



Sacred Heart PARISH

2875 10th Avenue NE, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

Parish Office: 251-8115
School Office: 251-2854
Fax Number: 252-0710
Confirmation: 251-2872
Website: www.sacredheartsaukrapids.org
Email: parish@sacredheartsaukrapids.org



John answered them saying

**THERE IS ONE
TO COME THAT IS
MIGHTIER THAN I.
HE WILL BAPTIZE
YOU IN THE SPIRIT
AND IN FIRE.**

©Religious Graphics, Ltd

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2009

Be strong and fear not,
our God will come with glory!

Sacrament of Reconciliation

As part of your preparation for Christmas, consider celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Individual Reconciliation:

Dec. 15 - 7pm, 8pm
Dec. 16 - 7am
Dec. 18 - 12noon
Dec. 19 - 3:30pm
Dec. 22 - 3pm, 4pm, 5pm
Other Times by Appointment

Communal Reconciliation

Dec. 13, 3:30pm at Holy Spirit
Dec. 14, 7pm at St. Anthony
Dec. 16, 7pm at Christ Church Newman Center
Dec. 18, here, 7pm
Dec. 19, here, 12 noon
Dec. 19, 1pm at St. Peter
Dec. 22, 7pm at St. Mary

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
(The Parish Office is closed on Holy Days of Obligation)

PARISH STAFF

Located at Church 251-8115

Father Ronald Weyrens, Pastor (Ext. *812)
Joan Krause, Director of Faith Formation (Ext. *818)
JoAnn Mo, Secretary (Ext. *814)
Maureen Otremba, Pastoral Minister (Ext. *817)
Beth Plumski, Co-Director of Music/Liturgy (Ext. *822)
Sarah Woeste, Co-Director of Music/Liturgy (Ext. *816)
Robert Zawacki, Business Manager (Ext. *811)

Gerry Kittok, Confirmation (251-2872, Ext. 8)
Patrick Flynn, Youth Minister (293-7988)

Located at School 251-2854

Erin Hatlestad, School Principal
Julie Schmid, School Office
Jim Storms, Maintenance
David Walker, Custodian

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday ----- 5:00 p.m.
Sunday ----- 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Mass interpreted for hearing impaired
Weekdays ----- Variable; see inside of bulletin for details
Holy Days ----- consult bulletin

BAPTISMS

Pre-Baptism classes, 1st Thursday every other month at
7:00 p.m. in the church (pre-registration requested).

WEDDINGS

Please contact the Parish Office at least six months in
advance.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please call the office to set up an appointment for registering.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday—3:30 p.m. (other times by appointment)

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, SAUK RAPIDS

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 14, John of the Cross,
priest & doctor

8:00 am -Word & Communion Service

Tuesday, December 15, Advent Weekday

6:00 pm †Bob Yaroshefski

Wednesday, December 16, Advent Weekday

8:00 am †Richard Robinson

3:30 pm †Delphine Czech (at Ridgeview Pl.)

Thursday, December 17, Advent Weekday

9:00 am †Sharon (Ruhoff) Brixius

2:00 pm †Lyle Shiek (at Good Shepherd)

Friday, December 18, Advent Weekday

8:00 am -Living and †Deceased members of
St. Monica's Society

**Sunday Eucharist, December 19-20, Fourth
Sunday of Advent**

Saturday 5:00 pm †Victor Wintheiser

Sunday 8:00 am -For the Parish

10:00 am †Rosemary Winkelman

†John Brunn

6:00 pm (at St. Mary's Cathedral)

"Stewardship as a way of life"



As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them in loving justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

Stewardship: A Disciple's Response

Talent, Time & Treasure

Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none."

God sent us Jesus as an example to follow. Every time we give of ourselves and share our gifts, we follow the example of Jesus, the perfect steward.

Income for the week ending **December 6, 2009**

Adult Collection.....	21,216.35
Children/Youth	52.69
Loose Collection.....	651.03
Improvements	500.00
Friends in Need.....	75.00
Holy Days	123.00
Campaign for Human Development	60.30
Christmas Flowers	1,126.50
Christmas	325.00

ACTUAL REVENUE and EXPENSE AUGUST 2009

Adult Giving	\$ 68,979
Children/Youth Giving	233
Parish Festival.....	68,862
Bequest	164
Living the Promise.....	723
Improvement Gifts.....	4,059
Memorial/Honor Designated Gifts	552
Diocesan and Other Collections.....	0
Parish Ministry Revenue.....	77,464
Interest/Dividend Income	635
Total Gifts/Fees	221,671
Parish Ministry Operating Expense	149,070
Revenue less Operating Expenses	72,601
Non-Operating Exp. (Depreciation, other).....	(15,267)
Excess (Deficit)	57,334

Readings for the Week of December 13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Advent Giving Tree



If you took a tag from the Giving Tree, please return the gift UNWRAPPED with the tag attached to it by today, Sunday, December 13. Thank you for your generosity.

