

Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart

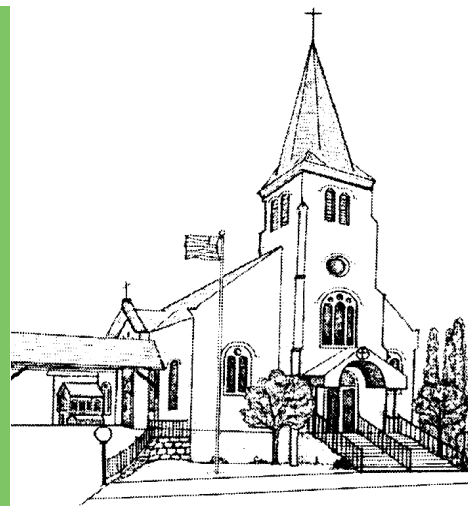
The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

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:

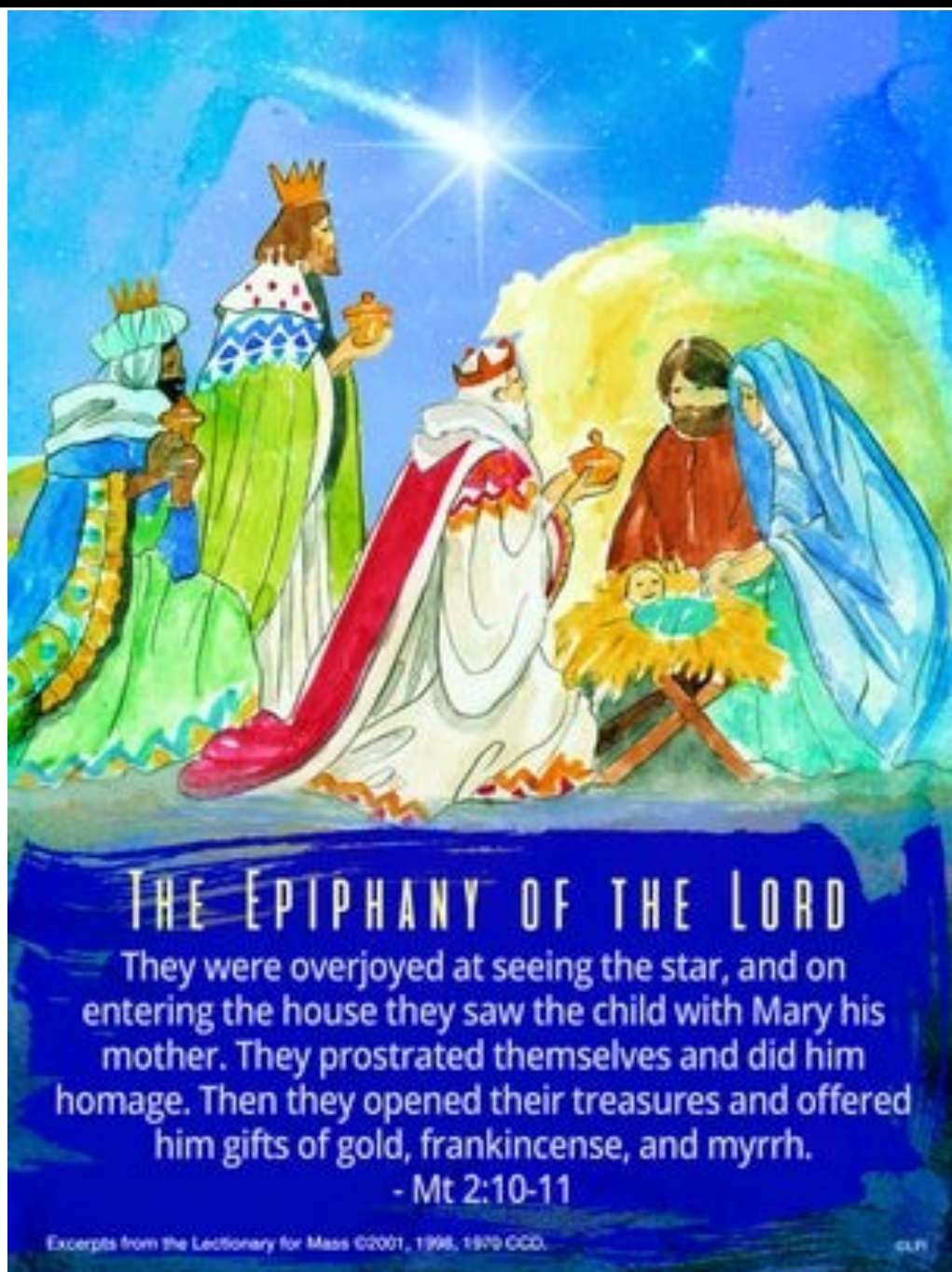
Fr. Chuck Brambilla
Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

