



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

Office Phone: 320.358.4370 Fax: 866.779.1580 Wey Hall: 320.358.3145

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter | 5-18-2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter | 5-25-2025

WELCOME VISITORS! TO SACRED HEART

If you are visiting Sacred Heart for the first time today, we would like to say **WELCOME!** Maybe you've been away for while or just passing through. Either way we would like for you to feel at home here. If you would like to join our Parish family we would be honored to have you as a member. Please feel free to call the Parish office if you have any questions or would like to join the parish. We would like to help in anyway!

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.

SMALL GROUPS

Small Groups are Open to All Adults
The parish small groups continue to welcome new participants, even on a trial basis. For more information on the groups, contact Fr. Matt (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org).

Mondays from 6-7:30pm at the Herberg's

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.

1st and 3rd Sunday from 9:30-11:30 in Parish House.

Men's small group, **3rd Saturday** of each month @St. Gregory's from 7:30am-9am.



WEEKDAY/WEEKEND MASSES

Sunday 8:30 am
Wednesday 9:00 am
1st Saturday of each month 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

PARISH OFFICE

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen
Bookkeeper: Mary Felix
mary@stgregorynb.org
Project Asst./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

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:30am. - 12:30 pm.

Interest in the Catholic Church

To get people curious in the Church, there is nothing like the death of a Pope. Well, maybe a Conclave. Well, maybe the election of the first-ever American Pope! Of course, we pray earnestly for the beginning weeks of Pope Leo XIV's papacy (and it is fitting to keep praying for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis). It is notable that even after bracketing the last few weeks, there has been more than just a curiosity of the Catholic Church but even a deep interest. Over in France, there were over 10,000 adult baptisms (many of them young adults) at this year's Easter Vigils; which is an increase of about 45 percent from the previous year. Similar percentage upticks in fully-initiated Catholics were seen also in England and Los Angeles as well as many parishes in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

I have recently noticed a number of people reaching out to the parish asking for how their loved ones could receive sacraments or at least learn more about the Church. God continues to move hearts and minds to connect humans to Hi! At many other parishes, there are classes called Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA for short; formerly known as RCIA). In my first 3 years at the parishes, I have walked with several individuals through personal meetings supplemented by classes such as the "Catholicism 101" series in summer 2023, the "Pints with Padre" series in summer 2024 (with a return this summer), and Adult Faith Formation classes this school year. We will probably have OCIA classes this summer or fall. Therefore, if you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic or in receiving the Catholic sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, please connect them with me or contact the parish office.

May God continue to attract many more souls to the Catholic Church.

Fr. Matt Shireman



Fall Festival Update:

While our first Fall Festival meeting didn't go quite as planned, we will try to give it another go! Join us for a fresh start on **Thursday, May 22nd at 6:30 PM** in the **Parish House**. We're looking forward to a fun and festive day together—and we'd love your help making it great! All ideas and helping hands are warmly welcomed.

5th Sunday of Easter

I was recently reading an article about the real aspects of true love. The psychologist writing the piece said that many people hide behind the words "I love you." They can start believing that if they say it enough times, it simply becomes true.

Jesus claimed that the world would know his disciples by the fact that they loved one another. In the Church, we speak of loving one another quite frequently. I hope that someone can tell that I am a disciple of Jesus by the way I love others. However, that hope is something I have to keep in the center of my mind because I fear too often that I speak more of love than act out of love.

As Christians, we can find ourselves hiding behind our words. History, unfortunately, has shown us that our witness of action has not always been profound enough. The world will surely know whom it is we serve if we love like Jesus, we act like Jesus, and we serve others like Jesus. Our stewardship will bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ, and we will bring others to him. Our love will be an instrument of our evangelization. Our words will become true, not because we said them enough, but because they are true.

PRAYER

list...

"Prayers for the sick"

Lord, look upon me with eyes of mercy, may your healing hand rest upon me, may your life-giving powers flow into every cell of my body and into the depths of my soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness and strength for service in your Kingdom and especially for.....

Pat Mihm, Audrey Larson, Kim Wall, David Kirshberg, 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, Dorothy Kliegle, Jim Brenna, Jody Kliegle, Ken Kirshberg, Umbreit Family, Margery Steininger, Violet Pearson, Dick Johnson, Lorraine Holcomb. 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.

COMMUNION VISITS

Are you or someone you know homebound and desiring to receive Holy Communion? Or in need of Confession or the Anointing of the Sick (which is not just for people who are actively dying)? Let the Church come to you! To set a time that works for you, please contact the parish office.

