



Church of the Sacred Heart

Parish Office / Mailing Address:

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

Celebrating & Sharing God's Love

WEEKDAY/WEEKEND MASSES

Sunday 8:30 am

Wednesday 9:00 am

ADORATION

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am

Mass until Noon

RECONCILIATION

1st Sunday at 8:00 am

After mass on every Wednesday 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

Ash WEDNESDAY



Dust you are, And to dust you shall return.

GENESIS 3:19 (NKJV)

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 2-11-2024
First Sunday of Lent | 2-18-2024

LENT 2024: FOCUS ON PRAYER

Have you noticed it yet? Ash Wednesday is Wednesday...which is the same day as St. Valentine's Day. Although it may not be the way you would normally celebrate St. Valentine's Day, receiving ashes in the form of the cross is a good way to be reminded of what your married love is called to be--totally self-giving like Jesus.

For those who want to celebrate Valentine's Day similar to other years, consider celebrating its "vigil"--Mardi Gras (or "Fat Tuesday")--which is the evening before. As an aside, if 2024 wasn't a Leap Year, Easter this year would be on April Fools Day (instead, it is March 31st).

The parish activity that I am most looking forward to this Lent is the starting of the small groups. As I mentioned in my homily last month, the small groups are a new way of being parish and they also provide us with hope for the future. To preview the video "God's Desire for Us" (from the Archdiocese's series "Lord, Teach Us How to Pray") that most of the small groups will be using for the 1st session, you may find it at the following link: <https://vimeo.com/904150451/2669f3f245>. If you are interested but have not yet signed up for a small group, please talk to myself (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org) or one of the small group leaders.

In some ways, Lent is perhaps the best season of the year for us in our spiritual journey. Even for those who have fallen away from the Church, the message of "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" while receiving ashes brings crowds to Church. This year, we look to continue the parish's tradition of Friday Lenten suppers with a soup meal at 6 p.m. After soup, stick around for an opportunity to grow closer to our crucified Lord by praying the Stations of the

Cross at 7 p.m. The Lenten book that the parish is providing this year is called "I Thirst: 40 Days with Mother Theresa" written by Missionary of Charity (Mother Theresa's religious order) priest Fr. Joseph Langford.



Prayer is one of the things we want to give more attention to. Perhaps the intimate environment of daily Mass is something to try during Lent. Please note that starting on February 21st, St. Gregory's will move its daily Wednesday service (once again a Mass) to 5 p.m. There will also be "drop-in" Lenten Confessions from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the following dates: Thurs. February 29th (St. Gregory's) and Tues. March 26th (Sacred Heart). Please note that due to the money (and time) involved in bringing

in another priest and limited participation in recent communal penance services, I am not scheduling any communal penance services for Lent 2024. Finally, I encourage you to set time aside for Holy Week to participate in parish liturgies, including the 2nd annual Walking Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m. on Good Friday--this year in Stacy.

Although I don't have the space to go into detail, I remind you that the other two pillars of Lent (and the Christian life) are Fasting and Almsgiving (e.g. Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls). I pray that our Lent will be a holy one so that when we get to Easter Sunday that we will call ourselves people of prayer.

~Father Matt Shireman



Remember in our Prayers.....

Fran Michnowski, Pat Mihm, 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, Steve Yurick, Mary Jane Dahl, Jim Brenna, Shari Lehmann, Bobbi Crowin

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.



ANOIDING 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.

Small Groups Update

Many of Small Groups kick off this week with their first meeting, but there is still time to join for Lent or beyond. Sign up cards and information sheets can be found in St. Gregory's narthex or the Parish Office. Contact Father Matt to sign up: 651-674-4056 or fathermatt@stgregorynb.org

The new parish small groups will be starting the days after Ash Wednesday (February 14th). Here is the initial set of groups:

*Sundays from 9:45-11:15 a.m. at the Parish House, Gary & Kristie Frazier and Jeanne Kay
Mondays from 6-7:30 p.m. at Wayne & Elizabeth Herberg's house
Wednesdays from 10-11:30 a.m. at Rushseba Senior Living Center, Sandy Pelant
Thursdays from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Parish House, Connie Blomquist-Start date 2/15
Fridays from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Parish House, David Prickett*

Parish/Community News

Catholic Charities Food Distribution

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

St. Bridget of Sweden, Lindstrom -**All-U-Can Eat FISH FRY!** Fridays during Lent from 5pm-7pm, Feb. 16th-March 22nd. See flyers for more details.