Advent Vespers



Sacred Heart Parish & St. Mary's Cathedral will be working together to provide for **Advent Vespers**. Vespers will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral at 4 pm on the Sundays of Advent. Sacred Heart will be providing ministers on December 20th. If you would like to help please sign up in the sacristy.

Baptism Preparation



The next Baptism Preparation Class is scheduled for **Thursday, February 4** at 7:00 pm at church. If you have not taken this class in the last three years, please plan on attending this 1 1/2 hour class prior to the birth of your child. Call the Parish Office at 251-8115 to register. Please plan accordingly. Please do not bring your children.

Web Site Updates

Did you know you can automatically receive updates as they are entered on the parish website? Visit our website, www.sacredheartsaukrapids.org. At the bottom of the home page you will see the RSS Symbol (see symbol). Click on the symbol and subscribe to get automatic downloads of updated information.

Men's Club

The Men's Club will meet on Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Room.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Message from Father Ron

From Safari: This Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday, reflecting the opening antiphon for Mass: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice! The Lord is near." I came across the following reflection on the Advent which I find insightful.

Perhaps more this year than in previous times, many find themselves reeling from some kind of anger, loss or hurt in their lives. This can be true of a nation, a community, a church, and a family. Advent may be the time of joyful expectation, but as Christmas approaches, the pain of injustice often stings more acutely than at other times of the year. The key figure for today is again John the Baptist. John of locusts, wild honey, baptisms, and justice! Not revenge, but justice! Why do we have to give one of our coats to those who have less? The poor will always be with us—we can never fix that! Why would we want to be in solidarity with the oppressed—especially if they hurt us? We didn't cause their problems. Why is it our problem? Why? Because we are followers of Jesus, we are asked to do more than our "fair" share. We are partners with Christ in this redemptive work. In an article titled "Characteristics of Social Justice Spirituality" Jesuit Father Walter Burghardt points out how the church's social teaching has shifted. It has gone from a sense of justice that means charity towards the poor to a stand of solidarity with the poor as well. ([Elaine Rendler-McQueeney](#), from Today's Liturgy 2004)

Have a peace filled week and blessings on your Advent Journey.
Ron

School News



SCRIP is available to purchase through the school. This is a great way to purchase gift certificates and only making one stop. Orders are due by noon on Monday. To ensure orders before Christmas, we need your order by 9am on Monday, December 14th.

Liturgy

Liturgical Ministers: Please finalize your plans for Christmas Mass and sign up to help. You can sign up on the web terminal or on the sheets near the sacristy.

Deck the Halls! Christmas Decorating will be on Sunday, December 20th following the 10am Mass. Many hands are needed with the trees, garland, poinsettias, and setting up the crèche.

The Christmas Crèche will be blessed at the beginning of the 6:30pm Mass on Christmas Eve. The music at this Mass will be lead by the Sacred Heart School Choir & Parish Children's Choir.

Sacred Heart is in need of a parish host/hostess for funeral lunches. Please call 251-8115 if you can help.

Retirement Fund for the Religious

Religious face rising costs. Data submitted to the National Religious Retirement Office reveals that the average annual cost of care for women and men religious age 70 and over has more than doubled since 1989. Current statistics put this figure at \$35,077 per person annually, with skilled care reaching nearly \$55,000. Your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides critical support to religious institutes in meeting the escalating costs of elder care. Please pray for all religious and give generously in the envelope that was in last weekend's bulletin.

Hospital Visits

Parishioners who enter the St. Cloud Hospital through the Emergency Room often do not show up on the parish list when our volunteers visit those who are in the hospital. Please let the Parish Office (251-8115) know if there is someone in the St. Cloud Hospital or at the VA Hospital that would like a visit.

Labels for Education

A Reminder: Please save **Labels for Education** for Sacred Heart School. **NOTE: we need the bar code or UPC code and little person beside it on Campbell products (no front labels).** (Campbell's, Franco-American, Swanson, Prego, V8, Pace, Pepperidge Farm UPC symbols, Kemp's & Land-O-Lakes milk and juice caps, Box Tops for Education, Food Club UPC codes (Coborn's products). **Please turn in Cub Food receipts for October, November and December** (anything dated prior to October can no longer be accepted). Place them in the kiosk in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions, please call Rita at 251-3952. Thank you.

RCIA

Our next session is December 13, 7pm at the Janson House (yellow brick house next to our parking lot). RCIA is for those who are interested in joining the Catholic Church or seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation as an adult. Contact Fr. Ron at 251-8115.

