

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Dec. 24th, 2023



S

t. Mary's Warroad, MN
t. Joseph's Williams, MN
acred Heart Baudette, MN

Parish Office



St. Mary's
511 Cedar Ave NW
PO Box 33 Warroad, MN
56763
218-386-1178

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St. Mary's: Saturdays 3pm—3:30pm
Tuesdays 5:45pm—6:30pm

St. Joseph's: Closed for winter Dec. 2nd—May 2024

Sacred Heart: Sundays following Mass

Sister Parishes



Sacred Heart
104 1st St. SW
P.O. Box 738 Baudette, MN 56623
218-634-2689
sacredheartbaudette.org



St. Joseph's
400 Park Ave
Williams, MN 56686
Contact Sacred Heart

Parish Staff & Members

Fr. Christon Muhero, Pastor: 218-766-3768 Email: FatherChriston@stmaryswarroad.org

Deacon Jim Lukenbill: 218-766-5107 Email: jim@lukenbill.net

Terrie Lynn Dignan: Office: 218-386-1178 Cell: 3862727 Email: terrielynn@stmaryswarroad.org

St. Mary's Sec/Bookkeeper, Safe Environment Coordinator

Tammi Moes: Office: 218-386-1178 Email: tammimoesstmarys@hotmail.com

St. Mary's Religious Education Coordinator

Michael Grover St. Mary's Cemetery Committee—218-242-0966

Jerry & Lyla Pieper: St. Joseph's Cemetery Committee- 218-783-6411

Knights of Columbus Council 10235

KC Breakfast every 2nd Sunday of the Month immediately after

Mass in Fellowship Hall (Oct. –April)

Meetings held 2nd Sunday of the month
after 8:30 am Mass & Breakfast in the St Augustine's Room

St. Mary's Week Ahead

St. Mary's Masses & Intentions

Fourth Week of Advent

Saturday, Dec. 23rd, Mass @ 5:00pm: Darell Alipoyo

Commentator: Bob Wennerstrand

Reader: Jackson Harren

Sunday, Dec. 24th, Mass @ 8:30am: Arthur & Betty
Barthman

Commentator: Lois Thiessen

Reader: Nancy Ellenson

Christmas Eve Mass, Sunday, Dec. 24th: 5pm
Harold Forpahl

Commentator: Louise Dignan

Reader: Darlene Smith

Christmas Day Mass, Monday, Dec. 25th: 8:30 am
Richard LaChappelle

Commentator: Kim Hrubá

Reader: Tom Goldsmith

Tuesday, Dec. 26th, Mass @ 5:15pm: Lornette Semande

Wednesday, Dec. 27th, 10:30am: Rosary Prayer Group

*No Rel. ed this week

Thursday, Dec 28th, Mass @ Care Center 10:30am
Larry Schue

Adoration at St. Mary's @ 5pm

Friday, Dec. 29th, Mass @ 9am

Saturday, Dec. 30th, Mass @ 5:00pm: Richard
LaChappelle

Commentator: Tim Paquin

Reader: Deb Culleton

Sunday, Dec. 31st, Mass @ 8:30am: For the Parishes

Commentator: Jennie Olson

Reader: Lois Thiessen

**St. Mary's Collection
from Dec. 17th**

Adult Envelopes: \$2,013

Online donations: \$935

*Thank
you*

Sacred Heart's & St. Joseph's Week Ahead

Sacred Heart Masses & Intentions:

Fourth Week of Advent

Sunday, Dec. 24th, Mass @10:30 am: Katherine Gauje
Rosary @10:00 am

Christmas Day Mass, Monday, Dec. 25th: 10:30 am

Wednesday, Dec. 27th, Mass @ SH @ 8:30 am

Wednesday, Dec. 27th, Mass at Lakewood, 9:30am

Sunday, Dec. 31st. Mass @10:30 am: For the Poor
Rosary @10:00 am

St. Joseph's Masses & intentions:

St. Joseph's will be closed for the winter months
beginning the first weekend of December.

Help Needed @ Sacred Heart

We need volunteers to vacuum the church. Approximately an hour is required each week. A lightweight, easy to use vacuum cleaner is provided. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the back of church for the week you can help.

Weekend Offerings

December 17th	Sacred Heart	St Joseph
Envelopes	\$3105	\$1545
Plate	\$460	\$400
Total	\$3565	\$1945

Thinking ahead, Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24th:

- St. Mary's, Warroad, @ 5pm

Christmas Day Mass, Monday, Dec. 25th:

- St. Mary's, Warroad, @ 8:30 am
- Sacred Heart, Baudette, @ 10:30 am

4th Sunday of Advent

“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” – Luke 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.



