

Sacred Heart Catholic Church St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
415 W. 5th St. ~ PO Box 45
Rush City, MN 55069

MASS TIMES:
Wednesday ~ 9:00 am
1st Saturday Mass ~ 9:00 am
Sunday ~ 8:30 am

ADORATION:
Wednesday ~ 9:30 am - Noon

RECONCILIATION:
Wednesday ~ 9:30 am
1st Sunday ~ 8:00 - 8:20 am

St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
38725 Forest Blvd ~ PO Box 609
North Branch, MN 55056

MASS TIMES:
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ~ 8:30 am
Wednesday ~ 5:00 pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help ~ 4:50 pm
Saturday ~ 5:00 pm
Sunday ~ 10:30 am

ADORATION:
Tuesdays & Friday ~ 7:30 - 8:20 am
Thursday ~ 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

RECONCILIATION:
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ~ 8:00 am
Saturday ~ 4:00 - 4:30 pm

ROSARY:
Saturday ~ 4:30 pm
Sunday ~ 10:00 am



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Parish Staff:

Pastor - Fr. Matt Shireman fathermatt@stgregorynb.org

Deacon - Dn. Kevin Downie | **Assisting Priest - Fr. Chuck Brambilla**

Bookkeeper: Mary Felix mary@stgregorynb.org

SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

320-358-4370 | FAX: 866-779-1580
shc415@hotmail.com
www.sacredheartrcmn.org

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen
Project Asst./Music: Steve Yurick
Tina Heidelberg, Faith Formation,
763-670-8594,
tina.joeheidelberg@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday -
8:30am - 12:30pm

ST. GREGORY PARISH OFFICE

651-674-4056 info@stgregorynb.org www.stgregorynb.org
Donna Groschen, Admin Asst., Safe Environment Coordinator

Cathie Hendren, Music Director
Rosemary Balster, Sexton
Vince Hendren, Youth Music
Rich Ohmann, Maintenance Dir.
Lisa Ohmann, Custodial Tech.

Barb Karel, KIC Coordinator
Patty Miller, KIC/DOC Admin Asst
Danielle Miller, DOC Coordinator
Liz Long, Youth Events Leader
Donald Ohmann, Maint./Grounds
Jacob Ohmann, Maint./Grounds

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday & Friday - 8:00am - 1:00pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday - 8:00am - 4:30pm

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday & Thursday - 8:00am - 4:30pm
Wednesday (class nights) - Noon - 8:00pm

May 17th, 2026 Ascension of the Lord ~ May 24th, 2026 Pentecost Sunday

SPIRIT-FILLED FAMILIES AND PARISHES

We are approaching both the great feast of Pentecost (May 24th) and the Confirmation Mass at the Cathedral for our candidates (June 14th). The sacrament of Confirmation flows from the original sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. At Confirmation, we receive an indelible mark on our soul and the grace to proclaim Christ to the world as well as an increase in sanctifying grace.

Due to the importance of Confirmation in the life of a Christian and the desire for our youth to have extra graces for high school, the Faith Formation team is lowering the age of Confirmation to 8th grade. Many other parishes in the Archdiocese have set Confirmation at this age. To facilitate the lowering of Confirmation to 8th grade (and switching to a 1-year program), the year of 2026-27 will be a transitional year. All 8th, 9th, and 10th graders will attend classes with the intention of being confirmed in spring 2027. More details will be released as we get closer to the start of next year's Faith Formation year.

After this bulletin went to press, Archbishop Hebda publicly released his pastoral letter called **"Only One Thing is Necessary"** (archspm.org/familyletter). This pastoral letter comes from much prayer and discernment, so we can be confident that the Holy Spirit is at work in it. As I mentioned a few months ago, the letter is focused on the Archdiocese's theme for this upcoming year—parents as primary educators of their children. By presenting their children for baptism, parents (with the help of godparents and other members in the Church) take on the responsibility for forming their children in the Catholic faith that will serve them their whole lives. Archbishop Hebda is calling for a "sea change" in how we as a Church minister to families. Every parish needs spirit-filled families, and this is not something that comes from just willing it.

