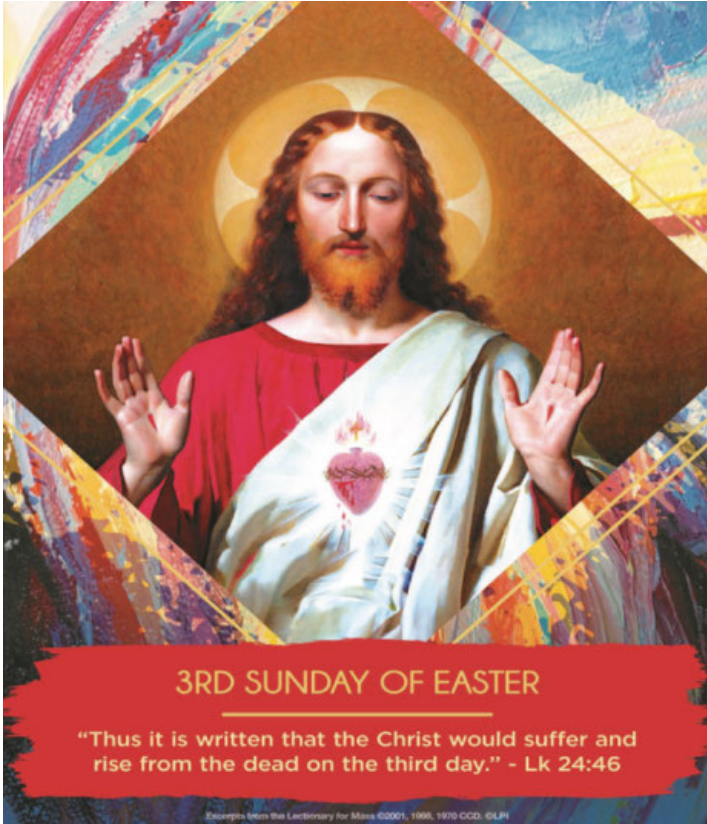


April 14, 2024  
3rd Sunday of Easter



ONE  
IN  
CHRIS

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, April 15</b>	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Word and Communion
	8:30 am	Annunciation	† Don Kainz
<b>Tuesday, April 16</b>	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Word and Communion
	5:30 pm	Sacred Heart	† Members of the Keehr Family
	5:30 pm	St. Stephen	- Increase of Vocations to the Priesthood
<b>Wednesday, April 17</b>	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	† Jerry Schwieters
	8:00 am	Sacred Heart	† Sue and Robert Oldakowski
<b>Thursday, April 18</b>	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Word and Communion
	8:00 am	St. Stephen	† Sid & Rita Lyon
	8:30 am	Annunciation	† Debbie (Bemboom) Beckley
<b>Friday, April 19</b>	8:00 am	Sacred Heart	† Rick Kuklock
	8:30 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Int. Jacque Windschitl
<b>Saturday, April 20</b> 4th Sunday of Easter	4:00 pm	St. Francis Xavier	† For the Members of the Parish
	5:00 pm	Sacred Heart	† Syl Raymond & Tom Bukowski
	7:00 pm	St. Stephen	† JoAnn Smoley
<b>Sunday, April 21</b> 4th Sunday of Easter	8:15 am	*Annunciation	† Bob & Bonnie Popp 60th Ann.
	9:00 am	*Sacred Heart	† Todd Mastey
	9:30 am	*St. Francis Xavier	† Ken & Alice Gerads 60th Ann.
	10:00 am	St. Stephen	† Clarence & Sophie Scepaniak

\*Livestreamed Mass

#### 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: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Jn 6:60-69

Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 (22)/Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

## MINISTRY & LIFE PERSPECTIVES



### To Our Young People – You Are Appreciated and Loved

**“Christ is alive and he loves you with an infinite love ... you are the artisans of the future.”** Pope Francis to Young People

This bulletin column is for all our young people in our One In Christ ACC. If you are over 35, read it anyway, and please share it with your children, grandchildren, or others who may not otherwise hear from the Church.

