



December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

Pastor - Fr. James Starasinich
Parochial Vicar - Fr. Gregory Parrott
(For St. Joseph Parish, Sacred Heart Church and
Christ the King Church)

ST. JOSEPH

P A R I S H

512 South Elm Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060

Office Phone (507) 451-4845

Website: www.stjosephowatonna.org



Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8:30am-4:30pm

Friday 8:30am-3:00pm

Mass Schedule: Weekends

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am

Weekdays and Holy Days

(See schedule in the bulletin)

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45pm

Hope



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we begin a new liturgical year with Advent. Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, 39 states: “Advent has a two-fold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.”

The ORDO reminds us: “Advent is a time to recall the cry of the early Christians: *Maranatha!* ‘Come, Lord Jesus!’”

How interesting that we end the liturgical year focusing on Christ’s Second Coming and continuing with that theme as we begin a new liturgical year. The first three weeks will focus on the Second Coming and preparing our “minds and hearts” to meet Jesus when he comes for us, especially at our death, but also when the end will really arrive for the entire world. Starting on the 17th, we begin the novena to Christmas, and our preparations to celebrate a Christmas season that begins on the eve of the 24th and ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 8th, 2024.

My prayer is that this Advent may truly be a moment for every heart to prepare to celebrate the greatest gift, Jesus, whom the Father ardently desires to renew within us daily. Please take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent, thus making room for the King to reign in our hearts!

God Love You!!!

Fr. Jim Starasini



Weekly Readings and Mass Intentions

Monday, December 4, 2023: <i>Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11</i>	Advent Weekday - St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church 9:00am - Christ the King - Lloyd & Doris Kern†
Tuesday, December 5, 2023: <i>Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24</i>	Advent Weekday 8:00am - Collette Mullenmaster†
Wednesday, December 6, 2023: <i>Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37</i>	Advent Weekday - St. Nicholas, Bishop 8:00am - The Ralph Peabody family living & deceased
Thursday, December 7, 2023 <i>Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21,24-27</i>	St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church 8:00am - Dan Walsh† 5:30pm - Christ the King - Joyce Pribyl†
Friday, December 8, 2023 <i>Gn 3:9-15</i> <i>Eph 1:3-6, 11-12</i> <i>Lk 1:26-38</i>	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 8:00am - Dorothy & Warren Connelly† 12:10pm - Irene Jaymalin† 6:30pm - Sally Sieberg†
Saturday, December 9, 2023 <i>Is 30:19-21,23-26</i> <i>Mt 9:35 - 10:1, 5a, 6-8</i>	Advent Weekday - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin 8:00am - Marianne Warner†
Sunday, December 10, 2023 <i>Is 40: 1-5, 9-11</i> <i>2 Pt 3:8-14</i> <i>Mk 1:1-8</i>	Second Sunday of Advent 12/09/23 4:00pm - Parishioners 12/10/23 8:00am - Mark Mullally† 12/10/23 10:00am - Lanny Huemann†



December 3 – First Sunday of Advent:

As we begin Advent we are called to “Be watchful! Be alert” as we stand in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives.

Your gift to St. Vincent de Paul will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God’s love this Christmas. On Tuesday Vincent’s table served 135 hot meals to those looking for nourishment.

Membership - We meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at **6:30 p.m., at St. Joseph’s Church.** If you would like further information on growing your spiritual life and serving those in need in our community, please join us at a meeting or contact Ed Wacek at edwacek46@gmail.com.
Our phone is 507-676-5508.

Parish Staff

Pastor– Fr. James Starasinich (507) 451-4845
pastor@stjosephowatonna.org

Administrator– Al Christenson (507) 451-4845
apchristenson@stjosephowatonna.org

Parish Office– Linda Strand (507) 451-4845
parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org

Bookkeeping–Teresa Klecker
TeresaK@stjosephowatonna.org

Liturgical Music Director – Carol Hodapp
carolhodapp@gmail.com

Faith Formation Director – Brittany Boubin
shsjyouth@shsjfaithformation.org
(507) 413-6544

Maintenance– Dave Oman

Parish Website– www.stjosephowatonna.org

Facebook– <https://www.facebook.com/StJosephParishOwatonna/>

**Liturgical Ministers Schedule
December 9/10, 2023**

Saturday - 4:00pm

EMs: Dianne Unruh, 2 Volunteers

Lector: Linda Strand

Sacristan: Matt Thurnau

Ushers: Scott & Sue Yentsch
Volunteer, Volunteer

Altar Servers: Julio Letona, Volunteer

Greeters: Cynthia Letona

Sunday - 8:00am

EMs: Sue Heller, Courtney Keller

Lector: Mark Cashman

Sacristan: Linda Huffington

Ushers: Doug & Cindy Phillips
Tyler Keller, Volunteer

Altar Servers: Charlie, Sam & Jacob Dulas

Greeters: Volunteer

Sunday - 10:00am

EMs: Katie Clubb, Katie Holzerland, Vol.