Archbishop Hebda is asking for every Catholic to read and reflect on the letter. I have already facilitated some discussions with staff. This past Wednesday, we began a series of three sessions for our catechists (or "disciplers" as we have begun to call them at St. Gregory's) to see how we can concretize the letter for our parishes. There will be some planning for the upcoming year as we look to assist parents in their important educating duties—through homily mentions, blessings, and emphasis on particular liturgies.

Come Holy Spirit!

~ Fr. Matt

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

ST. GREGORY - CHANGE TO WEDNESDAY MASS



We will take a break from Wednesday Mass at St. Gregory's for the Summer months. The last 5:00pm Wednesday Mass will be May 27, and resume again on September 2. The Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help will temporarily move to 9:05am on Tuesdays during the Summer. There will be no change to the 9:00am Wednesday Mass schedule at Sacred Heart.

PINTS WITH PADRE

This Summer event will return for a 3rd year, although just one date is set for this year. All adults of both parishes are invited to join Fr. Matt at The Fort Restaurant & Bar on Thursday, August 27, 6:00 to 8:00pm. (80 W 4th St, Rush City)



NEW SUMMER EVENT ALERT!!

St. Gregory's Grill & Gather

Save the date for these new Summer parish events! They will be held once a month on Wednesday evenings – June 10th, July 8th, and August 5th – from 6:00 to 8:00pm at St. Gregory's.

All ages, and all members of Sacred Heart and St. Gregory parishes are invited for food, games, music, fellowship & fun!

Activities include: Outdoor games, Face painting, Cribbage tournament, music, hot dogs, & root beer floats. Contact Patty with questions or to volunteer: patty@stgregoryb.org



GUEST SPEAKER

Thursday, June 4
5:30-7:30pm

"Mary and Martha - Woundedness to Hope"

**This event is open to both parishes and the Catholic women of your family or circle of friends.*

All women are invited to a special speaker event on Thursday, June 4, in St. Gregory's Parish Hall. Please RSVP by May 27 to St. Gregory's office. There is no cost to attend.

Alyssa Bormes, Catholic educator, author and speaker, will use humor, analogy, and an innate gift of storytelling to help ignite in her audiences a new-found sense of wonder in the Church. Her passion is to inspire others to take on greater personal responsibility for their faith and to grow in spiritual maturity.

Doors will open at 5:30pm. Presentation will be 6:00-7:00pm. Light snacks and refreshments will be served. Alyssa will bring books available for purchase following the presentation. Sponsored by the Mary & Martha Group of St. Gregory's. (651-674-4056, donna@stgregorynb.org)

BLEST ART - Olive wood art by Holy Land artists May 23 & 24 after Masses at both parishes

Blest Art will be visiting our parishes on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Their mission is to support those families in the Holy Land. When Blest Art visits our parish, they will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. They accept cash, checks, and all major credit cards.

RECLAIMING SUNDAYS: Community and Prayer Activity: Intentionally speak with your neighbors

As we continue our Reclaiming Sundays initiative, May is a relatively pleasant month to be outdoors. When you are doing housework or see a neighbor outside, make it your intention to chat with your neighbors. In modern times, it is easy to be anonymous even to our neighbors. National Night Out (which this year is Tuesday, August 4th) helps to this end, but it is easy for us (Fr. Matt included) to go months without speaking with our neighbors. Maybe your conversation will be the highlight of your neighbor's day.



SACRED HEART

Please keep our *Confirmation candidates* (who along with the St. Gregory's candidates will be involved in a special rite at mass on **May 17th** with a reception afterwards) and our *Graduating students* in your daily prayers.

Our Confirmation Candidates:

Matthew Heidelberger
Zoe Wendorf
Timmy Morris
Max Morris
Dominic Turner



Our Graduates:

Lucas Dietrich
Brayden Ertz
Kathryn Heidelberger

A special Liturgy & Breakfast on Sunday, May 31st for the graduates.

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.

