



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

680 MILL STREET, EXCELSIOR, MN 55331



## MAY 16, 2021

{ SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD }

To know, love, serve and share Christ through worship, teaching, stewardship and witness.

## Confirmation

In the "old rite" of Confirmation, the bishop would anoint the confirmand's head, then slap them in the face to emphasize the point. Was it overly dramatic? Arguably. Was there virtue in it? Absolutely. A slap to the face isn't something you soon forget. In most parts of the world, throughout most of our Church's history, Confirmation happened before First Communion at around the age of 7. A slap to the face of a child bears a different weight than to that of a teen. A slap to a child pre-1960 bore a different weight than it bears in 2021. That said, a child needs to be corrected, warned, disciplined, and reminded of serious matters no matter which year they're born.

So, what would be an equivalent? How can we "shock" them into remembering? I don't have the budget for fireworks, nor the time for tight choreography. I also think the "shock" element is pretty out of style. Instead, I'll push more of an "intentionality" approach. Rather than receiving a physical slap, receive a mental one. How? Read on...

At our Confirmation, we receive the fullness of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Fortitude, Understanding, Counsel, Knowledge, Wisdom, Piety, and Fear of the Lord. Each of these are crucial to our spiritual health, and none of these are obtainable without the help of God. So, He's given us gifts; now we have to use them. Most of us consider ourselves knowledgeable, wise, understanding, etc. None of us have perfected these virtues. You, the reader, have not perfected these virtues. Fight for perfection! Work on it every day! You who are confirmed have the fullness of these gifts; don't bury them in the sand!

How do I grow in **fortitude**? Lean into the discomfort and do things that are difficult. How do I grow in **knowledge**? Read. How do I grow in **wisdom**? Ask questions and listen to the answers. How do I grow in **understanding**? Think about the answers from their point of view, and from God's. How do I grow in **counsel**? Listen twice and speak once. Don't forget either step. How do I grow in **piety**? Come to church more often and take on a new devotion. How do I grow in **fear of the Lord**? Lie prostrate, on your stomach, in bed or at church. Kneel, on your knees and in your mind. Acknowledge your smallness in front of the Lord, both physically and spiritually.

My last recommendation on this Confirmation weekend is to ask for a "slap" from a friend or family member. Ask them with which of these gifts you could use some help. It's uncomfortable, a bit scary, but it sure is good for the soul! You'll remember it, and you can thank them down the line for being willing to do so. Rejoice in the humility!

God bless you!

Will Beardmore, Director of Faith Formation

*St. John the Baptist Parish and Will Beardmore are not responsible for any sibling roughhousing caused by this article.*

## Congratulations to those receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend

Jack Allenburg  
Logan Beniek  
Keely Campuzano  
Peter Ciaccio Jr.  
Aaron Cleary  
Jack Dietz  
Hannah Fiedor  
Michael Hornecker  
Bryce Lesinski  
Owen Mullenbach  
Maria Rosensteel



# Make a Joyful Noise

---

Ascension and Confirmation – what a great pair! In today’s first reading from Acts (written by Luke the Apostle), he recalls Jesus “*giving instructions through the Holy Spirit*” before his ascension, that “*you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.*” Jesus then ascended into heaven, but only after intentionally preparing the disciples for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that was to come. Though it was the end of Jesus’ time walking and talking with them on earth, it was still just the beginning of the Christian journey!

Do you see the connection? Before our confirmation, we are intentionally prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Today, our number of confirmed Catholics is increasing - hallelujah! And those of us already confirmed are a living witness that **today’s confirmation certainly isn’t the end of the journey, but a new beginning with the Holy Spirit!** Yes, formal Wednesday night classes have come to an end, (just as Jesus’ time on earth came to an end), but the lifelong journey of learning and growing closer to Christ has just begun.

