



Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

Parish Office / Mailing Address:

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Weekend & Weekday Masses

Saturday-Suspended

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday 9:00 am

Private Prayers:

Wednesdays and Sundays-8:30-Noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am

Mass until Noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

After mass on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month or by appointment.

Clergy

Pastor:

Fr. Shane Stoppel-Wasinger

Assisting Priest:

Fr. Chuck Brambilla

Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Deacon: Kevin Downie

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:00 am. - 12:00 pm.

Parish Staff Contacts

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen

Bookkeeper/ Music: Steve Yurick

320-358-4370

Faith Formation: Claire Kind

Confirmation: Joan Hetherington

651-674-7382



November 7th| Thirty-second Sunday in OT
November 14th| Thirty-third Sunday in OT

"Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." - Mk 13:30-32

Setting your Priorities

In last week's Gospel, we heard "You shall love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all of your strength." (Mark 12: 28b-34). The second decree from last week's Gospel, states "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

It brings to mind the famous Green Bay football coach, Vince Lombardi, who told his players, "Always put God first, your family second, and the Packers third." I also believe, these are the priorities every Christian should live by.

We may try to place God first in our lives, but when it comes down to doing it, well, that can sometimes be a different story. For all of you who attend Sunday Mass and say your daily prayers, you are putting into action what you know you need to do with your lives as a disciple of Jesus. If that is not you, ask yourself why. Do you wake up in the morning and thank God for the gift of another day? When you go to bed at night, do you tell God how much you appreciate the many blessings He may have bestowed on you throughout your day? If that is not you, ask yourself why. We must always tell God that we are grateful for his many gifts as there is nothing more pleasing to God, than praising him.



I know some of us may not make it our priority to place God first in our lives. For example, I often hear from our faith formation students and/or parents' reasons why they haven't put God first, by not attending Sunday Mass, or missing some faith formation sessions. Some of the excuses I hear is that "Oh, I had a dance or music recital," or "I had soccer, basketball, or some other sport to practice or game to attend," or "I just wanted to sleep in on Sunday morning". The thing is, that by not attending Sunday Mass, one is not only missing out being nourished by the Body of Christ and being with their faith community, but also missing the refreshment and strength we need, to get us through another week.

The second priority in our lives should be our families. I would also like to include our close friends. Once again, you might ask yourself, do I take time to grow my relationships with my parents, spouse, children, brothers, sisters, cousins, or close friends? To become closer with our family and friends, it requires work. Ways we can grow these relationships, is by giving our time to one another, enjoying a meal together, and communicating by sharing deep concerns as well as our happy moments in life. Do you make time for those important to you?

The third priority for us, is everything else: our work, our hobbies, and our interests. In other words, what is our passion that gives us a sense of meaning and purpose in life? As I mentioned in my homily last week, my passion is writing, for it gives me a happiness and joy. If you haven't found your passion in life, I pray that you will.

When we have all our priorities in order, our lives will be in balance, bringing us all what we are searching for- faithfulness, joy, and peace.

Have a good week, Father Shane

GOSPEL MEDITATION: On December 10, 1979, a very petite holy woman known as Mother Teresa of Calcutta spoke these words in her Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech, "But I am sure in the families and many of our homes, maybe we are not hungry for a piece of bread, but maybe there is somebody there in the family who is unwanted, unloved, uncared, forgotten, there isn't love. Love begins at home. And love to be true has to hurt. I never forget a little child who taught me a very beautiful lesson. They heard in Calcutta, the children, that Mother Teresa had no sugar for her children, and this little one, Hindu boy four years old, he went home and he told his parents: I will not eat sugar for three days, I will give my sugar to Mother Teresa. How much a little child can give. After three days they brought into our house, and there was this little one who could scarcely pronounce my name, he loved with great love, he loved until it hurt. And this is what I bring before you, to love one another until it hurts, but don't forget that there are many children, many children, many men and women who haven't got what you have. And remember to love them until it hurts."