PRAYERS FOR:

Carole Stenger, Pat Mihm, Audrey Larson, Ken & David Kirchberg, Shirley Kirchberg, Grace Schwaab, Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Erin Hestbeck-Mielke, Gary Frazier, Jim Brenna, Margery Steininger, Violet Pearson, Tori Yurick-Schieber, Al & Mary Petschl, Denise Boyd, Steve Lauinger

Call the Parish Office to have yourself or loved one added to this prayer list for up to 3 months at a 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 your parish office. Sacred Heart and St. Gregory both have volunteers for this homebound ministry.

Online Giving now available at Sacred Heart!

Sacred Heart has teamed up with Vanco, which helps many churches nationwide to provide an easy and secure way to make contributions online. The direct link to Sacred Heart's landing page for online giving is active and can be accessed at the following link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZYTM>. It can also be accessed through the parish's website: click on the "Online Giving" tab and then the link on the page. Look for additional information and publicity in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, you can contact Mary or Marsha at the office.

Financial Update	Budget	Actual
April/Easter Sunday 2026	\$10,020	16,964.80

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 at St. Gregory's from 7:30am-9am.

Sisters of The Sacred Heart

Please mark your calendars for the Sisters of the Sacred Heart meetings, which are held on each 2nd Thursday in Wey Hall at 6:30 pm. The next one will be on June 11th, 2026.



Summer Opportunities for Youth

All of the youth events listed in the St. Gregory section—Totus Tuus (Vacation Bible School), Extreme Faith Camp, and Mission Trip—are open to all youth at Sacred Heart. Sacred Heart will provide scholarships to any youth who are interested. Please contact the Sacred Heart office or the Faith Formation office at St. Gregory's for more information. **Please contact the Church office ASAP if your child would like to participate in the Youth Summer activities!**

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, May 20th

9:00 am †Amy Prickett

Sunday, May 24th

8:30 am †Tony Debevec

Wednesday, May 27th

9:00 am †Kenny Hjelm

Sunday, May 31st

8:30 am †Amy Prickett



A sincere **Thank You** to everyone who donated to our Easter Flower Fund. Your generosity made our parish look beautiful!



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.

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

Faith Formation Office: 651-674-7382

Barb Karel, Coordinator ~ barb@stgregorynb.org
 Patty Miller, Admin Asst. ~ patty@stgregorynb.org
 Danielle Miller, Confirmation ~ danielle@stgregorynb.org
 Liz Long, Youth Events Leader ~ liz@stgregorynb.org
 Vince Hendren, Mission Trip ~ vince@stgregorynb.org

CALENDAR

Note: The Daily Mass and Reconciliation schedules will only be listed here if it is different from a typical week. Classes that require registration will be listed in their respective boxes in other areas of the bulletin.

FAITH FORMATION



Congratulations to all our First Communicants! We had a total of 11 young ladies and gents make their First Holy Communion this spring. May God always watch over you and bless you!

CLASS & EVENT SCHEDULE:

May 17, 8:30am - DOC Rite of Sending at Sacred Heart
 May 17, 10:30am - First Communion group 2 at St. Gregory

THANK YOU!

A special thank you goes out to everyone who helped make our "Cinco de Mayo" end of the year FF party a huge success! It was a GREAT time, and we look forward to seeing everyone at our summer events!



GRADUATION DINNER

RSVPs from the Class of 2026 are due by Friday, May 30 for the Graduation Mass & Dinner on Saturday, June 6. Please call the parish office with the total number of family members attending.

TOTUS TUUS SUMMER PROGRAM

The daytime program for those entering grades 1-5 will run June 15-19 from 8:00am to 1:30pm. See Page 5 for more details. Registration forms are available now.



REGISTRATION FORMS - FALL 2026 FAITH FORMATION

Registration for next year's Faith Formation will be happening SOON! We're looking forward to all of the NEW things happening next year, so watch future bulletins and your Flocknote messages for sign-up information.



Almighty God, we lift up all those who are ill in body, spirit, or mind. We ask you to bring healing, comfort, and peace to them. Calm their fears and help them experience the healing power of Your love. Amen

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:

Roger, Steve, and Pat Dusbabek, Stephen Lauinger,
 Glen Magnuson, Tom Mellgren, Marcia O'Brien

Call the Parish Office to have yourself or loved one added to this prayer list for up to 3 months at a time, or to be added to the Prayer Chain.



