

# Divine Mercy Area Faith Catholic Community



**ST. MARY'S** 636 1st Ave N • Sleepy Eye MN 56085

(507) 794-4171 • saintmaryse@sleepyeyetel.net • Office Hours Mon-Fri 8am-4pm  
Weekend Mass Times: Sat., 5:30pm; Sun., 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am (EF/Latin)

**ST. PAUL'S** 209 Field St N • PO Box 277 • Comfrey, MN 56019

(507) 877-2361 • stpcomfrey@yahoo.com • Office Hours Mon & Wed 9am-1pm/Fri 1-4pm  
Weekend Mass Time: Sun., 10:30am

**ST. MICHAEL'S** 510 W 3rd St • PO Box 459 • Morgan, MN 56266

(507) 249-3192 • stmichaels@redred.com • Office Hours Tues & Fri 8:30am-12:30pm  
Weekend Mass Time: Sun., 8:30am

**JAPANESE MARTYRS** 30881 County Rd 24 • Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

(507) 794-6974 • jmartyrs@sleepyeyetel.net • Office Hours Tues, Thurs & Fri 8am-12pm  
Weekend Mass Time: Sat., 8:00pm

www.divinemercyafc.org

December 26, 2021 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

## Pastoral Leadership

**Fr. Mark Steffl**

Pastor

**Fr. Samuel Perez**

Senior Associate Pastor

**Fr. Zachary Peterson**

Senior Associate Pastor

**Deacon Mark Kober**

Permanent Deacon

**Deacon Mike McKeown**

Permanent Deacon

## Sacrament of Penance

**St. Mary:**

Saturday 9:00-10:00 am

Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm

Sunday 11:00-11:20 am

Monday 6:00-7:00 pm

**St. Paul:**

Sunday 11:30-11:45 am

1st Tuesday 6-6:30 pm

**St. Michael:**

Thursday 9-10:00 am

1st Friday 9-10:00 am

Sunday 8:00-8:15 am

**Japanese Martyrs:**

Saturday 7:30-7:45 pm

## Sacrament of Marriage

For those who are free to marry, marriage preparation takes at least six months. Contact your parish office for further information.

## Sacrament of Baptism

Parents expecting the birth of their child must participate in a preparation session, preferable six months prior to the birth.

Godparents need to participate in a preparation session also. Contact your parish office for further information.

## Bulletin Copy Deadline:

Monday: noon

## Catholic Charities:

1-866-670-5163



From Fr. Steffl:

**Merry Christmas to all!** Thanks to the CCW who donated towards the book that we are offering at Christmas this year in our parishes. Thanks also to all who helped to decorate for Christmas in our parishes, once again!

**Reminder of the Holy Day at the end of this week, January 1.** Since it falls on a Saturday, there are vigil Masses scheduled on Friday, Dec. 31, as well as the morning of Saturday, January 1. Then we have the usual weekend Masses for Saturday evening and Sunday Morning for the weekend Masses. Once again a reminder that there are no "2-for-1 deals" to go to Mass one time on Saturday to count for both the Holy Day and the Sunday Mass obligation.

As we look forward to the end of the calendar year, please get any remaining donations to the parish offices as soon as possible if you want them to go on your statement for tax purposes for the year 2021 (please note that the last day of the year is Friday, Dec. 31, this is a paid day off for office staff so no one will be in the offices on that day). I am grateful for your support in all our parishes!

**A few big projects at St. Mary's that I need to raise money to get done this next year, in addition to the church floor, are the elevator project in the St. Mary's Grade School for \$150,000 and extensive tuck-pointing of the church, which will cost \$125,500.** I have mentioned both of these projects already, and am hoping to get them done this next summer. I realize that these are not small amounts of money, but am hoping that these needs might inspire some extra generosity, as they are urgent. In the bulletin's stewardship section, there is a separate line for each of these projects. (I always like to note that my job is to ask for money for Jesus, and He is giving me a lot of opportunities these days! And if you say "no," it is to the Lord, not me... I am only the messenger.)

Looking forward to the New Year, I would like to encourage everyone to make a "**Spiritual New Years' Resolution**" for 2022. Some things that I would suggest, if you are not already doing them. Any or all of these will make a big difference in your life:

- A scheduled hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each week (*it is my hope and goal that EVERYONE in our parishes would have a weekly Holy Hour commitment with the Lord*. Signing up for a time, even if you share that hour with someone else already scheduled is a great way to be accountable to the Lord!)
- Daily Rosary (as a family, if possible)
- A weekday Mass (or more if you can...)
- Monthly visit to the confessional

There are some very beautiful Feast Days in the Christmas Season, including this Sunday, the Epiphany, the arrival of the Three Wise Men!

