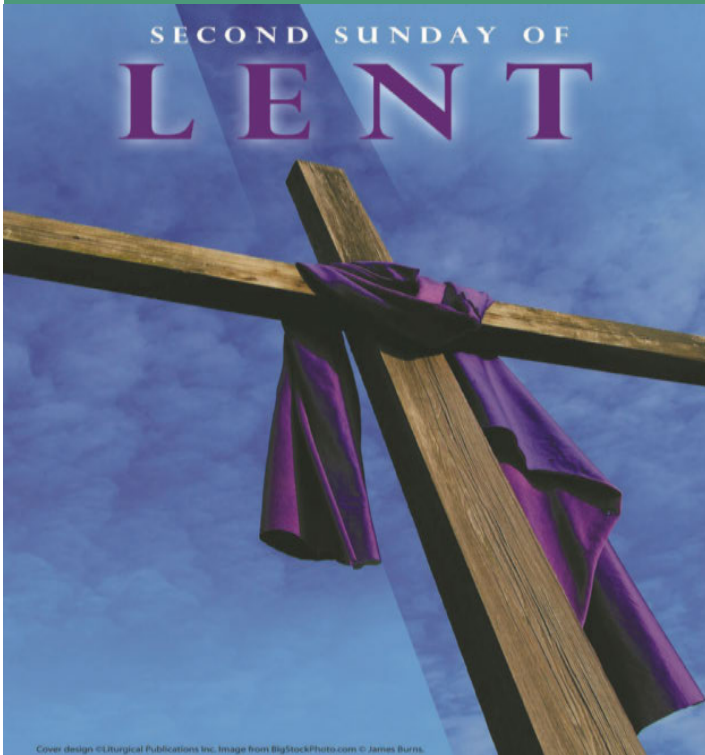


March 16, 2025
2nd Sunday of Lent



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 • churchofststephen.org

MASS TIMES

Monday, March 17	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Word and Communion
	8:30 am	Annunciation	† Joe Knott
Tuesday, March 18	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Int. Zach Kourima
	5:30 pm	Sacred Heart	† Delores Robak
	5:30 pm	St. Stephen	† BJ Legatt
Wednesday, March 19	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	† Pat & Bob Koenig
	8:00 am	Sacred Heart	† Grace Ann Wolter
Thursday, March 20	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	† Bernice Anderson
	8:00 am	St. Stephen	† Ron Justin
	8:30 am	Annunciation	† Ed Rajkowski
Friday, March 21	8:00 am	Sacred Heart	† Louis LeBlanc
	8:30 am	St. Francis Xavier	† Royce, Sheldon & Joe Nies
Saturday, March 22 2nd Sunday of Lent	4:00 pm	St. Francis Xavier	† Weston Lentner
	5:00 pm	Sacred Heart	† Russell Fuchs
	7:00 pm	St. Stephen	† Hugo Weyrens
Sunday, March 23 2nd Sunday of Lent	8:15 am	*Annunciation	† For the People of the Parish
	9:00 am	*Sacred Heart	† Roger Weber
	9:30 am	*St. Francis Xavier	† Jerry Peckskamp & Jackie Peckskamp Keske
	10:00 am	St. Stephen	† Bob Ferche

*Livestreamed Masses

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 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/
Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: 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
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-
19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-
12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8,
11 (8a)/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9 *Scrutiny:*
Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/
Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

MINISTRY & LIFE PERSPECTIVES



Lent 2025 – Sharing Hope - Prayer

A couple of weeks ago, I reflected with you on fasting, one of the three classic Lenten penitential practices. Fasting is one concrete form of self-denial. Its purpose is not to punish ourselves, but to experience deeper freedom from the routines of life that can ensnare us and reduce our ability to make different, often better, choices.

The first of the three practices, though, is prayer. Because the Church has such a vast array of prayer forms and opportunities, it can seem complicated, overwhelming, and loaded with questions.

A common simple definition of prayer comes from St. John of Damascus: “Prayer is the raising of one’s mind and heart to God.” In even simpler terms, prayer is just conversation with God. We speak, and God listens; God speaks, and we listen.

Like any relationship, communication is essential. A friendship where we never talk with each other soon dwindles and our once-friend can become a stranger. And a friendship where one person does all the talking becomes one-dimensional – if I don’t allow the other to speak, that person just becomes an extension of myself.