† Donna White

Past parishioner and wife of Don White

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



ST. GREGORY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Goal \$5,908.65

Offering for 04/19 | Week 43 \$4,912.95

Offering for 04/26 | Week 44 \$4,498.95

YTD Weekly Goal YTD Actual Offering

\$259,980.60 \$244,687.03

MASS ATTENDANCE

Date	5:00pm	10:30am
April 18 & 19 Week 43	112	168
April 25 & 26 Week 44	82	192

Tuesday, May 19
 7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

Wednesday, May 20
 6:00 pm KIC Discipier meeting.....Parish Hall

Thursday, May 21
 9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church
 5:30 pm Mary & Martha Women's meeting..Parish Hall
 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus meeting.....Parish Hall

Friday, May 22
 9:15 am Bible Study.....Rectory Gazebo

Saturday, May 23
 10:00 am Stations of Resurrection videos....Parish Hall
 4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional
 4:30 pm Rosary.....Church
 5:00 pm Mass.....Church
 6:00 pm Blest Art sale.....Parish Hall

Sunday, May 24
 10:00 am Rosary.....Church
 10:30 am Mass.....Church
 11:30 am Blest Art sale.....Parish Hall
 11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day
 9:30 am Memorial Day Mass.....St. Joseph Cemetery

Tuesday, May 26
 7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

Wednesday, May 27
 6:00 pm KIC Discipier meeting.....Parish Hall

Thursday, May 28
 9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church
 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl meeting.....Off-Site

Friday, May 29
 9:15 am Bible Study.....Rectory Gazebo

Saturday, May 30
 4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional
 4:30 pm Rosary.....Church
 5:00 pm Mass.....Church

Sunday, May 31
 10:00 am Rosary.....Church
 10:30 am Mass.....Church
 11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, May 19, 8:30am

† Sally Pierce

Wednesday, May 20, 5:00pm

† Robert & † Sylvia Cierzan

Thursday, May 21, 8:30am

Family of Mary Ruyman-Lee

Friday, May 22, 8:30am

† Marguerite Rustand

Saturday, May 23, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, May 24, 10:30am - Pentecost Sunday

Mother Mary Small Group

Tuesday, May 26, 8:30am

Homebound Parishioners

Wednesday, May 27, 5:00pm

† Roger Mench

Thursday, May 28, 8:30am

Stephanie, Jason, Heather, & Evan Pommier

Friday, May 29, 8:30am

† Frances and † John Lauinger

Saturday, May 30, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, May 31, 10:30am - The Most Holy Trinity

† Lynn Dethloff



YOUTH EVENTS

Vince Hendren vince@stgregorynb.org
Liz Long: liz@stgregorynb.org or call St. Gregory's Parish Office (651-674-4056) for their phone numbers.

BACCALAUREATE WORSHIP SERVICE

The annual Baccalaureate Service will be on Wednesday, June 3 at 7:00pm in the North Branch High School Auditorium. All senior students, families, and the public are invited to this non-denominational service to bless and celebrate the graduating class.



INVEST IN OUR YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Youth from the Mission Trip and Extreme Faith Camp will be starting this new style of fundraiser the weekend of May 16 & 17 and running through June.

Visit our display in the Narthex, take an envelope off the board, and return the envelope with your donation in the collection basket. All proceeds will help youth from our parish attend Extreme Faith Camp in Trego, WI and the Mission Trip to Champaign, IL. Contact Liz Long or Vince Hendren with questions. Thank you for your support.

RITE OF SENDING FOR CONFIRMANDS:

Please pray for the Confirmands of Sacred Heart and St. Gregory as they prepare for Confirmation which will take place on Sunday, June 14 at the Cathedral of Saint Paul.



