

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

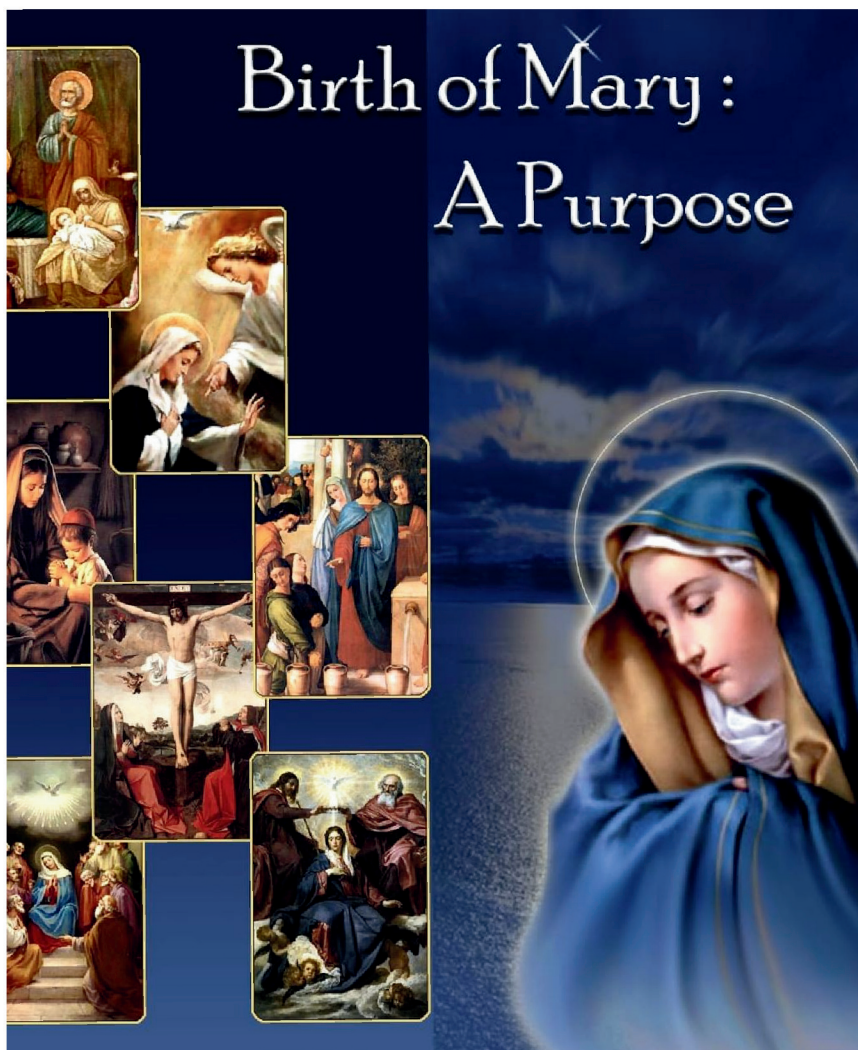
St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
38725 Forest Blvd ~ PO Box 609
North Branch, MN 55056

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 ~
Wednesday 4:50pm
Wednesday ~ 5:00pm

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



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 Heidelberg,
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, 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

September 6, 2026 ~ 23rd Sunday OT & September 13, 2026 ~ 24th Sunday OT

YEAR FOR PARENTS



With the early start of the school year, families are already getting used to their new routines. Faith Formation classes begin on September 16th (please register now if you have not already done so), and we look forward to welcoming the children and their parents back to the parish on Wednesday evenings; things are a bit less lively in the summer! As mentioned back in May, "Parents as Primary Educators" is the theme for this year's Archdiocese's Synod implementation. Although the role of educator includes the subjects usually taught at school, it more significantly includes faith and morals. This is due to the solemn promises made by parents (and godparents) at their child's baptism to raise their child in the faith. The world and American society has changed greatly over the last many decades. It is no longer sufficient (but generally still necessary) to have one's children come to Faith Formation. The faith needs to be intentionally practiced by participating in Sunday Mass and living it at home.

