

Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart

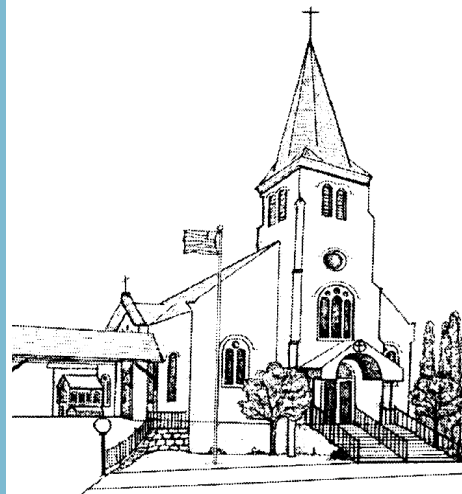
The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

Parish Office / Mailing Address:
415 West 5th Street

PO Box 45 Rush City, MN 55069

Phone: 320.358.4370 Fax: 866.779.1580 Wey Hall: 320.358.3145

Email: shc415@hotmail.com Website: sacredheartrcmn.org



Weekend & Weekday Masses

Saturday-Temporarily Suspended
Sunday 9:00 am
Wednesday 9:00 am

Private Prayers:

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays-
8:30-Noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass
until Noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions will be heard by request
after mass on Wednesdays or
by appointment.

Clergy

Pastor:

Fr. Shane Stoppel-Wasinger

Assisting Priest:

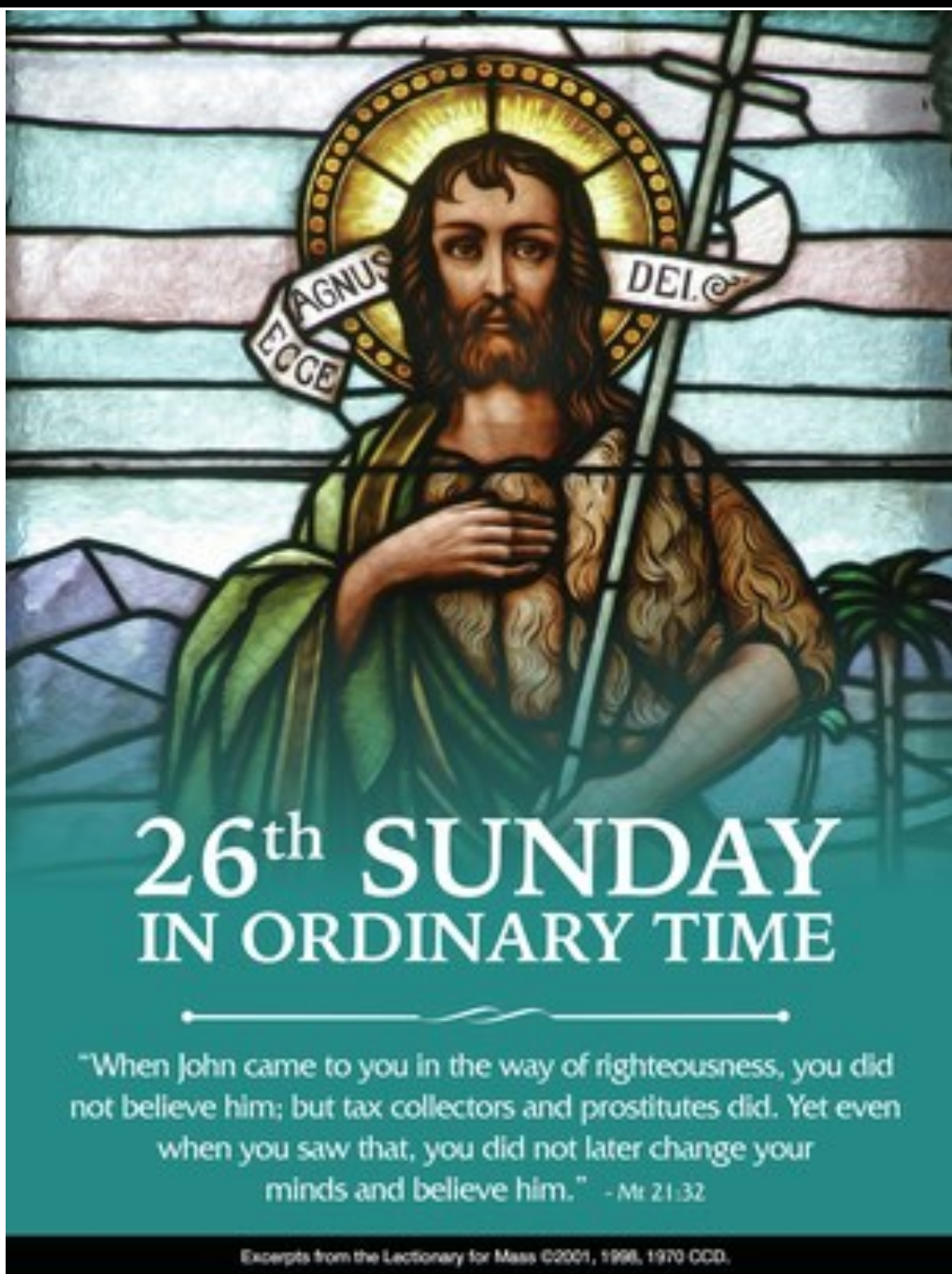
Fr. Chuck Brambilla
Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:00 am. - 12:00 pm.

