

DECEMBER 15, 2024 | THIRD 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 - DECEMBER 17-22, 2024

17	Tues	5:30pm	Windom	✠ Thomas Brown
18	Wed	9:00am	Heron Lake	✠ Joe & Alice Salentiny
19	Thurs	9:00am	Brewster	✠ Paul & Laverne Schaffer
20	Fri	9:30am	Sogge Home	✠ Colleen Ortmann
21	Sat	5:00pm	Brewster	For the People
22	Sun	8:00am	Heron Lake	Living/Deceased of Joe Kass Family
22	Sun	10:00am	Windom	✠ Jerry Haberman

TRI PARISH INFORMATION

PASTOR

Fr. Peter Schuster
 2747 29th St.
 Slayton, MN 56172
 Cell: 507-304-2541
 E-mail: pastor@acmcatholic.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR:

Fr. Antony Arokiyam
 Windom, MN
 608-547-2259
 E-mail: stpatrickantony@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
 Joan Hunter: Faith Formation Chair
 E-mail: stfrancisff@gmail.com
 FB: St. Francis Xavier Parish

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 our pastor includes all of us in his daily prayers and private Mass intentions.

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



TRI PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

Submit intentions to Parish Coordinator

- Maxine Frank
- Jane Wolff
- Travis Muller
- Aiden Remme
- Miguel Esquivel
- Jim Salentiny
- Margaret Juhnke
- Briar Rose Smith
- Shirley Wagner
- For the souls in purgatory
- Residents of Sogge Home, Mikkelsen, Manor, Remick Ridge
- Residents of Pine View and Lakeview Assisted Living
- For the NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC Revival YEAR OF MISSION
- For the victims of the unrest in the region of the Holy Land
- Linda Unger
- Mike Stone
- John Zschetszche
- Roxann Irwin
- Jim Stenzel
- Lisa Rothenberger
- For our veterans & our police forces
- For an end to abortion
- For victims of war in Ukraine
- Ben Byam
- Kent Frank
- Larry Wagner
- Magdalen Hill
- Lupita Flores
- Ed Smith

This week's readings:

Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

Next week's readings:

Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

PRAYER & WORSHIP

Weekly Words from The Rock:

Are You Ready?

The main character of this week's gospel is John the Baptist. I have always liked John the Baptist. How many people are associated by a first name (John) and title (the Baptist)? Think about my story. How would these sound?

- A. Peter the Priest
- B. Peter the Fisherman
- C. Peter the Hunter
- D. Peter the Kit Kat Man
- E. Peter the Dr. Pepper Man

That isn't how things roll unless you are a John the Baptist.

John the Baptist was a unique human being. Maybe camel's hair was in vogue in his day yet not today. And your staple of food? I have shared with you some of my favorites:

- A. Pizza
- B. Spaghetti
- C. Hotdishes
- D. Soups (in the winter months)

Still, I came from a farm family where there was nothing fancy. It was mainly meat, veggies, and potatoes. For John the Baptist? Honey and locusts.

I have often wondered what type of child John the Baptist was while growing up. He may have been a handful. Think about what he says in the pages of Scripture,

- To the crowds who came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you of the coming wrath" (Luke 3:7).
- Appearing in Judea, his words weren't words of greeting. He began his preaching with the words, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2).
- He challenged King Herod, and it cost him his life (see Mark 6:17-29).

And that leads us to our heading of today, are you ready? Are you ready for the challenge of John the Baptist? Fresh off his words from Luke 3:7, the people ask, what are we to do? Here is his response:

1. To the crowds, "If you have two tunics share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise" (Luke 3:11).
2. To the tax collectors, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed" (Luke 3:13).
3. To the soldiers, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages" (Luke 3:14).

These responses lead to our challenge. What might John the Baptist state if we asked, "What are we to do?" I can't really answer because every person is unique, still I am certain he would have something to say. There is a challenge he would have for each of us. Such is the call of Advent. As we prepare for the Christmas story, we are to repent, to repent of whatever stumbling blocks stand in the way of our readying for the coming of our Savior. May we repent! May we be found ready!

Blessings to you!

Father Peter Schuster

VOCATION VIEW

VOCATION VIEW: "What ought we to do?" the crowds ask John, and he sends them to fulfill their calling. Doing the ordinary extraordinarily well is a step toward welcoming Jesus. (Luke 3:10-18)

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

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. Please contact your parish office, if interested.

