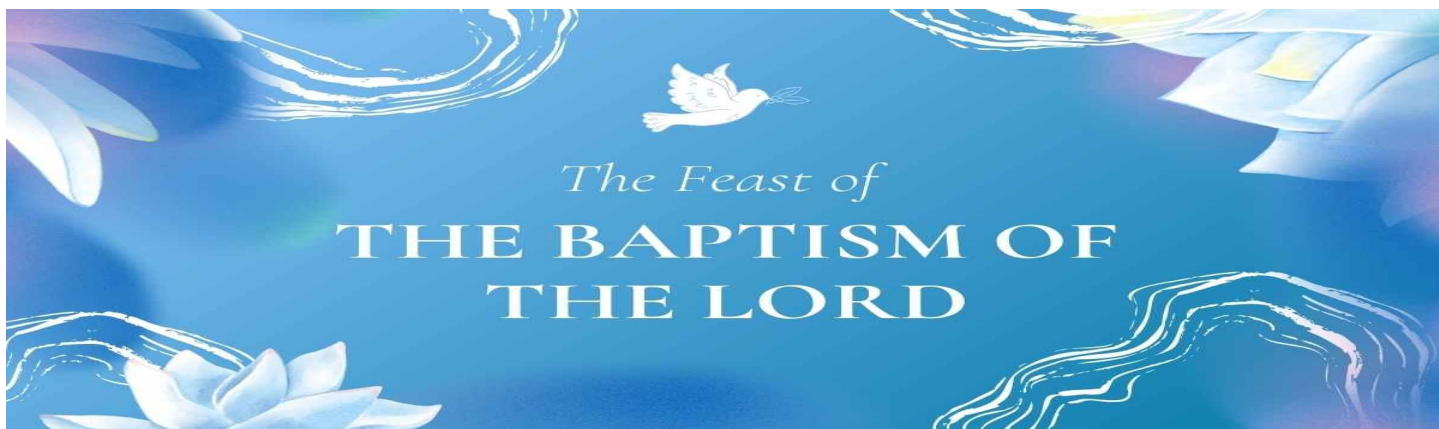




Church of the Sacred Heart

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 Baptism of the Lord | 1-11-2026
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time | 1-18-2026

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.

Becoming Fully Initiated

Catholics and Orthodox Christians point to 3 Sacraments that complete one's initiation as a Christian—Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. In the Latin Rite (which is a big proportion) of the Catholic Church, First Eucharist is received at 7 and the reception of Confirmation varies (many dioceses place it around 8th to 10th grade). The process of becoming fully initiated as a Catholic over the age of 7 is now called OCIA for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (previously RCIA where the 'R' stood for 'Rites'). A person is called a catechumen if they have not been baptized; the term candidate is used for someone who is baptized but has not received First Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

Although a priest may prepare individuals for the Sacraments individually, the preferred way is through a set of OCIA classes with both those seeking the Sacraments as well as parishioners to accompany them. This is the first year in about 10 years that we have had an OCIA class at St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart. It is a great reminder that God still draws people into the fullness of His Church—the Catholic Church.

The baptisms of those over the age of 7 are generally performed at the Easter Vigil (Saturday, April 4th). The preparations for the Sacraments will begin in earnest. The first liturgical rite that will be performed is the "Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate" at the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Gregory's on January 17th. As indicated by the name, this rite is for the catechumens. On Sunday, February 22nd at the Cathedral, the catechumens will be presented to the bishop (along with others from throughout the Archdiocese) at what is called the Rite of Election (after which, the catechumens are called the elect). During the season of Lent, there will be additional rites called "scrutinies" that prepare the elect for their initiation.

I ask that you pray for the upwards of 10 people (in addition to the young people in our regular Sacramental preparation) who will be receiving these Sacraments of Initiation at or after the Easter Vigil.

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, January 14th

9:00 am Presiders choice

Sunday, January 18th

8:30 am †Denise Byod

Wednesday, January 21st

9:00 am †Donna Knutson

Sunday, January 25th

8:30 am †Petra Mach



Lord, grant our Parish family a holy beginning to this new year of 2026. Guided by the light of Christ, may we grow in faith, hope, and charity throughout this month. We entrust our hearts and our works to Your divine grace. Amen.

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



As we have given attention to recreating on the Lord's Day as God had designed, it is good to share the peace and joy we experience with others. To that end, invite someone else to share in your "Reclaiming Sundays" focus. One possibility would be to plan a Sunday dinner as a family but invite a neighbor to it. Another possibility would be to ask family friends to join you on a walk (bundle up... you'll be fine!).

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.

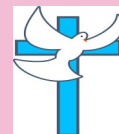
Everyday Stewardship

What have been the most significant moments in your life? You probably celebrate your birthday every year, so the day you were born must be pretty important. How about elementary, high school, or college graduations? Hopefully you do something special on or around your wedding anniversary if you are married. Do you have children? The birth of each child is probably near the top on the list of moments you will never forget. Then there are the sad moments of life: deaths, breakups, and tragedies. As you reflect on all these moments, you can see that you would not be who you are today without having experienced them. Of course as a Christian, you have one moment in time that has had an even greater impact on you and perhaps it didn't even come to mind: your Baptism.

You might say you don't remember it because you were an infant. Perhaps you do not even know the date it took place. You might not feel like it has had much impact on you at all. However, it has made all the difference.

Whether you feel the difference or not, on that day you were made a new creation in Jesus Christ. You were marked for Him with an indelible mark that no one can remove, not even you. On that day, you inherited a tradition and lineage of faith that has changed the face of the earth. Today, that baptismal grace beckons you to a real and substantial relationship with the One whose name was invoked on that day. It also calls you to respond with a stewardship way of life, where your gifts make a difference and glorify God. If today is the day you start taking all this seriously, you get to add a new moment to your list.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



†GEORGE STENGER

SERVICE IS ON JANUARY 14TH AT 11AM
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,
Rest in Peace. Amen.

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.

FAITH FORMATION



It's not too late to sign up for this summer's Youth Mission Trip. We will have a meeting on **Sunday, January 18 after the 10:30 Mass.** We will meet in the St. Rafka classroom. Please contact Vince Hendren with questions at vince@stgregorynb.org.

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.