

# HOLY CROSS AREA FAITH COMMUNITY

## Pastoral Leadership

- Msgr. Douglas Grams  
Rector/Pastor
- Msgr. John Richter  
Senior Associate
- Fr. Aaron Johanneck  
Parochial Vicar
- Fr. Cornelius Ezeiloaku  
Parochial Vicar
- Dcn. Rick Christiansen  
Permanent Deacon

## NUACS

St. Anthony Elementary  
School (Pre K-6)  
Shelly Bauer, Principal  
(507) 354-2928

Cathedral High School (7-12)  
William Schumacher, Principal  
(507) 354-4511

Administration & Business Office  
(507) 354-2719

## AFC Pastoral Council

### Representatives

Cathedral.....Tim Rahe  
Jackie Finstad  
St. Mary's .....Shirley Laraway  
Paul Wieneke  
St. John the Baptist.....Jim Drexler  
Lester Braulick  
St. George.....Jeff Franta  
Penny Forst  
St. Gregory the Great....Linda Beranek  
Carol Hoffmann

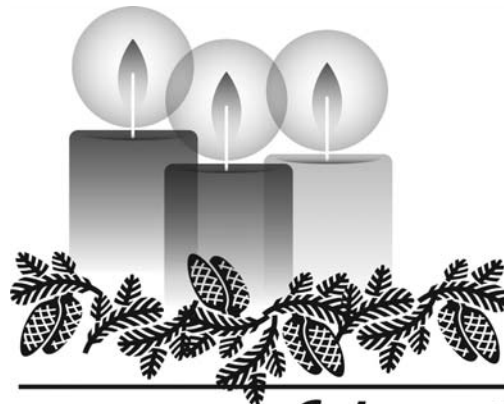
**New Parishioners:** Welcome! We are happy to have you join us. Please call or stop by your parish office to register.

**Baptisms:** Call your parish office to schedule a Baptism. Preparation program required.

**Marriages:** Begin making plans with parish priest at least six months in advance.

**Outreach:** If you know of parishioners who are ill, hospitalized, or homebound, please contact your parish office.

**RCIA:** If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church, please invite them to join the RCIA program. Classes will begin in September. This is a time of prayer, instruction, questions/answers and discernment that will lead up to full union in the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Contact your parish office to register.



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

**Catholic Charities** in the Diocese of New Ulm provide individual, marriage and family counseling, pregnancy counseling, Project Rachael, adoption resources, transition and grief services. Offices are located in Hutchinson, Marshall, New Ulm and Willmar. Call 1-866-670-5163

**Bulletin Copy Deadline** - Tuesday: noon

## Holy Cross Area Mass Schedule

### Saturday

5:00 pm Cathedral, New Ulm  
5:30 pm St. Mary's, New Ulm

### Sunday

8:00 am Cathedral, New Ulm  
8:30 am St. George,  
West Newton Twp.  
9:00 am St. Mary's, New Ulm  
10:00 am Cathedral, New Ulm  
10:30 am St. John the Baptist,  
Searles  
10:30 am St. Gregory the Great,  
Lafayette  
6:30 pm Cathedral, New Ulm

**Church of  
St. John the Baptist**  
18241 1st Avenue  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
(507) 359-4244  
sjs@newulmtel.net

**Church of St. Mary**  
417 South Minnesota Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
(507) 233-9500  
stmarys@newulmtel.net

**Cathedral of the  
Holy Trinity**  
605 North State Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
(507) 354-4158  
cathedral@holycrossafc.org

**Church of St. George**  
63105 Fort Road  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
(507) 359-9553  
stgeorge@holycrossafc.org

**Church of  
St. Gregory the Great**  
PO Box 5  
440 6th Street  
Lafayette, MN 56054  
(507) 228-8298  
stgregory@holycrossafc.org

