


www.oneinchristacc.org


Advent



**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE DUE IN
THE PARISH OFFICE BY 8:00AM ON
MONDAYS. THANK YOU!**

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR PARISH OFFICE FOR
MORE INFORMATION.

Annunciation 9965 Mayhew Lake Road NE • Sauk Rapids, MN 56379 • 320-252-1729

Sacred Heart 2875 10th Avenue NE • Sauk Rapids, MN 56379 • 320-251-8115

St. Francis Xavier 219 2nd Street N, PO Box 150 • Sartell, MN 56377 • 320-252-1363

St. Stephen 103 Central Avenue S • St. Stephen, MN 56375 • 320-251-1520

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary

8:00am **St. Francis Xavier** + Jerry Schwieters
8:30am **Annunciation** + Clarence & Audrey Posch
12:00pm **St. Stephen** + Roger Trobec
6:30pm **St. Francis Xavier**-LaVonne Villeneuve & family
6:30pm **Sacred Heart** - Jeff & Leslie Crane

Tuesday, December 9

St. Juan Diego

8:00am **St. Francis Xavier** +No Mass / No W&C
5:30pm **Sacred Heart** + Ron Schmitz
5:30pm **St. Stephen** + Margaret Robich

Wednesday, December 10

Our Lady of Loreto

8:00am **Sacred Heart** + Rosalie Wloznak
8:00am **St. Francis Xavier** + Jackie Peckskamp Keske

Thursday, December 11

8:00am **St. Stephen** + Ben Paggen
8:00am **St. Francis** + No Mass / No W&C
8:30am **Annunciation** + Rosemary Dittmar

Friday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00am **Sacred Heart** + Jacqueline Beumer
8:30am **St. Francis Xavier** + Max Villeneuve

Saturday, December 13

3rd Sunday of Advent

4:00pm **St. Francis Xavier** for the people
5:00pm **Sacred Heart** + Sue Oldakowski & Robert Oldakowski
7:00pm **St. Stephen** + Michael Knettel

Sunday, December 14

3rd Sunday of Advent

8:15am ***Annunciation** + Delores Jochum & Marie Bemboom
9:00am ***Sacred Heart** + Sharon Casey Wippler
9:30am ***St. Francis Xavier** + Terry Barrett
10:00am **St. Stephen** + Eddie Rudolph

*Livestreamed Masses

Daily Readings

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Reconciliation

Saturday:

3:00pm St. Francis Xavier
3:30pm Sacred Heart
6:15pm St. Stephen

Sunday:

7:40am Annunciation

Adoration

First Thursday at St. Stephen 8:30am-4pm

Second and Fourth Tuesday at St. Francis Xavier 4-7pm

First Friday at Sacred Heart 8:30am-11am

Pastoral Needs

Please contact your parish office for Anointing of the Sick, Home Bound Communion, Pastoral Visitation, Prayer Requests, Marriage and Baptism Preparation.

Ministry & Life Perspectives



One of my favorite prayers in the Roman Missal comes in this Advent season. The ideas are expressed in a few different ways; this one from the First Sunday: *May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures.*

As we draw near the conclusion of the Jubilee Year of Hope, it is good to look back on what you have been praying and hoping for in these months, and perhaps far longer. We long for those things that will endure: peace, mercy, love, our cherished relationships, our health, our sense of well-being. Yet we also know how many are those “passing things” of life – what once was and is no more, or at least no longer the same.

It is natural to think of those passing things that we miss, people and routines and events that we remember with affection and nostalgia from the past. Those passing things may bring sadness as we recall them. But we can also turn this around a bit. Other passing things we do not miss. They have been difficult moments, hard decisions, painful experiences. Their passing into the past can foster gratitude to God for have moved beyond challenges and obstacles. Through them, too, we come to long for what endures with the promise of peace, rest, and glory.

Spend some time in prayer reflecting on what has passed that once burdened you:

- a health concern what was resolved
- a fractured relationship that was reconciled by an apology, sought or given]
- a worry that troubled you and colored so much else in life
- a debt that was paid, or a long-deferred repair finally accomplished
- something lost that was unexpectedly found or returned
- a habit that was tough to break but gradually yielded to something better
- a grudge that was finally surrendered
- an attitude about self, others, or the world in general that led to internal and external tensions and division that has gradually evolved to a more balanced understanding
- a heavy responsibility that weighed on you and now has been relieved
- an expectation about yourself or another that was unrealistic and led to ongoing frustrations

Ministry & Life Perspectives (cont.)

