

Our Parish Communities

December 13, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent



St. Lawrence Catholic Church
of Rush Lake
46404 County Highway 14
Perham, MN 56573
Phone: 218-346-7729
Email: stlawrence@arvig.net



Sacred Heart Catholic Church
of Dent
36963 State Highway 108
Dent, MN 56528
Phone: 218-758-2700
Email: sacredheart@arvig.net

Sacred Heart Church in Dent

Administrator: Fr. George Michael, VC. 218-758-2888

Father's e-mail: gmichaelvc@gmail.com

Deacon: Deacon Mark Stenger

Secretary : Sandi Kollar

Pastoral Council President: Kenny Moenedick
Religious Coordinator: Joe & Diane Sazama
Trustees: Brenda Aschnewitz
Jan Januszewski

Music Director: Diana Porath
Christian Mothers/Women: Cindy Kratzke
Seeds to Grow: Rita York
Cemetery Coordinators: Tim Stoll (Dent)
John Kratzke (Dent)
Mark Riestenberg (St. Joseph)

St. Lawrence Church in Rush Lake

Secretary: Jeannie Guck
Sandi Kollar

Pastoral Council President: Mark Murdock
Religious Coordinator: Sandi Carrlson
Trustees: Jack Werner
Andy Klinnert

Christian Mothers/Women: Lisa Werner
Parish Life: Lisa Werner
Music Director: Russ Kadow
Cemetery Coordinators: Rick Guck & Loren Guck
Liturgy: Patty Doll

OFFICE HOURS (SACRED HEART): Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays: From 9:00 AM-12 Noon, (218) 758-2700

OFFICE HOURS (ST.LAWRENCE): Tuesdays & Wednesdays: From 9:00 AM-12 Noon, (218) 346-7729

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Contact the Pastor, (218) 758-2888

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Diocesan Policy requires that the Pastor be contacted at least 6 months before the anticipated date of marriage to allow time for premarital inventory, instructions and planning.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: ½ Hour before Weekend Masses.

PARISH WEBSITE: sacredheartstlawrencecatholicchurches.com

**December 13th, 2020, Third Sunday of Advent
MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS**

St. Lawrence Mass Schedule:

Sunday, December 13th 10:30AM †*LeRoy Wegscheid*
Sunday, December 13th 4:00PM †*Bud & †Barb Honer*
Wednesday, December 16th 8:30AM †*Abigail Kawlewski*
Friday, December 18th 8:30AM †*Evelyn Guck*
Sunday, December 20th 10:30AM *Karen Omberg (healing)/For the People*
Sunday, December 20th 4:00PM †*Fr. Jerry Nordick*

Sacred Heart Mass Schedule:

Saturday, December 12th 4:00PM †*Deland Porath*
Sunday, December 13th 8:30AM †*Xavier Villarreal*
Monday, December 14th 8:30AM †*Gottlieb A. Honer*
Tuesday, December 15th 7:00PM †*Buster Fiedler*
Thursday, December 17th 8:30AM †*Orville Quistorff*
Saturday, December 19th 4:00PM †*John Tschida*
Sunday, December 20th 8:30AM †*Todd Boedighimer*

FINANCIAL BLESSING (ST. LAWRENCE)

Adult.....	\$1730.00
Loose.....	55.00
Online.....	1310.00
Immaculate Conception.....	50.00
Parish Reimbursement.....	27.03
Christmas Flowers.....	57.00
Total	\$3229.03



Thank you for remembering St. Lawrence church with your stewardship throughout the year.

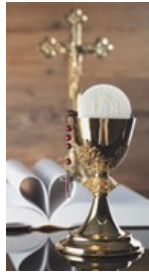
FINANCIAL BLESSING (SACRED HEART)

Adult.....	\$1923.00
Loose.....	1195.00
Online.....	50.00
Religious Retirement.....	100.00
Christmas.....	25.00
Immaculate Conception.....	270.00
Christmas Flowers.....	370.00
Total	\$3933.00



Thank you for remembering Sacred Heart church with your stewardship throughout the year.