***Let’s welcome the newly confirmed into this journey with us intentionally and concretely!*** Attend Mass together, pray together, form bible studies, share meals, go to sporting events or concerts, simply walk the journey of this Catholic life together, side by side. This goes not only for the sponsors or immediate family of the confirmed, but for all of us! And not just with the newly confirmed either, but with *all* members of our parish and beyond! **Let’s remember that we *are* the church, and so we ought to *be* church to and with one another outside the building itself.**

On this double celebration of confirmation and the feast of the Ascension, let’s each invite the Holy Spirit deeper into our lives and hearts, even if we haven’t done so since our own confirmation years ago. **Ask the Holy Spirit to show us *how* and *with whom* we are called to be church to one another *this summer*, and ask for the grace and courage to follow through.**

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love!*

Exultemus Domino,  
Kari Hoeft ~ Director of Music, Liturgy and Youth Ministry

# Banns of Marriage

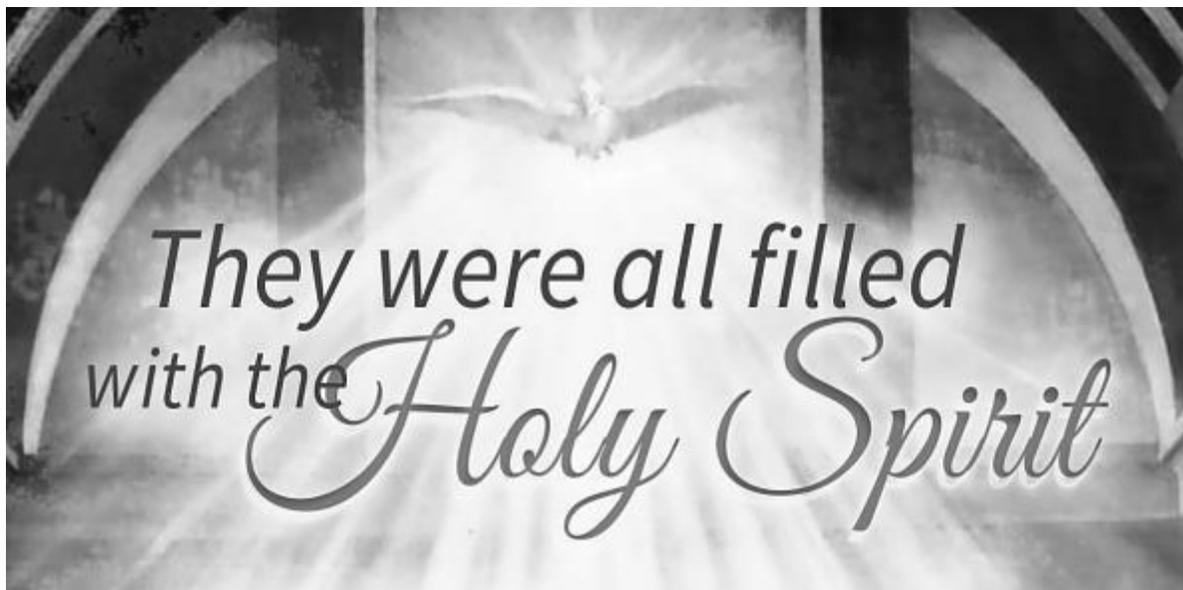
---

Please pray for these couples as they prepare to receive the wonderful Sacrament of Marriage!

May 28: Teresa Gorecki and Danny Masica



June 5: Hannah Daly and Austin Mack



# Financial Support

Recurring gifts sustain our parish through the busy summer months. You'll provide us with consistent support, even if you're away on a Sunday, so the programs, services, and ministries that mean so much to our community will never miss a beat.

With eGiving, you can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift to support our parish. You may Enroll electronically online at [faith.direct/MN855](https://faith.direct/MN855)

**Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.**

# Enkrateia House of Hope (EHOH)

## Enkrateia

Greek, meaning Temperance; self-control or self-mastery through exercise of the will.

## House of Hope (EHOH)

A home will be opened soon in the SW Twin Cities area for homeless pregnant women.

1. Provide a secure, safe, faith-centered home for homeless pregnant women to carry their baby to term.

2. Provide women with resources to address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs to be able to make a decision for the future of themselves and their baby.

Check next week's bulletin for more about this wonderful mission of charity.

# Knights of Columbus

KNIGHTS – what's holding you back?

We are better together. We are stronger together.

*Studies show if a father attends Mass regularly, his children are 3X more likely to attend Mass as adults. (Volunteering has to be closely connected to that data!)*

Let's do great things for our Faith, families, parish and school by being a Knight!

June 6, 2021; after the 10am Mass is the initiation – feel free to become a Knight.

