



Disciples of the Mission

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Church of St. Ann • Church of St. Edward • Church of St. William
Our Lady of the Lake • Our Lady of Seven Dolors • Sacred Heart • St. James

Welcome!

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CHURCHES

Church of St. Ann

402 Nelson Ave. PO Box 256
Brandon, MN 56315

Mass Times

Weekend: Sat. 7:30 pm

Weekday: Thurs. 8:30 am

Church of St. Edward

201 Douglas Ave.
Henning, MN 56551

Mass Times

Weekend: Sun. 8:30 am

Weekday: Fri. 8:30 am

Church of St. William

209 West Soo St. PO Box 339
Parkers Prairie, MN 56361

Mass Times

Weekend: Sun. 10:30 am

Weekday: Fri. 7:30 am

Our Lady of the Lake

407 N. Lake Ave. PO Box 671
Battle Lake, MN 56515

Mass Times

Weekend: Sun. 10:30 am

Weekday: Thurs. 8:30 am

Our Lady of Seven Dolors

16921 Co Rd 7 NW.
Brandon, MN 56315
(Located in Millerville)

Mass Times

Weekend: Sun 8:30 am

Weekday: Wed. 8:30 am

Sacred Heart

60 N. Central Ave. PO Box 339
Parkers Prairie, MN 56361
(Located in Urbank)

Mass Times

Weekend: Sat. 4:00 pm

Weekday: Tues. 8:30 am

St. James

32009 County Hwy 74
Underwood, MN 56586

Mass Times

Weekend: Sat. 5:00 pm

Weekday: Wed. 9:00 am

Greetings

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”. And just like that, we’re back in Advent, the season of hopeful waiting. It’s hard to believe that we are only a few weeks away from Christmas.

One of the most significant traditions of the Advent season is the four-candle Advent wreath. The concept of the Advent wreath originated among German Lutherans in the 16th Century. However, the Roman Catholics in Germany began to adopt the custom in the 1920s and in the 1930s it spread to America.

The wreath is a circle, which has no beginning or end symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the eternal life we find in Christ. God is eternal, and His love for us is everlasting.

The flames of candles are a representation of the Christmas light approaching, bringing hope and peace in the struggle against darkness.

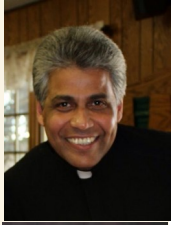
- The first purple candle symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the “Prophecy Candle” in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah. (Is 7)
- The second purple candle represents faith. It is called the “Bethlehem Candle” as a reminder of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem. (Lk 2)
- The third candle symbolizes joy. It is called the “Shepherd’s Candle,” and is rose because rose is a liturgical color for joy. 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.
- On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This candle, the “Angel’s Candle,” symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels. (Lk 2)

Sometimes a white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and is lit on Christmas Eve; this is a modern adaptation. This candle is called the “Christ Candle” and represents the life of Christ. The color white is for purity because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior.

Make the Advent wreath the centerpiece of your dinner table. Light it at dinner time, and pray, listen or sing Advent hymns instead of Christmas hymns, in preparation for the coming of Christ, with your family. This daily practice will help each member of the family keep focused on the true meaning of Christmas.

Have a Blessed Advent

Fr. George



PARISH STAFF

Fr. George Michael VC—Pastor

Office Phone: 218-864-5619

Rectory Phone: 218-862-5644

Email: gmichaelvc@gmail.com

Fr. Jeremy Theis — Pastor

Cell Phone: 320-429-0116

**After 9:00 pm emergencies only

Deacon Mick Froslee

Office Phone: 218-769-4409

Deacon Craig Stich

Office Phone: 218-770-7449

Email: muskie669@yahoo.com

Church of St. Ann

Secretary: Rose Suchy

Parish Office: 320-834-5095

Cell: 320-766-5312

Office Hours:

Mon 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Email: stanns@gctel.com

Church of St. Edward

Secretary: Marilyn Bolland

Parish Office: 218-583-2490

Cell: 218-298-0813

Email: stedward@arvig.net

Church of St. William

Secretary: Laura Shircliff

Office Phone: 218-338-2761

Office Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Email: stwm@midwestinfo.net

Our Lady of the Lake

Secretary: Lori Curtis

Office Phone: 218-864-5619

Office Hours:

Mon – Fri 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Email: oll.church.bl@gmail.com