Prayer is simply this communication. God speaks – in Scripture, in the lives of the saints, in the beauty of creation, in the voices of family and friends and parishioners and strangers. God speaks in the events of history and of our personal lives. We encounter Jesus in the Scriptures proclaimed at Mass, and above all in the Eucharist, his own real presence. The Mass will always be the privileged place of prayer for the Church and for each Catholic, since God has spoken most perfectly and completely in the Word made flesh, Jesus.

In response, we speak to God. While the *Catechism* outlines the major types of prayer – blessing, praise and adoration, petition and intercession, thanksgiving, and contrition – I best remember them in the four phrases we all learn as children about how to interact with others: *I love you; please; thank you; I’m sorry*. These sum up the key voices of prayer, and I still use them every day as a framework for my own time with God.

“I love you” reminds us that the one God is a Trinity of Persons. The divine life is perfect Love. To love Love is to experience love for ourselves. Tell God, in whatever words or even in silence, of your love – not for what God has done or could do, but simply because God is infinitely lovable. And made in the image of God, we are infinitely loved. “Please” is the prayer of petition (for our own needs) and intercession (for the needs of others). To say “please” expresses humility and trust, rather than demanding or presuming on God’s mercy. When we recognize something as a gift, we tend to value it more highly.

(Ministry & Life Perspectives Continued)

“Thank you” is the prayer of gratitude, an awe that we are so blessed and well cared for by the love of God. To say thanks for things we desire and enjoy is easy; it is more difficult to thank God for the challenges, obstacles, and crosses the Lord permits in our lives. But we hear echoes of St. Paul urging us in every Preface at Mass: “It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks.”

“I’m sorry” is the prayer of contrition or sorrow for our failings and sins, our selfishness and our self-will. It rebuilds our relationship with God when we have wounded it, and it calls us to say it to those around us we have hurt and to forgive when others say it to us.

When prayer seems complicated, remember that the *Catechism* also assures us that there are as many ways to pray as there are individual souls. Each relationship with God is unique, because God has created us each as individuals. God is always speaking, and always listening. Spend time with the Lord today – even if you just say I love you, I’m sorry, please, and thank you.



LEADERSHIP

ACC Pastoral Leadership



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



"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." - Genesis 15:7

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses, and the Israelites a land to possess, He has also given each of us a home. Whether your home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do you show your gratitude to God for the home He has given you? Do you make a sacrifice of any kind? Do you return any of your finances to God, investing in your eternal home just as you invest in your earthly home?



Please remember the diocesan ministries that, through your generosity, continue to build the Kingdom of God here in Central Minnesota. They are not possible without your help. Please keep them thriving by making a gift at www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

ACC ADULT FAITH ON TAP

Save the Date - The second ACC Adult Faith On Tap event is scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd from 6:30 - 9:00 PM at Bad Habit Brewing in St. Joseph with guest speaker Fr. Jean Claude Duncan, parochial vicar from the All Called to Christ ACC in St. Cloud. Fr. Duncan will share his conversion story and how that led him to the Catholic faith. All adults in the ACC are invited.

WALK WITH JESUS DURING LENT

All sessions follow Mass and include a light brunch.

***March 23, Ch. 5&6 @ St. Francis Xavier 10:45 am:** Why do people leave the church? What's the value of church to my life?

***March 30, Ch. 7&8 @ Annunciation 9:15 am:** How do I listen to my friend's questions? Faith is a life journey.

April 6 My Story @ St. Stephen 11:15am: Easy to share your favorite concert with family and friends but wondering how to share a great faith moment?

**Each chapter session offers a Jubilee Pilgrimage experience and sharing of a parish memory.*

COMPASSIONATE HOPE FAMILY CENTER REMODEL



Social Concerns is recruiting volunteers to help with construction support at Compassionate Hope Family Center (Transitional housing for families). Days and times of the project will vary depending on the availability of the help we

receive. We are remodeling rooms for transition housing for families. The tasks involve painting, flooring install, some bathroom upgrades, replacing blinds and curtains, etc. We can also use donations for supplies. Contact Dcn Joe if you have an interest in serving one of these needs.



BAPTISM

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



Beckett Douglas Hennen, son of Jake & Abby from Sacred Heart.

