



www.oneinchristacc.org



**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

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

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR PARISH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

<b>Monday, January 12</b>	8:00am <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> – W & C 8:30am <b>Annunciation</b> + Donna Poganski
<b>Tuesday, January 13</b> St. Hilary	8:00am <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> + Linda Ley 5:30pm <b>Sacred Heart</b> + Keehr Family 5:30pm <b>St. Stephen</b> + Deceased members Herb & Ida Majerus family
<b>Wednesday, January 14</b>	8:00am <b>Sacred Heart</b> + Mary Esselman 8:00am <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> + Ron Willey
<b>Thursday, January 15</b>	8:00am <b>St. Stephen</b> + Bob Ferche 8:00am <b>St. Francis</b> + Richard Maidl 8:30am <b>Annunciation</b> + Don Kainz
<b>Friday, January 16</b>	8:00am <b>Sacred Heart</b> + Souls in Purgatory 8:30am <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> + LeRoy Czech
<b>Saturday, January 17</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	4:00pm <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> + Lorenz Zierden 5:00pm <b>Sacred Heart</b> + Beth and Wanda Christen 7:00pm <b>St. Stephen</b> + Tony Smoley
<b>Sunday, January 18</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time *Livestreamed Mass	8:15am * <b>Annunciation</b> + Barney & Linda Molitor 9:00am * <b>Sacred Heart</b> + Jeff Voit 9:30am * <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> –For the People of the Parish 10:00am <b>St. Stephen</b> + James Honer

### 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.

## Daily Readings

**Monday:** 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

**Saturday:** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

**Next Sunday:** Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

## Ministry & Life Perspectives



From Safari...

With the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the Christmas season ends. Short period of Ordinary Time begins Monday, as February 18th is Ash Wednesday.

By his baptism by John, Jesus' forever changes the nature of baptism. For John the Baptist, baptism was an outward expression of turning one's heart to God. Jesus, already at one with the Father, is baptized by John, as act of self-emptying, sharing in our human nature. The descent of the Holy Spirit, is another epiphany, as we hear in the Gospel, "And a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'"

Baptism for most of us happens shortly after our birth. Our parents brought us to the waters of new life because of their conviction that Jesus is our Savior. In baptism we are washed clean of original sin. Not that an infant as sinned, but born into a world filled with temptations, the graces of baptism assist one in resisting temptation. Even with baptism, most of us surrender to temptation at times. Despite our failures, we are assured God will forgive us and will help us be stronger the next time.

Baptism awakens us to the fact that we are God's son or daughter, and are holy and precious in God's sight. We also come to know that eternal life is ours already. For the Gospel writer Matthew, eternal life is not something to come, but is here and now. Our life's quest is to come to the fullness of eternal life in heaven.

Baptism is an important event in the life of the community and for this reason, I like baptisms during the Mass. Witnessing a baptism, is a reminder of our own baptism and the call to bring the Good News to all we meet. It is also reassuring to the parents that there is support in their duty as Christian Parents.

## Ministry & Life Perspectives (cont.)

Patricia Sánchez, a biblical scholar, reminds us that baptism is more than a onetime event. Each and every day, we need to renew our baptism. Sánchez once wrote, "Since, through baptism, each of us is initiated into the life of the one God, Father, Son and Spirit, doesn't that make us brothers and sisters to one another? That relationship makes each of us responsible for the other. Am I my brother's keeper? Am I my sister's caretaker? Yes! If another has need, is homeless or hungry, is sick or lonely and afraid, and I am aware but do nothing, then my baptismal vows are false; my faith is a sham. We who are signed with the cross and washed in the blood of Jesus are charged to renew daily the baptismal promises that make us who we are."

May our daily prayer this week, help us integrate the faith we profess with our lips at every Eucharist.

Fr. Ron



## ACC Pastoral Leadership

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

# ONE IN CHRIST AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Funeral Blessings

Remember in your prayers the family of Gil Boser who passed away on December 26 and Dick Schaefer who passed away on January 4 from St. Francis Xavier.

