

Celebrating & Sharing God's Love

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

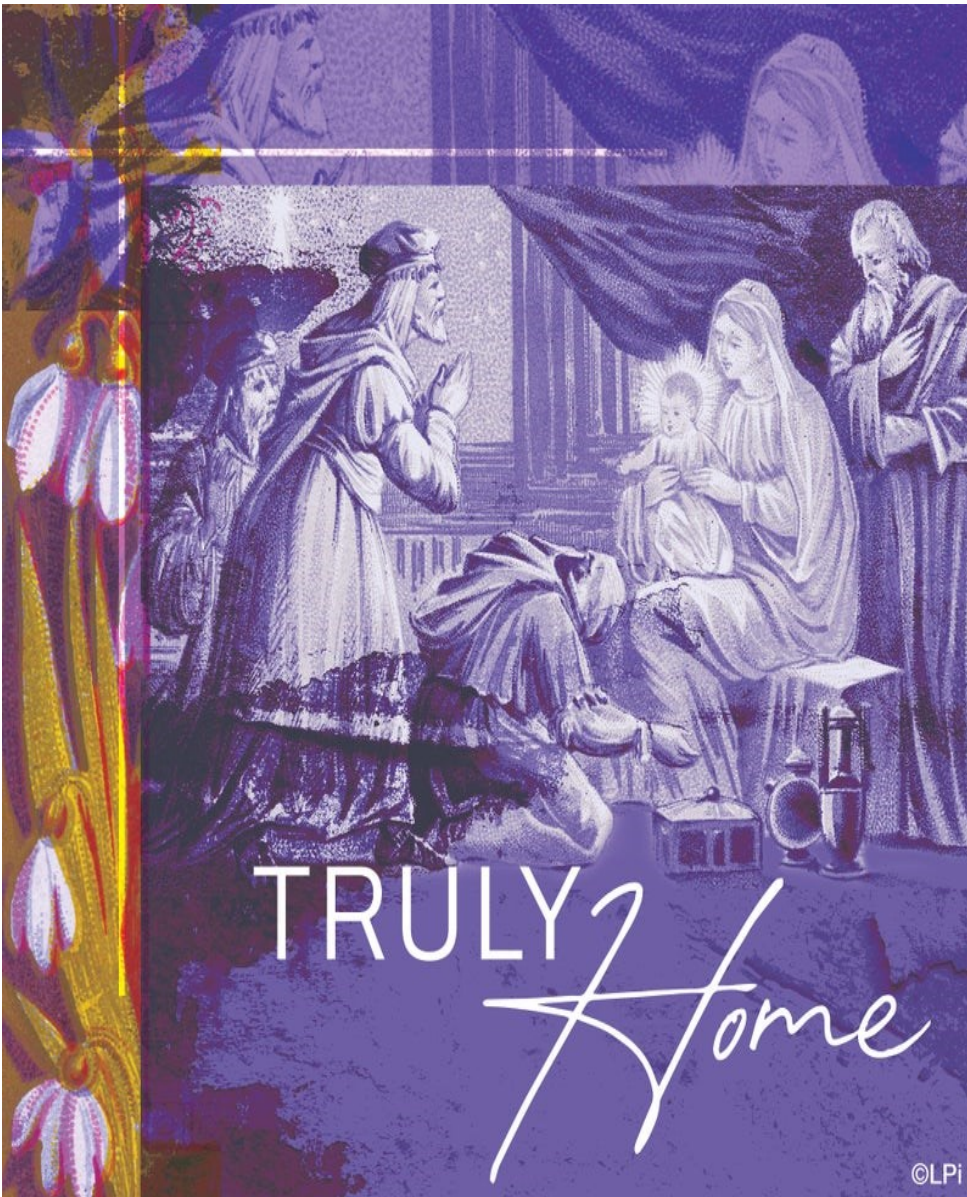
Parish Office / Mailing Address:

415 West 5th Street PO Box 45

Rush City, MN 55069

Office Phone: 320.358.4370 Fax: 866.779.1580 Wey Hall: 320.358.3145

Email: shc415@hotmail.com Website: sacredheartcmn.org



WEEKDAY/WEEKEND MASSES

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday 9:00 am

ADORATION

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am

Mass until Noon

RECONCILIATION

After mass on every Wednesday of the month or by appointment.

