

LOVE



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

All Saints, Holdingford
Immaculate Conception, St. Anna
St. Columbkille, St. Wendel
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 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



Keep Christ in Christmas Knights of Columbus Drawing Contest Winners Week 1



First place
winner for
division
Age 11-14
(Grade 6-8)

Congrats
Mari
Kroll!



First place
winner for
division
Age 8-10
(Grade 3-5)

Congrats
Grace
Kroll!



First place
winner for
division
Age 5-7
(Grade K-2)

Congrats
Morgan
Leukam!

New Evangelization Corner Doug Herbek



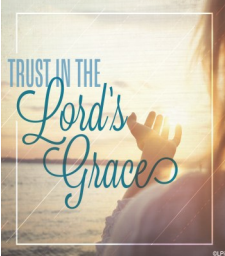
"The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come."

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1. In the early years of Christianity, Easter was a holiday, but the birth of Jesus was not celebrated. We find the first evidence of celebration of the birth of Jesus as a holiday from the year 336. In the fourth century, church officials instituted the birth of Jesus as a holiday.
2. Pope Julius I chose December 25 as the date for celebration of the birth of Jesus. It is believed that the church chose this date in an effort to adopt and absorb the traditions of the pagan Saturnalia festival. By holding Christmas at the same time as traditional winter solstice festivals, church leaders increased the likelihood that Christmas would be popularly embraced. First called the Feast of the Nativity, the custom of celebrating the birth of Christ spread to Egypt by 432 and to England before the end of the sixth century.
3. In the Middle Ages, on Christmas Day, impoverished individuals would go to the houses of rich persons and demand their best food and drink. Christmas became the time of year when the upper classes could repay their real or imagined "debt" to society by entertaining less fortunate persons.

Sources: history.com, vaticannews.va

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



Claude Opatz, Jackie Tempel, Bill Ertl, Brenda Dobis,
Jayne Wruck, Donnie Wentland, Josh Wentland,
Don Hurdt, Bridget Williams, Christopher Breth,
Carol Kuklok, George Platz Sr. & Pat Caspers.

Call the Parish Office if you would like to be added to the prayer list and are in need of a blessing before a surgery or due to illness, are homebound and would like to receive Communion, or if you need a bulletin mailed to you.

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!



K. yes
AM1180 + FM93.5

Proudly Airing Relevant Radio™

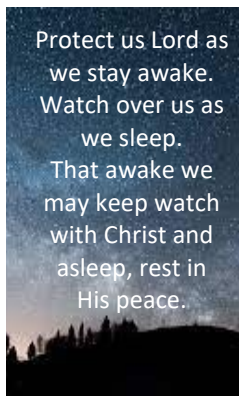
Listen to the Rosary

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 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

The Seven O Antiphons of Advent

1. O Wisdom of our God Most High,
December 17
2. O Leader of the House of Israel,
December 18
3. O Root of Jesse's stem,
December 19
4. O Key of David,
December 20
5. O Radiant Dawn,
December 21
6. O King of all nations and keystone of the
Church, December 22
7. O Emmanuel, our Kind and Giver of Law,
December 23



News & Events

Advent Quotes

1. "Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation, but also an occasion of the renewal of relationships."
St. John Paul II
2. "Let us live in joy and love during this holy time, awaiting the birth of our Savior with hope and faith."
St. Francis of Assisi
3. "At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern."
St. Teresa of Calcutta
4. "The coming of the Lord is near. Let us await him with faithful hearts, purified minds and joyful spirits."
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
5. "May we prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of the Savior with love and humility." St. Benedict
6. "We are waiting for the coming of the Lord. Let us be vigilant and faithful."
St. Gregory the Great
7. "Let us prepare for the coming of our Lord with hearts full of joy and thanksgiving."
St. Jerome

St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Feast Day: December 26
Patron Saint of altar servers, builders, casket makers, deacons, horses, masons & quarrymen.
Invoked against headaches.

"To Love with understanding and without understanding. To love blindly, and to folly. To see only what is lovable. To think only on these things. To see the best in everyone, their virtues rather than their faults. To see Christ in them."
Dorothy Day

Closing the Jubilee Year of Hope

December 28th

The Mass to close the Jubilee Year of Hope will be at 6:00 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud. All are invited to participate. Jubilee Year of Hope closing date for world is Jan. 6, 2026.

Advent Reflection Questions

1. What direction are you moving in?
2. How will you find time to rest in the Lord this week?
3. What are the moments of grace in your life when the Holy Spirit has broken into your life?

Challenge: In the midst of a season of busyness, take time to REST this week. Spend 5-10 minutes quietly sitting with the Lord.

Ideas For Week 4 Of Advent

The fourth week of Advent we light the "Angel Candle" on the Advent wreath reflecting on the angels who announced the good news of Jesus birth.

Everyone Comes Home is the fourth element of the Jubilee Year of Hope. Make sure to spend more time as a family, visit loved ones in nursing homes and more time to come home to the Father in prayer. Renew your confidence in God's love.

Christmas is just a few days away. Use this time to prepare your soul to receive your Savior. Make time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

- Add Mary & Joseph to your nativity scene.
- Bake with family.
- Read history of gift giving as family.
- Wrap gifts.
- Christmas Eve add baby Jesus and the angel to your nativity scene.
- Bless your nativity scene
- Go to Mass.

