Good Thunder

Vernon Center

Mapleton

The Catholic Diocese of Winona

Welcome!

We're here to help you begin or continue your faith journey, so you can find true peace, happiness and purpose in life. If you would like to join one of our parishes, contact any staff member and we will be honored to officially welcome you home!

Tri-Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Sunday 8:00 am at St. Teresa Sunday 10:00 am at St. Matthew

Weekdays: Please see Inside Bulletin

Holy Days See Inside Bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration held before daily Mass

Tri-Parish Office

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm

Address: 104 West Silver Street

Mapleton, Minnesota 56065

Phone: (507) 524-3127

Email: sjsmst@hickorytech.net

Website: www.sjsmst.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SJSMST

Mass Times: (507) 387-8806

Tri-Parish Staff

Father Jason Kern, Pastor (507) 524-4628 frjkern@hickorytech.net

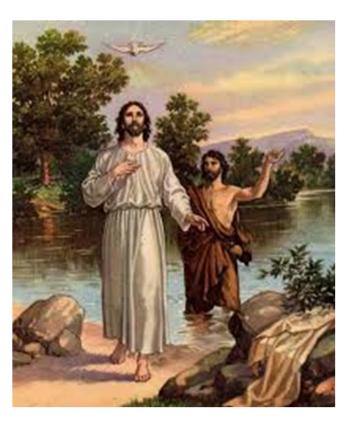
Deacon Chris Walchuk (507) 469-5563 cwalchuk@frontier.com

Carol Cyr, Tri-parish Manager (507) 524-3127 sjsmst@hickorytech.net

Darla Graf, Bookkeeper (507) 524-4646 darlatp@hickorytech.net

Connie Peters, St. Joseph Faith Formation Cindy Young, St. Matthew Faith Formation Karen Langworthy, St. Teresa Faith Formation

January 11, 2015 Baptism of the Lord



And a voice came from the heavens,
"You are my beloved Son; with you I am
well pleased."

Mark 1:11

The Sacrament of Baptism

Pre-Baptism preparation is required. Please contact the office at least one month before the desired date.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick Please notify the office if you or a family member is in the hospital or homebound and would like a pastoral visit.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

One half hour before each weekend Mass, 8a.m. Thursday at St. Teresa or by private appt. with Fr. Kern

The Sacrament of Marriage

All Catholics need to meet with the priest or deacon at least 6 months before being married. Contact the office at least 6 months in advance of your wedding.



From the Heart - by Fr. Kern

I read <u>The Hobbit</u> a little over 8 years ago and really enjoyed the work of J.R.R. Tolkien as he played on so many dynamics of life and what can

prevent us from flourishing. Tolkien himself was a faithful Catholic and so he uses this avenue of creative writing to invite the reader to consider his own decisions and lifestyle choices. Whether it be the love for comfort of the hobbits, the greed and love of sensual pleasures of the dwarves, the pride and arrogance of the elves, or the love for power and dominance of the Orcs or goblins. All of these characters come together in his book (and mostly in the movies too) and it becomes obvious that the only way to survive is that all must be willing to sacrifice their conceptions and ideas in order that the good of all can be sought. This clearly parallels society today and in a particular way parallels the call of every Christian to live not for himself but for the sake of the other even should that person be particularly difficult to care for. The story is then told of the great adventure symbolizing life and that each of us is called to a heroic life even if through seemingly small measures. Once we have experienced this sacrificial life, we can never go back to the simple and ordinary pleasures without being completely changed in our perspective towards them.

On this feast of Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan River by John, I think it is fitting to ask ourselves, am I truly living the adventure of life? Have I set my life on a decisive direction to walk with Jesus and to experience life not the way I want but the way God has invited me? Am I willing to sacrifice the comfortable life for the life of being a disciple of Jesus? Am I willing to allow myself to be transformed not by fear or pressure but by God inviting me to love Him and my neighbor? Christianity demands our willingness to sacrifice out of love of God and love of other, and in so demanding rewards us not with power, money, or possessions, but with freedom and joy of heart. God has a purpose for our lives to be ordered to His will and grace—I pray you and I can open more fully to the plans of the Father who loves us more than we love ourselves.