## 3rd Sunday of Advent December 11, 2016

**Bulletin Connection** *“The poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” Jesus caps his catalogue of miracles with this unexpected statement. In the same sentence where he reminds his listeners that he has cured the blind, the lame, the deaf, the sick, and even raised the dead, Jesus concludes by mentioning preaching the good news to the poor. How did that make the list of supernatural cures? The poor are not just those in physical poverty, but those whose sins have impoverished their souls. This of course applies to us. Because of this, we have cause to rejoice! We pause in this season of anticipation to remember that, in truth, our hopes have already been fulfilled. God has “visited and brought redemption to his people” (Lk 1:68). He is among us, saving us even now!* (Liturgical Publications. Resources Center 2013)

### From the Pastor

**AREA ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE** Today, Sunday, December 11 at 2:00 pm we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary’s. There will be six priests present to help celebrate the gift of forgiveness and healing in preparation for Advent. See the insert in last week’s bulletin which listed additional times for individual confessions. Please make it a point to celebrate this sacrament as part of our preparation for Christmas.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mr. Tony Haefs who was awarded ‘Teacher of the Week’ by The River 105.5 and Z99. Mr. Haefs teaches Math at Cathedral High School.

**THANK YOU** to Minnesota Valley Funeral Home for donating 2017 church calendars. The calendars are available at each of the parishes.

**FORMED.ORG** I am pleased to announce that our Holy Cross Area Faith Community was gifted with a subscription for all AFC members to [Formed.org](http://Formed.org). Free access to movies, programs, talks and e-books are all available through Formed. Please see my letter on the insert in today’s bulletin for more information as well as how to register.

**CHECK IT OUT** Our AFC website ([holycrossafe.org](http://holycrossafe.org)) has three short videos on our Area faith Community: “Welcome to Our Faith Community,” “My Faith Matters” and “Returning to the Catholic Faith.” Please share and encourage others to watch the videos, especially those who have been away or are estranged from the Church or are interested in joining the Catholic Church. The videos were produced by Flying Buttress Media.

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS** This weekend is the annual national appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious which distributes financial assistance for retirement needs to eligible religious institutes. If you were unable to donate this weekend, you can put your donation in an envelope marked “Religious Retirement Fund” and bring it to your parish office or drop it in the collection next weekend.

**END OF YEAR** The calendar year ends December 31. If you are behind in your offerings, I encourage you to make your stewardship of treasure before the end of the calendar year. Thank you to those generous and consistent givers who support the core ministries of our parishes.

**DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL** If you have not had the opportunity to make your pledge or gift yet, envelopes are still available. Return your envelope in the collection or drop it in the mail. You may also pledge or contribute online at [www.dnu.org/diocesan-ministries-appeal](http://www.dnu.org/diocesan-ministries-appeal). Either way, the parish will receive full credit for your gift. Your gift benefits diocesan ministries as well as to our parish projects. Thank you to those who have supported the DMA thus far.

**INCREASED GIVING APPEAL** You are asked to make a prayerful response to our Stewardship Appeal to ensure the pastoral programming in all of our parishes. Please use the form enclosed in the letter you received and return it in the envelope to any parish collection in the AFC, or mail or drop it off at your parish office. Please note information in the letter concerning online giving. Online giving makes donating simple, safe and secure.

Msgr. Grams

## Mass Schedule for the Week

<u>Date &amp; Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Intention</u>
<b>Monday 12th</b> 7:00 a.m.	Cathedral	+ Eldor & Lauren Schnobrich + Wendy Schnobrich Skol
<b>Tuesday 13th</b> 7:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Cathedral St. Mary St. George Orchard Hills	+ Bob Mulrennen + Mary Ann Wesselmann + Joleen Franta + Leroy Reinhart
<b>Wednesday 14th</b> 7:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m.	Cathedral St. Mary St. Gregory the Great	+ Emma James + Phillis Herring NO MASS
<b>Thursday 15th</b> 7:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Cathedral St. Mary Oak Hills St. John the Baptist	+ Donna Windhorn + Richard LeGare + Don Fiebiger + Dec’d Hoffmann Relatives
<b>Friday 16th</b> 7:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Cathedral St. Mary Ridgeway South	+ Dorothy Guggisberg + Ricky Gutzke + Alice Henle
<b>Saturday 17th</b> 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Cathedral Cathedral St. Mary	+ Florence Saffert + Tom Cooling + Edward & Wanda Maidl
<b>Sunday 18th</b> 8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Cathedral St. George St. Mary Cathedral St. John the Baptist St. Gregory the Great Cathedral	+ Nick & Cecelia Walter + Bob Gleisner + Zollner Family + Danny Hegler + Martin & Cecelia Griebel Mass for the People of AFC + Natalie Wright