Blood Pressure Checks

There will be free blood pressure checks in the Hospitality Room after all the Masses the weekend of December 19-20.



Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus CHRISTMAS GATHERING will be held on December 14 at the church. Social starts at 5:30pm, Dinner at 6:00. Note: No regular meeting on December 21st.

Faith Formation

REJOICE! THE MESSIAH IS COMING SOON! It is the third week of Advent. What will you do, or not do, this week to really celebrate Advent? Some ideas may be to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, spend less and give more, do some loving action for another.



Journey In Faith Gatherings are this week. Join us either on Sunday, Wednesday, or Thursday to explore the Incarnation as we prepare to celebrate Christmas.

We will begin serving the meal after Mass on Sunday, and at 5:15pm both Wednesday and Thursday. The learning session will begin at noon and end at 2:00pm on Sunday, begin at 6:00pm and end at 8:00pm on Wednesday, and begin at 5:50pm and end at 7:50pm on Thursday.

Note the minor time changes. Contact Joan in the Parish Office for more information or if you need to change the day of the gathering you will attend.

Youth Ministry Notes (from Patrick)



6th, 7th, and 8th graders!!! The Winter Spectacular is coming!! On January 10th hundreds of young people from around central Minnesota will gather at St. John's for amazing day of fun. The event runs from 10:00 am until 4:00pm. It will include all sorts of great indoor and outdoor activities, food, and it will end with Mass in the Abbey church. Sign up information is available at the parish office or on the kiosk on your right as you enter church. You can also contact me for more information. Don't miss it.

Ski/Snowboard trip!! To Spirit Mountain we will go! On Saturday, January 30th we are heading out to Spirit Mtn. for a day and evening on the slopes. Put it on your calendar. More specific information will be coming out soon.

If you want to be included on an email list or if you need more info about anything related to youth ministry, please feel free to contact me (Patrick Flynn) at 293-7988 or e-mail me at pflynn@csbsju.edu.

Prayer Corner

Please call your Prayer Chain Requests (calling tree) to 251-8961 or 252-3401



If you know of anyone who needs our prayers and wants to be put on the following prayer list, please call 251-8115

Katie Blenkush, Joyce Fleck, John Gebhardt, Norbert Notch, Janet Skillingstad, Angie Studer and for those who have received prayer blankets.

Notes of Interest

Christmas Jars...what's it all about?

Making change happen? Attend JIF and find out!

Quiet Oaks Hospice House Volunteers Needed:

Quiet Oaks House relies on many community members to make up their team. They have an individualized in-depth training program. Volunteers provide hospitality for residents and guests by preparing meals, baking, answering phones, visiting with residents and family members and daily tasks of any home. For more information, contact Connie at 255-5433 or Cathie (volunteer) at 968-8996.

A Ceremony of Carols — December 18. The St. John's Boys' Choir will present a *Ceremony of Carols* Christmas Program at St. Mary's Cathedral at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$12 adults; \$10 students/seniors and \$5 child 5-11.

NEEDED: MARRIED COUPLES for the St. Cloud Diocesan Marriage Preparation Program who are willing to share their faith, gifts and talents with engaged couples preparing for marriage. The growth you have experienced in your marriage can be a profound example for couples seeking marriage today. Sharing this growth with the engaged is a very rewarding and vital ministry. We provide training and materials. Your total commitment is 3-4 hours a year. For more information, interested couples may contact Angie Loecken at the Office of Marriage & Family at aloecken@gw.stcdio.org or call 252-4721.

Holy Spirit Parish All You Can Eat Breakfast Buffet, 2405 Walden Way, St Cloud, Sunday, December 13, 8:30am to Noon. Menu includes: Ham and Sausage, Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Hash Browns, Rolls, Fruit and Beverages. Adults \$7; Children 4-12 \$3 and under 4 are free.

NEEDED: Volunteers to assist with Diocesan Marriage Courses one weekend per year by greeting couples and assisting with refreshments, etc. during the course. We provide training. For more information, contact Angie Loecken at the Office of Marriage and Family at aloecken@gw.stcdio.org or call 252-4721.

The Black Box Theater announces the presentation of Fr. Christopher Trussell's musical version of the Christmas Carol "Scrooge". Performances December 11, 17 and 18 at 7:30pm; December 12, 19 and 20 at 2:00pm. For tickets call 255-9703.

The Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls invite the public to a talk, "Defending the Divinity of Christ" on December 17 from 6-7pm in the St. Francis Hall. The question—Who is this Man?—is not new. It has continued to emerge from time to time for 2000 years. Sister Maristell Schanen will explore with participants how this challenge is being met in the light of new discoveries and sciences. For more information, contact 320-632-0668.