**Please call the parish office if you are in need of a priest.** I think especially of the homebound who would benefit from being on our First Friday visit list, or those who need the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. As priests, we don't know unless you call us or tell us.

The Nativity Scene donated by John Rosenhammer that we auctioned off during Advent was purchased by the "Ken and Denise Kalkhoff Family Charitable Fund," and the money is going to the fund to replace the elevator at St. Mary's Grade School. The buyer donated the Nativity Scene to the Chancery Offices of the Diocese of New Ulm, and they were very happy to receive it!

# AFC Mass Times & Weekly Events

## AFC Mass Intentions for December 27, 2021 - January 2, 2022

### **Monday - St. John, Apostle & Evangelist**

Dec. 27 1 Jn 1:1-4 / Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Divine Providence** †John & Sylvia Steffl

5:30 pm **St. Mary's** †George & Ann Walter

6-7:00 pm **St. Mary's** Confessions

### **Tuesday - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

Dec. 28 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 / Mt 2:13-18

**Divine Providence** †Melania Meyer

7:15 am **St. Mary's** †D & L of the Witucki Family

8:30 am **Japanese Martyrs** †Vince Mathiowetz

8:30 am **St. Michael's** †Joanne Teed

5:30 pm **St. Paul's** †Florian Schulte

### **Wednesday - St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr**

Dec. 29 1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35

**Divine Providence** †Dennis & Flavia Larson

7:15 am **St. Mary's** †Leona Schueller

8:30 am **St. Michael's** Bernice Ricke

### **Thursday**

Dec. 30 1 Jn 2:12-17 / Lk 2:36-40

**Divine Providence** †Rhoda Dietz

7:15 am **St. Mary's** †Bill & Maggie Wintheiser

8:30 am **Japanese Martyrs** †Edwin, Alice & Eldon Helget

8:30 am **St. Michael's** †Joe Larsen

9-10:00 am **St. Michael's** Holy Hour/Confessions

### **Friday - St. Sylvester I, Pope / New Year's Eve**

Dec. 31 1 Jn 2:18-21 / Jn 1:1-18

**Divine Providence** †Maggie Wintheiser

7:15 am **St. Mary's** †Scott & Cindy Tauer

10:30 am **SE Care Ctr** †Helen (Wolf) Zangl

2:00 pm **St. Michael's** Wedding of Marcus Heiling & Alexis Bakker

5:00 pm **St. Michael's** †Harold & Mary Wersal

5:30 pm **St. Mary's** †Angeline Kral / Solemnity of Mary

8:00 pm **Japanese Martyrs** Parish Priests / Solemnity of Mary

### **Saturday - The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Jan. 1 Nm 6:22-27 / Gal 4:4-7 / Lk 2:16-21

**Divine Providence** DSMP

7:30 am **St. Mary's** †Leonard Wendinger / Solemnity of Mary

8:30 am **St. Michael's** †Melvin & Delrose Welter / Solemnity of Mary

9:30 am **St. Mary's** †Melania Meyer / Solemnity of Mary

10:30 am **St. Paul's** †Russell Renberg / Solemnity of Mary

11:30 am **St. Mary's/Latin** †Mike Wagner / Solemnity of Mary

4-5:00 pm **St. Mary's** Confessions

5:30 pm **St. Mary's** †Bernard Schumacher / Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 pm **Japanese Martyrs** Confessions

