

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 | TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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 - SEPTEMBER 8 - 13, 2026

8 Tues	5:30pm	Windom	NO MASS
9 Wed	9:00am	Heron Lake	• Brian Ferguson
10 Thurs	9:00am	Brewster	Charlene Kirchner
11 Fri	9:30am	Sogge Home	• Leo & Arlene Bartosh
12 Sat	5:00pm	Brewster	• Emma Hansen
13 Sun	8:00am	Heron Lake	For the People
13 Sun	10:00am	Windom	• Brittany Lamote

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

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| • Pat Weir | • Amber Determan | • Joan Polzine |
| • Lanette Horkey | • Margaret Juhnke | • Joe Rivera |
| • Travis Muller | • John Zschetzsche | • Larry Wagner |
| • Aiden Remme | • Roxann Irwin | • Magdalen Hill |
| • Miguel Esquivel | • Briar Rose Smith | • Mike Stone |
| • Todd Hines | • Lisa Rothenberger | • Teresa Pudenz |

- For an end to abortion
- For victims of war in Ukraine
- For the souls in purgatory
- Residents of Sogge Home, Mikkelsen Manor, Remick Ridge
- Residents of Pine View and Lakeview Assisted Living
- For the victims of the unrest in the region of the Holy Land

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. Jordan Danielson
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: 507-831-3300
E-mail: sfxparochialvicar@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:

Paula Kolander: Office Administrator
Phone: 507-831-1985
Hours: Mon-Thurs 8AM-2PM
E-mail: secretaryfrancis2024@gmail.com
Website: www.sfxwindom.org
Sherri Zimmerman: FF Coordinator
E-mail: stfrancisff@gmail.com
FB: St. Francis Xavier Parish

This week's readings:

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

Next week's readings:

Sirach 27:30-28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

PRAYER & WORSHIP

Weekly Words from The Rock:

I want touch on an issue which is at the center of many current debates. We hear much regarding a “transgender male” or “transgender female.” During these debates, the question arises, “Does the Catholic Church ever allow for transgender surgeries?” Let us take a closer look at the question.

Question: Does the Church allow for transgender surgery in the case of a baby born with male and female organs (hermaphroditism) or in the case of a botched circumcision?

Answer: The situations described in the question are very rare. As such, they are a bit of an anomaly or outlier, not easily covered by general bioethical norms.

A hermaphrodite is a child born with a sex that is not easily determined by looking at the genitals. At times, the child may seem to have both genitalia or parts of both. Usually a genetic analysis of their cells can indicate the true sex of the infant. In such cases as these, surgical repairs to the genitals to indicate the true sex of the infant is licit and not forbidden by the Church.

However, there are some even rarer cases where genetic analysis does not provide a clear answer as to the sex of the child. This is due to chromosomal and genetic irregularities. In such cases as these, the parents are permitted to make a difficult decision to determine the sex of the child and permit necessary surgeries to the genitals to reflect that determination. Some parents choose to wait some time to observe the child and his or her tendencies before making that decision.

Such permitted surgeries are not properly termed “transgender surgery” since they are not intending to change the sex of a person. In truth, there is no such thing as “transgender surgery.” Surgery cannot alter the true sex of a person. Transgenderism is based on a lie that one’s sex (sometimes called gender) can be changed.

Too, it is worth noting, there is not a broad spectrum of “genders.” Scripture is clear that we come in one of two sexes: “God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them” (Genesis 1:27).

Even more rare are botched circumcisions. However, in this case it is not permitted to proceed with surgeries that attempt to alter the sex of the child. As noted, no amount of surgery can alter the sex of a child; a boy cannot become a girl. There are some boys and men who, for various reasons, are missing some or all of their genitals. This does not make them female. They are still male, even though some of the masculine aspects are missing or damaged.

(Written by Msgr. Charles Pope, in Our Sunday Visitor, June 11-17, 2023, page 19).

Are you an Optimist or Pessimist?

How would you define yourself? An optimist sees the best in the world, while the pessimist sees only the worst. An optimist finds the positive in the negative, and a pessimist can only find the negative in the positive.

