

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

November 29, 2015 First Sunday of Advent



Watch

The days are coming, says the LORD,
when I will fulfill the promise
I made to the house of Israel and Judah.
Jer 33:14

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. Jason Kern

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever (Psalm 107)!” As we celebrate Thanksgiving week we all take time to not only be with family and friends but to deliberately give thanks to God for all that we have. Have you paused this week to truly thank God in words and affection in your heart and mind? If not, it’s not too late. Give thanks right now to the God of goodness and love. I give thanks this week for all of you and for the incredible gift you all are to me. Thanks for your generous support and kindness to me.

As we begin Advent this week, I hope you will take time to join us in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. What will be different for you this Christmas? Make the end of year 2015 and your preparation for Jesus’ birth unique this year by being more deliberate in your time spent with Him in prayer. Here are a few realities for our time of Eucharistic Adoration:

These will be the spiritual benefits and graces attributed to our Tri-parish because of Eucharistic Adoration:

- an increase in Mass attendance and reception of the sacraments;
- return of fallen-away Catholics and increase in the number of conversions;
- increase in religious and priestly vocations; renewal of Catholic family life;
- spiritual level of the people is raised with a resulting desire and courage to spread the "good news" to others; a greater community spirit, centered as it is on the heart of the parish: Jesus' presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Pope John Paul II said: “Your faith will help you to realize that it is Jesus Himself who is present in the Blessed Sacrament, waiting for you and calling you to spend one hour with Him each week.”

The visit to the Blessed Sacrament is a great treasure of the Catholic faith. Through Eucharistic Adoration we proclaim to our parish and to our community that Jesus is here, truly present among us today. Most adorers say that seeing Jesus so close to them under the appearance of the Sacred Host is very intimate. When you come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, He appreciates this so deeply that you release the power of His love and graces to all of His children. The time of prayer brings joy to our hearts and helps us to grow in holiness. One of our parishioners remarked to me last year that “My hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the most peaceful, the most satisfying hour of my week. I always feel refreshed and renewed.” And the grace that flows from the time we spend with Christ can spread out into our community as we pray for conversions and the return of fallen-away Catholics. “We cannot underestimate the power of prayer and the difference it will make in our world.” (Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta)



Mass Intentions, Readings, Saints

Monday, November 30 St. Andrew
Romans 10:9-18; Psalm 19:8-11; Matthew 4:18-22

Tuesday, December 1 Advent Weekday
Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Luke 10:21-24
Rosary for Vocations 8:30 a.m. at St. Joseph

Wednesday, December 2 Advent Weekday
Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalm 23:1-6; Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier
Isaiah 26:1-6; Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27;
Matthew 7:21, 24-27
7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction
8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa † *Claire Bach*

Friday, December 4 St. John Damascene
Isaiah 29:17-24; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 9:27-31
10:30 a.m. Mass at MCH † *Theresa Healy*

Saturday, December 5 Advent Weekday
Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalm 147:1-6;
Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5-8
7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction
8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa *Gilbert and Mary Mamer*
5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Matthew † *Poor Souls in Purgatory*

Sunday, December 6 Second Sunday of Advent
Baruch 5:1-9 ; Psalm 126:1-6;
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6
8 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph *People of the tri-parish*
10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa † *Marie Nelson*

Meetings and Events in the tri-parish	
Wednesdays 1 p.m.	Quilters at St. Teresa
Wednesdays 4:15 p.m.	Rosary at St. Teresa
Thursday 9 a.m.	Bible Study at St Teresa

Mass times change next week. Beginning in December new Mass times are:

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

Just enter the Church at any time and visit with Jesus in that prayerful silence, where the heart listens to the One it seeks. You may visit for a few minutes, an hour, or more, as many times as you wish. Our Lord, Jesus Christ will be there waiting for you.





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

Tom Graf, Eugene Langworthy, Mavis Treanor, Aubrielle Catherine Howley, Kelly (Wittrock) Howley, Bill O'Brien, Lloyd Mitchell, Bernie Kunkel, Maureen Springer, Chris Fitz-Simmons

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 meet Wed., Dec. 2, at St. Teresa and St. Matthew. St. Joseph will not hold class that evening.