TOTUS TUUS 2026 - June 14-19, for Grades 1-12

Registration forms are available now for this exciting summer youth program. The daytime program for those entering grades 1-5 will run June 15-19 from 8:00am to 1:30pm. The evening program for those entering grades 6-12 will be June 14-18 from 5:30pm to 8:15pm.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are looking for individuals to provide meals for both programs and help with snacks and supervision during the daytime program. Contact: Liz Long

YOUTH DISCERNMENT RETREAT - July 28-30

Trying to figure out God's plan for your life? St. Mary's in Milaca is hosting a Discernment Retreat, giving youth the opportunity to learn how to discern single life, married life, religious life or the priesthood. There will be talks, prayer, adoration, Confession, games and food. The cost is \$50.00 for kids entering 7th grade and up. Kids entering grades 4-6 are invited up for the afternoon on July 30th; cost: \$15.00.

Registration is due by June 15. To find out more info and to register, please visit <https://www.fourpillarsinfaith.org> and click on Discernment Retreat.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Spend time with Jesus.

We are seeking people to be regular scheduled adorers at either Sacred Heart on Wednesdays (9:30am to Noon) or on Thursdays at St. Gregory (9:00am to 9:00pm). Particularly, we need at least one more person for the hours of Noon and 4:00pm at St. Gregory. Contact the respective Parish Offices to sign up.



FORMED.ORG VIDEO OF THE WEEK:

The Ascension | Sacred Art - Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp to expand your knowledge of sacred art. In this episode on Formed, they discuss The Ascension of Christ by Jacopo Tintoretto.
<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/1530580/>



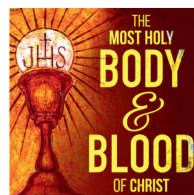
NEWS FOR ALL

Fr. Matt Shireman: fathermatt@stgregorynb.org

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS may be found online at:
<https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>

BIBLE STUDY

Join Fr. Matt for Bible Study on Fridays at 9:15am in the Cry Room (or the gazebo as the weather warms) of St. Gregory's, North Branch.



CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSIONS

To celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi on Sunday, June 7, clergy will lead a short outdoor procession around church property after Mass. This will be at both Sacred Heart (after 8:30am Mass) and at St. Gregory's (after 10:30am Mass). The procession will be indoors in case of bad weather.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - TOTUS TUUS 2026

We are looking for one more couple, who lives within 10 minutes of the parish, to host two of our Totus Tuus missionaries June 13-20. This is the perfect opportunity for our older parishioners, as there cannot be anyone under the age of 18 living in the home. Volunteer homes need to provide breakfast, sleeping space, and use of washer/dryer.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with meals/snacks and activities during the program day with the youth. Contact: Liz Long or see sign-up sheets in the narthex.



MARY & MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP



ANNUAL BABY SHOWER - May 1 - 31

Every May, the M&M group hosts a baby shower to benefit Options for Women of Chisago County. We are accepting donations now through May 31. New and gently used items may be placed in the donation bin in St. Gregory's narthex. Monetary donations may be dropped off at the parish office - please make checks payable to Options for Women.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

B	Diaper wipes	Teethers
A	Diapers - Sz 6	Pacifiers
B	Nursing pads	Breast pumps
Y	BUBS formula	Boppy pillows
	Burp cloths	Outlet plugs
	New or gently used bottles	
	New or gently used clothing - newborn to 5T	

NEXT MEETING: All women are welcome to join the next meeting on Thursday, May 21, at 5:30pm in St. Gregory's Parish Hall.



DIVINE MERCY STATUE AND DEVOTIONAL

St. Gregory's has a Divine Mercy statue which may be taken to your home for private prayer and devotion. Mary Ruymen-Lee is the caretaker. You may reserve the statue by contacting her or St. Gregory's Parish Office.

DeMontreville Jesuit Retreat House

Come to a place where you can hear the voice of the Lord in the quiet and peaceful setting of Lake DeMontreville. Join us for a three-day men's silent retreat at the DeMontreville Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. The retreat begins Thursday evening, July 23, 2026, and ends Sunday evening, July 26, 2026. Free-will donations are accepted.

For more information, call our office at 651-777-1311 or see our website www.demontrevilleretreat.com