On March 25, 2019, Pope Francis wrote an apostolic exhortation to you who are young people, *Christus Vivit* (Christ lives). On its fifth anniversary a few weeks ago, the Pope wrote a letter to you to encourage you to “hope renewed” in your lives so often marked by anguish, suffering, and conflict.

We love you and care about you. We pray for you and we always welcome you to share the life of faith with us. We want to listen to your ideas and hopes, and we want to share our experiences and values with you as well.

Like the first disciples of Jesus, we are of different ages and backgrounds, with different personalities and challenges. Just as the Apostles did not always get along perfectly, so we will continue to know human tensions and problems. But there is something more going on, because Jesus is at the heart of each of our lives.

We are, truly, one in Christ.

Reading his inspiring encouragement, I asked our ACC staff what they want to say to you from the local Church. Below are their words, addressed to you.

*The message I wish I would have heard as a teenager is: Praying is a personal conversation with God. You can't do it wrong, just talk to him!! If you can't think of what to say, just say His name to get started.*

*Saint Paul's words, “Rejoicing in hope” (Rom. 12:12) is what I feel when I reflect upon our youth and young adults in our community. You bring energy, curiosity, joy, passion for justice and hope that inspires and brings life to the Body of Christ. We love you and need your spirit to help realize God's reign of peace, love and joy. The faith community is longing to hear how we can support you and journey together as the Body of Christ.*

### (Ministry & Life Perspectives Continued)

Seek God in the ordinary. Christ is alive and He is alive within YOU. Your everyday life; at school, work, practice, trips to the store, etc. May others come to know God because they see God alive in you.

There is a Bible verse that hung in our kids' room when they were growing up and it is still there today. It reminded them that it didn't matter what was going on - Christ will be there to give you the strength to get through: “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.” (Philippians 4:13)

As a young person, you have so much to offer your parish community. . . not only in your gifts and talents, but in your very presence as well. As a part of this huge family of faith, you are wanted and needed at Mass, not despite your youth, but because of it. Don't ever feel inadequate or be afraid to reach out and see how you can be involved and included.

Jesus loves you more than you know and so do we, if you need us we are one call away. May God bless you abundantly!

Be true to yourself and your faith and remember that there is always reason to have hope.

In a world that tells us so often what we are and what we are not, remember that God sees you as a beloved child with whom He is well pleased. No matter how distant God may feel, He is faithful and will always be with you.

## LEADERSHIP

### ACC Pastoral Leadership

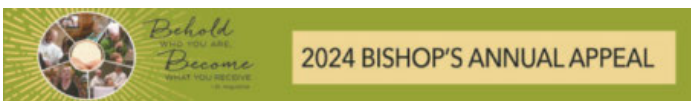


<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Fr. Tom Knoblach</b> 320-251-8115, Ext. 112 pastor@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Fr. Ron Weyrens</b> 320-252-1363, Ext.401 (days) Ext. 402 (night/weekends) rweyrens@stfrancissartell.org
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Joe Kresky</b> 320-251-8115 jkresky@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
<b>Deacon</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



“Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you. ‘But they were startled and frightened...” - Luke 24:36-37

Throughout the day we have many opportunities to “see the face of Jesus” in others and to “be the face of Jesus” to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide “peace” to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength and courage to live a “God-centered” life and not a “self-centered” life.



“Behold who you are. Become what you receive.” The Appeal supports ministries that benefit you, your family and your greater parish community. Please make a gift today. Each dollar raised goes directly to ministries that support our Catholic faith and is not used for any other purpose.

### ALASKA MISSION TRIP

**Donations** One in Christ Missionaries continue to seek your prayers and support as 30 disciples are sent to evangelize, support and grow in solidarity with our Yupik brothers and sisters from Toksook Bay Alaska. We are very grateful to Bishop Donald Kettler for providing the connections that have helped make this mission location possible. To help make this mission possible please send your prayer and financial support. 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.



### EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

**Want to join the Eucharistic Pilgrimage but can't do the larger national walk?**

You don't have to wait for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to pass through your city to be a part of this historic journey! Make pilgrimage a part of your experience of revival by planning a self-led personal pilgrimage in the next couple of months.

