



Holy Redeemer (HR) 106 3rd St. SE, PO Box 401 • Renville, MN 56284 • [holyredeemer@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:holyredeemer@heartofjesusafc.org)

St. Mary (SM) 220 S. 10th St., PO Box 500 • Bird Island, MN 55310 • [stmary@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:stmary@heartofjesusafc.org)

St. Aloysius (SA) 302 S. 10th St. • Olivia, MN 56277 • [staloyusius@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:staloyusius@heartofjesusafc.org)

**Area Faith Staff Listing:**

- Fr. Joe Steinbeisser .....Pastor**  
.....[frjoe@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:frjoe@heartofjesusafc.org)
- Fr. George Schmit .. Sen. Associate**  
.....[frgeorge@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:frgeorge@heartofjesusafc.org)
- Sara Anderson ..... AFC Bus. Mgr.**  
.....[saraa@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:saraa@heartofjesusafc.org)
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.....[ksmith@stmarysbi.com](mailto:ksmith@stmarysbi.com)
- Sandy Zens.... AFC Parish Secretary**  
.....[sandyz@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:sandyz@heartofjesusafc.org)

**AFC Office Hours:**  
M- Th: 9:00 am -4:00 pm,  
F: 9:00 am- 12:00 pm (noon)

All AFC offices are located in the parish home at St. Aloysius - 302 South 10th Street, Olivia  
Phone: (320)365-3593 or (320)523-2030

**St. Mary's School:**  
Phone: (320) 365-3693

**PASTORAL REFLECTION**

“Epiphany” means manifestation. And the “Epiphany of the Lord” is Jesus’ manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it’s also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him.

These Magi were “wise men” who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. They would have been versed in much of the wisdom of the day and would have been intrigued by the Jewish belief in the Messiah.

God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star appearing in the sky, they realized that something special was happening and followed it. So the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the “star” that God is using to call you. It’s closer than you may think.

A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi, or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a king, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to Himself? When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

*Fr. Joseph Steinbeisser*

Welcome to all those who celebrate with us, whether life long parishioners, new arrivals in the area, or visitors! **If you have not registered, or if you have moved, please complete this form and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

New Parishioner     Update/Changed Info     St. Mary     St. Aloysius     Holy Redeemer

# This Week in the Area Faith Community

## AFC MASS & RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

*Amplifier aids available for the hearing impaired are located at the entrances of the church at SM & SA.  
Please ask the ushers for assistance.*

Date & Time	Location	Intention
<b><u>Sun., January 2</u></b>		
8:00 am	HR	Sacr. of Reconciliation
8:30 am	HR	+ Bill Johnson Family
10:00 am	SM	Sacr. of Reconciliation
10:30 am	SM	+ Walt & Til Welsh
<b><u>Mon., January 3</u></b>		
<b><u>Tues., January 4</u></b>		
8:30 am	SA	Peter Stoffel
<b><u>Wed., January 5</u></b>		
8:30 am	SM	Margaret Gartner
9:30 am	SM Prairie View	For the residents of Prairie View
10:45 am	SM BLHCC	+ Russell Antonsen
<b><u>Thurs., January 6</u></b>		
10:30 am	SM	+ Carter Bremseth Prepared by Gr. 8
<b><u>Fri., January 7</u></b>		
8:00 am	SA	Rosary
8:00 am	SA	Sacr. of Reconciliation
8:30 am	SA	+ Roger McGoven
9:00 am	SA	Holy Hour Adoration
<b><u>Sat., January 8</u></b>		
4:30 pm	SA	Sacr. of Reconciliation
4:30 pm	SA	Rosary
5:00 pm	SA	+ Del Altmann
<b><u>Sun., January 9</u></b>		
8:00 am	HR	Sacr. of Reconciliation
8:30 am	HR	For the People
10:00 am	SM	Sacr. of Reconciliation
10:30 am	SM	+ Vernon Woelfel

Daily readings can be found at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org). Readings are also listed in the free devotional books provided at our AFC churches: *The Word Among Us* and *Living Faith*.

Rosary is offered at 4:30 pm on Saturday and 8:00 am Sunday before the Mass at St Aloysius Church.

All Masses held in the church are open to parishioners and public.

Masses at health care facilities are for residents only until further notice.

## Calendar of Events January 2-9, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Nothing scheduled	<i>No School St Mary's</i>	7:00 am Men's Group Meeting SA/JC	<b>AFC Faith Form Classes</b> 6:30 pm Parish Choir Prac. SM
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Nothing scheduled	Nothing schedule	Nothing scheduled	Christmas Décor take down 11:30 am SM CCW Mtg. 2:00-7:00 pm DYC/COR @ JC

## PASTORAL MESSAGE

Happy New Year! As we enter into this New Year I offer this prayer for everyone in our Area Faith Community.

