



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

All Saints, Holdingford
Immaculate Conception, St. Anna
St. Columbkille, St. Wendel

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

Central Office in Holdingford

Hours: Mon.-Wed. 10—3, Thurs. 1 - 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

Deacon Dan Dullinger,

New Evangelization Coordinator
evangelist@tworiverscatholic.com

Janice Wuebkers, Business Manager

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

Katie Hellmann, 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.

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:

Central Office

P.O. Box 308

Holdingford, MN 56340

Sister Annella Zervas Beginning the Process to Sainthood!



On October 27th 2010, Patrick Norton of Avon was quietly painting a light post near the grotto maintained by the Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict when a nun wearing an old style habit approached him to compliment him on his work. After a few moments of visiting, the nun vanished into thin air, and Patrick's request to study many photographs of nuns was granted. Eventually, he realized the apparition was of St. Annella Zervas, and

Patrick embarked on an energetic quest to tell her story to anyone who would listen. To this day, Patrick has been promoting her cause for sainthood by printing prayer cards and pamphlets, leading a monthly prayer group that gathers at her grave from May to October, and speaking at parishes around the diocese. These efforts have born great fruit, as this past October 15th Bishop Andrew Cozzens of the Crookston Diocese released a letter announcing that preliminary steps to investigate her cause for sainthood would begin!

Sr. Annella was born in Morris MN in 1900. From a young age she yearned to join a religious order, and when she was 15 her pastor Fr. Alfred Mayer allayed the concerns of her parents by telling them "Don't put anything in her way; she is not too young to give herself to God." She was accepted as a novice by the Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict and took final vows in 1922.

This story of a humble, intensely devout nun swerved when a horrific, untreatable skin disease afflicted her and ended her life in 1926. What is astonishing is that she conceived of her intense pain and suffering as a sanctifying blessing from God, once writing "What He has in store for me, I do not know, but all He does is well, so there is no need to worry. God has given me the grace to be resigned, and I thank him heartily for this, but also for all else He has given me with my illness.... I often wonder what great harm of body or of soul I may have suffered had not God given me this 'blessing in disguise'."

The Beatification process, which is step one on the path to sainthood is complicated, and in solidarity we should pray for what might be Minnesota's first saint. Anyone interested in helping should visit the website: sisterannella.org - For the Promotion of the Life of Sister Annella Zervas, OSB!

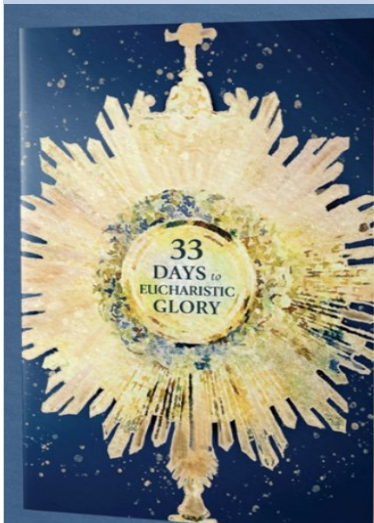


New Evangelization Corner

~Deacon Dan Dullinger

Check-in Meeting - 33 Day to Eucharistic Glory Participants.

I (Deacon Dan) want to invite you to an informal check-in and sharing session to share and talk about your experiences to date as we journey together towards Eucharistic Consecration. If you prefer one on one guidance, give me a call at the main office - (320-228-0105). Sessions will be held at All Saints Saint Mary's in the basement. Session 1 will be on Monday Dec. 16, 2024 from 1:30 until 2:30 p.m. Session 2 will be Monday Dec. 30, 2024 from 10 to 11 a.m.



33 day Consecration to the Eucharist Books have arrived!

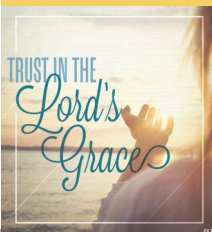
This is a 33-day preparation for a formal consecration to the Eucharist that will bring blessings to your family and will transform your life. You can start before December 11th with consecration day being at the weekend Masses January 11th & 12th (The Baptism of the Lord). Form a group in your homes, with your family, or with friends, on your schedule. Stay tuned for other study groups forming. See

dynamiccatholic.com/33-days-to-eucharistic-glory.html for more information or call our offices and ask for Deacon Dan.

Let's do this together and change our parishes forever!

"In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land." (Jer 33:15)

Prayer Lines



All Saints: Call or text Joan Frie (320) 241-3264
Val Hommerding (320) 746-9921

Immaculate Conception: Call or text
Marissa Studniski (507) 848-1104

St. Columbkille: Esther Struzyk (320) 251-4984
& Susan Opatz (320) 363-8160

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Don Doll, Carol Kuklok, Keith Woitalla, Fr. Gregory, Amy Ostendorf

Do you believe in the power of prayer?

