



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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph | 12-28-2025 The Epiphany of The Lord | 1-4-2026

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 a 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!

Sunday/Daily Masses, Reconciliation

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

**Weekend Mass @ St. Gregory's -
 North Branch**
 Saturday 5:00 pm
 Sunday 10:30 am

ADORATION

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass until Noon

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

FAITH FORMATION
 Sacred Heart :Tina Heidelberger
 763-670-8594
 tina.joeheidelberger@gmail.com
Confirmation: Danielle Miller
 651-674-7382
 danielle@stgregorynb.org

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

Improving the Morale at the Parish

Before he returned to Zambia, Fr. Andy at a set of Sunday Masses at St. Gregory's asked, "Are you proud to be Catholic? Are you proud to be a member at your parish?" These are important questions. Whatever the answer to these questions are, it is fine wherever you are. And we also look to improve upon them.

I rely on many people at the parishes—Deacon Kevin, Father Chuck, the staff, trustees, Parish Council, Finance Council, Parish Leadership Team (at St. Gregory's), and other volunteers—as well as people at the Archdiocese to make St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart places where people encounter Jesus Christ. Even a well-oiled parish needs to regularly look for opportunities to improve and further its mission.

To that end, the St. Gregory's Parish Leadership Team has developed a survey to assess parish morale. The 7 question (or so) survey will go "live" around January 10th in both online (through parish email and a hyperlink) and print form (at Mass and in the parish office). The survey should take about 5 to 10 minutes to complete. Although the initial focus will be on St. Gregory's, I will work with staff and leaders to put together a similar survey for Sacred Heart parishioners shortly afterwards.

The real work begins after we close the survey. The results will be totaled and communicated out. Although respondents can fill out the survey anonymously, if they would like to receive a personal contact, then they will be asked to leave their name. Thus, there will be some follow-up required from a PLT or staff member.

Thank you for choosing St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart as the place where you worship. I would like to thank you in advance for responding honestly to the upcoming parish survey.

Fr. Matt Shireman

Heavenly Father,

In Your boundless love and mercy, we lift up to You all those who are sick, suffering, or burdened in any way—whether in body, mind, or spirit. Grant them comfort in their pain, strength in their weakness, and peace in their hearts. May they feel Your presence and know they are never alone. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR:

George & Carole Stenger, Pat Mihm, Audrey Larson, Kim Wall, Ken & David Kirchberg, 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, Umbreit Family, Margery Steininger, Violet Pearson, Tori Yurick-Schieber, John Urlaub, Al & Mary Petschl, Denise Boyd. 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, December 31st

9:00 am †Ellen Rothenbacher

Saturday, January 3rd

9:00 am Parishioners

Sunday, January 4th

8:30 am †Joe & Elsie Moore

Wednesday, January 7th

9:00 am † Bob Rothenbacher

Sunday, January 11th

8:30 am †Dave & Margaret Backes

The parish continues to have Formed.org, which can be described as "Catholic Netflix." Here is how to sign up to watch their movies.

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "Sign Up As A Parishioner"
4. Find St. Gregory's by parish name, address, or zip code (55056)
5. Enter your email – and you're in!



SYNOD-RECLAIMING SUNDAY'S



The "Reclaiming Sunday" initiative for January is "Invitation and Prayer." Faith needs to be shared with others, especially the young, so that they can make it their own. The sacrament of Baptism is our entryway into the life of grace.

Recall your own baptism and the baptisms of your family members, by celebrating the Baptism of the Lord (January 11th) in your family. Find your baptismal candles and light them, look at photos and videos from your celebrations, bless your children with holy water, pray for your godparents, pray for the clergyman who baptized you, etc. While you have out all the momentos, document your family's baptism dates and mark them on your calendar to celebrate in future years (note: the parish may have this info if it is difficult to find).

PARISH NEWS

Sisters of The Sacred Heart

Please mark your calendars for the Sisters of the Sacred Heart meetings, which are held on each 3rd Thursday's in Wey Hall at 6:30 pm. **The next one will be on January 15th, 2026.**



Catholic Watchmen – Monthly Gathering
Men of the parish are invited to join the Catholic Watchmen on the **1st Thursday of every month** for an evening of prayer, fellowship, and strengthening in faith at St. Gregory's. **The next gathering will be on Thursday, February 5th. 4th at 7pm-8pm.** All men are welcome!



BIBLE STUDY

Join Fr. Matt for Bible Study every Friday at 9:15 AM in the Romero House, 6385 Maple St., North Branch



BAPTISM PREP CLASS

Parents seeking Baptism for their child are required to attend a single Baptism class, which we offer on the second Thursday of each month at the Parish Hall at St. Gregory's, 6:30-7:30pm. Call the Parish Office to sign up.

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 in the Parish 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.

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.

Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

- *December 31st, 6:30pm at St. Gregory's
- *January 1, 2026, 9:00am at Sacred Heart
- *January 1, 2026, 7:00pm at Sacred Heart
- *January 1, 2026, 8:30am at St. Gregory's



May the newborn Christ fill your hearts with peace, your homes with joy, and your lives with His enduring light. Merry Christmas, and may God bless you always.

New Year, New Heart: Stewardship in 2026

*"They opened their treasures and offered him gifts."
(Matthew 2:11)*

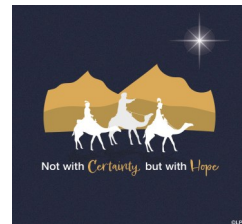
As we celebrate the Epiphany and step into 2026, we are invited to mirror the Magi—not just in their journey, but in their **generosity**. Stewardship is often misunderstood as simply "giving to the church," but the Magi show us the true definition: recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God and returning the best of it to Him in worship.

As we look at the year ahead, let us reflect on how we can steward our "treasure" in three ways:

- **Our Time:** In a busy world, can we commit to a more consistent prayer life or a weekly Holy Hour in 2026?
- **Our Talent:** Our parish thrives on the unique skills God gave *you*. Is this the year you join a ministry, choir, or outreach program?
- **Our Treasure:** By practicing planned, proportionate giving, we acknowledge that God is the source of our security, not our bank accounts.

The Magi traveled a long distance to give their best to a King they had just met. May we, who know the Lord intimately, be just as bold in our offerings this year. Let us make 2026 a year where our parish is defined not just by what we receive, but by how we serve.

Lord, help me to be a good steward of the days You have given me in this new year. Teach me to use my hands to serve, my heart to love, and my resources to build Your kingdom here on earth. Amen.



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.