“To hold fast to what endures” speaks to our values and priorities, and the enduring power of God’s grace and mercy. It evokes St. Paul’s famous words in I Corinthians 13: 8-13:

Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things. At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.

So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Faith will one day yield to sight, and hope to possession; but love will never be exhausted or displaced, for God is love.

And it is that love, made flesh in Jesus, that we prepare to welcome anew: **for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven, and hold fast to what endures.**



ACC Pastoral Leadership

Pastor	Fr. Tom Knoblach 320-251-8115, ext 112 pastor@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
Parochial Administrator	Fr. Ron Weyrens 320-252-1363, ext 401 (days), ext 402 (nights/weekends) rweyrens@sfrancissartell.org
Deacon	Joe Kresky 320-251-8115 jkresky@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
Deacon	Terry Jancik tjancik@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
Deacon	Steve Pareja 320-761-2503
Pastoral Associate	Sandee Kremers 320-252-1363, ext 403 skremers@stfrancissartell.org

ONE IN CHRIST AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

NEWS AND EVENTS

Baptisms

We welcome the following children, baptized into our parish family and the Christian community: Cohen Jacob Berg Arnold, son of Simon & Kaleigh and Yosef Chase Stasiewicz, son of James & Jaeca, from Sacred Heart.



Funeral Blessings

Remember in your prayers the family of Daniel Fladung, who passed away on November 23 from Sacred Heart.



Eternal Rest grant unto him Oh Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.

ACC Events

Tabernacle for Toksook Bay. As a capstone to our ACC's Jubilee Year of Hope plans, our One in Christ ACC is raising funds for a tabernacle to replace the damaged one in the church in Toksook Bay, Alaska. The total cost for the tabernacle is \$6000. This gift will be an enduring witness to our unity in the One Body of Christ through the Eucharist. Checks can be made payable to Sacred Heart with Tabernacle included on the memo line. Place cash or check in an envelope marked "Alaska Tabernacle" and drop it off or mail it to your parish office, or drop it in the regular weekend collection. Donations will be accepted until February 15, 2026. Any funds raised that exceed the cost of the tabernacle will be sent to the Diocese of Fairbanks for their ministry needs. Thank you.

Family Day at the Theater to see a special presentation of the new animated film David with the One in Christ ACC on Sunday, December 14th at 11:00 AM at Marcus Theaters in Waite Park. Bring your family to join the ACC for this special ACC preview showing of the new animated film "David" before it officially opens in theaters. Cost is \$7.00 per person and attendees need to register by Monday, December 1st using the following QR code.



Widows/Widowers Group We now have a widow/widowers group for the ACC. If you are a widow/widower, you are invited! This group will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, from 1-3 at Sacred Heart. The next gathering will be December 9th. Please enter through door 5-the office doors. This is not a grief group. We visit, play cards, eat a little and get to know each other. All widows/widowers are welcome!



Young Adults (ages 19-39)

Theology on Draft

Our next Theology on Draft takes place on Thursday, December 11th from 6-8 PM at The Ultimate Sports Bar in Waite Park as KSDZ talks about 'The Epidemic of Loneliness'. Join us for the conversation, food and bowling after! This will be a great topic and way to get connected with other Young Adults.

Young Life WyldLife (Gr. 6-8)

Club Update

Join us for our Friday Night Party on Friday, December 5th from 7-8:30 PM. It's Christmas, wear those ugly sweaters and be ready to celebrate with good Christmas fun!

We are looking for more leaders and more involvement from other Churches and areas, if you are interested, please contact Jason Prigge.!

Summer Camp

Stay tuned... Summer Camp info is coming out soon and you seriously won't want to miss out on the best week ever!!

Follow Us on Social Media

Be sure to go like our page on Facebook: Granite City Wyldlife
Follow Us on Instagram: gcwyldlife

Rosary Before Mass at Sacred Heart

Introducing the Rosary Before Saturday Masses During the Advent and Christmas seasons, beginning on November 29, Rooted in requests from the faithful of the parish, we will pray the Rosary before the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass. The Rosary will begin at 4:30 p.m. and conclude no later than 4:50 p.m. Saturday has long been the traditional day to honor Mary and to ask her intercession for the many needs of our lives, our Church, and our world. The Rosary before Mass is a custom observed in many parishes, though of course not itself a part of the liturgy. It is rather intended as a preparation, in the spirit of Mary's own openness to the Word, to calm our spirits to receive Christ in Word and Sacrament at the Mass itself. We will consider extending this devotional custom past the Christmas season if it finds support and good participation.

