

December 1, 2024  
1st Sunday of Advent



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ONE  
IN  
CHRIS

Annunciation  
Sacred Heart  
St. Francis Xavier  
St. Stephen

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
oneinchristacc.org

**Annunciation**

9965 Mayhew Lake Road NE • Sauk Rapids, MN 56379  
320-252-1729 • oneinchristacc.org

**Sacred Heart**

2875 10th Avenue NE • Sauk Rapids, MN 56379  
320-251-8115 • sacredheartsaukrapids.org

**St. Francis Xavier**

219 2nd Street N, PO Box 150 • Sartell, MN 56377  
320-252-1363 • stfrancissartell.org

**St. Stephen**

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

**MASS TIMES**

<b>Monday, December 2</b>	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Word and Communion
	8:30 am	Annunciation	† Lavern Justin
<b>Tuesday, December 3</b> St. Francis Xavier	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	† Members of the Wilds Family
	5:30 pm	Sacred Heart	- Living & Deceased Members of St. Monica's Society
	5:30 pm	St. Stephen	† Hugo Weyrens
<b>Wednesday, December 4</b>	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	† Marcel Knapek
	8:00 am	Sacred Heart	† John Brunn
<b>Thursday, December 5</b>	8:00 am	St. Francis Xavier	- Word and Communion
	8:00 am	St. Stephen	† Louis Counter
	8:30 am	Annunciation	† Joe Knott
<b>Friday, December 6</b> St. Nicholas	8:00 am	Sacred Heart	† Grace Lytle
	8:30 am	St. Francis Xavier	† Jacqueline Conrad Beumer
<b>Saturday, December 7</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent	4:00 pm	St. Francis Xavier	† Jean & Michael Cihlar
	5:00 pm	Sacred Heart	† Joachim Janski
	7:00 pm	St. Stephen	† Edwin & Virginia Kowitz
<b>Sunday, December 8</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent	8:15 am	*Annunciation	- For the People of the Parish
	9:00 am	*Sacred Heart	† Mary Jo Boyzch
	9:30 am	*St. Francis Xavier	† Lorraine Knapek
	10:00 am	St. Stephen	† Roger Trobec
	6:30 pm	St. Stephen	† Robert Ferche
<b>*Livestreamed Masses</b>			

**PASTORAL SERVICES**

**Reconciliation  
Saturdays**

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

**Sunday**

7:40 am Annunciation

**Anointing of the Sick  
Home Bound Communion  
Pastoral Visitation, Prayer Requests,  
Marriage and Baptism Preparation**  
If you have any of the above  
pastoral needs, please contact your  
Parish Office.

Bulletin announcements are  
due in the parish office by  
8:00 am on Mondays.  
Thank you! Please contact  
your Parish Office for  
more information.

**DAILY READINGS**

**Monday:** Is 2:1-5/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:** Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

## MINISTRY & LIFE PERSPECTIVES



From Safari.....

Today we begin a new liturgical year. The gospel writer Luke will be our primary guide this year. Luke is credited with being the author of the Acts of the Apostles as well. Scholars believe he

wrote around 85 AD and was influenced by the gospel of Mark. Luke wrote to a people dispersed throughout the region around Jerusalem.

Unique to Luke are the “lost and found” stories which speak of God’s relationship to us-- a lost coin and the woman who searched for it, a stray sheep and the shepherd who rescued it, a wayward son and the forgiving Father. In Luke alone we meet the unjust steward and the Good Samaritan, the wealthy fool and the importunate friend, the corrupt judges and the persistent widow, the rich man and the beggar Lazarus, the proud Pharisee and the humble tax collector, busy Martha and quiet Mary and little Zacchaeus. Through all these stories Luke emphasizes that God fulfilled all his promises and that salvation is for all people.

Advent can easily get lost in the hustle and bustle of Christmas. Through December 16th, Advent begins by focusing of the “will come”. During these days we reflect on the glorious final coming of the Lord. More than a countdown to Christmas, this is a count up to that day that, as Jesus warned us, no one can know but all of us must count on.

The last week of Advent, the prophetic promises become specific and are matched by the gospels. Mary’s expectation, the Baptist’s mission as herald, and the joy that is ours are highlighted.