PASTOR

Fr. Matt Shireman

DEACON

Kevin Downie

ASSISTING PRIEST

Fr. Chuck Brambilla

Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:00 am. - 12:00 pm.

PARISH OFFICE

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen
Bookkeeper/ Music: Steve Yurick
320-358-4370
shc415@hotmail.com

FAITH FORMATION

Sacred Heart :Tina Heidelberger
763-670-8594
faithformationshc@hotmail.com
Confirmation: Dion Scott
651-674-7382
dion@stgregorynb.org

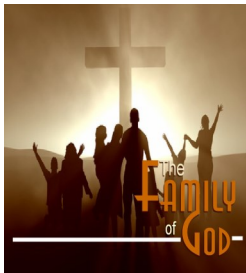
Third Sunday of Advent | 12-17 -2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent | 12-24-2023

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

My favorite Christmas memories involve spending Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with my mom's extended family. The location would switch depending on who was hosting—my aunt LuAnn in Maple Plain regularly would host Christmas Eve, my grandma and grandpa in Hamel would host Christmas Day (that is, until my grandpa died on Christmas Eve of 1993), and more recently Christmas Day has been at my parents (in Minnetonka) or my uncle's in Roseville. Regardless of who was hosting, there was always a good supper (at the kid's table), presents, and having fun with my cousins.

This is my second Christmas at St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart. Although I don't have any family members at the parishes, one parishioner was high school classmates with my uncle, so that's pretty close, right? Anyways, parishes are families of faith. I may not have been born into this community, but you have adopted me as your own pastor—your spiritual father. Although I am aware more and more each day of my limitations, I am grateful that God has given me the opportunity to journey with all of you towards our heavenly homeland. My prayer for 2024 is that we can grow even more closely together as a family.

One thing we are particularly looking forward to in 2024 is the launching of a parish small group ministry in time for Lent (February 14th). Our small group leaders have been receiving formation since September (and longer for some). The small groups will be of many different types, but they will all be focused on growing in faith together. Although initially the small groups will be a majority of parishioners as we start, the groups will grow over time to include more people who have only limited ties to our parish currently.



In addition, we hope to have some additional information soon on Extreme Faith Camp for middle schoolers (with high school prayer team volunteers) this summer. I have had the opportunity to go to Trego, WI (where the camp is located) each of the last two years to hear Confessions of kids from other parishes, so I can say that our youth have a great opportunity to have fun and grow in faith.

As you have your own family celebrations, please know that all of us here at the parish family are praying that you and your loved ones have a Merry Christmas! ~ Father Matt



Small Groups Update

This past week, our future small group leaders ate together and received some practical training on how to lead the small groups in February. Although we take a break for Christmas and New Year's, the leaders are praying for their future groups, which may include you!

2024 MASS TIMES

Starting January 1st, 2024, some Mass times will change at each parish.

Sacred Heart Church:

Sunday—currently 9:00am will move to 8:30am

Reconciliation—8:00-8:20am on First Sundays

St. Gregory the Great Church:

Saturday—5:00 pm

Sunday—currently 9:30am will move to 10:30am



Contact Fr. Matt by email fathermatt@stgregorynb.org for more information or questions about any of these events.

BIBLE STUDY Bible study with Father Matt will meet Dec. 22nd but not the 29th in the Romero House after 8:30am Mass.



CATHOLIC WATCHMEN The next gathering of the Catholic Watchmen will on January 4th at 7:00 p.m. Meet in St. Gregory's Parish Hall.

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.

Remember in our Prayers.....