Diocesan Events

"Making Room in the Inn to Welcome Christ" Dec. 12-14, 2025
Advent Silent Weekend Retreat for Men and Women.

No space was reserved for Jesus when he was born in Bethlehem. Luke Gospel raises the question: "Is there room in your personal inn for Jesus, or, is your inn so overcrowded that you risk not having enough room to receive Jesus this Christmas?" This retreat invites us to reflect on what we might be invited to let go of to make room in our hearts to receive Jesus.

All private sleeping rooms have a lake view and its own bathroom & shower. Meals are included. \$50 deposit with registration. Register online at www.kingshouse.com/events or call 763-682-1394 to make a reservation.

News and Events From Around the Diocese



"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer, or do you waste it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church or do you buy more things that go unused. Our time, talent, and treasure are gifts from God. What we do with these gifts is our gift back to Him. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?



Blessings to you as we enter the second week of Advent that calls us to reflect on the peace that Christ brings. Thank you so much to those of you who have already supported diocesan ministries this year. As of Monday, November 17, the Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2025 has raised gifts and pledges of \$1,356,913 toward our goal of \$1,500,000 (90.46%). This was made possible through the generous donations of 6,490 people across the 16 counties of our diocese. Please pray for the success of the Bishop's Annual Appeal and its ongoing support of diocesan ministries. To support these ministries, visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Kids Hope Shop...Place of Hope is once again collecting donated items for our annual **Place of Hope "Kids Hope Shop"** scheduled for December 16th. To make this possible, we need donations of new unwrapped gifts for all ages! They can be brought to the blue Door #4 at Place of Hope-511 9th Ave N St. Cloud. Please bring donations to Place of Hope-NOT to your parish.



You knit me together in my mother's womb. Did you know that God knew you before you were born? **CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA** is a weekend Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese and is designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. The next retreat is scheduled for January 23-25, 2026, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. Cost of the weekend is \$70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.

St. Cloud Metro Advent Reconciliation Service Schedule

St. Anthony.....Tuesday, Dec 9, 6:30pm
St. Paul.....Thursday, Dec. 11, 6:30pm
Holy Spirit.....Sunday, Dec. 14, 1pm
St. Michael.....Tuesday, Dec. 16, 6:30pm
Sacred Heart.....Thursday, Dec. 18, 6:30pm
St. Peter.....Saturday, Dec. 20, 1pm
St. Mary's Cathedral.....Tuesday, Dec. 23, 6:30pm

St. Stephen

Fr Ron Weyrens, Pastor

Contact: Carol Hellmann 320-251-1520 Hours: 8am-1:30pm
ststephenchurchoffice@gmail.com

Faith Formation: Danna Gasperlin 320-251-5066

NEW Email: director.ststephenfaith@gmail.com

Financial Offering for Nov. 23 & 24

Adult	\$ 2,047.00
Online Giving November 15-21	928.00
Plate	482.25
Children	2.00
TOTAL	\$3,459.25

Ushers: Dec 8: Carol Hellmann, Steve Vouk

Dec 13: Dan Warzecha, Amanda DeYaeger, Dave Fiedler

Dec 14: Tom and Nancy Vouk, Ralph Barhorst

Faith Formation: A teacher is needed for grade 7. Contact Danna Gasperlin if you would like to share your faith with our 7th graders.

December 10 Classes: Grades 1-4 and Confirmation. Hamburger noodle hotdish will be served in the Parish Hall before classes.

Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at St. Stephen is Monday at noon.

St. Nicholas will be here Sunday, December 7th after 10:00 am

Mass in church. Everyone (young and old) is invited to hear the story of St. Nick, join the sing-a-long, receive a treat from St. Nick and visit with others afterwards.

Women's Bible Study will meet December 7 from 6:00-7:00 pm in the church annex. We will discuss The Woman at the Well.

Vibrancy Committee meeting, Tuesday, December 9, in the annex at 6:15 pm.

Winter Extravaganza in Parish Hall on Saturday, December 13, from 2:00-4:00 pm. Story telling, crafts and games for all ages, picture opportunities and Santa Claus.