## (Ministry & Life Perspectives Continued)

Advent calls us to rehearse. We are pilgrims on the move to somewhere else. The routine of life can have us fall into drowsiness. There is always tomorrow. Against this danger Luke proclaims, be vigilant at all times and pray to have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man. To be vigilant is rehearsing to live in the eternal kingdom by allowing our lives now to be instruments in God’s hands. Midst all the distractions of these days, to take a time out, and listen to God’s voice. With our hearts set on God, we can be the peacemaker, we can bring forgiveness to another, we can welcome a stranger, and we can extend the embrace of comfort. May our hearts be filled with wonder and praise

Fr. Ron



## LEADERSHIP

### ACC Pastoral Leadership

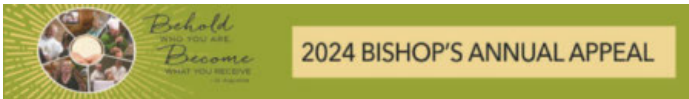


<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Fr. Tom Knoblach</b> 320-251-8115, Ext. 112 pastor@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Fr. Ron Weyrens</b> 320-252-1363, Ext.401 (days) Ext. 402 (night/weekends) rweyrens@stfrancissartell.org
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Joe Kresky</b> 320-251-8115 jkresky@sacredheartsaukrapids.org
<b>Deacon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



“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.” (Luke 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those that are closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.



The Diocesan TV Mass has been a lifeline for the homebound. Other diocesan ministries continue their work in support of faith formation, family life, 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).

### SH-ST. MONICA'S CRAFT & BAKE SALE



St. Monica's Society of Sacred Heart will be hosting their Annual Craft & Bake sale after Masses on December 7th & 8th. Have some Christmas shopping yet to do? Bring your list and pick up some goodies at the same time!! Help us kick off the month of December with all proceeds going to the Poor Clares.

### A TESTIMONY THAT NEEDS TO BE SHARED

**A story that changed one life and it can change yours too!**

Saturday, December 14 at St. Francis Xavier, Xavier Hall 8:30-10:00am.

Julie Bruns, a parishioner from St. Francis Xavier Parish Sartell, will be sharing her story from being transformed to being transfigured during the National Eucharistic Congress. Julie is on fire for Jesus and would like to ignite a fire in your soul to draw closer to Jesus through the Eucharist. Come and join in her joy and passion and make it yours to share too!

Contact Sandee Kremers with questions or to sign up 320-

### THE CHOSEN-SEASON 4-SARTELL

Viewing & Discussion Group -Come for one or come for all! Dec 4 & 11

8:45 am in Xavier Hall -St. Francis Xavier Room  
On the first Wednesday of the month we will start at 9:30 am due to morning Mass hospitality for birthdays and anniversaries.

### SACRED HEART PRAYER BLANKETS

**Prayer Blanket Ministry-SACRED HEART**—Your hands are needed!! This wonderful ministry is in need of help of all ages! NO PREVIOUS SEWING EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Prayer blankets are given to our newly baptized children of Sacred Heart and also those that are ill or passing. A soft blanket says so much!! The prayer blanket group meets the first Wednesday of the month at 1:00. Please join us December 4th!! Bring a friend.

### FUNERAL BLESSINGS

Remember in your prayers the families of James O’Keefe, who passed away on November 4 and Dean Hoffman, who passed away on November 16, from St. Francis



and Dennis Janssen, who passed away on November 16th, from St. Stephen.

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

### 2025 TRAVEL TRIPS

**“I’ll be home for Christmas”...but before that, I want to see how Europe prepares for Christmas from December 5-15, 2025.** Join Fr. Steve Binsfeld aboard an **Ama Waterways** river cruise ship through towns brimming with Christmas decor and holiday spirit. Your journey begins with a 2-night stay in Lucerne followed by a 7-night cruise down the Rhine. Do your Christmas shopping as you visit **great Christmas markets**. Enjoy restaurants, open-air wine gardens and special holiday street food at each stop: Basel, Breisach, Strasbourg, Rudesheim, Dusseldorf, Cologne and Amsterdam. View iconic landmarks and majestic mountains along the way. Amidst the Christmas traditions, we’ll celebrate Advent with Mass each day. Give yourself a Christmas gift; register online at [magitravelinc.com](http://magitravelinc.com), call **Magi Travel at 952-949-0065** or email [info@magitravelinc.com](mailto:info@magitravelinc.com)



