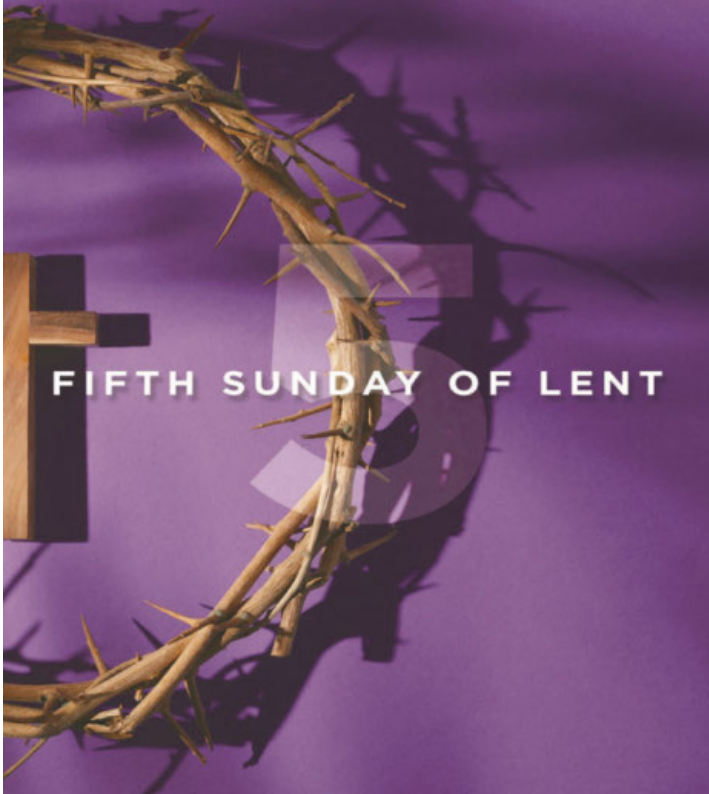


March 17, 2024  
5th Sunday of Lent



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

ONE  
IN  
CHRIST

Annunciation  
Sacred Heart  
St. Francis Xavier  
St. Stephen

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
oneinchristacc.org

### Annunciation

9965 Mayhew Lake Road NE • Sauk Rapids, MN 56379  
320-252-1729 • oneinchristacc.org

### Sacred Heart

2875 10th Avenue NE • Sauk Rapids, MN 56379  
320-251-8115 • sacredheartsaukrapids.org

### St. Francis Xavier

219 2nd Street N, PO Box 150 • Sartell, MN 56377  
320-252-1363 • stfrancissartell.org

### St. Stephen

103 Central Avenue S • St. Stephen, MN 56375  
320-251-1520 • churchofstste-

#### MASS TIMES

<b>Monday, March 18</b>	8:00 am 8:30 am	St. Francis Xavier Annunciation	- Word and Communion † Ed Rajkowski
<b>Tuesday, March 19</b>	8:00 am 5:30 pm 5:30 pm	St. Francis Xavier Sacred Heart St. Stephen	† Max & Lavonne Villeneuve † Leroy Kipka † Andrew & Helen Robich Family
<b>Wednesday, March 20</b>	8:00 am 8:00 am	Sacred Heart St. Francis Xavier	† Don Kuefler † Marian Weyer
<b>Thursday, March 21</b>	8:00 am 8:00 am 8:30 am	St. Francis Xavier St. Stephen Annunciation	† Steven Schmitt † Leonard & Alma Yamry † Howard Cariveau
<b>Friday, March 22</b>	8:00 am 8:30 am	Sacred Heart St. Francis Xavier	† Delores Robak † Wilfred "Bill" Traut
<b>Saturday, March 23</b> Palm Sunday	4:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	St. Francis Xavier Sacred Heart St. Stephen	† Joan Weyer † For the Members of the Parish † Harold & Marie Jansen
<b>Sunday, March 24</b> Palm Sunday <i>*Livestreamed Mass</i>	8:15 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 10:00 am	*Annunciation *Sacred Heart *St. Francis Xavier St. Stephen	† Fr. Illies † Julie Dockendorf † BriAnna Kruzal † Dec. Members of the Trobec Family