8:00 pm **Japanese Martyrs** †Pat & Milly Augustin / Epiphany of the Lord

### **Sunday - Epiphany of the Lord**

Jan. 2 Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12

**Divine Providence** †Richard Duea

7:30 am **St. Mary's** †Barbara & Richard Vickery

8:00 am **St. Michael's** Confessions

8:30 am **St. Michael's** †Dorothy Kalkhoff

9:30 am **St. Mary's** †Joan Richert

10:30 am **St. Paul's** †Cleone Monson

11:00 am **St. Mary's** Confessions

11:30 am **St. Mary's/Latin** AFC Parish Families

11:30 am **St. Paul's** Confessions

12:30 pm **St. Andrew's, Fairfax** Spanish Mass

7:00 pm **St. Mary's** Adoremus Holy Hour & Confessions

## Weekly Events

### ST. MARY'S, SLEEPY EYE

#### Sunday, December 26

7:00pm Holy Hour

#### Wednesday, December 29

NO Rel Ed

#### Sunday, January 2

7:00pm Adoremus Holy Hour & Confessions

### ST. MICHAEL'S, MORGAN

#### Sunday, December 26

3-4:00pm Holy Hour/Rosary

7:00pm Holy Hour at St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye

#### Wednesday, December 29

NO Rel Ed

#### Sunday, January 2

7:00pm Adoremus Holy Hour & Confessions at St. Mary's

### ST. PAUL'S, COMFREY

#### Sunday, December 26

7:00pm Holy Hour at St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye

#### Wednesday, December 29

NO Rel Ed

#### Sunday, January 2

7:00pm Adoremus Holy Hour & Confessions at St. Mary's

### JAPANESE MARTYRS, LEAVENWORTH

#### Sunday, December 26

7:00pm Holy Hour at St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye

#### Sunday, January 2

7:00pm Adoremus Holy Hour & Confessions at St. Mary's

### Offices Closed

AFC Parish Offices will be closed, Friday, December 31, 2021 for New Years.




## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

And the Word became flesh  
and made his dwelling among us,  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory as of the Father's only Son,  
full of grace and truth.

- Jn 1:14

# St. Mary's Church, Sleepy Eye

 **We Celebrate....**the baptism of **Elijah James Ferk**, son of Jared & Ashley Ferk. Congratulations!

**Banns of Marriage**  
II. Jamie Marti & Tristan Pietig



**Votive Lights burn this week for:** Jerome & Rose Fromm; Sylvester & Irene Seifert; Art & Marion M. Sellner; Hacker Families; Patt Seifert; Paul, Jim, Gerald & Joan (Abrahamson) Schroepfer; For Special Intentions; Stanley Bauer; Willard Fischer; Florian & Florence Sellner; Witucki Family; Dec'd members of Alphonse Mages Family; Alice Sellner; Kimberly Severson; Leon Bushard; Ray & Adella Tauer; Family Intentions; Lorraine M. Roiger; My Family; Les Haala; Special Intentions; Ken Schons; Richard & Jerry Berdan; Richard E. Tauer; Dec'd members of the Vincent & Lucille Brandel Family; Jerry Weiss; Clem & Hilda Hoffmann; John & Mildred Drexler; Mark Weymann; Valentine & Veronica Groebner; Paul Groebner, Joanne Groebner; Lester & Jeremy Reinarts; Sylvester & Irene Hauser; John Hauser; Scott & Cindy Tauer.

**Parish Prayer List:** Dave Walter, Gary Kuebler, Ruth Steffl, Bev Soukup, Pat, Carol, Laurie, Dustin, Emma Braulick, Eileen Kral, Brandon Berg, Bud Seidl, Keith Haas, Dustin and Kristie Hillesheim & baby, Sara Ann Wendinger, Yvonne Windschitl, Bob & Irene Mathiowetz, Parker Marti, DJS, Gordy, my brother, Jan Schilling, Beth Klein, Jon Kopacek, my sons & families, James Wendinger, my sister, Marie Bushard, Richard Dirksen, Kasey, DRK, JoAnn Trembl, Mike Seifert (Diane), Charles Romberg, Alex Braulick, Francis.



**Traveling Chalice Prayer for Vocations**  
**December 26:** John & Patty Rosenhammer  
**January 2:** Schoenstatt Sisters

**Calendar raffle winners for Dec. 20-26:** Tim Tauer, Ken Ludewig, Gerald Moldan, Karen & Dean Helget, Kathy Jensen, Les Schrupp, Dave Haala, Kevin Currans.

**NEX-TU-NU II Dec.27-31** Shoes & boots 50% off. **CLOSED SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY.** Store hours: Mon.-Fri. from 10:00am to 4:30pm; Sat. 10:00am-1:00pm.

**Looking Ahead-Men's Sausage Dinner Raffle Prizes** - The Men's Sausage Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 6, 2022. We are looking for prizes for the raffle ticket for the Men's Sausage Dinner Raffle. If you have a prize for the big ticket, please call the rectory (794-4171) or Phil Sellner (794-4895). Usually we have about 35-40 prizes for this ticket. A prize should have a value of at least \$25.00. Deadline for prize donations is Monday, **January 10, 2022**. Once again, we hope to make this a very successful event!