I (along with 8 other priests) recently had dinner with Archbishop Hebda to discuss the pastoral letter he released in May called "Only One Thing Necessary" (find your own copy in church or at the following link: <https://www.archspm.org/familyletter/>). This is a letter written by our local shepherd to all of us, his beloved daughters and sons in the Archdiocese. In the letter, Archbishop Hebda describes the current challenges facing parents in raising their children in the faith and proposes some ideas as to how we as a parish can help families in what is of greatest importance.

During the year ahead, there will be 4 parish activities each month related to Parents as Primary Educators. A special Archdiocesan-inspired petition will be offered on the 2nd Sunday of each month. A special Archdiocesan-inspired blessing will be offered on the 3rd Sunday of each month (which includes Hospitality Sunday at Sacred Heart, Welcome Sunday at St. Gregory's). The preaching at that Mass will focus on some aspect from Archbishop's pastoral letter. Finally, a liturgical celebration will be highlighted each month. For example, after the Word & Communion service at 8:30 a.m. at St. Gregory's on Tuesday (September 8th, which is the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary), Deacon Kevin will bless all grandparents present.

As we begin this Faith Formation year, please join me in praying that all families would grow in holiness through a greater communion with our all-loving God.

~ Fr. Matt

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

Options
for Women, Men & Families
North Branch, MN

**FALL
BANQUET**

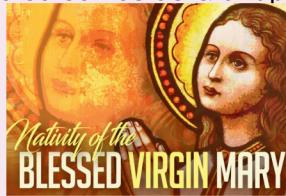
THE CREAMERY
21279 Olinda Trail North
Scandia, Minnesota 55073

SEPTEMBER 24
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

651-674-2121
www.pregoptions.org

SEPTEMBER 8 - GRANDPARENTS' DAY & FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

September 8th is the annual Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (i.e. Mary's birthday; note: 9 months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th). This also serves as Grandparents Day in the Catholic Church.



You are invited to a Word and Communion service at St. Gregory's at 8:30am on Tuesday, September 8, led by Deacon Kevin.

At the end of the service, Deacon Kevin will bless all the grandparents in attendance.

Father Matt and staff wish to extend a heartfelt Thank You to Mary Felix, who has served as the bookkeeper of St. Gregory for 5 years and (more recently) Sacred Heart parish. Mary plans to retire at the end of 2026, or sooner if we hire and train a suitable replacement.



WE ARE HIRING!

Part-time Bookkeeper

We are hiring for a part-time bookkeeper to work 10-20 hours per week, who would split their time between both parish locations. The ideal candidate would have prior bookkeeping or accounting experience, knowledge of Microsoft computer software, non-profit accounting, and is a practicing Christian. Details may be found in the job posting on Indeed: <https://www.indeed.com/job/part-time-bookkeeper-ab3d15a034f57238>

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to Donna in the St. Gregory parish office (donna@stgregorynb.org).

SACRED HEART

Fall Festival

JOIN US!!

SEPT. 13, 2026, 11-2PM

Food /Live Music /Fun & Kid Games

BRASSRAIL CHICKEN/SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE TICKETS.

Come hungry, bring the whole family!



FALL FESTIVAL IS SEPT. 13! ONE WEEK AWAY! HAVEN'T GRABBED YOUR RAFFLE AND DINNER TICKETS YET? DON'T WORRY-YOU CAN BUY THEM AT THE DOOR. SEE YOU THERE!



Sisters of The Sacred Heart

The Fall Festival follow-up meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22nd at 6:00 PM to recap the event, review feedback, and discuss next steps. Additionally, the Sisters of Sacred Heart will resume their regular schedule starting Thursday, October 8th, with ongoing meetings taking place on the second Thursday of each month.



Faith Formation 2026-2027: Gear Up for a Great Year!