FUNERAL BLESSINGS

Remember in your prayers the family of John Schaefer, who passed away on March 6 and Ken Sahlin, who passed away on March 6, from St. Francis Xavier.



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

ST. KATHARINE DREXEL FISH FRY

March 21 at St. Augustine's parish center
4-8 dine in-----4-7 Drive Through
\$14 presale/\$15 at the door/\$8 kids



CARD GROUP-SFX



St. Francis Xavier-Xavier Hall
2nd & 4th Thursdays-March 13 & 27, 2025
1-3 pm All are welcome! Cribbage and 500 tables.
Contact Sandee Kremers with any questions.

HEART SPEAKS TO HEART

Gerard Thomas Straub is this year's speaker at the annual Father Wil Illies "Heart Speaks to Heart" Memorial Lecture. Straub's multimedia presentation, "A Pilgrimage from Hollywood to Haiti: Searching for God through Poverty, Prayer, and Action" will feature selected clips from his films from impoverished areas around the world. Straub, who seeks the Face of God in the eyes of those experiencing poverty, will help us reflect on our own journey in making God's love real in our own ways.

Join us on Sat, **April 5th**, at 6:30 pm, Christ Church Newman Center—Terrace, 396 1st Ave. S, St. Cloud. Free and open to all.

DEMENTIA SKILLS FOR YOUR CAREGIVER TOOLBOX

Wednesday, March 26, 11-1pm at Sacred Heart Church. Free Lunch will be served at 11am. To Register Call 320.968.7848.

Bring your dementia challenges and discover new tools to support your family along the journey. Join our hands-on workshop to learn the power of "doing with" instead of "doing to" people, and the magic of working with what people living with dementia still have, rather than what they have lost. Presenter is Krisie Barron LSW Caregiver and Human Specialist Certified PAC Trainer. You can also contact Dcn Joe for questions.

SPRING BLING SALE

The Gathering in the Arts committee is holding its annual Bling Sale on *Friday, April 25 from 4 - 7 pm in the Gathering Place.* If you have been putting off cleaning your closets and jewelry boxes, this is a good time to consider doing it. We will be collecting new, vintage and slightly used jewelry, scarves & handbags beginning *March 10 - April 13.* Please place items outside the parish office in the designed boxes. Questions contact Geri 320-255-7009. Thank you.

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Mass and Meal

Join us at Sacred Heart on Saturday, March 22nd for 5 PM Mass. We'll meet in the Gathering Space following Mass to go out for a meal*.

We have a special opportunity to lead music at Mass, if you're interested in joining, contact Jason Prigge. We'll warm-up at 4 PM.

*Each participant is responsible for their own meal.

One in Christ Volleyball Team

If you have interest in joining a One in Christ Young Adult (18-39) volleyball team, please reach out to Jason Prigge so we can begin planning!

Young Adult Team

We are now seeking some new members to serve on our Young Adult Team. We particularly would love some representation from Annunciation and St. Francis Xavier. Contact Jason Prigge for the details!

YOUNG LIFE

Club Update

Don't miss any upcoming Clubs!

*Wednesday, March 19th | 6:15-6:45 PM Open Gym | 6:45-7:45 PM Club

*Wednesday, April 16th | 6:15-6:45 PM Open Gym | 6:45-7:45 PM Club

*Wednesday, May 21st | 6:15-6:45 PM Open Gym | 6:45-7:45 PM Club

Summer Camp

Have you signed up for summer camp yet??? Camp is August 4-8. Register at: granitecity.younglife.org/camp

We're proud to say we're able to give each kid (up to 30 kids) \$200 off! Register by March 19th to get this incredible deal.

Donations

If you'd like to make a donation to our Wyldlife Area for either club supplies or for camp, please contact Jason via phone or email. We sincerely appreciate your contribution in our efforts making sure middle schoolers are known, loved and cared for.

Follow Us on Social Media

Be sure to go like our page on Facebook: Granite City Wyldlife

Follow Us on Instagram: gcwyldlife

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

The following days and times are scheduled for individual Lenten Reconciliation around the Diocese.