Here is a story. An avid duck hunter was in the market for a new bird dog. His search ended when he found a dog that could actually walk on water to retrieve a duck. Shocked by his find, he was sure none of his friends would ever believe him.

He decided to try to break the news to a friend of his, a pessimist by nature, and invited him to hunt with him and his new dog.

As they waited by the shore, a flock of ducks flew by. They fired and a duck fell. The dog responded and jumped into the water. The dog, however, did not sink instead walked across the water to retrieve the bird, never getting more than his paws wet. This continued all day long; each time a duck fell, the dog walked across the surface of the water to retrieve it.

The pessimist watched carefully, saw everything, but did not say a single word.

On the drive home the hunter asked his friend, “Did you notice anything unusual about my new dog?”

“Yes, sure I did,” responded the pessimist. “Your dog can’t swim.”

So again, where do you fall, an optimist or a pessimist? Jesus is an optimist. Despite our sin, he believes in each of us!

Electric Motors

Do you have any electric motors that are lying around, and you would like to be rid of? Even with the passing of my father, I would be happy to take any electric motors. You can leave them by the rectory garage in Slayton, or I can pick them up at any of the parishes. Thanks!

Peace be to you!

Father Peter Schuster

LITURGICAL LIFE

LITURGICAL ROLES - September 13, 2026

Brewster Saturday 5:00 pm	Heron Lake Sunday 8:00 am	Windom Sunday 10:00 am
SERVERS	Mara Diemer Nathan Madsen	Josianna DeWall Seth Hoppe
LECTOR	Marlys Olson Larry Liepold	Rita Hacker
CANTOR		Laurie Murphy
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Marlys Olson Larry Liepold Kevin Leopold Suzanne Iverson	Rosa Torres Rivera Maria Doleres Cerda Nadine Forman
USHERS	Jason Diemer Mark Wagner Jeremy Janssen Katie Janssen	Patty and Gale Symens Rod Theesfeld Tom Zimmerman
CONTRIBUTIONS	Kraig Leopold Sharon Leopold Jason Freking Tracy Freking	Joel Riordan Kevin or Heather Bristow
SACRISTAN		Nadine Forman
ROSARY	Cleo Miranowski	David Bockelmann
VIDEO STREAMING		Gale Symens
GREETERS		Kevin and Heather Bristow



CHURCH SUPPORT	Brewster 8/29	Heron Lake 8/30	Windom 8/30
Week 09/52	\$ 989	\$ 2,229	\$ 2,876
YTD	7,360	27,012	9,932

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS-50%
BLACK & NATIVE AMERICAN-50%
AUGUST 23

BREWSTER	\$ 611
HERON LAKE	\$ 624
WINDOM	\$ 398

The Appeal strengthens the Catholic Church in the U.S. and its territories in 85 Latin & East-ern Catholic dioceses.
The Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Native American peoples of the United States.

3

ADORATION SCHEDULE

1st Sunday of each month
11:00-12:00
Saint Francis Xavier, Windom



2nd Saturday of each month
4:00-4:45

Sacred Heart Church, Brewster



Confession is first Sunday during Adoration in Windom

Confession is 1/2 hour before every Sunday Mass (7:30 am) at Sacred Heart, Heron Lake

Confession is 1/2 hour before every Saturday Mass (4:30 pm) and during Adoration second Saturday at Sacred Heart, Brewster.

QUINCEANERA

"Is there a Quinceanera in your near future? This is a reminder that we need at least three (3) months notice for this celebration. For more details and requirements, please contact the office.

¿Hay una Quinceañera en tu futuro cercano? Este es un recordatorio de que necesitamos al menos un aviso de tres (3) meses para esta celebración. Para obtener más detalles y requisitos, comuníquese con la oficina."

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.

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



BREWSTER

ADORATION AND CONFESSION will be offered on the **2ND SATURDAY** of the month. The next Adoration is **September 12th** from 4:00-4:45.