Our Lady of Seven Dolors

Secretary: Laura Shircliff

Office Phone: 320-876-2240

Office Hours: Wed 8:00 am–4:00 pm

Email: sevendolors@gctel.net

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Secretary: Rose Suchy

Book Keeper: Laura Shircliff

Email: stwm@midwestinfo.net

St. James Catholic Church

Phone: 218-862-5644

Email: churchofstjamesmaine@gmail.com

Director of Faith Formation

Amy Evjen

Phone: 320-304-4127

Email: amyreligiously@gmail.com

Website:

www.disciplesofthemissionacc.org

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Monday, December 2nd:

11:00 am Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville **Funeral Mass for LaVerne Shea**

Tuesday, December 3rd:

8:30 am Sacred Heart, Urbank

† Nick Bitzan

Wednesday, December 4th:

8:30 am Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

† Bruce Hertzog

9:00 am St. James, Maine Twp.

† Jim Singelman

Thursday, December 5th:

8:30 AM St. Ann, Brandon

† Jim Lachowitz

8:30 am Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

†† Merle & Idelle Wilts

Friday, December 6th:

NO MASS St. William Living Center, Parkers Prairie

8:30 am St. Edward, Henning

† Al Terveer Sr.

Saturday, December 7th:

4:00 pm Sacred Heart, Urbank

† Vern Klimek

5:00 pm St. James, Maine Twp.

†† Ervin & Camilla Rocholl

7:30 pm St. Ann, Brandon

People of the Parishes

Sunday, December 8th: Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 am Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

† Nick Bitzan

8:30 am St. Edward, Henning

† Jim Reineke

10:30 am Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

People of the Parishes

10:30 am St. William, Parkers Prairie

† Mark Hemquist

4:00 pm St. Ann, Brandon

People of the Parishes

Monday, December 9th: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 am St. William, Parkers Prairie

† Kenny Benzinger

8:30 am St. Edward, Henning

People of the Parishes

5:00 pm Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

†† Roger & Marge Hockert

7:00 pm Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

† Terry Kambel

CONFESSION

Tuesday:

8:00 am Sacred Heart, Urbank

6:30 pm Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

Wednesday:

7:30 am Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

8:00 am St. James, Maine Twp.

Thursday:

9:00 am St. Ann, Brandon

8:00 am Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

Friday:

8:00 am St. Edward, Henning

Saturday:

3:00 pm Sacred Heart, Urbank

4:30 pm St. James, Maine Twp.

Sunday:

8:00 am St. Edward, Henning

Penance Service: December 15th

1:00 pm at Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

4:00 pm at Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake



ADORATION

Tuesday:

9:00 - 10:00 am Sacred Heart, Urbank

Wednesday:

7:30 - 8:15 am Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

8:00 - 9:00 am St. James, Maine Twp.

Thursday:

9:00 - 10:00 am St. Ann, Brandon

9:00 - 5:00 pm Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

Friday:

9:00 - 3:00 pm St. Edward, Henning



Bulletin Deadline — Tuesday 11 am

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading:

“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.”

Psalm:

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Second Reading:

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.

Gospel:

“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.”

Gospel Meditation:

When I was a young priest, about one year after ordination, I was called to the hospital to anoint a dying mother of three young children. She had a painful, terminal cancer. After celebrating Last Rites with her, I said, “Don’t be afraid.” She looked me square in the eye from her hospital bed and said, “Oh Father, I am in a lot of pain, but I am not afraid. Something wonderful is about to happen.” A few days later she died.

Christians face the ending of our personal various “worlds” in a totally unique way. This first Sunday of Advent, Jesus says that when people see their world falling apart, they find themselves **“fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world”** (Luke 21:26). In our fear, our natural response is to check out, to hide our heads in drunkenness, distraction, and false securities. But Jesus commands us to **“look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”** He then compares what’s coming to a lovely summer in full bloom. That’s what the cross and resurrection empower us to do, as strange as it may seem.

Advent challenge: What world in your life is collapsing? A relationship, a dream, a work opportunity? Maybe you’re troubled by a crumbling world in the political or economic sphere. Or maybe someone you love is seriously ill or dying. Name that world or worlds. Then pray: “Lord, help me to not faint with fear. Help me to raise my head and see your redemption coming.”

