



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

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

The Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026

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 & Bulletin
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.

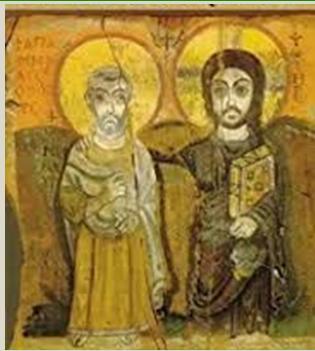
New Parishioners: Please introduce yourself to Father after Mass and call the Central Office. If you are leaving our parishes please call the central office so we can update our census. Thank you!

Address:
Central Office
P.O. Box 308
Holdingford, MN 56340



New Evangelization Corner

Doug Herbek



"I saw the snares the enemy spreads, and I said groaning, 'What can get me through such snares?' Then I heard a voice saying, 'Humility.'" - Saint Anthony of Egypt

On January 17, we celebrate the feast day of Saint Anthony of Egypt. When, as a young man, he heard Matthew 19:21, he took it as his personal calling, so he sold his possessions and gave the proceeds to those who were poor. Then he retreated to the desert, living an ascetic and often solitary life, imparting wisdom and counsel to those who came to him during his long life from the year 251 to 356.

Saint Anthony is only one of the many Desert Fathers and Desert Mothers who removed themselves to the desert to live predominantly contemplative lives. There are numerous little stories, related in the Sayings of the Desert Fathers and Desert Mothers, from the time of Saint Anthony or soon thereafter. I enthusiastically recommend checking them out online. I've received much helpful guidance from their sayings, especially when I used to be a monk at the Hermitage in Big Sur, which resembles the communities of the Desert Fathers and Desert Mothers.

However, we can apply insights from the Desert Fathers and Desert Mothers, and we can be contemplatives, without being desert ascetics or monks or nuns. We can take little steps to follow their example. We can get up a little earlier than others to spend time in silence, solitude, and stillness to meditate on the Word before starting our days, as one of my current classmates, who has two toddlers, decided to do. If we keep doing so, the Word will shine forth out of us, so that through us, others receive the Light of the World.

Sources: catholicnewsagency.com, uscatholic.org

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, Curt Johannes, 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, 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. Mary'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.

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.



Saint Hilary

1. French bishop of the 4th century, Father and Doctor of the Church.
2. He fought against Arianism, which denied Christ's placement within the Trinity.
3. He suffered exile after confronting the bishops who wanted to validate Arianism.
4. He defeated the heretics at the Synod of Paris by defending the divinity of Christ and the unity of the Trinity.
5. The author of a treaty on the Trinity based on the Council of Nicaea.

News & Events

When should I take down my Manger Scenes:

Liturgically the manger scenes are taken down in church because it is the start of Ordinary Time, to help keep focus on the liturgical calendar.

However, in your home you can leave the manger scene up until Candlemas (February 2nd).

What is Candlemas:

Candlemas is a Christian festival on February 2nd marking the presentation of Jesus at the Temple 40 days after his birth, fulfilling the Jewish law, and symbolizes Christ as the "Light of the World."

This is the last day that the Vatican keeps up their Christmas tree and creche in St. Peter's square in Rome.



HAPPY
CANDLEMAS
DAY

Trivia

Why do we celebrate Christmas with a Christmas star and other light decorations? Jesus introduced himself as the "Light of the World" and told his followers they were to become the light of the world.

Blessing for Baptismal Graces

Dear God,

Through Baptism, You called and claimed us as Your own, chosen and loved.

Pour Your blessing upon us as we remember our Baptism.

Plant Your identity in our hearts.

Help us to live as Your beloved.

Amen



Celebrate Jesus Baptism

Jesus baptism is an example for the rest of us and a sign of his true identity. We also can proclaim our belief in the waters of baptism and our new ongoing life in Christ.

Below is a list of ideas on how we can celebrate and proclaim about Jesus Baptism. This is a great time to share that Jesus is with us always, even when things don't go as planned.

Adult/Family activities:

- ◊ Talk about your baptism or you children's baptism, what happened at the service, who was there, why were those Godparents chosen, and reflect on the day.
 - ◊ Quietly or with family, renew your promises made at baptism, possibly lighting your baptismal candle.
 - ◊ Use Holy Water and make the Sign of the Cross when entering your home.
 - ◊ Pray for spiritual growth and then journal about your journey. An idea to start with is reflect on water's symbolism and see it as a source of cleansing and new life.
 - ◊ Read scripture by starting with Matthew 3:16-17. Contemplate each scripture you read, asking if there is a sign of new life.
 - ◊ Share a meal. Make a favorite or think of water theme foods.
 - ◊ Pray the Luminous Mysteries.
- Activities for children:
- ◊ Crafts: Make doves out of paper plates, add their name and baptism date.
 - ◊ Role play a baptism with their doll. Talk and reminisce about their baptism.
 - ◊ Water relay: a relay where kids carry water in cups, symbolizing new life.
 - ◊ Torn paper collage: create sky, dove, water, sand and candle.

