

# DECEMBER 3, 2023 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Sacred Heart Church | 321 9th Street, P.O. Box 377, Heron Lake, MN 56137 | Sunday Mass: 8:00 am  
 Sacred Heart Church | 516 10th Street, P.O. Box 187, Brewster, MN 56119 | Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm  
 St. Francis Xavier Church | 532 17th Street, P.O. Box 39, Windom, MN 56101 | Sunday Mass: 10:00 am

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS - DEC 5—DEC 10, 2023

<b>Tues</b>	5:30pm	Windom	+ Dorothy Becker
<b>Wed</b>	9:00am	Heron Lake	+ Marvin Liepold
<b>Wed</b>	6:30pm	Brewster	Brewster Faith Formation students
<b>Thurs</b>	9:00am	Brewster	+ Leo & Fern Strouth
<b>Thurs</b>	6:30pm	Heron Lake	+ Don Vanderheiden
<b>Fri</b>	9:00am	Brewster	+ Howard Damm
<b>Fri</b>	6:30pm	Windom	+ Leo & Arlene Bartosh
<b>Sat.</b>	5:00pm	Brewster	+ MaryAnne McNab
<b>Sun</b>	8:00am	Heron Lake	+ Deceased Members of Carl & Monica Bartosh Fam
<b>Sun</b>	10:00am	Windom	+ Richard Krueger

YOU ARE INVITED TO PRAY THE ROSARY 1/2 HOUR PRIOR TO MASSES:  
 Brewster—Thurs. and Sat.; Heron Lake—Wed. and Sun.; Windom—Tues. and Sun.

Know that Fr. Pratap includes all of us in his daily prayers and private Mass intentions.

If a Mass is cancelled, Fr. Pratap will include that scheduled Mass Intention at his private daily Mass. If you prefer it be rescheduled, please let Father or your respective parish office know.

### Tri Parish Prayer Intentions: Submit intentions to Parish Coordinator

- Travis Muller
- Margaret Juhnke
- Miguel Angel Esquivel
- Jim Salentiny
- Maxine Frank
- Mary Mathias
- Jackie Jurgens
- For our veterans
- For and end to abortion
- Jill Freking
- Jim Stenzel
- Dorothy Menke
- Ed Smith
- Lisa Rothenberger
- Cindy Sullivan
- Kay Moulder
- For victims of war in Ukraine
- For the souls in purgatory
- Residents of Mikkelsen Manor and Remick Ridge
- Residents of Pine View and Lakeview Assisted Living
- For the PARISH YEAR of the Eucharistic Revival
- For the victims of the unrest in the region of the Holy Land
- For our children and the faith formation year

### PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Pratap Reddy Salibindla, OFM  
 548 17th St., P. O. Box 39,  
 Windom, MN 56101  
 Cell: 507-226-4536  
 E-mail: triparishpriestjuly2018@gmail.com/

### BREWSTER OFFICE:

Loretta Smith: Office Administrator  
 Phone: 507-842-5584  
 Hours: Tues-Thurs, 8:30AM-4:30PM  
 E-Mail: sacreds@centurytel.net  
 Molly Scheidt: FF Coordinator  
 E-mail: sacredheartbrewsterff@gmail.com

### HERON LAKE OFFICE:

Melanie Krumbach: Office Administrator  
 Phone: 507-793-2357  
 Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 8:30AM-4:30PM  
 E-mail: hlsacredheart@gmail.com  
 Website: <http://sacredheartheronlake.org>  
 Judy Stenzel: FF Coordinator  
 E-mail: sacredhlff@yahoo.com  
 FB: SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

### WINDOM OFFICE:

Judy Green: Office Administrator  
 Phone: 507-831-1985  
 Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-1:30PM  
 E-mail: stfxavier@windomnet.com  
 Website: [www.sfxwindom.org](http://www.sfxwindom.org)  
 Joan Hunter: Faith Formation Chair  
 E-mail: stfrancisff@gmail.com

### This week's readings:

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9;  
 Mark 13:33-37

### Next week's readings:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 (5B); 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mk 13:33

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

## | Weekly Gospel Medita-

1st Sunday of Advent

Lately I've been listening to a science-based podcast on healthy daily living. The host frequently discusses the wide range of health benefits of sleep. So, each night I'm trying to get more, and better, slumber, and it's helping me feel energized. So, why in the world should we follow Christ's advice this week? "Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come ... lest he find you asleep." Isn't sleep, especially at midnight and cockcrow, a good thing?