Monday, March 17, 6:30pm—St. Anthony

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30pm—Holy Spirit

Tuesday, March 25, 7pm—St. Francis Xavier

Thursday, March 27, 6:30pm—Sacred Heart

Tuesday, April 1, 6:30pm—Christ Church Newman Center

Thursday, April 3, 6:30pm—St. Paul

Tuesday, April 8, 6:30pm—St. John Cantius

Saturday, April 12, 1pm—St. Peter



ST. STEPHEN

Contact: Carol Hellmann 320-251-1520 Hours: 8am-1:30pm
ststephenchurchoffice@gmail.com

Fr. Ron Weyrens, Pastor

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

Financial Offering for March 8 & 9

Adult envelopes	\$ 2,149.00
Adult online giving Mar 1-7	\$ 693.00
Plate	\$ 232.00
Children	\$ 11.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,085.00
Easter Flowers to date	\$ 160.00
Ash Wednesday: Adult, Plate, Children	\$ 825.00

Ushers:

Mar 22: Sandy Paggen, Peter Schumer, David Pogatchnik

Mar 23: Steve Vouk, Ralph Barhorst, Merlin Berndt

Faith Formation: March 19 classes for grades 1-4 & Confirmation. Italian Chicken will be served in the Parish Hall before class. Reconciliation for grades 3, 4 and Confirmation.

Parish Council will meet on Tuesday, March 18, at 7:00 PM.

Communal Penance Service will be Wednesday evening at 6:35. There may be additional priests here to hear confessions.

Stations of the Cross will be on Friday evenings at 6:30 PM.

Funeral Lunch group lead: We are looking for a new lead person for the South end funeral lunch group. You do not need to live in the South end to be the lead contact. Call the church office to take this over or if you have questions.

Easter Flowers: If you would like to donate to Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, write Easter Flowers on an envelope (or use the one in your packet), include the names of the loved ones you want to remember, enclose a donation of your choice, and put it in the collection basket.



Holy Thursday: For Holy Thursday here at St. Stephen, we will need six people to have their feet washed. We are looking for: 2 men, 2 women, 1 high school student and 1 elementary student. You can either call the parish office to sign up or sign up on the sheet on the table at the main entrance of church.

Well n Fit Exercise Class - All level of fitness welcome!

A fun social time, while maintaining strength with chair, low impact cardio, and balance exercises.

Classes are Wednesdays & Fridays.

New Spring & Summer hours beginning March 12:

9:00-10:00 AM in the Parish Hall



Holdingsford Helping Hands Outreach:

Senior Dining: Wednesday's at Trobec's, January-March, at noon followed by 500. Suggested meal donation is \$6.00.

Monthly Lunch & Learn: Thursday, March 20, in St. Stephen Parish Hall. Social at 11:30, meal at 12:00, followed by speaker & entertainment. Suggested donation is \$5.00.

St. Stephen AA and AL-ANON Meetings: 305 Main St E.

Tuesdays 7pm-Steps and Traditions meeting (aka 12X12)

Wednesdays 5:30pm-Al-Anon/AA Mixed meeting

Wednesdays 7pm-AA Big Book meeting

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 9, 2024

Adult Collection.	\$10,940.00
Automatic Giving.	\$6,001.87
Children.	\$12.00
Friends In Need.	\$55.00
Central MN Catholic.	\$45.00
Easter Flowers.	\$210.00
Catholic Relief Services.	\$5,375.00
Ash Wednesday.	\$1,238.25

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

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Lent Reconciliation Ministers Needed We are in need of ministers to help with our 6:30 pm Lent Reconciliation Service on March 27th. If you can help, please sign up using the web terminal or on the sheet near the Sacristy. Thank you!

Teen Choir Teen Choir will sing on Sunday, March 23rd at the 9:00 am Mass, and rehearse on Sunday, March 16th from 6:00-7:00. All teens are welcome to come and sing!

Stations of the Cross Help Needed We will again pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at **6:30 pm**.

March 21—OCIA

March 28—Rich Wolter Family

April 4—Boy Scouts

April 11—Fr. Tom Knoblach



Homebound 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. Contact Dcn Joe for questions or opportunities to serve.

FUN & FELLOWSHIP



Please join us from 1-3 for some fun and fellowship with Catholic United Financial. We will play cards, Cribbage and dice and lunch will be served. Join us in the Parish Hall.