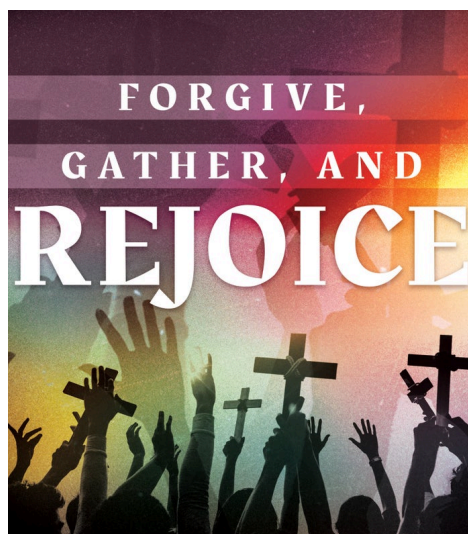
THE AUGUST COURIERS are available at the entrance of the church. Please pick yours up. Thank you.

Faith Formation forms for the 2026-27 school year can be found at the church entrance. Please return the forms to Loretta Smith or Molly Scheidt PO Box 187, Brewster, MN 56119. Can't wait for another great year! We are still in need of 8th grade and First Year Confirmation catechists. Thank You. Molly

Vi Busch passed away August 29, 2026. Her funeral was held September 3rd at Sacred Heart Brewster with burial in Sacred Heart cemetery. May her soul and all souls rest in peace.

Winona-Rochester Diocesan **CCW** will meet at St. Theodore Catholic Church in **Albert Lea** on Saturday, **October 10th**. Please contact Bev if you would like to attend.

RECENT CHANGES HAVE taken place with the Catholic Foundation (**CMA**). **Checks should be made payable to : Diocese of Winona-Rochester.** It is very helpful if donors include **CMA-Brewster in the memo line.** The CMA appeal, as always, remains a tremendous benefit for our parishes when goals are met and overage funds are returned.



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

MEETINGS: Pastoral & Finance Councils will meet on Wednesday, September 16th starting at 6:45 PM.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION for the 26-27 school year is now available to pick up at church entrance. Please return registrations to Judy Stenzel or the office by September 13th. Registration \$20 per child with a \$50 cap per family.

COF STEAK FRY will be on Sunday, September 20th, 4:30 PM at Steger Hall. \$5.00 for COF members and burgers are free to those who do not want steak. You **NEED** to reserve a steak to get a steak! Please call Kevin Leopold 507-793-2894 or Dennis Salentiny 507-360-1910 to reserve your steak.

A BOX OF JOY may be the only Christmas gift a child in need receives. Please help your CCW with this project by picking up a Box of Joy from the church; fill it and return it to the rectory by October 20th. A list of gift item suggestions & instructions can be found next to the boxes in church entrance. They have requested that a rosary be included in each box. The postage will be paid by CCW.

WINONA-ROCHESTER DIOCESAN CCW will be holding a meeting at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Albert Lea on Saturday, October 10th. Sign up sheets available on tables.

The **SOUTHWEST AREA DIOCESAN CCW** is looking for a Commission Chair. A commission chair reads a report from the Diocesan newsletter at each area meeting. They are, also, looking for the position of Vice President. They would like to return to a 2 year term. If interested contact the office or Barb Hussong.

PHONE/ADDRESS UPDATES: Please let Melanie know if you have any updates to addresses or phone numbers that may be out of date in the system or directory. Thank you!

RECENT CHANGES HAVE taken place with the Catholic Foundation (**CMA**). **Checks should be made payable to : Diocese of Winona-Rochester.** It is very helpful if donors include **CMA- Heron Lake in the memo line.** The CMA appeal, as always, remains a tremendous benefit for our parishes when goals are met and overage funds are returned.



Adoration and Confession will be offered the 1st Sunday of the Month. The next Adoration is **September 6th** from 11:00-12:00. Please come adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. All ages are welcome

KOC Meeting 7pm on Tuesday, September 8th.

C L A S will meet Tuesday, September 8th in the church dining hall. All ladies of the church are welcome to come and enjoy some fun.

CMA GOAL is **\$13,526** Pledges to date are \$16,877.58. Please continue to give as overages come back to our Parish.

PHONE/ADDRESS UPDATES: Please let the office know if you have any updates to addresses or land lines to cell phones that may be out of date in the system or directory. You can call the office or email your updates to secreatryfrancis2024@gmail.com Thank you!