I look forward to hearing from you – Tom Davis (612)242-9569;  
[thomaspdavis50@yahoo.com](mailto:thomaspdavis50@yahoo.com)



# How to be Involved in the Church & School Gala June 26th

1. **Register to attend!** Tickets are \$50 per person for a fun night to kick up your heels, enjoy a great meal and participate in the community of St. John's.
2. **Become a sponsor!** Did you know that we have a \$20,000 matching challenge?! Any NEW or INCREASED sponsorships will be matched! Please prayerfully consider helping us unlock this match!
3. **Donate to the silent or live auction!** Our auctions are always a fun highlight of the night!
4. **Donate toward our fund-a-need!** Our goal is to raise \$20,000 for Liturgical Vessels and Adoration Chapel Items including Chalice, Monstrance, Easter & Funeral Vestments and Security for the Chapel.
5. **Volunteer!** We need LOTS of help moving tables and chairs, decorating, bartending, serving and tearing down. <https://tinyurl.com/gala2021volunteer>

To register, donate or sponsor, please go to: <https://sjexcels.ejoinme.org/westernroundup2021>

Tickets will be on sale after Mass in the Gathering Place the following weekends:

May 22 and 23

June 5 and 6

Please stop by the table and get your tickets!



# Weekly Prayer

---

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 16, 2020

**Sunday Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3,6-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mk 16:15-20

**Monday:** Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-7/Jn 16:29-33

**Tuesday:** Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11,20-21/Jn 17:1-11a

**Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30,33-36/Jn 17:11b-19

**Thursday:** Acts 22:30;23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2,5,7-11/Jn 17:20-26

**Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2,11-12,19-20/Jn 21:15-19

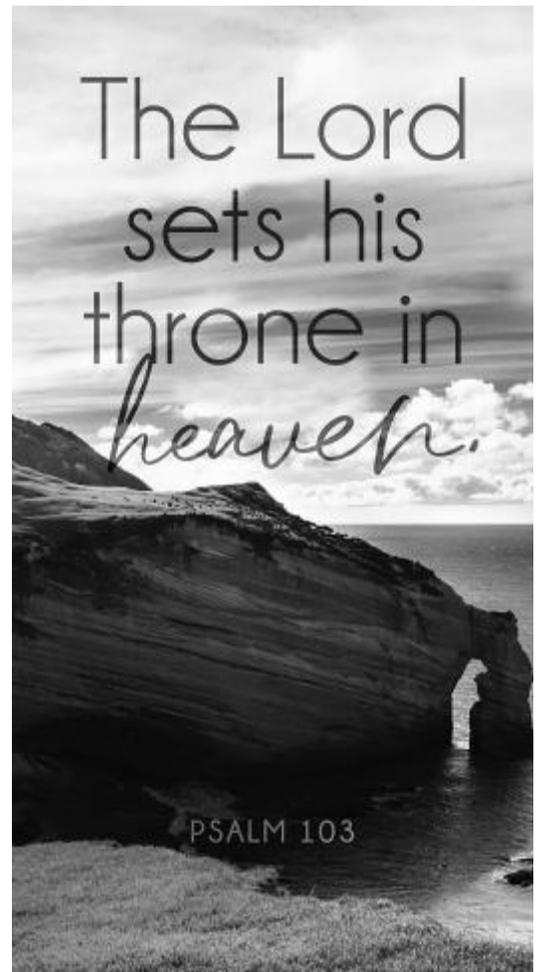
**Saturday:** Acts 28:16-20,30-31/Ps 11:4,5,7/Jn 21:20-25

**Next Sunday Pentecost:** Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1,24,29-31,34/1Cor 12:3b-7,12-13/Jn 20:19-23

## Upcoming Feast of Corpus Christi

---

On the feast of Corpus Christi, June 3rd, the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a **Rosary Procession to St Therese Church in Deephaven by way of the Minnetonka Loop Trail**. We will be hosting an information session at 7:00pm on Thursday May 20th to discuss this at St John's Church where we will also pray for God's mercy in front of the Blessed Sacrament in reparation for the ongoing wound of abortion which afflicts our nation. We will also be praying for personal intentions made by the men of the parish.



