

# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH & ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

PO Box 234, Taylors Falls, MN 55084

[www.stjosephtaylorsfalls.org](http://www.stjosephtaylorsfalls.org)

January 2, 2022



## 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  
recatholictaylorsfalls@gmail.com

### Prayer Networks

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

### FOR THE WEEK OF Jan. 2 Saturday, January 1

**8:30am**

Parishioners of both parishes

**5:30pm**

### Sunday, January 2

**7:30am**

†Jack and Shirley Heilman

**9:15am**

Andy E. and Family

**11:00am**

Parishioners of both parishes

### Monday, January 3

### Tuesday, January 4

### Wednesday, January 5

### Thursday, January 6

### Friday, January 7

†Andrew and Margie Stein

### FOR THE WEEK OF Jan. 9

### Saturday, January 8

**5:30pm**

### Sunday, January 9

**7:30am**

Parishioners of both parishes

**9:15am**

†Hank Nelson

**11:00am**

† Indicates repose of soul

### Dory Kazmierczak

The Churches of St. Joseph and St. Francis Xavier pray for the family and friends of Dory Kazmierczak. Dory passed away on Monday, December 20.

Eternal rest grant unto Dory, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

### Demontreville Retreat Opportunity

Looking for the perfect getaway? Let God meet you at a beautiful retreat location in Lake Elmo, MN. Join us for a Men's Silent Retreat at the Demontreville Jesuit Retreat House January 20 – January 23. The retreat begins Thursday evening and ends Sunday evening. Free will donations are accepted. For more information, call Bob Cardinal at (651) 398-1457 or check out the website <http://www.demontrevilleretreat.com>. Other retreat days are also available.

**GOD IS GOOD, ALL THE TIME!  
ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD!**

### COLLECTIONS UPDATE

#### St. Joseph

(\$3,100 needed weekly)

December 5 \$ 4246.70

December 12 \$ 5136.00

December 19 \$ 5992.00

#### St. Francis Xavier

(\$1,425 needed weekly)

December 5 \$ 1473.74

December 12 \$ 3825.58

December 19 \$ 1930.48

### 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**

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SUFFERING OF OUR PARISHES

Terri Angel, Steve Gall, James McIntyre, Don Nellen, Pat Lee, Sr., 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 -

#### **Epiphany: Seeking the Truth**

We celebrate another feast this Sunday, the Epiphany of our Lord. The word "epiphany" is a Greek word meaning "manifestation." This feast is about how the Lord manifests himself to the nations, the entire world, and not just the people of Israel. He is the savior who comes to set all people free from the spiritual chains of sin so that you and I can live in authentic freedom.

The wise men, or magi, who came to adore Jesus were seekers of the truth. They sought out the true king whose star shown in the sky. The magi went out of their own known world. They were open to being led by the Lord to a foreign land. When they arrived at Bethlehem, they bowed down, and worshiped Jesus. Whether or not they knew that Jesus was the one, true God in the flesh is debatable. The wise men at least knew that Jesus was a king and that there was something divine about him.

The wise men's search for Jesus applies to all for we are called to seek the truth. When we have found the truth, we are to cling to it and mine the riches that the truth offers us. Like the magi we are all to be seekers of the truth.

Nonetheless, the truth is not ultimately an idea or a set of ideas, though true ideas direct us toward the ultimate truth. The ultimate truth is a person, a divine person, Jesus Christ. Jesus says that he is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). Jesus is the truth, and "the truth that will set you free" (John 8:32). It is in finding Jesus, clinging to him, and ever deepening one's relationship with him, that our deep desire to know the truth will be filled to the brink and overflowing. The magi sought the true king and eventually fell down before Jesus. Lord, help us seek the truth of who you are so that we can more deeply fall down and adore you.