This can be anything from visiting a faraway shrine to walking to Mass in the morning. Remember, the value of a pilgrimage is not in the distance traveled but in the disposition of our own hearts and the zeal with which we seek God. Find the guide you can use to plan your own pilgrimage at the link below to get started.

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



### BAPTISM

We welcome the following children baptized into our parish family and the Christian community:

Noah James Frieler, son of Joseph & Stacy, who was baptized at Sacred Heart



Xander Vincent Karls, son of Jeremy & Julie, Oliver Jonathan Popp, son of Cory & Kristi, Charlotte Lilly Edholm, daughter of Anthony & Deseree, Emma Taylor Garske, daughter of Brett & Rachael and Kenzley Marie Kleinow, daughter of Dillon & Melissa, who were baptized at St. Francis Xavier.

### BANNS OF MARRIAGE

II Jacob Enneking & Jordan Helmin



### FUNERAL BLESSINGS

Remember in your prayers the family of Holly Justin, who passed away on April 2, from St. Stephen, Clara Knettel, who passed away on March 27 from Annunciation, Ralph Dehler, who passed away on April 1 from St. Francis Xavier and Marietta Pulles, who passed away on April 8 from Sacred Heart..



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

### DAY OF FUN & FELLOWSHIP

All adult parish members and friends are invited!!

Come and enjoy good company while playing 500 or cribbage or roll some dice.

Win some priceless prizes

Light refreshments to be served

April 21, 2024 1:00-3:00pm

Contact Marilyn Kaschmitter 320-252-9214



### 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.



## YOUNG ADULTS

### Mass and Meal

Join us at 4pm Mass on Saturday, April 27th at St. Francis Xavier and catch a meal with some other young adults. Meet in the Gathering Space after Mass, everyone is responsible for their own meal - contact Jason!

### Praise Night

See you Sunday, April 28th from 4-6pm at our next Praise Night at St. Francis Xavier in Sartell. Praise and Worship, Adoration, food and friends!

## SACRED HEART YOUTH BUTTER BRAID SALES

Butter Braid sales have officially started! All Butter Braids sold help the young people of Sacred Heart attend events such as Castaway, SummerFestival, Mission Trips and NCYC. This year there are also individual sellers raising funds for their Alaska trip. Butter Braids also make a perfect addition to your Mother's Day celebrations! You can pick-up a form in the SH Gathering Space, stop by the Sacred Heart office OR order online by scanning the QR Code. All orders must be in by Wednesday, April 17th at noon! Contact Jason Prigge for more information.



## PRC WALK FOR LIFE 2024



Pregnancy Resource Center & Medical Clinic is excited to announce their Walk for Life 2024. Join them Saturday, May 4th at Southside Park in Sauk Rapids. There will be music, food, and a chance to connect with PRC friends! Help Pregnancy Resource Center &

Medical Clinic to save lives one step at a time by fundraising, securing your pledges, and walking at the annual Walk for Life event, Saturday, May 4th! Register and fundraise on the event page found at <https://give.preghelpfriends.com/event/2024-walk-for-life/e548638>

Or by scanning the QR code below.

MANY volunteer opportunities are available!! Whatever you like or are able to do, we can find a perfect place for you to volunteer with the Walk for Life Fundraiser. Please contact Elizabeth at 320-371-0533



## ST. PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEY PILGRIMAGE

### JOIN FR. STEVE BINSFELD & FOLLOW ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEY SEPTEMBER 15-29, 2024

Walk the stones where Saint Paul walked through Athens and Corinth. Then set sail on a 9-night Celebrity Cruise through the Greek Isles continuing the journey as we visit six ports of call: Santorini, Ephesus, Mykonos, Volos, Thessaloniki, and Kavala. Enjoy both private group tours and free time in Athens and on the cruise. Learn of the spiritual, historical, and cultural significance of Greece and Paul's missionary journey. Mass is celebrated every day, especially in Corinth, Thessaloniki and Ephesus. This quality, customized tour is done through Magi Travel. Space is limited on this pilgrimage so sign up today! Call Magi Travel 952-949-0065 or visit the web at [www.magittravelinc.com](http://www.magittravelinc.com) and click on Greece, then Fr. Steve Binsfeld