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



### ACC Events

**Fellowship Event:** The next fellowship event will be held on January 18th in the basement of Annunciation church. The event will begin with Mass at 8:15. We are focusing on those people involved with funeral lunch helpers, funeral Mass helpers, St Monicas, The Knights of Columbus, and Men's Club. Deacon Terry will be the speaker and the topic will be on Luke: 38-42--Martha and Mary, the balance of ways to honor the presences of Jesus and the needs of the Body of Christ. There will be muffins and juice/coffee served. No need to RSVP, and if you are not part of one of these groups and would like to come please do so.

### Meal, Movie and Discussion on Mental Health



**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 January 13th. 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!

**Cana Dinner:** The Cana Dinner is a marriage enrichment event for anyone who is married 1 day to 75+ years! There is a sign up in the gathering space. Cost is \$40 a couple, childcare is \$10 per child. Space is limited so sign up early!



Volunteers for the Cana Dinner, February 28th. Volunteers needed from 5:45-10pm Sign up will be available at the beginning of February.

### Young Adults (ages 19-39)

#### Theology on Draft

Our next Theology on Draft takes place on Thursday, January 15th from 6-8 PM at Iron Street Distillery in St. Cloud! Hope to see you there!

#### Mass and Meal

Join us for a special edition of Mass and Meal on Sunday, January 18th at St. Stephen. We'll gather for the 10 AM Mass and meet in the annex after Mass. We hope to see you out there!

#### Praise Night

Join us for our next Praise Night on Thursday, January 29th starting at 6 PM at St. Anthony's in St. Cloud! This will be a great night of worship, praise, Adoration and more! We hope to see you there. Young families are highly encouraged to join - this event is geared towards you!

### Young Life WyldLife (Gr. 6-8)

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

#### Summer Camp

Have you heard?! It's time to register for Summer Camp 2026! Sign-up your middle schooler for the best week of their life from July 21 - 25, 2026 at Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes. You can begin your registration here at: [granitecity.younglife.org/camp](http://granitecity.younglife.org/camp).

#### Donations

If you'd like to make a donation to our Wyldlife Area for either club supplies or for camp, please contact Jason via phone or email. We sincerely appreciate your contribution in our efforts making sure middle schoolers are known, loved and cared for. Donations can also be made electronically by going to [granitecity.younglife.org](http://granitecity.younglife.org) and clicking the big orange button that says, 'give'. Thank you so much for your generous donation!

#### Follow Us on Social Media

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



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Red Cross**

The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
Give blood."

[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS

### St. Stephen Church

103 County Road 2 South, St. Stephen, MN  
In the Parish Hall

**Monday, February 2, 2026**

**12:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Sign up online: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)  
Or call the St. Stephen Church



## News and Events From Around the Diocese



*"John tried to prevent him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, yet you are coming to me?'" Matthew 3:14*

The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.



The Diocesan TV Mass has been a lifeline for the homebound. Because of your generosity, the diocese broadcasts TV Mass weekly in 60 counties. It also is sent to nursing homes and available to countless others online. Other ministries of the Appeal support of faith formation, family life, our Catholic schools, multicultural ministries, evangelization, and vocational discernment. Will you help keep these ministries strong? Visit [www.stcdio.org/annualappeal](http://www.stcdio.org/annualappeal).

**March For Life** Join us January 22, 2026 at the MN Capitol in St. Paul. (For more info visit [www.MCCL.org](http://www.MCCL.org)) The Diocese of St. Cloud is coordinating a bus to St. Paul. A free will offering will be accepted to help with the transportation cost. Dress Warmly, bring a bag lunch. Registration Deadline is by January 17 To pre-register, visit <https://www.stcdio.org/march4life2026> or call 258-7615.



**40 Days for Life** The Lenten 40 Days for Life Campaign begins Wednesday, February 18. For more info visit [www.40daysforlife.com/en/st.cloud](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/st.cloud)

**Movie Night** "Please join us to watch "The Scarlet and the Black" (1983), a true story about a Catholic priest in Rome who risks his life to save thousands of lives amid Nazi occupation during World War 2. This FREE movie stars Gregory Peck and will be shown Monday, Jan. 19 at 6pm at St. Peter's Church of St. Cloud. Refreshments provided. Please enter door 4. Thank you!"