— Father John Muir

Daily Readings

Monday, December 2: *Advent Weekday*

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalms 122:1-9; Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday, December 3: *St. Francis Xavier*

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17, Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday, December 4: *Advent Weekday*

Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalms 23:1-6; Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday, December 5: *Advent Weekday*

Isaiah 26:1-6; Psalms 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday, December 6: *Advent Weekday/St. Nicholas*

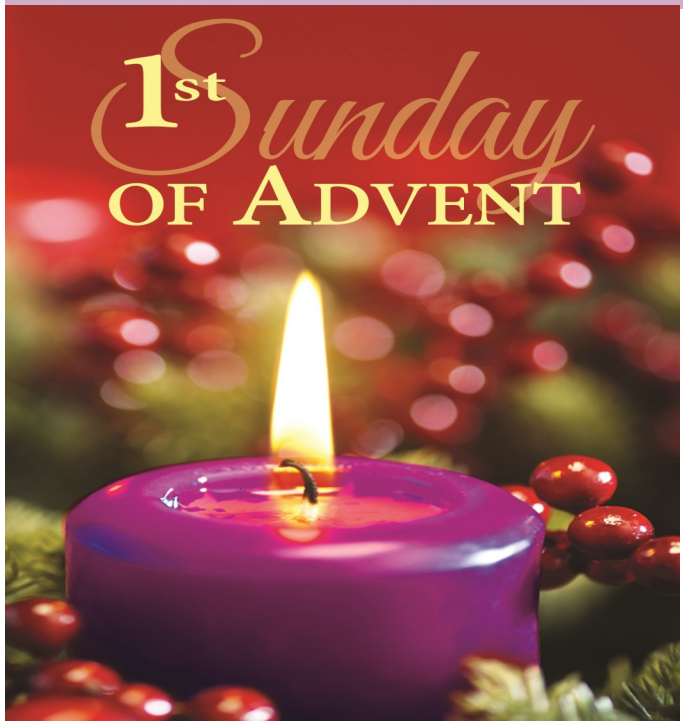
Isaiah 29:17-24; Psalms 27:1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday, December 7: *St. Ambrose*

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalms 147:1-6; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5-8

Sunday, December 8: *Second Sunday of Advent*

Baruch 5:1-9; Psalms 126:1-6; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6



30 Minutes B.C. A Nativity Play



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DISCIPLES OF THE MISSION AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORMATION

SW, SH, SD, SA: Class Dec 4 6:45 pm with optional meal at 6:15 pm.

SE: Class Dec 4 at 6:00 – 7:15 pm for K-12 grade students.

OLL: Edge/Life Teen Dec 4, 5:30 pm meal, class 6:00-7:30. Sunday School Dec 8, 9:15-10:15am.

SJ: Class Dec 7, 6:15-7:30 pm following the 5:00 pm Mass.

ST. ANN

Thank you to Greg Roers for his 10 years as Trustee, and welcome to Charles Francis who has agreed to fill his term.

Calendars and envelopes for next year are available in the church entrance. If there isn't a box of envelopes for you, and you would like one, please contact Rose in the office.

ST. WILLIAM

Collection envelopes and calendars are available in the back of the church. If you don't have a box of envelopes please contact Laura in the office.

The Angel Tree is up in the gathering space. The tags on the tree have an item written on the back of the tag indicating something that an area child is wishing for this Christmas. Select a tag from the tree, shop for the item, wrap the gift, attach the tag to the gift and return your wrapped gift to St. Williams by Thursday, December 5th.

Fellowship will begin on December 1st after the 10:30 am Mass. Sign-up sheets are in the entrance of the Church.

OUR LADY OF SEVEN DOLORS

Please note the new times for Confession and Adoration. They will begin at 7:30 am and end sharply at 8:15 am.

Thank you to all who helped take out the old bushes and repaired the lights on the church sign.

Please pick up your collection envelopes, they are in the back of the church. Calendars are also available.

2024 Calendar winners:

Nov 25-\$50 Mary Pfender

Nov 26-\$100 Shawn Lehn

Nov 27-\$75 Steve Leard

Nov 28-\$50 Chad & Shannon Dreger

Nov 29-\$100 Pete Wood

Nov 30-\$50 Gwen Thoennes

Dec 1-\$50 Karen Dickey

SACRED HEART

Calendars and envelopes for next year are available in the church entrance. If there isn't a box of envelopes for you, and you would like one, please contact Laura.