## ST. STEPHEN

**Contact:** Carol Hellmann 320-251-1520 Hours: 8:30-2:00  
ststephenchurchoffice@gmail.com

Fr. Ron Weyrens, Pastor

**Faith Formation:** Danna Gasperlin 320-251-5066  
ststephenfaith@gmail.com

### Financial Offering for April 6 & 7:

Adult	\$ 2,663.00
Adult Online Giving Mar 30-Apr 5	648.00
Plate	226.00
Children	50.00
Easter	840.00
Rice Bowl/Holy Thursday	255.00
Holy Land/Good Friday	115.00
Catholic Home Missions	20.00
Total	\$ 4,817.00
Weekly Adult income to meet budget:	\$ 3,150.00

**Ushers:** April 20: Dave Pogatchnik, Amanda DeYaeger, Peter Schumer

April 21: Matt Nienaber, Tim Rudser, Art Lyon

**Faith Formation classes** April 17 for grades 1-4 and Confirmation. Spaghetti will be served in the Parish Hall before classes.

**Congratulations** to Myron & Linda Vanderweyst who will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Mass of Thanksgiving will be Saturday, April 20, at 4:00pm. Everyone is welcome to the Mass.



**Tractor & Seed Blessing** next Sunday, April 21. Bring your tractors - Big or Small. Park in the East parking lot from church. Tractors and seeds will be blessed after the 10am Mass.

**Poor Clare's Collection weekend** is April 27-28. This month we are looking for fresh produce, yogurt, cheese and eggs. Coolers will be at the entrances of church to place cold items in. Other items (stamps, envelopes, meatless soups, toiletries, white thread, scotch tape, medicated cough drops, etc.) will also be accepted. Monetary donations always welcomed.

**Doing some Spring Cleaning?** If you come across CLEAN, gently used-working items that you no longer want or need, consider donating them to Grannie's Attic for the Labor Day Festival. NO clothing or shoes accepted. Contact either Nancy Vouk or the parish office if you have questions or would like to drop off some items.



**Corpus Christi Chapel:** We are looking for a family or group of people to take over decorating one of the chapels for the Corpus Christi procession on June 2. All items, except fresh flowers, provided by the church. Please contact the parish office for more info.

**Well n Fit exercise class:** Wednesday & Friday mornings at St. Stephen Parish Hall, **9:00-10:00am**. The Wednesday class will be followed by half-hour line dance.

### Holdford Helping Hands Outreach

**Senior Dining** - Wednesday's at **The Rusty Nail** 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 31, 2024

Adult Collection. . . . . \$12,413.11  
Automatic Giving. . . . . \$4,289.18  
Easter. . . . . \$1140.00  
Friends in Need . . . . . \$10.00

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

## TIME OF TRANSITION-SARAH WOESTE

As many of you know, my husband and I have been planning to build a house on my parent's century farm. This summer our house will be ready, and we will be moving to West Union, MN. I would like to express my appreciation for all the people of Sacred Heart, and for the wonderful years that I have had the honor of serving you as music director and liturgist. You are all very dear to me and hold a special place in my heart. I trust that all the good ministry at Sacred Heart will continue, and I plan to come back and visit as often as possible. Please keep my family in your prayers as we transition to this new chapter in our lives.

Sincerely, Sarah Woeste

## STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



**Pew Cleaning** Please join us on April 19th following daily Mass to clean the pews in church. We will have buckets, rags and magic erasers for everyone. We just need people to help.

**Day of Service** - We are looking for volunteers to help with our Spring Day of Service-Sat., April 27, 9-12pm. Volunteers will enjoy a light meal and then will be sent as a community to clean yards, windows or other manageable projects. There will be a sign up sheet in the Gathering Space.

Are you in need of some spring yard clean-up, window cleaning or manageable house projects? Please contact Dcn Joe at 320-251-8115 or at [jkresky@sacredheartsaukrapids.org](mailto:jkresky@sacredheartsaukrapids.org) for support or questions.