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



Epiphany of the Lord, January 3, 2021

THE GRACE OF FAITH

Every January 1st, we typically bring in the new year by making resolutions in hopes to improve on our personal lives. This year, I'm hopeful we all will be thinking more of others and praying for an end to our pandemic along with a return to some form of normalcy. I'm sure we can all agree that we are tired of these extraordinary times and want to get on with our lives. Each of us is dealing with these changes in a different way. The question is, are the changes that we have been dealing with, and will continue to deal with, going to be seen by each of us as something *positive* or *negative*?

Each of these changes, or temporary ordeals, can be difficult and even painful to live; nonetheless, we can view these troubles as opportunities to grow. Most days, I tend to think of the good which may come out of this Pandemic. Don't get me wrong, loss of life, unemployment and social emptiness are horrible and fill my heart with sadness. Spending time in prayer seems to ease the burden felt on those sad realities. But there are ways in which to view our current situations. We can choose what kind of effect this virus will have on us. For instance, celebrating Sunday Mass has been especially difficult for me. There are fewer people attending on the weekends and the extra sanitizing and guidelines have been overwhelming. The positive side is that I have been able to connect with those on a closer level, forming more intimate connections and causing me to look forward to seeing each parishioner. There has also been an increase in our weekday mass attendance, which is another positive. Yes, I long for the return of a fuller church and lively singing again, but we *will* return to greater attendance at Sunday Mass – I have complete faith!

Another negative challenge is not being able to have large gatherings and meetings. The lack of personal interaction is another struggle, in addition to learning how to "zoom". However, as time went on, zooming wasn't too bad, allowing me to see others. The positive side was that I was spending less time traveling on the roads and saving fuel! Zooming will now be more desirable, especially on snowy days! We *will* soon see each other face to face in meetings and enjoy our social time together- I have complete faith!

When our sporting activities, dental and other appointments were cancelled, it caused me to become irritable and bored. I missed going to the local events and I didn't quite know how to handle the extra time on my hands. However, it allowed me to catch up on things I had put off, like cleaning and organizing each room and closet, finding many items to donate to others. Sporting events *will* be played again and things *will* open back up – I have complete faith!

You may wonder how I can maintain this positive attitude? It is because I have a deep-rooted faith in God. One of the most noteworthy discoveries I have had during the past nine months, is that I am very grateful for my faith. I simply can't imagine how anyone could go through life and particularly this pandemic without faith in God. Faith- the main ingredient in life for happiness, peace, and most of all, hope. If you desire more faith, ask God for this grace. He is *a/ways* there for you!

