



"Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan."

—Amoris Laetitia, 325

"The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity"

The Catholic Communities of Holdingford, St. Anna, and St. Wendel

Merry Christmas!

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 26, 2021

Central Office in Holdingford

Hours: Mon.-Wed. 10 to 3, Thurs. 1 to 5

Website: tworiverscatholic.com

Office: (320) 228-0105

Father: (320) 228-0110

In case of emergency or a death, call Father at the **Rectory** 746-2231.

Parish Pastoral Team

Father Gregory Mastey, Pastor
Kristin Molitor,

New Evangelization Coordinator
evangelist@tworiverscatholic.com

Janice Wuebkers, Business Manager

Office hours: Wed. 10 to 3 p.m.
businessmanager@tworiverscatholic.com

Sidney Ebnet, Secretary
secretary@tworiverscatholic.com

Jessie Johnson, Bulletin Editor
bulletin@tworiverscatholic.com

Confession Times: Before daily Mass
And by appointment

Marriage: Couples are to begin preparation 6-12 months in advance and **must** call the Central Office to meet with Father Gregory **before setting a date**. Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes are required.

Baptism: Call the Central Office to schedule Baptism.

Shut-Ins: Please call us.

New Parishioners: Please introduce yourself to Father after Mass and call the Central Office. If you are leaving our parishes please call the central office so we can update our census. Thank you.

Address:

P.O. Box 308

Holdingford, MN 56340



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing...*Isaiah 9:1*

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph:

Prayer for Family Commitment

Dear God our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world.

Help us to be generous with the gifts of life and love that you have showered on our family. May we share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love.

Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us and to look to Christ, who comes to us in the events of family life, in the sacraments of the Church, and in service to the poor.

In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and children— share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love. Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~catholiccurrent.org



Evangelization Corner

~Kristin Molitor

Dear Friends,
Merry Christmas!

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Luke's Gospel tells us that when the shepherds arrived in Bethlehem they found "Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger." Pope Benedict XVI offered a reflection on this brief little passage that I'd like to share with you.

He says:

"Let us pause to contemplate this scene and reflect on its meaning. The first witnesses of Christ's birth, the shepherds, found themselves not only before the Infant Jesus *but also before a small family: mother, father, and newborn son.* God had chosen to reveal himself by being born into a human family and the human family thus became an icon of God!"

What a beautiful thing to consider: **God chose to reveal himself by being born into a human family.** Families teach us about the very essence of who God is. God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is a Trinity of a loving communion of equal persons. **He is a family.**

Each of us is destined to live in the eternal embrace of the Trinity. It is in our family, where we are seen, known, cherished, and provided for, that we get a little foretaste of the loving embrace in our heavenly home. And when we welcome those who are less fortunate than we are into our homes, we mirror the love of the Trinity that says each person matters, each person is worthy of love, each person belongs.

Yes, you and I find our home in the stunning and perfect love of the Trinity. Let us welcome each person into this embrace by making our families places of hospitality, belonging and forgiveness. Heaven is our home, but let us bring heaven to our homes by committing to love our families with the same sacrificial love that has been revealed in the manger this Christmas.



Remember in prayer all who are in need of the Lord's healing and strength especially:

The Healing Power of God

Teckla Scegura, Lee Larkey, Arnold Voss, Theresa & LeRoy Johannes, Fr. Gregory, Leon Opatz, Jerome Young, David Fischer, Idella Moore, Tom Studniski, Loren Philippi, Ardith Mosier, Mickey Jeffers, Carol Kuklok, Casey Tschida, Ambrose Gertken, Bonnie Woitalla, Laverne Woidylla, Allan Warzecha, Al Maslowski, Frances Breth, Bernice Hadley, David Platz, Jr., Pat Euteneuer, Kim Roth-Koning, Si Koning, Nancy Bieniek, Rosemary Jarnot, Dave & Anita Scegura, Elisabeth Studer

Eucharistic Adoration

Cluster Adoration
Every Monday and after
weekday Masses
12 noon to 8 p.m.
All Saints – St. Mary's



Listen to the Rosary led by Fr. Gregory and Fr. Mark Stang on KASM 1150 AM at 6:00 p.m. daily.

Listen to Fr. Gregory's Rural Life Radio Show on KYES 1180 or 93.5 FM at 8:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Friday.

Protect us Lord
as we stay awake
watch over us as we
sleep.
That awake we may
keep watch with
Christ and asleep,
rest in His peace.

Night Prayer

Join Fr. Gregory in prayer most nights at 9:00 p.m. on his Facebook page. We are averaging over 125 families each night. You can ask for a request that Father keeps in his prayers. Night Prayer is added to our webpage to watch anytime.

