

# Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart

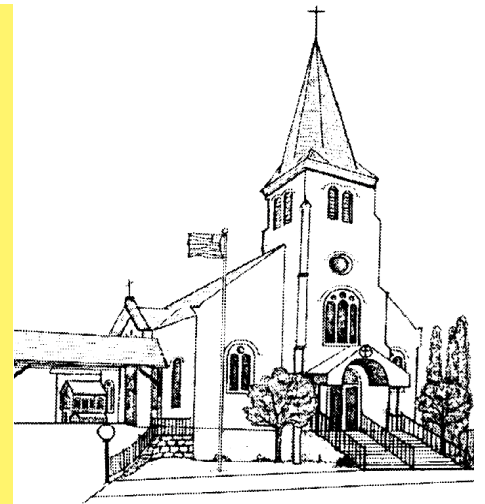
The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

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: sacredheartcmn.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:**

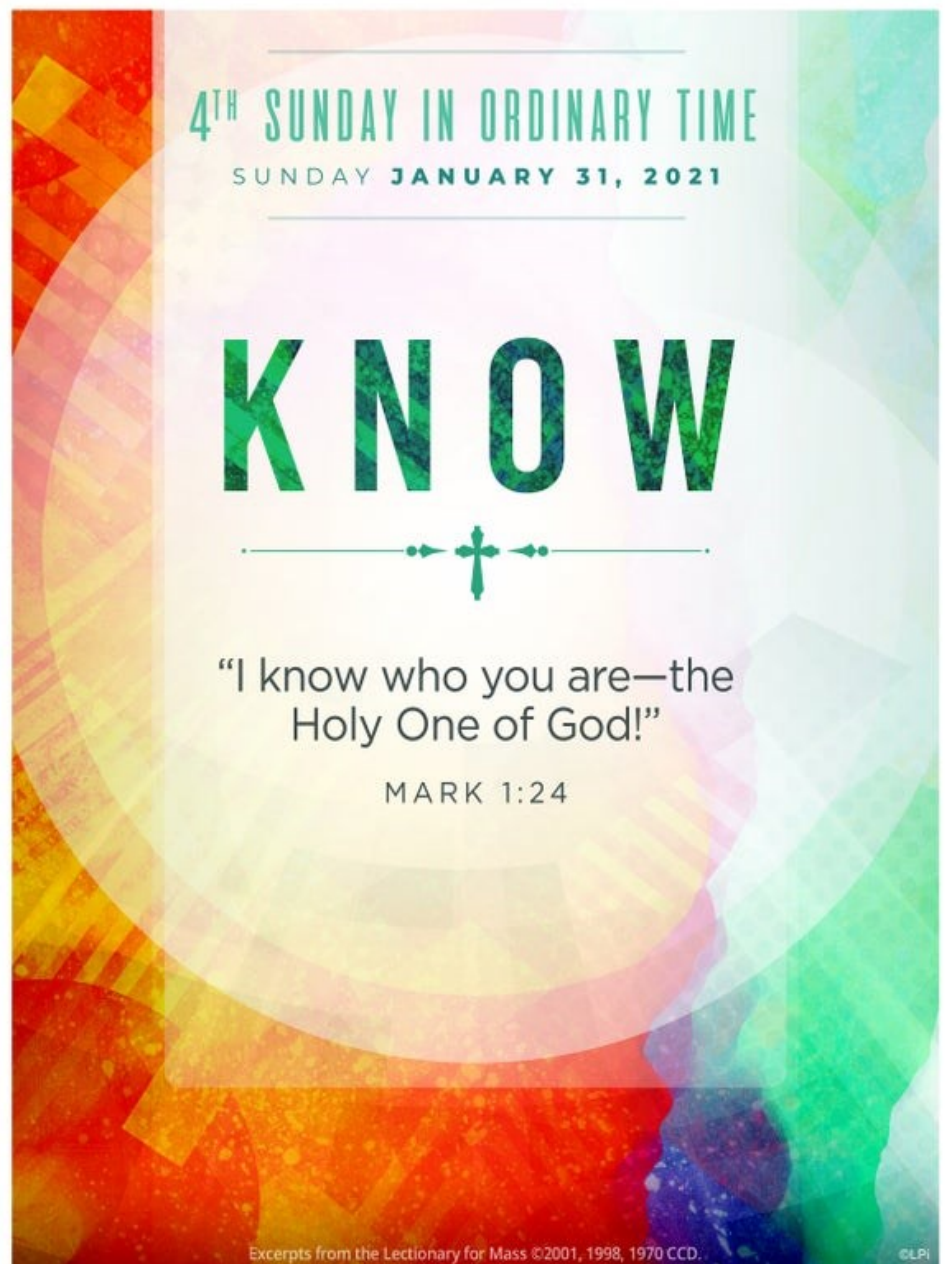
Fr. Chuck Brambilla  
Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