**Homebound Communion Ministers and Visitation Ministers Needed** Seeking individuals who desire to serve the homebound through your caring presence and Holy Communion. Beside sharing the precious Body of Christ, community members are hungry for the presence of Christ through a friendly visit and a listening ear. We are in need of support after the 2pm Monday Mass at Good Shepherd. Contact Dcn Joe for questions or opportunities to serve.

**Blood Pressure Checks** Free blood pressure checks will be available in the Hospitality Suite after Masses on the 3rd full weekend of the month. Upcoming dates are April 20/21 in the Hospitality Room after Mass.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Grounded Youth Ministry

March Theme: Grounded in the Resurrection

#### \*Upcoming Dates\*

Grounded isn't an exclusive club - come join us!  
Sunday, April 14th (gr. 9-12): 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Wednesday, April 17th (gr. 5-12): 7:30 - 9:00 PM

**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** LAST CHANCE TO ORDER THOSE Butter Braids! You can pick-up a form in the Gathering Space, stop by the Sacred Heart office OR order online by scanning the QR Code. All orders must be in by Wednesday, April 17th at noon! Contact Jason Prigge for more information or for assistance.

**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!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 15; 5pm—Men's Group  
7pm—KC Meeting
- April 16; 6:30pm—Parish Council  
7pm—Sacred Heart Men's Club
- April 17; 7:30pm—Grounded (5-12)
- April 18; 1pm—Card Making  
6:30pm—Young Adult Team Meeting
- April 19; 9am—Pew Cleaning
- April 20; 9am—First Eucharist Practice  
3:30pm—Reconciliation  
6pm—Blood Pressure Check
- April 21; 10am—Blood Pressure Checks  
1pm—Catholic United Financial Fun & Fellowship

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please add Patricia Jones, Kohlton Kjorsvik, Patricia Olson, Larry Thompson, Jayne Wruck and Ryan Wruck 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.

**Sacred Heart also has a prayer chain.** Please call 320-492-9361, 320-252-3401 or the Parish Office at 320-251-8115 if you have a prayer request.

## 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, April 7th, 2024

Adult Sunday .....	\$2,264.41
Visitor .....	\$61.87
Youth .....	\$18.00
Votive Candles .....	\$4.20
Easter .....	\$1,805.00
Building Fund .....	\$135.00
Rectory Rent .....	\$1,200.00
Total Income .....	\$5,488.48

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

### Mass Schedule

#### Sun. April 21ST, 2024 8:15am

**Lector:** Shirley Scapanski and Jenessa Strande  
**Eucharist:** Deacon (H), Lloyd Lyon(C), Brenda Carstensen-Boe(C)  
**Servers:** Noah Lentner and Kelsey Lentner  
**Greeters:** Dustin, Zoey, Lucas Heck  
**Ushers:** John & Barb Bemboom and Dustin & Teresa Heck


 **HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Adam Carlson, Jonathon Bemboom, Halle Krajsa, Frank Legatt, Gerald Petron, Cooper Reich, Braylee Scapanski, John Bemboom, Diane Brand, Leon Lahr, Warren Lamecker, Kade Haus, Bob Popp, DJ Spiczka, Beverly Bernard, Jared Pflipsen, Greg Ireland.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS and their families who had First Communion today, April 14th.

**Axle Roman Brenny**, son of Mathew and Laura  
**Lucas Peter Heck**, son of Peter and Teresa  
**Jake Randall Herbst**, son of David and Megan  
**William Robert Fitch**, son of Chase and Adrea  
**Hazel Ann Keeville**, daughter of Paul and Ashley



Please keep them all in your prayers.  
A big **Thank You** to their Catechists: Jenessa Strande and Tracy Wollak.

 **DEEPEST SYMPATHY** our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Clara Knettel who's funeral was here on April 12th. Eternal rest grant unto her Oh Lord and may perpetual light shine upon her.