The Solemnity of Mary

January 1st

The Solemnity is on a Saturday this year so it is not an obligation.



Prayer lines

All Saints: Ramona Fedor 746-2395
Kathleen Ebnet 746-2227

Immaculate Conception:

Shirley Schwalbe 356-7209
Christine Maleska 356-7246

St Columbkille:

Esther Struzyk 251-4984
Susan Opatz 363-8160

News & Events



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Celebrate the Octave of Christmas!

The Octave of Christmas begins December 25th: The Nativity of our Lord and goes to January 1st: The Octave day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Celebrate all week with Joy!

Natural Family Planning Classes: Sheila Reineke sreineke@gw.stcdio.org
 Little Falls: Tuesday, January 4 at 7:30 p.m. Long Prairie: Monday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. Rice: Monday, January 3 at 6:30 p.m. Sauk Centre: Monday, January 17 6:30 p.m. St. Cloud: Thursday, January 27 at 6:30 p.m.

Important: The date of Christ's birth is biblically anchored to the Conception of St John the Baptist.



The Bible tells us that the Angel Gabriel announced the Conception of St John the Baptist to Zechariah when his priestly division of **Abijah (Lk 1:5)** officiates in the Temple, which is on the **eight rotation (1 Chron 24:5)**. Immediately after this, **his wife Elizabeth conceived.**

This took place on the Jewish feast of 'Yom Kippur' (**Day of Atonement**), which falls between **Sept 22 - 30** in our modern calendar.

Note: **Day of Atonement** = St John's Mission: to give the Lord's people the knowledge of salvation through the **forgiveness of sin (Lk 1:77)**



The Annunciation to the Virgin Mary, which initiated the **conception of Jesus** through the Holy Spirit, took place **six months** after the conception of John the Baptist (Lk. 1:26).

March 25 is when the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Annunciation.



March 25 + **9 months (Normal Gestation Period)** =

December 25 (Christmas Day)

DETERMINING CHRIST'S BIRTHDAY



CatholicFortress

Weekly Readings



Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/
 Lk 2:16-21
Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/
 Mt 2:1-12



*May Eternal Rest
 Be Granted to*

Michelle Ostendorf
 Funeral Dec. 15, 2021
 All Saints

Robert Pierskalla
 Funeral Dec. 20, 2021
 St. Columbkille



"When they saw
 the star,
 they rejoiced
 exceedingly with
 great joy."
 ~Matthew 2:10



Weekly Offering

Financial Contributions

PARISH INCOME

December 12, 2021

AS \$ 1,811.60

IC \$ 2,201.86

SC \$ 4,038.00

December 8, 2021

AS \$ 3,694.00

IC \$ 1,686.00

SC \$ 1,360.00

December 19
 unavailable
 due to an
 early bulletin
 deadline

Thank you for your generosity!
 "For where your treasure is, there
 also will your heart be." ~Luke 12:34

Parish News & Events

Immaculate Conception

New Flooring

The diocese has approved the new flooring for the church. Now we are just waiting on scheduling.

New Front Doors

The front doors of Immaculate Conception were damaged during a storm and will be replaced after the etching is completed on the glass.

All Cluster

Women's Group Schedule

January 3, 2022

10:30 a.m. at All Saints - St. Mary's Basement in Holdingford

7:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Faith Formation Building in St. Anna

Rural Catholic Singles Group

Join in for prayer, topical information and discussions for single people who are discerning their vocation and looking for social connections in the process. Our next meeting will be Saturday, **January 8th** from 8-9:30 p.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's. Contact Janel Heinen 290-2877 to find out more information about this group meeting for fun and faith!

2022 Calendars

Calendars are now available in the back of our churches for parishioners to take home after Mass.



**Knights of
Columbus®**

**Saint Isidore Council
9307**



Feed the Family

food shelf boxes in the back of the churches of All Saints - St Mary's, Saint Columbkille and Immaculate Conception during this Christmas Season.