**Central Minnesota Koinonia** We are called to bring the love of Christ to the world. We can help you discover how! 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](http://www.centralmnkoinonia.org) for more information and to register for retreats.



## 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  
director.ststephenfaith@gmail.com

### **Financial Offering for Dec. 27/28 & Jan. 3/4:**

Adult	\$ 6,225.00
Online Giving December 20-January 2	1,228.00
Plate	2,065.00
Children	1.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,519.00</b>
Christmas Total	\$ 10,206.00
Solemnity of Mary Total	632.00
Religious Retirement Total	220.00

### **Ushers:**

Jan 17: Mitch Pangerl, Amanda DeYaeger, Karen Skaj

Jan 18: Ralph Barhorst, Steve Vouk, Merlin Berndt

**Faith Formation:** January 14 - Classes for grades 5-9 and Confirmation. Pizza will be served in the Parish Hall before classes.

**Youth Group** will meet January 14 from 8:00-9:30 pm in the Parish Hall. All students in grades 6-12 are welcome to attend Youth Group and bring along a friend.

**Vibrancy Committee** will be meeting Tuesday, January 13, in the annex after the 5:30 pm Mass, around 6:05.

**Christmas take down:** Christmas decorations will be taken down on Monday, January 12, beginning at 7:30 am. If you have time, stop in to help take down the lights, trees, wreaths and the manger.

**St. Stephen Choir Recordings available!** The choir has made a recording of some favorite choral music. Please stop in the choir loft after Sunday mass to purchase a recording, available on CD or Flash drive. The cost for either format is \$20.00.



**Donations for the Parish Christmas Card** were sent to Helping Hands Outreach in Holdingford and Poor Clare Sisters in Sauk Rapids. Thanks to your generosity they each received \$552.50.

### **Well n Fit Exercise Class - Open to everyone to attend!**

Classes are held Wednesdays and Fridays in the Parish Hall 9:30-10:30 AM. Line Dancing will follow each Wednesday class. Enjoy a fun social time and maintain your strength with low impact cardio, chair and balance exercises. All levels of fitness welcome!

**Holdingford Helping Hands Outreach-Senior Dining-Everyone invited.** Wednesdays at **Trobec's** in St. Stephen. A meal will be served at noon followed by cards -500. Suggested meal donation \$6.  
**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-Legg — 320-251-8115, X114  
parish@sacredheartsaukrapids.org

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

## Financial Offering

### Income for the Week of Dec 21, 2025

Adult Collection	\$3,413.00
Automatic Giving	\$5,618.62
Holy Day	\$30.00
Friends In Need	\$95.00
Christmas	\$580.00
Christmas Flower	\$85.00

### Income for the Christmas, 2025

Adult Collection	\$21,501.71.00
Improvements	\$300.00
Friends In Need	\$200.00
Christmas	\$22,036.00
Christmas Flowers	\$40.00
Religious Retirement	\$150.00

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

## Stewardship

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** CLOW will be offered every Sunday at the 9 AM Mass for friends in PreK-3rd Grade. We have some amazing leaders but we also need helpers in the room to make CLOW possible, contact Jason Prigge if you are interested or have any questions!

**Winter Raffle:** Winter Raffle tickets are now on sale! \$100 tickets, just 21 tickets left for the church to once again 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!



**Homebound Communion Ministers and Visitation Ministers Needed** Seeking individuals who desire to serve the homebound through your caring presence and Holy Communion. Beside sharing the precious Body of Christ, community members are hungry for the presence of Christ through a friendly visit and a listening ear. Contact Dcn Joe for questions or opportunities to serve.

**Blood Pressure Checks** Free blood pressure checks will be available in the Sacred Heart Hospitality Suite after Masses on the 3rd full weekend of the month. Upcoming dates are January 17/18.

## Prayer Requests

Please add Kim Collins, Craig, Jeff Crane, Jennifer, Mason Schroeder, Joni Uhlenkamp and Samantha Voigt to your prayers. If you know of anyone who needs our prayers and wants to be put in the prayer corner, please call 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.



