



CRY OUT
WITH JOY.

ISAIAH 12:6

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

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

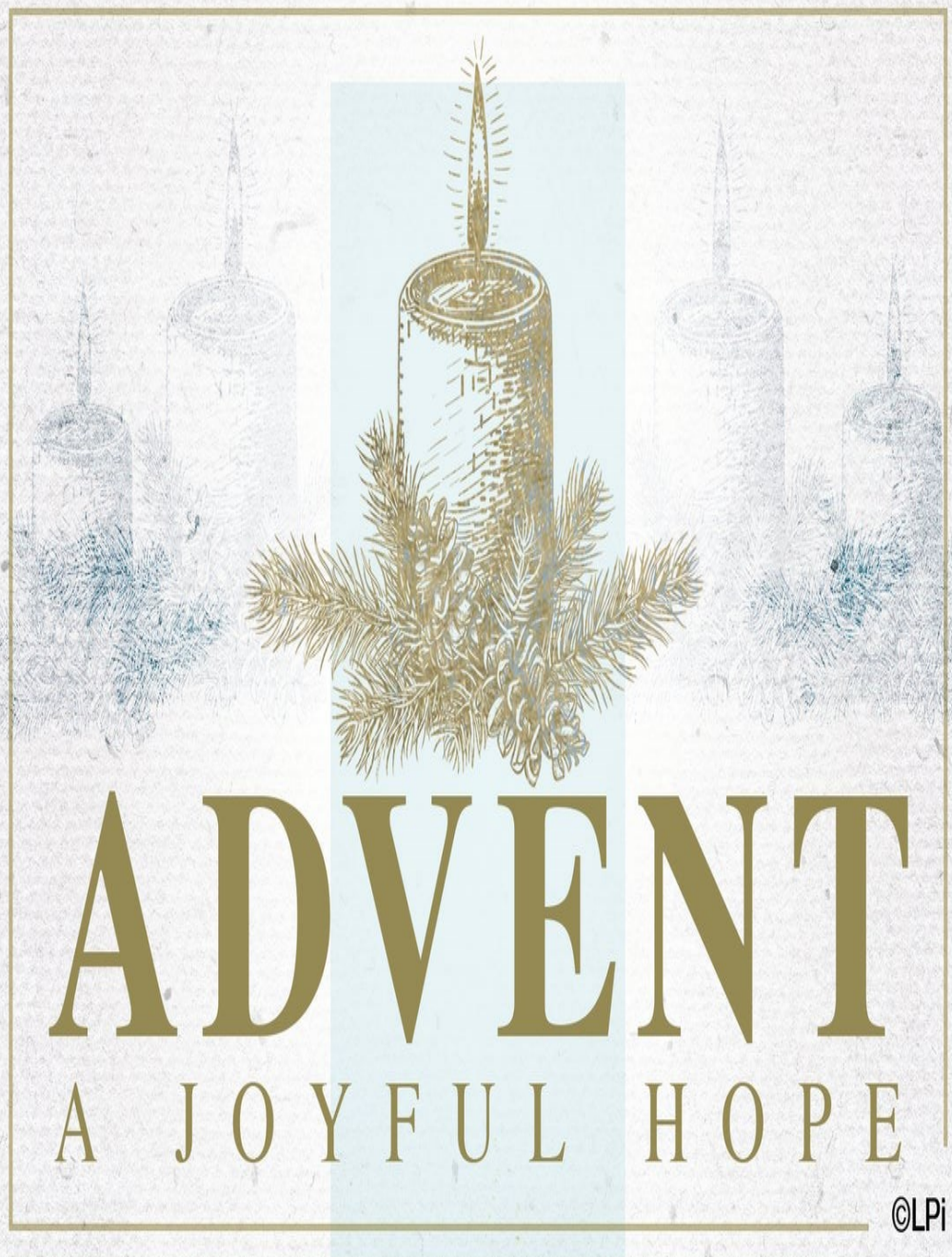
Parish Office / Mailing Address:

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



12-5 Second Sunday of Advent &
12-12 Third Sunday of Advent

The Saint Next Door



Last October a beatification took place in the Cathedral of Rimini in northern Italy. The person being beatified was Sandra Sabattini a twenty-two-year-old woman that had devoted herself to helping the poor and disabled.