Keep Christ in Christmas coloring contest

Ages 5 – 14 or Grades K – 8 can enter. Poster paper and entry forms are in the back of churches. Please bring to the Faith Formation Coordinator, Central Office or Jayme Panek, Grand



Newly Baptized

Oliver Thomas Adelmann

Son of Thomas & Amber

December 19, 2021

Immaculate Conception

Jesus said to his parents,
“Why were you looking for me?
Did you not know that I
Must be in my Father's house?
~Luke 2:49



The Litany of Trust

*From the belief that
I have to earn Your love
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From the fear that I am
unlovable
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From the false security that I
have what it takes
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From the fear that trusting
You will leave me more
destitute
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From all suspicion of Your
words and promises
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From the rebellion against
childlike dependency on You
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From refusals and reluctances
in accepting Your will
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From anxiety about the future
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From resentment or excessive
preoccupation with the past
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From restless self-seeking
in the present moment
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From disbelief in Your love and
presence
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From the fear of being asked
to give more than I have
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From the belief that my life
has no meaning or worth
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From the fear of what love
demands
Deliver me, Jesus.*

*From discouragement
Deliver me, Jesus.*

**Jesus,
I Trust in You!**

*That You are continually holding
me, sustaining me, loving me
Jesus, I trust in You.*

*That Your love goes deeper than
my sins and failings and
transforms me*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That not knowing what
tomorrow brings is an invitation
to lean on You*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That You are with me in my
suffering*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That my suffering, united to Your
own, will bear fruit in this life
and the next*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That You will not leave me
orphan, that You are present in
Your Church*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That Your plan is better than
anything else*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That You always hear me and in
Your goodness always respond
to me*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That You give me the grace to
accept
forgiveness and to forgive
others*

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That You give me all the
strength I need for what is asked*

Jesus, I trust in You.

That my life is a gift

Jesus, I trust in You.

That You will teach me to trust

You

Jesus, I trust in You.

*That You are my Lord and my
God*

Jesus, I trust in You.

That I am Your beloved one

Jesus, I trust in You.

Sistersoflife.org

	<i>Mass Schedule</i>		
Mon. Dec. 27	<i>Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 8:00 a.m. St. Columbkille with Adoration	✠ Mark Kociemba	
Tues. Dec. 28	<i>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i> No Mass		
Wed. Dec. 29	<i>Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr</i> No Mass		
Thurs. Dec. 30	<i>The Sixth Day with in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</i> 8:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception with Adoration	✠ Roman & Martha Vos	
Fri. Dec. 31	Solemnity of Mary-Vigil 11:30 p.m. Immaculate Conception	For the People	
Sat. Jan. 1	Solemnity of Mary 10:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Mary's 5:00 p.m. St. Columbkille	✠ Michelle Ostendorf For the People	
Sun. Jan. 2	<i>The Epiphany of The Lord</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints 10:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception	✠ Harvey Hadrich ✠ Paul Ripplinger	

Family Faith Formation & GIFFT (*Generations In Family Faith Together*)



EPIC Every Person In Christ



Youth Nights are going really well!
Everyone is enjoying the games, prayer and discussions!
Join us on Wednesdays after Faith Formation for
grades 6-12 from 7:45-8:30 p.m. at
All Saints-St. Hedwig's Basement in Holdingford.
Students from ANY parish may attend.
You are welcome to attend even if you haven't tried it yet.
WE WANT YOU HERE!

Questions: Kyle VanOverbeke-Youth Minister
youthminister@tworiverscatholic.com

Upcoming EPIC Youth Nights:
Wednesdays: **Jan. 12th, 19th, 26th**



GIFFT Night

Mark you Calendars!
The next GIFFT Night is on
Wednesday, January 19th

"I proclaim to you good news of great joy:
today a Savior is born for us,
Christ the Lord. ~Luke 2:10-11

Steubenville

is a weekend retreat for high schoolers, and we as a parish community would like to bring a bus of students down for it this upcoming summer. Dates: July 29-31, 2022. Cost would be offset by fundraising. If your child is interested in attending, please email Kyle VanOverbeke at youthminister@tworiverscatholic.com

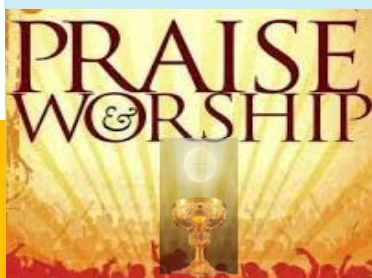


Thank you for all who helped to make this year's Christmas Pageants possible. St. Columbkille's was on December 22nd.

Everyone is welcome to join us on **January 5th at 7 p.m.** at All Saints-St. Hedwig's.

Special thanks to:

Katrina Kolles 292-1575 All Saints/Immaculate Conception
Jenny Revermann 249-9939 St. Columbkille



January 3
All Saints-St. Mary's
7:00 p.m.
All are invited
for Adoration

Church Name and Address:

The Catholic Communities of Bowlus, Holdingford and St. Anna
311 River Street, P.O. Box 308
Holdingford, MN 56310

Bulletin Number: 392949

Phone: (320) 228-0105

Contact person: Jessie Johnson

Email: bulletin@tworiverscatholic.com

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Thank you and blessings for a good day!