Happy Epiphany,  
Fr. Drees

## FEATURED SAINTS and FEAST DAYS

### Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors

St. Basil: 329–379

St. Gregory: c. 329–390

#### January 2—Memorial

Liturgical Color: White

Patron Saints of Russia, monks, hospital administrators, and poets

*Obvious truths are hard to explain, but smart theologians can explain them*

Saints Basil and Gregory lived so long ago, were so prolific, and played such crucial roles in so many areas of Church life, that they could each be remembered for any number of contributions to liturgy, theology, ecclesiology, Church history, monasticism, and even popular customs, especially in the Orthodox east. Yet perhaps their greatest contributions were as theologians who defined, fundamentally and decisively, what the word Trinity actually means; how Jesus is both fully God and fully man; and how the Holy Spirit is related to God the Father.



### Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious, 1774–1821

#### January 4—U.S.A. Memorial

Liturgical Color: White

Patron Saint of Catholic schools, widows, loss of parents

*She had it all, lost it all, and then found it all again*

In late 1803 Elizabeth Ann Seton, with her husband, left the United States for Italy, as a confident, high-born, wealthy, educated Yankee Protestant. She returned in June 1804 bankrupt, a widow, burning with love for the Holy Eucharist, tenderly devoted to Mary, and with the heart of a Roman Catholic. She was received into the Church the next year.

After her conversion, Elizabeth spent the rest of her short life dedicated to Catholic education. She is rightly considered in the United States as the foundress of Catholic parochial education. Besides her husband, she also lost two of her five children during her lifetime. Her Order thrived and thrives still. The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul gather each year on this feast near her tomb inside an immense Basilica in northern Maryland to thank God for their foundress, for a life so well lived.



### Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor

1567–1622

#### January 24—Memorial

Liturgical Color: White

Patron Saint of writers and journalists  
A gentleman of sterling character and many talents leaves a legacy

Saint Francis de Sales was holy and known to be holy by everyone, especially those closest to him. He mingled easily with princes, kings, and popes, who enjoyed his charming and educated company. He incessantly criss crossed his diocese on foot and horseback, destroying his own health, to visit the poor and humble faithful who were drawn to him as much as the high born. He embodied to the fullest that extraordinary pastoral and intellectual productivity, characteristic of the greatest saints, which makes one wonder if he ever rested a single minute, or slept a single night.

In carrying out his ministry, St. Francis' weapon of choice was the pen. His apologetic and spiritual works brought back tens of thousands of former Catholics to the faith after they had dabbled in Calvinism. Saint Francis's works were so profound, original, and creative, and his love of God so straightforward and understandable, that he would be declared a doctor of the Church in 1877.

When he lay dying, mute after a terrible stroke, a nun asked him if he had any words of wisdom to impart. He asked for some paper and wrote three words on it: "Humility, Humility, Humility." St. Francis is buried in a beautiful bronze sepulcher displaying his likeness in the Visitation Basilica and Convent in Annecy France.



### Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor

1225–1274

#### January 28—Memorial

Liturgical Color: White

Patron Saint of all universities and of students

*A theological Grand Master, he positioned every piece exquisitely on the chessboard*

The silhouette of St. Thomas Aquinas stands like a giant on the highest summit of human thought, casting such a wide and deep shadow over the surrounding landscape that all subsequent thinkers labor in the shade on the slopes below him. It is fair to say that Thomism, the thinking method and intellectual conclusions of St. Thomas, has been the Catholic Church's standard theology since he lived in the thirteenth century.

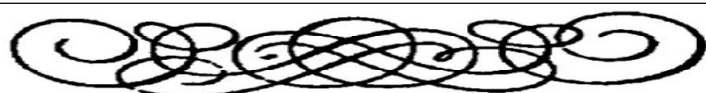
Thomism's understanding of God as non contingent being itself which makes all dependent existence possible is intellectually sophisticated and also deeply attractive. This understanding of God meshes nicely with an appreciation for the natural beauty of the earth, love of art, and charity for our fellow man, while also allowing space for God to reveal Himself more fully, and gratuitously, in the person of His Son Jesus Christ.

St. Thomas was a well-balanced man and a dedicated Dominican priest. This synthesis of childlike wonder and deep inquiry marked his life. After having a mystical vision of Jesus Christ on the cross while praying after Mass one day, he abandoned any further writing. He died on his way to the Second Council of Lyon in 1274, not yet 50 years old. He is buried in Toulouse, France, retaining his status as the Church's most eminent theologian.



### 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.



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