graders and their parents only, 6:30-8:00 p.m.



**St. Oscar Romero (1917-1980)** was a "Salvadoran Roman Catholic archbishop who was a vocal critic of the violent activities of government armed forces, right-wing groups, and leftist guerrillas involved in El Salvador's civil conflict (Encyclopedia Britannica)."

As a voice of the voiceless, he was an outspoken champion of the poor who were the ones most affected by the civil unrest and violence. His advocacy provoked several attempts on his life. Nonetheless, St. Oscar Romero was convinced that before all else his faith in the resurrected Christ and the values of the Gospel trumped any earthly concern or worry. He walked with complete confidence and trust. On March 24, 1980, St. Oscar Romero was assassinated while celebrating Mass. Such is often the fate of those who challenge the socio-political agendas of the day.

We may look at the example of witness of St. Oscar Romero as something extraordinary. In one sense it is. Through the power of God, an ordinary human being did extraordinary things. But, in and of himself, St. Oscar Romero was simply a humble, loving servant of God. Oscar knew not only the power of love but the risk that comes when loving unconditionally. The beauty of God's message was able to shine in and through him because he was able to step out of the way and be a vessel. One can assume that for St. Oscar Romero, one's earthly life has no merit when faith, integrity, conviction, zeal and love are jettisoned. Fear and apprehension had no grip on this man who not only saw but spoke the truth.

Do we speak the truth? It makes us feel good to speak of God as love. But have we ever considered the ramifications of this radical message? There are assaults on human life occurring daily. More and more the value and worth of a human being is being reduced and minimalized. We are becoming widgets in the production of life. In our whole simple humble ways, we too are called to be prophets. Knowing who you are and what is within your means to do, how can you make God's love real, stand up for what is right, and give witness to the sacredness of all that is around you? ©LPi



**Church of St. John the Baptist  
of Swanville**

21 1<sup>st</sup> St., PO Box 68  
Swanville, MN 56382

**Website:** [www.stjohnschurchswanville.org](http://www.stjohnschurchswanville.org)

**Parish Office:** 320-547-2920 [stjs@sytekcom.com](mailto:stjs@sytekcom.com)

Hours Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

**Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper:** Val Sobania

**Faith Formation :** Marge Mettler 320-547-2513

**FEBRUARY MINISTRIES**

**Ushers:** Dan Primus & Glen Throener

**Lector:** Joni Primus

**EM'S:** Jay Loven & Heidi Jo Loven

**COLLECTION - January 16 and January 23, 2022**

Adults: \$1977 Plate: \$627 Christmas: \$100

New Year's: \$20 Votive Lights: \$41

Funeral Lunch: \$165 **TOTAL: \$2930**

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES**

Envelopes for 2022 are on the table in the entrance. During the next few weeks, PUT YOUR NAME ON YOUR ENVELOPE, as the numbers have changed. If you did not find your box of envelopes, please call the office at 547-2920 to receive a box. Thank-you for your support for your church.

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

If you need a copy of your donation statement for 2021, please stop in the office or call 320-5472920 in the morning.

**FAITH FORMATION**

Wednesday, February 2 – Regular classes will be held at 6:30 p.m.

**Finance Meeting**

The Finance Council will meet Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**St. Ann's Quilt Bingo**

St. Ann's Quilt Bingo will be Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the Sobieski Community Center. Free lunch and bake sale are included.

**IT IS ALMOST HERE—AUCTION/DINNER IS FEBRUARY 25, 2022 and WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

A list of items for the auction is needed by Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup> to allow time to get the auction bills printed and distributed on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Please call as soon as you know what you plan to donate, even if the project is not finished. As in the past, a CASH donation is also most welcome. Thank-you!

**First Corinthians & the Stewardship of Social Media**

“Love is patient, love is kind ...” As familiar as these words are, they never seem to stray into the territory of becoming trite or silly. At their core they communicate a truth about us and about our Creator that never fails to inspire.

But despite the fact that you've probably heard it at many weddings over time, First Corinthians isn't just for newlyweds. It wasn't written for married folks. It's for every single one of us, in every state of life and every social situation, in every country and culture and language across the globe.

Which means that First Corinthians is even for the online world. It's for Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and all the other platforms I'm forgetting (there seems to be a new one every day, doesn't there?).

A sense of division — whether rooted in politics, culture or anything else — is growing in our world, and it's never more obvious than when we observe interactions online. It is far easier, after all, to remember what love is when a human being of flesh and blood stands before us. When all we see is an avatar or a profile picture on a screen — especially accompanied by an opinion with which we vehemently disagree — even the most loving Christians can throw First Corinthians out the window.