Parish Staff Contacts

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen
Bookkeeper/ Music: Steve Yurick
Faith Formation: Claire Kind
Minister Scheduling: Amy Prickett
612-716-9147



26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him." - Mt 21:32

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

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 27, 2020

CHANGE OF SEASONS

For most of us, we think of Fall starting on September 1st, which is also known as the Meteorological start of Fall. I have enjoyed the first several weeks of our fall this year. The blue skies, crisp air, turning of leaves, longer nights, and the end of the growing season has been quite beautiful and relaxing. So far, the changes this fall have been quite satisfying, and we still have two months of fall to go!

Because I would rather have warmer and longer days, each year I reluctantly enter into this change of season. I found it difficult to accept the change at first because this past summer was one of the top summers I have ever experienced. Some of you may be asking yourself why and how can there be so much joy when we are in the middle of a pandemic?

As many of you are aware, some of my favorite hobbies are having a vegetable garden, and planting flowers within my garden beds or pots. Prior to this summer, I typically would be away for a few weeks at a time on vacation or attending our annual youth mission trip. However, all my plans were cancelled, allowing me the opportunity to tend to my gardens all summer long. I had plenty of time to water, weed and watch my garden grow. I never felt rushed. I was truly able to enjoy doing my hobby this summer!

While some of my tender, love, and care, produced healthy flowers and plants, my vegetable garden was not as giving. Some years are fruitful and others produce almost nothing. The potatoes, onions and lettuce crops I planted provided very little for the dinner table. The brussel sprouts and pumpkin vines grew and grew with hopeful results, however in the end, nothing came of them. Then there were the cucumbers. They only produced enough for each day with absolutely no extras to

spare. The tomatoes, green beans, peas, and green peppers were more abundant than they were the past several years, allowing me to share with some friends. And I was extremely happy and pleased with my cantaloupe plants, one in particular was very large and the best cantaloupe I ever tasted!

What happens in my garden each year is a mystery. Just as we do not know what tomorrow may bring. I am thankful that there was more time to enjoy getting my hands and face dirty as well as admire God's beautiful creations this summer by living in the present. Yes, our God works in mysterious ways:

**"YESTERDAY IS HISTORY,
TOMORROW IS A MYSTERY, TODAY IS A GIFT...
THAT IS WHY IT'S CALLED THE PRESENT"**

Finding the joy in all things is a blessing. Yes, there is a Pandemic, however there are many hidden gifts to experience as we live through these times. Slow down and enjoy this life and all the wonderful things God has given us. When we stop fighting change, we can see God's gifts to us. I pray you will embrace the changes that are placed before you and are able to find some joy within your spirit.

Blessings and know I am
praying for you all,

Father Shane



What prompts you to make the decisions you make? When confronted with a decision, whether one that is more trivial and mundane or one that is more significant and profound, we rely on guidance. That guidance can be the result of impulse and passion or the fruit of the interior voice of conscience. Decisions made on impulse and passion can be misguided and erroneous. Decisions based on conscience, or the moral voice within, will reflect the depth and maturity of our soul work. A more contemplative soul will make more contemplative decisions. A less developed conscience will make decisions based on the individual's level of development.