*“Come, Holy Spirit,  
Spirit of the Risen Christ, be with us today and always.  
Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.  
Be our Strength, our Courage, and our Sanctifier.  
May this new year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us,  
A time of welcoming your graces and gifts,  
A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,  
A time for growing in virtue and goodness.  
Come, Holy Spirit,  
Be with us today and always. Amen.”*

*Fr Joseph Steibeisser*

There is a custom of blessing homes on the Feast of the Epiphany which the church celebrates today, January 2. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our homes when the families gather to ask God's blessing on their homes and family life.

### **Instructions for Blessing the Home**

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (all reply) Amen. Let us ask Christ to bless our home this new year. (Pause)

The word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and home with his love. May all who enter our home in 2022 find Christ's light and love here.

*Using the blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door as follows:*

20 + C + M + B + 22 saying:

As Children of the family of God, we confidently pray together, ***Our Father, who art in heaven, ....Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of the star. Bless our home and all who dwell here. Fill us with the light of Christ that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. (All reply) Amen.***

*May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever. (All reply) Amen.*

The letters have two meanings: first, they represent the initials of the Magi traditionally known as - Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar - who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also refer to the first letter of the Latin phrase - *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless this house."

The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "22" at the end mark the year.

## AFC PRAYER CHAIN

**Do you or someone you know  
need prayer?**

Contact Duane or Julie Remer @  
507-430-9485 for confidential  
prayers or if you are interested in  
serving on our prayer chain.

## AFC PRAYER CORNER

In order to keep the prayer corner current, names will be kept on the prayer corner until **April 1, 2022** unless requested to come off earlier. In order for names to be on our prayers corner, the **INDIVIDUAL or a FAMILY MEMBER** must inform the parish office for your parish. Due to the Privacy Act we are unable to put names on our prayer list without their permission.

### **Please Pray For:**

Bailey, Kim SA  
Carmody, Dana SM  
Dietz, Krystle SA  
Dolezal, Joann SM  
Lykken, Chase SM  
Nelson, Samuel T. SM  
Sullivan Family, HR

## SA VIGIL LIGHTS

Vigil Lights for these special intentions will burn at the SA Shrine the week of January 1

- 1) Don & Mary Lou Dobmeier
- 2) Jennifer Beecham
- 3) Carter Bremseth
- 4) Paul Schmoll Jr.
- 5) Margaret Gartner

### **Candles are \$4.00 Each.**

Please place your single intention and money in the collection or bring it to the parish office no later than 12:00 noon on Monday. The candles are lit on Sat. and will burn throughout the week.



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# Parish, Area Faith Community and School News

## AFC NEWS

**2021 Contributions:** To receive tax credit for the 2020 tax year donations must be dated and postmarked no later than December 31, 2020. The parish offices will recognize donations dated in 2020 as 2020 contributions as long as they are delivered to the office no later than noon, **tomorrow, Monday, January 3, 2022**. This cut off will allow us to process all parishioner contribution statements in a timely manner.

There are Catholic calendars available at the entrances of our churches. Please take one if you have not done so already. Thank you to our sponsors: **Dirks – Blem Funeral Services, Knights of Columbus 2000, St. Mary's Catholic United Financial Council, Councils of Catholic Women from our three parishes**, for providing these 2022 Catholic calendars.

A special **Thank You** to our liturgy committees and everyone who helped decorate our churches for the Christmas season. Thank you to all of our ministers, musicians, singers and choirs for helping make our Christmas liturgies so special.

## ST. MARY'S NEWS

**Fall Collection:** We are getting closer to reaching our goal for this years Fall Collection which is **\$65,000**. An envelope was included in your stewardship packet back on November 14. You may also donate online or place your donation in an envelope labelled "Fall Collection". This collection replaces a parish dinner and festival/bazaar that many parishes have for a major fundraiser. Please be generous in your giving! So far we have received \$47,028.64 towards this collection, which is 72.35 % of our goal. Because of the bulletin deadline, we do not have the collection for Dec. 26 weekend included in this amount.

**KC's meeting** will be held on Monday, Jan. 10 at 7:00 pm at St. Mary's Church Hall.

## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL NEWS

**Schulze Challenge Grant Update:** Thank you to all you have supported the matching challenge grant. Because of so many wonderful people we have met our goal of \$25,000.00 and will be granted \$25,000.00 from the Richard Schulze Foundation. Thank you again to all and for all the on-going support.

God Bless. Mrs. Tracy Bertrand Sigurdson, Principal

Don't miss your chance to WIN an **Ice Castle Fish House or Golf Cart!**

The **8th Annual St. Mary's School Winter Raffle** has 5 awesome prizes and only 600 tickets sold! The raffle will be held on January 14 at 2:00 pm live on our Facebook page.