#### PASTORAL SERVICES

##### Reconciliation Saturdays

3:00 pm St. Francis Xavier  
3:30 pm Sacred Heart  
6:15 pm St. Stephen

##### Sunday

7:40 am Annunciation

**Anointing of the Sick  
Home Bound Communion  
Pastoral Visitation, Prayer Requests,  
Marriage and Baptism Preparation**  
If you have any of the above pastoral needs, please contact your Parish Office.

Bulletin announcements are due in the parish office by 8:00 am on Mondays. Thank you! Please contact your Parish Office for more information.

#### DAILY READINGS

**Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

**Friday:** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

**Next Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

## MINISTRY & LIFE PERSPECTIVES

## (Ministry & Life Perspectives Continued)



### Saint Patrick's Day

Patrick was not Irish. Sometimes this fact surprises people, so associated is he with Ireland. Understanding why is a good Lenten reflection in itself.

Patrick's world of the fifth century was a time of upheaval and change with the decline of the Roman Empire and the rise of more localized power. At the same time, commonality came to be rooted in a shared Christian heritage as missionaries brought the message of the Gospel to new and growing lands.

So while nations as we know them on today's maps were more like kingdoms or local clans and alliances, we can say that Patrick was among the earliest of these missionaries. From the land that is today part of England, he was captured in one of the occasional raids that came across the sea from today's land of Ireland. What we know of his life comes largely from his own writing, the *Confession of Saint Patrick*.

Like St. Augustine's *Confession*, this is not about a confessing sins but a confession of faith, an autobiography that is not about what Patrick has done but what God did for and through him. It is a gesture of praise for God's providential care in the face of human failure and unworthiness. It is a testimony illustrating Jesus' words to St. Paul: "My grace is sufficient for you, for in weakness, power reaches perfection" (II Corinthians 12:9).

At the age of 15, he was taken as were "thousands of others" over time to Ireland. Patrick was a slave, sent to tend sheep. In this solitude, rough weather, and poverty, he turned to prayer and grew in faith and trust. That's easy to say, but imagine the strength he got to endure a life he had not chosen and which claimed many for despair and bitterness.

He was able to escape Ireland at 21 when taken by other raiders on a ship back to England. For a second time he was enslaved and then again freed and reunited with his family against all hopes. This lasted "a few short years" until he received a nighttime vision: a man from Ireland named Victor appeared to him, imploring him to return to Ireland to bring the Gospel. Soon after, another vision ended with the voice of Jesus in his mind: "The One Who gave His life for you, He it is Who is speaking to you."

After a series of other messages and trials about his own unworthiness, Patrick was ordained a bishop and returned to Ireland, the former land of his slavery. He was now among his former captors, but this time in the love of God – an outsider who did not lose his freedom but offered his presence and labor as a free gift.

The *Confession* was written towards the end of his life to counter slanders and accusations about his motives and his incompetence. The theme runs throughout: he admits his ignorance and lack of education (while writing in a highly learned and eloquent Latin style, with a richly complex literary structure), but uses those very weaknesses to reinforce his claim that his life and service was not his doing, but God at work through him – again to quote St. Paul, that his ministry was a treasure in earthen vessels (II Corinthians 4:7). It begins with the assertion: "I, Patrick, am a sinner, the most uncultured and smallest among all the faithful, indeed many people consider me to be worthless."

While the world may observe St. Patrick's Day with shamrocks, leprechauns, and green beer, the Church celebrates the power of God working in unexpected ways. Patrick lived the pattern of Lent we still seek to follow: from slavery to freedom, and from freedom to service; founding our trust not on our human skills and capabilities, but on the constant presence of God's grace and mercy; answering criticism not with bitterness and anger but with humility and witness to what Jesus does in our own lives; with a deep sense of answering a call that is at times pleasant and at times painful; and to be grateful every day for how God is at work.