Slovenian Sausage Cook-off at Trobec's Bar on Saturday, December 13, from 6:00-8:30 pm. Vote for the best homemade Slovenian Sausage. Contact Rick Knettel for tickets 320-267-8897.

Giving Tree: Place all unwrapped items under the Giving Tree or in the Toys for Tots box by **December 14**. Tags available at the doors.

Parish Christmas Card: To send your Christmas wishes to everyone through the Parish Christmas Card, your names/donation must be received in the collection basket by December 14.

Christmas Flowers: Donations to the Christmas Flower fund in memory of a loved one can be placed in the collection basket.

Well n Fit Exercise Class - All level of fitness welcome!

St. Stephen Parish Hall on Wednesdays & Fridays

A fun social time for everyone, while maintaining strength with chair, low impact cardio, and balance exercises.

There will be line dancing following the Wednesday classes.

WINTER Class Hours: 9:30-10:30 AM

Holdingford Helping Hands Outreach-Senior Dining-Everyone

invited. Wednesdays at **Rusty Nail** in St. Stephen. Meal served at noon followed by cards (500). Suggested meal donation is \$6.00.

St. Stephen AA and AL-ANON Meetings: 103 Main St E.

Tuesdays 7pm-Steps and Traditions meeting (aka 12X12)

Wednesdays 5:30pm-AA-Anon/AA Mixed meeting

Wednesdays 7pm-AA Big Book meeting

Saturdays 8pm-AA meeting

Sacred Heart

Fr Tom Knoblach, Pastor

Contact: Jill Lieser — 320-251-8115, X114
parish@sacredheartsaukrapids.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm

Financial Offering

Income for the Week of Nov 23, 2025

Adult Collection	\$17,724.72
Automatic Giving	\$5,268.58
Friends In Need	\$25.00
Holy Days	\$20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$1,150.00

Weekly adult collection needed to meet yearly budet \$19,673

Stewardship

Pew Cleaning: Please join us December 10th following 8am Daily Mass to clean the pews. We will have all the necessities, we just need the bodies.

Liturgical Ministers Needed We need musicians and liturgical minister help for Reconciliation Service on Thursday, December 18th at 6:30pm. Please sign up on the web terminal or on the sheets near the sacristy if you can help. Thank you!!

Christmas Flower Fund donations Envelopes will be available in the gathering space if you would like to donate to our Christmas flower fund. The funds collected cover the cost of poinsettias, plants, fabric, candles, and other decorating supplies used throughout the year. Thank you for your generosity!

Teen Choir sings again in December! Teen Choir sings again for Mass on Sunday, December 21st at 9:00 am. We will rehearse for this Mass at 8:00 am that morning. If you are interested in singing or playing an instrument with this group, or would like to see the music in advance, contact Jill Kiffmeyer at 320-251-8115 x122 or at jkiffmeyer@sacredheartsaukrapids.org or just come to rehearsal the morning of the 21st. Hope to see you there!

Christmas Decorating We will decorate our spaces for the Christmas Season immediately after Mass on Sunday, December 21 st. This is a big job and help is needed with removing Advent decorations, setting up the nativity scene and trees, and putting up fabric, lights, wreaths, garland, and poinsettias. Start out with a warm cinnamon roll and stay for the fun!

Winter Raffle: Winter Raffle tickets are now on sale!

\$100 tickets, we are only selling 250 tickets so the church once again can make \$20,000 from this one fundraiser. Tickets are sold before and after Masses or in the office during business hours until they are sold out!



Upcoming Events

Please see the Sacred Heart web page for upcoming events

Youth Ministry

Grounded Youth Ministry December theme: Grounded in Empathy

- **Fri. December 5th** (Grades 6-8) | Wyldlife Friday Night Party | 7-8:30 PM | St. Cloud YMCA
- **Wed. December 10th** (Grades 6-8) | 7:30-9 PM
 - Ugly Sweater Night
- **Sun. December 14th** (Grades 9-12) | 5-7 PM
- **Wed. December 17th** (Grades 6-12) | 6:45-8:30 PM
 - Christmas Party | PJ Night

The Grounded Podcast Exciting news - we're launching a Podcast, The Grounded Podcast! Join us weekly (or bi-weekly) for stories and conversations about life that connect us to our faith. At this time The Grounded Podcast can only be found on Spotify. We hope you enjoy it!