\*Grand Prize: 2022 Ice Castle Fish House, 6.5' x 8' "V front" Scout

\*Grand Prize: 2021 Golfer Setup 48 Volt Electric Golf Cart

\*3rd Prize: \$500 Cash

\*4th Prize: \$250 Cash

\*5th Prize: \$250 Cash

Tickets are \$50 each. How to purchase a ticket? - Get in touch with any St. Mary's School family OR - contact Karen Smith at St. Mary's School at 320-365-3693 OR - Email us at [raffletickets@stmarysbi.com](mailto:raffletickets@stmarysbi.com)

You do NOT need to be present to win! \*Winners to pay sales tax. This is your chance to WIN your DREAM Fish House or a Golf Cart, plus help St. Mary's!

### ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

St. Mary's SCHOOL WEBSITE!

[stmarysschoolbirdisland.com](http://stmarysschoolbirdisland.com)

Find us on FACEBOOK:

[www.facebook.com/stmarysbi](http://www.facebook.com/stmarysbi)



### ST. MARY'S CASH CALENDAR WINNERS

12/19/2021	Doug Homan	\$50.00
12/20/2021	Ryan Zupke	\$25.00
12/21/2021	Don Orth	\$25.00
12/22/2021	Mary Mimay	\$25.00
12/23/2021	Rik Rudeen	\$25.00
12/24/2021	Rosanne Thurston	\$25.00
12/25/2021	Chad Edwards	\$100.00

# AFC Ministry Schedules

## Ministry Schedules for the weekend of January 8/9, 2022

### 5:00 pm Sat., January 8 @ St. Aloysius

Sacristan: Greg Peppel  
Minister of the Word: Joe Hennen  
Plate: Father & Barb Mathiowetz  
Altar Servers: Ty Herdina  
Music: Holly & Dianne  
Ushers: Chad Herdina & Kevin Mathiowetz  
Depositor: Greg Peppel  
Rosary Leader: Margaret Meuhlberg

### 10:30 am Sun., January 9 @ St. Mary's

Minister of the Word: Hannah Schlomann  
Plate: Father & Linda Stadther To Choir: Cathy B.  
Altar Servers: Ava Schlomann  
Music: Parish Choir w/ Nick & Lizz  
Ushers: Todd & Tate Sheehan

### 8:30 am Sun., January 9 @ Holy Redeemer

Minister of the Word: Erin Lippert  
Plate: Father, Nancy Standfuss  
Altar Servers: Hayden Lippert  
Music: TBD  
Ushers: Bill Schafer & Gene Frank

AFC Money Counters: Monday, January 3: AFC parish office staff

## **Heart of Jesus AFC Youth Faith Formation News**

**HR Faith Formation:** we will resume classes on Jan. 5, 2022.

**SM/SA Faith Formation:** we will resume classes on Jan. 5, 2022.

**W.I.S.E:** Our next meeting date will be January 19, 2022.

## **HEART OF JESUS AREA FAITH COMMUNITY** ***ADULT* FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**RCIA:** Are you someone who is wanting to learn more about the Catholic faith? Maybe you have been feeling a tug on your heart to become Catholic. We begin the journey of RCIA for people just like you to explore the richness of the Catholic faith. For more information please contact Michelle Peppel at the parish office (523-2030) or contact her via email at [michellep@heartofjesusafc.org](mailto:michellep@heartofjesusafc.org).

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To log in and use FORMED: Go to: [heartofjesusafc.formed.org](http://heartofjesusafc.formed.org) Click register and enter your name, email address, and desired password You're all ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED! Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

**FORMED**

PICK OF THE WEEK

January 2, 2022

**LISTEN**

**PREPARE THE WAY OF THE KING  
BY DR. SCOTT HAHN**

As we celebrate the Epiphany, Dr. Scott Hahn explains how we should understand the three Magi and their gifts to the Lord!



To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

# Stewardship December 18/19, 2021

	Holy Redeemer	St. Aloysius	St. Mary
<b>Adult</b>	\$ 1,363.00	\$ 4,626.00	\$ 3,646.00
<b>Plate</b>	\$ 260.00	\$ 392.00	\$ 615.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,623.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,018.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,261.00</b>
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,739.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,091.88</b>	<b>\$ 5,342.02</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ (116.00)</b>	<b>\$ 926.12</b>	<b>\$ (1,081.02)</b>
<b>YTD Collection</b>	<b>\$ 43,804.48</b>	<b>\$ 101,437.85</b>	<b>\$ 155,764.21</b>
<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>\$ 43,475.00</b>	<b>\$ 102,297.00</b>	<b>\$ 133,550.50</b>
<b>YTD Difference</b>	<b>\$ 329.48</b>	<b>\$ (859.15)</b>	<b>\$ 22,213.71</b>
<b>DMA Goal * 2021-22'</b>	<b>\$ 5,809.80</b>	<b>\$ 17,071.86</b>	<b>\$ 22,792.28</b>
<b>Cash received</b>	<b>\$ 6,965.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,188.65</b>	<b>\$ 16,535.00</b>
<b>Cash pledged</b>	<b>\$ 7,215.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,503.65</b>	<b>\$ 16,785.00</b>

\*Diocesan Ministry Appeal: Remember that 20% of our donations come back to each parish.