Lector: Vickie Skala

Sacristan: Ruth Broumley

Ushers: Dina & Jerry Atkinson
Volunteer, Volunteer

Altar Servers: Porter Bonilla, Carson Skala

Greeters: Volunteers

Help is needed in all the ministries.

Consider sharing your God given talents at the Mass. You can sign up on the parish website at stjosephwatonna.org. (click on Liturgical Protocol & Schedules) or contact the Parish office at 451-4845.

**Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Times**

Thursday December 7

Christ the King, Medford - 5:30pm

Sacred Heart Church - 5:30pm

Friday December 8

Sacred Heart Church - 7:00am

St. Joseph Parish - 8:00am

Sacred Heart Church - 8:10am (SMS Mass)

St. Joseph Parish - 12:10pm

St. Joseph Parish - 6:30pm



**Patriotic Rosary Novena
Mondays • 6:30pm –7:30pm
Sacred Heart Church**



Please join us as we pray for peace and unity in our nation and in the world.

Especially for the conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine/Russia.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We will begin decorating St. Joseph Church Monday, Dec. 18th for the Christmas season. If you would like to volunteer to help, please call the parish office at 451-4845.

We will begin around 9am with a break for lunch around noon, (food will be provided).

Come enjoy a day of fellowship & service! All ages are welcome!

Our next Donut Sunday will be December 10th after the 8am & 10am Masses.

If you would like to help with clean up, please contact the Parish Office at 451-4845. Thank You!



**Keeping Christ in Christmas!
Parish Christmas Cards are back!**



A pack of 25 cards for \$25

St. Joseph Parish Card

featuring the beautiful mosaic of St. Joseph and the Holy Family

Sacred Heart Church Card

featuring the beautiful renovation of Sacred Heart Church

Both cards can be purchased in the parish office.

Proceeds from the sales of these cards assist the Knights of Columbus with their charitable work.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL NEWS

In the Kindergarten Readiness classes we have been talking about all of the things that we have to be thankful for. Each child wrote one thing on a feather for our turkey in the hallway. Here are some of the things that they are thankful for; Families, Grandparents, God, pets, homes, school, dogs, stuffed animals, police officers, teachers, playing games, food, the sun and



Thinking of contributing to the annual Night of Knights Auction? There is no better time than now. Check out our Amazon wish list for great items at fantastic prices! Thank you for supporting St. Mary's School.

Website Link:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2HD7YBRNPEOR0?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR2IbI1ma06wqHvSymbADMUx_CxdfawbZpQbTE3C7RMICfp_cxs0thAcIzk



Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Service Sunday December 10, 2023 6:30 PM at St. Joseph's Parish

Council 945 will hold a prayer service honoring the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 10th at 6:30 PM at St. Joseph Parish. The Feast Day is Tuesday December 12 and this prayer service is a great preparation for the Feast Day Mass at Sacred Heart. Please bring your family to raise your voices in prayers of thanksgiving and for the intercession of Our Holy and Ever Virgin Mother for life and for the world.

The Spanish Mass Team at Sacred Heart will be sponsoring the Tuesday December 12 Feast Day mass. Check the Sacred Heart Bulletin for more information. Join us for this important prayer service. We need Our Lady's help now more than ever!!

Communal Penance Service • Thursday, December 21 • 6:30pm • St. Joseph Parish

Marriage Banns

John Michael Schweisthal Jr.
wishes to contract Holy Matrimony with
Brenda Caroline De Oliveira Mendes Penha

Renewal Reminder!

Don't miss an issue of the Magnificat!
Your current subscription will end with
the December issue.

*The cost is still \$29.95! Checks can be
made payable to: St. Joseph
Parish* (please note "Magnificat" on the
envelope or memo line of the check.)

Checks can be dropped in the collection basket at
Mass or mailed to St. Joseph Parish Office.

New subscribers are welcome!

*If you plan to order a subscription for family
members out of town through St. Joseph Parish,
there is an additional fee of \$3.92 per issue to cover
the media mailing cost.*



**Building Christ's Church
Fulfilling Christ's Mission**

Appeal Goal: \$51,028.00

Current Balance: \$31,089.23

Give online: catholicfsmn.org

Envelopes are in the Gathering Space too!



Please consider becoming a Liturgical Minister at St. Joseph Church. There's something for everyone! See contact info. below:

Altar Servers – Parish Office (507)451-4845, parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org

Eucharistic Ministers – Linda Huffington (507)456-5274 (leave message) or lindamwhuffington@gmail.com

Greeters – Wayne & Betty Kubicek (507)451-8683, bj-n-me@hotmail.com

Homebound Ministries – Vickie Skala (507)456-2230, vskala9174@gmail.com

Lectors – Linda Strand (507)363-2596, strand619@gmail.com

Music Ministry – Carol Hodapp (507)213-6981, carolhodapp@gmail.com

Sacristans – Ellyn Jardine (507)-444-4088, leej7@reagan.com

Ushers – Pat Rose (507)456-1146 rosepatp@gmail.com

Pre-Cana is an opportunity for engaged couples to prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony. They will learn about the beauty of Marriage as a sacrament and about how they can be an effective sign of Christ's presence to each other, to their future children and to those around them. Pre-Cana is a full day event that takes place on a Saturday through the Diocese of Winona-Rochester. For more information and for registration, please visit the Office of Life, Marriage & Family's website:



<https://www.dowr.org/offices/life-marriage-family/marriage-preparation.html>

Pre – Cana Dates for 2024:

January 27, 2024 - Newman Center, MSU, Mankato
March 2, 2024 - St. Charles Borromeo, St. Charles
May 18, 2024 - Newman Center, MSU, Mankato



Toys for Tots & Family to Family of Steele County work together to provide a Christmas for needy children, age 15 & younger and families in Steele County. You can help this year by taking an Angel tag from the tree and return it with an unwrapped gift to the Toys for Tots drop box in the Gathering Hall or Parish Office.