CONGRATULATIONS & PRAYERS TO OCIA

Congratulations and Keep in Prayer our OCIA Catechumens who are now Elect. Congratulations to Jamie Mackie, George Trujillo, Sarah Jennings, Madison Jennings, Sydney Jennings, Landon Jennings and Lae Khothasine who recently became Elect as the Jennings family went through the Rite of Election at Sacred Heart on Tuesday, March 4th and Jamie, George and Lae at the Cathedral on Sunday, March 9th.

Continue to pray for Candidates on their Continuing Conversion. Please also keep Rick Truex in prayer as he went through the Rite of Reception into the Catholic Church and received his first communion on Sunday, March 9th. Tiana Deppa, Rick Truex and Brittany Kasper will continue their journey of conversion as they celebrate Confirmation during the Easter Vigil.

YOUTH MINISTRY

March Theme: Grounded in Service Dates & Times:
*Wednesday, March 26th | Gr. 5-12 | 6:30-7:30 PM |
Good Shepherd Nursing Home
—More details to come on this service opportunity

Castaway 2025 If you're registered, payments can be dropped off at the office or made online. Parent / Student meeting is on Monday, March 17th at 6:45 PM in the Parish Hall.

NCYC 2025 Don't miss out on this 'twice' in a lifetime opportunity! The National Catholic Youth Conference happens biannually at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis for Sr. High students in grades 9-12. Students from all over the country (10-20 thousand) gather to pray, learn, play and grow in their Catholic faith. It's an experience like no other.

*Who: Current Students in grades 8-11

*When: November 19-23, 2025

*Cost: \$500 (normally priced at \$940 - parish subsidizes close to 50%).

*\$100 deposit due April 15th. Fundraising is available.

Contact Jason Prigge to register.

Butter Braid Sales Start Soon Our annual Butter Braid sale officially launches on Wednesday, March 12th. Since you have a bulletin this weekend, go ahead and start your order using this QR Code:



Braids are \$16 each, proceeds benefit our young people going to NCYC, Castaway, Wyldlife, Youth Ministry Events, etc. We really appreciate your support as this is the only fundraiser we run for our young people! Forms are also available in the Parish Office if you would prefer in person ordering.

Peer Ministry Peer Ministry Applications are now available online and by the Youth Ministry board. Peer Ministry is for students currently in grades 8-11 who desire to deepen their faith, take a large leadership role and learn life skills that will set them up for lifelong success - plus it looks great on College applications. Apply today or contact Jason Prigge for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 17; 5pm—Men's Group
6:45pm—Castaway Parent/student Gathering
7pm—KC Meeting
- March 18; 7pm—Sacred Heart Men's Club
- March 19; 9am—Wednesday Bible Study
5:30pm—Kids' Choir Rehearsal
6:15pm—Wyldlife Club-YMCA
- March 20; 1pm—Card Making
6pm—Youth Ministry Team Meeting
- March 21; 4pm—SKD Fish Fry
6:30pm—Stations of the Cross
- March 22; 3:30pm—Reconciliation
5pm—Mass and a Meal-Young Adults
- March 23; 10:45am—Lenten Session-Start With Jesus-SFX

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please add Mary Blonigen, Rosie Hennen, Patricia Olson, Mike Pinkosky and Jayne 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.

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 9th, 2025

Adult Sunday	\$3,903.00
Visitors	\$129.56
Youth	\$29.75
Votive Candle	\$3.90
State of MN Refund	\$2.42
Central and Eastern Europe	\$40.00
Building Improvement	\$73.00
Total Income	\$4,181.63
Weekly Income needed to meet yearly budget	\$3,037.00

MASS SCHEDULE

Sun. March 23rd, 2025

Lector: Karla and John Koenig
Eucharist: Brenda Carstensen-Boe (H), Katie Lentner(C), Gene Poser(C)
Servers: Mariah Simmons, Cole Lentner and Grason Herbst
Greeters: Dan Bemboom and Logan Simmons
Ushers: Randy & Julie Miller, Dan Bemboom and Dan Brenny



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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Mon. March 17th, St. Patrick's Day
Wed. March 19th, 6:30pm class. Wlyd life
Wed. March 26th, 6:30pm class, reconciliation for youth.