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Upcoming:

Wed. April 17th, Rel Ed Classes at 6:30pm  
Wed. April 24th, Last Rel Ed Class, Student/Parent Meal 6:30pm

#### RICE AREA COMMUNITY SPRING BLOOD DRIVE:

The spring Rice Area blood drive is coming up on Mon., April 22, 1:00 – 6:45 at Shepherd of the Pines Church, Rice. The Red Cross follows the highest standards of safety and infection control in accordance with CDC guidelines. Appointments are highly recommended as we may not be able to accept walk-ins if all appointments are filled, which we hope they will be. Sign up by going to the Red Cross [website:https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html) and enter 56367 or call Lora at 320-393-2701



## 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 4/07/2024.....	\$25,194.94
<b>Excess (Deficit) .....</b>	<b>\$4,521.86</b>
YTD Collection Budget .....	\$849,415.15
YTD Collected .....	\$894,504.19
<b>Excess (Deficit).....</b>	<b>\$45,089.04</b>

The Easter Collection budget is \$37,000 and \$33,441.52 has been received.

### SPRING FOR STUDENTS

Dear SFX Parishioners,  
As principal of St. Francis Xavier Catholic School, it is my pleasure to work with our faculty and staff to ensure all of our students receive an educational experience that establishes a firm foundation of academic excellence and a rich spiritual journey that focuses on the faith and values of the Catholic Church. I am excited to tell you about an important upcoming school event: I ask that you prayerfully consider making a gift to support our Spring for Students annual appeal. Each year, it takes \$70,000 for St. Francis Xavier Catholic School to offer scholarships to our families so their children can receive the transformative and holistic Catholic education we provide. A third of our students rely on scholarship support to attend our school. You are invited to join our school community for our annual Spring for Students event at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, April 26 in the SFX Gathering Space. This is a free and inspiring event with drinks and appetizers as well as current and former students and families highlighting their SFX experiences.

Please RSVP directly to me if you can attend at hschloe@sfx61.org Or, if you cannot join us for the actual event, you can donate a gift for student scholarships directly on our parish website.

On behalf of our entire school, blessings to you and your family.  
Sincerely, Heidi Schloe, Principal



St. Francis Xavier  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
for a Lifetime

### ST. MONICA CHRISTIAN WOMEN

The St. Monica Christian women of SFX parish invite current Christian women of the parish, and all OIC parishioners to join them on Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30 PM in Xavier Hall. A representative from Pathways for Youth, Patrick Knutson, will explain the program; where they are located, what they do, who they help and how we can help them. Everyone is invited to attend. St. Monica Christian women will then hold their April meeting following that presentation. Please join us!



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE

The Knights of Columbus are holding their annual Gun Raffle. The tickets are \$20 and only 350 will be sold. There are 6 hunting guns shown (3 shotguns and 3 rifles.) and six \$50 Scheel's gift cards. If you don't hunt or don't need a gun, you can get a gift card with the value of the gun to be used for anything you like at Scheel's. The gun raffle takes place on Monday, May 6, 2024 at Trobec's Bar in St. Stephen at 7pm. See a KC member about buying a ticket or the parish office also has a number of tickets available. Thanks for your support!

## YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

As Christians, we feel the need to help our neighbors. During the Lenten season, many tried to fulfill this obligation by depositing their spare change in cardboard rice bowls. Some may have felt satisfied that they'd helped with their contribution, but others may have wondered what more could be done. This year there's a definite way to do more to help curb hunger not only locally, but nationally and internationally. It's been over four years since Congress passed the last Farm Bill. Most people think that the bill benefits only farmers; however, according to a Senate Ag GOP study, only 21% of the projected funds will go toward agricultural needs. Over 79% of the monies are projected to be applied to SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). The passing of this Farm Bill isn't a certain thing, and that's where you can help! The SFX Social Justice Concerns Committee will be hosting an "Offering of Letters" the weekend of April 13. After each mass, tables will be available with information about the bill, and letters can be hand-written or digitally with a smartphone. Together we could make a difference! Take action to fight hunger!

## YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

### Service Sundays

Sunday, April 14 1:30-3:30 @ SFX Xavier Hall for youth grades 6-12. We will be making no-sew tote bags. Scissors and T-shirts will be provided but feel free to bring your own as well.

### TREMOR Night

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

### Youth Group Nights

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.

**May 19** Baccalaureate Mass @ 9:30 Mass. Formal invites will be sent out.

**\*\*Watch Flocknote for more information and details\*\***

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