**St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye ~ Shepherd of the Field**

**Fr. Todd Peterson**  
408 N Washington St.  
Minneota, MN 56264

*Birthday:* September 14 ~ *Ordination:* June 5, 1999

**Deacon Kenneth Noyes**  
1119 Sunset Cir  
Marshall, MN 56258

*Birthday:* August 3 ~ *Ordination:* April 21, 2018

## **Liturgical Ministers for Dec. 31 & Jan. 1 - Solemnity of Mary**

	<b>Accompanist</b>	<b>Cantor</b>
5:30 pm	Becky Sellner	Kevin Currans
7:30 am	TBD	TBD
9:30 am	Lisa Portner	Michael Krambeer
11:30 am	Sean Connolly	Stella Maris Choir

### **Servers**

5:30 pm	Cooper Walter, Will Walter
7:30 am	Jaylynn Sellner, Joslyn Sellner
9:30 am	Dylan Moldan, Wyatt Pollard
11:30 am	Philip Schmitz, John Schmitz

### **Lectors**

5:30 pm	Mary Beth Botz
7:30 am	Philip Sellner
9:30 am	Randy Krzmarzick
11:30 am	Clergy

### **Ushers/Greeters**

5:30 pm	Volunteers
7:30 am	Volunteers
9:30 am	Volunteers
11:30 am	Volunteers

## **Liturgical Ministers for January 1 & 2, 2022**

### **Rosary Leader**

5:00 pm	Wayne & Pattie Pelzel
7:00 am	Gwyn Goettig-Ruddy
9:00 am	Lorraine Schroepfer

	<b>Accompanist</b>	<b>Cantor</b>
5:30 pm	Lisa Portner	Melissa & Natalie Fischer
7:30 am	Sean Connolly	Mary Kissner
9:30 am	Sean Connolly	Caecilian Choir
11:30 am	Sean Connolly	Stella Maris Choir

### **Servers**

5:30 pm	Emma Weilage, Nell Weiss, Emily Erickson, Brylee Hansen
7:30 am	Lacey Mathiowetz, Taylor Mathiowetz, Jaclyn Schroepfer, Jenica Schroepfer
9:30 am	Natalie Marti, Lucia Martinez, Macy Miller, Hannah Marti, Anna Pollard
11:30 am	Nick Kaminsky, Aaron Freitag, Sam Kramer, Matthew Freitag, Thomas Kramer, Toby Kramer, Joseph Losleben, Matthias Kimec, Lucas Boyle, Christopher Boyle, Michael Peschges, Bennett Peschges

### **Lectors**

5:30 pm	Tiffany Hoffmann
7:30 am	Philip Sellner
9:30 am	Tom Portner
11:30 am	Clergy

### **Ushers/Greeters**

5:30 pm	*Ron Salfer, Spike Schroepfer, John Sellner, Chuck Spaeth, Mike Suess, Merlin Wahl
7:30 am	*Pat Hoffmann, Rick Mages, Chuck Meyer, Richard Neyers, Andy Pelzel, Tony Schmitz
9:30 am	*David Sellner, Michael Steffl, Matt Wagner, Eugene Bertrand, Ryan Braulick, Kevin Currans
11:30 am	Volunteers



**Las Vegas Raffle** Knights of Columbus Council #3134 Las Vegas Raffle will be held Monday, January 10, 2022 at St. Mary's Church Social Room, Sleepy Eye. You can purchase raffle tickets from St. Mary's parish office during office hours or contact Jim Soukup at 507-240-4400 for ticket seller's names. **Only 300 chances sold.** Top prize is \$1,000.00.



## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*St. Mary's Catholic School guides students to form an authentic relationship with God while achieving academic excellence to live as faithful disciples of Christ.*

**THANK YOU** to all those who support St. Mary's Catholic School! Thank you to Matt and Mandy Wagner for their gift of \$50 to the Adopt-A-Student program. We appreciate all of our benefactors!