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

with individual confessions:
Tues., March 25th, 7pm at St. Francis Xavier
Thurs., March 27th, 6:30pm at Sacred Heart
Sun., April 6th, 3:00pm at Annunciation

VISITATION/SOCIAL MINISTRY Will be getting together on Thursday, March 20th with pastries and beverages after morning Mass, with games, cards and socializing starting at 9:30am, followed by free-will lunch. Everyone Welcome. Come when you can and stay as long as you'd like.

MINNESOTA FOODSHARE MONTH March in Minnesota is Foodshare month. All donations received during March are reported and they receive allocation checks based on their total donations reported. Monetary donations are also included. You can send your monetary donations to Rice Area Food Shelf PO Box 334, Rice, MN 56367 or if you have non-perishable food items please contact Peggy at 320-393-2915. Thank you for your support.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS here Friday's during lent at 6:30pm.

LEAD SOFTBALL PERSON NEEDED We are in need of someone to take over running the church summer softball program this year. Ball games run the months of June & July. Call Parish office.

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	\$21,346.15
Collected 3/9/2025	\$27,288.98
Excess (Deficit)	\$5,942.83
YTD Collection Budget	\$769,267.50
YTD Collected	\$790,311.59
Excess (Deficit)	\$21,044.09

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

Communal Reconciliation services will take place on March 25 at 7:00pm, April 9 at 7:15pm and April 12 at 12:00pm. Additional priests will be here on March 25 for individual confessions.

BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 12:30pm - 6:30pm
SFX Gathering Space.

You can register now to give blood by contacting the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 or RedCrossBlood.org and enter SFX to schedule an appointment.



LENTON SERIES

Join St. Francis Xavier's Health & Wellness Team for a free Lenten series titled "Life's Challenges from a Christian Perspective" in the St. Francis Xavier Church Gathering Space, 219 2nd Street S, Sartell.

This four week Tuesday evening series covers the following topics from 6-7 p.m.

- March 18:** Bullying by Alyssa Knese, Director of Behavioral Health, Catholic Charities
- March 25:** Caregiver Support by Deacon Steve Pareja, St. Francis Xavier
- April 1:** Stress & Anxiety by Bethany Tollefson, Faith Community Nurse

An optional soup and sandwich meal will be available from 5:30-6 p.m. for a free-will offering. Registration is encouraged by contacting Sandee Kremers at 252-1363 or skremers@stfrancissartell.org. Attend one or all four nights.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 5:30pm at SFX March 7 thru April 11 (Not Good Friday). We need volunteers –Ideally we have a cross bearer, 2 candle bearers and a prayer leader - 4 people. We can get by with 2, but 4 makes for a more reverent prayer experience. A sign up sheet is available in the parish library. You are welcome to call the parish office to offer to volunteer at 252-1363. This can be a great prayer to be lead by a family or combination of families and by youth.

SOCK & TOWEL DRIVE



The St. Francis Social Justice Concerns Committee is holding a sock and towel drive. Place your **NEW** bath size towels in the barrel and **NEW** socks in the box in the Gathering Space. Collecting now thru Lent.



TIME AND TALENT

All parish households should have received a time and talent survey in the mail. Please prayerfully consider how you can share of your time and talents with the many ministries at St. Francis and more. We especially need Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, Altar Servers, Ushers, and Food Shelf help. Many of these can be done by couples and families. We need you.

VBS

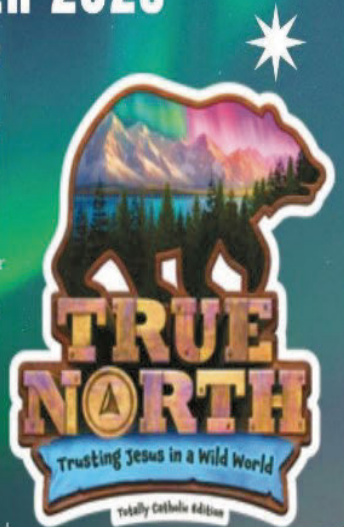
MARK YOUR CALENDARS
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
SUMMER 2025
JUNE 23-27
9AM-NOON

Held at St. Francis Xavier
 Open to all youth ages 4 through students going into 5th grade next year

Students going into 6th grade through adults are needed for volunteers.

Registration materials will be made available starting Monday, February 24th in the Gathering Area.
 Registration forms will also be sent electronically next week.

Join us for the best week of the summer!



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