The countdown to a new school year is officially on! **Classes kick off on Wednesday, September 16th!**

Registration forms for the 2026-2027 Faith Formation program are available.

- Also, you can pick them up in the Parish House vestibule.

SACRED HEART FAITH FORMATION:

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

Finding Sacred Quiet in a Busy Season

With autumn underway, school schedules resuming, and community activities filling up our calendars, September often brings a rush of momentum. In the midst of full schedules, it is essential to protect moments of sacred quiet. Even ten minutes of silent reflection, reading Sacred Scripture, or praying a decade of the Rosary can ground our hearts in Christ's peace. Jesus frequently withdrew to quiet places to pray and reconnect with the Father, inviting us to do the same. As life accelerates around us, consider carving out intentional time this week to sit in silence and listen for God's gentle voice.

Looking for a short, inspiring read for a quiet afternoon?

Check out these two parishioner picks:

A Hiker's Guide to Purgatory by Michael Norton: A hopeful, witty, and heartwarming novel about a soul navigating the afterlife through scenic mountain trails. A wonderful reminder of God's patience and love.

The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence: A brief, timeless classic teaching us how to invite God into our simplest daily routines—even household chores.

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:

Pat Mihm, Audrey Larson, Ken Kirchberg, Sue Roth, Gary Frazier, Tori Yurick-Schieber, Mariann Schmitz.

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.

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, September 9th

9:00 am †Brian Erickson

Sunday, September 13th

8:30 am †Fr. Ralph Huar

Wednesday, September 16th

9:00 am For All Students

Sunday (Hospitality), September 20th

8:30 am †Amy Prickett



The **Fare For All** low-priced food sale is returning to Rush City High School (at Door 5) on **Friday, Sept 11, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm!**

A selection of Hot Buys will be available, as well as Mega Meat Packs (\$25) and Produce Packs (\$10).

Fare for All is open to ALL. There are no eligibility requirements and pre-registration is not needed, just show up and shop!



Please note that Fare for All accepts cash, credit, debit, and EBT cards, but they do not accept checks.

Archbishop Hebda's Pastoral Letter: "Only One Thing is Necessary"

Archbishop Hebda has released his new pastoral letter, "Only One Thing is Necessary," focusing on parents as the primary educators of their children in the Catholic faith. He is calling for a "sea of change" in how the Church ministers to families and is asking every Catholic to read and reflect on it.

Read or listen online at archspm.org/familyletter

Printed copies are also available in the church.



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

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

During the upcoming school year, the Faith Formation office will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9am to 4pm, and noon to 8pm on Wednesday. You may call or email anytime with questions (contact info listed above).

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

The early deadline has passed, but we are still taking registrations for the upcoming Faith Formation year. Please go online (stgregorynb.org), use the QR code, or pick up a paper registration form in either entryway or at the Faith Formation office.



The first class is Wednesday, September 16!!

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Every month, we will be celebrating the Baptism Anniversaries for our KIC students. If you have not let the Faith Formation office know your child's date of Baptism, please do so before September 30th so they do not miss out! You can email: patty@stgregorynb.org or call: 651-674-7382.

ST. GREGORY'S BOOYA & FALL FESTIVAL:

-Sunday, September 27, 11:30am-2pm – Our 45th Annual Booya and Fall Festival is just around the corner! We will have a silent auction, raffle, country store, wine bottle booth, 50/50 raffle, bottle booth, and activities for the kids. Now is the time to start thinking about how you can contribute to make our one fundraiser of the year successful.

- **Will you buy or sell raffle tickets?** - Tickets available now! We could raise \$12,500 if we sell them all!!
- **Will you donate an item or basket to the Silent Auction, Country Store or Wine Bottle Booth?** - Donations can be dropped off anytime.
- **Will you donate your time to help prep, serve, or clean?** We have lots of volunteer roles available, including sitting jobs. This festival runs on people power and we could use your help!
- **Donate ingredients for the Best Booya in town?** ~ Sign-up boards available in the narthex. What can you donate?