As everyday stewards we know that we are charged to be not only gracious but grateful. We receive others but we also give thanks for what they bring to us — even if that's an opportunity to “strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.”

So before the next time you post anything online, I suggest giving First Corinthians a read — and remember, love never fails.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



**Christ the King Catholic Church  
of Browerville**

720 Main Street North, PO Box 83  
Browerville, MN 56438

**Website:** www.fivestaracc.org

**Facebook:** Christ the King Catholic Church, Browerville

**YouTube:** Christ The King Catholic Church, Browerville

**Parish Office:** 320-594-2291

fivestaracc.ctkb@gmail.com

Hours: Monday –Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Secretary/Bookkeeper:** Roxanne Determan

**Sacrament Coordinator:** Beverly Geraets

320-237-0364 bgeraets.ctkparish@gmail.com

**Faith Formation Coordinator:** Ryan Perish

320-766-5395 fivestaracc.rperish@gmail.com

**Christ the King School:** Principal Cindy Iten

320-594-6114 website: christthekingschool.org

**Prayer Chain Line:** Karen Benning 320-760-0476

Kathy Lucas 320-594-6202

**Baptism preparation classes** are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. and the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7 p.m.

**Bulletin deadline for CTK** is Tuesday noon.

**Last Sunday Mass Count:** 176

**Stewardship**

January 23			
Loose	\$198.00	Candles	\$30.00
Adult	\$4760.00		
Child	\$13.00		
<b>Total Regular</b>	<b>\$4971.00</b>		

**Liturgical Ministers**

**Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Lector:** Mike Salber

**Rosary:** Denis, Pam, Olivia, and Madeline Irsfeld

**Servers:** Rhianna Buhl & ClairAnn Johnson

**Ushers for February:** Joe Duncan, Jeff Brown, Mike Jagush, Jared Jagush

**Church Cleaning:** Al & Linda Hoelscher, Mark Hoelscher, Dale Host family

**Banns of Marriage III**

Amy Brisson and Eric Turner will be married at Christ the King Church on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.



**CTK Parish News**

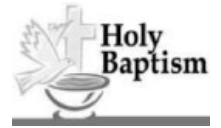
**Blessing of Throats** for the Feast of St. Blaise will be offered on Wednesday, February 2nd at 11:00 a.m. Mass.

**Baptized in Christ**  
on January 22, 2022 at  
Christ the King Catholic Church

**Carter Charles Stier**

infant son of Charlie and Laura (Newman) Stier

*We welcome Carter to our Catholic parish family.*



**The Browerville Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition was held on January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Browerville elementary gym.** There were sixty shooters competing. The twelve winners are:

Age 9 – Abbie Biegler and William Myers

Age 10 – Alayna Riedel and Jacoby Lemke

Age 11 – Lucy Rickbeil and Ethan Schultz

Age 12 – Elsie Puck and Gavin Marxer

Age 13 – Adriana Botello and Jayden Schultz

Age 14 – Lydia Stearns and Christian Tobas

**Congratulations and Good Luck at the regionals in Sauk Centre.**

**Honoring Marriage Day** will be held at St. Mary's Church in Alexandria on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, from 1 - 4 p. m. More information is on page 9 of the bulletin.

*Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words.*

*Keep your words positive because your words become your actions.*

*Keep your actions positive because your actions become your values.*

*Keep your values positive because your values become your destiny!*

**Christ the King Catholic School News**

**Due to the new COVID guidelines** from the Diocese, the Catholic School's Week Breakfast has been cancelled and will be rescheduled in the Spring.



**During Catholic School's Week** the students will enjoy many extra activities. There will be different dress up days, reading activities, beach volleyball, bingo, sledding, praying of the rosary, and a movie and popcorn afternoon.



**Saint Joseph Catholic Church  
of Clarissa**  
409 John Street South, PO Box 5  
Clarissa MN 56440  
**Website:** www.fivestaracc.org  
**Facebook:** Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Clarissa  
**YouTube:** Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Clarissa

**Parish Office:** 218-756-2205  
fivestaracc.sjc@gmail.com  
Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**Secretary/Bookkeeper:** Barb Brown  
**Coordinators Religious Education:**  
Bev Desotell 320-594-6383 rbdesotell@gmail.com  
Kim Marstein 612-280-2403 kmarstein.sjc@gmail.com  
**Prayer Chain Line:** Kathy VanHeel 218-756-2215  
Rita Walker 218-738-5781

**Contributions from January 23rd** will be in the bulletin next week.

**Ministry Schedule  
Sunday, February 6**

**Sacristan:** Eileen Uhlenkamp  
**EM:** Jacy Rea Almquist **Lector:** Bev Desotell  
**Ushers:** Matt Dotzler and Michele Dotzler

**Eternal rest grant to John Winter** whose funeral was on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.*

**There will be Faith Formation** classes Wednesday, February 2nd with snacks at 5:30 p.m. and classes beginning at 6:00 p.m.

