

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

ADORATION:
Wednesday ~ 9:30 am - Noon

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

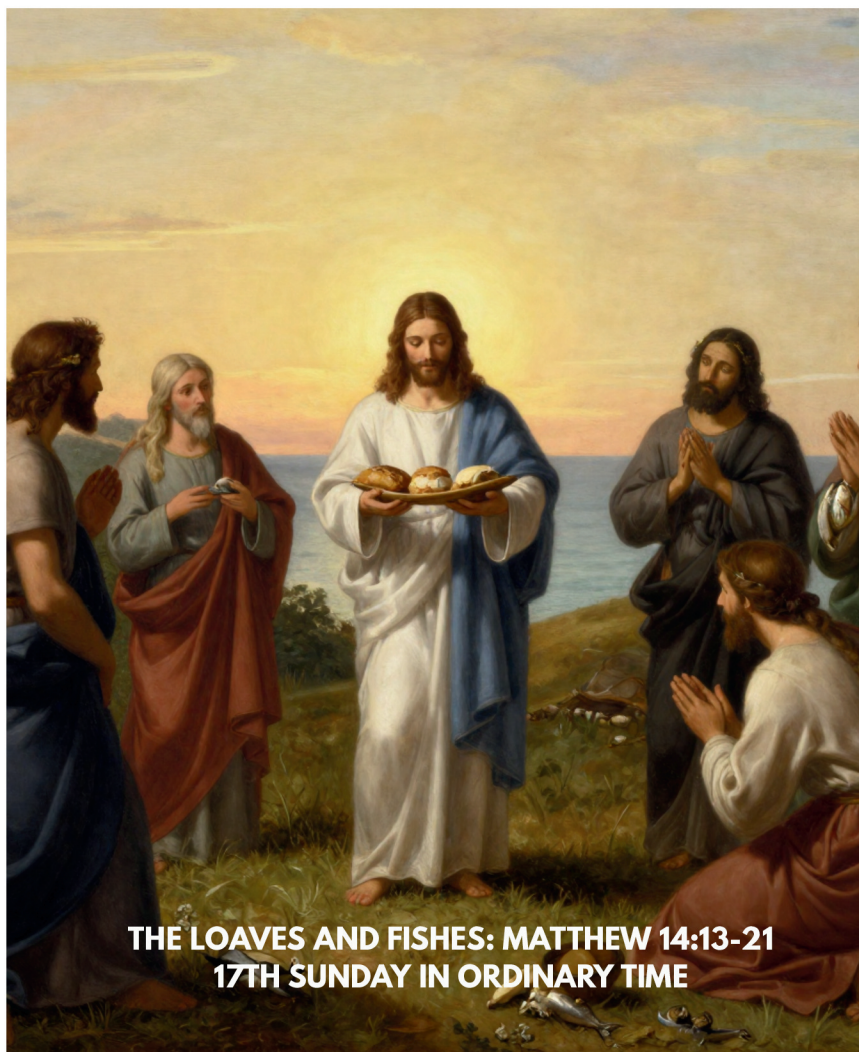
St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
38725 Forest Blvd ~ PO Box 609
North Branch, MN 55056

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:
Saturday ~ 5:00 pm (Rosary at 4:30pm)
Sunday ~ 10:30 am (Rosary at 10:00am)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ~ 8:30 am
Our Lady of Perpetual Help ~ Tuesday 9:05 am
(No Wednesday Mass June-August)

ADORATION:
Tuesday & 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



THE LOAVES AND FISHES: MATTHEW 14:13-21
17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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
Faith Formation: Tina Heidelberger,
763-670-8594,
tina.joeheidelberger@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, Parish Office Administrative Assistant
Patty Miller, KIC/DOC Admin Asst, Safe Environment Coordinator

Cathie Hendren, Music Director
Vince Hendren, Youth Music
Rich Ohmann, Maintenance Dir.
Lisa Ohmann, Custodial Tech
Bridget Weber, Monday Admin Asst

Barb Karel, KIC Coordinator
Danielle Miller, DOC Coordinator
Liz Long, Youth Events Leader
Rosemary Balster, Sexton
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 SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday through Thursday - 9:00am - 4:00pm

July 26th, 2026 ~ 17th Sunday OT & August 2nd, 2026 ~ 18th Sunday OT

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

I decided to write-up my experience of the 2026 Extreme Faith Camp at Trinity Woods camp near Trego, WI for a couple reasons. First, EFC provides hope for the future for the Catholic Church. Second, EFC helps to support my vocation as a priest.