Youth will be sponsoring the Spaghetti Feed during Snowflake Dazzle, on Wednesday, December 2. We are in need of adults and youth to volunteer their time that night to help set up, serve, and clean up. This is a great opportunity for youth to get service hours and you could even invite your sponsor to join you.

We are also looking for 12 people who would provide a pan of bars for dessert that evening. Please sign up on the sheet in the St. Teresa gathering space, or contact Karen Langworthy or the tri-parish office if you can help in any way.

Great opportunity for youth entering 8th—12th grade next fall: **Catholic Heart Work Camp (Mission Trip)** July 3-9 in Fremont, NE. **REMINDER: Permission slip along with a \$90 deposit is due by December 17th!** After this date the deposit is \$100. See website for more information www.heartworkcamp.com/dates/omaha-ne or talk to Jonah Lippert or Father Kern.

On Wednesday, Dec. 9th the 6—10 grade faith formation classes will be attending an event in Mankato at the Loyola Campus Chapel at Good Counsel. The event runs 6:30 pm—9 p.m. A bus will leave from Mapleton at 5:45 and return about 9:30 pm. The event is free. Letters and permission slips were mailed out, please return them ASAP to class, church, or the office. There will be music by Sonar – a well known band, speakers and prayer. It will be a great way to begin the Year of Mercy!

Parish News



Snowflake Dazzle Spaghetti Feed

Wed., December 2 Serving 4:30—7:30 p.m.
Free will donation

Tri-parish Youth Group will be sponsoring a spaghetti feed as a fundraiser for the youth group trips next summer. This will be during Mapleton's Snowflake Dazzle, so plan to attend and then enjoy the festivities around town. The youth really enjoyed their trips last year to Steubenville North Conference, Mission Trip to Detroit Lakes, and Camp Summit, and we hope we can count on your support again this year.

If you did not get a form for Liturgical Ministry turned in, you may still do so. There are extra forms at each church.

The Radical Mercy of Jesus: What's New About the New Testament?

Great Advent opportunity— **Deacon Chris will present an Advent talk on Wednesdays , Dec. 2 and Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church of St. Teresa.**

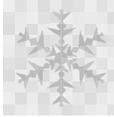
Come explore the biblical story of God's great outpouring of love and mercy in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ.

This story of Jesus' mercy will culminate on Wed. Dec. 16th with a Reconciliation Service.

New ministry schedules are available for St. Joseph and St. Teresa for December—February.. If you are scheduled for any liturgical ministry, please pick up a schedule at your church. If you just signed up for a ministry, please pick up a schedule as well. Thank you for your gift of your time.

St. Matthew: On Saturday, December 12th the youth of the parish will present a Christmas Program after Mass. Immediately following this joyful presentation, St. Margaret's Circle will provide a supper— free of charge! Please plan to attend both the program and the free supper to enjoy some time this season with your parish family.

St. Teresa: Snowshoveler's sign up: It's that time of year! There are sign-up sheets at both church entrances for families to take care of the clean up after a snow fall. Your help in this task is greatly appreciated. Please be generous with your time.



St. Matthew: We are looking for a few families that would be willing to shovel the sidewalks at church on a monthly rotation for this winter. If you would be willing to be a part of this rotation, please contact the office— 524-3127. We have a few interested, but if we could get several families, it would not be too hard on any one. Thanks!

St. Teresa: The large tree and other decorations will be put up in the gathering space on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. If you are able, please come to help. Many hands are needed for this task. Help make our church welcoming and beautiful!

St. Matthew: The street work is done for the year in Vernon Center and we have received the assessment from the city. Our portion is \$14,748.40. If you would like to donate an extra amount towards this bill, it would be appreciated. A portion of it will be covered by Rooted in Faith money already collected.

Christmas Flowers. If you would like to donate for Christmas flowers, you may use the envelope marked for that purpose or use a plain envelope marked "Christmas Flowers". You may include a list of the names of people you would like to remember. The envelopes can be sent to the Tri-Parish office or placed in the offertory basket.



We joyfully welcome into the Catholic family Lucas John Larson, son of LeRoy and Jolene Larson, who was baptized at St. Joseph Church in Saturday, November 21. May the good God abundantly bless Lucas and his family.