**Parish Life Groups and Committee Sheets** are ready to be picked up at church. If you unable to pick up, please call the parish office 756-2205 and they will be mailed out.

**2022 Contribution Envelopes** will hopefully be here soon. There are some offering envelopes in the back of church which you can use for now. Thank you for using plain envelopes.

**Honoring Marriage Day** will be held at St Mary’s Church in Alexandria on Saturday May 7, 2022. Please see page 9 for the full announcement.



**St. Blaise | February 3**

You may be familiar with the annual “blessing of throats” that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr. St. Blaise lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country in order to save his life.

History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions, and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise’s command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

Today we remember the saint on his feast day by taking two candles, crossing them against the throat, and saying the following prayer:

*Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. ©LPi*



**St. Mary of Mount Carmel Catholic Church Of Long Prairie**  
409 Central Ave  
Long Prairie, MN 56347

**Website:** <https://stmarymtcarmellongprairie.weconnect.com>

**Parish Office:** 320-357-0815 [stmarysrectory@stmaryslp.org](mailto:stmarysrectory@stmaryslp.org)

Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Administrative Assistant:** Beverly Geraets

**Bilingual Receptionist:** Maria Chavez

[mchavez@stmaryslp.org](mailto:mchavez@stmaryslp.org)

**Receptionist:** Mary Zastrow

[mzastrow@stmaryslp.org](mailto:mzastrow@stmaryslp.org)

**Faith Formation Coordinator:** Amanda Hinson

218-251-2155 [ahinson@stmaryslp.org](mailto:ahinson@stmaryslp.org)

**Sacramental Coordinator:** Jenna Miller

218-296-3989 [jmiller@stmaryslp.org](mailto:jmiller@stmaryslp.org)

**St. Mary's School:** Principal Linda Dinkel

320-357-0813 [ldinkel@stmaryslp.org](mailto:ldinkel@stmaryslp.org)

**Prayer Line:** Mary Kay Eifert 320-732-3341

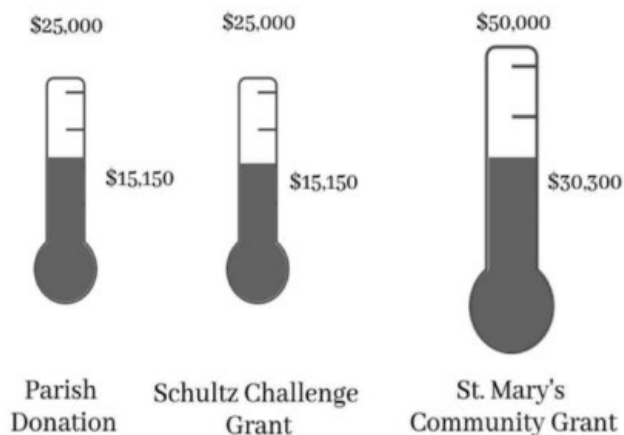
**Adoration Chapel:** Mary Marcoullier 320-732-6289

Stewardship	January 23rd		
Adult	\$5134.00	Votive Candles	\$293.00
Loose	\$1267.00	Maintenance	\$15.00
Youth	\$80.17	Cath. Mag	\$17.00
EFT	\$418.00	Sponsor Child	\$85.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7309.17</b>		

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

The statements are available on the cupboard in the back of the church by the votive candles.

**St. Mary's Matching Grant Progress**  
Parish: \$15,150 Matched: \$45,450



**Congratulations** to Matthew and Heather Holt in celebrating their son

Garret Wesley's Baptism with our parish community.

Our parish community shares in your joy and is privileged in welcoming Garret to our Catholic Church Family.

**Fr. Omar will do Blessing of Throats** on Thursday, February 3rd Mass on the Memorial of St. Blaise.

**SACRAMENTAL PREP UPDATE:** Afternoon First Communion and evening Confirmation classes will continue to meet in person. In obedience to our Bishop, we will be wearing masks during those classes. We encourage anyone who is ill, or who has had a known recent close exposure to COVID, to stay home from classes. Anyone preferring to continue their sacramental prep at home should contact Jenna Miller at [jmiller@stmaryslp.org](mailto:jmiller@stmaryslp.org) or 218-296-3989.