Of course, it is. But the wakefulness the Lord calls us to is a deep, personal orientation to Him. A nightly vigil is therefore a metaphor for this, but it's not just that. We should give up real sleep in order to pray, too. This difficult practice is a time-tested way to foster wakefulness of heart. When we give up sleep to pray, it focuses us. We learn that life is not an endless series of days. You and I belong to the Lord — awake or asleep, in life and in death. Sooner or later, even our need for our physical sleep will pass away. And our attentiveness to God — that is, whether we are awaiting Him to meet us — will be all that matters.

May I challenge us this week and this Advent to intentionally give up at least one hour of sleep each week for prayer? Stay up later, wake up in the middle of the night, or an hour earlier, and pray. Will we be a bit more tired the next day? Yes. But we'll be amazed at the spiritual wakefulness that results, too.

— Father John Muir

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

VOCATION VIEW: Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation. (Mark 13:33-37)

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Contact the priest 6 to 12 months in advance of the date of marriage to fill out the forms, to do FOCCUS Test and to attend Marriage Prep Mentoring sessions. Fr. Pratap is seeking married couples who are practicing Catholics, and have children, who would be willing to volunteer to help prepare our engaged couples for marriage. Please contact Fr. Pratap at 507-226-4536, or your parish office, if interested.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Contact the parish office a month in advance to fill out the form and to attend Baptism Mentoring Sessions.



## | Everyday Stewardship

In the Unexpected

"What could happen next?" How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don't seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, "God with us." He is the expected in all things unexpected.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

# LITURGICAL LIFE

## LITURGICAL ROLES - December 10, 2023

Brewster Saturday   5:00pm	Heron Lake Sunday   8:00 am	Windom Sunday   10:00 am
<b>SERVERS</b>	Braeden Erickson Bristol VandeKamp	Thomas Green Danna Flores
<b>LECTOR</b>	Larry Liepold Carmen Rasche	Katelin Brown
<b>CANTOR</b>		Rejoice
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Larry Liepold Carmen Rasche Sam VandeKamp Kevin Leopold	Sharon Jenniges
<b>USHERS</b>	Jason Diemer Marsha Edwards Robert Liepold Martha Liepold	Chad Brown Mary Brown Gale and Patty Symens
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	Ryan Haberman Carrissa Haberman Erin Haberman	Candy Riordan Elaine Tasler
<b>SACRISTANS</b>		Jackie Jurgens Vicki Ommen
<b>ROSARY</b>	Larry Wagner Shirley Wagner	David Bockelmann
<b>VIDEO STREAMNG</b>		Tom Riordan
<b>GREETERS</b>		Laurie and Jake Redmond Pat Spencer



### CHURCH SUPPORT

	Brewster	Heron Lake	Windom
Week 22/52	\$ 2,036	\$ 800	\$ 6,378 (2 weeks)
YTD	\$ 25,107	\$ 49,589	\$ 56,056
YTD Budget	\$ 45,269	\$ 69,916	\$ 107,885
Total	\$ (20,162)	\$ (20,327)	\$ (51,829)
Budget	\$107,000	\$ 165,242	\$ 255,000

### CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2023

Parish	Goal	\$ Received	From # of Parishioners
SFX-W	\$14,788	\$ 9,706	54
SH-HL	9,912	8,560	27
SH-B	5,833	5,911	15