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

<u>KEYC Mankato Fox Channel 13 NU Tel</u>	6:30 - 7:00 a.m.
<u>KEYC(1) - Old Channel 12 KEYC(NU Tel Ch. 12/Comcast Ch. 6)</u>	7:30 a.m.
<u>NUCAT Mass from Cathedral of the Holy Trinity</u>	11:00 a.m.
(doesn’t run all the time)	
<u>Channel 45 NU Tel &amp; Channel 12 Comcast</u>	11:00 - 11:30 a.m.
from St. Cloud	

### Sacrament of Reconciliation Schedule

<b>Tuesday 13th</b>	7:00 - 7:20 a.m.	St. Mary
	7:30 - 7:50 a.m.	St. George
<b>Wednesday 14th</b>	7:00 - 7:20 a.m.	St. Mary
<b>Thursday 15th</b>	7:00 - 7:20 a.m.	St. Mary
<b>Friday 16th</b>	7:00 - 7:20 a.m.	St. Mary
<b>Saturday 17th</b>	9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Cathedral
	4:00 - 4:40 p.m.	Cathedral
	4:30 - 5:00 p.m.	St. Mary
<b>Sunday 18th</b>	7:00 - 7:40 a.m.	Cathedral

### Readings for the Week of December 11, 2016

Monday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Ps 85/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Is 54:1-10/Ps 30/Lk 7:24-30
Friday:	Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67/Jn 5:33-36
Saturday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17
Next Sunday:	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

## Stewardship

### Contributions for Week of December 4, 2016

	CATHEDRAL	ST. MARY	ST. JOHN	ST. GEORGE	ST. GREGORY
Actual Adult	15,754.00	11,482.00	5,424.00	280.00	986.00
Budget Adult	13,192.31	13,163.46	1,635.00	1,538.46	1,076.93
Electronic Transfers	1,115.00	0.00	1,000.00	50.00	80.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,869.00</b>	<b>11,482.00</b>	<b>6,424.00</b>	<b>330.00</b>	<b>1,066.00</b>
Year-to-date Actual	286,040.25	282,347.19	48,636.00	29,714.17	22,838.41
Year-to-date Budget	303,423.13	302,759.58	37,605.00	35,384.58	24,769.39
<b>Ahead/Behind</b>	<b>- 17,382.88</b>	<b>-20,412.39</b>	<b>11,031.00</b>	<b>-5,670.41</b>	<b>-1,930.98</b>
Student	15.00	14.75	2.50	0.00	3.25
Loose Plate	356.66	347.91	23.75	44.50	57.00
Parish Project Goal	50,000.00	20,000.00	6,000.00	18,000.00	10,000.00
Parish Project (# contributors)	22,632.00 (57)	5,340.00 (23)	2,385.55 (5)	10.00 (1)	100.00 (1)
DMA Goal	62,713.80	40,212.85	7,905.74	7,601.67	6,993.54
DMA Actual (# contributors)	21,170.00 (75)	11,250.00 (46)	1,325.00 (6)	3,710.00 (15)	1,175.00 (4)
<i>Attendance</i>	<i>1097</i>	<i>724</i>	<i>171</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>103</i>



**December 11, 2016 - 3rd Sunday in Advent** *"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."* - James 5:8 Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.