Some of you heard that there were a total of 480 campers at the camp. There were actually two camps that week; we were the smaller camp of 180 campers at the Champion site (named after the Our Lady of Champion Shrine near Green Bay, WI). A team of parish youth ministers—including Liz L. from St. Gregory's as well as my home parish (St. Therese in Deephaven), St. Joseph (Lino Lakes), Divine Mercy (Faribault), St. Dominic's (Northfield), and St. Francis de Sales (St. Paul)—organized the week for the campers. A similar team will be used in subsequent years, so there is some opportunity to develop friendships between parishes. The camp is focused on middle schoolers but they can become Prayer Team members in 9th grade, Extreme Team members for the rest of high school, and eventually adult chaperones.

The week starts on Saturday (2 days before the campers arrive). The youth ministers along with high the schoolers arrive for some training. I was asked to say Mass for them on Sunday evening as they did not have a priest available prior to that. There was a little bit of final logistics on Monday morning before "all hands on deck" when the campers arrived at 11 am.

For some of the campers, it was their first time at camp, and even their first extended time away from family. The leaders kept them occupied to minimize their homesickness. As with any camp, there are lots of fun activities: zipline, laser tag, archery tag, an inflatable obstacle course on the water, fishing, etc. However, the major focus of the week is faith.

Each day, there is daily Mass—another brother priest (Fr. Alex M.) and I took most of the Masses—with a youth minister providing some catechesis prior to the Mass. Other priests came in for Tuesday evening confessions—that was the first time I've heard Confessions in a kitchen! Eucharistic Adoration (including a procession with Jesus like on Corpus Christi Sunday) and access to a chapel were also major components of evening sessions.

Whether or not you have kids in your life that would benefit from Extreme Faith Camp, I hope you will take to heart the importance of such an apostolate in the life of our Archdiocese. Please pray that many more young people will benefit from such an experience.

~ Fr. Matt

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

St. Gregory's Grill & Gather

Last Chance for St. Greg's Grill & Gather!!

The last one takes place on Wednesday, August 5th, 6:00-8:00pm. Great food, great fun, great fellowship! Remember, it's open to EVERYONE, and it's all FREE, so don't miss out on this final summer event! (don't forget to bring a lawn chair!)

Watch for upcoming dates for our winter Chill & Chatter events. You don't want to miss out on the community fun and fellowship.



Fostering Vocations Kickoff: August 14

Join Fr. Matt, seminarian Jacob O., and other interested parishioners on Friday, August 14 at 6:00pm at St. Gregory's Parish Hall for the Fostering Vocations group kickoff meeting. The goal of this group is to foster vocations at St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart. The group will meet approximately 3 times a year to discuss how to encourage parishioners to consider vocations to become priests, religious sisters and brothers, deacons, and wives and husbands married in the Church.

To be added to the email list, please contact Fr. Matt.



NO GREATER LOVE:

A WALK THROUGH CHRIST'S PASSION

Join us at St. Gregory on the 2nd Monday of the month, 7:00-8:30pm for this 5-part video series to follow Christ through the final hours of his life. The next sessions for this video series are August 10, September 14, and October 12. Each night will involve a 30 minute video and discussion. Contact Dion Scott or St. Gregory's parish office for more information: dion@stgregorynb.org

OCIA Becoming Catholic – An Informal Meeting

On Sunday, August 9th at 11:30am, Fr. Matt is offering a "Becoming Catholic" inquiry session in the Cry Room at St. Gregory's.