Mankato Area Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation: Jan 25th. St. Thomas More Newman Center, Mankato - To register, go to: <https://www.dowr.org/offices/life-marriage>

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

QUINCEANERA PREPARATION: When booking a QUINCEANERA and needing a 1st Reconciliation and a 1st Holy Communion. There is a three month preparation time. Please schedule your Quinceanera 3 months in advance. Thank you. It is also required that the family is a member of the parish. **TENGA EN CUENTA:** Si reserva una FIESTA DE quince años y necesita una primera reconciliación y una primera comunión, el tiempo de preparación es de tres meses. Programe su fiesta de quince años con tres meses de anticipación. También se requiere que la familia sea miembro de la parroquia.

LITURGICAL LIFE

LITURGICAL ROLES - December 22, 2024

Brewster Saturday 5:00 pm	Heron Lake Sunday 8:00 am	Windom Sunday 10:00 am
SERVERS	Cora Haberman Aubrey Erickson	Anthony Cruz Danna Flores
LECTOR	Loren Liepold Judy Stenzel	Rita Hacker
CANTOR		Nadine Forman
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Martha Liepold Donna Damm Jeff Hotzler Melanie Krumbach	Heather Bristow
USHERS	Ryan Haberman Dave Brunk Jeremy Janssen Katie Janssen	John Zschetzsche Michael Bregel Dave Green Daniel Green
CONTRIBUTIONS	Kraig and Sharon Leopold Marty and Cathy Henkels	John Duscher Eileen Pankonin
SACRISTANS		Vicki Ommen Jackie Jurgens
ROSARY	Cleo Miranowski	David Bockelmann
VIDEO STREAMING		Tom Zimmerman
GREETERS		Gale & Patty Symens Symens



CHURCH SUPPORT

	Brewster 12/01	Brewster 12/08	Heron Lake	Windom
Week 23/52	\$1,171	\$1,792	\$ 5,942	\$ 3,301
YTD	\$		\$ 92,571	\$ 59,797

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

	Goal	Donated
St. Francis Xavier	\$ 13,413	\$ 9,023
Sacred Heart Heron Lake	\$ 9,629	\$ 10,040
Sacred Heart Brewster	\$ 5,822	\$ 5,125



ADORATION SCHEDULE

Saturday December 14th
4:00-4:45

Sacred Heart Church, Brewster



Sunday January 5th
11:00-12:00

Saint Francis Xavier Church, Windom

1st Sun - Windom - 11-12 2nd Sat - Brewster - 4-4:45

Sacred Heart Heron Lake will have confession on Dec 15th at 7:00 am before Mass to accommodate additional Advent Confessions



You are asked to utilize the Advent Confession times during Adoration in Brewster and Windom to prepare yourself for the coming of our Lord. See the adoration schedule above. An Expanded Confession time for Heron Lake is at 7:00 AM on Sunday December 15th before Mass.

QUINCEANERA

Emily Morales Salvador who celebrated a Quinceanera at St. Francis Xaver Church on Saturday September 14th, 2024. God Bless you Emily.



Collection for the Retired Religious
Catholic University of America

Collection December 7-8

Windom	\$ 170.00
Heron Lake	\$ 276.00
Brewster	\$ 90.00

INSIDE OUR PARISHES

BREWSTER

ADORATION AND CONFESSION will be offered on each **SECOND SATURDAY** of the month continuing **DEC 14TH** from 4:00-4:45. Adoration in Windom is offered on the first Sunday of the month from 11-12. Please come and spend some time with the Blessed Sacrament. All ages are welcome.

IF YOU HAVE NOT SENT IN YOUR DONATION FOR THE CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL, please do so. Sacred Heart's goal is \$5,822. We are at \$4,475. You can send it in directly or drop it in the offertory basket. CMA donation envelopes are at the entrances of the Church. Please give your fair share. Thank you.

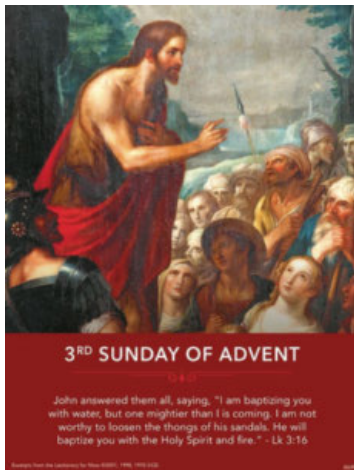
WE NEED MONEY COUNTERS!! Please contact Loretta. We NEED you!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TOYS FOR TOYS FOR TOTS. I am sure every child who saw them in the entrance of the church, would of love to take one or two home. If you would still like to donate, please take your toy to the Brewster City Hall.

