

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH & ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

PO Box 234, Taylors Falls, MN 55084

www.stjosephtaylorsfalls.org

December 26, 2021



Mass Times at St. Joseph's

Monday-Friday 7:30am
Saturday 5:30pm
Sunday 7:30am, 11:00am

ST JOSEPH

490 Bench Street
Taylors Falls, MN 55084

Mass Time at St. Francis Xavier

Sunday 9:15am

Adoration (St. Joseph)

Friday 8:00am - 12:00pm

ST FRANCIS XAVIER

25267 Redwing Avenue
Shafer, MN 55074

Confessions (St. Joseph)

Monday- Friday: 7:00am-7:25am
Thursday: 8:00am-8:30am
Friday: 11:00am-12:00pm
Saturday: 4:30pm - 5:15pm

OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thur., 8:30am - 4:00pm
540 River Street
Taylors Falls, MN 55084

ANOINTING Call Fr. Drees at 651.465.7345 for someone in need of Anointing of the Sick.

ADMINISTRATION

Pastor

Fr. John Drees
Direct Line: 651-465-7493
Emergency: 651-967-7849
Email: dreesj@archspm.org

Deacon Mike Martin
martinmj@archspm.org

Office Administrator

Troy Aanonsen: 651-465-7345
stjosephstfrancis@outlook.com

Faith Formation

Julie Novak
recatholictaylorfalls@gmail.com

Prayer Networks

SJ: Parish Office: 651-465-7345
SF: Rose Ann Hawley: 651-337-2994

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 26 **Saturday, December 25**

7:30pm
Naomi Novak

9:15am
Parishioners of both parishes

11:00am
John Robinson

Sunday, December 26

7:30am
Matthew Novak

9:15am
Andy E. and Family

11:00am
Parishioners of both parishes

Tuesday, December 28
†Sierra Osborne

Wednesday, December 29
Tasha Swint

Thursday, December 30

Friday, December 31
7:30am

5:30pm

FOR THE WEEK OF Jan. 2 **Saturday, January 1** **8:30am**

5:30pm

Sunday, January 2
7:30am
†Jack and Shirly Heilman

9:15am
Andy E. and Family

11:00am
Parishioners of both parishes
† Indicates repose of soul

2022 Knights of Columbus Calendars

2022 Knights Calendars are still available. Time is running out! If you haven't purchased a calendar, or calendars, for your chance to win cash prizes and gift certificates in 2022 do it before the **Deadline of midnight January 5th**. See a Knight after Mass! Calendars are only \$25 each.

Toes on the Tape

Distribution of Communion at St. Joseph's

1. The priest will bring Communion to those in the front row of each section.

2. Everyone else please come forward for communion and line up with your toes on the yellow tape (or knees if you prefer). The priest will then bring communion to those with "Toes on the Tape."



MASS INTENTION

If you want to add a Mass intention to the calendar, contact the church office. Our Archdiocese recommends \$7 as the suggested donation for a Mass intention.
Call 651-465-7345

COLLECTIONS UPDATE

St. Joseph

(\$3,100 needed weekly)
November 28 \$ 4553.00
December 5 \$ 4246.70
December 12 \$ 5136.00

St. Francis Xavier

(\$1,425 needed weekly)
November 28 \$ 1341.89
December 5 \$ 1473.74
December 12 \$ 3825.58

Electronic Giving

There are a number of parishioners who have signed up for automatic giving (Electronic Funds Transfer). These forms can be picked up at the parish office or can be found on the parish website homepage.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SUFFERING OF OUR PARISHES

Terri Angel, Steve Gall, James McIntyre, Don Nellen, Pat Lee, Sr., Dory Kazmierczak, Gene Krell, Karen Salokar, Mark Kruger, Jim Burkart, Elizabeth Cox, Daniel Ostling, Adam Carr, Troy Maassen, Carl Ostling, Allen Peltier, Kylie Peterson, Don Klocker, Dona Roderigue, Chris McIntyre, Robert Steele, Rick Globensky, Robert Linwood, Kimberly Vaneps.

To add or subtract a name, please call the office.



From Fr. Drees' Desk -

The Feast of the Holy Family

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family right after Christmas, invite the Holy Family to encourage and support you. Invoke the names of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph especially in times of temptation against purity and temptations to selfishness. Married couples, turn to Mary and Joseph to help deepen your commitment to each other. Parents, turn to the Holy Family to help you in praying as a family. Singles, widows or widowers, the Holy Family invites you share in their peace and joy. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may the love and grace that circulated among you rub off on us.

New Year's Eve Schedule Changes

There will be no 8-12pm Adoration on Friday, December 31. There be no 11-12pm Confessions on Friday, December 31.

Mary, Mother of God Feast Day

Since January 1 is on a Saturday this year, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Nevertheless, I will still have a vigil Mass and New Year's Day Mass at St. Joseph's in honor of Mary, the Mother of God at the following times:

Friday, December 31 at 5:30pm
Saturday, January 1 at 8:30am

Christmas with an X?