## Mass Intentions

---

Sat.	May 15	8:00am 5:00pm	Fr. Andy McAlpin Elizabeth Behun
Sun.	May 16	8:00am 10:00am	For the Parish St. John's Confirmands
Mon.	May 17		No Mass
Tue.	May 18	5:30pm	Christa Schnell
Wed.	May 19	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of the Willoughby Family
Thurs	May 20	8:00am	Rod Vacek
Fri.	May 21	9:00am	✠ Michael Renard
Sat.	May 22	8:00am 5:00pm	✠ Jeanne Pyzdrowski Ronny Totty
Sun.	May 23	8:00am 10:00am	Fr. Andy McAlpin For the Parish

## Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

---

We invite you to keep in your daily prayers the sick and confined of our parish who seek God's joy in their infirmity, in particular:

- Elvera Hoops
- Mary Rosati
- Viviana Wright
- Margaret Davis
- Joe Garaghty
- Kon Wurm
- Ruth Colnar
- David Streeter
- Roger "Pete" Hansen
- Tom Bartholomew
- Mike Salzer
- Joyce Koch
- Art Rosenberg

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School



*Guided by our Roman Catholic faith, St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School prepares students to live out the Gospel message, achieve academic excellence, and joyfully lead by faith, virtue and reason.*

## Teacher Appreciation

In conclusion of Teacher Appreciation Week: Oh how we love and appreciate all our talented, caring, dedicated and creative Guides! They work diligently, compassionately, and fervently to prepare students to live out the Gospel message, and achieve academic excellence, all the while modeling joy, virtue and reason.

**Ms. Cassie (Toddler):** How does one appreciate a person who chooses to Guide 12 toddlers day in and day out but with constant awe and wonder? Ms. Cassie continually surpasses all expectations with her care and guidance of these little ones.

**Ms. Rose Ann (Casa 1):** Ms. Rose Ann began her role as Guide this past Fall. Even during a pandemic she went to school to become a Montessori Guide! She has created a beautiful Montessori classroom environment while working endlessly to meet the needs of all children in her care. Her thoughtful work is a daily inspiration. It is evident that she loves each and every one of our students.

**Ms. Christa (Casa 2):** What a blessing Ms. Christa is to all those in her Casa. Ms. Christa truly lives the mission of our school when she is in the classroom or being a mom. She does all she does with such ease and grace!

**Mrs. Salonek (E1):** Mrs Salonek has been a blessing to all the lower elementary students and families. I am continually impressed by her work with your children. She takes every opportunity to give her students life experiences, including having baby Louis in the classroom!

**Mrs. Wermerskirchen (E2):** I am fortunate to have another Mrs. W in the school! Together we have worked in E2 so I have first-hand experience when I say how giving she is with her students. Mrs. Wermerskirchen, too, has gifted the classroom with real life experience with baby Thomas.

**Mr. Barnhart (MS):** Mr. Barnhart has met this year's challenge day in and day out. He continually works tirelessly meeting the challenge our adolescent students bring....even to the point of teaching high school Algebra II, all the while giving students the opportunity to grow as leaders.

We are so thankful for all of our Guides! They are pictured in order on the right.  
~ Angela Wroblewski, Principal



# Thank You!

# Summer Opportunities!

## Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School (ages 4-11) will be **June 21-25 from 8:45 am - 12:00 pm** with a family fun night on **Thursday, June 24th from 5:00-6:00pm** with live music by the Teddy Bear Band. All activities will be outdoors and children will remain with the same group of children all week.

Our theme goes along with the St. John's upcoming Western Roundup as we are going on a *Rocky Railway* adventure! Gear up for a fun week. Each lesson is paired with a Bible verse, virtue of the day, and Saint of the day!

Cost is just \$50/child, up to a maximum of \$125/family. Scholarships are available. Register online at: <https://permission.click/6q8GA/us>

## Volunteer Opportunities

We are looking for some teen volunteers to help with Vacation Bible School! For those in Confirmation Year 1 & 2 next year this will help fill your volunteer hours requirement! To sign up, please email Sarah Reid at [sreid@stjohns-excelsior.org](mailto:sreid@stjohns-excelsior.org)

## Family Fun Night



You and your family are invited to our **FREE Family Fun Night** pre-gala event that will be on the back lawn and playground on **Thursday, June 24th from 5:00-6:00pm**.

There will be a free hot dog meal, the Teddy Bear Band will play, AND we will have games! Please bring your own picnic blanket and/or lawn chairs.

