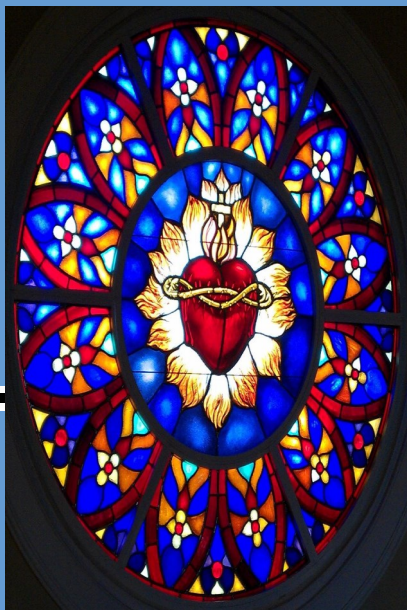




Welcome to
The Church of the Sacred Heart
The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

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-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

Deacon: Kevin Downie

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

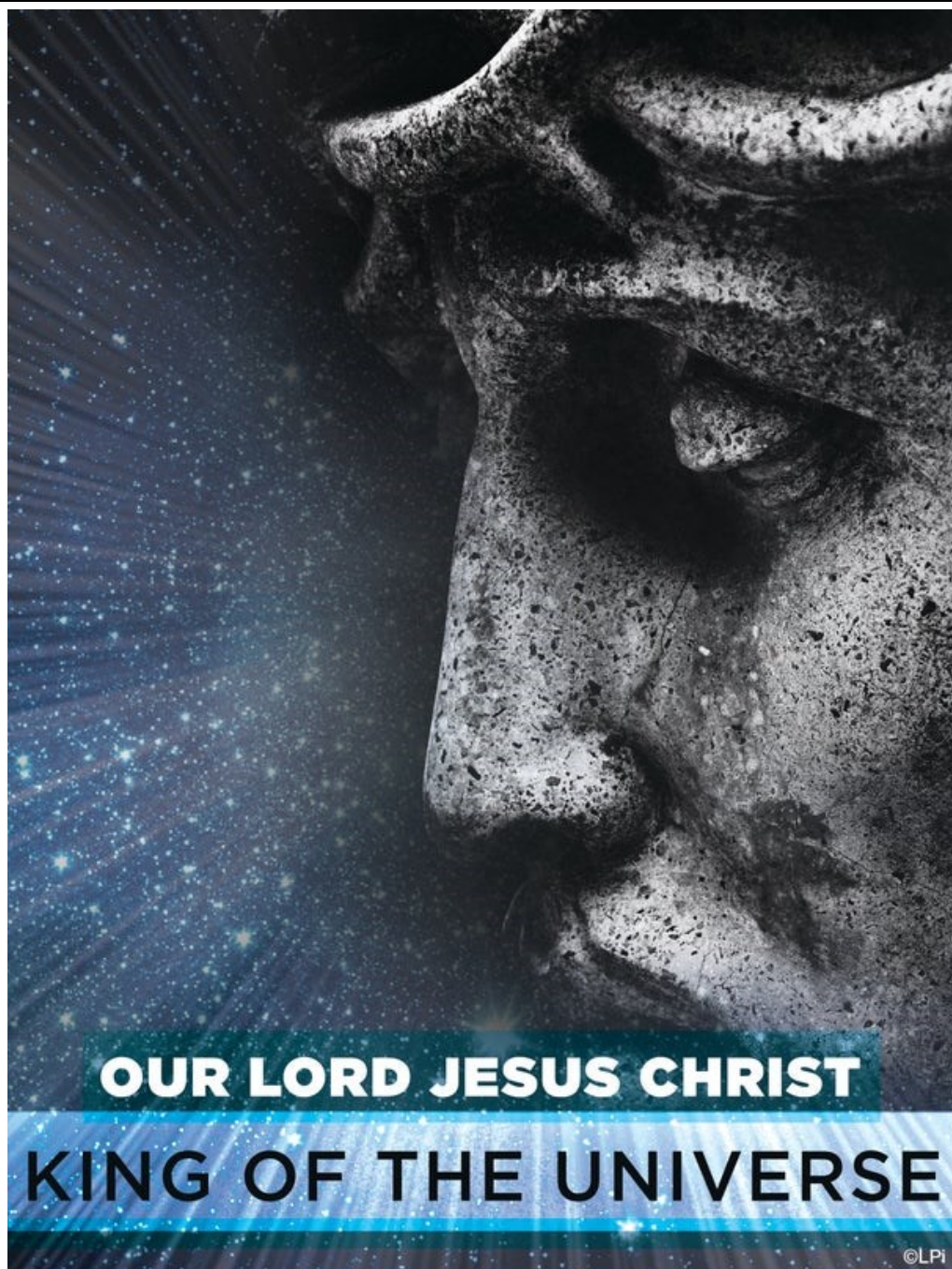
Bookkeeper/ Music: Steve Yurick

320-358-4370

Faith Formation: Claire Kind

Confirmation: Joan Hetherington

651-674-7382



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe &
First Sunday of Advent

Saint Catherine Labouré



Saint Catherine Labouré was born Zoe Labouré on [May 2, 1806](#) in [France](#). She was the ninth of [eleven children](#) born to Pierre and Madeleine Labouré, a [farm](#) family. While growing up Catherine was known for being a quiet and practical child.

In 1815 her mother passed away and Catherine was forced to take over the responsibility of caring for the household at only nine years old. After her mother's funeral, Catherine returned home and picked up a statue of the Blessed Virgin. Holding it close, she said, "Now you will be my mother."

Upon entering a [hospital](#) run by the *Sisters of Charity*, Catherine experienced a dream of an old priest motioning her to a room of sick people. "It is a good deed to look after the sick. God has designs on you. Do not forget it." Years later during a visit to the Daughters of Charity hospital, Catherine saw a picture of the old priest on the wall. She discovered it was of their founder, St. Vincent de Paul. Catherine immediately knew she would become a member of St. Vincent's order. In January 1830 she entered the novitiate of the Daughters of Charity, taking the name Catherine.