This is an informal session for any adult who is interested in joining the Catholic faith. No need to register - just show up, grab some refreshments from our Coffee Sunday Hospitality in the Hall, and then head into the Cry Room, for a discussion with Fr. Matt. This process for Adults and Children over 7 used to be called the RCIA process but now it is called the OCIA process (Order for the Christian Initiation of Adults). The class is set to begin in September, but the day of the week will depend on those who are interested.

Current Catholic parishioners are encouraged to invite their non-Catholic friends, neighbors, or family members who may be interested in joining the church. If you have any questions or if the interested person(s) are unable to attend (but are still interested), please contact Fr. Matt (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org) or the St. Gregory's Office (ideally before the meeting).

FORMED.ORG VIDEO OF THE WEEK: The Transfiguration | Sacred Art



Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp sit down with Raffaello Sanzio's painting, "The Transfiguration," to discuss its theological meaning and how it can speak to us today.

<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/1666625/>

LORD, RENEW YOUR CHURCH Capital Campaign Office: 651-251-7700 Please call the campaign office directly if you need to change or update your pledge or payment method. Please mail your checks in the envelope provided with your pledge statements.

SACRED HEART

**SAVE
The DATE**

*Fall
festival*

The Fall Festival date has been changed this year to Sept. 13th, dinner from 11-2pm. Booths open at 10am.

Dinner/Raffle Ticket sales will start after mass July 26th.

Needed Items for the Festival:

- Liters of Pop-Drop box is in the vestibule
- Silent Auction baskets
- New Homemade items and Baked Goods

Sisters of The Sacred Heart /Fall Festival Meeting

Upcoming Planning Meeting & Call for Volunteers!

We would love your help to make this year's festival a success! We encourage anyone who is available to volunteer or help plan to join us every two weeks, our next meeting is Tuesday, August 4th at 6:00 PM in the Parish House.

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, July 29th

9:00 am †George Prickett

Saturday, August 1st

9:00 am Presider's Choice

Sunday, August 2nd

8:30 am †Joe & Elsie Moore

Wednesday, August 5th

9:00 am †Tom, Terry & Tim Solorz

Sunday, August 9th

8:30 am †Amy Prickett



2026-2027 Faith Formation Registration It is already time to start looking ahead to the next school year. Registration forms for the 2026-2027 Faith Formation program are now available.

- You can pick them up in the church office during regular hours or grab one from the back of the church.

SACRED HEART FAITH FORMATION:

Tina Heidelberger-763-670-8594
tina.joeheidelberger@gmail.com

Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6):

Why did Jesus reveal His glory on Mount Tabor? To give the Apostles—and us—the strength to face the trials ahead. When life feels dark, remember the dazzling light of the Transfiguration. We are called to be people of hope, keeping our eyes fixed on Christ and listening closely to His word.

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.

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, Tori Yurick-Schieber, Al & Mary Petschl, Denise Boyd, Steve Lauinger, Bishop Kevin Kenny

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.

Financial Update	Budget	Actual
June 2026	\$10,020	\$6909.00



Baptized into the Family of God

May God's grace and blessings that you receive on your Baptism guide you throughout your life.

Natalie Ann Nelson

Daughter of Cory & Emma Nelson

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

FAITH FORMATION

REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2026 FAITH FORMATION

**REGISTRATION
OPEN NOW**



NEW THIS YEAR! We are up and running with online registration forms AND payment! You can register and pay online by using this QR code.

This link is good for all ages and classes of Youth Faith Formation from Pre-K through 7th graders from St. Gregory's parish and all 8th-10th graders of both parishes preparing for Confirmation. Details about class days and times are listed on the form.

***Note** - if you are registering multiple children, you must enter a discount code to pay the family max of \$230. Read the instructions carefully before submitting payment. Stop and call the Faith Formation office if the codes are not working for you so we can help before your card is charged.

Paper forms are available at both entryways & at the FF office if you need them. Don't delay - Rates will increase on August 29th. We're excited and looking forward to all the NEW things happening this Fall!