## Youth Ministry

### January theme: Grounded in Well-Being

- Sun. January 11th (Grades 9-12) | 5-7 PM
- Wed. January 14th (Grades 6-8) | 7:30-9 PM
- Wed. January 21st (5th Grade Only) | 6:30-8:00 PM
- Sun. January 25th (Grades 9-12) | 5-7 PM
- Wed. January 28th (Grades 5-12) | 7:30-9 PM

**5th Grade Leader(s) Needed** We are looking for 1-2 Young Adult and or Adult leaders who would be willing to be Small Group leaders for our 5th Grade friends. It's rewarding and a ton of fun. Commitment is approx. 2-3 Wednesdays a month. Programming is around the corner, make sure our 5th Graders have a leader, contact Jason Prigge to learn more and get trained before Wed. January 14th.

### 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:

<https://open.spotify.com/show/6taeQXnYfwDpL865Xuu3AQ?si=LfCNmUiTwqSwY852q3huA>

**Jr. High Lock-In 2026** The Jr. High Lock-In will take place Saturday, January 24th - Sunday, January 25th at the St. Cloud YMCA. The event starts with Mass at 8 PM on Saturday and ends Sunday morning at 6 AM. Cost is \$40, all middle school friends are invited! Registration is available online: [linktree.com/groundedym](http://linktree.com/groundedym). Contact Jason Prigge if you have any questions or would like to help out!

**Castaway 2026** Castaway registration is FINALLY available!! Grades 9-12, don't miss the best weekend of your life March 20-22 at Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes. Cost of this years retreat is \$110 + any clothing students want to order. Register fast as spots will quickly disappear: [linktree.com/groundedym](http://linktree.com/groundedym)

## Faith Formation

First Eucharist Parent meetings are Sunday, (**TODAY**) January 11th from 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM and Monday, January 15th from 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM. Parents are expected to attend one of the meetings at which they will pick up the at home preparation materials and project. If you have questions, contact Scott Frieler at the parish office

## Upcoming Events

- January 12; 6:15pm--Bells of the Heart Practice  
6:30pm--St. Arnold's Group  
7pm--OCIA
- January 13; 1pm--Widow/Widower Group  
6:15pm--Choir Rehearsal
- January 14; 9am--Bible Study  
5:30pm--Kid's Choir Rehearsal  
7:30pm--Grounded (6-8)
- January 15; 1pm--Card Making Group  
6pm--Theology on Draft
- January 16; 6pm--Chosen Season 4
- January 17; 3:30pm--Reconciliation  
6pm--Blood Pressure Checks
- January 18; 9:15am--ACC Fellowship Event (ML)  
10am--Young Adult Mass & a Meal (SS)  
10am--Blood Pressure Checks

## 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, December 28, 2025

Adult Sunday	\$3,489.26
Visitors	\$183.00
Youth	\$46.25
Christmas	\$275.00
Votive Candles	\$1.00
Initial Offering	\$150.00
Immaculate Conception	\$45.00
Religious Retirement	\$50.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$120.00
New Cemetery Crucifix	\$50.00
Total Income	\$390.00

#### Income for Sunday, January 4, 2026

Adult Sunday	\$2,025.05
Visitors	\$230.00
Christmas	\$1,720.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$190.00
Votive Candles	\$11.00
Building Fund	\$113.00
Initial Offering	\$49.00
Rectory Rent Jan/Feb	\$2,400.00
Total Income	\$6,738.05

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

### Mass Schedule

#### Sun. January 18th, 2026

**Lector:** Jill Brenny and David Zimmer

**Eucharist:** Deacon(H), Brenda Carstensen-Boe(C), Lora Knafla(C)

**Servers:** Kelsey Lentner, Zoey Heck and Lucas Heck

**Greeters:** Dustin & Lucas Heck, Caroline Czeck, MacKenzie Carlson

**Ushers:** Dustin & Teresa Heck, John & Barb Bemboom



**Happy Birthday** Angela Thene, Jason Zwilling, Ron Brand, Frances Adelman, Dan Bemboom, Craig Nelson, Lynda Gans, Tim Scapanski, Lane Jurek, Maralyn Larson, Stella Mielke, Sandra Rajkowski.