## New Ulm Area Catholic Schools

visit [www.nuacs.com](http://www.nuacs.com)

**Christmas Concert:** NUACS students in grades 5-12 will participate in a Christmas band and choir concert on Monday, December 12, in the CHS Gym. The concert begins at 7:00 PM. The public is invited to attend.

**After-Prom Party Fundraiser:** If you shop Hy-Vee this week on December 13, 14 or 15 and turn in a designated slip, Hy-Vee will donate a percentage of your purchase to the CHS After-Prom Party fund. To take part in this fundraiser, simply hand the cashier the slip found in today's bulletin!

**Alumni Tournaments:** The annual Alumni Basketball and Volleyball Tournaments will be held on Saturday, December 31, 2016. These tournaments are a great opportunity to get together with friends and burn some of those Christmas calories! If you are interested in participating, start putting your team together. Registration information may be found at [www.nuacs.com](http://www.nuacs.com) under 'Alumni.' Contact Sara Rieland at 507-766-7593 or [sara.rieland@nuacs.com](mailto:sara.rieland@nuacs.com) with questions.

**Simple Gift:** Having trouble finding the perfect gift for someone on your list? How about a Scrip gift card – everyone loves those! By purchasing Scrip, you save money on your tuition bill and help the school as well. The Scrip program has many participating locations in and out of town. Check out [www.nuacs.com](http://www.nuacs.com) for the full list and details regarding the program.

**Snowfest Tickets:** CHS students are selling Snowfest tickets. The tickets are \$5.00 each with 24 chances to win \$100 to \$500! Please help support our school in this important fundraising effort. CHS students are striving to meet their goal of \$14,000 in student ticket sales in order to earn a free day from school on Wednesday, April 12.

**Snowfest "Snow Much Fun":** Plans are underway for Snowfest 2017, which will be held on Saturday, February 4, 2017. We would like to again offer childcare for the evening so our elementary parents can enjoy this great event. The Development Office is currently looking for a Virtus-trained volunteer to chair Snowfest childcare - "Snow Much Fun!" The Development Office will assist with registration of students. Please contact Tammy Klawitter at [tamara.klawitter@nuacs.com](mailto:tamara.klawitter@nuacs.com) or 507-233-0767 if you are able to help.

**Snowfest Auction Items/Volunteers:** The Snowfest committee is always looking for unique and interesting donations for the silent and live auctions. If you have an appropriate item to donate, please drop it off at the St. Anthony Elementary Office or call Sara Rieland at 507-766-7593 to arrange for pick-up. If you would like to donate a service, you may drop off a gift certificate to be handed to the winner. In addition, there are many locations where help is needed on the evening of Snowfest. Please consider volunteering your time for this important event.

## Religious Education & Faith Formation News

### CONFIRMATION NEWS!

**Junior Confirmation Candidates:** Please return your Sponsor Books and turn in your paper work. Use the purple Lectionary response forms for Advent. For questions email Julie at [Julie.soehren@holycrossafc.org](mailto:Julie.soehren@holycrossafc.org).

### PLEASE NOTE!

**Regular Faith Formation and Religious Ed classes** will be held on Wednesday, December 14th, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

## Youth & Young Adult Ministry

**December 21st - Decorating the tree!** Any students grades 9-12 are welcome to come join us as we help to decorate our priests' Christmas tree in the Cathedral rectory. We'll start around 8:15 p.m. on December 21st just after Religious Ed. and should be done by 9:30 p.m. Music? Cookies?? We'll have them both!

- Matthew

For more information regarding Youth Ministry, please search on-line at [holycrossafc.org](http://holycrossafc.org) under the *Ministries* tab you will find *Youth Ministry*.