Thank you to all who helped out with the Fall Bingo and Raffle, you are greatly appreciated.

ST. EDWARD



We will once again be participating in the Christmas Gift Drive with both the Henning HOPE and the Otter Tail County Human Services; providing for children, vulnerable and disabled adults and their families. Each mitten and stocking will be the age of the person and Christmas gift ideas for that person. We just ask that when you take a mitten or stocking, that you write your name next to the corresponding letter and number on the mitten/stocking on the sheet provided. Thank you in advance for your generosity to those who are less fortunate. Items should be returned by the 2nd week of December.

ST. JAMES

Once again, Circle 3, along with our parishioners' help is sponsoring a Giving Tree to benefit Underwood elementary students. The tree is located in the foyer at St. James. Please return your gifts by Dec. 7. Thank you all for your generosity.

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

The Parish Service Group Christmas Party is on Wed, Dec 4th at SteVelly's starting at 4pm. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please sign up by Dec 1st. All are welcome.

RCIA classes have begun. Please join us if you are interested in joining the Catholic Church. Classes will be Tuesdays at 7 pm.

It's time to think about our Christmas Program Potluck on Dec 15th after Mass. Please bring a dish to share. Last name A-G Dessert, H-S Casserole, T-Z Salad. Hope you can join us.

The Angel Tree is in the Gathering Space. The tags are on the tree and have an item written on the back of the tag indicating something that an area child is wishing for this Christmas. Select a tag from the tree, shop for the item, wrap the gift, attach the tag to the gift and return your wrapped gift to Our Lady of the Lake Church by Friday December 13th. We will collect the gifts here and deliver them to the school for you. We will also be buying gift cards at Larry's so that each family can purchase groceries for a holiday meal. If you would like to make a contribution to that, there will be a donation box provided near the Angel Tree. Checks should be made payable to OLL.

SE, SJ, OLL

Winter Weather Advisory:



When school is cancelled, there will be no Weekday Mass, Adoration or Confession at Our Lady of the Lake, St. Edward and St. James.

The Little Blue Books for Advent and Christmas have arrived and are available for pick up in the Narthex. These wonderful books have daily prayers and reflections to assist in your Christmas preparations.

DISCIPLES OF THE MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Millerville KC's are seeking Raffle or Bingo Prizes for their Pro-Life Event on Feb 2. Please call Greg Roers at 320-834-2582 or Kevin Roers @ 320-808-0391 if you are able to donate.

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Schedule

December 8

4:00 pm St. Ann, Brandon

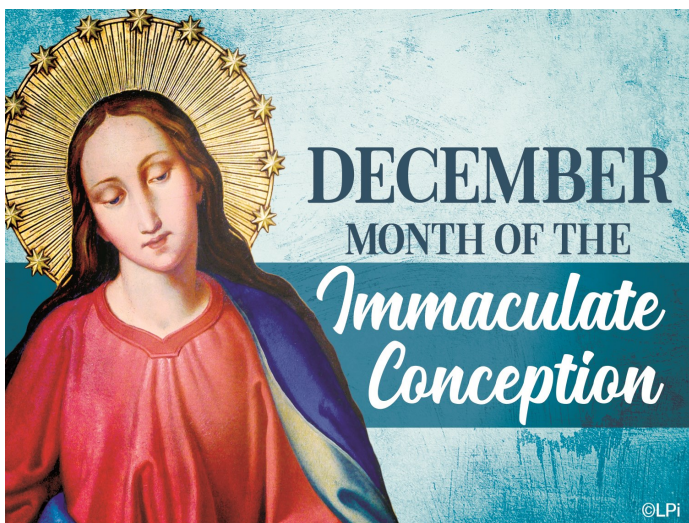
December 9

7:00 am St. William, Parkers Prairie

8:30 am St. Edward, Henning

5:00 pm Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

7:00 pm Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake



Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

4:00 pm Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

6:30 pm St. Edward, Henning

7:00 pm St. William, Parkers Prairie

December 25 Christmas Day

8:30 am St. Ann, Brandon

8:30 am St. James, Maine Twp.

10:30 am Sacred Heart, Urbank



What is a Jubilee Year?

A Holy Year of the forgiveness of sin, conversion and joyful celebration.

The word “jubilee” comes from the Hebrew word yobel, which refers to the ram’s horn used to announce a jubilee in the Old Testament.