### **KC POSTER CONTEST WINNERS**

Congratulations to the winners of the annual Knights of Columbus' "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest! Pictured are (back row): Emily Moldan (1st place/3rd grade), Inara Andres (2nd place/3rd grade), William Braulick (1st place/5th grade), and Whitney Fischer (2nd place/4th grade). Front row: Harper Armbruster (3rd place/3rd grade), Nolan Kucera (2nd place tie/5th grade), Ruby Tauer (2nd place tie/5th grade), Peyton Mages (1st place/ 4th grade) and Lauren Steffl (3rd place/4th grade). A special thank you to the Grandfriends at Divine Providence for judging the poster contest this year!

### **PLEASE SUPPORT OUR COAT DRIVE**



Please join John Miller, Maya Nelson, and Hannah Pelzel in helping spread warmth this season! As their Minnesota Honor Society (MHS) project, they are sponsoring a "Coat Drive" to collect new and gently used coats in all sizes as well as hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, winter boots, snow pants and all winter gear. Your donations will be given to the Salvation Army who will distribute them through the Abundantly Warm program. Coat Drive donation boxes will be at various locations including at Holiday Lights in Motion until January 1, and at Schutz Family Foods, St. Mary's School and the north entrance of St. Mary's Church until January 24. Thank you for your generosity!

### **WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S**

St. Mary's is excited to welcome Ms. Marni Malacek to our faculty! She has accepted the position of high school English teacher. Ms. Malacek is a recent graduate from SDSU and has a double major in English and History Education. She is originally from New Ulm and Cathedral High School. She will begin after Christmas break. We would also like to thank Mrs. Abeni Docter for her years of dedicated and exceptional service in our English department! She has been a tremendous blessing to our school and our students!

### **KNIGHTS OF OLDE**



The Knights of Olde gathering has been rescheduled to Friday, January 7. If you wish to attend, please contact Jim Losleben (612) 868-3031 or email him at [leben815@aol.com](mailto:leben815@aol.com) by January 3. Please meet at the rectory by 9:30 a.m. if you'd like to carpool.

### **HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS BREAK!**

School will resume on Monday, January 3. We hope that your break is enjoyable and relaxing and we look forward to all that 2022 will bring us!

### **ADOPT-A-STUDENT**

Donations of any amount to this program are appreciated and help us to pass on the Catholic faith to our children. Thank you for your support of Catholic education!

Child 1	\$ 995.96	Child 20	\$ 995.96
Child 2	\$ 995.96	Child 26	\$ 995.96
Child 3	\$ 995.96	Child 27	\$ 995.96
Child 4	\$ 995.96	Child 28	\$ 995.96
Child 5	\$ 495.96	Child 29	\$ 995.96
Child 6	\$ 495.96	Child 30	\$ 995.96
Child 7	\$ 995.96	Child 31	\$ 495.96
Child 8	\$ 495.96	Child 32	\$ 495.96
Child 9	\$ 495.96	Child 33	\$ 495.96
Child 10	\$ 995.96	Child 34	\$ 495.96
Child 11	\$ 995.96	Child 35	\$ 495.96
Child 16	\$ 495.96	Child 37	\$ 495.96
Child 17	\$ 495.96	Child 38	\$ 495.96
Child 18	\$ 995.96	Child 39	\$ 995.96
Child 19	\$ 995.96	Child 40	\$ 995.96

### **CONGRATULATIONS**



Congratulations to our very gifted musicians on their outstanding Christmas concert on December 20! The elementary, middle school and high school bands and choirs truly shared their talents and their hard work as a Christmas gift to their audience. Thank you to their directors Sean Connolly, Bethany Derrickson and Rachel Moldan for all of their time and commitment to our fine arts program!

### **DON'T MISS OUR ALUMNI BB TOURNAMENT**



St. Mary's Annual Alumni & Friends Basketball Tournament is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with friends and teammates while watching great basketball! This year's tournament is on Saturday, January 1. Sweepstakes tickets will be available to purchase at the tournament with the drawing at 4PM. Thank you for your support!

### **USE SCRIP TO SUPPORT ST. MARY'S**

If you are looking for a great New Year's resolution, decide to use SCRIP on a regular basis! SCRIP is a great way to support St. Mary's while helping with tuition costs for your family or another school family. You can even begin using SCRIP before your child starts school! There are a wide variety of local and national businesses that offer SCRIP; you simply purchase the gift cards from the school and a percentage is return to St. Mary's and to tuition support! You can even purchase SCRIP online! Please contact St. Mary's School to learn more about our SCRIP program and how it can benefit your family!