# Holy Cross AFC News

## Sunday, December 11th - Advent Prayer Service with Bishop John M. LeVoir

All families, especially those with children, are invited to attend an Advent Prayer Service with Bishop John M. LeVoir on Sunday, December 11th at 4:00 p.m. in Morgan at the Church of St. Michael. This service is designed to help us focus on Advent and prepare for the true meaning of Christmas, centered on the birth of Jesus. Families are encouraged to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their home nativity set. The figure will be blessed by Bishop LeVoir individually as families come forward in procession. There will be a blessing on families and expectant mothers as they prepare for Jesus' birth in their hearts. A "swaddling clothes" collection (blankets, sleepers, layette items, etc.), as well as any cash donations, will be taken for babies in need and given to We Care in Morgan. For more information, contact the diocesan evangelization and catechesis offices at 507-233-5325.

### Christmas Flowers

If you would like to donate a memorial in honor of a loved one for Christmas Flowers, you can do so on the online giving page: [holycrossafc.weshareonline.org](http://holycrossafc.weshareonline.org) and find the parish you would like to donate to.

## Sunday, December 11th - AFC Penance Service 2:00 p.m. at the Church of St. Mary

## Monday, December 12th - Rosary at Cathedral Everyone is welcome to come pray the Rosary at 1:00 p.m.

**Monday, December 12th - Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is December 12th! Take time, as a family, to watch the movie: 'Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message' that can be found by going to [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org)! Be sure to take advantage of this FREE subscription. Our AFC parish code is: ZY2TQG. Please check out this great family resource!

**Monday, December 19th - Knights of Columbus**  
St. Patrick's Council 1076 will be meeting at 6:40 p.m. in the Cathedral church to pray the Rosary, followed by a 7:00 p.m. meeting in Cathedral Parish Center.

### World Wide Marriage Encounter

"Prepare the way of the Lord." Is 40:3

If you have never attended a Marriage Encounter and would like to find out more, please contact Miki at (507) 227-8229. If you have attended, is it time to refresh your commitment? The weekend is for all couples of all ages of all religious backgrounds. A weekend is also a GREAT gift to your grown, married children! You can even offer to take the grand kids for the weekend, and it is a win/win! The next retreat is scheduled for February 17 - 19, 2017 in Windom. You can apply online at <https://southmnwwme.org/applyWeekend.php>, or you may contact Miki Schultz at (507) 227-8229.

**Gift Certificates Are on Sale for Spring Fever**  
at St. George for March 18th and March 25th, 2017. Call 354-2428 to reserve yours today!

## Saturday, January 14, 2017 - Sixth Annual Sewing for Sight Event!

You are invited to be our guest for a one day quilting retreat on Saturday, January 14, 2017 at the St. George Parish Center from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Your \$60 registration fee includes all-day sewing space, valet service upon arrival, lunch, dinner, snacks and refreshments, evening wine tasting, quilt show attendance and participation in the silent auction. Independent vendors will be available throughout the day for your shopping convenience. The event is sponsored by St. George Catholic United Financial and Sewing Seeds Quilt Company. Sewing space is limited! Please register early by contacting Jackie Forst at [gjforst@newulmtel.net](mailto:gjforst@newulmtel.net). All proceeds from this event will be directed to the Foundation for Saving Sight and their mission to support sight saving eye care for the villagers of San-Lucas Toliman, Guatemala. Financial donations or silent auction items are graciously accepted for this charitable event! Our continued commitment is sincere and their need is real. Contributions can be mailed or delivered to 1417 South State Street, New Ulm, MN 56073. Please make checks payable to: Sewing for Sight. For more information contact Jackie Forst (507)276-1069, Ann Wendinger (507)766-3389 or Cindy Wendinger (507)276-2716. Thank you for your very generous and continued support!

### 100 Year Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima

Join Bishop John M. LeVoir on a trip to Fatima, Spain and Lourdes September 11- 21, 2017. For full tour details and daily itinerary, visit [magitravelinc.com](http://magitravelinc.com) or call 952-949-0065.

## Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

*The season of Advent is upon us!  
As we begin a new spiritual year, why not make  
a New Year's resolution to spend more time with  
Jesus? Come to worship Him in the adoration  
chapel and make this your best new year!*

**Adorers are needed for the following hour:  
Sunday 11:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 p.m.**

*Please consider taking a committed hour of Adoration  
once a week.  
We need you. You are so important to this ministry!  
Thank you!*

For more information, please call Adoration co-coordinators  
Lora Rahe at 507-354-5563 or 507-276-6838  
Janet Neubauer at 507-276-4039  
Kathy Sonnek at 507-947-3043

**CHAPEL ACCESS:** If you need to access the Adoration Chapel when the church building is locked, contact St. Mary's parish office at 233-9500 during business hours for the code to the keypad located at the building entrance by the chapel.

IN INCLEMENT WEATHER, PLEASE CALL THE ADORATION  
HOTLINE AT 233-9510 TO DETERMINE IF THE ADORATION  
CHAPEL HAS BEEN CLOSED.



## Cathedral of the Holy Trinity

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR DECEMBER 17 AND 18

#### SERVERS

5:00 p.m. William & Kate Boston and Kate Klimek  
8:00 a.m. Nicholas & Noah Wolle and Aidan Hendrickson

10:00 a.m. Elise, Jake and Isabelle Webb  
6:30 p.m. Anthony Geiger, David Bode and John Gillis

#### LECTORS

5:00 p.m. Catherine Rasmussen

8:00 a.m. Joan Boyle

10:00 a.m. Darrel Brey

6:30 p.m. Denise Leinig

#### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Due to space limitations, the Eucharistic Ministers schedule will not be included in the bulletin. It can be found online at [www.holycrossafc.org/ministries](http://www.holycrossafc.org/ministries), or paper copies are available in the work sacristy.

**Sunday, Dec. 11:** Vespers 5:00 p.m., Parish

**Wednesday, Dec. 14:** RCIA at 6:45 p.m. in the Parish Center

**Tuesday, Dec. 13:** Youth Choir at 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Center  
CCW Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Leifeld Hall

**Thursday, Dec. 15:** German Choir at 6:30 p.m.

**Friday, Dec. 16:** Little Flowers at 3:00 p.m. in Leifeld Hall



*Sympathy and prayers to the family of  
Harold Braulick*



**BAPTIZED IN CHRIST**

*Alexander Michael Leslie,*

*son of Cody and Jennifer Leslie*

#### VOTIVE LIGHTS FOR THE WEEK OF 12/11

Delbert Fischer Sr.; Lonita Kral; Craig Richter; Victor Kral; Bernie & Grace Lindmeier; Danny Hegler, Robert & Hildegard Roesch; Greg Hoffmann, Art & Val Simmet, Robert & Anna Simmet, Joe & Anna Soukup; Steve Reinhart; Int. Caleb Tyner & Keith Richter; Int. Dave Christian; Don Weise & Mary Weise Weirauch; RS Family; Alex & Alice Portner; Stan & Hazel Schneider; Erwin & Elaine Hillesheim; Pfeiffer, Bonnell & Burdorf; JMF; Edwin Sehr; Good Health for MS & DS; Gervase & Arline Krambeer; Steve Fleck, Joe & Marie Landsteiner; Cornelius Zitzmann; Edwin & Eleanor Mertz; Larsen Family; Holy Souls; Helget Family; Sp. Int. L-K; Sp. Int. LN & LK; Wally Neumann; Norbert Ubl; Florence & Denny Saffert; Miranda Wurtzberger; Jeanette Altenburg; Richard Guggisberg; Susan Kunz; Arthur & Dolores Dietz; Wally Bauer; Clarence A. & Dolores Dauer; Craig Dauer; Anton & Minnie Hacker; Tom & Louise Cooling, Bob LeGare; Sp. Int.; Clarence, Henry & Michael Polzin; Sp. Int.; Sp. Int.; Peter Meyer; Living & deceased members of Mary & George Wurtzberger/Margaret & Mike Tauer families; Employment-J; Warren Jorgensen.