Old Testament origins

God told Moses that every fiftieth year was to be set aside for the return of absent members to their households, the restoration of land to its owners, the release of Hebrew slaves and the forgiveness of debts.

This fiftieth year you shall make sacred by proclaiming liberty in the land for all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when every one of you shall return to his own property, every one to his own family estate. (Lev. 25:10)

Like the sabbath, which took place on the seventh day of each week, the jubilee was a time for the Israelites to re-establish a proper relationship with God and with one another.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Josh Reger, Ron Christianson, Dennis & Randi Hockert, Chris Arndt, Jim & Carol Grotheer, Kathy Wardlow, Mark Thoennes, Deb Perreault, Savanna Shepard, Terry Pauls, Patty Kenaley, David Burgoyne, Joe Hellerman, Laura Lowe, Pat McNelly, Bill Suchy, Patsy Shea, Grace Abrahamson, Nancy Benzinger, Rose Mary Peterson, Stacy Livingston, Regina Fogard, Joann Bauer, Clarence Otto, Dacia Teberg, Matthew Haugh, Don Maslow, Kathy Stratton, Angela Gilles, Therese Peterson

Have a prayer request? Please call or email the Parish Office. Names will only be published in the bulletin for parish prayers with permission from an immediate family member or from the person we are praying for. Their name will stay on for one month, unless you contact your parish secretary to keep them on.

Please Pray for a Priest each day in December

- 1-Rev. Thomas Knoblach
- 2-Rev. Jeffrey Ethen
- 3-Rev. Joseph Vandenberg
- 4-Rev. Kermit Holl, OSC
- 5-Rev. Mark Stang
- 6-Rev. Marvin Enneking
- 7-Rev. LeRoy Scheierl

Calendar of **E****V****E****N****T****S**

December

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Schedule
Holy Day of Obligation**

December 8

4:00 pm St. Ann, Brandon

December 9

7:00 am St. William, Parkers Prairie

8:30 am St. Edward, Henning

5:00 pm Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

7:00 pm Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

15-Penance Service at 1:00 pm at Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

15-Penance Service at 4:00 pm at Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Millerville

4:00 pm Our Lady of the Lake, Battle Lake

6:30 pm St. Edward, Henning

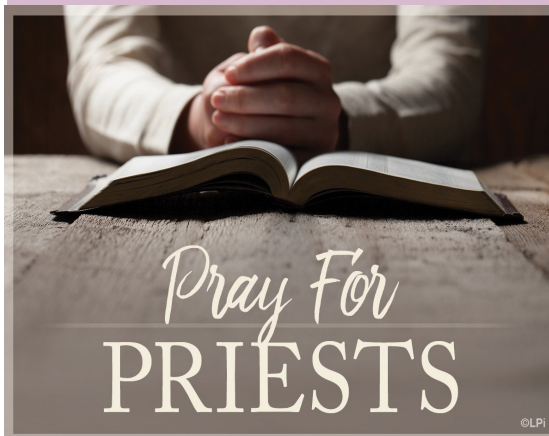
7:00 pm St. William, Parkers Prairie

December 25 Christmas Day

8:30 am St. Ann, Brandon

8:30 am St. James, Maine Twp.

10:30 am Sacred Heart, Urbank



FINANCIALS WILL BE IN NEXT WEEKS BULLETIN

Thank you!



Pope Francis December Intention:

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

A Vocation View:

Be on the watch! Allow God to lead you in the ways of truth and justice. God is calling you to serve. (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

BAPTISM

Parents are required to attend a Baptism Class before their first child is Baptized.

St Ann, Seven Dolors, Sacred Heart, St William:
Contact Rose at least 2 months in advance to schedule a baptism.

WEDDING

Contact Fr. George or Fr. Theis at least 6 months before the wedding.

RCIA

Please contact Fr. George or Fr. Theis if interested in becoming Catholic.

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 2. Click **SIGN UP**
 3. Click **I belong to a Parish**
 4. Enter zip code **56515**, that will bring up **Our Lady of the Lake**, click on that parish
 5. Click **Next**
 6. Enter your name and email address – and you are in!
- Add the app to your phone.



To install the My Parish app on your cell phone.

1. Go to your app store.
2. Search My Parish App and install.
3. Open App, Click next until you get to "Find my Parish"
4. Search for "Disciples of the Mission Area Catholic Community"
5. Create an account
6. You are in!

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