### **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  
651-674-7382  
Minister Scheduling: Amy Prickett  
612-716-9147

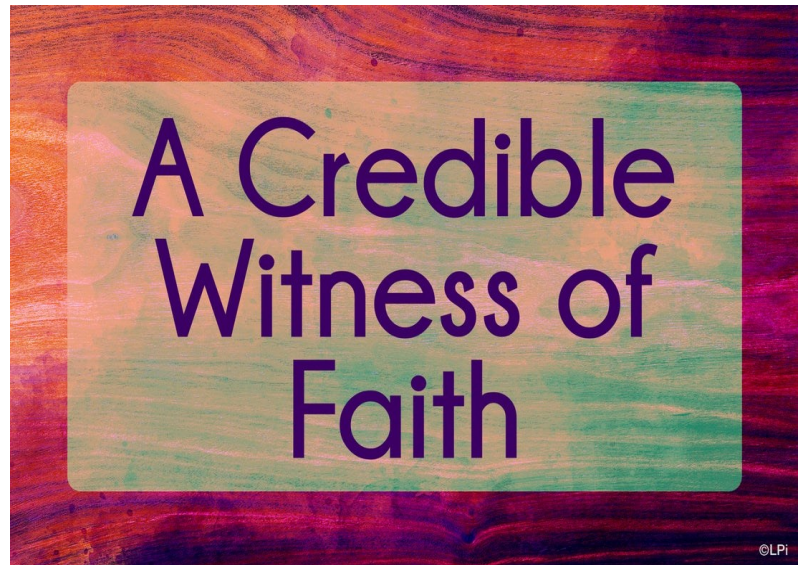


Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 31, 2021

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Most of us are quiet people who desire to live a good and holy life, promote the values and mission of the Gospel as best we can and desire to one day inherit the surprise of life eternal God promises to us. We are not trail blazers. We are simple people who want to do the simple things of life well. But there are others who left a more profound impact along the way of the paths they walked. Folks like Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and many others left lasting impacts and legacies. Like Moses, they show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose driven life look like. They show us how to be holy. We need Moses people like these to give us inspiration, hope and an example of holy living.

We do not need to do what they did or even mirror their relationship with God. Each one of us is God's special creation, with a purpose and soul known only to us. We need to learn how to open up and bring, without compromise, our soul-ness to life. We know when someone is authentic and centered because they always point to truth, even though they struggle and sin themselves, and they embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and it astonished many who listened. We do not need to move mountains, advance a cause, write books or become notable. All we have to do is become credible witnesses of the faith we profess. Moses people can teach us how to do this.



St. Oscar Romero was an amazing man and a Moses figure for sure. He saw God in the burning bush and brought the flame of Gospel faith to the poorest of the poor, challenging the evils of the society in which he lived. He was tireless and persistent. He must have gotten very close to the problem because it cost him his life. He suspected it would. St. Romero said, "When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended Mt Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties." We can learn from this wisdom. If we allow the power of the Mass to truly transform us, we will leave that holy encounter changed. Our face will shine, and we will have courage. We can then bring what we have received to life's challenges. That sounds doable, doesn't it? Because of the example of our simple holiness, people will be amazed.

### *Jesus Calling, Enjoying Peace in His Presence...*

I AM YOUR STRENGTH AND SHIELD. I plan out each day and have it ready for you long before you arise from bed. I also provide the strength you need each step of the way. Instead of assessing your energy level and wondering about what's on the road ahead, concentrate on staying in touch with Me. My Power flows freely into you through our open communication. Refuse to waste energy worrying, and you will have strength to spare.

Whenever you start to feel afraid, remember that I am your Shield. But unlike inanimate armor, I am always alert and active. My Presence watches over you continually, protecting you from both known and unknown dangers. Entrust yourself to My watchcare, which is the best security system available. *I am with you and will watch over wherever you go.*

PSALM 28:7; MATTHEW 6:34;  
PSALM 56:3-4 GENESIS 28:15

### Ash Wednesday

We begin our Lenten Season on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Masses are at 9 am and 6 pm.

### 2020 Contribution Statements

Statements for your record of contributions to Sacred Heart Church for the past year will be mailed out this week. Thank you for your ongoing support.

### 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.

### Calendars

The 2021 Calendars are available at each entry. One or two may be taken for each household.

### The Turtle Priest Book

A benefactor has purchased 200 copies of Fr. Shane's book, "The Turtle Priest." They are available in the back of the church. If you would like to make a donation to the church, you may put a check in the drop box by the ramp entry door made out to Sacred Heart Church or brought to the office during business hours. All proceeds will go to Sacred Heart Church.

### Envelopes

The Envelopes are now in the Parish office for pick up.

#### **February 6 & 7 Celebrants**

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

#### **February 13 & 14 Celebrants**

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



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.

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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, Ron Schleicher



### **The Audacity of Holiness**

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness.

*Article courtesy of Liturgical Publications*