**Deepest Sympathy.** Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Mary E. Jarnot who's funeral was here on January 7th. Eternal rest grant unto her Oh Lord and may perpetual light shine upon her.



**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. The box will be back in the entryway after Christmas. Thank you



**Cupcakes for Life** Delicious cupcakes will be available for purchase after Mass on Sunday, January 18th (NEXT SUNDAY) with the proceeds going to Pro-Life cause.

These cupcakes represent those little ones who will not have the chance to celebrate their first birthdays unless we help.

## 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 1/4/2025	\$21,350.19
<b>Excess (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$4.04</b>
YTD Collection Budget	\$576,346.15
YTD Collected	\$606,170.44
<b>Excess (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$29,824.29</b>

### Adoration



Eucharistic Adoration January 13, 4-7 pm.  
Come and spend some quiet time with Jesus.

### Free Throw Contest

**Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest**  
**Saturday, January 31 @ 10:30am**

The local council of the Knights of Columbus, Bishop Trobec Council #5276 would like to invite the children of Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Stephen and St. Francis parishes to take part in the annual Free Throw Challenge! All children ages 9-14 are invited to participate. The event will be held at SFX School in the gym. This event is sponsored annually by the KC's with the winners from the local level advancing to district, region, and state competitions. All contestants from the local level are recognized for their participation in the event and the winners at each level will receive a trophy. Registration is at the event and must have written consent and age verification from a parent or guardian. Please contact Jake Schneider 320-761-7143 or jakeschneider34@gmail.com.

### Roses for Life

The annual Knights of Columbus Roses for Life fundraiser will take place on the weekend of January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Knights of Columbus members at both St. Stephen and St. Francis Xavier will be handing out roses for life stickers after masses. You see the stickers on jackets, caps, purses, computers, notebooks, dashboards, and many other places to remind us of the sanctity of life. Donations will be accepted, and all proceeds will be sent to Pro-life causes such as 40 Days for Life, Pro-Life Across America (the billboard people), and in St. Cloud both the Elevate Pregnancy and Family Resource Center, and the Pregnancy Resource Center. Your support is greatly appreciated.



## Youth Ministry

- **Monday at the Manor** is on Monday, January 12th from 7-8pm at the Country Manor in Sartell. Come and join us for games!
- **Faith in Art** is Monday, January 5th from 6:30-8pm at Xavier Hall. Hope to see you there!
- **UPCOMING Aftershock FUNDRAISER** - We will be hosting a BINGO fundraiser on Friday, February 13th from 6-8:30pm in the Gathering Place.

## Rooted Faith Formation

### JANUARY DATES

- Group A – January 14
- Group B – January 21
- Group C – January 28

## Social Concerns

In a time of deep division and social inequality, the lens of Catholic Social Teaching is an opportunity to return to the foundational principles of our Catholic faith as we discern how we are called to love one another, including and especially our neighbors experiencing poverty. The Social Justice Concerns Committee along with the MN Chapter of Laudato Si invite you to join with others virtually Monday nights 6:00 pm-7:30 pm, January 12- February 23rd to learn more about Catholic Social Teaching. Liz Hamek and Molly Weyrens will facilitate. Space is limited to 12. Register here. <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ddyvj26> or email [stfrancissjcc@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancissjcc@gmail.com) for more information.

## March for Life

2026 March for Life Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>  
at the Minnesota Capitol in St. Paul  
PRAYER SERVICE FOR LIFE at the Cathedral of Saint Paul at 10:30 a.m.  
March for Life Bus Note: The Diocese of St Cloud is providing bus service to and from Prayer Service and March for Life at the State Capitol.  
Reserve a spot by contacting Jan at 320-258-7615 by Jan. 17, 2026

7:30 a.m. Arrive St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud  
7:45 a.m. Depart St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud  
3:45 p.m. Return St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud

- A free-will offering may be accepted on the buses to help defer the cost of the bus.
- Dress warmly, bring a bag lunch or snack.
- Bus reservations required.

• \*\*7:00 a.m. Mass will take place at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud prior to loading the bus  
PLEASE JOIN US –  
Have questions, please call  
Marilou Sommers  
320-247-9838



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