### NOT MUCH FOR GOING OVERSEAS? WANT TO STAY IN THE U.S. TO HAVE A GREAT EXPERIENCE?

Explore some of the great WINERIES and MISSIONS of Southern California with Fr. Steve Binsfeld **Sept 11-18, 2025** after flying into LA, staying at superior hotels in great locations: the Dutch town of Solvang, on Mussell Shoals Beach, in San Juan Capistrano and in San Diego’s **Seaport Village**. Celebrate Mass in Santa Barbara, Santa Ines, San Buenaventura, San Gabriel Arcangel and San Juan Capistrano Missions and Christ Cathedral (formerly the “*Chrystal Cathedral*”). Tour Hearst Castle and the Getty Villa Museum. Enjoy wine tasting at Roblar Winery, Newport Beach Winery, Oak Mt Wine Cave, and Mission San Diego de Alcalá Winery. Breakfast and dinner included most days in beautiful locations. Fly home out of San Diego with wonderful “SoCal” memories. Dates: **Sept 11-18, 2025**. For more info contact **Maureen** at: **JeriCo Christian Journeys, 1-877-453-7426**; email: [maureen@jericochristianjourneys.com](mailto:maureen@jericochristianjourneys.com) Web: [www.jericochristianjourneys.com](http://www.jericochristianjourneys.com)



## YOUNG ADULTS

### Bible Study

The next Bible Study is Thursday, December 5th at Sacred Heart from 7-8:30 PM. We'll be studying Section 4 of Pope Francis' pastoral exhortation to Youth and Young Adults. No need to have attended prior, come join!

### Theology on Draft

Our final Theology on Draft of 2024 will take place Thursday, December 12th from 6-8 PM at Crooked Pint in Waite Park. Come join Patrick and Shelly Flynn in the conversation about marriage, dating and relationship vocations.

### Christmas Gathering

The day after Theology on Draft, Friday, December 13th join us at Sacred Heart at 6 PM for evening prayer and a Christmas gathering to follow. Childcare is available and provided. Come join us for a fun evening of fellowship. If you have questions about Childcare or would like to RSVP a spot, please contact Jason Prigge.

## YOUNGLIFE

### 'Like Us' on Facebook

Be sure to go like our page on Facebook: Granite City Wyldlife

### Wyldlife Winter Camp

Pray for the 7 young people we have from the One in Christ Community who are attending Wyldlife Camp next weekend!

### Prayer Team Needed

Don't forget to join us for Prayer on Wednesdays at Noon! Scan for Zoom Link:



## FRAUD PREVENTION TRAINING

Protect yourself and your loved ones from fraud and scams by becoming informed! Join us on Wednesday, December 11th at 9am. Speaker is Brent Bukowski, Assistant Chief of Police. Snacks and beverages will be provided. For more information contact Dan Joe Kresky.

## KING'S HOUSE RETREAT CENTER

### Dec 3 – Advent Wine & The Word; 7-8 pm in the Dining Room

Join us to reflect on the season of Advent as we prepare for the coming of Christ, the Lord of Love, and "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6. Serving wine from Buffalo Rock Winery, non-alcohol beverages and light snacks. Free-will offerings accepted. Call to let us know you are coming at 763-682-1394, or register online.

**Dec 4- Midweek Advent Day Away – Wednesday** – Join us for a day of silent prayer and reflection. This is YOUR time with the Lord. The meditations and liturgies are offered as optional events should you choose to attend. Lunch included. 8:30 to 4 pm. Suggested donation \$30-60 per person. Register online at [kingshouse.com/events](http://kingshouse.com/events) or call 763-682-1394.

## ST. STEPHEN

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

Fr. Ron Weyrens, Pastor

**Faith Formation:** Danna Gasperlin 320-251-5066  
ststephenfaith@gmail.com

### Financial Offering for Nov. 16 & 17

Adult	\$ 1,360.00
Adult Online Nov 9-15	\$ 548.00
Plate	\$ 320.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,228.00</b>

### Ushers:

Dec 7: Tom Larson, Peter Schumer, Dave Pogatchnik

Dec 8: Matt Nienaber, Tim Rudser, Steve Vouk

**St. Nicholas** will be stopping by after the 10:00 AM Mass this Sunday!! Everyone is invited to come for story time, songs and treats.