Prayer lines are an opportunity to pray for fellow parishioners and have your needs prayed for. Contacts for your parish are listed above. We have refreshed our prayer list with Advent to begin our new year. Please call the office if you want to be on the Prayer line, receive a bulletin or Communion at home.

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday Dec. 9th at
All Saints—St. Mary's
from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00
p.m. for the Immaculate
Conception of the Blessed
Virgin Mary



Proudly Airing Relevant Radio™

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.

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.

Night Prayer

Join Fr. Gregory in prayer
most nights at 9:00 p.m. on
his Facebook page. We are
averaging 1000 views each
night. You can ask for a
request that Father keeps in
his prayers. Night Prayer is
added to our webpage the
next day to watch anytime.
www.tworiverscatholic.com

Upcoming Masses and Events

December 8th

ACC Penance Service

2-5:00 p.m. St. Mary's in Upsala

December 9th

Masses for The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Mary's

Noon St. Columbkille

7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception

December 18th

St. Columbkille Christmas Pageant

Class 6:30 p.m. Pageant: 7:15 p.m.

December 24th

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. All Saints-St. Hedwig's

6:00 p.m. St. Columbkille

12 Midnight All Saints-St. Mary's

December 25th

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception

January 8th

All Saints & Immaculate Conception Christmas Pageant: Class 6:30 p.m. Pageant: 7:15 p.m.

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas. ~LPI



Immaculate Conception

December 9th is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Come join us downstairs after the 7:00 p.m. Mass to celebrate our feast day. All are welcome!

Stewardship as a Way of Life:

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value" (Phil 1:9-10) During the Christmas shopping season, it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

St. Cloud Mission Office-

Christmas Fair Trade Sale

December 2nd through 19th. Come in during business hours Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and shop all Fair Trade items, quilts, candy & more and receive 10% off your total purchase. This is the perfect opportunity to get Christmas gifts & stocking stuffers or just come in to treat yourself and support Fair Trade too! We look forward to seeing you!

FORMED

Setup a free account on [FORMED.org](https://www.formed.org) See [tworiverscatholic.com/formed](https://www.tworiverscatholic.com/formed) for instructions. Start today to Grow in Faith!

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac,11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Advent Prayer of Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival, align our hearts and homes to Your will.

Pour into us Your grace, as we wait in joyful expectation.

Amen.



Contribution Tax Report

Reminder: Your 2024 Contributions will need to be in the office by December 31st to be included in this year's Tax form. Thank you!

Weekly Offering

PARISH INCOME: November 24, 2024

AS \$ 14,024.00

IC \$ 964.00

SC \$ 1,183.00

PARISH INCOME: December 1, 2024

AS \$ 5,436.00

IC \$ 2,889.00

SC \$ 1,793.00

Thank you for your generosity!

"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." ~Luke 12:34

Parish News & Events

All Cluster

Entering into the Life of the Church:

Grow in prayer and faith this advent! See the Advent-Epiphany handout in the back of the churches

Men's Group

Need some support and inspiration?

Our men's group meets every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's Basement.

Mass Intentions

We still have a few Mass Intentions available to be scheduled for the remainder of 2024. If you have a Mass request and are flexible as far as the date and parish the Mass will be said in, please fill out a Mass Intention Request Form.

Sainthood



Carlos Acutis



Giorgio Frassati

Canonization Dates

News that canonization dates have been set for Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati, who have become popular patrons for teens and young adults, is being met with joy and gratitude by a number of Catholics in the U.S.

Pope Francis announced Nov. 20th that he will elevate Acutis & Frassati, both currently titled "Blessed," to sainthood in 2025, when the universal Catholic Church will mark a jubilee year. Acutis will be canonized April 27th, during the April 25th-27th Jubilee for Adolescents in Rome. Frassati's canonization will follow amid the July 28th-Aug. 3rd Jubilee of Young People in Rome (Catholic Standard).

Rural Catholic Middle Ages Singles

Group: Dec. 14th Join us for prayer, topical information, discussions, and social activities for people ages 30-60 who are looking to socialize with other single adults. We meet at 7:00 p.m. on the **second Saturday** of each month at All Saints-St. Mary's Church basement in Holdingford. Contact: Janel at 290-2877.

Calendars

The parish has purchased Catholic Calendars for parishioners. Please take one per family. Thank you!