Dec. 23rd-Dec. 30th

Have a wonderful day,

Therese McBride, Heidi Schaum, Aaron Washnesky

Please Hold in Prayer:

Julie Paquin, August Herbrand, Marilyn Biondi, Penny Hirst, Jimmy Olson, Sarah Klaas, Carol Birkeland, David Cassi, Clint Gibbons, Larry Sindelir, Nayana Norindr, Joleen Hartman, Curtis Anderson, Louise Menk, Leila & Nelson Armagon, Theodora Adikini, Mike Hovde, Hilde Barbot, & Lillian Fortier

Merry Christmas!

After Mass, please take a book home to read.

A Christmas gift from our Parish & The Knight's of Columbus to you.



“Thank you,” goes out to the several parishioners who gave our office staff gifts. You are very kind and generous and have a nice way of bringing a smile to another's face. Hope you have a Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas

Thank You

We, Fr Christon, and Fr Andrew would like to extend a very sincere word of THANKS to everyone who attended our 50th birthday party. Many thanks to Tom and Cyd who were in the forefront organizing this party. Many thanks to all of you for your PRAYERS, PRESENTS and PRESENCE. Some people came all the way from Roseau and Baudette despite the unfriendly weather. It was a memorable day for us and we will live to remember this day. Continue praying for us as we do the same for you. God bless.
~Fr. Christon & Fr. Andrew



If you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or its schools, your first call should be to law enforcement. In addition, the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator is available at 218-281-7895 (24-hour confidential number).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the Star of the North Eucharistic Congress—Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18, 2024, at the Sanford Center in Bemidji, MN. May 19th Kick-Off to the Marion Route of the National Eucharistic Procession – Itasca State Park
Please go to www.crookstoneucharist.org to find all the information regarding this Event

REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the National Eucharistic Congress—July 17—21, 2024 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Please take a handout on table in entrance of church to learn more about registration costs for lodging/tour inclusions and 5-day schedule.

Inspired by the Eucharistic Revival, the Archdiocese of Detroit and Hallow have created this beautiful website where you can find powerful stories of personal encounter with Jesus and audio meditations designed to guide you through Eucharistic adoration.

www.iamhere.org

Jesus and the Eucharist Study—dive deeper into the Eucharist in this study with videos, faith stories, and prayer. This is the same 7 week study held in Sept—Oct; however, we have packaged the material so you can host your own study with family or friends on a time that best fits your schedule. Ask Tammi for training aid, study material and instructions on how to access the videos. (all available in Spanish),

Something New to Share

We are pleased to share that St Mary's Catholic Church has been selected to participate in one of the five cohorts for the Accompaniment Project.


Please see the blue insert to today's bulletin for details.

Vision for Accompaniment: "...the church has decided to examine herself on how she can lead young people to recognize and accept the call to the fullness of life and love, and to ask young people to help her in identifying the most effective ways to announce the Good News today." ~*Preparation Document for the Synod on Young People, the Faith, & Vocational Discernment, Page 1.*

We look forward to partnering with NFCYM on this exciting project to accompany young people in growing as disciples of Jesus Christ. We hope this Accompaniment Project will prove to be a fruitful partnership for our whole parish community.

This is a 3 year commitment for our Parish with the hopes of creating a new approach to accompanying young adults in their faith. We will form a Steering Committee of up to 8 people (including 1-2 high school students); we will receive 6 months of training beginning in April. We will implement the practice for 2 years, and then we will have a 6 month evaluation period.

More information to follow on parish involvement and steering group selection.



Sending Christmas wishes to you and your family this Holy Season.

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Christon Muhero, Deacon Jim Lukenbill,
Parish Staff, and St. Mary's Religious Ed. Team

**Christmas Flowers
at St. Mary's
In Memory of:**

Dale Telle
Warren Keller
Milo Larson
Mark Larson
Richard Soderberg
Harold Forpahl
Ron Wesolowski
Joe Biondi
Christine Gerszewski
Dan McKinnon
Jayme Nicole Spenst
Lornette Semande
Darell Alipoyo
Richard LaChappelle
Alifreda Sandoval
Anecito Alipoyo
Chancy Cole
Adeline Fortier
Fred Fortier
Sandra Marie & David Hess Sr.
Herman & Elaine Vogel

Adelore Paquin
Betty Paquin
Gary Paquin
Steve Paquin
Allen Paquin
Larry Barbot
Jim Bishop
Ron Bishop
Patrick and Faye Trihey
Carl Schaum Sr.
Mary Hackett
Loretta Coulter
Poole Family Members
Melvin Hinderman
Asteria Hinderman
Michelle Thiessen
Michael Thiessen
Clem & Kathryn Foltz
Amanda Foltz
Laura Esser
Sandra Selvog