Conversion and a change of heart are at the core of Jesus' message precisely because of this reality. We are works in progress. For the person on fire with the Holy Spirit and centered on God, life reflects an ever-deepening awareness and heightened sense of God's presence and a greater willingness to do God's will. What is happening internally is validated by what is witnessed externally. The hypocrite is the one who says yes when they really mean no. From the start, they had no desire to do the virtuous act but wanted to outwardly appear as if they did.

Where are you on the road of integrity? Honesty is all that is required. God is good with that. It is okay to struggle with our decisions and wrestle with ourselves. Consciences on the path to maturity and greater depth are not always going to know what action is immediately best. We may, at first, say no to what we know is right and, after prayerful reflection and thought, come around to doing it. Conversion happens when our no changes to yes, regardless of how sinful or out of sync we may be at the time. God is anxious to welcome us to Himself. But we cannot embrace Him unless we want to. Learning to orient our gift of free will to what is of divine origin, right, and best is a discipline we must always tweak and perfect.

"When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him." Mt 21:32



Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the week

When making decisions, we often struggle with what voice to follow. We acknowledge the presence of God, the existence of the Trinity, the priority of the Gospel, and the virtues and values they embody. Yet, even with all of that truth, knowledge, and tradition behind us, we think we know better. When confronted with a decision, we easily dismiss what we know we ought and need to do and entertain responses that stem from lesser desires and wants. We eventually may come around and realize that what God asks us to do is what we need to do, even if it wasn't our original intention. God accepts our return to Him with joy. What becomes dishonest is deceiving ourselves, God, and others by originally saying yes to what we know we need (and are asked to do) and willfully doing something else. That is blatant hypocrisy.



Dinner/Raffle Results

A big "Thank you" to all who participated in this year's event. In lieu of the traditional Fall Festival, COVID 19 limited us to a "drive-thru" dinner and a raffle. Results went beyond our conservative estimates. 390 meals were served, 40 more than projected. And while \$30 more in raffle tickets over last year's total were sold, our net from the raffle was \$433 less than a year ago because all raffle prizes this year were in cash totaling \$1000. Combined with raffle ticket costs, the total of \$1197 in raffle costs were \$465 higher than last year. A summary of festival results are:

	<u>Dinner</u>	<u>Raffle</u>	<u>Donations</u>	<u>Total</u>
Income:	\$3388	\$2665	\$890	\$6943
Expense:	2018	1197		3215
Net Proceeds:	\$1370	\$1468	\$890	\$3728

Many thanks to all who volunteered to help this year. From, to those who prepared the meal containers, the runners who delivered meals to the people, to the ticket takers and sellers, to those who directed traffic, the signage and poster distributors, the clean up crew. A special thank you to those who helped organize and to Marsha Marcussen who prepared the side dishes for the dinner.



Because of the ongoing work inside the church there will NOT be mass or adoration on Wednesday's, Sept. 30th and Oct. 7th, and the first Friday, Oct. 2nd. Subject to weather, Sunday's mass will be outside on Sept. 27th and Oct. 4th, if weather conditions are adverse mass will be in Wey Hall.



Father God, Your Word says the prayer of faith shall heal the sick. We come to You today in Faith asking that you heal us from every sickness, disease, and illness. We receive our healing by faith. In Jesus name AMEN.

Continued prayers for:

Sue Roth, Janet Yurick, Gerald Mollberg, Jim Thorn, Judy Strandmark, Shirley Kirchberg Traci Bartz, Joseph Schwaab, Grace Schwaab, David Gamache, George Stenger Jr., Erin Hestbeck Mielke

FOOD SHELF DONATIONS

Get more value for your donations by giving cash! Please note "Food Shelf" on your envelope. If you do donate food, please, no produce that can spoil. Thank you.

October 3 & 4 Celebrants

Fr. Shane	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.

October 10 & 11 Celebrants

Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Fitzgerald	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.



†Jim Kirchberg
†Phyllis Swanson
†Margarette Brooker

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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.