Blessed Sandra Sabattini grew up on the Adriatic coast of Italy. She was baptized on August 20, 1961, the day after her birth. She was four years old when the family moved to the city of Rimini to be in the parish run by her uncle Fr. Giuseppe Bonini who was a Catholic priest.

She developed a love for the Lord while she was still a young child, and she often carried a single decade rosary in her small hand. While she was still in elementary school, Sandra was sometimes found in contemplation before the tabernacle, even in the middle of the night. “She rose early in the morning, perhaps in the dark, to meditate alone before the Most Holy Sacrament, before others arrived in the church,” her uncle Fr. Giuseppe Bonini recalled. She loved to pray sitting on the ground, as a sign of humility and poverty.

Sandra Sabattini began keeping a journal on January 27, 1972, to record her spiritual thoughts. It was around 1973 that she first met the priest Oreste Benzi, who had founded the Pope John XXIII Community, which emphasizes service to the poorest and weakest of society. They met at one of the association meetings organized by her uncle in his parish. In summer 1974 she took part in a trip to the Dolomites, a mountain range in northeastern Italy, where teens accompanied people with disabilities. The time spent in nature and helping those with disabilities left a big impression on Sandra, who told her mother after the trip: “We broke our backs, but those are people I will never abandon”.

In 1980 she completed her high school examinations in Rimini. At this time Sandra was torn between leaving immediately to be a missionary in Africa and starting medical school. But with the help of her spiritual director, Sandra decided to enroll in med school at the University of Bologna. It was her dream to one day serve as part of medical missions in Africa to work alongside the poor and sick. In the summer of 1982, a drug problem began to explode in Italy. On the weekends and the summer breaks of 1982 and 1983 the 21-year-old medical student began to volunteer tending to drug addicts in the association’s rehabilitation centers.

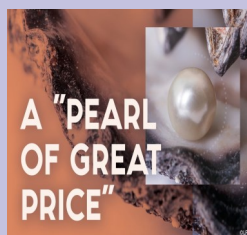
In late April 1984 the association arranged a meeting in Igea Marina near Rimini. On April 29 at 9:30 am Sandra arrived there by car in the company of her fiancé Guido and her friend Elio. Just as she got out of the car both she and Elio were struck by a passing car leaving her in a coma from which she never recovered. On May 2, 1984 Sandra died from her injuries at Bellaria Hospital in Bologna. Her funeral was celebrated on May 5 in the San Girolamo church in Rimini, and she was buried in the churchyard of the St. Andrea church of Misano Adriatico.

At her funeral, Fr. Benzi said: “Sandra has done what God sent her for. The world is not divided into good and bad, but into who loves and who doesn’t love. And Sandra, we know, loved very much.”

Sandra Sabattini was declared venerable by Pope Francis on March 6, 2018, and a miracle received through her intercession was confirmed in October 2019, which paved the way for her beatification on October 24, 2021.

Inspiration for the week

Shout for joy! When was the last time you ever felt like doing that? Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of joy. We can never predict what life will bring. As unsettling as that can often seem, life’s unpredictability is also the very thing that allows it to be exciting and adventuresome! We know that life can be difficult, and it is unrealistic to expect it to be otherwise. God never promised an easy road. But, when a person truly falls in love with God and discovers the peacefulness and assurance of God’s presence, then a depth of understanding will be brought to everything they do and experience. Nothing will be able to rob them of joy! When we realize that God, the King of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We celebrate the beauty and wonder of God’s gift of joy today as we ready ourselves, even more excitedly, for the coming of our Savior. Do not fear and do not be discouraged. There is a power and presence within us, our God, who has made us, who loves us and who will keep us. What more do we need? Rejoice!