## Church of St. Mary

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR DECEMBER 17 AND 18

	ALTAR SERVERS	SACRISTANS	LECTORS	ACCOMPANISTS	CANTORS
5:30 p.m.	Matt Brehmer & Emma Neet	Nick Reinhart	Amy Maudal	Donna Donahue	Carolyn Keller
9:00 a.m.	Eric Furth & Nathan Hauser	Karen Domeier	Terry Zinniel	Marijo Sweeney	Kelsey Koch

**Monday, Dec. 12th** - Prayer Shawl meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, Dec. 13th** - Adult Choir practice from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

St. Cecilia Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.

**Wed., Dec. 14th** - St. Jude Guild will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Country Club

**Monday, Dec. 12th** - CCW Christmas Party at Willie's beginning at 6:30 p.m. Come enjoy hot cocoa, Advent prayer time and a tour of the amazing decorations and Nativity sets. Call Willie at 359-4134 for any questions.

**Would you consider being at greeter at Mass?** We are in need of more greeters. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please call Maureen Miller at 354-3687.

**Year-end Donation Reminders** - Please keep in mind the following if you are planning to make a year-end donation. The IRS offers the following reminders: Contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations charged to a credit card before the end of Dec. 31, 2016 count for 2016. This is true even if the credit card bill isn't paid until 2017. Also, checks count for 2016 as long as they are mailed in 2016 and have a 2016 postmark date. Thank you for your generosity!



*Sympathy and prayers to the family of  
Joanne Guggisberg*

## Church of St. George

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR DECEMBER 18

**SERVERS :** Jared Beranek, Mikayla Lagerwall & Josh Dummer

**GIFT BEARERS:** Jeff & Terese Gruber

**LECTORS:** Alma Forst & Mark Berle

**USHERS:** Dennis Lux & Ken Matties

**COUNTERS:** Steve Biebl & Jim Gleisner

**MUSICIAN:** Val Forst

**EXTRA. MINISTERS:** Anna Bastian, Terese Gruber & Ann Franta

**ROSARY LEADER:** Marion Altmann

**Church Cleaning** - Remember: The (\*) person calls the others to remind them.

December 24th at 8:30 a.m. \*Darcy Beranek, Donna, Lyndsey, Mary Jane and Patty Beranek.

**Anyone wishing to donate towards our Christmas Environment** in memory of a loved one may do so by placing your donation along with your name and the name of your loved one in an envelope in the Sunday collection basket, or you can log on to [www.holycrossafc.weshareonline.org](http://www.holycrossafc.weshareonline.org) and donate to the St. George fund there.

**Thank you to Marie Brandel** for her recent donation for parish kitchen supplies in memory of her husband, George.

**All Mass intentions for St. George** should be directed to: Sheri Liebl, St. George Mass Intentions, PO Box 5, Lafayette, MN 56054. Sheri schedules the Mass intentions for both St. George and St. Gregory's.

## Church of St. Gregory the Great

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR DECEMBER 18

<b>LECTOR:</b>	Patti Hayes	<b>SERVERS:</b>	Jay Webster & Tyler Bless
<b>COMMENTATOR:</b>	Arlene Phillips	<b>EX MINISTERS:</b>	Nancy Dauer, Mark & Lori Dick
<b>MUSICIAN/CANTOR:</b>	Karen Arlandson	<b>USHERS:</b>	Chuck & Mary Lou Schmidt
		<b>AFTER MASS SACRISTAN:</b>	Lori Dick

**REMINDER to all St. Gregory Parishioners** - RSVP's for the 75th Anniversary on Jan. 28, 2017 are due to the church by DECEMBER 15th.

**The 75th Anniv. Decorating Committee** is looking for clear glass taper candle holders around 2" to 3" tall. If you have any to possibly use for the Gala, please contact Laurie Platz or Paula Wenninger.

**Calling all St. Gregory Parishioners:** Please consider donating your time to the HCAFC Adoration Chapel. Please see the bulletin for more information and who to contact. Two adorers during each hour are welcome and encouraged!