DEV SEVER SCHMITZ, SON OF KAREN SCHMITZ AND ABHIJITH MINI GOPAKUMAR was baptized on Sat., Nov. 30, 2024 at Sacred Heart Brewster. Congratulations.

THANK YOU TO LACANNE FUNERAL HOMES for sponsoring the Catholic Extension calendars for 2025. We greatly appreciate your generosity.

THERE WILL BE NO MASS on Thursday, 12/26/2024 due to the Christmas Holiday.



HERON LAKE

There will be **CONFESSION AVAILABLE 1/2 HOUR BEFORE MASS ON SUNDAYS.**

THE ANGEL TREE PROGRAM names have been distributed. Please have all unwrapped gifts to the rectory by December 15th. Thank you!

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed from December 25th through January 5th. Please get all end of year contributions to the office by December 23rd. Thank you.

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES: Dec. 22nd through Jan. 1st due to the holidays. Classes will resume again for the elementary on Jan. 5th and high school on Jan. 8th.

THANK YOU TO LACANNE FUNERAL HOMES for sponsoring the Catholic Extension calendars for 2025. We greatly appreciate your generosity.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: Sacred Heart's goal was \$9,629. **THANK YOU** to all who have donated as we have now met our goal. Any money put towards the appeal over our goal will come directly back to the church so there is still time to donate before the end of the year.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR A LITURGICAL ROLE FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS ON NEW YEARS DAY AT 9:00 AM.

GREETERS: Looking for volunteers to greet parishioners as they enter for Sunday Mass. Please reach out to Melanie in the office or sign up on the sheet in the back of the church if interested! **THANK YOU!**

LITURGY ROLES for December/January are available. Looking to become more involved in church? Please contact Melanie if you are interested.

REMINDER: If school is late or closed due to adverse weather, Wednesday Mass is also cancelled. Sunday Mass cancellation will be announced on KDOM and Worthington Radio Stations, along with being posted on Facebook.

ROSARY will start at 8:15 AM on Christmas Day.

WINDOM

ADORATION AND CONFESSION will be offered on each **FIRST SUNDAY** of the month. The next adoration is **JAN 5TH** from 11:00-12:00. Adoration is also offered on the 2nd Saturday of the month in Brewster from 4:00-4:45. Please come and spend some time with the Blessed Sacrament. All ages are welcome.

THE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL & THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday December 17th starting at 6:15 pm with the Pastoral Council and 7:00 pm for the Finance Council.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR A LITURGICAL ROLE FOR MASS ON TUESDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE AT 6:00 PM. We need a reader, ushers, greeters, servers, Eucharist minister, sacristan(s), stewards, and a video streamer. Thank you for your volunteerism.

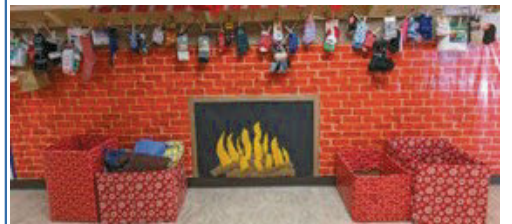
PLEASE HAVE YOUR 2024 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, brought or sent to the church by 12/31/2024. Judy will be working on contribution receipts the first week of 2025. Thank you.


THERE WILL BE A TIME OF SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS BEFORE MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVE'S 6:00 PM MASS. We're looking for 2 or 3 individuals to each provide a special music selection to enhance our gathering. Contact Mary Theesfeld if you are interested. All ages welcome.

THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT THE SOGGE HOME on 12/27/2024 due to the Christmas Holiday.

THERE WILL BE A CHRISTMAS PROGRAM ON SUNDAY THE 22ND FOLLOWING MASS.

PLEASE BRING IN SOCKS, MITTENS, GLOVES AND HATS FOR OUR FAITH FORMATION MANTEL in the hall. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.



Windom News continues on the next page 

TRI-PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

12/24 Sacred Heart Brewster 4:00 PM | 12/24 St. Francis Xavier Windom 6:00 PM | 12/25 Sacred Heart H.L. 9:00 AM

NEW YEARS DAY MASS

01/01/2025 Sacred Heart Church Heron Lake 9:00 AM

WINDOM CONTINUED

A BIG THANK YOU TO all that helped and brought in baked goods for our FAITH FORMATION BAKE SALE. Our church family is wonderful!

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR DECEMBER COURIER from the entrances of the Church. Thank you.

FAITH FORMATION is in need of Substitute Teachers. Please contact Vicki Ommen or Sherri Zimmerman.

NOTES FOR ALL PARISHES

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

“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 waiting of advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. **THE NEXT WEEKENDS ARE FEB 14-16, 2025 IN WINDOM, MN** For more information, call Miki Schultz at 507-227-8229 or visit them at southmnwwme.org. To register, visit our website:

<https://southmnwwme.org/applyWeekend.php?/hl=en> choose Feb 14-16 Windom Shalom Hills Farm.

THE LIGHT IS ON SOUTHWESTERN MN:

This resource continues to be available to encourage people to return to the sacrament of reconciliation throughout Advent. Consider reading about the various witness stories, encouragements, and how-tos.

Visit www.thelightisonsouthernmn.org for more information.



DON'T MISS THE JOY THE LORD WANTS YOU TO HAVE!

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is available in the tri-parish, during adoration, on the 1st Sunday in Windom from 11-12 AM, also in Brewster on the 2nd Saturday from 4:00-4:45 PM and in Heron Lake before Mass on Sundays at 7:30 AM. An expanded confession time on December 15th in Heron Lake is before Mass starting at 7:00am. You are asked to utilize these opportunities to receive the sacrament prior to Christmas.

EUCCHARISTIC RIVAL NEWS: THE YEAR OF MISSION

Lets back up to 2023, the Eucharistic Congress in Mankato, June 10th, 2023. Actually the Eucharistic Revival resulted in Eucharistic Congresses taking place all over the US. The Movement was spearheaded from the result of a 2019 pew study which indicated what may had long suspected; that few Catholics, approximately 30 percent, fully believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. This grassroots movement, the Revival, called for by the bishops of the U.S., is rekindling a living faith in the hearts of Catholics across America. If you didn't attend the Congress in Mankato, you can watch a video of it on the Diocese of Winona-Rochester webpage. **Go to dowr.org click ABOUT click EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL Scroll down 3/4 down the page.** Its incredible. You may see someone you know. Following the Congress, a Parish Team may have been started in your parish. It is the goal that the Parish Team or any individual acting alone or in a group, continue the momentum of the Congress. Start by listening to Bishop Barron's Congress' keynote speech. This is something the Parish Teams had been asked about providing and it is now available. Enjoy watching it independently or get a group together.



THE CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL offers a unique opportunity for you to give back to the God of Love, from whom all things are given. Grow closer to Christ by doing your part to build up the Kingdom of God in southern Minnesota.

You may also give online at: <https://catholicismn.org>

THE SYNOD / ADVENT BIBLE STUDY :

The Synod Fathers desire that the divine word 'be ever more fully at the heart of every ecclesial activity' (Verbum Domini,1). The gate to Sacred Scripture should be open to all believers. Every opportunity for the study of Sacred Scripture should be made available. The Scripture should permeate homilies, catechesis and every effort to pass on the faith. In consideration of the necessity of familiarity with the word of God and for the spiritual growth of the faithful, the Synod encourages dioceses, parishes, small Christian communities to continue serious study of the Bible and Lectio Divina, the prayerful reading of the Scriptures. (taken from cf. *Dei Verbum*, 21-22)

Advent Bible Study Living Our Faith

In-Person

9:00am Good Shepherd Church - Jackson

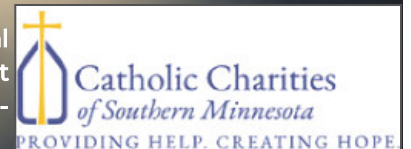
December 14
December 21

Online

7:00pm "Microsoft Team"

December 16th
December 23rd

Contact Maria Ahmed with Parish Social Ministries at 507-905-8602 or by email at mahmed@ccsommn.org for more information.





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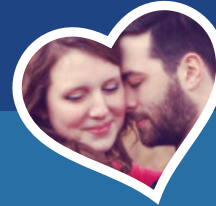


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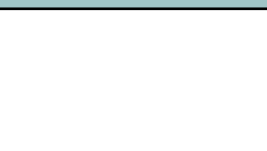
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