

CHURCH OF



415 West 5th Street
Rush City, MN 55069

Parish Office

Mailing Address:

PO Box 45

Rush City, MN 55069

Phone: 320.358.4370

Fax: 866.779.1580

Wey Hall: 320.358.3145

Email: sacredheart@q.com

Website: sacredheartrcmn.org

Parish Staff Contacts

Pastor

Fr. Shane Wasinger 651.674.4056 Ext. 111

Weekend Assistants

Fr. Chuck Brambilla

Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Secretary/Bulletin Editor

Marsha Marcussen 320.358.4370

Bookkeeper

Steve Yurick 320.358.4370

Faith Formation Coordinator

Sue Roth

651.238.1797

sroth6183@hotmail.com

Mission Statement

Sacred Heart parish is a community of Catholic Christian believers, established by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. We strive to grow in holiness through prayer, celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments, and reflection on the scriptures. We work hard to build the kingdom of God through evangelization, catechesis and service for all.



25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” - Mt 20:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Weekdays

Wednesday 9:00 am

First Friday of each month 9:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Friday of each month 8:30 am

First Saturday of each month 3:15 pm – 3:45 pm

Or by appointment

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

September 24, 2017

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

On Changes and Needs

Numerous changes have occurred since I arrived at North Branch thirteen years ago on September 14: on a personal level, in the local and church communities, and around the world outside of Northern Chisago County, both close and far. Until I moved to North Branch in 2004, the longest place I lived and called home (without interruption) was on the farm in Scott County, Kansas from 1967-1974.

A lot of the changes are obvious and known by most of you. There was my six-month sabbatical in the US Virgin Islands where I wrote my first novel. Then in 2012, I gained a larger workload when I was named the pastor of Sacred Heart Church; this is the second most momentous change in my life since living here. Added to that is the fact that there are less staff at Saint Gregory, which increased my amount of work even more. Finally, and by far the most significant episode in my life, occurred December 23, 2013 when I had my acute pancreatitis attack, which put me in the hospital and rehab for almost four months followed by months on medical leave.

Locally, there has been less growth in North Branch since 2006, although it is picking up a little this year. As for our two parish communities, we continue to lose more than gain new parishioners which has affected us in both in our celebration of the Sunday Eucharistic as well as financially. We struggle more so at Saint Gregory the Great with our finances. As far as I can see, Sacred Heart's finances are more stable.

On a world level, we have seen three different Archbishops in the Archdiocese, three US presidents, and three Popes, each providing various types of leadership. The average Catholic probably only notices a few of the changes in the church shaped by Pope Francis: his call to a great care of the Earth and attention to the poor in the world. The typical Catholic is not aware of things such as the appointment of priests as bishops, who are generally more on the pastoral side than on the academic side. The reasoning behind this change of Bishops appointments is simply because Pope Benedict was an academic while Pope Francis' emphasis is more pastoral.

Now for the remainder of this article, I would like to focus on just one change that is taking up more and more of my time, and it concerns a difficulty in staffing Saint Gregory. Mercifully, this is not the situation at Sacred Heart, although basically the reason is that there is less need for staffing for the smaller parish.

We used to have four assigned clergy between the two parishes when I arrived; currently only myself is assigned. In North Branch, for months we have advertised for a part-time maintenance employee. Because no one applied for the opening, we are getting by with someone completing our needs for the upkeep of the church and grounds, things such as sweeping and mopping the church weekly or mowing the lawns. A parishioner with great handy-man skills is volunteering his time to make repairs and other related activity. Yet, we are nonetheless in need of someone, to be paid, to shovel the sidewalks and other areas around the block when it snows. Lastly, I remain without a housekeeper/cook at the Saint Gregory rectory. At this point if I could just have someone clean once a week, I would be happy as a cat catching a mouse. Please let me know if you could either shovel snow, or clean and perhaps, I hope I am not pushing it, cook one or two meals a week.

Have a great fall week, Father Shane

PARISH NEWS

K of C Ham Bingo
Saturday, September 30 at 7:00 pm
Sacred Heart Church
Wey Hall



And the
Winners
are...

- 1st Place:** \$500 Holiday gas card: George Curwick
2nd Place: \$300 Cash : Cecilia Shinler
3rd Place: Mini iPad : Devan Larson
4th Place: One night stay at Northern Rail Traincar:
Annie Gamache
5th Place: Two Acupuncture Treatments: Cathy Freeman
6th Place: \$100 Gift Card: Sandy Kaufmann

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation has begun for the youth in our parish in grades 1-10. If you have not registered your child yet, please contact the Parish Office or Sue Roth.

The second Sunday of every month, starting in October, is going to be **Discipleship Sunday**. This is something in which we invite all parishioners to get involved. We will have our Youth Masses on these dates with fellowship to follow after mass. We also will be collecting for the food shelf on these Sundays. Also, we are going to be having service projects in the afternoon. If you know of a service project in which we should look to get involved, please contact Sue Roth.