CENTRAL MINNESOTA TEC

Pray for those on TEC retreat
December 27th-December 29th.
The next retreat is Jan. 17th-19th.



Readings *Week*

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/
Ps 25: 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/
Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning:
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Night: Is 9:1-6/
Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-13(Lk 2:11)/
Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62: 11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/
Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20

Many options available.

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/
Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/
Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/
Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



2025 Contributions

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

Weekly Offering

PARISH INCOME: DECEMBER 7, 2025

AS \$ 5,564.00

IC \$ 2,219.20

SC \$ 2,899.00

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

Parish News & Events

A Gift For You: The new 2026 Catholic Community Calendar is a gift for you. Start each day with spiritual inspiration & reflection. Please pick up your copy at the back of church, while supplies last.

Pop Tabs For A Cause

The Knights of Columbus are starting up a collection of pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

Collection boxes will be at the back of each parish. Turn your tabs into someone's treasure.

Thank you for helping make a difference.



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!

How to Have a Fruitful Family

Advent: This Holy Heroes pamphlet has many great topics to help you prepare on your journey to Christmas. There are a few copies available at the back of church, while supplies last.

Sponsor Couple Ministry: Are there any married couples interested in becoming mentors to engaged couples to help prepare them for a Christian marriage? For more information please contact the office at (320)228-0105 or janet.dusek@gw.stcdio.org.

Build a Foundation for the Future

Please consider a donation to our new church before the end of this years tax season, consider our churches in your Will or as a beneficiary of a retirement account. Leave a lasting legacy for future generations while making a tax-deductible gift.

Early Bulletin Deadlines

Any items you would like in the Jan. 4th bulletin need to be in by Dec. 24th at noon. Thank you.
bulletin@tworiverscatholic.com

Christmas Cards to our Seminarian:

There is still time to send a Christmas card to our Seminarian Vincent St. Marie.

Address:

Vincent St. Marie
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary
700 Terrace Heights #862
Winona, Mn 55987-1399

Buy Local-Fellow Parishioners

Rustic Charm:

Rustic log suet bird feeders, winter evergreen porch pots, and raspberry jam.

Contact: Amanda at
(320) 217-4589.



Fellowship: Join us on the shortest day of the year for FELLOWSHIP with one another on December 21st. This is a great way to share your stories with other parish members and strengthen your community bonds. Serving donuts, fruit, coffee, milk, juice, and crafts for the children. This event is a donation by the All-Saints Christian Mothers/ Women and Rosary Sodality.

Christmas Eve Office Hours

The Office will close at noon on December 24th.

New Years Mass Times

Holy Day of Obligation

December 31st

4:00 pm -St. Columbkille,
St. Wendel

11:30 pm -All Saints-St. Hedwig's,
Holdingford

January 1st

9:00 am -Immaculate Conception,
St. Anna

New Years Eve Party

Join us for a New Years Eve party.
All Saints-St. Hedwig's
Dec. 31, 8:00 p.m.

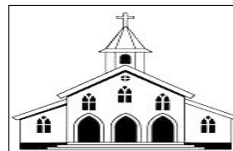
Come enjoy cards & games.
We will have some games or you
can bring your own.

Bring a dish to share.
Water, hot chocolate and popcorn
will be provided.
Celebrate Mass at 11:30 pm to bring
in the new year.
Questions? Contact Shelley Vouk
(320)248-2860

All Saints

Save the Date

Christmas Pageant
January 7th
7:15 pm
All Saints -St. Hedwig's
Please Join Us!



Pray
for Our
New Church

St. Columbkille

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

	<h1>Mass Schedule</h1>	
Mon. Dec. 22	8:00 a.m. St. Columbkille	† Elmer Huls
Tues. Dec. 23	<i>St. John of Kanty, Priest</i> 11:30 a.m. All Saints-St. Hedwig's	† Amber Czech
Wed. Dec. 24	<i>Christmas Eve</i> 4:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception 6:00 p.m. St. Columbkille Midnight Mass All Saints– St. Mary's	† Mark Kuntstleben For the People Couples Married by Fr. Gregory this year.
Thur. Dec. 25	<i>Christmas Day</i> 9:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Hedwig's	† Debra Knapp
Fri. Dec. 26	<i>St. Stephen, The First Martyr</i> No Mass	12 Days of Christmas are December 25th, 2025 through January 5th, 2026
Sat. Dec. 27	<i>St. John, Apostle & Evangelist</i> 5:00 p.m. St. Columbkille	† Joan Valerius
Sun. Dec. 28	<i>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints–St. Mary's 10:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception	For the People † Deceased family of Joseph Wensmann

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

St. Nick Paid A Visit

St. Nick stopped for a quick visit on
Sunday December 7th at
All Saints–St. Mary's.
The visit was enjoyed by all.



Thank you Christian Mothers for
helping St. Nick put together treat
bags for the children.

Youth Masses

Thank you to all the families that
participated in our youth masses.
Parents thank you for bringing
your children so they could
participate & encouraging them to
share their time, talents & treasures.
Thank you to all parents that
took on extra rolls to help children
succeed in participating in Mass.

All Saints Christmas Pageant Practice

The Christmas pageant is quickly
approaching. Families participating
please join us for practice.

January 4th
All Saints-St. Hedwig's
6:30 pm