**Please lend us your voice and join the St. Gregory's choir.** Practices will be held every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. until Christmas. All ages welcome!

**Show your talent at one of our most beautiful Masses of the year...**Saturday, December 24th, we'll have a Music prelude at 4:30 p.m. with Mass to follow at 5:00 p.m. To offer your talent, please contact Cheri LeBrun.

**Reminder that any End of the Year Contributions** are due to the Church office no later than December 31st. Thank you for your support and generosity throughout the year.

## Church of St. John the Baptist

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR DECEMBER 18

<b>SERVERS:</b>	Jesse & Jada Kraus and Alexa Hornick	<b>EUCH. BREAD:</b>	Wayne Braulick
<b>LECTOR:</b>	Lester Braulick	<b>EUCH. CUP:</b>	Carol Waibel and Tom Kuck
<b>LEADER:</b>	Jackie Hoffman	<b>ACCOMPANIST:</b>	Ginifer Simon
<b>USHERS:</b>	Mike Waibel and Darv Turbes	<b>CANTOR:</b>	Ministers of Music

**Next Sunday, December 18th:** 10:10 a.m. Rosary for Vocations

**Fuel Collection update:** St. John's fuel budget is \$4800. To date we have received \$6,045 from 35 contributors. Thank you!  
**Christmas Eve Youth Choir...**There will be choir practice on Sunday, December 11th right after Mass--just a short one to hand out music and run over the melodies and then again on Friday, December 23rd, at 10:00 a.m. If you missed sign-ups or have friends and relatives, they are welcome to join us.

**Christmas Memorials** - Anyone wishing to donate (\$10 or more) towards our Christmas flowers and/or decorations in memory of a loved one may do so by putting your donation along with your name and the name of your loved one in the Sunday Offering Basket.

**Sr. Roland's Christmas for Kids...**Contact Ruth Zender at 359-7198 if you are willing to help a family in need. Deadline is Saturday, December 17th.

**St. John's CUF Juvenile Party** will be held Saturday, December 31st at Concordia Lanes starting at 1:00 p.m. with bowling and then over to Happy Joe's for Pizza and Pop!! All kids are invited to attend. Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 28th, to Curt Miller 217-6751 if you plan to attend for bowling lane reservations.

## Community News

**Sunday, December 11th** - The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church in New Ulm, with a potluck beginning at 5:30 p.m. The candle lighting is in memory of our children who have died, and bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents, relatives and friends are invited. You may bring a special candle to light and pictures and remembrances to share. Candles will also be available for those who need them.

**Sunday, December 11th** - CUF of St. Mary's Church in Sleepy Eye is hosting a Swiss steak dinner and bake sale from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Enjoy Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, carrots, coleslaw, dessert and beverage. \$12 for adults and \$5 for children ages 11 and under.

**Tuesday, December 13th** - Lafayette Santa Day will be held at the Lafayette Community Center (540 7th Street, Lafayette) from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Come visit with Santa and get a treat!

**Friday, December 30th - January 1st** - Year-End Retreat at Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse in Collegeville. At the passing of yet another year, take a moment to consider the wondrous mystery that surrounds the phenomenon of time as we know it. All of salvation history assumes both the existence of time and the ability to transcend it, so how might we better appreciate a sacred understanding of time, especially in our own lives? For registration and more information, log on to [www.abbeyguesthouse.org](http://www.abbeyguesthouse.org) or call 320-363-3929.

**Wednesday, January 11th** - Patty Wetterling will be at the Springfield High School sharing her story and talking about "Creating a Better World for Our Children." The event begins at 6:30 p.m. Free will donations are appreciated.

**City of New Ulm's Tree Advisory Commission** - The City of New Ulm will be conducting an inventory of trees on city parks and streets beginning in early spring 2017. Volunteers are needed to assist with data collection. No experience necessary and free training will be provided. If interested contact Shane at 359-8341 or [shane.omersa@ci.new-ulm.mn.us](mailto:shane.omersa@ci.new-ulm.mn.us).