

Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart

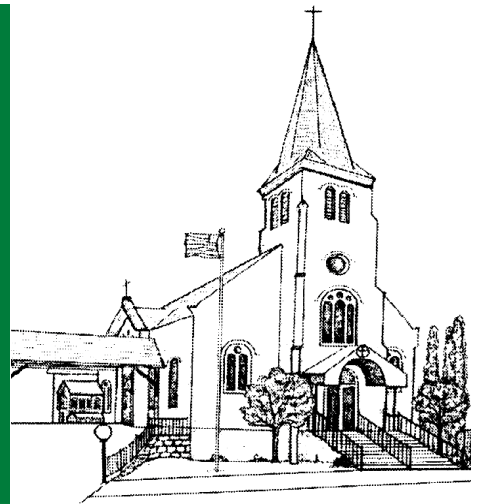
The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

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

Jesus
is the
Reason
for the
Season

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20, 2020

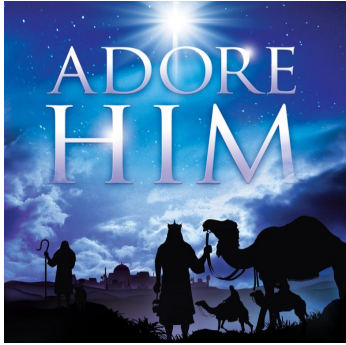
O COME LET US ADORE HIM

The angel said the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for people. For today, in the city of David, a savior has been born for you, who is Messiah and Lord." (Luke 2: 10-11)

I wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas season particularly this year as we are in amidst of the Pandemic. These remarkably challenging times throughout our world certainly have given me a different perspective on this year's Christmas celebration. At times, I have struggled to get into the spirit of Christmas, only to be reminded of what it is all about...love, peace, and kindness to name a few qualities of this holy day. For example, out of the blue, someone who I would least expect it to come from, showered me with a small act of kindness. It is in those moments my heart fills with the love, joy, and peace of the Christmas spirit.

I also remember that there have been so many other blessings this past year, which I need thank God for, even though this year has been particularly stressful. I especially thank God for the prayers, support, genuine love and concern my parishioners and staff have provided. I thank God for those of you who have assisted in making certain we can keep our faith alive and our doors open by your prayers and by your generous financial support. May God bless you for your goodness!

Although I have realized this before, now more than ever, I believe that God is ultimately in charge of every situation, even in these darkest of times, Yet I ask- is it



really that dark? I really do not believe so. Without a doubt we are experiencing an extraordinary amount of suffering and uncertainty during this pandemic. But again, I have seen many acts of kindness and generosity, which in turn gives me hope... lots of hope. Thus, I find myself wanting to celebrate more than ever the birth of Our Savior, Jesus Christ who is our light.

I would like to sincerely thank all who work so hard at Sacred Heart and Saint Gregory the Great and continue to strengthen our faith communities. Christianity is never a "spectator sport" in which we simply sit back, watch and cheer. Rather, it involves active participation and a life-commitment: daily prayer, service to others, love (even of enemies), forgiveness, acts of kindness, etc. I look forward to when we can safely come together once the pandemic is over, seeing those back attending Mass weekly, enjoying fellowship at a social gathering, and especially sharing conversations to catch up with our parish faith families.

As we adore the Christ Child in the manger at Christmas, may we be moved by the great love and humility that God showed to us in the birth of His Son! God emptied Himself and became one of us. Our faith also professes that He will come again. O come let us adore Him!

Be assured of my daily prayers for all of you. Have a blessed and peace-filled Christmas and a holy New Year!

Father Shane

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that "more" needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfactions are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. What we think is the ultimate fix to our anxious emptiness really is only a fancy trend that we entertain. The world does not realize any more today than it did over two thousand years ago that it is waiting for a Savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals, and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. The world does not know how truly lost it is. Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is here among us and within your grasp?



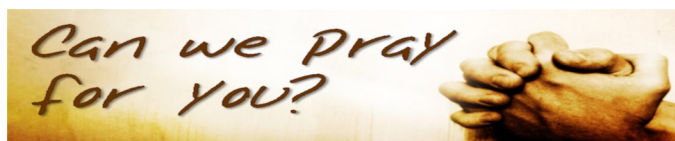
If you or a loved one are ill in any way and would like to have your name included on the Prayer Chain, the Sunday Prayers of the Faithful and/or the bulletin contact the Parish office. Permission from the individual must be given before we can list their name in the Prayers of the Faithful or the bulletin.

Prayer, at its heart, is an act of faith, asking God to step in and believing that He is both willing and able to listen to us. There is no prayer intention too large or too small — you can ask for God's help with every need.

Almighty God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that you would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love. Amen.

Continued prayers for:

Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Jim Thorn,
Judy Strandmark, Shirley Kirchberg Traci Bartz,
Joseph Schwaab, Grace Schwaab, David Gamache,
Erin Hestbeck Mielke, Cecilia Shinler, Bret Van Tassel,
Rick Steltz



December 19 & 20 Celebrants

Fr. Chuck	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Nygaard	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.
Fr. Chuck	St. Gregory	9:30 a.m.

December 24– 27 Celebrants

Fr. Chuck	Sacred Heart	4:00 p.m.
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.

Communion for the homebound

Dave Prickett is available to bring Communion to those who would like it on Sunday's after mass. Call the office at least 2-3 days prior to the Sunday.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you or someone you know is in need of a prayer shawl please contact the office or feel free to take one from the rack in church.

320.358.4370



Christmas Schedule

December 25

The Nativity of The Lord

Thursday,
December 24

Vigil Mass at 4:00 PM

Friday, December 25
Christmas Day Mass at
9:00 AM

THE WORD BECAME FLESH
AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US,
AND WE SAW HIS GLORY,
THE GLORY AS OF THE FATHER'S ONLY SON,
FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH. JOHN 1:14

Messages for the Parish

There will be no Adoration this Wednesday, December 23rd.

Envelopes for Christmas flower contributions are in the pews. If you are not back to attending mass, you may mail it to the office or put in the drop box on the side of church under the canopy by the ramp door. Be sure to include the name (s) of these to be remembered. A posting of those names will be included in the bulletin and on our website Sunday, January 10, 2021

Dear Parishioners,



This year has been trying for all and having to cancel my Xmas eve dinner I still wanted to give back in some way, so I will be collecting NEW socks again to give to those that live on the streets and in shelters. I am asking if you could please donate a pair of New socks from infant to adults. Also, if anyone is making Xmas cookies this year and would be willing to donate some as well, I plan on handing out the socks myself with a little of Christmas joy of delicious cookies. Please contact me at the church office or my cell 651-252-8325.

Many Blessings!

Merry Christmas