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, May 21st

9:00 am Parishioners of Sacred Heart

Sunday, May 25th

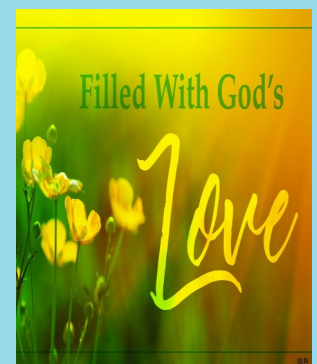
8:30 am †Teresa Paquette

Wednesday, May 28th

9:00 am †Tony Debevec

Sunday, June 1st

8:30 am †Joe & Elsie Moore



PARISH/COMMUNITY NEWS

Children's Clothing Drive

Sisters of Sacred Heart is sponsoring a Clothing Drive for new children's clothing for Options for Women. There will be a collection bin in the back of church. Options for Women has stated they are in need of summer clothing, sizes newborn to age 6. This includes swimsuits (one-piece for girls) and also swimming diapers. The drive will run through Sunday, June 8.

Fellowship & Hospitality

A fellowship gathering will be held in Wey hall immediately following Mass on the **first Sunday of each month**; join us for refreshments, food, community, and conversation after worship. *We are looking for more volunteers to assist with hospitality. If you are interested, please contact the office or sign up in back of church.*



Join us on the **First Saturday** of each month for Mass at 9:00 AM. This is a wonderful opportunity to start your month in prayer, reflection, and community. Whether you're a regular attendee or

new to our parish, we welcome you to come together in faith and worship. We look forward to seeing you there!

Join us on the **Last Friday** of each month for a special **Mass at 1:30 pm at Rusheba**. All are welcome to attend and partake in this peaceful and reflective gathering. Whether you're a regular attendee or new to the community, we invite you to share in this time of worship and fellowship. *The Mass will be on May 30th.*



Sisters of Sacred Heart meet *every 3rd Thursday of each month.* All women of Sacred Heart are invited and encouraged to join in the meetings, they are held in Wey Hall at 6:30pm. *The next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, June 19th.*



JOIN OUR FAITH FORMATION STAFF AT ST. GREGORY'S Have you heard? Sadly, Dion and Shawn have both decided to leave St. Gregory's staff for other endeavors. We are actively seeking applications for both positions which are posted on [Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com) and the Archdiocese Careers page (www.archspm.org/careers and search by 55056 ZIP

code). (Director of Faith Formation & Administrative Assistant to Faith Formation)

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO WISCONSIN

Join Fr. Matt on a parish pilgrimage to 3 holy sites in Wisconsin August 6-8. The trip involves a 2-night stay in Appleton, WI, and daytime visits to Our Lady of Champion, Holy Hill Basilica, and Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The approximate cost is \$520 for someone in a single room, or \$410 for someone in a double room. Spots are limited due to bus capacity. Call Marsha in the Parish Office to sign up: 320-358-4370.

History Books and Graphic Novels Available



The Archdiocese's history books (\$36) and graphic novels (\$16) are now available for purchase in the church office. Stop by during office hours to get your copy!



Pints with Padre

Following the success of last year's inaugural series, Pints with Padre will return. You can expect a monthly informal talk, Q&A, and time for socializing.

Details are forthcoming.

YOUTH MINISTRY & FAITH FORMATION

CONFIRMATION

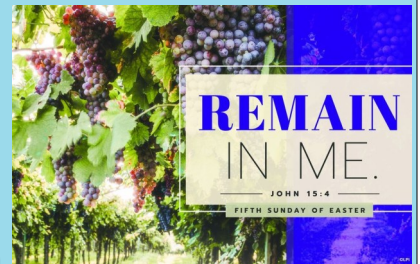
The 2nd year Confirmation Candidates will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral of Saint Paul on Sunday, June 8 at 2:00 p.m. Please pray for them as they take this important step on their faith journey.

CONFIRMATION BLESSING & CELEBRATION

The Confirmands will receive a special blessing during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 15 at St. Gregory the Great Church followed by a reception in the parish hall. The parish is invited to join us in welcoming the newly confirmed.

5th Sunday of Easter Message

On this 5th Sunday of Easter, we are reminded of Christ's invitation to remain united in Him, as branches are to the vine. In today's Gospel (John 15:1-8), Jesus calls us to bear fruit by abiding in His love and living according to His word. Let us reflect on how we can stay close to the True Vine through prayer, the sacraments, and acts of love. May this Easter season continue to renew our faith and strengthen our connection to Christ and one another.



6th Sunday of Easter Message

As we journey through the Easter season, this 6th Sunday brings us a message of love and promise. In today's Gospel (John 15:9-17), Jesus says, "*As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love.*" He calls us to live in His love by keeping His commandments, and above all, by loving one another as He has loved us. This love is not just a feeling, but a daily choice to serve, forgive, and uplift those around us. May the joy of Easter continue to deepen our love for Christ and for each other.

Confirmation Sending Ceremony – May 18th

Today, May 18th, we will gather as a parish family to celebrate a Sending Ceremony for our Confirmands as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on June 8th at St. Paul Cathedral.

We especially lift up in prayer *Abigail Thelander* from Sacred Heart Church, who has been preparing with faith and dedication for this important step in her spiritual journey.

Confirmation is a powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit, strengthening our young people to live out their Catholic faith with courage and love. Please continue to pray for *Abigail* and all those being confirmed, that they may be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit and remain faithful disciples of Christ.