Audrey Larson, Kim Wall, David Kirchberg, Carole Stenger, Connie Blomquist, Janet Yurick, Grace Schwaab, Judy Strandmark, Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Erin Hestbeck-Mielke, Amy Granlund, Cheryl Gebhart-Trempe, Marianne Schmitz, Heidi Blatz, Gary Frazier, Shelly Repke, Betty Anderson Schlipp

We pray for all those in the nursing home and those who are home-bound.

In order to keep the prayer corner current, names will be kept on the prayer corner for two months unless requested to come off earlier. If a name comes off that you want put back on, please call the parish office or the contact for your parish to have them put back on.



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.

ANOINTING 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.

Christmas Schedule at Sacred Heart

4th Sunday of Advent, Sunday, December 24

Mass at 9:00 am

Christmas Carol Prelude to Vigil mass at 4:30 pm

Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm Sunday,

Nativity of the Lord, Christmas, December 25

Mass at 9:00 am

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God Monday, January 1st.

There will be mass at 7:00 p.m.

Since this Holy Day falls on a Monday in 2024, there is no obligation to hold or attend Mass.

PARISH INFO



Bible Studies help women grow closer to Christ as they lean on truths found in Scripture to live joy-filled lives. Join other women on **Wednesdays** after Mass at the Rusheba Senior Center **10-11:30 am**. Learn about Woman Saints, prayer and fellowship. Contact Sandy Pelant w/questions 612-245-8986.

Catholic Charities Food Distribution

The next food distribution of frozen meals for seniors 60 and older will be on **Tuesday, December 19th from 11:00am-12:00 pm**. Meals are available in quantities of 20 per calendar month.

YOUTH MINISTRY & FAITH FORMATION

NO KIC CLASS ON DEC. 27TH: There will be no KIC class on December 27th. Grades 1-8 return to class on January 3.

DOC CLASS & SPONSOR MEETING: The next DOC class will be on January 7th, 1:00—3:00 p.m. Confirmants should bring their sponsors to this meeting.

UPCOMING FIRST RECONCILIATION WORKSHOP: Parents and their child who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year are required to attend the First Reconciliation Workshop on Saturday, January 13 at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at St. Gregory the Great.

Parish/Community News



Demontreville Jesuit Retreat House invites you to a men's three-day silent retreat on the beautiful grounds of Lake DeMontreville guided by the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius. The retreat begins Thursday evening January 18, 2024, and ends Sunday evening, January 21, 2023. Free-will donations are accepted. For more information call our office at 651-777-1311 or see our website www.demontrevilleretreat.com.



Mass Intentions

Wednesday, December 20th
9:00 am † William Ward

Sunday, December 24th
9:00 am † Carole J. Swanson

Wednesday, December 27th
9:00 am † Amy Prickett

Sunday, December 31st
9:00 am † Ellen Rothenbacher

Weekly Celebrants

Wednesday, December 20th
9:00 am | Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt
9:00 am | St. Gregory| Fr. Nygaard

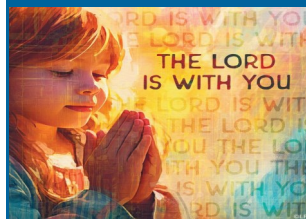
4th Sunday of Advent Dec 24th
9:00 am | Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt
9:30 am | St. Gregory| Fr. Fitzgerald w/
Dn. Kevin

Christmas Eve, December 24th
4:00 pm | St. Gregory| Fr. Chuck
5:00 pm | Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt

Christmas Day, December 25th
9:00 am | Sacred Heart| Fr. Fitzgerald
w/Dn. Kevin
9:30 am | St. Gregory| Fr. Matt

Wednesday, December 27th
9:00 am | Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt
6:30 pm | St. Gregory| Fr. Nygaard

Sunday, December 31st
9:00 am | Sacred Heart| Fr. Chuck
9:30 am | St. Gregory| Fr. Matt



Prayer for Advent 4

Dear Lord,
Visit our homes!
Visit our families!
Bring your goodness and light
to every broken heart we've met
on this journey of life.
Your presence brings healing and rebirth.
Come, Lord Jesus!
Amen.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

*Sacred Heart
Advent Penance Service time
December 19th, 2023
7:00 pm*