*Virtue of the Month for December : Generosity*

# St. Michael's Church, Morgan

## Banns of Marriage

III. Marcus Heiling and Alexis Bakker


### LARGE VOTIVE LIGHTS

 will burn this week for the intentions of: for an end to abortion, in thanksgiving, for the family of KDK, in loving memory of Carisa Walter and Don Reding. *Candles are \$3.00 each. Candles are lit on Friday and will burn throughout the week.*


### PARISH PRAYER LIST:

Patrick Simon, for special blessings and good health for family in need, Bernice Ricke, Hans Larson, Jerome Tauer, Donna Plotz, Ruth Simonsen and Mike Koenigs. *Names will stay on the prayer list for 6 months, if you would like a name added to the list or a name taken off the list, please call the office at 249-3192.*

### Donations Needed

 Please consider making a donation toward refinishing the candlesticks on the high altar. We've already received some generous donations and need an additional \$3,000 to complete the project. Donations may be placed in the collection basket or the drop box by the office. Thank you!


### Holy Hour & Rosary

 Since December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Mother Mary, in the womb of St. Anne, we will be praying our Holy Hour/Rosary from 3 to 4 pm on Sundays for all babies conceived, especially those who are aborted and unwanted.

### Calendar Raffle Winners:

December 25 – Dennis Wildt (\$300 winner)

December 26 - John & Patty Rosenhammer

 **Christmas Flowers** - Memorials are being accepted to help defray the cost of the Christmas flowers that adorn the church this season. If you would like to donate, you may use the envelopes available in the back of church or mark your own envelope "Christmas flowers" and place it in the collection basket or the drop box by the parish office. Please include the names of those your gift is given in memory of.



**FORMED.org** has some fantastic resources for the whole family all year round, whether it is a family movie night, kids programming, a bible study, or audio talks. This resource is paid for by our AFC for you to use at no cost. To take advantage of this great resource, go to our website: [www.divinemeracyafc.org](http://www.divinemeracyafc.org) to find it under the Spiritual Resources page.

### St. Michael's, Morgan ~ Shepherd of the Field

Fr. Jeffrey Horejsi

821 E 5th St

Litchfield, MN 55355

Birthday: November 17 ~ Ordination: August 24, 1991

### Liturgical Ministers

#### Friday, December 31 - 5:00pm - Solemnity of Mary

**Lector:** Doug Kopischke

**Servers:** Hank, Stan & Elsi Heiling

**Ushers:** Scott Hacker, Jack Carlson, Jim Lueken, Doug Daub

#### Saturday, January 1 - 8:30am - Solemnity of Mary

**Lector:** Jeff Kodet

**Servers:** Jack Scharfencamp, Jaylyn & Lauren Welter

**Ushers:** Keith & Jan Hinrichs, Todd & Barb Green

#### Sunday, January 2 - 8:30am - Epiphany of the Lord

**Lector:** Pat Wildt

**Servers:** Abbie & April Hacker, Grace Hamre

**Ushers:** Pat Larsen, Greg Wersal, Bill & Eileen Rothmeier



### Liturgical Ministry Schedule Available

Copies of the liturgical ministers schedule for January-April 2022 are available in the back of church and on the AFC website. If the parish has your email on file, it was also emailed to you. If you are interested in volunteering as a liturgical minister, please contact the parish office at 249-3192.



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

We would like to thank **Ralph Heiling** for hosting the K of C Fatima statue and praying daily for more Church vocations, for the intentions of the KC's and the Church. Next week **Jerome Tauer** will host the statue.



### Choir Forming

If you are interested in being a part of the new choir being formed here at St. Michael's let the parish office know and watch the bulletin for more information.

### Please tune in!

Morgan Public Access (channel 3 ) will be airing **THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS** on Wednesdays at 11 AM and again at 4:30 PM. Fr. Brian Mullady, O.P., offers a systematic approach to the seven Sacraments of the Church. Gifted in true Dominican spirit with the ability to make his audience understand and appreciate the deepest mysteries of Catholicism, Fr. Mullady examines the nature, number, character, and necessity of the Sacraments and their manner of conferring a powerful grace upon us. **December 29 - The Eucharist as a Sacrament - Episode 7**

