

H O P E



The Catholic Communities of Holdingford, St. Anna and St. Wendel *All Saints, Holdingford* *Immaculate Conception, St. Anna* *St. Columbkille, St. Wendel* *First Sunday of Advent* *November 30, 2025*

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

Doug Herbek, Youth Director & New

Evangelist Coordinator

evangelist@tworiverscatholic.com

Janice Wuebkers, Business Manager

Office hours: Wed. 10 to 3 p.m.

businessmanager@tworiverscatholic.com

Julie Sorteberg, Secretary

secretary@tworiverscatholic.com

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:

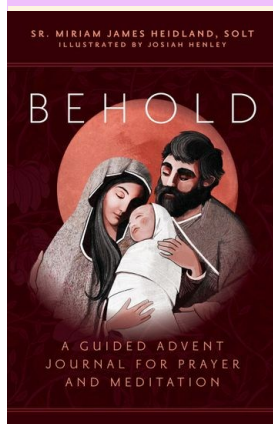
Central Office

P.O. Box 308

Holdingford, MN 56340

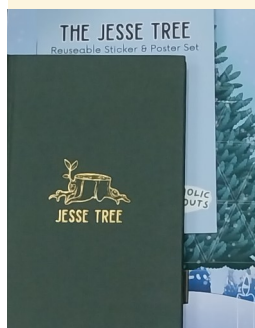


Advent Book Recommendations



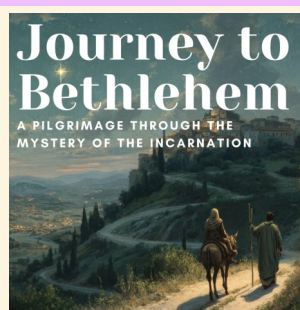
A guided Advent Journal
for Prayer & Medita-
tion. Weekly themes of
Motherhood, Father-
hood, Childhood and
Stable. Healing through
the Holy Family.

amazon.com



Catholic Sprouts The
Jesse tree. A devotional
for families with youth. A
study with reusable
stickers that takes you
through salvation history
and plants a longing for
the birth of the Savior.

shop.catholicsprouts.com



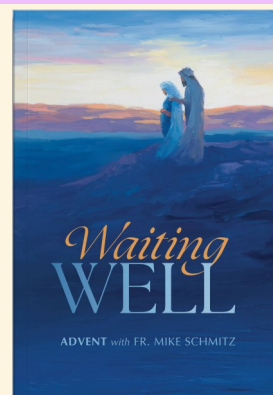
A Pilgrimage Through the
Mystery of the Incarnation.
Across 12 sacred stations, walk
with Mary & Joseph through
Scripture, reflection & prayer.

[road-to-purity-store.
myshopify.com](http://road-to-purity-store.myshopify.com)



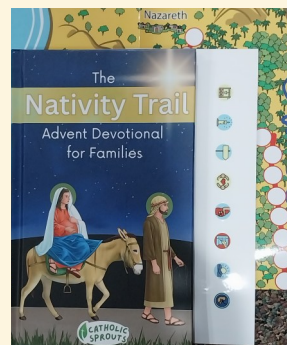
Catholic Sprouts Kids:
Home Advent &
Christmas Challenge. A
book with Catholic
Advent & Christmas
traditions in one place.
This challenge spells out
what Catholics do, day by
day, throughout the
season. Making seasonal
activities more
meaningful and Christ
focused.

shop.catholicsprouts.com



A journal that helps you
slow down for 10-15
minutes a day with
challenges, prayers and
words of wisdom to
deepen your experience
of Advent.

ascensionpress.com



Catholic Sprouts The
Nativity Trail: Advent
Devotional for Catholic
Families. A Scripture and
imagination based
devotional for youth
walking them through a
path of prayer this
Advent.

shop.catholicsprouts.com

New Evangelization Corner

Doug Herbek



"Christ in the Rubble" by
Kelly Latimore
kellylatimoreicons.com

"Without the poor,
we can celebrate
Christmas,
But not the
birth of Jesus."
Pope Francis

1. The Advent season is a time of preparation. In the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas, Advent includes an element of penance, just as there is an aspect of penance in Lent. Also like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days.

2. During Advent, we celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Our Lord Jesus on Christmas. Advent also looks toward Christ's second coming at the end of time. Thus, Advent is between the fulfilled promise of Christ's first coming and the yet-to-be-fulfilled promise of his second coming.