## Sunday Offering Considerations

During these uncertain times, we need to ask all of our parishioners, if you are able, please continue your financial support of your parish to help us make up for our loss of Sunday offering. Your Adult Sunday Offerings are vital to the core ministries of our parishes. During this time, please consider one of these options one for your stewardship of treasure:

- online at [www.heartofjesusafc.org.com](http://www.heartofjesusafc.org.com), to make a recurring or one time donation. You will have complete control over your contribution amount and frequency of payments.
- an electronic contribution through ACH (Automatic Clearing House) for an amount to be transferred from your checking or savings account on the 1st and/or the 15th of every month. The ACH form can be found on the Area Faith Community website at [www.heartofjesusafc.org.com](http://www.heartofjesusafc.org.com).
- special collections are available with online donations at [www.heartofjesusafc.org.com](http://www.heartofjesusafc.org.com), or ACH donations with the form found on the website.
- mail your donation to your parish office.

And as always, thank you for your investment and continued support of our parishes. We need your support to continue to do God's work.

**GIVE ONLINE**



Click on the symbol at  
[www.heartofjesusafc.org.com](http://www.heartofjesusafc.org.com)  
\*\*if questions, call the parish

### AREA FAITH COMMUNITY

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Find us on FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/heartofjesusafc](http://www.facebook.com/heartofjesusafc)

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**Android Users: Text "ParishApp2" to 800-950-9952**

### ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK~

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We thank them for their ad.

Please support our sponsors as they make the bulletin, website & online giving available at no cost to our AFC.

## Diocesan News & Area Community News

**Blood Drive** will be held on Mon., Jan 3, 1:00-7:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bird Island. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: BirdIslandMN to schedule an appointment.

**Sexual Abuse Victim Notice:** Anyone who has suffered sexual abuse by a priest or another person involved in Church ministry is encouraged to immediately report such abuse to local law enforcement, regardless of when it occurred, if it has not yet been reported. A listing of all county law enforcement and child protection agencies within the 15 counties of the Diocese of New Ulm is posted on the diocesan Web site at <https://www.dnu.org/report-abuse>.

Victims and survivors of abuse by clergy are also encouraged to contact the diocesan victim assistance coordinator or the bishop's delegate in matters pertaining to sexual misconduct at 1421 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073, or by phone at 507-233-5313, for counseling or other assistance in healing.

Toda persona que haya sido víctima de abuso sexual por parte de un miembro del clero u otra persona en el ministerio de la Iglesia debe reportar dicha mala conducta a las autoridades policiales inmediatamente, independientemente de cuando haya sucedido, si aún no ha sido reportado. Un listado de todas las entidades policiales y los servicios de protección al menor dentro de los quince condados de la Diócesis de New Ulm se encuentra en nuestra página de internet, <https://www.dnu.org/report-abuse>.

También se exhorta a las víctimas y sobrevivientes de abuso por parte del clero ponerse en contacto con el Coordinador de asistencia para víctimas o el delegado del Obispo en cuestiones sobre el mal comportamiento sexual 1421 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073, o al 507-233-5313 para consejería u otra ayuda de sanación.

"Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." As we begin the New Year, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. The next Weekends are Feb 18-20, 2022 in Windom, and Feb 11-13, 2022 in Buffalo. For more information, call Miki Schultz at 507-227-8229 or visit them at [southmnwwme.org](http://southmnwwme.org).

Diocese of New Ulm Catholic Charities offers individual, family, and marriage counseling.  
1-866-670-5163. All calls are confidential. Se habla Español



### Café Juan Anna-San Lucas Mission Coffee

Coffee is available at the AFC church office.

\$10 per bag— ground & whole bean available.

**Bulletin Notice Deadline:** All items for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office by **Thursday, 10 days prior, by 12:00pm**.

**Registration:** We welcome you to one of our communities in our Area Faith Community and invite you to register in one of our parishes. Stop by or call the parish office.

**Baptism:** Please contact the parish office to schedule baptism preparation class and baptism.

**Matrimony:** All Catholics need to call the pastoral leader at the parish office at least 6 months before getting married, even if the wedding is going to be in a non-Catholic church.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Call the parish office if you or someone you know is in the hospital, is ill, or faces serious surgery and wishes to be anointed.

**Quinceañera (15th Birthday) Celebrations:** Contact the parish office at least 6 months before desired date to complete application, attend Sunday Mass regularly, be part of a Faith Formation program, and attend a required retreat.

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**Dawn Mertens, RAP**  
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