### Upcoming Events:

- Holy Hour/Rosary Sun, Dec 26 3 PM
- St. Michael's Quilters Wed, Dec 29 9:00 AM - social hall
- NO Religious Ed Wed, Dec 29
- Holy Hour/Confessions Thur, Dec 30 9:00 AM
- NO That Man is YOU! Fri, Dec 31
- New Year's Eve Mass Fri, Dec 31 5:00 PM
- Solemnity of Mary, Mass Sat, Jan 1 8:30 AM
- Epiphany of the Lord, Mass Sun, Jan 2 8:30 AM

### St. Michael's Parish Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Fridays 8:30 AM-12:30 PM


**The Parish Office will be closed**

**Friday, Dec. 31, for New Years.**


**Wishing everyone a Joyful New Year!**


# St. Paul's Church, Comfrey

O Come, Let Us Adore Him! May our celebrations focus on the true meaning of Christmas and welcome Jesus into our hearts. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!

 We have received two \$700 family donations for the refinishing costs of our Sacred Vessels. These donations are in memory of Gerald & Alyce Schumacher and in memory of A.J., Lorrie, Barb & Joan Eischen. Thank you for your generosity!

Happy 84 Birthday to Alice Wellman on January 1!

 **2022 1st Quarter Contribution Envelopes**  
The first quarter of your 2022 Contribution Envelopes should have been received in the mail by now - please let the office know if you have not received them.

 **2022 Calendar Raffle**  
The St. Paul's Calendar Raffle Tickets for 2022 are here! There are only 400 tickets printed: 4 - \$250 winners and 48 - \$50 winners. Ticket cost is \$35.00. If you are interested in purchasing, please call the Parish Center at 507-877-2361 or stop in during office hours. All the winners will be drawn on February 6, 2022. Thank you!

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Saturday, January 1 - 10:30am - Solemnity of Mary**

**Rosary:** Martha

**Lector:** Leah Eischen

**Servers:** Matthew Fischer, Jerrick Eischen

**Ushers:** Darrell Platz, Robert Zwaschka

**Gift Bearers:** Kurt & JoAnn Eischen

**Sunday, January 2 - 10:30am - Epiphany of the Lord**

**Rosary:** Marge

**Lector:** LeAnn Helget

**Servers:** Cody Nickel & Zakary Fischer

**Ushers:** Matt & Erin Eischen

**Gift Bearers:** Matt & Erin Eischen Family

**Keep In Your Prayers** - Servicemen, Derek Wingert, Brian Fredin, Briar Lippert, Chris Amsden, Lennon Ludewig, Alphonse Mathiowetz, Deanna Sellner, Arlene Helget, Leon Haala, Monica Anderson, Betty Zwaschka, Cora Mathiowetz, Jerry Fischer, Vonnie Schneider, Faith Helget.

**Congratulations** to our lucky \$250 Calendar Raffle winner: **LuAnn Parker**. Will you be our next \$50 winner?

## Religious Education News:

Dec. 29 - NO Classes/Christmas Break

# Japanese Martyrs Church, Sleepy Eye (Leavenworth)


## Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Thank You!!!



....all who made a donation in memory of a loved one for the Christmas flowers that help make our church so beautiful during this holy season.

....everyone who helped with decorating the church for the Christmas season. Also a big thanks to those behind the scenes who do the cleaning and clearing snow to keep everyone safe during these difficult times.

....those who lector, provide music, serve, lead the rosary, our money counters and everyone who provides their time, talent and treasures to keep our parish in good running order.

 2022 calendars are available in the back of church, please help yourself.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Friday, December 31 - 8:00 pm - Solemnity of Mary**

**Rosary:** Stacy Tauer

**Lector:** Randy Lax

**Servers:** Sidney & Nicholas Tauer

**Music:** Becky Sellner

**Gift Bearers:** Steve & Jeanette Lax

**Saturday, January 1 - 8:00pm - Epiphany of the Lord**

**Rosary:** Alice Hillesheim

**Lector:** Arla Dockter

**Servers:** Mark Anderson


**Music:** Ronda Mathiowetz

**Gift Bearers:** Kristin Lipetzky Family


**Please Pray For** - Autumn Miller & baby

# St. Paul's & Japanese Martyrs Combined Events

## WINTER WEATHER REMINDER

 If Comfrey or Sleepy Eye schools have a late start on Tuesdays or Thursday, there will be no morning Mass at Japanese Martyrs or Friday morning Mass at St. Paul's. If schools have a late start there will still be the Tuesday evening Mass at St. Paul's and Rel Ed on Wednesday evenings.