Have a Blessed New Year and keep the faith!
Father Shane

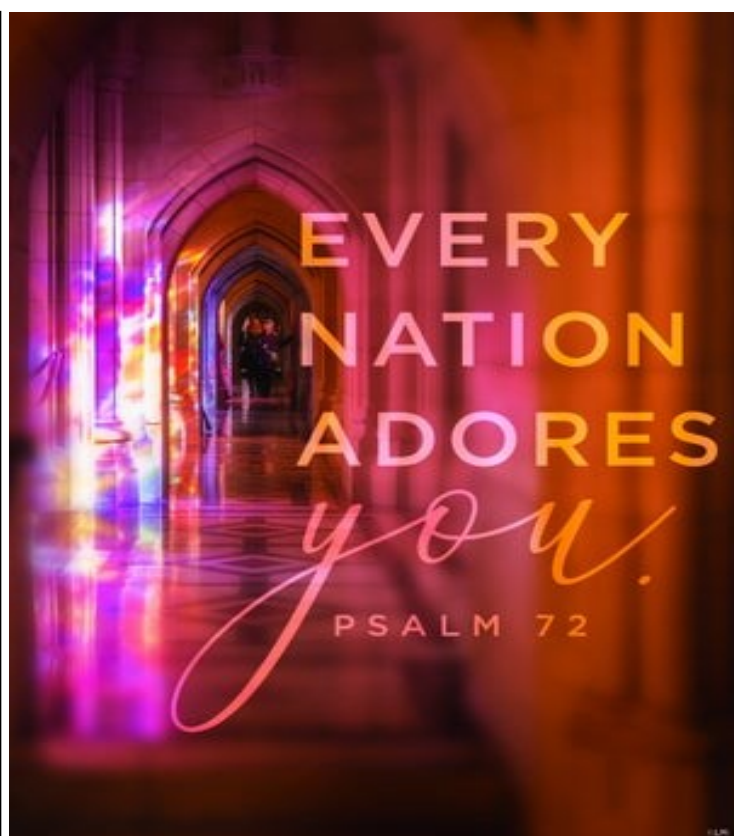
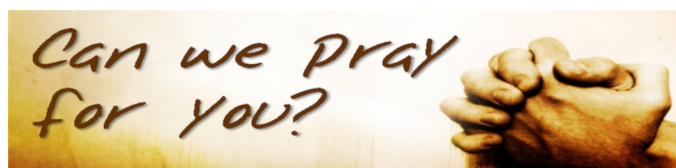
If you or a loved one are ill in any way and would like to have your name included on the Prayer Chain, the Sunday Prayers of the Faithful and/or the bulletin contact the Parish office. Permission from the individual must be given before we can list their name in the Prayers of the Faithful or the bulletin.

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



2021 Contribution Envelope pick up

The envelopes are ready for pick up in church today and next Sunday, January 10th. After that, please come to the office for them. Thank you.

Catholic Charities Food Distribution

Starting January 21st and every following third Thursday of the month, Catholic Charities will be distributing drive-through food here at Sacred Heart Church. Please call the office with questions. Thank you.

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 if you would like communion brought to your home.

January 9 & 10 Celebrants

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

January 16 & 17 Celebrants

Fr. Shane	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Fitzgerald	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.
Fr. Shane	St. Gregory	9:30 a.m.

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



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.



The Story of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

Although Saint Paul might claim credit for promoting devotion to the Holy Name because Paul wrote in Philippians that God the Father gave Christ Jesus "that name that is above every name" (see 2:9), this devotion became popular because of 12th-century Cistercian monks and nuns but especially through the preaching of Saint Bernardine of Siena, a 15th-century Franciscan.

Bernardine used devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus as a way of overcoming bitter and often bloody class struggles and family rivalries or vendettas in Italian city-states. The devotion grew, partly because of Franciscan and Dominican preachers. It spread even more widely after the Jesuits began promoting it in the 16th century.



In 1530, Pope Clement V approved an Office of the Holy Name for the Franciscans. In 1721, Pope Innocent XIII extended this feast to the entire Church.

Reflection

Jesus died and rose for the sake of all people. No one can trademark or copyright Jesus' name. Jesus is the Son of God and son of Mary. Everything that exists was created in and through the Son of God (see Colossians 1:15-20). The name of Jesus is debased if any Christian uses it as justification for berating non-Christians. Jesus reminds us that because we are all related to him we are, therefore, all related to one another.