The final day for toy donations is Thursday, Dec. 14th!

If you would prefer to donate money, please send a gift card or check to:

Toys for Tots PO Box 199
Owatonna, MN 55060



Thank you for your generous donations!

December Funeral Chairpersons

Linda Rice 451-3606
Diane McShane 456-0492

Contact the parish office if you would like to help with funeral luncheons. 451-4845

Owatonna KC Council 945 Benefit Breakfast for

Catholic Daughters of the Americas & Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival

Sunday, December 3rd • 8am - 12pm

St. Mary's School Cafeteria

Advance tickets are \$9 or \$10 at the door (free under 6)



Two sensational breakfast choices and table service!

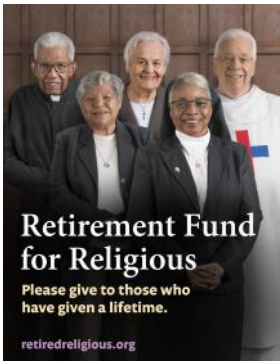
KC Omelet Breakfast: 3 egg omelet selections
KC Country Breakfast: eggs fried or scrambled, ham or sausage. All served with pancakes or french toast, milk, or coffee.

Come and get your pictures taken with Santa! The KC Chorus will be singing all your favorite Christmas songs!

Tickets are available in the Parish office.



For all the latest news from Christ the King Church Medford, MN. Scan the QR Code!



**Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious
December 10, 2023**

You can help. “Religious are blessed to serve,” says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious next week. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior siters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their

lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously. Return the designated envelope in next weekend’s collection. You may also give online at retiredreligious.org

The Catholic Education Memorial Fund (CEMF) has been supporting Catholic education in Steele County for almost 50 years. Founded in 1974 as a perpetual endowment, the CEMF distributes income from the invested principal to St. Mary’s School and the Religious Education Program. While some growth in the principal is expected from investment appreciation, real growth cannot be achieved without contributions to the fund from the Catholic community. To find out more about the CEMF and how you can support Catholic education in Steele County for decades to come, please visit the website at cemfowatonna.com – or contact any of the current Board members: Jane Kubista, Brian Haggerty, Tim McManimon, Dean Velzke, Ron Kubicek, or Stephen Nelson.

**Family Holy Hour | December 3, 2023
Sacred Heart Church | 4:00 - 5:00pm**

Open to all ages and demographics - single, married, and with or without children.

Presided by Monsignor Thomas Cook

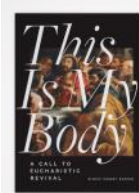
Free Event | Dinner will follow

Order The Praying Family Advent Pack by either purchasing a pack at this event, or ask you local Faith Formation Coordinator to fill out The Praying Family Order Form.



Final reading of Bishop Barron’s book on the Eucharist with Fr. Jim will be Wednesday, December 6th after 8 AM Mass.

All welcome to join us.



The 2024 Catholic Family Appointment Calendars are available in the Gathering Hall.

These calendars are provided by the following businesses:

- Haberman’s Picture Framing**
- Brick-Meger Funeral Home**
- Curly Girlz Candy**
- Owatonna Bus Company**

Seven Sisters Apostolate



A Seven Sister: One Holy Hour, One Priest, Each Week, One Heart of Prayer

St. Joseph Parish has formed with Sacred Heart a Seven Sisters group who are praying for Father Jim, Monsignor Cook, and Father Parrott. We are looking for women to commit to pray one Holy Hour each week, on a specific day for them. Without our wonderful priests to celebrate Holy Mass, distribute the Eucharist, hear Confessions, Anoint the Sick and dying, and a multitude of other religious works priests are called to do as ordained men of God—we would be lost souls. **We are in need of women willing to pray on**

Saturdays and Sundays. If you can commit to praying one Holy Hour per week on a given day, please contact Bridget Kluesner at kluesner.bb@usfamily.net or 612-867-2673. Men are welcome to serve as substitute prayer warriors. The greatest gift we can give Fr. Jim, Monsignor Cook, and Fr. Parrott is our prayer! Won’t you join us?

No meetings, no dues—you pick the place, time and day! Your reward will be eternal! You can read all about this world-wide apostolate at <http://www.sevensistersapostolate.org/>

We started with 7 groups of Seven Sisters in 2011 in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and now have over 3,500 groups worldwide.

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