Spiritual Communion Prayer



“My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You”. Amen

Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; Responsorial Psalm-Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE



Sacred Heart: Saturday, 4:00PM; Sunday, 8:30AM
 St. Lawrence: Sunday, 10:30AM; Sunday, 4:00PM

Sunday TV Mass For the Diocese of St. Cloud can be found at www.stcdio.org/tvmass.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Wednesday

SACRED HEART AND ST. LAWRENCE ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation to Sacred Heart or St. Lawrence churches. Getting started is easy—just visit our website at sacredheartstlawrencecatholicchurches.com and click on the “Give Now to Sacred Heart” button for Sacred Heart or click on the “Give Now to St. Lawrence” button for St. Lawrence found in the welcome section of the website.

Fr. George



THE 2021 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES ARE IN YOUR MAIL BOXES AT BOTH ST. LAWRENCE AND SACRED HEART. PLEASE PICK THEM UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.



Happy Birthday to Pope Francis on Thursday, December 17th. May God continue to bless our Holy Father as he leads our Church.

Faith FORMATION SACRED HEART



All in-person Faith Formation classes and youth gatherings have been suspended until the end of the year per order of Bishop Kettler. Parents please continue to help your children grow in faith at home through prayer and their religion books.

Prayer Corner

Please pray for those who are ill, and all of our parishioners and visitors in need of prayer, that they may have an abundance of comfort in God's healing, especially:

Lois Porath
Elaine Pietsch
Jim Stenger

Ellen Doll

Lupe Scott
Joel Carlson
Karen Omberg



Always remember in prayer our blessed leaders in faith, especially: Pope Francis, Bishop Donald Kettler, Fr. Matthew Kuhn, Dcn Randy Altstadt, Dcn Richard Quistorff, Dcn Mark Stenger and Fr. George.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December
Evangelization-For a life of prayer: We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



Make a Difference. "Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses," says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Wedding Banns I
Angela Berry
&
Brady Ballard



The communities of Perham and New York Mills are blessed with caring volunteers that help at our Food Shelves each week and generous communities that provide gifts of food and money throughout the year. Please keep your local Food Shelves in your thoughts during this holiday season.



2021 Marriage Prep Course Weekend: The Marriage Prep Course weekend will be held at the St. Henry's Area School library on January 29th & 30th, 2021. The fee is \$175.00 per couple. For more information, or to register, please contact the St. Henry's Parish Office for a registration form.

NORTHERN CROSS AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Thursday, Dec 24	2:00 PM - Sacred Heart, Dent
Thursday, Dec 24	4:00 PM - Sacred Heart, Dent
Thursday, Dec 24	3:00 PM - St. Lawrence, Rush Lake
Thursday, Dec 24	5:00 PM - St. Lawrence, Rush Lake
Thursday, Dec 24	3:00 PM - St. Henry's, Perham
Thursday, Dec 24	5:00 PM - St. Henry's, Perham
Thursday, Dec 24	7:00 PM - Holy Cross, Butler

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

Friday, Dec 25	8:00 AM - St. Henry's, Perham
Friday, Dec 25	8:30 AM - Sacred Heart, Dent
Friday, Dec 25	10:00 AM - St. Henry's, Perham
Friday, Dec 25	10:30 AM - St. Lawrence, Rush Lake

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
If you would like to make a donation for the purchase of flowers to be used to decorate our churches for Christmas you may use the "Christmas Flowers" envelope available in your contribution envelope box (Sacred Heart) or the church entrances (St. Lawrence) or you may mail in your donation to the Sacred Heart (36963 State Highway 108, Dent, MN 56528) or St. Lawrence (46404 County Highway 14, Perham, MN 56573) church office. Please note if you would like your donation to be "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" a loved one.



Bishop's Annual Appeal: Blessings to you and those you love on this third Sunday of Advent. Our diocesan ministries are walking with you during these challenging times. Diocesan staff continue to reach out to parishes and advance ministries in new and creative ways. Our diocesan website has updates, spiritual resources, and prayers at www.stcdio.org.



There will be a virtual Holy Family Council of Catholic United Financial meeting on Monday, December 14th at 7pm. Email Jason at sthenryschool@arvig.net for the link to the meeting.



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All in-person Faith Formation classes and youth gatherings have been suspended until the end of the year per order of Bishop Kettler. Parents please continue to help your children grow in faith at home through prayer and their religion books.



The parish of St. Lawrence wishes to extend deepest sympathy to Kristi Werner, daughter of **Rudy Walter Bertram** who passed away recently. May Rudy know eternal peace and joy in heaven and may God grant comfort to his family and friends.



A PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.*

*Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

From Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter "Patris Corde"

St. Henry's Area School The 2021 Fundraising Calendars are here. They will be available after weekend Masses until the New Year. They will also be available in the St. Henry's church office and the school office. They are \$50 and with the purchase, you will be entered into the weekly drawings for \$100 and biweekly drawings for \$50. You can win multiple times. We are hoping to sell 250 calendars. Your odds of winning are pretty good, and your purchase will help with many things at the school. Thank you for your support.

**Congratulations to our calendar raffle winners:
December 11th, Mary Orvik—\$100**



**THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT
THE SHEPHERD CANDLE**

This week we light the Third Candle of the Advent Wreath known as the Shepherd Candle or the Candle of Joy. The angels sang a message of JOY! "...and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'" (Luke 2:7-15) The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

Stewardship as a Way of Life:

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." -1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This Scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.



Year of Saint Joseph

With the Apostolic Letter “*Patris Corde*” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX’s declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special “Year of St Joseph,” beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris Corde* Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Holy Father wrote *Patris Corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of “ordinary” people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. Each of us can discover in St Joseph, “an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble”, who nonetheless played “an incomparable role in the history of salvation.”

A beloved, tender, obedient father: Saint Joseph, in fact, “concretely expressed his fatherhood” by making an offering of himself in love “a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home,” writes Pope Francis, quoting his predecessor St Paul VI. In him, “Jesus saw the tender love of God,” the one that helps us accept our weakness, because “it is through” and despite “our fears, our frailties, and our weakness” that most divine designs are realized. “Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser,” emphasizes the Pontiff, and it is by encountering God’s mercy especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation that we “experience His truth and tenderness,” – because “we know that God’s truth does not condemn us, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us” (2).

Joseph is also a father in obedience to God: with his ‘fiat’ he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to “do the will of the Father.” Called by God to serve the mission of Jesus, he “cooperated... in the great mystery of Redemption,” as St John Paul II said, “and is truly a minister of salvation” (3).

An accepting Father: Joseph is “an accepting Father,” because he “accepted Mary unconditionally” — an important gesture even today, says Pope Francis, “in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident.” But the Bridegroom of Mary is also the one who, trusting in the Lord, accepts in his life even the events that he does not understand, “setting aside his own ideas” and reconciling himself with his own history.

Joseph’s spiritual path “is not one that *explains*, but *accepts*” — which does not mean that he is “resigned.” Instead, he is “courageously and firmly proactive,” because with “Holy Spirit’s gift of fortitude,” and full of hope, he is able “to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.” St. Joseph “did not look for shortcuts but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it.” (4).

A creatively courageous father: *Patris Corde* highlights “the creative courage” of St. Joseph, which “emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties.” “The carpenter of Nazareth,” explains the Pope, was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence.” He had to deal with “the concrete problems” his Family faced, problems faced by other families in the world. As the guardian of Jesus and Mary, Joseph cannot “be other than the guardian of the Church,” of her motherhood, and of the Body of Christ. From St Joseph, writes Pope Francis, “we must learn to love the Church and the poor” (5).

A working father: “A carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family,” St Joseph also teaches us “the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one’s own labor.” Work, he says, “is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion.” Those who work, he explains, “are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us.”

A father “in the shadows,”: Taking a cue from *The Shadow of the Father* — a book by Polish writer Jan Dobraczyński — Pope Francis describes Joseph’s fatherhood of Jesus as “the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father.” “Fathers are not born, but made,” says Pope Francis. “A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child.” Unfortunately, in today’s society, children “often seem orphans, lacking fathers” who are able to introduce them “to life and reality.” St. Joseph, says Pope Francis, “knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the center of things. He did not think of himself, but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus.”

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: “In him, we never see frustration, but only trust,” writes Pope Francis. “His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust.” Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that “needs fathers,” a society that “rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction.” Every true vocation is born of the gift of oneself, which is the fruit of mature sacrifice. The priesthood and consecrated life likewise require this kind of maturity. Whatever our vocation, whether to marriage, celibacy or virginity, our gift of self will not come to fulfillment if it stops at sacrifice. Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, “has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a ‘sign’ pointing to a greater fatherhood”: that of the “heavenly Father” (7).

The saints help all the faithful “to strive for the holiness and the perfection of their particular state of life. The lives of the saints are examples to be imitated. Let us now make our prayer to St. Joseph: *Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen*