

# DECEMBER 29, 2024 | THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



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 31 – JAN 5, 2024

31	<u>Tues</u>	6:00pm	Windom	† Herb & Mavis Ratzlaff
1	<u>Wed</u>	9:00am	Heron Lake	For The People
2	<u>Thurs</u>	9:00am	Brewster	† Leo & Mary Anne McNab
3	<u>Fri</u>	9:30am	Sogge Home	† Al Purrington
4	<u>Sat</u>	5:00pm	Brewster	For The People
5	<u>Sun</u>	8:00am	Heron Lake	† Sam & Wyatt Henkels
5	<u>Sun</u>	10:00am	Windom	† Wanda Strunk

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 Zschetsche
- Roxann Irwin
- Jim Stenzel
- Lisa Rothenberger
- Joe Rivera
- For our veterans & our police forces
- For victims of war in Ukraine
- For an end to abortion
- Ben Byam
- Kent Frank
- Larry Wagner
- Magdalen Hill
- Lupita Flores
- Ed Smith



## 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](http://www.sfxwindom.org)  
 Joan Hunter: Faith Formation Chair  
 E-mail: stfrancisff@gmail.com  
 FB: St. Francis Xavier Parish

### This week's readings:

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

### Next week's readings:

Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

## Weekly Words from The Rock:

### Reflections on My Father Surrounding Christmas and Holy Family

This bulletin article will encompass the next two weeks – December 22<sup>nd</sup> and December 29<sup>th</sup>. With my father's death on November 8<sup>th</sup>, I want to share with you a reflection on my father surrounding Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Family. Let us get underway.

#### My Sincere Gratitude

It is humbling to lose a parent. One believes a parent will always be there until they pass away. I have been stunned, not in a bad way, at the outpouring of God's people at my father's death. The number of people who have stopped me to offer their condolences is beyond any number I could have conceived. A priest never realizes the people he touches until an occasion like this. People have reached out to me from my seven parishes along with numerous other parishes I have served. It has been humbling. I am grateful to everyone. I am grateful to those who have offered condolences, prayers, cards, and gifts. To those of you who have sent a gift asking that a Mass be offered, I have been faithful to your requests. It will take some time however the Masses will be offered.

#### A Memorial To My Father

I have been in discussion with my mother and sister who live at home, and it has been decided that the monetary gifts offered on behalf of my father (outside of Mass intentions) will be used to purchase a workbench for the garage at home. I enjoy tinkering around with various things however have no workbench on which to undertake this work. My mother and sister were thrilled at the idea. The bench will include a workspace six feet in length and two feet in width. It includes two drawers, the capacity to plug in power cords and USB ports, a shelf located underneath the bench and will be mobile (on wheels) so it can be moved from one location to another. Someone has kindly provided a vise which can be attached to the bench. I am still debating whether I should include a bench grinder. We will wait and see. To all who have made this possible know of my sincere gratitude.

#### Christmas

With the loss of my father, Christmas takes on a special meaning. The story of Christmas really comes to life. Jesus Christ came to us to suffer and die for our sins. My father was a faith-filled man. He lived a simple yet deep faith. He didn't need to read Bible passages every day. He believed in what Jesus Christ said, taught and lived. He never doubted even when times were difficult. It takes time yet as we age, we learn our parents aren't perfect. Just like everyone who walks this earth, me included, my father wasn't perfect; he sinned. It is for someone like my father that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. To him, Jesus' words were, "Lowell, my father's name, I know that you were not perfect. You have sinned. Still, if you believe in me and confess your need for me, I will bring you life." My father knew that he was a sinner. He faithfully celebrated the Sacrament of Penance. His example was an example for me. If my father was a sinner, how dare I think differently of myself. For people to be convinced in these current times that "my sin isn't that big a deal" is an injustice to the Christmas story. Jesus Christ did not come so we could have an excuse to decorate our homes, gather as family, or purchase gifts. Jesus Christ came because of our pain and suffering. He knew what sin had done to us.

#### Holy Family

To face sin, evil, the devil, Jesus Christ was born to a human family. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph compose the Holy Family. They faced joys and hardships, the ebb and flow of living on this earth. It is different without my father being with us. I look at where he sat in his chair and he isn't there. I look at his place at table and he isn't there. I look at where he sat in the garage (where we will incorporate a new workbench) and he isn't there. Life is different still it is beyond a shadow of a doubt that I believe my father is in heaven. Maybe some of that stems from the fact that a person doesn't want to think differently or because he is my father, still I firmly believe he is with God. He lived his faith and knew the day would come when he would pass from this world. He was ready and prepared. It is now left up to the remainder of us, his family, to live that faith so that we can live with him eternally.

#### A Concluding Thought

With the death of someone we love, time can be ruthless. We may wish it to halt but it grinds forward. There is also a good in this fact. No one desires time to halt. Our faith teaches us forward we march. We find ourselves at the end of our year 2024. To all the condolences, prayers, cards and gifts that I have received at my father's passing and around this Christmas season, I am very grateful. Know of my prayers for all of you as I "tinker" away at my new workbench and serve you in 2025.

Blessings to you!

Father Peter Schuster

## VOCATION VIEW

**VOCATION VIEW:** Jesus was born into a Holy Family, not a storybook family. Today, pray for married couples and for parents, who strive to remain faithful to their commitments in a changing and challenging world. (Luke 2:41-52)

## 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 - January 5, 2024

Brewster Saturday   5:00 pm	Heron Lake Sunday   8:00 am	Windom Sunday   10:00 am
<b>SERVERS</b>	Bristol VandeKamp Aubrey Erickson	Josianna DeWall Marcus Hoppe
<b>LECTOR</b>	Larry Liepold Lori Henkels	Katelin Brown
<b>CANTOR</b>		Tom Zimmerman
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Larry Liepold Lori Henkels Sam VandeKamp Suzanne Iverson	Elaine Talser
<b>USHERS</b>	Jason Diemer Mark Wagner Alan Freking Jeff Hotzler	Jean Hoppe Rod Theesfeld Gale and Patty Symens
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	Ryan Haberman Carissa Haberman Erin Haberman	Joel Riordan Rod or Mary Theesfeld
<b>SACRISTANS</b>		Nadine Forman
<b>ROSARY</b>	Cleo Miranowski	David Bockelmann
<b>VIDEO STREAMING</b>		Gale Symens
<b>GREETERS</b>		Laurie and Jake Redmond Pat Spencer



### CHURCH SUPPORT

	Brewster	Heron Lake	Windom
Week 25/52	\$ 2,700	\$ 5,188	\$ 9,171
YTD	\$ 27,271	\$ 97,759	\$ 68,826

### CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

	Goal	Donated
St. Francis Xavier	\$ 13,413	\$ 9,523
Sacred Heart Heron Lake	\$ 9,629	\$ 10,040
Sacred Heart Brewster	\$ 5,822	\$ 5,125



## ADORATION SCHEDULE

Sunday January 5th  
11:00-12:00

Saint Francis Xavier Church, Windom



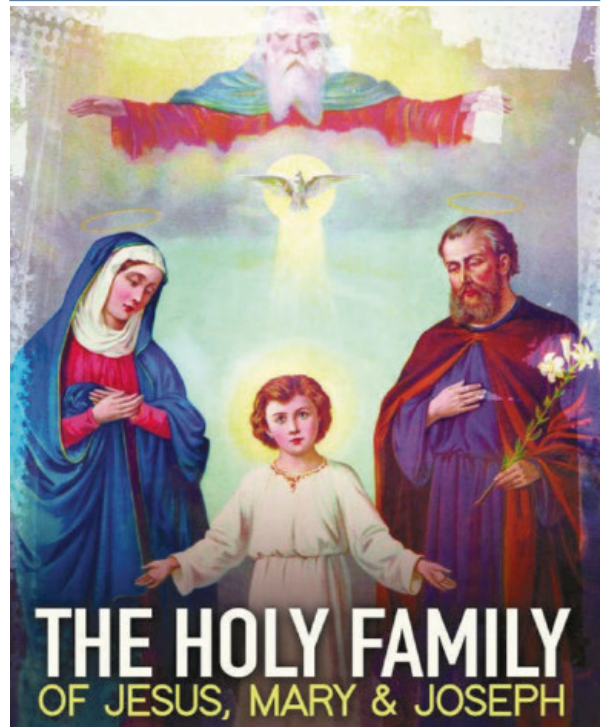
Saturday January 11th  
4:00-4:45

Sacred Heart Church, Brewster



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

Confession is 1/2 hour before Sunday Mass  
(7:30 am) at Sacred Heart, Heron Lake, MN  
Confession is 1/2 hour before Saturday Mass  
(4:30 pm) at Sacred Heart, Brewster, MN





## BREWSTER

**ADORATION AND CONFESSION** will be offered on each **SECOND SATURDAY** of the month continuing **JAN 11TH** 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.

**CONGRATULATIONS SACRED HEART PARISH!** We have met and exceeded our **CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL** goal. Our goal was \$5822 and \$6575 was contributed. All money that was contributed over our goal, will come back to us. A huge thank you to our parishioners.

**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.

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

**THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE DIOCESAN COURIER** is available at the entrances of the Church.

**YOUR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS** have to be received by Dec. 31,2024 in order to be counted for 2024.

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

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

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

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

**CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS** will be having their annual **TOM & JERRY** celebration on Sunday, January 12th at 3 PM. A light lunch will be served.

**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.

**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!**

**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.



**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.

**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 NO MASS AT THE SOGGE HOME** on Friday, 12/27/2024 due to the Christmas Holiday.

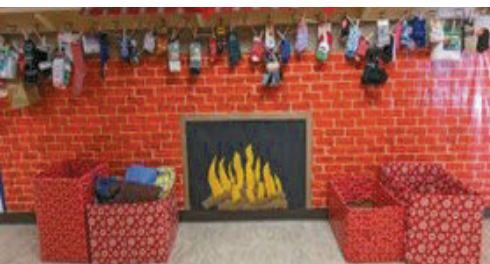
**THERE IS MASS AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH** on 12/31/2024. There will be a **THANKSGIVING ADORATION** beginning at 5:00PM with **MASS TO FOLLOW AT 5:30.** This is a correction from a previous announcement.

**THERE WILL BE NO FAITH FORMATION** classes for the Christmas break. Classes will resume on January 8th.

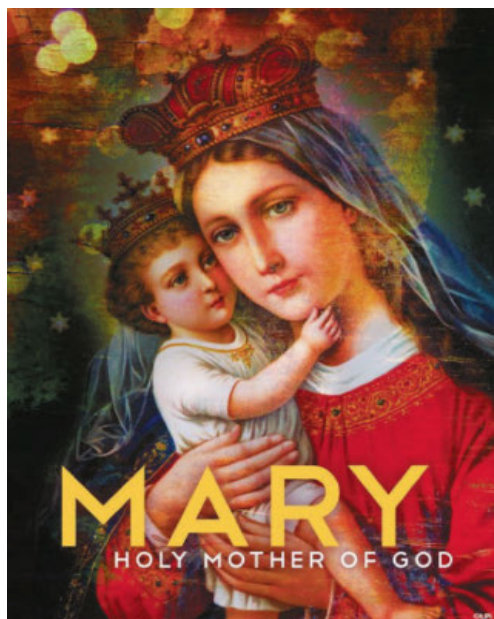
**WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS HOW THANKFUL WE ARE TO LINDA STUCKENBROKER, TOM ZIMMERMAN, AMY MCNAMARA AND THE 10TH GRADE STUDENTS** for planning and helping with the Faith Formation Christmas Program. They are blessed with your time and talent.