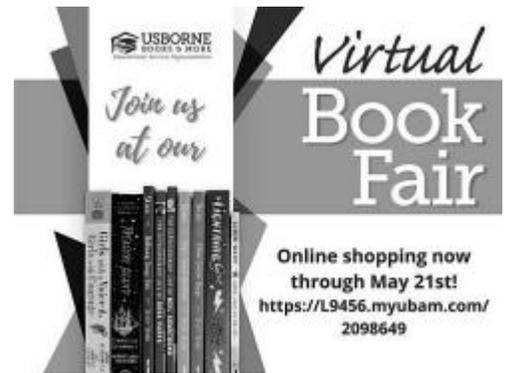
Please RSVP for this **FREE Family Fun Night** here so we know how many meals to prepare <https://tinyurl.com/familyfun24th>

## Extreme Faith Camp

Extreme Faith Camp is the best week of the summer for middle school students (high schoolers can sign up to help)! Save the date for **July 25-30!** Email [khoeft@stjohns-excelsior.org](mailto:khoeft@stjohns-excelsior.org) if you want to register (spots limited).

## Bonfires

Check the monthly calendar for bonfire dates throughout the summer!



## Help the School Get Free Books!

St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School is hosting a Virtual Book Fair going on now through May 21st!

**This is a great time to stock up on books and activities to keep your kiddos busy over the summer AND to prevent the "summer slide".**

Did you know that all genres of books have academic benefits? Nonfiction, fiction, activity books, coloring books, picture books, flap books

**SJB Catholic Montessori School receives 50% back in free books from every purchase!** These free books will be used in the classrooms. So please **SHARE** this link with your family and friends! All orders count and they will be shipped directly to the purchaser.

Here is the link <https://L9456.myubam.com/2098649>



# Stewardship Update

\*We have significantly lowered our Offertory Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year. As such, our Over/(Under) may seem artificially positive, as actuals are compared to a significantly reduced budget number from the prior year. For this reason, we have additionally included this year's actuals compared to last year's actuals for a more accurate reflection of our offertory growth/(decline).

\*Please note that fluctuation in weekly giving is often due to variable timing of annual stewardship gifts.



## Parish Offices

CHURCH: (952) 474-8868 Fax: (952) 444-3474

Pastor Ext. 216

Fr. Carlsson fr.carlson@stjohns-excelsior.org

Deacon

Dcn Gary Hoffman deacongary@stjohns-excelsior.org

Parish Administrator Ext. 204

Andrea McMerty-Brummer

amcmerty-brummer@stjohns-excelsior.org

Accounting Ext. 203

Christa Vassallo cvassallo@stjohns-excelsior.org

Director of Faith Formation Ext. 207

Will Beardmore wbeardmore@stjohns-excelsior.org

Director of Music, Liturgy & Youth Ministry Ext. 206

Kari Hoeft khoeft@stjohns-excelsior.org

Communications Coordinator Ext. 208

Sarah Reid sreid@stjohns-excelsior.org

Office & Cemetery Manager Ext. 200

Megan Adam madam@stjohns-excelsior.org

Lead Maintenance Technician Ext. 205

Mike Pylka mpylka@stjohns-excelsior.org

School: (952) 474-5812 Fax: (952) 444-3474

Principal Ext. 301

Angela Wroblewski awroblewski@stjohns-excelsior.org

Administrative Assistant Ext. 300

Monica Benda mbenda@stjohns-excelsior.org

Parish Trustees: Barb Thomas, Mark Spaniol

Finance Council Chair: Pat Johnson

Parish Council Chair: Charlie Kanan

The church office is open to the public, but we ask that you make an appointment. All church office visitors will ring the bell and wait for assistance as we will not staff the front desk. Unscheduled visitors are not allowed into the school buildings at this time, but the office is open.

Building Hours—Open for Prayer:

Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm

Saturday 8:00am-6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am-12:00pm

Collection(s) as of: 5/10/2021	
	Actual
Sunday	\$13,054.00
Plate	\$439.52
	\$13,493.52

Year-to-Date Information as of : 5/10/2021	
YTD Budget	\$ 668,430
YTD Actual	\$ 802,643
Amount Over/(Under)	\$134,213

Year-to-Date Comparison to Prior Year as of: 5/10/2021	
Prior YTD Actual	\$ 735,800
Current YTD Actual	\$ 802,643
Amount Over/(Under) Prior Year	\$66,843

Tune in to our Livestream of Masses

<https://tinyurl.com/sjbyoutube>

### Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil.....5:00pm  
 Sunday.....8:00am  
 .....10:00am  
 Tuesdays.....5:30pm  
 Wednesdays, Thursdays.....8:00am  
 Friday (School Mass).....9:00am  
 Saturdays.....8:00am  
 (Holy Days and Holidays—see bulletin  
 Or call Parish Office)

### Resurrection Cemetery

5555 Covington Rd, Shorewood, MN 55331

### Sacrament of Confession

Tuesdays.....5:00pm  
 Wednesdays.....7:30am  
 Thursdays.....7:30am  
 Fridays.....8:30am  
 Saturdays.....8:30-9:30am  
 .....3:30-4:30pm

### Sacrament of Marriage

Couples must call Fr. Carlson 6 months in advance

### Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office 2 months prior to child's birth. Required classes held regularly.