3. To move away from distractions of the season and open our hearts to prepare for the joy and hope of Christ's birth, we turn to prayer in a special way during Advent.

Sources:
usccb.org, christianity.com

THE STORY OF SANTA CLAUS St. Nicholas

That's not me...

St. Nicholas of Bari was born in Lycia (today's Turkey). From an early age he was a very generous person, especially towards the poor. He also had the custom of giving secret gifts to children.

Nicholas moved to Myra where he was ordained as a priest, and later as a bishop.

He was imprisoned during the Diocletian persecution and only released when Constantine the Great came to power.

St. Nicholas is associated with Christmas because of his tradition of giving secret gifts to children. His feast day is on the 6th of December.

Eucharistic Adoration

All Cluster Adoration
is every Monday at
All Saints—St. Hedwig's
from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Come encounter our
Eucharistic Lord!



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

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.

Prayer Lines

All Saints: Call or text Joan Frie (320)241-3284
Val Hommerding (320)746-9921

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

St. Columbkille: Esther Struzyk (320)251-4984

Claude Opatz, Jackie Pemble,
Donnie Wentland, Josh Wentland,
Brenda Dobis, Bill Ertl,
Jayne Wruck, & Don Hurd.



Call the Parish Office if you would like to be added
to the prayer list, are homebound and would like to
receive Communion or a bulletin (mailed or online)
or if you are in need of a blessing for illness or be-
fore a surgery.

News & Events



As we light our Advent wreath, each candle symbolizes something special.

1. Hope
2. Peace
3. Joy
4. Love

Let's ponder in this first Advent week of Hope how we can add the 4 elements of our Jubilee Year of Hope into our Advent preparation.

We are drawing nearer to the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope, which extends through January 6th. The Old Testament states there are 4 different elements to a Jubilee Year. The 4 elements are

1. Slaves are set free.
2. Debts are forgiven.
3. Rest and play.
4. Everyone comes home.

With the Jubilee years first element being slaves are set free—none of us own slaves, but what areas of your heart are enslaved? Enslaved to sin, unforgiveness, vice, anger? The Lord wants to set us free.

The first candle of advent is hope. Hope to start making steps towards breaking free from things that are weighing you down and bad habits. Prepare by praying & making a list so you can see the growth over the new year.

A Jubilee Year is declared typically every 25 years. The first one being in the year 1300.



No One Can Ever Excel In
GREAT THINGS
Who Does Not First
Excel In Small Things.
St. Francis Xavier

The St. Andrew Novena Prayer Christmas Anticipation Prayer

Beginning on St. Andrew the Apostle's feast day, November 30, the following beautiful prayer is traditionally recited fifteen times a day until Christmas. This is a very meditative prayer that helps us increase our awareness of the real focus of Christmas and helps us prepare ourselves spiritually for His coming. EWTN

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment In which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires,
[here mention your request]
through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man." Pope Francis

A Women's Advent Evening of Reflection

Join us for an evening of prayer, praise and reflection with National Catholic Speaker,
Kristin Molitor

December 12, 2025
6:30-8:30 pm
Light Refreshments to follow.

Located at a unique venue-
The Gathering Barn of Avon
35204 Co Rd 155
Avon, MN 56310

Jingle Mingle

A Christmas Mixer For
Catholic Singles (Ages 19-39)

Friday
5
December
At 7PM

Tis the Season For Catholic
Singles To Mix, Mingle, And
Make Spirits Bright!

Bring A Friend, Bring A Snack,
And

Reserve Your Spot:
TINYURL.COM/3HZHYNDZ

QUESTIONS?
TRICIA: (320)248-7358
HANNAH: (320)310-5252

The Gathering Barn of Avon
35204 Co Rd 155

Readings *Week* of the

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Weekly Offering

PARISH INCOME: November 16, 2025

AS \$ 2,827.00

IC \$ 741.00

SC \$ 1,314.00

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

Parish News & Events

Ideas For Week 1 Of Advent

The first week of Advent we light the Prophet candle on the Advent wreath to help us reflect on the virtue of hope.