Readings of the Week

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/
Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/
Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/
1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Mk 1:21-28

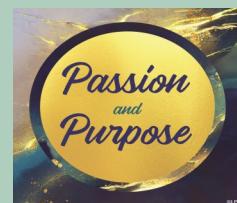
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/
Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/
Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/
Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/
Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/
Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/ Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/
Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/ Ps 40:2 and 4,
7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34



"After Jesus was baptized, he came from the water and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove..."
(Mt 3:16-17)

Monthly Online Giving

PARISH INCOME: December 2025

AS \$ 5,211.00
IC \$ 6,235.00
SC \$ 830.00

Weekly Offering

PARISH INCOME: JANUARY 4, 2026

AS \$ 4393.00
IC \$ 2303.36
SC \$ 3005.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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

Parish News & Events

Thank you: To all church decorators that transform our churches with dedication and love, thank you for your selflessness. Your gifts are a true blessing to our community.

Thank you: Arlo, Michael, Emma and Levi for carrying up Baby Jesus during our Christmas Masses. Your service is appreciated.

Save the date: January 28th

Bernice Eiden has been the house keeper for 20 years. Following the 11:30 mass at All Saints-St. Mary's there will be an Open House at the rectory. Stop by to thank Bernice, as she will be retiring. Please come and see the Christmas decorations at the house.

Rural Catholic Young Adult Group:

Jan. 17th Join us for prayer, topical information, discussions, and social activities for people ages 18 -30 who are looking to socialize with other young adults. We typically meet at 7:00 p.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford on third Saturdays. Meetings include socializing, snacks, and games to follow. These meetings are subject to change so please contact Katie 423-2203 or Marissa 630-2433 if you would like to join us.

All Saints Fellowship

Don't let the January Blues get you down. We would love to have you join us on Jan. 18th after Mass, in the basement, for **FELLOWSHIP**.

Share your winter activity stories with other parish members and guests. Enjoy a donut or roll, some fruit, coffee, juice, milk and craft for children. This event is a gift from the All Saints Christian Mothers/Women and Rosary Sodality.



Please consider: We need your help! Please consider being a money counter. We need one person for Immaculate Conception and one for All Saints-St. Mary's.

If you are interested please contact the secretary at the parish office at (320)228-0105 or email secretary@tworiverscatholic.com

Immaculate Conception

Funeral Lunch Group Meeting:

There will be a funeral lunch group meeting for all group leaders on Monday, February 2nd at 6:30 pm in the church basement. We ask that all leaders are present, but also any members who have questions, concerns or ideas on how we can make improvements. Keep in mind that some of our group leaders are aging out in the next few years and we really need individuals who will step up and lead a group. Without leadership, this benefit to our parish will fall to the wayside. If you have questions, you can call/text Tina VanHeel at 320-217-4022

St. Columbkille



Congratulations to Linda and Maury Meyer on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on December 27, 2025 at St. Columbkille. Maury is the trustee and Linda is the head sacristan in St. Wendel.

Please Pray!

Pray for confirmation students on retreat all day January 17th at All Saint-St. Mary's. They will conclude with 4:00 pm Mass which is for students and their parents only.

Parish Mass will be at 5:00 pm in St. Wendel.

All Saints



Pray
for Our
New Church

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed immediately after mass on January 25th 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.

Building Committee Notes:

Langer Construction has been chosen as the construction company for our new parish. They are from West St. Paul.

Please pray for them. They will be the general contractor who will supervise and get local bids as we move forward.



Mass Schedule

Mon. Jan. 12	<i>First Week in Ordinary Time</i> No Mass	
Tues. Jan. 13	<i>St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church</i> 11:00 a.m. Funeral at Immaculate Conception	
Wed. Jan. 14	<i>Julian Calendar New Year</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints– St. Mary's & Adoration	† Philip Vossen
Thur. Jan. 15	8:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception & Adoration	† Gary Lange
Fri. Jan. 16	No Mass	
Sat. Jan. 17	<i>St. Anthony, Abbot</i> 5:00 p.m. St. Columbkille	† George Kierzek
Sun. Jan. 18	<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 8:00 a.m. All Saints–St. Mary's 10:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception	† For the Holy Souls in Purgatory For the People

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