*A local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church.  
 Victim Assistance Hotline: (651)291-4497*

**Washburn-McReavy**  
washburn-mcreavy.com  
Funeral Chapels, Cemeteries and Cremation Services

**EDINA CHAPEL**  
5000 W 50th Street  
952.920.3996

**HOPKINS CHAPEL**  
1400 Mainstreet  
952.938.9020

**COLDWELL BANKER**

**BURNET**  
**Angie Weaver**  
Realtor, SRES  
612.309.1166  
angie@angieweaver.com

**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME** **ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE**

Contact **Steve Swenson** to place an ad today!  
sswenson@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x5815

**DEER RUN GOLF CLUB**

**Tom Abts**  
General Manager  
www.deerrungolf.com

**INCLINE EXTERIORS**

Roofing • Siding • Windows  
25 years locally owned & operated  
**CHRIS HAGEN**  
612-272-5255 InclineExteriors.com

**SPREAD THE WORD**  
A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**

**4LPi WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES**

Join our team

- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT  
careers@4LPi.com • www.4LPi.com/careers

**Winslow Monument Service**

**Teresa Winslow**  
Owner, Design Specialist  
WMS Winslow Monument Service  
(952) 368-7575 | www.wmsmonuments.com  
Family-owned Chaska business for over 20 years

**PAT JOHNSON**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
Personal Injury • Business Law  
**(612) 339-7566**  
120 S. 6th St. • Ste. 1515  
Canadian Pacific Plaza, Minneapolis

**MARTY**  
CHIROPRACTIC & NUTRITION

CHIROPRACTIC  
DESIGNED CLINICAL NUTRITION  
MASSAGE • REHAB  
**(952) 474-4121**  
Downtown Excelsior  
Saving the community for over 45 years

**THE PILLARS**  
OF SHOREWOOD LANDING

Independent Living | Assisted Living  
Memory Care

**PillarsSeniorLiving.com**

Tour Today | 952-401-7444

**Dominos**

Large 3-Topping Pizza & 16-piece Parmesan Bread Bites \$8.99 CODE 3TFB

Carry-out only. You must ask for this limited time offer.  
Order Online at [www.dominos.com](http://www.dominos.com)  
Hwy 7 & 41 Shopping Center

**Boyer**  
Lic #2988  
Building Corporation

**PETERSON DRYWALL, INC.**

JIM 2040 West 65th St.  
PETERSON Excelsior, MN 55331  
Cell (612) 961-6121

952-475-2097

- New Homes
- Remodeling
- Kitchens & Baths

**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider SafeStreets  
1-855-225-4251

**The Huber**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
& Cremation Services  
Excelsior Chapel 952-474-9595  
www.huberfunerals.com

**Hurting after Abortion?**

**MARIAN PROJECT**

Helping post-abortive women & men heal the wounds of abortion.

Free Services 651-291-4515

**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE**  
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM

**\$29.95/MO** PLUS SPECIAL OFFER  
BILLED QUARTERLY

CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772  
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

**RIVERSIDE PAYMENTS**

**ACCEPT PAYMENTS ANYWHERE**  
Complimentary analysis of your card processing program to ensure cost savings

**Bryan Kuffel, Account Executive**  
p: 612.210.9904 c: 612.578.7888  
bkuffel@riversidepayments.com

**Minnesota Valley Roofing & Restoration, Inc.**  
Your roofing & restoration specialist

Call Dan 952.443.2649

www.MNVRRRI.com 1251 W 82nd St Chaska, MN  
dan.mnvalley@gmail.com BC#740351

**Kowalski's Markets**  
is proud to support  
St. John's Church  
of Excelsior.

**KOWALSKI'S MARKETS**  
440 Water St. • 952-229-8300  
www.kowalskis.com

**Too Sick for Mass?**  
SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!

Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!  
www.parishesonline.com

**CHANHASSEN FAMILY DENTISTRY, P.A.**  
Invisalign® Preferred Provider  
Family Care • Mini-Dental Implants

**ChanDent.com**  
952.443.3368