The final words inspire us 15 centuries later, knowing that we share the same faith and the same Eucharist: "I beg of those who believe in God ... do not credit me with the little I have done according to God's pleasure. Rather conclude, as is indeed true, that anything I achieved was a gift of God/ This is my Confession before I die."

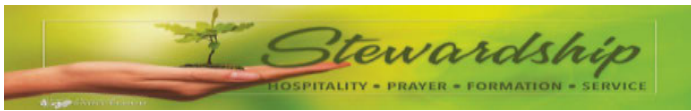
## LEADERSHIP

### ACC Pastoral Leadership



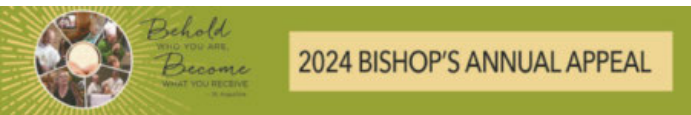
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Fr. Tom Knoblach</b> 320-251-8115, Ext. 112 pastor@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Fr. Ron Weyrens</b> 320-252-1363, Ext.401 (days) Ext. 402 (night/weekends) rweyrens@stfrancissartell.org
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Joe Kresky</b> 320-251-8115 jkresky@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Terry Jancik</b> tjancik@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Steve Pareja</b> 320-761-2503
<b>Pastoral Associate</b>	<b>Sandee Kremers</b> 320-252-1363, Ext. 403 skremers@stfrancissartell.org





"I will be their God and they shall be my people."- Jeremiah 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are, belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.



May this season of Lent provide you added time for prayer and reflection. We ask you to please take a moment to pray for the Bishop's Annual Appeal and the vital ministries it supports.

### YOU ARE INVITED-ST JOHN'S ABBEY

Abbot Douglas and the monks of Saint John's Abbey invite you to take part in a special prayer service at the Abbey Church on Saturday evening, March 23rd, the evening before Palm Sunday. Beginning at 7:00pm, the service, with its special music and prayer setting, is an opportunity to enhance the beginning of your Holy Week. Please join us for this special vigil service, on Saturday, March 23, at 7:00pm. And feel free to bring a friend or two. All are welcome!!

### STRONGER TOGETHER

**Stronger Together Presentation & Meal** On Wednesday, March 27th from 6pm-9pm at Sacred Heart, 16+ are invited to join us for the presenter, Bethany Tollefson, DMP, MSN, RN, PHN. She will be speaking on how we can better support those who are struggling with mental health concerns. A meal will be served during the talk. Please contact Deacon Joe if you have questions at 320-292-4857

### EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

#### What is the Eucharistic Revival Pilgrimage??

The Eucharistic Revival Pilgrimage will be a 3 month long pilgrimage that leads to Indianapolis. There will be 4 different pilgrimages coming from different ends of the country (Minnesota, California, Texas and Connecticut) and meeting in Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress. **We need YOU!** We would love for everyone (*young and young at heart*) in the diocese to have an opportunity to pilgrimage with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, whether that is for 1 block, or 10 miles.

—To find out more information on the Eucharistic Revival Pilgrimage, visit the Diocese of St. Cloud Website at <https://stcdio.org/eucharistic-revival/>



### FUNERAL BLESSINGS

Remember in your prayers the family of Elaine Ayer, who passed away on March 5, from Sacred Heart,

Mary Jane Burton, who passed away on February 28, from St. Francis Xavier

and Diane Berndt, who passed away on March 9, from St. Stephen.