Living authentically and walking with holiness always involves sacrifice. It has to hurt. Only actions springing from true and deep sacrifice demonstrate true integrity. Without sacrifice, even what is apparently a generous gesture can be nothing. It is no wonder that the widow who contributed from her poverty received great admiration from Jesus and the young child in our story above the interest of Mother Teresa. It is easy to make the houses of our lives look like they are in perfect order when in fact they are in shambles within. Religion can sometimes make this hypocritical masquerade easy to accomplish. We can find ourselves in all the right holy places, reciting all of the correct prayers, participating in community collections, and reciting the proper doctrines only to find ourselves empty, shallow, self-focused, and overly anxious about personal concerns.

The one who learns to discover their inner poverty, their spiritual poverty, is the only one who can truly place him or herself at the mercy of God. It is only when we allow ourselves to be empty that we realize Who we actually need to fill us. This is the real meaning of trust. Many of us are afraid to take the plunge. We allow ourselves to detach from only so much, always keeping a watchful eye on the protection of our securities. We understand the value of poverty, but we do not want to become too poor. As long as we are able to recognize this tension, our reluctance to let go and our struggle, we can continue our journey of humbly learning how to love so deeply that it hurts. God understands and waits.



**LIVE AUTHENTICALLY
& WALK WITH HOLINESS**

Parish News

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Thanksgiving Day is observed with a special Mass at churches throughout the United States. The day is a secular holiday with strong religious roots. This day implies that there is a God, that God is provident, that we recognize what God has done, that we can address God about our blessings, and that the best thing we can say is "Thanks." There will be Mass at Sacred Heart on Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 AM with Father Fitzgerald.

November 13-14 Celebrants

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

November 20-21 Celebrants

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

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, November 10

9:00 a.m. † Open

Sunday, November 14

Thirty-third Sunday in OT

9:00 a.m. † Michelle Stenger

9:00 a.m. † Douglas Dwayne Hanson

Wednesday, November 17

9:00 a.m. † Elizabeth Bier

Sunday, November 21

Thirty-second Sunday in OT

9:00 a.m. † Jim & Ann Roth



Father God, we pray for all those who are facing sickness in their bodies. We ask that you would restore their health, soothe their pain, and ease their worry. Give them your peace and comfort as they wait. In Jesus' name, AMEN!

Continued prayers for:

Jackson Marcussen, Mary Stenger, Michelle Stenger, Elaine Robinson, Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Jim Thorn, Judy Strandmark, Shirley Kirchberg, Grace Schwaab, Erin Hestbeck Mielke, Cecilia Shinler, Bret Van Tassel, Ron Schleicher, Janet Yurick, Dale Oscarson, Maxim Hurwicz, Al Petschl, Jim Mitchell, Marian Schmitz

Catholic Charities Food Distribution

November 18th will be the next drive up food distribution from 10:00 am until 11:30 am here at Sacred Heart for 60 and older. Further questions please contact the Parish office.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

November 21st we will be taking a second collection to support the CCHD. In the United States, one in eight people lives in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and those working on the margins.



If you have not signed-up for your photos, there still is time. We are 1.5 weeks away from the scheduled dates.

Sign-up today, there are 3 easy ways for you to set-up your appointment:

- 1) On our parish website: <https://sacredheartretn.org>
- 2) Directly with Universal Church Directories at www.ucdir.com
 - a) On the right-hand side, click on photography appointment scheduling login.
 - b) Sacred Heart Church Code: **mn163**
 - c) Follow the prompts to schedule your time.
- 3) Call Sacred Heart Parish office 320-358-4370 and the staff can help you get registered.

Online scheduling option is **NOT** available Sunday due to paper sign-ups after Mass.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS

Mass will be held on Wednesday, December 8 at 9:00 am.



The Immaculate Conception, according to the teaching of the Catholic Church, was the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. Mary was conceived naturally but God kept her soul 'immaculate', i.e. free from original sin.

By her Immaculate Conception, Mary was conceived in the fullness of grace, in the state of closest possible union with God in view of her future role as the Mother of God. Join us for Mass as we celebrate an important point of our Catholic teaching.

This is a Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics.



Annual Sock drive!

It is that time of year again where the temperatures drop and staying indoors for the homeless is not always an option. Please consider donating new socks from infant to adult this season! Drop off inside the church or Parish office porch. Thank you!



KIC CLASSES :

Due to Thanksgiving break, there will be no KIC session on Wednesday, November 24.