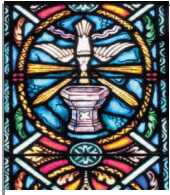
Please watch the bulletin and Faith Formation communication folders for information on upcoming **Discipleship Sundays**.



6TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET **SANCTIFYING LIFE**

Thursday, October 12, 2017
Dinner & Live Music with Songs by Jenni Thyng

MASS INTENTIONS



September 27 Fran Redding †
 September 30 Rose Peloquin †
 October 1 Dick Schneider †

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Totals for the week of 9/19/17

Plate278.83
 Envelopes..... 1535.00
 Bldg. Maint. Env..... 15.00
 CCW 30.00
 Fall Festival 9115.00
 Fr. Xavier 40.00
 Hurricane Relief.....176.95
 Faith Formation 1345.00
 Stipends/stole 25.00

TOTALS \$ 12561.28
"Deeds of giving are the very foundations of the World"
 Thank you for your generosity and supporting your parish.

NEEDING OUR PRAYERS

Marjorie King	Margarette Brooker	Kim Sarago
Jean Amunson	Marvin Johnson	Jim Kirchberg
Bill Peno	Arlene Greenhagen	Ethel Thomas
Mary Knack	Gerald Mollberg	Tom McKenzie
Wayne King	Jim Mitchell	Sue Roth
Robby Murry	Judie Peltier	Abby Larson
Heidi Blatz	Betty Erickson	Bob Wilbur
David Gaul	Phyllis Swanson	Tom Solorz
Cecilia Shinler	Nick Cieminski	Colleen Najewski
Joan Parkin	Betty Anderson	Lenny Anderson
Ariel Thull-Rulfsen	Jim Bartz	

"Loving God, we ask that you enfold in your tender compassionate care all those in our community whose hearts are breaking and whose worries consume them."

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, Sept.30 at 4:00 pm

Lector: Kevin Smith
Communion: Mary Petschl, Ginny Thorn
Gifts: Thorn Family
Ushers: Al Petschl, Dick Ordner
Servers: TJ Roth

Sunday, Oct. 1 at 9:00 a.m.

Lectors: Al Walz, Mary Jane Dahl
Communion: Beth Churchsmith*, Clarence Larson, Audrey Larson
Gifts: Open
Ushers: Rodney Swanson, Craig Peterson, Don Belland
Servers: Brodrick Larson, Cadence Morris

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

Fr. Shane will bless all animals Sunday, October 1 at 12:00 noon. Please gather in the parking lot by Fr. Shane's garden in North Branch.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 27

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Saturday, September 30

Fr. Shane St. Gregory's 5:00 pm

Fr. Chuck Sacred Heart 4:00 pm

Sunday, October 1

Fr. Shane St. Gregory's 8:30 am

Fr. Chuck Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Fr. Shane St. Gregory's 10:30 am



ST. GREGORY'S ANNUAL BOOYA

St. Gregory's Annual Booya will be held on Sunday, September 24.

Enjoy the Booya

Go ahead and have a second helping & be sure to take some home!

*Serving begins at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall.
 Take Out starts at 11:00 a.m.*

Daily Prayer This Week:



Every day of every week, we have the precious opportunity to get to know Jesus more intimately and to become more attracted to him, with the result that we grow in a desire to be with him more and to be more like him. Few of us have the wonderful opportunity to follow the special vocation of becoming contemplatives, but we can be more contemplative in our everyday lives. This can happen for us, not by "leaving the world" but by letting our Lord have a place in our very busy daily world. If we keep developing the habit of being contemplatives in the midst of our days, we will indeed be blessed to find intimacy with God in our everyday lives. It doesn't take more time. It just takes focus.

From the first few moments of our day, and in very brief conscious moments throughout the day, we can speak with our Lord. We can notice what is going on in within us - our fears, our fatigue, our joys and our sorrows - and tell our Lord what we are feeling and ask for the graces we need.

This week, we can be conscious of the invitation not to hide our gifts but to share them -- and we can ask God to help us not fill our lives with secrets. On another day, we might find ourselves doing what the Lord has asked us to do, but tempted out of our fear and anxiety to "take too much with us," in the sense of not really trusting that our Lord will give us what we need for the journey. This would be a great day for some "friend to friend" conversation with our Lord, before the challenge, in moments during it, and after it is completed, expressing our gratitude.

We can grow in freedom by not being afraid to ask our Lord about anything. The answer surprisingly comes in our own inner peace and trust. By Sunday we can find ourselves judging others less, and more freely and consciously choosing to turn away from occasions of sin.



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Dr. Andrew Ulvin

Phone: (651) 462-3243

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