Eternal Rest grant unto them Oh Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

### EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION –SH and ML

**Easter Vigil Reception for Sacred Heart and Mayhew Lake:** We will be getting the food ready for the Easter Vigil Reception on Holy Saturday morning. **Please join us from 8-11am** to get ready for this wonderful celebration following the Easter Vigil at Sacred Heart. This is a great opportunity for Confirmation students to get some experience in. We will also be looking for people to stick around after the reception to help set up chairs for the following morning Mass.

Sacred Heart and Annunciation Easter Vigil reception will follow the Easter Vigil on March 30th. We will be welcoming FOUR people into the Church! That is something to celebrate for sure! We are looking for bottles of wine to serve at our reception as well as candy (individual wrapper candies or jelly beans) You can bring any donation to the office at Sacred Heart or Annunciation OR you can bring it to Mass on the weekend and someone can get it from you then.

**Easter Vigil Choir Rehearsal** Annunciation & Sacred Heart Easter Vigil Choir rehearsals will be on Tuesdays, March 19th & 26th at 7:00 pm at Sacred Heart.

### SFX BLOOD DRIVE

SFX Gathering Space  
Thursday, April 4, 2024 1:00pm—7:00pm

Appt/Info: Call or email Greg at  
320-250-9137 or  
schlossergregory@gmail.com



### ALASKA MISSION FUNDRAISER

In July 2024, One in Christ missionaries will be ministering in remote Toksook Bay Alaska with a Yupik indigenous community. During our time we seek to grow as Disciples as we build relationships through mutual sharing of faith and cultural experiences. We will provide support in areas such as mental health, suicide prevention, and helping to maintain facilities. We strive to return with a deeper desire to serve and share our faith with our One In Christ community. To help make this mission possible we are seeking donations. We have been presented with a \$1,000 matching donation to help encourage support. Any support is greatly appreciated. Please make your check payable to Sacred Heart, attention Alaskan Mission, Dcn Joe Kresky. This is a tax deductible contribution. Contact Dcn Joe for more information.



## SCUBA-VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024

**Where kids will dive into a friendship with God!**  
Registration materials are available at all 4 parishes for students and volunteers. VBS is open to kids ages 4 through entering 5th grade. Students in 6th grade and older can volunteer to help in various ways throughout the week. Lots of volunteers are needed both the week of VBS and leading up to VBS-See the volunteer form for more information on how to get involved.

## ANNUAL HEART SPEAKS TO HEART LECTURE

The annual Will Illies "Heart Speaks to Heart" Memorial Lecture is scheduled for Sat, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at Christ Church Newman Center (396 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. S. ) in the Terrace Fr Ed Foley, award-winning author and celebrated preacher, is the speaker. His presentation, entitled "The Justice of the Jesus Table: Eucharist Origins, Inclusion, and Mission", explores the connection between the Eucharistic liturgy and the Gospel call of social justice. It's a connection deeply rooted in the disruptive table ministry of Jesus, practiced in the early Church, and reaffirmed in the US Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter on economic justice. Everyone is welcome; please join us!

## BEGINNING EXPERIENCES WEEKEND

Beginning Experience (BE) is a peer ministry program that provides a weekend program for divorced, widowed or separated adults. BE is a program designed to facilitate the grief resolution process for adults thereby enabling them to again love themselves, others, and God.

The next weekend is April 5, 6, & 7—To find out more information or to register for a future weekend, go to [www.beginningexperiencecmn.com](http://www.beginningexperiencecmn.com)

## FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH COMM. NURSING

Foundations of Faith Community Nurses is recruiting FCNs. Have you ever wondered how you could connect your experience/ability as a nurse and your faith? Our One in Christ Area Catholic Community is looking for that special person who is interested in this opportunity. If this is something that you have thought about and prayed about, now is the time. Please call Bethany Tollefson for all the details and any questions that you may have. Faith Community Nursing (FCN) is a specialty of nursing that focuses on the intentional care of the spirit and whole-person health. FCNs help prevent illness. Some examples of how FCNs may serve (depending on their availability and the need) ● Home and hospital visits and calls, ● Educational offerings ● Connection to community resources, ● Care group facilitation, ● Baby blankets and prayer shawl ministry, ● Mental health education and resources ● Much, much more! The next Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course is offered virtually on April 28, 29, 2024 and May 5, 6 2024. Scholarships are available. Contact Bethany at [bethany.tollefson@centracare.com](mailto:bethany.tollefson@centracare.com) or visit Foundations of Faith | CentraCare for more information.