Link to access:

Fifth Annual Waldo Hunt The fifth annual Waldo Hunt is set for Tuesday, December 30th. Join us for this all day adventure looking for Waldo at MOA and then service after. Cost is \$5 to help with transportation fees, students will need money for lunch and or if they want anything at MOA. Forms are available online. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Jason Prigge.

Faith Formation

First Reconciliation Parent/Child Retreat is Saturday, December 13th from 9:00 AM - Noon at Sacred Heart. 2nd Grade families should be working on their at home preparation and be formally registered in the process. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Frieler in the parish office.

Knights Wives & Widows Christmas Party

The Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus are having their Wives & Widows Christmas Party at Molitor's, on Tuesday December 16th. There will be a 5:30pm social and 6:00 pm supper. We will have an open menu and wives and widows eat free. All members welcome. Please RSVP to Tony @ 320-333-1900. If interested in a white elephant gift exchange, just bring a gift.

Prayer Requests

Please add Gloria Anderson, Jeff Crane, Jeanne Eveslage, Mike Janku, Gerry Maleska and Jayne Wruck to your prayers. If you know of anyone who needs our prayers and wants to be put in the prayer corner, please call 320-251-8115.



Sacred Heart also has a prayer chain. Please call 320-492-9361 or the Parish Office at 320-251-8115 if you have a prayer request.



Annunciation

Fr. Tom Knoblach, Pastor

Contact: Cindy Gans 320-252-1729
cindyg@annunciationmayhewlake.com

Faith Formation: Karen Handeland 320-259-4941
karenh@annunciationmayhewlake.com

Weekly Collection Budget

Income for Sunday, November 16, 2025

Adult Sunday	\$2,335.00
Visitors	\$255.00
Youth	\$13.75
Catholic Charities	\$20.00
All Saints	\$20.00
Votive Candles	\$2.30
Building Fund	\$88.00
Religious Education Breakfast	\$773.00
Total Income	\$3,507.05

Income for Sunday, November 16, 2025

Adult Sunday	\$1,880.00
Visitors	\$223.00
Youth	\$20.50
Christmas Flowers	\$45.00
Christmas	\$200.00
Votive Candles	\$3.60
Building Fund	\$4.00
Thanksgiving	\$400.00
Total Income	\$2,776.10

Weekly Income needed to meet yearly budget \$3,0370

Mass Schedule

Sun. December 14th, 2025

Lector: David Zimmer & Jill Brenny

Eucharist: Jean Bemboom(H), Brenda Carriveau(C), Lloyd Lyon(C)

Servers: Mariah Simmons and Grayson Herbst

Greeters: Dan Bemboom, Logan Simmons, Wyatt Montag

Ushers: Jeff Wollak, Randy & Julie Miller, Dan Bemboom



Happy Birthday: Jerome Bernard, Jerome Schubert, Eugene Pekarek, Shanna Czeck, Nicole Miller, Brynn Ackerman, Myla Ackerman, Damon Strande, Lacey Brenny, Luke Brenny, Cynthia Petron, Jame Petron.

Liturgical Ministers If you can help out with Christmas Eve Mass or Christmas Day ministries please call Lora at 393-2701 ASAP.

Coats for Kids You can drop off at the hall or in the box in the entryway of church. They will also accept gently used hats, mittens, gloves and boots.



ACC Advent Reconciliation Services

Sun. December 14th, 3:00pm here at Annunciation

Thurs. December 18th, 6:30pm at Sacred Heart

Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary

Monday, December 8th 8:30am here at Annunciation.

Collection for the Poor Clares We will be collecting for the Poor Clares until Sunday, Dec. 21st. Items needed: Personal items, meatless soups, tuna, stamps, envelopes, etc...

St. Francis Xavier

Fr. Ron Weyrens, Pastor

Contact: Becky Dingmann 320-252-1363

bdingmann@stfrancissartell.org

Tom Offerdahl, Business Manager

tofferdahl@stfrancissartell.org

Office Hours: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM Monday-Thursday, 8-noon Friday

Parish Nurses: Julie Kouba 701-721-5083

Bev Wiehoff 320-492-0135

Karen Reinholz 320-260-6158

Prayer Line: Margaret Stang 320-249-9304

Weekly Collection Budget

Weekly Collection Budget	\$21,346.15
Collected 11/23/2025	\$28,439.00
Excess (Deficit)	\$7,092.85
YTD Collection Budget	\$448,269.25
YTD Collected	\$448,657.55
Excess (Deficit)	\$338.30

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is December 9, 4-7 pm. Come and spend some quiet time with Jesus.