Prayer REQUESTS

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:

Wendy Cole, Roger, Steve, and Pat Dusbabek, Loretta Kincaid, Stephen Lauinger, Addison Millsap, Marcia O'Brien

WELCOME SUNDAYS

Join us on September 20, and the 3rd weekend of every month, after the 10:30am Mass to welcome new visitors and parishioners 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 serve our parish. The Sunday Hospitality refreshments will also be served by staff in the Parish Hall.



CALENDAR

Note: As of September 2, Wednesday Daily Mass has resumed at 5:00pm. The Devotion to our Lady of Perpetual Help moves back to the traditional time of Wednesdays at 4:50pm.

*On Wednesday evenings with Faith Formation classes at St. Gregory's, the Church, Parish Hall, Classrooms, and Romero House will all be in use 6:00-7:30pm.

Tuesday, September 8

8:30 am Word & Communion, Grandparent blessing..Church
7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

Thursday, September 10

9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church
6:30 pm Baptism Prep Class.....Parish Hall

Friday, September 11

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

Saturday, September 12

4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional
4:30 pm Rosary.....Church
5:00 pm Mass.....Church
6:00 pm Saturday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

Sunday, September 13

10:00 am Rosary.....Church
10:30 am Mass.....Church
11:30 am Coffee Sunday.....Parish Hall
6:00 pm High School Youth Group.....Romero House

Tuesday, September 15

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

Wednesday, September 16

6:00 pm Faith Formation - 1st class.....*All

Thursday, September 17

9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus meeting.....Parish Hall

Friday, September 18

9:15 am Bible Study.....Rectory Gazebo
5:00 pm Friday Fun Night-Family.....Green Lagoon Golf

Saturday, September 19

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

Sunday, September 20

10:00 am Rosary.....Church
10:30 am Mass - Discipler commissioning.....Church
11:30 am Scott Family Baptism.....Church
11:30 am Welcome Sunday table.....Cry Room
11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

FORMED.ORG VIDEO OF THE WEEK:

The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed

Virgin Mary: The Seven Sorrows of Mary is a traditional Catholic devotion featuring meditations on sorrowful episodes in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Join us in prayer as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.
<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/585118/>



MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday, September 9, 5:00pm

Families of Jeanette SanNicholas Peters

Thursday, September 10, 8:30am

†Dylan & †Lucille Dusbabek

Friday, September 11, 8:30am

†Ordean Pierce

Saturday, September 12, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, September 13, 10:30am - 24th Sunday in OT

†Jared Durant

Tuesday, September 15, 8:30am

Deceased family of Joe & Geri Sausen

Wednesday, September 16, 5:00pm

Stephanie, Jason, Heather & Evan Pommier

Thursday, September 17, 8:30am

†Gloria Still

Friday, September 18, 8:30am

†Jim Benjamin

Saturday, September 19, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, September 20, 10:30am - 25th Sunday in OT

†Richard Popp



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.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

All high school youth of St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart are invited to join the Youth Group which meets monthly on Sunday evenings during the school year. The first gathering this Fall will be Sunday, September 13, 6:00-7:30pm at the Romero House (6385 Maple St, North Branch). Signed permission slips are required. You are welcome to bring high school age friends also. Contact Fr. Matt with questions: fathermatt@stgregorynb.org



FRIDAY FUN NIGHTS - The school-year fun returns with some changes and new opportunities!

Contact Liz Long with questions: liz@stgregorynb.org
Friday Fun Nights are open to kids of both parishes and their friends. Signed permission slips are required.

- October 9, 6:00-8:30pm - Grades 3-5, at St. Gregory
- December 10, 6:00-8:30pm - Grades 6-8, at St. Gregory
- February 12, 6:00-8:30pm - Grades 3-5, at St. Gregory
- April 9, 6:00-8:30pm - Grades 6-8, at St. Gregory

We are excited to offer....

FRIDAY FUN NIGHTS - FAMILY EDITIONS!