**Catholic Schools' Week Celebrations** are all week at St. Mary's School. We regret, that once again, we won't be able to have large group gathering; but our students will celebrate a fun week together! Thank you for your continued support for our school!

**CUF Raffle Tickets** are on sale now from school families and CUF members or stop in at the school. Tickets are \$5.00 with 100% staying with our school! Grand prize: Ford Escape or \$20,000.

**3rd Grade Teaching Position** open for the 2022-23 School Year: Applicants must have a current MN teaching license or a letter from a college noting intent to obtain one and a bachelor's degree in elementary education.





**Saturday, February 5, 5:00 p.m. Mass: Sacristan:** Jean Graves  
**EM's:** Jean Graves, Jerry Bleess, John Suek **Server:** Diego Montañez  
**Lector:** Chris Petron **Greeters:** Not filled **Music:** Steve Hinson

**Sunday, February 6, 8:00 a.m. Mass: Sacristan:** Brenda Kern **EM's:** Mariann Host, Al Lemke,  
Bonnie Clasemann **Server:** JP Buntjer **Lector:** Mark Buntjer **Greeters:** Nancy Krauel, Jane Lemke, Rick Krauel,  
Al Lemke **Music:** Joy

**Sunday, February 6, 10:00 a.m. Mass: Sacristan:** Felicia Middendorf **EM's:** Felicia Middendorf, Mark Liebsch,  
Dan Bebault **Servers:** Emilianna Elmer, Brennan Murtha **Lector:** Ben Barlage **Greeters:** Not filled  
**Music:** Ave Maria

**Sanctuary Cleaners Friday, February 4:** Pat Lorsung, Karen Holt **Vacuuming Nave:** Josephine Orozco  
**Care of Albs:** Sandra Flores



**Honoring Marriage Day** will be held at St. Mary's Church in Alexandria on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, from 1 - 4 p.m. If you would like to attend and will be celebrating 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 60, or 60 plus years in 2022, please let your parish secretary know by February 4th. Thank you.

**February 26 – Catholic Men's Conference** – This event will be held at St. Francis Xavier, Sartell. This year's theme is "Saint Joseph's Men". Our keynote speaker will be Monsignor Thomas Richter, pastor of Queen of Peace Church in Dickinson, ND. Cost is \$35. Details will be posted on our website at <https://stcdio.org/event/catholic-mens-conference-2022/> as they become available. Registration is now open at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CMC2022>

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hallow, the No. 1 Catholic prayer and meditation app in the world, has launched a Spanish version of its app, Hallow Español, with a wide array of content exclusively for Hispanic Catholics. The app, available in all Spanish-speaking countries and in the U.S., "aims to help Hispanic Catholics deepen their faith," said a news release. A 14-day trial of Hallow Español is available. Information to sign up for the trial can be found at [www.hallow.com](http://www.hallow.com). (Catholic News Service)

**Stewardship as a Way of Life:** *"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous..." (1 Corinthians 13:4).*

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Humility helps us become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered" for the sake of others.

## ***Five Star Area Catholic Community News:***

### **COVID-19 Policy (effective January 24 - at least March 2):**

- Face coverings will be required for all indoor parish activities, regardless of vaccination status.
- At this time, per an amendment given by the Bishop, masks will not be required for Catholic School students and staff unless there is a positive COVID-19 case load of 3% or more among the school community. I have extended this same principle to our Faith Formation classes.
- Bishop Kettler encourages parishes to limit group events and meetings as much as possible for parishioners and staff during this period. When feasible, these gatherings should be moved online.
- Pastors and Catholic school principals will be receiving information concerning these requirements. Bishop will notify them when the need for these requirement ends or if the timeframe of what he has outlined here needs to be adjusted for any reason.
- In additions to these added measures, Bishop encourages anyone who is eligible to receive a COVID vaccine. The have been consistently evaluated as morally acceptable by the Magisterium of the Church, and do not contain any fetal tissue.
- Per the direction of the Bishops of the State of MN, a Catholic is dispensed from the moral obligation to attend Sunday Mass if:
  - You are exhibiting flu like symptoms.
  - Your health would be significantly compromised.
  - You are a caregiver to someone who is sick or homebound.
  - You are pregnant or 65 years of age or older, putting you in a high risk category.
  - You have significant fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass.

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