WELCOME SUNDAYS

Join us on the 3rd weekend of each month after the 10:30am Mass to welcome new parishioners and visitors to our parish family! A friendly volunteer, as well as staff, will be on hand to welcome our new friends, to answer questions and offer resources for everyone. Whether you've been here 3 weeks, 3 months or 30+ years, come say 'hi' to the staff and volunteers that are here to serve our parish.

Our typical Sunday hospitality refreshments will also be served.



To volunteer to be a friendly face at the table, please contact the parish office at 651-674-4056.

RECLAIMING SUNDAYS: Service

The Lord has given us the Lord's Day (called the Sabbath before Jesus' earthly ministry) to bless and delight the fullness of our work. Creation is celebrated and blessed on the day of rest and seen as good. It is in acknowledgment of the gift and blessing of creation that we can more fully appreciate God's providence.

Activity for July: The grandparents of our Blessed Virgin Mary are Saints Joachim and Ann, whose feast day (when it doesn't fall on a Sunday) is July 26. The second activity for July's focus on Creation is to honor your grandparents! If they are alive, spend some intentional time with them or at least call them up. If they are deceased, visit their gravesite (if you are able) or at least remember them in the greatest prayer—the sacrifice of the Mass.

July video: Creation

https://youtu.be/FE2xQGRG_LY?si=OIWDkd2EiwgmLB_S

CALENDAR

Note: Wednesday Daily Mass has been suspended for the Summer months. The Devotion to our Lady of Perpetual Help will move to Tuesdays at 9:05am until September 2.

Tuesday, July 28

7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

Thursday, July 30

9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church

1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Group Meeting.....Off-Site

Friday, July 31

9:15 am Bible Study.....Rectory Gazebo

Saturday, August 1

9:00 am First Saturday Mass.....Sacred Heart

4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional

4:30 pm Rosary.....Church

5:00 pm Mass.....Church

6:00 pm Evening Prayer.....Church

Sunday, August 2

10:00 am Rosary.....Church

10:30 am Mass.....Church

11:30 am Hospitality Sunday.....Parish Hall

Tuesday, August 4

7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

Wednesday, August 5

6:00 pm St. Greg's Grill & Gather.....Outdoors & Hall

Thursday, August 6

9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church

Friday, August 7

9:15 am Bible Study.....Rectory Gazebo

Saturday, August 8

4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional

4:30 pm Rosary.....Church

5:00 pm Mass.....Church

6:00 pm Saturday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

Sunday, August 9

10:00 am Rosary.....Church

10:30 am Mass.....Church

11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall



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, Loretta Kincaid, Stephen Lauinger, Glen Magnuson, Marcia O'Brien

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, July 28, 8:30am

†Patrick Nimz

Thursday, July 30, 8:30am

†Deceased Family of Geri & Joe Sausen

Friday, July 31, 8:30am

†Sally Pierce

Saturday, August 1, 5:00pm

†Kay Dunker

Sunday, August 2, 10:30am - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Tuesday, August 4, 8:30am

†Richard Popp

Thursday, August 6, 8:30am

†Don & †Mary Downie

Friday, August 7, 8:30am

†Lucille Dusbabek

Saturday, August 8, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, August 9, 10:30am - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Kurt & Bridget Weber



JULY 26 & AUGUST 2

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.

YOUTH SUMMER EVENTS RECEPTION

All parishioners are invited to join youth from the Mission Trip and Extreme Faith Camp for a reception in the Parish Hall after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, July 26. Enjoy some refreshments, watch a highlight video, and hear youth talk about their experiences this summer.

SEMINARY INFORMATION NIGHT:

For junior and senior high school men and their parents who would like to learn more about Saint John Vianney College Seminary (2110 Selby Ave, St. Paul)

Wednesday, August 12, 5pm Mass
followed by dinner, presentation and a tour.