We are STILL seeking a 3rd & 4th grade, teacher for Faith Formation. Just a friendly reminder to submit Faith Formation forms with payment to the office or Sherri Zimmerman by September 8th. Mark your calendars **September 16th at 6:30 there will be a Parent-Student kick off** and mandatory meeting. We want to celebrate the beginning of another year with a meal being provided.

CMA-Checks should be made payable to : Diocese of Winona-Rochester with **CMA-WINDOM** in the memo line. Envelopes are available at the church entrance on the little table.



NOTES FOR ALL PARISHES

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU: Reconciliation continues to be available. All are encouraged to continue coming to confession throughout the year; or return to the sacrament of reconciliation.

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. Reconciliation is also before Mass on Saturdays at 4:30 PM in Brewster.

Remick Ridge Estates is looking for an individual or couple who would like to lead a weekly Bible Study for our residents. We are open to dates/times. Please call Brenda at 507-831-0745.

Mikkelsen Manor invites all seniors to join us Fridays at 2:00 pm for Bingo fun with our residents! Call Brenda with any questions 507-831-0745.

Intinction is the practice of dipping the host into the Precious Blood (the chalice). It has come to my attention that a few people are practicing self-communicating which means the person receiving Holy Communion takes the host, carries it to the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion who is distributing the Precious Blood, and dipping the host into the chalice on their own. This practice is not allowed in the Catholic Church. The theological reason for this stems from the Church's tradition to receive rather than take the Eucharist. Also, this practice prevents the possibility of the Precious Blood dripping onto the floor after the host has been placed in the chalice and transferred to a person's tongue. Thus, moving forward, I would ask anyone receiving Holy Communion to receive the Precious Body and Precious Blood from the priest or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Thanks, Father Peter Schuster.

Register for St. Francis Xavier OCIA program:

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is 5+ months of prayer, learning and reflection designed for:

Those seeking to become Catholic

Those seeking the sacrament of Confirmation

Those exploring the Catholic Faith. Classes are held at St. Francis Xavier Church

Classes are Sunday evenings starting October 4th at 6:30 pm. There will be 12 sessions.

Classes will be every other week until March 21st. A Spanish option is available.

OCIA is open to all adults and serves Windom, Heron Lake and Brewster.

Registration forms, course topics and dates of classes are available at St. Francis Xavier Church.

The deadline to register is September 15th, 2026.

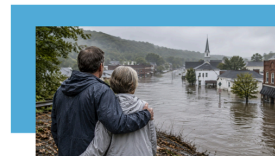
For questions, contact Fr. Jordan Danielson 507-831-3300 or Fr. Schuster 507-304-2541.

DIOCESE OF WINONA-ROCHESTER PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, Giver of all good things, Your Son told us to beg You to send workers into Your rich harvest, and so we have the confidence to ask You to raise up an abundance of priests in the Diocese of Winona-Rochester. Send us good and holy men to respond to your call to lay down their lives in service to Your people. We know that the Church comes from the Eucharist and that the Eucharist comes from priests. Therefore, Gracious God, send us priests to build up Your church, through Jesus who is High Priest and Lord forever and ever. Amen



DISASTER SERVICES



Register today

Contact:

Maria Stumpf-Ahmed

507-905-8602

mahmed@ccsomn.org

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- Creating a household emergency plan
- What to include in your emergency supplies
- How to respond when disaster strikes
- Steps to take after an emergency

Location: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
532 17th St, Windom, MN 56101

Starts At: 6:00 PM
A Meal will be provided!

Dates: Thursday
September 17th, 2026

To Register or for Questions
call 507-905-8602

Visit our website to learn more about our Disaster Services program at Catholic Charities at www.ccsomn.org



Help our Smallest Neighbors in Need!

Catholic Charities needs 2-3 volunteers for a monthly diaper distribution on 1st Tuesdays. Sign up for one day or multiple dates! You'll greet families, help with basic paperwork, and distribute diapers and wipes. Must be able to lift 20lbs. Apply online at <https://www.ccsomn.org/volunteer-2> or call 507-287-2047 for more information.



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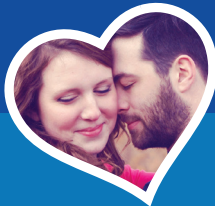
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