**Ladies...Let's Gather** meets Sunday evening at 6:00 PM in the annex. This month we are discussing Rachel.

**Faith Formation - Youth Group. Contact Danna Gasperlin:**  
December 4 - Grades 5-9 & Confirmation. Pizza for supper.

**Youth Group** will meet from 8:00-9:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Any youth in grades 6-12 is invited to attend and bring a friend.

**Adoration** Thursday, Dec. 5, from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.

**Ushers:** Two more ushers are needed for Sunday, December 8, at the 6:30 PM Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass. Please contact the parish office if you can usher.

**Giving Tree & Toys for Tots:** All items must be dropped off by next Sunday, December 8.

**Parish Christmas Card:** Do you want to send Christmas wishes to everyone in the parish? Print your name on a piece of paper, put it in an envelope marked Parish Christmas Card, enclose a donation of your choice, and drop it in the collection basket or drop off at the parish office by December 15.

**Thank You** so very much for ALL that was shared with us here at the Monastery via your collection on the weekend of October 26 & 27. We are humbly grateful for the groceries, financial aid and your thoughtful kindness. Without you we know that we could not have remained in Sauk Rapids for so long a time. We want to assure you all of a continued warm place in all of our prayers as we ask Jesus to bless the Parish, you, your families and your friends, with all that is needed and desired in the days ahead. Saint Clare's Monastery.

**Christmas Flowers:** If you would like to donate to the Christmas Flowers in memory of a loved one, use the envelope in your packet or print their name on paper, put it in an envelope marked Christmas Flowers, include a donation of your choice and drop it in the collection basket. Names must be received by December 9 to be in the December 22 bulletin. Names received after that will be published in later bulletins.

**End of Year Contributions:** If you want to make a contribution to St. Stephen Church for your 2024 financial records, all contributions must be received by December 29.

**Well n Fit Exercise classes** are Wednesday & Friday mornings from 9:30-10:30 in the Parish Hall.

**Helping Hands Outreach Senior Dining** is Wednesday's at The Rusty Nail at noon followed by 500. Cost \$6 per meal.

## SACRED HEART PARISH

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

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

## FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

### Income for the Week of November 17, 2024

Adult Collection. . . . .	\$8,118.00
Automatic Giving. . . . .	\$6,706.42
Friends In Need . . . . .	\$250.00
Holy Day. . . . .	\$20.00
Christmas Flowers. . . . .	\$235.00
Weekly adult collection needed to meet yearly budget	\$19,673

## STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Liturgical Ministers Needed** We are in need of musicians and liturgical minister help for two upcoming liturgies. On Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm we will have our Advent Reconciliation service. Then on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception here at Sacred Heart at 6:30 pm. Please sign up on the web terminal or on the sheets near the sacristy if you can help.

**Winter Raffle Tickets** are now on sale. ONLY 250 tickets are sold, ticket prices are \$100. You can purchase tickets before or after Masses or in the office during the week. Mark your calendars for January 26<sup>th</sup> when we draw for the winner of the raffle and have our "Anything you can fit in a crock pot" challenge.

**Pew Cleaning** Please join us on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> following morning Mass 8:45-10:45ish to clean the pews in church. We will have the supplies we just need the bodies to help the work go quicker.

**Homebound Communion 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 with questions.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Envelopes will be available in the gathering space if you would like to make a donation 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!

## ST. MONICA'S CRAFT & BAKE SALE

St Monica's of Sacred Heart is having a craft and bake sale on **December 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>** after Mass. Please join us and maybe finish up your Christmas shopping list. If you are bringing things to sell, please bring them in priced and ready to sell.

## THE GIVING TREE

If you took a tag from the Giving Tree, please return the gift unwrapped (no gift bags please) with the tag attached by Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your generosity!!



For **UPCOMING EVENTS**, please go to [sacredheartsaukrapids.org](http://sacredheartsaukrapids.org)

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Grounded Youth Ministry** December Theme: Grounded in Humility

Upcoming Grounded Dates:

**Sunday**, December 8<sup>th</sup> | Gr. 9-12 | 5-7 PM

**Wednesday**, December 11<sup>th</sup> | Gr. 6-8 | 7:30-9 PM Ugly Sweater Night

**Wednesday**, December 18<sup>th</sup> | Gr. 6-12 | 6:30-8 PM PJ Night —Christmas Party

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Waldo Hunt** The fourth annual Waldo Hunt is set for Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. 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 and by the Youth Ministry Board.