**Christmas Flowers
at Sacred Heart
In Memory of:**

George and Lenora Ubel
Louis and Rose Gubbels
Norman and Dorothy Hovde
Don McKay
Intention of Dale and Bernice Merschman
Gerulli family
Anderson family
Bob and Betty Schuster
Tommy Schuster
Jim and Rose Schuster
Ed and Helen Schuster
Bud and Myrt Rivard
Roger Birkeland
Carol Birkeland
Jacob Hoops
Tom Schuster
Zimney family
Berg family

Honorary:

The Holy Spirit, All those who suffer, Tom Gerszewski, Theresa Telle, Pat Larson, Darlene Smith, Louise Menk
Our apologies if we missed a loved ones name.

Bishop Andrew Cozzens' statement re: Fiducia Supplicans

December 18, 2023 – Today the Vatican issued a statement, signed by the Holy Father, that spoke about offering blessings to people who currently live outside of the way of life commanded by Jesus. The document especially addresses the question of blessing “same-sex couples.” The document from the Vatican, *Fiducia Supplicans* (FS), is clear that this is not in any way a change in the Church’s teaching about marriage. The Church’s teaching about marriage, since it is rooted in the Gospel we have received from Jesus Christ, is unchangeable. The Vatican document itself states that marriage is an “exclusive, stable, and indissoluble union between a man and a woman, naturally open to the generation of children” and the document also states that “this conviction is grounded in the perennial Catholic doctrine of marriage; it is only in this context that sexual relations find their natural, proper, and fully human meaning. The Church’s doctrine on this point remains firm”

What is the Vatican saying then? We know that Jesus Christ came to call all peoples to repentance and conversion because he desires that we would share with him the fullness of divine life in his kingdom. All of us are sinners and all of us are at different stages in this path of conversion. We see in the Gospels that whenever anyone comes to Jesus with a heart open to him, a heart seeking his mercy, Jesus always responds with mercy and inviting them to deeper repentance and discipleship. There are many examples of this in the Gospels, for example, the woman caught in adultery. Jesus receives her with mercy, saves her from the penalty of death, yet without condoning her sinful activity. He shows her love and mercy and calls her to a new life when he says, “Neither do I condemn you. Go, [and] from now on do not sin any more” (John 8:11). Jesus does this for all of us.

Today’s document emphasizes that people who come to the Church for a blessing, “acknowledge that the life of the Church springs from the womb of God’s mercy and helps us to move forward, to live better, and to respond to the Lord’s will” (FS, 20). Although it is impossible for us to bless a same-sex union, since any sexual-union outside of the marriage of one man and one woman is contrary to the Gospel, we may bless individuals who are not yet living in full accord with the Gospel, even those in a same-sex union. This is not a marriage blessing and should never be done in a liturgical or ceremonial way which would give the false idea of blessing a union contrary to the Gospel. It is not legitimate to use the Book of Blessings or any official ritual for blessing a union contrary to God’s law. This is a blessing for persons who “recognizing themselves to be destitute and in need of his help—do not claim a legitimization of their own status, but who beg that all that is true, good, and humanly valid in their lives and their relationships be enriched, healed, and elevated by the presence of the Holy Spirit” (FS, 31).

This blessing is not for people seeking a legitimization of same sex union but for those seeking to live better: “there is no intention to legitimize anything, but rather to open one’s life to God, to ask for his help to live better, and also to invoke the Holy Spirit so that the values of the Gospel may be lived with greater faithfulness” (FS 40).

The truth is we are all sinners and all of us need God’s blessing to come to repentance and conversion. Often at Holy Mass we tell people who are not able to receive Holy Communion because they are living in a situation that is objectively outside of Jesus’ commandments that they should come for a blessing. This reception of the blessing expresses a humble desire to grow in conversion, to seek his help to overcome sin, to seek holiness which is the goal of every Christian life.

Let us pray that many people, like the Woman at the well, Zacchaeus the tax collector, the Woman caught in adultery, or Saint Peter himself who was a grave sinner, may “feel that they are still blessed, notwithstanding their serious mistakes, that their heavenly Father continues to will their good and to hope that they will ultimately open themselves to the good” (FS, 27).

And of course, as the Vatican made clear, “Any blessing will be an opportunity for a renewed proclamation of the *kerygma*, an invitation to draw ever closer to the love of Christ” (FS, 44). Thus, when people come to the Church seeking her blessing let us also proclaim to them the saving love of Jesus found through repentance for all of us who are sinners.