The Well That Never Dries Up: Depending on how your mood is today, the words of Paul will hit you differently. “Rejoice always,” he tells us. Well, if your football team is poised to win this weekend or next, maybe you’re really feeling this vibe. But if you’ve got a long slog at work ahead of you this week and a to-do list that only seems to grow and never shrink, it may make you grumble. “Rejoice always?”

Always? When I’m tired? Cranky? When I’m sick of doing and giving? Thanks, Paul. I’ll be sure to scribble that phrase on a Post-It and stick it to my dashboard for when some entitled punk inevitably cuts me off on tomorrow’s morning commute.”

When we feel this way, we know it’s time to head back to the well. Think of all the places in Scripture where God compares His love, His mercy, His salvation to water. And not just any water — living water, water that moves. God’s strength is not a stagnant puddle sure to evaporate and disappear. It’s water you can keep coming back to. It’s water that never dries up.

Which is good news for us, because we never stop failing to do what we should, never stop failing to feel the joy and the compassion and the selflessness we are called to. We need a source of living water if we are going to ‘rejoice always.’ To be everyday stewards, we need a well that never empties.

The fountain of salvation never dries up. There is always more there for us to draw from. It’s a sign of His commitment — so let us, in turn, be committed to Him.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Parish News



Baptized into the
Family of God
Esther Rae Marshall
Daughter of Keegan & Anna
*May God's grace and blessings
that you receive on your
Baptism, guide you throughout your life.*

Keep "Christ" in Christmas!

December 11-12 Celebrants

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

December 18-19 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.

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, December 8

9:00 a.m. † Open

Sunday, December 12

Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. † Michelle Stenger

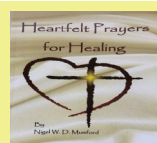
Wednesday, December 15

9:00 a.m. † Open

Sunday, December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. † Richard & Ricky Lehman



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:

Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Jim Thorn, Judy Strandmark, Grace Schwaab, Cecilia Shinler, Ron Schleicher, Janet Yurick, Maxim Hurwicz, Al Petschl, Jim Mitchell, Marian Schmitz, Laura Saumer, Ariel Saumer

Catholic Charities Food Distribution

The next food distribution of frozen meals for seniors 60 and older will be on December 16th from 10:00am-11:30 am. Meals are available in quantities of 10 and up to 30 per calendar month.

Christmas Caring Tree

Your help is needed to fulfill wishes to children in Rush City. Select a Christmas Wish Tag off the tree in the Rush City Library. Call Millie at 320-358-3138 or Shari at 320-358-3463 with any questions and further details. Thank you.

DOC & KIC CLASSES All Faith Formation classes have been canceled until the beginning of the year due to a COVID outbreak among St. Gregory's staff. If you have questions, please leave a message at 651.674.4056 ext. 112 or an email at info@stgregorynb.org KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS!

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!

Prayer for Second Advent

Comforting God, You have touched my heart and told me not to fear.
Thank you for offering me your gentle love.
You speak tender words to the darkness in my heart and offer gentle care in warm arms outstretched to welcome me home.
You know me so well, and I feel my heart rise in your familiar presence.
There is a flicker of hope.
Finally I will let my life be touched by the strength of your courage and I will rejoice in the news that my Saviour is near.
Amen.

Christmas Schedule

The Nativity of the Lord

Friday, December 24

Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm (at Sacred Heart)

Vigil Mass at 10:00 pm (at St. Gregory)

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 am (at Sacred Heart)

Christmas Day Mass at 9:30 am (St. Gregory)

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Friday, December 31

Vigil Mass at 4:00 pm (at St. Gregory)

Saturday, January 1 at 9:00 am (at Sacred Heart)



We will be decorating the church for Christmas with trees, plants, and flowers. If you would like to make a donation for the expenses in memory or honor of someone, please fill out the Christmas Flower Offering envelop.