FISH FRY AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran of North Branch will have their annual **ALL-U-Can Eat-Fish Fry** every Friday in Lent, 5:00—7:00 p.m.

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 each Friday after 8:30am Mass in the Romero House.



CATHOLIC WATCHMEN

The next gathering of the Catholic Watchmen will on February 1st at 7:00 p.m. in St. Gregory's Parish Hall.

YOUTH GROUP

All high school youth of St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart are invited to the next Youth Group gathering on Sunday, February 18. The group will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in St. Gregory's Romero House (6385 Maple St., North Branch). Permission slips can be obtained through the Faith Formation Office.



LENTEN 2024

This year the Lenten Season starts on February 14th- March 28th. Mark your calendars for these important Lenten Activities.

ASHT WEDNESDAY

February 14th

Mass with Ashes- 9:00 am - Fr. Matt (Sacred Heart)
Mass with Ashes - 7:00 pm - Fr. Matt (Sacred Heart)
Mass - 9:00 am - Fr. Fitzgerald w/ Dn. Kevin (St. Gregory's)
Mass—4:30 PM- Fr. Fitzgerald (St. Gregory's)
Communion Svc. —6:30 pm -Dn. Kevin (St. Gregory's)

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday night at 7pm following the 6pm Lenten Supper

Sacred Heart Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - March 24 -8:30am
Holy Thursday - March 28 -7:00pm
Good Friday - March 29 -7:00pm
Holy Saturday - March 30 -8:00pm
Easter Sunday - March 31 -8:30am



Volunteers Needed!

We need your help to serve our Faith Formation classes. We are currently in the need of substitute teachers. If you are interested please contact the Parish

office @ 320-358-4370

Thank you!



YOUTH MINISTRY & FAITH FORMATION

EXTREME FAITH CAMP JULY 22-26

Youth of our parish have a new and exciting opportunity to attend Extreme Faith Camp 2024 at Trinity Woods in Trego, WI July 22-26 (travel times TBD). Participants include incoming 6-8th Grade (as campers), 9-10th Grade (Prayer Team), and 11-12th grade (Extreme Team) - (*grade as of 2024/25 school year).



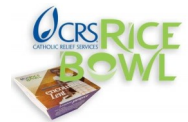
We have 15 spots reserved, but can take more if spots are available. Registration has opened, and forms will be coming soon. Don't delay if your child is serious about going!

Cost: \$525 until March 15th, then it will increase. A \$100 deposit is due with each registration form and will go towards the total cost. All youth who commit to going will be asked to participate in fundraising to help with the cost. Fundraising events are planned. Contact Liz Long (liz@stgregorynb.org) if you are interested.

LENTEN PROJECT

The disciples in grades 1-8 are invited to participate in the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl project for Lent. Information will be coming home with the students.

For additional info visit www.crsricebowl.org/



Join us at
Sacred Heart Catholic Church



SOUP
SUPPERS
+
STATIONS
OF THE
CROSS

weekly, on
Fridays



Freewill offering!

Join us
at 6:00pm
For Soup
Supper

Lenten Suppers Start Feb. 16th and go until March 22nd.

Stations of the Cross start at 7:00 pm.

415 W 5th Street, Rush City, MN 55069 320.358.4370

Mass Intentions

Dn. Kevin
4:30pm | St. Gregory| Fr. Fitzgerald
6:30 pm | St. Gregory| Dn. Kevin-CS
7:00pm | Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14th

9:00 am † Richard & Marcella Hemen

Sunday, February 18th

8:30 am † Bob Rothenbacher

Wednesday, February 21st

9:00 am † Parishioners

Sunday, February 25th

8:30 am † Red & Betty Anderson

Weekly Celebrants

Wednesday, February 14th

9:00 am | Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt
9:00 am | St. Gregory| Fr. Fitzgerald w/

Sunday, February 18th

8:30 am| Sacred Heart| Fr. Fitzgerald
w/ Dn. Kevin
10:30 am| St. Gregory| Fr. Matt w/Dn. Kevin

Wednesday, February 21st

9:00 am |Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt
5:00 pm |St. Gregory| Fr. Matt

Sunday, February 25th

8:30 am | Sacred Heart| Fr. Matt
10:30 am | St. Gregory| Fr. Fitzgerald
w/Dn. Kevin