### 3rd Quarter Franciscan Mission special collection

Brewster \$ 205 HL \$ 487 Windom \$ 711

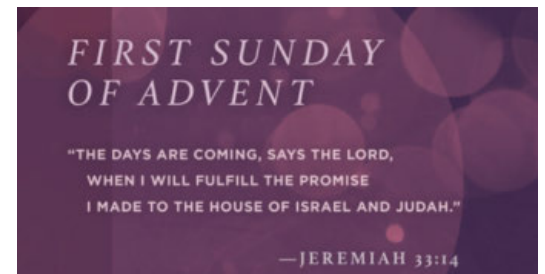
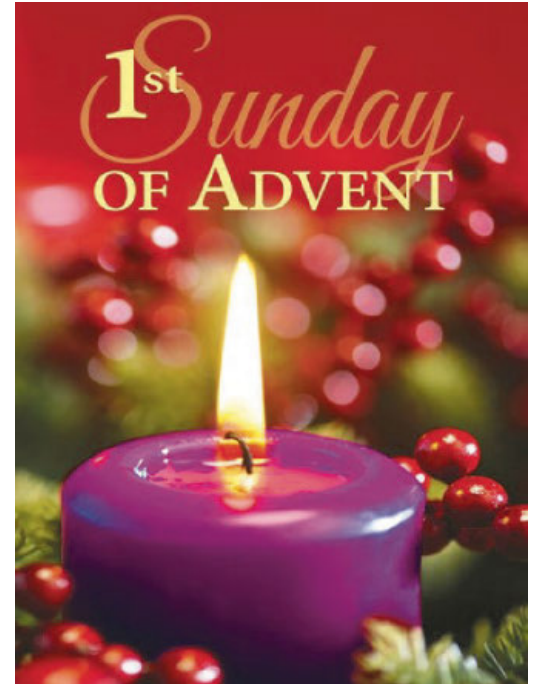
### World Mission Sunday

Brewster	\$ 419
HL	\$ 783
Windom	\$ 366

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## Pre Cana Dates for 2024

- January 27, 2024 – St. Thomas More Newman Center, MSU, Mankato
- March 2, 2024 – St. Charles Borromeo, St. Charles
- May 18, 2024 – St. Thomas More Newman Center, MSU, Mankato



### Adoration Schedule

Saturday December 2nd  
9:00-12:00

Saint Francis Xavier Windom

Saturday December 9th  
11:00-12:00  
Sacred Heart Church Brewster

Saturday December 30th  
11:00-12:00  
Sacred Heart Church Heron Lake

### Campaign for Human Development

Brewster \$ 131 HL \$ 224 Windom \$ 220



## INSIDE OUR PARISHES

## HERON LAKE

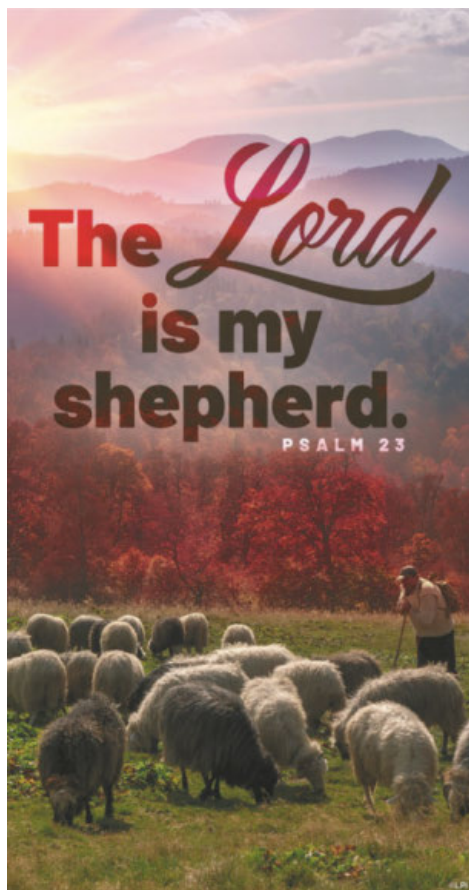
### BREWSTER

**ADORATION AND CONFESSION** will be offered on each **SECOND SATURDAY** of the month continuing **Dec 9th** at 11-12. Windom is the 1st Sat. of the month from 9-12 and Heron Lake is the last Sat. of the month from 11-12. Please come and spend some time with our Blessed Sacrament. All ages are welcome.