## LENTEN RECONCILIATION OPPORTUNITIES

Holy Spirit	March 19, 6:30pm
St. Peter	March 23, 1pm
St. John Cantius	March 24, 1pm
St. Anthony	March 25, 6:30pm
St. Mary's Cathedral	March 26, 6:30pm

## ST. STEPHEN

**Contact:** Carol Hellmann 320-251-1520 Hours: 8:30-2:00  
[ststephenchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:ststephenchurchoffice@gmail.com)

Fr. Ron Weyrens, Pastor

**Faith Formation:** Danna Gasperlin 320-251-5066  
[ststephenfaith@gmail.com](mailto:ststephenfaith@gmail.com)

### Financial Offerings for March 9-10

Adult	\$1,690.00
Adult online giving Mar 2-8	548.00
Plate	207.00
Children	10.00
Easter flowers	20.00
CRS Bishops Overseas	295.00
Votive stand candles	123.01
Total	\$ 2,893.01

Weekly Adult income to meet budget: \$3,150

### Ushers:

Mar 23: Schefers family

Mar 24: Merlin Berndt, Steve Vouk, Ralph Barhorst

### Faith Formation/Youth Group News - Classes March 20:

Grades 5-9 and Confirmation. Hot dogs and salad will be served in the Parish Hall before classes.

Youth Group will meet in the Hall from 8-9:30 for anyone in grades 6-12. Bring a Friend!

Palm Braiding, Egg Dyeing & Ukrainian Egg Demo - March 17 after the 10am Mass in the Parish Hall.

Palm stripping The palm branches arrive this week. Help is needed Friday, March 22, to strip the palms to have the ready for the weekend. If you can help during the day please contact the parish office.

The Parish Council will meet on Tuesday, March 19, in the Parish Hall at 7pm.

Blood Pressure checks will be available next Sunday, March 24, following the 10am Mass in the annex.

Vacation Bible School (June 23-28) Registration packets were sent home with students. There are donation boxes available at the entrances if you are able to donate any of the items needed for the VBS. A list of supplies needed are also at the entrances.

Individual Reconciliation Fr. Ron will be here on the following days. He will be here on the hour and stay for at least 15 minutes: Tuesday, March 19 at noon, 3, 4, 5 and 6 pm  
Thursday, March 21 at 7 am  
Tuesday, March 26 at 5 pm and from 6:15-7:15 pm

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Friday evenings during Lent at 6:30pm.

Ministry Schedule April 7-June 30 If there are dates you know you will be unavailable, call/email the office by **March 17**.

Refresher Driving Class will be held at St. Stephen Parish Hall on Thursday, March 21, from 5:30-9:30pm. Please contact Holdingford Helping Hands at 746-9660 or go to <http://www.stse.biz/> to register.

**Well n Fit exercise class:** Wednesday & Friday mornings at St. Stephen Parish Hall, 9:30-10:30am.  
Wednesday class followed by half-hour line dance.

### Holdingford Helping Hands Outreach

**Senior Dining -** Wednesday's at **Trobec's** at noon followed by 500. Cost-\$6.00 per meal.

**Monthly Lunch & Learn - will return in October.**

**Feet First Clinic -** Call Helping Hands to for more info or to set up an appointment. 320-746-9960.

## SACRED HEART PARISH

Contact: Jill Lieser — 320-251-8115, X114  
parish@sacredheartsaukrapids.org  
Fr. Tom Knoblach, Pastor

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday 8:30am-4pm

## FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

Income for the Week of March 10, 2024

Adult Collection. . . . .	\$17,687.00
Automatic Giving. . . . .	\$5,581.79
Central MN Catholic. . . . .	\$45.00
Easter. . . . .	\$425.00
Easter Flowers. . . . .	\$310.00
Catholic Relief. . . . .	\$105.00

Weekly adult collection needed to meet yearly budget \$19,673

## STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



**Triduum Help Needed** Liturgical Ministers, please sign up on the web terminal or on the sheets by the sacristy if you can help in your ministry for our Holy Week liturgies.