Well-Read Mom: Dec. 10th

We will be meeting at 7-9:00 p.m. at Neighbors in St. Joseph. This is open to any woman who desires to have deep conversations arising from our shared reading of classics. We meet on **second Tuesdays**. For more information please call or text Susan at (320) 224-6052 or visit wellreadmom.com

Book Club: Dec. 12th

Men and women from our area are invited to a group discussions. We will meet in the basement of All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 10-11:00 a.m. Please call or text Susan Heroux at (320) 224-6052 if you are interested or for questions.

St. Columbkille

May Eternal Rest be granted to:



Donna Paggen

Passed: November 29, 2024
Funeral: to be announced

St Columbkille Christian Women

Annual Christmas Gathering

We will be having our Christmas gathering on Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement. Please join us for a fun filled evening of fellowship and games. If your schedule allows bring an appetizer to share.

Poor Clares

St. Columbkille Christian Women are collecting items for the Poor Clares. There will be a box in the back of the church. Here is a list of items they could use. postage stamps, white out tape, vitamin C drops, air fresheners, (cone type), liquid hand soap, individual and refills, number 10 envelopes, plain and security, preferably self sticking, calcium magnesium 600 mg and dry erase markers. Please have items in the box by December 20th.

All Saints

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



Cole Thomas Kierzek

Son of Lance & Christina

November 23, 2024

All Saints Building Committee

The building committee members have been touring various churches built recently to determine things they do and do not want to see in our new church. We are encouraging parishioners and even those who are not Parishioners to do the same. In upcoming months, there will be presentations and listening sessions to look at current plan options and to receive parishioner feedback. Our first meeting is **Dec. 15th at 3:00 p.m.** at All Saints-St. Mary's in the church basement. In 2025, we will launch the Capital Campaign to build our new church. If you have experience and would like to assist or be the Director for this Campaign, please call the parish office or send us a resume. If you would like to give a gift toward the Building Fund for a tax benefit in 2024, we do have a separate fund specifically for the building of our new church already established. Just place your donation in the collection in an envelope marked "All Saints Building Fund." Please pray for the success of this project!

 <h1>Mass Schedule</h1>		Office is Closed on Monday for Holy Day of Obligation	
Mon. Dec. 9	<i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> 7:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Mary's Noon St. Columbkille 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception	† Dorothy Thell For the People † Owen Becker	
Tues. Dec. 10	<i>Our Lady of Loreto</i> No Mass		 
Wed. Dec. 11	<i>St. Damasus I, Pope</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Hedwig's with Adoration	Joseph Larson	
Thur. Dec. 12	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> 8:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception with Adoration	† Deceased members of the Eiden & Lashinski Families	 
Fri. Dec. 13	<i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> No Mass		
Sat. Dec. 14	<i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> 5:00 p.m. St. Columbkille	Living & Deceased members of the Jospeh Wensmann Family	 
Sun. Dec. 15	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints 10:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception	For the People † Marjorie Schiesher	

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

Faith Formation Directors

Religious Education:

Katrina Kolles 292-1575

allsaintsff@tworiverscatholic.com

Confirmation: Bob Vouk 249-3398 &

Jenny Revermann 249-9939

Confirmation Assistant: Katie Urbanski

confirmation@tworiverscatholic.com

Pro-Life Essay Contest

The Morrison County MCCL Chapter invites teens to write a short essay about their pro-life convictions. The essay must answer this question: "Why are you pro-life?" The Essay Contest is offered to students in grades 7-12. Essays must be 300-500 words and are due by December 16, 2024. Winning essays will be presented at the annual Pro-Life Banquet at the Falls Ballroom on Sunday, January 26, 2025. For more information contact Lauren Witt at 320-632-3995.

Interested in Going to Steubenville?

This summer join in with other youth in grades 8-12 to grow in your faith together! Date: July 25th-27th in St. Paul. For more information contact: Shelley Vouk (320) 248-2860 or Katelyn Urbanski (320) 423-2203.



"For the LORD your God is a consuming fire."



Reconciliation

Please keep in prayer the Twenty students who have or will be having their 1st Reconciliation

ACC Penance Service We are having our Reconciliation Service this Sunday from 2-5:00 p.m. at St. Mary's, Upsala

It's going to be **EPIC** **Dec. 11th**
 Mega-Fun Games! Faith-Filled Friendship!
Every Person In Christ
What: EPIC Youth Nights
Who: All Students Grades 6-12
When: Wed. after Religion Class: 7:45-8:30 p.m.
Where: All Saints-St. Hedwig Church
 Have a blast with friends
 and grow closer to God!
WE WANT YOU HERE!