**THANK YOU TO OSTERBERG FUNERAL** Homes for giving us the Catholic Extension calendars for 2024. We appreciate your generosity.

**SACRED HEART PARISH** sends our prayers, healing thoughts, and love to **MIKE MCCARVEL** and his family. Please go on Caring Bridge to follow Mike's progress and send him healing wishes.

Wed., Dec. 6th, there will be a children's Mass at 6:30. Father will hear confessions for the children and their parents beginning at 6:00 and following Mass.



**CONTINUING ON DECEMBER 30TH** the last Saturday of each month, **ADORATION** will be in Heron Lake from 11-12. Please spend time adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. All ages are welcome. Fr. Pratap will also be available for anyone who would like to attend confession. Adoration and Confession is also available on the 1st Saturday of each month at Saint Francis Xavier Church from 9-12 and the 2nd Saturday of each month at Sacred Heart Brewster from 11-12.

**FEAST of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of MARY MASS** will be held in Heron Lake on Thursday, December 7th at 6:30 PM. There will be Mass on Friday, December 8th in Brewster at 9 AM and Windom at 6:30 PM.

**ANGEL TREE:** Please have all unwrapped gifts to the rectory by December 15th. Thank you!

**MEETING:** CCW will hold a planning meeting for Fun Sunday on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30 PM.

**BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN :** Thanks for your generous donations to the Baby Bottle Campaign. We were able to raise \$1,250 to help impact the lives of new and expectant parents throughout the coming year. Thank you for supporting the gift of life!

**THANK YOU TO OSTERBERG FUNERAL** Homes for giving us the Catholic Extension calendars for 2024. We appreciate your generosity.

**OFFICE CLOSED:** The office will be closed from December 22nd—January 1st. Please plan accordingly.

**SACRED HEART HL CEMETERY BOARD** is looking to hire someone to mow the grounds for the 2024 year. Please contact Wayne at 507-360-3348 or the church office at 507-793-2357 if interested.

*Immaculate Mary  
Your praises we sing*

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

OH MARY, CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE.



## WINDOM

**ADORATION AND CONFESSION** is on the **1ST SATURDAY** of each month, from 9-12. Spend time adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. All ages are welcome. Confession is also available from 11-12.

**THE WINDOM AREA SHARING CENTER** Ditty bags for the Windom Area Sharing Center are available on the table in the Church hall entrance, along with a list of needed items. Please consider taking a bag and helping the Sharing Center out. Any of the items listed will be greatly appreciated. There will be a box in the entry to return the bags and they will be taken to the Sharing Center once a week. There is always a box in the entry for food items which are needed also. If you have any questions, please contact Sherri 221-0354 or Pat 831-4528. Thank you!

The Windom Chamber's **CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT** event on Thursday, Dec 14 is from 4-7pm around the square. As part of that event, the Ministerial Association is inviting carolers from the churches to participate and entertain those attending the event that evening. Anyone who would like to join in singing carols is welcome. Please let Mary Theesfeld 822-2443 know if you are interested in being part of the group.

**THE WINDOM WOMEN OF TODAY CHRISTMAS CHEER BOX** is in the hall by the kitchen. NEW hats, mittens, toys, stockings stuffers, clothes, stuffed animals, etc. are appreciated. Gift cards for teens and money donations are also accepted. Donations need to be turned in by Dec. 7th. Please make checks to **CHRISTMAS CHEER BOX** and send to Windom Women of Today, PO Box 222, Windom, MN 56101.

#### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE/2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

December 10 there will be a dual celebration of the 2nd Sunday of Advent and Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please stay for a gathering of a meal served by our Spanish members following Mass on Dec 10th, everyone is welcome.

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR 2023 CONTRIBUTIONS** in to the office by December 31st to be applied to the 2023 Year End Statement. Thank you.

**THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT THE SOGGE HOME ON FRIDAY DEC 8TH.**

**The Mass Schedule for The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is as follows:**  
Thursday December 7th, 6:30 pm, Heron Lake \* Friday December 8th, 9:00 am, Brewster \* Friday December 8th, 6:30 pm Windom

# NOTES FOR ALL PARISHES

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## WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING

The Compassionate Friends is sponsoring a candle lighting event on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm around the Globe. There will be a special time to honor/remember your children that have died. Come to the Cottonwood County Historical Museum, *Festival of Trees Gallery*, 812 4th Ave, Windom, MN. Doors open at 6:30 pm. There will be sharing, refreshments and the opportunity to make an ornament for your child to add to the Children's Tree. Or you may bring an ornament honoring your child, to add to the children's tree.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

### December 3rd 1st Sunday of Advent The Advent Wreath

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

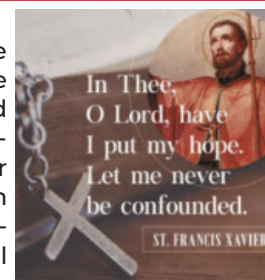
Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.

mas. ©LPi

### December 3rd Feast day of Saint Francis Xavier

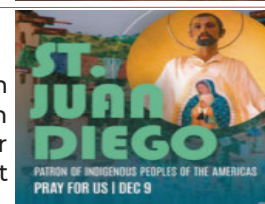
Sunday is the feast of St. Francis Xavier. As a young man, Xavier met Ignatius of Loyola at the University of Paris. Xavier was inspired by his friend's zeal and devotion. When Xavier was 31, he became one of the first members of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). The order presented themselves to the Pope for service as missionaries. Xavier would spend the rest of his life traveling the world and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. He served side by side with the poor in India, modern-day Malaysia, Pacific Islands, and ultimately Japan. Rather than imposing on the people, Xavier wore local dress and arranged translations of religious texts into the local language. It's estimated that he baptized 30,000 people. His charismatic joy is an inspiration for all who want to bring people to Christ.



### December 9th Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

Did you know these things about Saint Juan Diego?

Juan Diego was born in 1474 with the name "Cuauhtlatoatzin" (the talking eagle) in Cuauhtlatoatzin, which is today part of Mexico City, Mexico. He was converted into Catholicism at age 50 by one of the first ever Franciscan missionaries, Fr. Peter de Gante. He is famous for delivering the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Saint Juan Diego didn't have just one, but experienced FOUR apparitions of the Virgin Mary in his lifetime.



### December 12th Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Is Our Lady of Guadalupe only a cultural devotion?

You may be familiar with Our Lady of Guadalupe from devotions in Hispanic communities. There is a rich heritage originating in Mexico, the site of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe. But Mary is for all of us! Our Lady of Guadalupe is, in fact, named the patroness of all the Americas, from the Chilean Patagonian mountains to the Arctic islands of Canada. After Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego as a young, mestizo woman, conversions to Catholicism began to grow exponentially throughout Latin America. Our Lady of Guadalupe has been meaningful to the Mexican people, and her image and devotions have been incorporated as broader symbols of culture.

This apparition inspires across lines of nationality and culture. Juan Diego, recipient of the apparition, was a poor laborer. The famous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe did not appear on silk or stone, but on the simple, natural woven fibers of Juan Diego's tunic. The apparition affirms the dignity of the poor and shows striking solidarity. Mary appeared as the people appeared. In the apparition, Mary is indeed radiant, with the sun behind her and a cloak of stars around her. But her dress is simple, and she is pregnant. This apparition also reminds us of the sanctity of life and the need for life's protection at all stages. Mary's moving words to Juan Diego are words for us all: "Am I not here who am your mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Are you not in the folds of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms?" ©LPi

## EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Eucharistic revival— Consider going to the National Eucharistic Revival, Indianapolis, Indiana, in July of 2024 from the 17th-21st. Parish Galvanizers are: Brewster—Bev McCarvel, <sup>5</sup> H.L.—John Stenzel, Windom—Judy Green.

For more information, go to <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/> and click on the Congress tab.



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