We need greeters, ushers, altar servers, and Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday. Lectors, please contact Jill Kiffmeyer if you are interested in lectoring for one of these liturgies.

**Holy Thursday** If you would be interested in getting your feet washed, carrying up the Holy Oils, or being a flag bearer on Holy Thursday, please contact Jill Kiffmeyer in the office.

**Palm Sunday Decorating** We will decorate for Palm Sunday on Saturday, March 23rd at 9:00. Help will be needed taking down the Lent decor and setting up the tomb and decorative palms and fabric. Many hands make light work!

**Palm Stripping** We will be stripping palms again this year for Palm Sunday. This will happen on Saturday, March 23rd at 9:00 am in the gathering space. The palm branches arrive as large bunches and help is needed to cut and pull them apart. We need lots of help with this project. Please bring gloves, garden shears, loppers or small saws if you have them.

**Palm Braiding** Stick around after the Palm Sunday masses and we will teach you how to braid palms in the gathering space. All ages are welcome to join us. No tools required, just the palms you receive at mass. Did someone teach you how to braid palms? Would you like to share this tradition with others in the parish and teach them your technique? Contact Jill Kiffmeyer in the parish office if you can help pass on this tradition after our Palm Sunday Masses.

**Easter Flower Donations** If you are interested in donating to our flower fund, which covers the cost of Easter flowers, Christmas greens and poinsettias, fabric and so much more, please pick up an envelope in the gathering space. You can return it in the collection or to the parish office.

**Easter Decorating** We will be preparing spaces for the Easter Season on Saturday, March 30th at 8:00am. Help is needed with placing fabric and flowers and various other tasks. We will also need help putting taper candles and drip protectors together for over 400 candles. Please come and help if you are able. Thank you!

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Grounded Youth Ministry** March Theme: Grounded in Prayer

### \*Upcoming Dates\*

Grounded isn't an exclusive club, its for everyone - come join us! Activities to be printed next week, stay tuned to see what's happening!

Wednesday, March 20th (Grades 5-12): 7:30 - 9:00 PM  
(Wear Green)

**Peer Ministry Applications Now Open** Are you in grades 8-11? We want you on our Peer Ministry Team! Peer Ministry is for students who have a desire to learn about being a leader in their Church and their community using their God-given gifts. Applications are available on the table near the Grounded board or online. Applications are due on Wednesday, April 17th. Contact Jason Prigge for more information!

**Butter Braids** Butter Braid sales start this week. Watch for more information in Flocknote, social media and the bulletin next week!

**SummerFestival Camp** Are you currently in grades 6-8? If so, you automatically qualify for SummerFestival Camp! Come experience God's love for you through energizing games, talks, life-changing conversations, music and of course lots more.

Dates for SummerFest are Sunday, July 14th - Wednesday, July 17th at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter. Cost of camp is \$270 - fundraising is available. Permission slips are online and of course by the Grounded board. The sooner you register, the better - contact Jason Prigge for more information or questions!