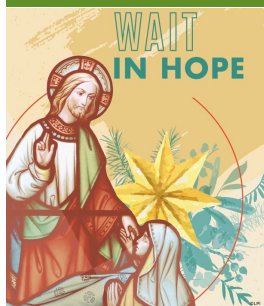
Work to break free from things that bind you to help build your hope in God. Clear space in your mind and heart to make room for God. Break free from excess and share with those in need.

Pray the St. Andrew Novena Prayer and start to set up your nativity scene but make sure to hide baby Jesus safe and sound until His big appearance at Christmas.

Read during Advent to help prepare you on the journey to building hope and anticipation for the birth of Jesus.



The Best Advent Ever for young readers is available at the Lighthouse Kiosks at the back of each church.



To you,
O Lord,
I lift
my soul.
(Ps25)

2025 Contributions

All Contributions for 2025 have to be received to the office by December 31, 2025.

Early Bulletin Deadlines

Any items you would like in the Dec. 14th bulletin need to be in by Dec. 1st at noon.

The Dec. 21st bulletin notes need to be in by Dec. 8th at noon. Thank you.

bulletin@tworiverscatholic.com

Buy Local: Is there any professional bakers, cookie decorators or crafters in our ACC? Would you like a small bulletin note added for the holiday season? Please call the office at (320) 228-0105 or email bulletin@tworiverscatholic.com

Men's Group

Join us, Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's basement. This is a great way to grow in your faith!

If you have any images of the Northern Lights, that you would like to share, please send them to ... bulletin@tworiverscatholic.com

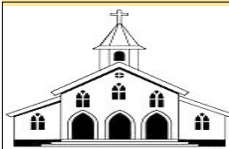
Journey of Hope: Thank you to the Speakers and the Planning Committee for organizing this event.

A big Thank You to all who donated food for Journey of Hope.

Jorgen Eiden-Honey

Keith & Teresa Ripplinger-Meat
Stearns County Dairy Association

All Saints



Pray
for Our
New Church

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed immediately after mass on December 14th for the building of our new church.

Praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet will happen monthly. Please join us in prayer for a strong foundation for our Catholic community.

Immaculate Conception

Christian Mothers will have a meeting at 6:30 pm, Dec. 1st in the church basement. All women are welcome & invited to join.

Decorations are out of the cemetery and in the church basement in 3 boxes. Stakes are there too. They can be picked up before or after mass on the weekday or Sunday.

Ice Cream Social: December 8th after mass in celebration for our Feast Day.



Church cleaning: Bring a bucket and rag on December 13th at 9:00 am. Many hands make light work.

St. Columbkille

Praying Rosary Anyone wanting to help lead rosary before Saturday masses please contact Linda Meyer at (320)363-4556

Poor Clare's Monastery

St. Columbkille Christian Women are asking for help in collecting items for the sisters at Poor Clare's Monastery.

There will be a box in the back of church Nov. 29 until Dec. 21.

Items needed are nightlight bulbs, white out correction tape, AA batteries, 60 W LED lightbulbs, stamps, self-adhesive business envelopes, and black ink pens.

Thank you for your continued support.

St. Columbkille Christian Women

They will be having their annual Christmas gathering on December 2, at 6:30 pm in the church basement. Please join us in an evening of fun. If time allows, please bring an appetizer to share. Thank you.



Mass Schedule

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Mon. Dec. 1 | 8:00 a.m. St. Columbkille & Adoration | † Marvin Kremers |
| Tues. Dec. 2 | 11:30 a.m. All Saints-St. Hedwig's | † Andrew Solinger |
| Wed. Dec. 3 | <i>St. Francis Xavier, Priest</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Mary's | † Alan Pueringer |
| Thur. Dec. 4 | <i>St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church</i> 8:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception & Adoration | † For the living & deceased family members of the Robert J. Schmitt family and for all parish priests who have no one to pray for them. |
| Fri. Dec. 5 | <i>First Friday</i> No Mass | |
| Sat. Dec. 6 | <i>St. Nicholas, Bishop, First Saturday</i> 5:00 p.m. St. Columbkille | † Vicky Pavlas |
| Sun. Dec. 7 | <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints–St. Mary's 10:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception | † Mary Heitzman For the People |

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

Congratulations Bennet Kroll!

Winner of the 2025 Parish Vote



Winners of peer vote were
Leeya Wenderski, Bennet Kroll
& Stephanie St. Marie.

EPIC Pumpkin Carving Contest 2025