Remember—pick up Sertoma poinsettias at the Leisure Center Monday 1-7 pm or Tuesday 9-11 am

Stewardship of Treasure

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



St. Teresa: (November 22)

Weekly collection...	\$6321.47
Amount collected year to date...	\$63,897.35
Amount budgeted year to date ..	\$66,446.00

St. Matthew (November 22)

Weekly collection.....	\$2666.61
Amount collected year to date...	\$17,988.79
Amount budgeted year to date...	\$27,972.00

St. Joseph (November 21)

Weekly collection	\$891.00
Amount collected year to date...	\$16,004.10
Amount budgeted year to date	\$23,646.00



Ministry Roles

December 5 St. Matthew 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Cindy Young

Minister of Communion: Brad Lanoue,
Sheila Lewis

Hospitality: Kevin Schulz family

Servers: Chloe Cumbee, Lilly Majeski

Money Counters: Kitty Cumbee,
Neil Majeski

December 6 St. Joseph 8:00 a.m.

Reader: Jen Berkner

Minister of Communion: Dick FitzSimmons,
Mary Beth Olson

Hospitality: Rob and Sarah McGregor family

Gifts: Rob and Sarah McGregor family

Servers: Lauren Kleven, Parker Smith

Money Counters: Leah Davis, Sarah Caven

December 6 St. Teresa 10:00 a.m.

Reader: Jeff Kunkel

Minister of Communion: Sandy Miller,
Mary Ellen Larson

Hospitality: Tim and Meg Mohwinkel family,
Doug and Tammy Schmidt family

Gifts: Emily Minkel, Kay Proehl

Servers: Andrew Hoppe, Faith Hoppe,
Gracie Langworthy

Money Counters: Tammy Schmidt,
Marie Gartner

Ministry schedules are available on the web-site: sjsmst.org

Our Catholic World



Father Kern will offer a **Mass of Anointing** on Friday, December 4 at 10:30 a.m. at the Mapleton Community Home. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven Sacraments of the Church. Any member of the Catholic faithful who is in danger of death, becomes seriously ill, is injured or is suffering from a decline due to advanced age is encouraged to receive this Sacrament.



This weekend at each church there will be Advent wreaths, candles, and the Magnificat Advent Companion available to help with your advent preparations for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

Contribution envelopes for 2016 will be available soon. If you wish to receive envelopes and have not in the past please call the office. Also, if you have received envelopes in past years but do not wish to receive/use them call the office as well. If you would like to start or change having your contributions automatically transferred, authorization forms are available. Thank you for your generosity.



The Minnesota Catholic Dioceses, including Winona, will be holding a "Day of Fasting and Prayer in Reparation for a Culture of Violence and Disrespect for Human Life" on Friday, December 4. Please make an effort to attend Mass, say a Rosary, and/or participate in the fasting during this crucial time in our culture.



Let us prayerfully watch for the coming of the Lord



Beginning on November 29 at 11 a.m. at St. Teresa and continuing on each of the Sundays in Advent, Fr Kern will expose the Eucharist on the Altar and begin the time of Adoration. Adoration will then continue until 10 p.m. when Father will close with Benediction.



Since we can never leave Our Lord alone, there will be sign up sheets available to make sure someone will always be present from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. each Sunday. Please consider if you will be able to make that commitment and promise to Jesus to stay with Him awhile. can come at any time during the day to pray without having signed up. Don't worry about how to spend this time in prayer— books and aids for prayer are available for your use.

This is a great opportunity to take some quiet time amidst all the busy-ness and noise to truly focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Attend as a family!

This is a great opportunity to increase your awareness of the true meaning of Christmas and prepare for the Lord's coming.



Please support the Tri-parish Mission Trip to Belize

We are called to notice God's suffering children and reach out to them. One opportunity to do this is for our tri-parish community to unite in aiding the poor in Belize. Please consider being a part of this mission by picking a day, or more, on the calendar to aid in the financial needs of the trip and to pray for its success. **All funds raised will be used to buy needed equipment and materials for the work in Belize. All those going to Belize pay their own expenses.** If you have questions about this mission, call the tri-parish office.