You may have seen Christmas written as X-mas. This can seem to be a disrespectful way spelling of Christmas and this may be the intention for some. Nevertheless, spelling Christmas as "X-mas" is deeply Christian. The first letter of Christ in Greek is "chi" which looks like our letter "X". It is still common in Christian art to use the first letter or the first few letters to stand for an entire word. For instance, you may have seen in Catholic churches or on the priest's vestment "IHS". These are the first three letters of Jesus in Greek. So, far from being a secularization of Christmas, X-mas is legitimate abbreviation of Christmas.

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Drees

Would You like to Join the Parish?

If you would like to become a member of St. Joseph or St. Francis Xavier, talk to Fr. Drees after Mass so that he can personally give you a parish registration form.

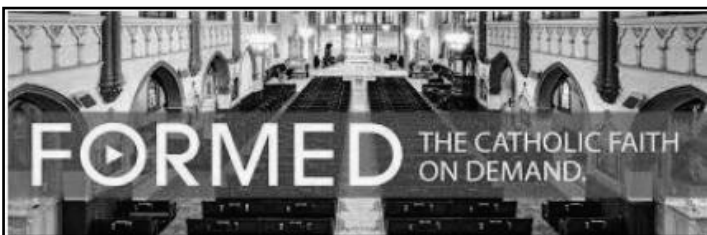


PRAY THE ROSARY!

The Rosary is prayed at 8:50 am at St. Francis Xavier Church on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Come join us!

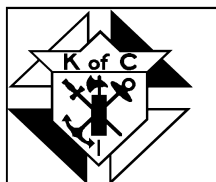
Prayer by St. Francis Xavier

O God, I love you, I love you, not out of hope of heaven for me nor fearing not to love and be in the everlasting burning. You, you, my Jesus, after me did reach your arms out dying. For my sake suffered nails, and lance, mocked and marred countenance, sorrows passing number, sweat and agony and anguish, yes and death, and this for me, and for me, a sinner: why should not I love you, O most loving Jesus, not heaven's sake; not to be saved from hell; not for the rewards for which I hope; but just because you love me? I do love you and I will love you: solely because you are my King and my God. Amen.



Learn more about Formed.org by going to the parish website at: stjosephstaylorfalls.org

**KNIGHTS
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Knights of Columbus 2022 Calendars

The Knights of Columbus Calendar Raffle has returned! Your opportunity to win weekly cash prizes and gift certificates awaits you after Mass. See a member of the Knights of Columbus in back of the church.

2022 Calendars, including your chance to win, are \$25 each.

Deadline is midnight, January 5th

If you're interested in joining the Knights of Columbus or have questions, contact Grand Knight Bill Maassen at 651-269-6015

Christmas Art: The Visitation of the Shepherds

The cover of the bulletin this Sunday is the same image on the cover of the book that I made available at the beginning of Advent (*The True Meaning of Christmas* by Michael Barber). The more I looked at that nativity painting on the cover of that book, the more meaning I saw packed within it.

The name of the painting is *The Visitation of the Shepherds* by Bartolome Murillo. He painted it around the year 1668.

Here are some features of this rich painting.

First, Jesus is at the center. He is the focal point as well as a source of light in the picture. Baby Jesus has a brightness to him because he is the light of the world, who enters into our darkness. Mary is genuflecting before her divine Son. She is presenting Jesus to those present. She joins them in gazing on and adoring Jesus. The angels at the top of the painting represent heaven rejoicing that God has been born in Jesus Christ.

The three men in the background looking down upon Jesus are the shepherds. Each of the shepherds has a slightly different posture. The one on the right has his right hand extended as if he is both pointing at Jesus and offering something to him. The middle shepherd has his hands folded in prayer as he looks upon Jesus. The shepherd leaning on his staff on the left just silently gazes on Jesus. There is not strict uniformity in their posture. Nonetheless, they all respectfully come before the newborn king and adore him. The character that most intrigued me was the man in the foreground. His is wearing black with tattered clothing. His black clothing is in stark contrast to the infant before him who radiates with light. The soles of his feet are all dirty. He probably travelled a long distance to come to adore the newborn king. As he kneels before the Christ child, his right hand is placed upon a lamb. The lamb with tied legs is an image of Jesus who is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. This man in the foreground presents the following challenge to each of us: How far am I willing to go, how much energy am I willing to exert, how much discomfort am I willing to undergo so that I can come before the Lord and adore him?



Little Flowers Girls' Club & Blue Knights Boys' Club

Fun, Flexible, Faith-filled Catholic Clubs for both boys and girls! These are Catholic clubs for boys and girls ages 5 and up that teach the virtues through scripture, saints' biographies, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. They will meet one Thursday a month at St. Joseph's from 6:00pm-7:30pm. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Heather Kremer at 715-554-1855 or hkremmer@yahoo.com



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