**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR 2025 CALENDARS** from the entrances of the Church and **THANK YOU TO LACANNE FUNERAL HOMES** for sponsoring the Catholic Extension calendars for 2025. We greatly appreciate your generosity.

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



Windom News continues on the next page.



**MARY THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Solemnity, Holy Day**  
01/01/2025 Sacred Heart Church Heron Lake 9:00 AM

## WINDOM CONTINUED

THANK YOU TO THE RIORDAN FAMILY for the refreshments and treats following the Christmas program last week. You are greatly appreciated.

## 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](https://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.thelightisonssouthernmn.org](http://www.thelightisonssouthernmn.org) for more information.



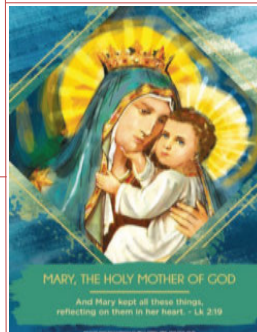
### DON'T MISS THE JOY THE LORD WANTS YOU TO HAVE!

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is available in the tri-parish, during adoration, on the 1st Sunday of the month in Windom from 11-12 AM, also in Brewster on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 4:00-4:45 PM and in Heron Lake before Mass on Sundays at 7:30 AM and before Mass in Brewster on Saturdays at 4:30 PM.



### EUCCHARISTIC RIVAL NEWS: THE YEAR OF MISSION

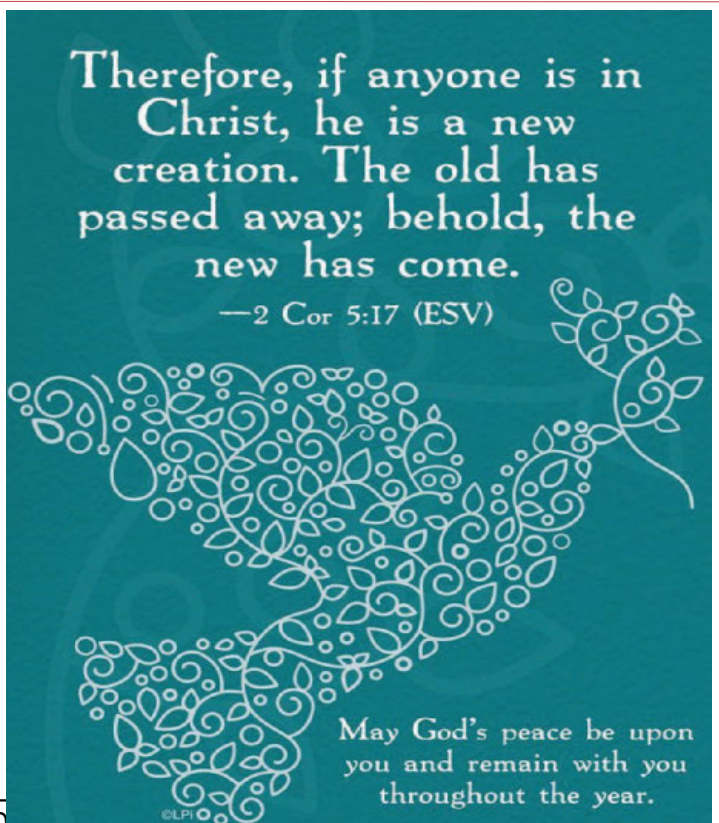
The Holy Father has announced that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, something which happens every 25 years. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope," and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and the climate crisis. The Holy Father Francis wants the coming Jubilee Year 2025 to be lived as a "year of hope," very symbolic in times when the world's wars seem to be unending and multiplying.



The Holy Day,  
Mary the Holy Mother of God  
Solemnity  
will be celebrated at  
Sacred Heart Church  
Heron Lake  
9:00am.  
January 1st, 2025

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>



May God's peace be upon  
you and remain with you  
throughout the year.





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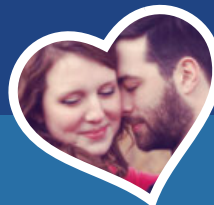
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