If Comfrey or Sleepy Eye schools have early dismissal or are canceled due to inclement weather, there will be no morning or evening Mass or Religious Education classes in Comfrey.

 Thanks to all parishioners who have been mailing in or dropping off their donations or are trying online giving. Your support is very much appreciated and needed!



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

## Stewardship Collection from December 11/12, 2021

	St. Mary's	St. Michael's	St. Paul's	Japanese Martyrs
Adult	\$18,160.33	\$2,365.00	\$2,122.00	\$2,420.00
Youth	\$111.00	\$2.00	\$1.80	\$0
Loose Plate	\$1,248.50	\$220.00	\$91.00	\$229.00
All Other	\$5,003.00	\$4,503.07	\$522.00	\$710.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,522.83</b>	<b>\$7,090.07</b>	<b>\$2,736.80</b>	<b>\$3,359.00</b>
Total (adult/yth/loose/mbrshp)	\$19,519.83	\$2,587.00	\$2,214.80	\$2,649.00
Weekly Budget Needed	\$13,721.16	\$1,944.23	\$1,281.73	\$982.69
Fiscal Year to Date	\$323,873.97	\$51,244.57	\$26,581.86	\$27,329.55
Fiscal Year to Date Budget	\$329,307.84	\$46,661.52	\$30,761.52	\$23,584.57
St. Mary's Grade School Elevator - Goal: \$150,000.00 - Received \$29,670.00 as of 12/16/2021)				
St. Mary's Church Tuck-Pointing - Goal: \$125,500.00 - Received \$0 (as of 12/16/2021)				

### Year End Church Contributions for 2021

Contributions for 2021 must be received into your parish office before noon on December 30, 2021, to be counted in your 2021 church support contributions. Any donations after this date will be posted to your 2022 donations. Thank you for your generosity!

### Diocesan Ministries Appeal 2020-2021 - as of December 14, 2021

	St. Mary's	St. Michael's	St. Paul's	Japanese Martyrs
Goal	\$50,768.68	\$11,619.59	\$6,524.85	\$4,558.46
Received for DNU Ministries	\$21,756.00	\$11,421.00	\$4,888.00	\$8,060.00
Received for Parish	\$5,439.00	\$2,855.77	\$1,222.00	\$2,015.00
<b>Total Cash Received</b>	<b>\$27,195.00</b>	<b>\$14,276.35</b>	<b>\$6,110.00</b>	<b>\$10,075.00</b>
Variance	(\$23,573.68)	\$2,656.76	(\$414.85)	\$5,516.54
# of Donors	101	37	15	13
<b>Total Cash &amp; Pledges</b>	<b>\$31,113.00</b>	<b>\$15,076.35</b>	<b>\$6,110.00</b>	<b>\$10,575.00</b>

### Perpetual Adoration at St. Mary's Church Adoration Chapel, Sleepy Eye

Please call Deacon Mark Kober at (507) 227-4602 with questions, to sign up for an hour of Adoration or to be a substitute. Thank you!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1-2pm & 6-7pm	1-2am			3-4am		

**American Red Cross**

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



**Blood Drive**  
**Sleepy Eye Event Center**

110 12th Ave NE  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

**Tuesday, January 4, 2022**  
**12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.

If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Sleepy Eye to schedule an appointment.



#### St. Paul's, Comfrey - 2022 Calendar Raffle

The St. Paul's Church, Comfrey, Calendar Raffle Tickets for 2022 are here! There are only 400 tickets printed: 4 - \$250 winners and 48 - \$50 winners. Ticket cost is \$35.00. If you are interested in purchasing, please call the Parish Center at 507-877-2361 or stop in during office hours. All the winners will be drawn on February 6, 2022. Thank you!



#### Recycle Your Holiday Lights!

The Sleepy Eye YES! Team will be collecting holiday lights for recycling from now until Friday, January 21. Drop off Christmas lights in boxes located at Brown County REA, Sleepy Eye Ace Hardware, Schutz Family Foods, Sleepy Eye Public School, St. Mary's Catholic School and Church and Trinity Lutheran Church. *Thank you from the Sleepy Eye YES! Team and Jobs Plus, Inc. in Waseca.*



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#### Diocese of New Ulm Catholic Charities



Catholic Charities provides personal, marriage, and family counseling. In-person sessions are now available. Call 866-670-5163 (toll free) or 507-233-5318 (local).

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