



Church of the Sacred Heart

Parish Office / Mailing Address:

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I am the way, the truth, and the life. John 14:6

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



Second Sunday of Easter | 4-7-2024

Third Sunday of Easter | 4-14-2024

BRIDGES AND BOATS

Hopefully you had a blessed Easter with your loved ones! I was able to make it back to Minnetonka and celebrate with my parents, brother, aunt, and uncle (I was able to talk with my sister, who stayed in Colorado).

The first time I heard about the Baltimore bridge disaster was actually at a daily Mass when Deacon Kevin had the collapse as one of the petitions. It was especially tragic that 6 bridge workers lost their lives after the almost 1000-foot vessel lost power and crashed into a pillar of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. It brought back memories of the I-35 Bridge collapse; as you may have heard, 5 of the I-35 Bridges could fit the length of the 1.6-mile Baltimore bridge.

The Baltimore bridge collapse brings to the fore two connections in my life. The first is my background in civil engineering (which I still tap into every November with the annual Gold Mass). Civil engineers work hard to design bridges to withstand all sorts of forces (especially traffic loads) that could impact the bridge. Although an engineer cannot economically design a bridge to withstand the force of a barge crashing into it, there will be a lot of investigation into how to avoid such catastrophes in the future.

A more recent connection to the Baltimore bridge collapse is my recent enrollment as a chaplain in the Apostleship of the Sea (AOS), also called Stella Maris. AOS provides pastoral ministry to Catholic seafarers. One of the programs that AOS provides is recruiting Catholic priests for cruise ships; I will have my first experience of that when my Mom and I do a cruise along California in November.



Part of an email from the AOS president, Captain George McShea, Jr. read the following following the Baltimore bridge collapse: "Many of the crew were ministered to by Stella Maris, Baltimore during their port stay and the Stella Maris folks, and

other Seafarer organizations stand ready to minister to the crew once safely back at the dock in Baltimore."

In the midst of this tragedy, I am reminded of the dignity of work. Everybody, in their own way, can contribute to the common good of society even when they are not actively collecting a paycheck. As Christians, we have our faith in God to turn to. God has created us to depend on each other, to collaborate as we seek out solutions to the issues we face in the world. We pray for all of the victims of the bridge tragedy; may we all be reunited in Heaven one day.

-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, Mary Jane Dahl, Jim Brenna, Shari Lehmann, Bobbi Corwin

Father God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that You would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love. In Jesus' name. Amen!



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.

Small Groups Update



Small Groups are Open to All Adults Similar to many parishes in the Archdiocese, Sacred Heart launched small group ministry at the start of Lent. These small groups (which include co-ed as well as ones specifically for women) continue to welcome new participants, even on a trial basis. The groups will be starting new content in the Easter season, so it's a great time to consider joining. For more information on the groups, contact Fr. Matt (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org).

Below are 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 & Jan Walz

Parish/Community News

Catholic Charities Food Distribution

The next food distribution of frozen meals for seniors 60 and older will be on **Tuesday, April 16th from 11:00am-12:00 pm**. Meals are available in quantities of 20 per calendar month.

Divine Mercy Devotions

The Church of St. Joseph (490 Bench St., Taylors Falls) is having Divine Mercy devotions on Sunday, April 7 with Eucharistic Adoration and confessions from 1:30pm-3:00pm. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited at 3:00pm followed by Eucharistic Benediction.

Retrouvaille: Help for Struggling Marriages

Is your marriage struggling? Retrouvaille is a lifeline for troubled marriages. Since 1977, over 40,000 marriages saved worldwide. Couples learn the tools to rediscover each other and heal their marriage. 100% confidential. Go to the website for more information on dates and cost. <https://www.archspm.org/retrouvaille-help-for-struggling-marriages/>



Solemnity of the Annunciation has been transferred this year to **Monday, April 8th**. Although it's not a Holy Day of Obligation, there will be **Mass at 7 p.m. here at Sacred Heart**.



Saturday, April 13th from 5pm-7pm, **The First Evangelical Lutheran Church of RC** will be serving a Spaghetti dinner. Adults \$10 and 12 & under are free.



The next **Parish council** meeting is Tuesday, April 9th at 7pm.

Meeting

YOUTH MINISTRY & FAITH FORMATION

2ND YEAR CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Please pray for the 2nd Year Confirmants who will be attending their retreat at the Net Center in West St. Paul the weekend of April 13 & 14. May the Holy Spirit fill them with faith, hope, and love as they continue on their journey.



FIRST EUCHARIST

Please pray for the children who will be receiving the sacrament of First Eucharist for the first time on Sunday, April 14 at St. Gregory the Great Church. May God watch over His little ones.

OUR MISSION: Sacred Heart parish is a community of Catholic Christian believers, established by the Archdiocese of St.

Paul and Minneapolis. We strive to grow in holiness through prayer, celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments, and reflection on the scriptures. We work hard to build the kingdom of God through evangelization, catechesis and service for all.

Mass Intentions

Weekly Celebrants

Wednesday, April 10th

9:00 am † Jim Kirchberg

Sunday, April 14th

8:30 am † Richard & Marcella Ke-men

Wednesday, April 17th

9:00 am † Katherine Whitehurst

Sunday, April 21st

8:30 am † Konstantine Stathes



Annunciation of the Lord

Monday, April 8th

7:00 pm | Sacred Heart | Fr. Matt

Wednesday, April 10th

9:00 am | Sacred Heart | Fr. Matt

5:00 pm | St. Gregory | Fr. Matt

Sunday, April 14th

8:30 am | Sacred Heart | Fr. Chuck

10:30 am | St. Gregory | Fr. Chuck w/Dn Kevin

Wednesday, April 17th

9:00 am | Sacred Heart | Fr. Chuck

5:00 pm | St. Gregory | Dn. Kevin

Sunday, April 21st

8:30 am | Sacred Heart | Fr. Matt w/ Dn. Kevin

10:30 am | St. Gregory | Fr. Fitzgerald w/Dn. Kevin

Join the Mary and Martha Women's Group of St. Gregory's church in North Branch for a women-only speaker event on April 25th at 6:30pm.

The speaker is Laura Stierman, author of "I Own a Bible and I'm Not Afraid to Use It". This event is free, but they are asking for RSVP's. Space will be limited. To RSVP call the St. Gregory's Parish office at 651-674-4056. See bulletin boards for flyer with more details.



RESPECT LIFE

On Monday, March 25, legislators had the opportunity to restore religious exemptions in the Minnesota Human Rights Act. Archbishop Hebda was in attendance to watch the House floor proceedings from the galleries. Unfortunately, legislators chose to table the motion to restore religious exemptions. This attack on religious Institutions is troubling on many fronts, especially when considered alongside the so-called "Equal Rights Amendment to the Minnesota Constitution. The proposed ERA takes these issues a step further by potentially allowing discrimination against individuals of faith in our state. Please contact your state representative and senator expressing your concern. Go to leg.mn.gov to find your legislators.

Offer this Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life daily:

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.