On [July 19, 1830](#) Catherine was awakened from her sleep after hearing a child's voice calling her to the chapel as the Blessed Virgin Mary was waiting for her. As Catherine approached the chapel, the door swung open revealing a brilliant light. The Blessed Virgin told Catherine she would be given a mission with all the graces necessary to complete it. Our Lady said, "God wishes to charge you with a mission. You will be contradicted, but do not fear; you will have the grace to do what is necessary. Tell your spiritual director all that passes within you. Times are evil in France and in the world."

In November 1830 the Blessed Mother visited Catherine a second time. [Our Lady](#) showed herself inside an oval frame, standing upon a globe with rays of light coming from her hands toward the globe. Around the frame were the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." The reverse side of the medal features an M surmounted by a cross with two hearts and 12 stars. The "M" is an abbreviation for "Mary". The cross represents the sacrifice of Jesus. The two hearts are for the immaculate heart of the Virgin Mary and for the sacred heart of Jesus. The 12 stars symbolize the 12 apostles.

Mary asked Catherine to take these images to her father confessor, Father Jean Marie Aladel, telling him they should be placed on medallions. "All who wear them will receive great graces." At first, the priest did not believe Catherine, but after two years, he brought her story to the Archbishop. The Archbishop ordered 2,000 medals struck. The medals were dispersed so rapidly and effectively it was said to be miraculous. It has become known as the Miraculous Medal, and it's wearing, and devotion has spread worldwide.

Saint Catherine Labouré spent the next 40 years of her life caring for the elderly, sick and disabled. On December 31, 1876, Catherine died at 70 years old. Her body was encased in glass beneath the side altar in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Paris. Her body was discovered to be incorrupt after being exhumed in 1933. She was canonized by Pope Pius XII on July 27, 1947. Her feast day is celebrated on November 28.



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!