These will be off-site events. Families will be responsible for their own transportation and for paying (although a group discount may apply) - We will meet in a central spot at the event location. Parents will need to attend with their children. In the case a child attends with a different family, notice needs to be given with the RSVP. All RSVPs are due 2 weeks before the event. The first family event is:

• September 18, 5:00pm - Mini Golf at Green Lagoon Golf (8640 Green Lake Trl, Chisago City, 651-213-3326)
All ages welcome. Cost: \$11 for Kids (13-15) and Seniors (60+), \$14 ages 16-59, ice cream available for purchase afterwards.

- November 20 - Bowling at SplitRocks in Wyoming
- January 15 - Snow tubing at Wild Mountain, Taylors Falls
- March 12 - Roller skating at Thunderblades in Princeton



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.

INCENSE USE AT MASS - ST. GREGORY'S
Mass at St. Gregory on September 27 will use incense.



Mary and Martha Women's Group

Please note: The September meeting will be one week later than usual. It will take place on Thursday, September 24th at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are welcome to attend.



ST. GREGORY FINANCIAL UPDATE		
Weekly Goal \$5,892.31		
Offering for 08/16 Week 7		\$4,551.55
Offering for 08/23 Week 8		\$4,883.05
YTD Weekly Goal	YTD Actual Offering	
\$47,138.48	\$42,726.57	
MASS ATTENDANCE		
Date	5:00pm	10:30am
August 15 & 16	107	202
August 22 & 23	112	160

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.

¿USTED HABLA ESPAÑOL?

We are seeking someone with some degree of fluency in the Spanish language to make St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart home to everyone. Fr. Matt speaks some Spanish, but it would be helpful to have a parishioner available who could at least translate for things like Baptism requests. Please contact the parish office if you are willing to help.

DEACON DISCERNMENT DAY - SEPTEMBER 26

All men of our parish are invited to attend Deacon Discernment Day at the St. Paul Seminary on Saturday, September 26, 8:15am-5:00pm. The day includes Mass, prayer, reflections, lunch, Q&A, and more. It is intended for single or married men, and their wives (if applicable), between the ages of 25 and 59. Find more information on the event page: <https://www.archspm.org/events/deacon-discernment-day-3/>

Register by emailing deaconvocation@archspm.org.



OCIA/CATHOLICISM 101 - CLASSES OPEN TO ALL, NEXT CLASS ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

"OCIA/Catholicism 101" class is now open to all adults—those hoping to become Catholic as well as parishioners who would like to learn more about their Catholic faith. The group will generally meet every other Saturday (until Easter) from 9:30 to 11:00am in St. Gregory's Parish Hall. The first class is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 26th from 9:30 to 11:00am in the Romero House (note: location change). Contact Fr. Matt (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org) or the parish office to sign-up.

End-of-Life Workshop: Planning with your Next of Kin

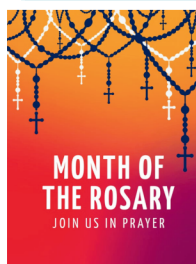
Saturday, Nov. 7, 8:30am-4:30pm at
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton

This is a comprehensive pre-planning workshop where you'll learn from expert speakers about a variety of end-of-life planning topics and fill out a pre-planning workbook. Registration includes seat and lunch. Attendees can optionally purchase the workbook as well. Find more information on The Catholic Cemeteries website: <https://catholic-cemeteries.org/>

AREA FALL FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Sunday, September 27, 11am-1:30pm- Immaculate

Conception, Pine City. Brass Rail chicken dinner with sides, live music, activities for kids, 50/50 raffle, raffle baskets and more.



ROSARY AT ST. GREGORY'S

Did you know? The Rosary is recited at St. Gregory's every Saturday at 4:30pm, and every Sunday at 10:00am. All are welcome to join and pray with us.

Looking ahead....

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY
Mary Ruyman-Lee will lead an outdoor Public Square Rosary on Saturday, October 10. Details coming soon.