Stewardship of Time, Talent & Treasure

Thank you for the continued support of St. Francis Xavier Parish by sharing your time, talents & treasure. Your gifts enable us to continue to minister to the people of our parish and community. From the USCCB Pastoral Letter on Stewardship, who is a Christian steward? One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord. As we come to the end of the calendar year, if you're thinking of any special year-end financial gifts, keep St. Francis in mind. As we continue to provide ministries and sacraments and worship and more, the need for funds continues to grow. Your gifts of treasure pay the bills to keep the lights on, programs running and staff paid. Thank you. One way to insure regular and consistent contributions is through electronic giving. Donations can be set up for weekly, twice a month, monthly or other periodic giving. Electronic giving can be made by credit card or bank debit, and your gift makes it to the parish even if you are traveling or unable to make it to Mass. There are forms in the entryways to the gathering place or in the parish office. A PDF of the form is attached to the weekly Xavier Connection that goes out by Flocknote. Another option that is open to retirees is through qualified charitable distributions. This can be done by a direct transfer from your IRA to SFX (or charity of your choice). See your financial advisor or tax specialist to learn if this is a good option for you. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Offerdahl in the parish office - 320-252-1363. St. Francis Xavier is blessed to have support from so many. Thank you.

Advent Wreaths

Advent wreaths have been sold out. More birch will be available next year. Thank you for your support! Gathering in the Arts Committee

Knights of Columbus Membership Drive

On Sunday, December 14th the Knights of Columbus will be holding a membership drive following the 9:30am mass (starting around 11:00am). The ceremony takes about 40 minutes. The Knights of Columbus are a fraternal organization open to men 18 or older who are practicing Catholics. The membership ceremony is open for families to watch and you learn about the history and principles of the Knights of Columbus. Dues are \$30 a year. New members receive a red polo shirt! If you have any questions, talk to a Knight!

Seeking Help in the Sacristy

Help is needed for cleaning the purificators. They are the white cloths used to wipe the chalice during the distribution of the precious blood. The volunteer who does this can set their own schedule. It is a job that needs to be done about once a week. Thank you to Sue Butkowski who has done this for the past few years. She has some things come up in her life and needs to pass this on. Please contact Tom Offerdahl in the parish office - 320-252-1363.

Anointing Mass of SFX

Anointing will be after Masses the weekend of December 13 & 14. Catholics, both children & adults, who are seriously ill, facing surgery, or experiencing the weakness that comes with old age, should seek this sacrament. Those with serious, chronic, mental or physical illness may also receive anointing of the sick.

Advent Almsgiving

Week 1 (Nov. 30-Dec 6) Cereal & Spices
Week 2 (Dec. 7-Dec 12) Peanut Butter & Jelly
Week 3 (Dec. 14-Dec. 19) Fruit Snacks & Breakfast Bars
Week 4 (Dec. 19- Dec. 24) Ramen, Pasta Sauce & Pasta
Please bring in only the items specified for the week to the Gathering Place and put on the tables by the parish office.



2026 Calendars

Church calendars are available at all entrances. One per family please. Thank you to Williams Dingmann Funeral Home for providing them to our parish.

Youth Minstry

- Sunday, December 7th: TREMOR for grades 4-5 | 3:30-5:30pm | SFX Gathering Place
- Sunday, December 7th: Open Gym for grades 6-12 | 6:00-8:00pm | SFX School Gym
- Monday, December 8th: Monday at the Manor for grades 6-12 | 7:00-8:00pm | Country Manor Door #1
- Saturday, December 13th: Volunteering at "Hometown Christmas" at the Country Manor | 2:00-4:00pm
- Sunday, December 21st: Aftershock for grades 6-12 | 4:30-9:00pm | SFX Gathering Place

*** Watch flocknote for more details***

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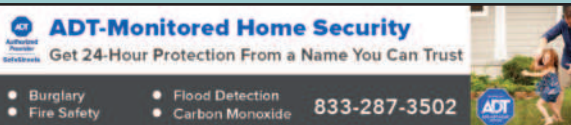


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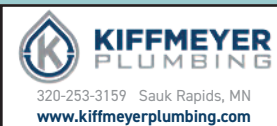
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