**Jr. High Lock-In** Grades 6-8 (and their friends), plan on joining us Saturday, January 25 - Sunday, January 26 at the St. Cloud YMCA for a lock-in like never before. Starts at 8 PM on Saturday and ends on Sunday at 6 AM. Cost is \$40, registration is online **only**. Scan the QR Code.



**Castaway 2025** Registration is now open for Castaway 2025 for grades 9-12! Castaway is March 28-30 in Detroit Lakes. Cost is \$100 (additional costs for shirts). Registration is online **only**. Scan the QR Code, Lets fill that bus!

## FAITH FORMATION

**NCCL Parent Cafe's** Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 7:30 PM in the Gathering Space **and** Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 10:15 - 11:15 AM in Room B. Parent Cafes are the second step in the NCCL process to gather input from parents (infants high school) about how the parish can offer better support and encouragement in passing on faith to your children. Parents will be placed in table groups and asked to reflect and share their thoughts on 4 questions. Beverage and light snacks will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Frieler at the parish office.

**First Reconciliation** Parent/Child Retreat is Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM at Sacred Heart for registered 2nd Sacred Heart 2nd Graders. If you have not yet registered your 2nd grader for First Sacraments at Sacred Heart, please contact Scott Frieler ASAP.

## THANK YOU

A sincere THANK YOU to all who showed us such strong support on the sudden loss of Linda Jarboe. To name just a few, Fr. Tom Knoblach, Deacon Joe Kresky, the liturgical staff and all the help in the kitchen area. There aren't enough words to express our appreciation. One thing is for sure, Linda would have been overwhelmed by all the caring and kindness. Sincerely, Linda Jarboe's family

It's a small change, but we now have ALL LED lights in the building. Thank you to Earl and Tyler Schreifels for donating their time and talent to change over these lights. We have such generous parishioners!

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please add Kevin & Denise Baron and family, Fay Matthies and Jayne Wruck to your prayers. If you know of anyone who needs our prayers and wants to be put on the prayer list, please call 320-251-8115.

## ANNUNCIATION PARISH

**Contact:** Cindy Gans 320-252-1729  
cindyg@annunciationmayhewlake.com  
**Faith Formation:** Shirley Scapanski 320-259-4941  
shirleys@annunciationmayhewlake.com

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### Income for Sunday, November 17th, 2024

Adult Sunday .....	\$3,130.00
Visitors .....	\$190.25
Youth .....	\$14.75
Solemnity of Mary .....	\$500.00
Votive Candle .....	\$3.60
Thanksgiving .....	\$100.00
Building Fund .....	\$20.00
Christmas .....	\$100.00
Total Income .....	\$4,058.60
Weekly Income needed to meet yearly budget	\$3,037.00

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Sun. December 8th, 2024

**Lector:** John Koenig & Karla Koenig  
**Eucharist:** Jason Zwilling(H), Rita Knott(C), Lora Knafla(C)  
**Servers:** Halle Krajsa and Cole Lentner  
**Greeters:** Chuck Wocken, Carson Zwilling, Mason Zwilling, Spencer Ackerman  
**Ushers:** Jenny Zwilling, Peter Ackerman, Spencer Ackerman, Chuck Wocken.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Alexis Bemboom, Brynn Krajsa, Carol Sondrol, Rita Kainz, Briana Ackerman, Steven Czeck, Sheldon Gravelle, Daryl Kuehn, Kelsey Miller, Madeline Montag, Carter Thell, Ava Krajsa, Jerome Benard.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Religious Education Classes will be Wed. December 4th at 6:30pm. 2nd Grade Learning Centers.

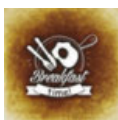
Dec. 11th—Rel Ed. 6:30pm Reconciliation for grades 2-10

Dec. 18th—Rel. Ed. 6:30pm Decorating church for Christmas.



**FOOD SHELF COLLECTION** There is a box in the entryway of church for collecting food for the poor thru December 1st. TODAY.

**AA MEETING** at Annunciation Church Hall on Thurs., at 7pm. Meetings will be held every week. Call Lori for info. 320-406-8742. Everyone Welcome.



**BREAKFAST** on **Sunday, December 8th**, after Mass. Breakfast will be made and put on by the Religious Education Teachers with proceeds going to the Religious Ed Program. Please come and enjoy a good meal and good community.

### SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:

Monday, December 8th. Mass times:  
Annunciation: 8:30am  
Sacred Heart: 6:30pm  
St. Francis Xavier: 6:30pm



**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING:** Mon. Dec. 2nd & Jan. 6th at 6:30pm at Immaculate Conc. Church, Rice. 320-290-6311.

## ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

**Contact:** Becky Dingmann — 320-252-1363  
bdingmann@stfrancissartell.org  
Fr. Ron Weyrens, Pastor  
Tom Offerdahl, Business Manager

**Office Hours 8 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

## FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

Weekly Collection Budget .....	\$21,346.15
Collected 11/17/2024.....	\$17,796.58
<b>Excess (Deficit) .....</b>	<b>\$(3,549.57)</b>
YTD Collection Budget .....	\$426,923.00
YTD Collected .....	\$409,935.77
<b>Excess (Deficit).....</b>	<b>\$(16,987.23)</b>

## COFFEE & COMMUNITY

Please join us for 1st Wednesday Coffee & Rolls on Wednesday, December 4, after the 8 am Mass.

## COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

Communal Reconciliation services will take place on December 10 at 6:30pm in St. Stephen and December 21 at 12:00pm at SFX. Addition priests will be available for individual confession at St. Stephen.

## NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING

Have you ever considered being a Eucharistic minister? We are always in need of more ministers., especially at special times of the year like Christmas or during the winter months when some of our current ministers head south for 3-4 months. Or, might you consider being a substitute Eucharistic minister? (If you don't want to be regularly scheduled but willing to fill in if there is a need). There will be a training session on December 7 @ 3:30. This training is only for new ministers. There will be a refresher for all Eucharistic Ministers in January. Watch for further information. Questions? Contact Mary Margaret Yaeger at mary.mag1015@gmail.com

## ST. NICK TO VISIT SFX

St. Nicholas to visit St. Francis Xavier at Masses and in the Gathering Place on Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8. Stop by the Gathering Place after Mass to receive a candy cane and take a family photo.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Pro-Life Christmas Cards are available to purchase in the parish office. \$10 for 10 cards.

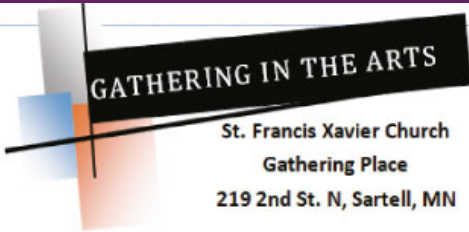
## 3RD ANNUAL ADVENT FOR ALMSGIVING

**Week 1 - Cereal**  
Drop off in the Gathering Place now thru December 6.





## CHRISTMAS CANDY & COOKIE BAKE SALE



Saturday, December 7, 2024

9:00 am – Noon

Choose your own baked items

\$8.00 per pound

Let US Do the Baking for YOU

Proceeds go towards the Enhancement of the Gathering Place

### GIVING TREE

For those who have taken a tag from the giving tree, thank you! Tape the tag to the bag and return by December 15. Bins are in the gathering place. Thank you for your continued generosity. Any questions, call Judy Pohlkamp 224-8757 or Deb Rickers 309-1073.



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOOD SHELF

Catholic Charities relies on local churches to keep the Food Shelf running. For over a decade, our church has participated in the Adopt-A-Month program, partnering with Catholic Charities to fight hunger. **January is our month.** Volunteers are crucial, and we need your help now more than ever. Many long-serving volunteers have retired, and recruiting new volunteers has been challenging, especially since COVID-19. With the growing demand for Emergency Services, your help is needed. Click on the QR code to see available dates and times. If you need help with getting on the schedule, contact Tom Offerdahl in the parish office. Please consider dedicating a few hours this month to support the Food Shelf.



### FAIR TRADE

Please mark your calendar for the weekend of December 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>. Shelby Vaske will be here with tables full of Fair Trade items for sale after mass this weekend. Crafts, clothing, children's items, wood products, jewelry, coffee, tea and chocolate will be available. Fair Trade items make great Christmas gifts and they support farmers and artisans and families in less economically developed countries by paying them a fair price for the goods they produce.

### HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE MTG.

Tuesday, December 3 @ 5:30pm, Gathering Place.  
All are welcome!

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