RSVP Required by Friday, August 7.
651-962-6890, or scan the QR code.
Sponsored by the
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

FALL FESTIVALS & EVENTS

-Saturday, August 8, 8:30am-9pm – Corn Days at Church of St. George (Fr. Shane's current parish) (133 North Brown Rd, Long Lake) Knights of Columbus breakfast, 5K race, Kids' 1-mile fun run, food booths, beer tent, kids' inflatables, petting zoo, Bingo, silent auction, Mass at 4pm, Fiesta dinner at 5pm. Live music 12-9pm www.corndays.com

-Tuesday, August 11, 6pm-8pm – Stuff the Bus with School Supplies, (North Branch Central Park) during Concerts in the Park. Bring new school supplies and make a difference in our community.

-Sunday, August 16, 11am-3pm – St. Genevieve's Parish Festival (6995 Centerville Rd, Centerville) chicken dinner with corn on the cob and homemade coleslaw (\$15 adults, \$7 kids 10 and under), bingo, raffle, country store, beer stand, *new and improved* hamburger stand, silent auction, pull tabs www.stgens.org

-Saturday, September 5, 6pm-10pm – St. Bridget of Sweden Block Party (Hwy 8, Lindstrom) Turkey dinner, beer tent, burgers, brats, hot dogs, kids games, silent auction, \$7k cash raffle, live music www.stbridgetofsweden.org

-Sunday, September 13, 10am-2pm – Sacred Heart Fall Festival; Food begins at 11am. Brass Rail chicken dinner with sides, silent auction, raffle, kids games, live music (415 W. 5th St, Rush City)

-Sunday, September 27, 11:30am-2pm – 45th Annual Booya and Fall Festival at St. Gregory! Best Booya in town!! Silent auction, raffle, country store, wine bottle booth, 50/50 raffle, bottle booth. Details coming soon for donations needed, raffle tickets to sell, and volunteer opportunities.

ST. GREGORY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Goal \$5,892.31		
Offering for 07/05 Week 1		\$5,536.00
Offering for 07/12 Week 2		\$4,805.47
YTD Weekly Goal	YTD Actual Offering	
\$11,784.62		\$10,341.47
MASS ATTENDANCE		
Date	5:00pm	10:30am
July 4 & 5	94	185
July 11 & 12	109	165

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 Gazebo of the Rectory at St. Gregory's, North Branch.

Mary and Martha Women's Group

The annual Ice Cream Social will be held during Sunday Hospitality on August 2nd in the Parish Hall after Mass.

The next meeting will be Thursday, August 20th in the parish hall at 5:30pm. All women of the parish are encouraged to attend.



Thoughts, Prayers, & Action:

The Catholic Call to End Gun Violence
Saturday, August 8, 2026 • 9 AM – 12 PM
Church of St. Timothy, Blaine

Join us for a spiritually-centered conversation about what our faith calls us to do in the face of gun violence. Keynote, survivor panel, data presentation, and breakout sessions on advocacy, safe storage education, and courageous conversations. All are welcome. RSVP at <https://givebutter.com/GVPCatholics>

ST. GREGORY'S IS SEEKING REGULAR ADORERS & LITURGICAL MINISTERS

We are seeking more people to volunteer with the Mass at St. Gregory's. Please contact the parish office for more information about any of these roles for Saturdays or Sundays:

Regular Adorer (Thursdays, especially 5:00pm)
Cantor Usher Lector
Eucharistic Minister Youth Altar Server

Deepen your faith by joining the upcoming Class of Archbishop Fulton Sheen in The Saint Paul Seminary **Catechetical Institute's two-year Pillars Program**, beginning September 2026. Meet on Mondays 7:00-9:00pm at St. Peter's in Forest Lake, to be guided through the Catechism of the Catholic Church via four 11-week modules, featuring small group dynamics and lessons from top archdiocesan instructors like Jeff Cavins. Applications are being accepted through August 15, 2026. To learn more or apply, visit saintpaulseminary.org/ci or call (651) 962-5072.



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)



Are you able to crochet or knit and want to make a difference in someone's life in their time of need? Join the **Prayer Shawl Group** to make beautiful shawls to comfort those who are in need. We meet on the last Thursday of the month from 1pm-3pm. Please contact the office at St. Gregory's for more details.