## AV HELP NEEDED

A few more people are needed to help with Audio Visual Ministry about once a month. There are three parts to our system: the projection screens, the sound, and the livestream video. If you have any experience with PowerPoint you can easily advance the slides during Mass. Basic sound operation includes unmuting microphones and adjusting the volume. Sacred Heart has two cameras that are used for livestream video and a cool camera switching system. For more information contact Sarah in the parish office or stop by the AV desk before or after Mass.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 18; 5pm—Men's Group  
7pm—KC Meting
- March 19; 6:15pm—Choir rehearsal-Worship Space  
7pm—Vigil Choir (ML & SH)—Worship Space  
7pm—Sacred Heart Men's Club
- March 20; 9am—Wednesday Morning Bible Study  
7:30-pm—Grounded (5-12)
- March 21; 1pm—Card Making
- March 22; 6:30pm—Stations of the Cross
- March 23; 9am-Palm Stripping & Palm Sunday Decorating  
3:30pm—Reconciliation  
4pm—Young Adult Mass & a Meal (SFX)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please add Kohlton Kjorsvik, Daniel Kowalczyk and Marietta Pulles to your prayers. If you know of anyone who needs our prayers and wants to be put on the prayer list, please call 320-251-8115.

# ANNUNCIATION PARISH

**Contact:** Cindy Gans 320-252-1729  
cindyg@annunciationmayhewlake.com  
**Faith Formation:** Shirley Scapanski 320-259-4941  
shirleys@annunciationmayhewlake.com

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### Income for Sunday, March 10th, 2024

Adult Sunday .....	\$2,343.00
Visitor .....	\$43.13
Youth .....	\$112.75
Votive Candles .....	\$4.10
Building Fund .....	\$250.00
Food Shelf .....	\$447.00
Easter .....	\$100.00
Catholic Relief .....	\$110.00
Total Income .....	\$3,409.98

Weekly Income needed to meet yearly budget \$3,037.00

## Mass Schedule

### Sun. March 24th, 2024 8:15am PALM SUNDAY

**Lector:** Gene Poser and Lora Knafla  
**Eucharist:** Brenda Carstensen-Boe(H), Brenda Carriveau(C), Gene Poser(C)  
**Servers:** Reid Kiffmeyer  
**Greeters:** Dustin, Zoey and Lucas Heck  
**Ushers:** John & Barb Bemboom, Dustin & Teresa Heck



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Jennifer Bemboom, Emery Popp, Thomas Lubbesmeier, Owen Reich, Linda Puhalla, Cameron Novak, Dennis Mescall.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Upcoming:

Wed. March 20th, Rel Ed Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm  
Wed. March 27th, NO Religious Education Classes.  
Wed. April 3rd, Rel Ed Classes at 6:30pm

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be said every Friday during Lent leading up to Palm Sunday, here at 6:30pm.



**EGG TREE** We invite you to take an Egg from our Prayer Tree at the entry to church. Hanging eggs hold a prayer intention inside. Choose your eggs. Take them home.



Pray for the intention enclosed in your eggs, during the weeks of Lent. *If anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Such is the power of the Church's prayer in the name of her Lord. CCC 2827*

**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS:** The last small group meeting to read and reflect on Bishop Patrick Neary's letter, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you", after the 8:30 Masses on March 21 at the Parish Hall.

**BABY BOTTLES:** a reminder to keep working on filling the baby bottles from Elevate Pregnancy and Family Resource Center with spare change. The collection day is Palm Sunday. Please drop them off at church on that day. Thank you.



### An Old Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back,  
the sunshine warm upon your face.  
May the rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And, until we meet again,  
may GOD hold you in the palm of his hand.

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

**Contact:** Becky Dingmann — 320-252-1363  
bdingmann@stfrancissartell.org  
Fr. Ron Weyrens, Pastor  
Tom Offerdahl, Business Manager

**Office Hours 8 AM-4:30 PM Monday-Thursday, 8-Noon Friday**  
**Parish Nurses** Julie Kouba 701-721-5083  
Bev Wiehoff 320-492-0135  
Karen Reinholz 320-260-6158  
**Prayer Line** Margaret Stang 320-249-9304

## FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

Weekly Collection Budget .....	\$20,673.08
Collected 3/10/2024.....	\$15,070.59
<b>Excess (Deficit) .....</b>	<b>\$(5,602.49)</b>
YTD Collection Budget .....	\$764,989.42
YTD Collected .....	\$821,387.74
<b>Excess (Deficit).....</b>	<b>\$56,398.32</b>

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on **Fridays at 5:30pm** at St. Francis Xavier February 16th thru March 22nd (NOT Good Friday). This is a great way to add to your prayers during Lent.