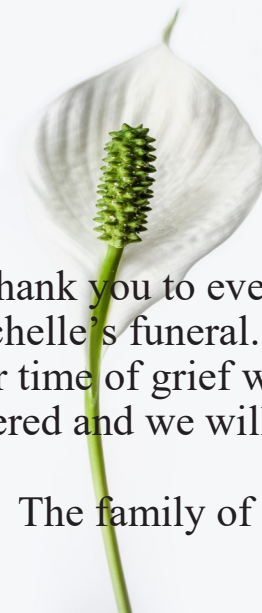
PRAYER REQUESTS

If you or a loved one are ill in any way and would like to have your name included in the Sunday Prayers of the Faithful, contact the Parish office. Also, any prayer request or needs can be written in our Parish Intercessory Book in the back of church at any time.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK

Are you or someone you know having surgery? Seriously ill or suffering in mind, body or spirit? Consider receiving the Sacrament of Anointing.

This rite is intended to convey God's grace to those who receive it, through the power of the Holy Spirit. To set a time that works for you, please contact the parish office.



Thank you to everyone who helped at Michelle's funeral. Your kindness during our time of grief will always be remembered and we will forever be grateful!

The family of Michelle Stenger.

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 27-28 Celebrants

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

December 4-5 Celebrants

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

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, November 24

9:00 a.m. † Open

Sunday, November 28

First Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. † Michelle Stenger

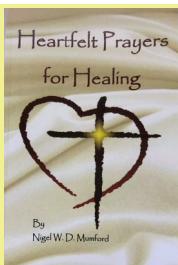
Wednesday, December 1

9:00 a.m. † Open

Sunday, December 5

Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. † Douglas Dwayne Hanson



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

December 16th 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.

KIC CLASSES:

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

Christmas Caring Tree

Tuesday, November 23, the Christmas Caring Tree will be set up in the Rush City Public Library. It will be decorated with Christmas Wish tags from children in the RC Public Sc. Your help is needed to fulfill these wishes. Please call Millie at 320-358-3138 or Shari at 320-358-3463 for more details.

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.



Staying awake can often be a challenge, especially when we are exhausted. Life's demands have a way of zapping every last bit of energy out of us. When we are tired it affects us not only physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. All of our senses are dulled and diminished. We can overlook details, become disinterested, lethargic and

apathetic, and detached. Getting sufficient physical rest only helps so much. We need to be rejuvenated, refreshed, and reenergized in other ways. If we are psychologically exhausted, we need to understand what is draining our emotions and taxing our relationships. If we are spiritually tired, we need to find the necessary "shot in the arm" to put us back in touch with God. Unfortunately, exhaustion is seldom limited to just one part of who we are. When we lack energy and zeal it is usually the case that everything suffers. We not only are affected physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. In short, when we run out of gas the engine stops.

And yet, our Lord's directive is clear, "Be vigilant at all times." Even Jesus knew what "the anxieties of daily life" can do to us. One day pours into another and time quickly flies by. Any one of us can take a moment and reflect on how many wonderful, creative opportunities we miss because there is always so much "stuff" to do and so little time to do it. Usually these are missed moments of love, and if we are missing love encounters we are also missing God. Sleepwalking through life, we check the boxes next to our list of "must and have to do's" and justify it all by convincing ourselves that tomorrow is another day and there'll be more time. It may surprise us, but tomorrow is here, and time is running out. While we may like to believe that we have an "eternity" of time to do all those things that require the focus, energy, and desire we do not currently have, we don't. We're on a limited ride and time is short.

Jesus is also clear on another point. "That day [will] catch you by surprise like a trap." If we are going to be judged on love and so easily justify not having all that much time to do so, then it seems we must shift focus a bit. St. Teresa of Calcutta tells us, "We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." Getting to this place doesn't "just happen." It requires vigilance and discipline both with a knowledge of what is really of importance and what really needs to be the focus of our energy and time. Pray, starting now and not tomorrow, that we can stay alert, be strengthened in our faith, and prepared for whatever will come. Don't miss another opportunity to love.