It is in this way that we experience the inevitable changes that come about in life. In the Diocese of Winona today, the local church, we are facing some of these changes in the near future and I do believe it will leave us with a choice to live in fear or frustration or to embrace new opportunities and challenges that await us. Anytime change comes there can be many emotions of frustration, angst, or sadness but we mustn't allow these fears to cause us to become paralyzed in our faith life, but to turn to Christ, to implore His grace and mercy for our local church. In the February *Courier* (the diocesan newspaper) a thorough insert will be included that will be a draft

Mass Intentions, Readings, & Saints

Monday, January 12

Hebrews 1:1-6; Psalm 97:1-2, 6-7, 9; Mark 1:14-20 7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa # John Breiter

Wednesday, January 14

Thursday, January 15

Hebrews 3:7-14; Psalm 95:6-11; Mark 1:40-45
7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction
8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa Reparation for our sins
3:30 p.m. Mass at MCH # Ruth Daly

Friday, January 16

Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Psalm 78:3-4, 6-8; Mark 2:1-12 7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa # Joan Langworthy

Saturday, January 17
Hebrews 4:12-16; Psalm 19:8-10, 15; Mark 2:13-17
7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction
8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa # Henry Stenzel and family
5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph # Mike and Rose

Sunday, January 18
1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19; Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-10;
1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20; John 1:35-42
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa # Theresa Healy
10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Matthew People of the tri-parish

FitzSimmons

*Clarification of Mass Intentions: If the Mass is offered for a person who is deceased, there is a cross in front of the name. If the Mass is offered for a person who is living, or if the intention is for something other than a person, eg reparation of sins, there is no cross.

proposal for the restructuring of many parish clusters throughout the diocese. It will include some parishes moving toward an 'oratory status' which will mean Sunday Mass will no longer be offered at their parish. Please read the January insert which included the articles throughout the year that prepared us for this draft that is forthcoming and please keep this process in your prayers.



God, grant healing and peace to the sick of our communities who have requested our prayers:

Bill Barnard, Ken Irvine, Pat Borchert, Cathy Lentz, Becky, Jared Springer, Mavis Treanor, Maureen Springer, Kathleen Abrahamson, Yolande Abrahamson, Chris FitzSimmons

If you or a member of your family would like our prayers, please call 524-3127 and ask to be put on this prayer list. Each name will remain on the list for eight weeks unless the office is notified to leave the name for a longer amount of time.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes will be held on Wednesday, January 14.

Reminder: In case of bad weather, faith formation class closings and Mass cancellations will be announced on the following stations: KTOE 1420 AM, and on KEYC TV (also on their website)

Parish News

Meetings and Events in the tri-parish

Wednesdays 1 p.m. Quilters group at St. Teresa

will not meet until Jan. 28

Wednesdays 4:15 p.m. Rosary at St. Teresa

Monday, January 12 7 p.m. St. Teresa CCW

Thursday, Jan. 15 7 p.m. St Joseph Finance Council

We are looking for volunteers to help with Meals on Wheels delivery. St. Teresa's does January, April, July, and October. We have to replace Ron and Mary Hartman and we have other openings as well. It is usually one week at a time and takes about 1/2 hour each day. Please contact Sue Morrow at 327-6432 or 524-4147 if you can help. Thank you!

St. Teresa women: During the winter months there are several members of the funeral unit who have gone south. If any one would be willing to help out by working a funeral during these months, if needed, please contact Ann Walters: 524-3455. Thanks!

Pies wanted: There are sign up sheets at each entrance to St. Teresa Church for anyone willing to contribute a pie or two for the Bingo and Pie Social. If you are able to help with this, please sign up by January 21. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thanks and happy baking!

St. Teresa: A reminder to everyone who pledged a quarterly payment for the church Renovation project. The next payment is due in January. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

Thursday morning Bible Study will begin Thursday February 19th after the 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa. Please plan to join us if you can! No commitment— give it a try!

Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun Sunday, January 25 6 p.m.—8 p.m.

St. Teresa dining hall

Tri-parish Bingo and pie social

25 cents/card, winner takes whole pot (snacks served during Bingo, pie and ice cream at break time)

Contribution envelopes for 2015 are available at each church. Please pick up your envelopes as soon as possible. If you do not see a box for you and would like one, please contact the tri-parish office, 524-3127. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Thursday, January 22, is the 42nd anniversary of the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in this country at any age of the unborn child. More than 57 million babies have been "legally" killed since then. **After the 8:30 a.m.**mass Fr. Kern will lead a rosary for an end to this horror.

Please join in this if you can.

Open your heart to 10 and 11 year old children from Northern Ireland this summer. Children's Program of Northern Ireland is looking for Host Families for the Summer of 2015. Children will arrive at the end of June for 5 weeks. If your family or someone you know is interested in hosting, please contact Karol Baumesiter for more information at (651) 405-1108 or cpni@cpni.org

Spain, Fatima & Lourdes Pilgrimage: Come along November 9-19, 2015, to some of the most sacred places in all of Europe. We'll visit Barcelona, Montserrat Monastery, Lourdes, Madrid, Avila, Fatima, Lisbon and so much more! Mass each day in great Churches and Cathedrals along the way. Cost is \$3,279 with departure from Omaha. For a brochure and more information, contact Fr. Dan Guenther, Immaculate Conception Parish, P.O. Box 658, Cherokee, Iowa 51012 or call 712-225-4606 or email frdanguenther@gmail.com

Community News

Greetings from Maple River Loaves and Fishes! 2014 was an amazing year, with challenges and enormous growth. Here are our final numbers for the year:

MRLF served 232 different families at least once this year 1159 actual visits 137,599 pounds of food!! 141 Thanksgiving Boxes 145 Christmas Boxes

Financially, we finished the year nearly even in spending and donations. An awesome feat when you consider the amount of food that was handed out. We thank the Lord for this community and churches! Without so many of you, MRLF could not help feed those needy families in our area. If you have not been to the food shelf recently, please see your board member and volunteer. You will so glad that you did!

Start the new year out right – spend some quality time renewing your marriage. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** are January 9-11 in Bismarck, February 6-8 in Buffalo, February 13-15 in Windom, February 20-22 in Fargo, March 20-22 in Baxter. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: **southmnwwme.org** or contact John & Mary Beth at applications@southmnwwme.org or 507-838-8178.

Stewardship of Treasure

God's generosity will never be outdone by our own.



St. Teresa: (Dec. 31 and Jan. 4))

Weekly collection... \$5273.75 Amount collected year to date... \$93,825.65 Amount budgeted year to date .. \$85,438.00

St. Matthew (January 4)

Weekly collection....... \$416.00 Amount collected year to date... \$38,647.30 Amount budgeted year to date... \$34,784.00

St. Joseph (January 3)

Weekly collection \$2082.00 Amount collected year to date... \$27,115.50 Amount budgeted year to date \$30,510.00



Ministry Roles

January 17 St. Joseph 5:00 p.m.

Reader: John Hollerich

Minister of Communion: Mary Caven, Leah Davis

Hospitality: Dick and Julie FitzSimmons

Gifts: Dick and Julie FitzSimmons

Servers: April Klecker, Amanda Hawkinson **Money Counters**: Shelli Grover, Sarah Caven

January 18 St. Teresa 8:00 a.m.

Reader: Jonah Breiter
Minister of Communion:

Hospitality: Alice and Dan Germo,

Noah Germo, John Hengel

Gifts: Paul and Shellie Landsteiner Servers: Lukas Trio, Nathan Trio, Nolan Braaten

Money Counters: Bob Bissonette, Ann Walters

January 18 St. Matthew 10:00 a.m.

Reader: Carol Schulz

Minister of Communion: Judy Pentico,

Cindy Young

Hospitality: Jeff Butson family

Servers: Kallie Majeski, Julianna Majeski

Money Counters: Neil Majeski, Maria Sanders

Ministry schedules are available on the web-

site: sjsmst.org

Our Catholic World





Please pray for our country!:

"The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times."
--Saint Padre Pio

"Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world." --Saint Pope Pius IX

Every Wednesday at 4:15 p.m. St. Teresa Church

Rachael mourns her children; she refuses to be consoled because her children are no more..." (Jeremiah 31:15). If you or a loved one has had an abortion, you may be feeling overwhelmed and burdened. Whatever the pain, you are not alone and there is hope. PROJECT RACHAEL can help. You will be provided with sensitive, confidential counseling to share your grief and receive support and healing. Visit us at ccwinona.org or call Catholic Charities at 387-5586.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has announced that a novena for life will take place from January 17 to 25, around the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

"Pope Francis reminds us constantly of the loving concern Christians have for all people at any stage of life who've been cast aside or forgotten by society," said Cardinal Seán O'Malley of Boston, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities. "The 9 Days for Life novena offers a chance to join in prayer and solidarity with the unborn, victims of violence, those suffering from addiction, and those whose hearts ache to be part of a family." Following is the first day of this novena.

Next Sunday there will be an insert with the prayers for days 2–9.

Day One: Saturday, January 17, 2015

Intercession: For the conversion of all hearts and the end to abortion.

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

Reflection: Today's Gospel reading from Mark (Mk 2:13-17) recounts Jesus dining with tax collectors and sinners. When the Pharisees question Jesus about this, he responds, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." In a society where millions of people have fallen prey to the false promises of the culture of death, let us witness to the mercy of Jesus and invite all who've been wounded to experience his abundant love and healing.

Acts of Reparation (choose one):

-Go to an abortion clinic and pray, or set aside an hour today to pray for those who are struggling with a decision of life or death for their unborn child.

-Spend some time reflecting upon today's Gospel passage.

 -Use Facebook or another form of social media to post something that builds up the culture of life.

MCCL March for Life Thursday, January 22 noon at the Capitol

Prayer Service for Life: 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul

If you would like to get transportation there, please contact Tom Hoehn 388-7741 for details and to reserve a seat for the bus trip to the St. Paul Capitol . This will be the 41st commemoration of Roe v. Wade, 1973 Supreme Court decision to overturn every pro-life law across the nation and impose abortion on demand. More than 9,900 unborn babies are killed by abortion in Minnesota every year. Lawmakers will address the crowd with hopeful messages of restoring the right to life.