## CHURCH SPRING CLEANING

I'm looking for helpers to come and give our worship space a nice "spring cleaning". Wednesday, March 27th at 2:00pm is set for getting this done. We wipe down the pews and kneelers and do some other dusting to make things ready for the Triduum and Easter celebrations. Bring your own "gloves" and your favorite pail if you wish. We have the supplies - pails, Murphy's Oil soap, scrub rags and more. You and your labor are what we need most! Thanks for helping with this ministry!

## GRIEF: MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

Join us on Tuesday, March 19

Grief: Mind, Body & Spirit Series  
Week Four—Grief Series Wrap Up  
Our speaker is Roland Brummer, RN



5:30-6:00pm Optional Soup & Sandwich  
6:00-7:00pm Speakers  
7:00-7:30pm Optional Social & Discussion

Contact Sandee Kremers to register at 320-252-1363

## RECONCILIATION

### Friday March 22

7am, noon, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm

### Sat Mar 23

11am

### Monday, March 25

3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm

Fr. Ron will be present on the hour and stay for at least 15 min.

## MARCH IS FOOD SHARE MONTH

As we continue our journey through lent, one way to offer almsgiving is to support the food shelf. March is Food Share month, so having increased contributions to the food shelf will also mean more "matching" contributions.

Additionally, Catholic Charities is having its annual "Pack the Porches" event. Coborn's matches contributions of food and cash up to \$13,000 that day, so we encourage contributions to get to us before March 22nd. Thank you for your continued support for those in need!

## SOCIAL CONCERNS COLLECTION

The three pillars of Lent are fasting, praying, and almsgiving. Almsgiving is not limited to giving money. The St. Francis Xavier Social Justice and Concerns group will be collecting personal supplies to give to one of two organizations.

- Any men's personal products (shampoo, deodorant, soaps, shaving cream, etc.) will be given to The Dream Center in St. Cloud, which is a service to help adult men face their challenges, find wholeness, and successfully integrate back into society after being incarcerated. ([www.dreamcenterstcloud.org](http://www.dreamcenterstcloud.org))

- Any feminine products (shampoo, deodorant, soap, sanitary supplies) will be donated to Terebinth Refuge which is a safe home that brings hope, healing, and freedom to sexually exploited and trafficked women. ([www.TerebinthRefuge.org](http://www.TerebinthRefuge.org)) There will be a container in the Gathering Place starting March 16 and running through Easter Sunday. For more information contact Mary Barron-Traut at [Trautline@gmail.com](mailto:Trautline@gmail.com). Thanks for your generosity.

## YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

### Service Sundays

Sunday, April 14 @ SFX for youth grades 6-12

### TREMOR Night

April 14 5:30-7:30pm Snacks & program for grades 4-5.

### Youth Group Nights

March, 17th— Luck of the Irish

April 28— Easter Egg Hunt

6:00-8:30pm. Grades 6-8 Welcome.

### Aftershock

April 17 & May 15. Grades 6-12 welcome

6:30-7pm Supper & 7-8:30 programming

**Save the Date: August 5-9.** Youth in grades 6-11 are invited to participate a week of Service this summer. We will be volunteering locally as well as having a day in the cities. Registration material will be sent on April 1.

**\*\*Watch Flocknote for more information and details on these events\*\***

## HOMEBOUND & HOSPITAL VISITORS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to visit parishioners that are in the hospital or homebound. Contact Sandee Kremers at 320-252-1363 or [skremers@stfrancisartell.org](mailto:skremers@stfrancisartell.org).

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