December 8th, 2019
Second Sunday of Advent

It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: “A voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’”
~ MT 3:3

The Young Adult Gospel Discussion will meet today following the 9 AM Mass in the Nazareth House, 3144 Zarthan Avenue. No preparation or RSVP is required for this casual discussion. Please contact Mary Fink with any questions at 763.307.3947 or email mary.stlucy@gmail.com.

Even though it is Advent, we can look forward to the coming Christmas festivities by stocking up on treats and gifts for our loved ones. All proceeds will benefit our altar and sacristy needs.

Come shop for the best Christmas Cookies and Treasures!

+ CHRISTMAS COOKIES
+ CANDY CORNER
+ BAKED GOODS
+ DELICIOUS FOOD
+ RAFFLE BASKETS
+ FLEECE BLANKETS
+ ST. NICK’S DOLLAR STORE
+ GIFT GALLERY
**DIRECTORY**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Church Office</td>
<td>952.929.0113</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Maintenance</td>
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<td><strong>General Staff</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Altar &amp; Rosary Society</td>
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<td>Mary Barron</td>
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<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
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<td>Mark McCarthy</td>
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**Please see the parish website www.hfcmn.org for contact information for other Apostolates.**

If you or someone you know is in need of emergency assistance, please contact:

**STEP Emergency Program:** 952.925.4899

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**PASTOR’S COLUMN**

**“PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT AS EVIDENCE OF YOUR REPENTANCE”**

Saint John the Baptist is one of those characters in scripture that you wouldn’t necessarily like to meet. Today’s Gospel gives us the reason why: he makes us uncomfortable! His diet certainly gives us a queasy feeling, but more so his preaching. St. John challenges us to repent—and then to prove it!

The Pharisees saw no need of repentance. They thought that they were just fine as they were. They meticulously observed the externals of Jewish religious observance…but their hearts were far away from the merciful heart of God. They paid lip service to being godly but Saint John the Baptist condemned them. He demanded that they produce more than fine words about God. He wanted proof of their actual repentance.

We don’t often think of Advent as a time for repentance like Lent. Yet, the readings and prayers of the Church’s liturgy show us that this time is meant to help us in our ongoing conversion. It is a season of preparation and not yet of celebration. Most importantly, we are preparing not only for the historical remembrance of the birth of Jesus the Messiah but also for His second coming as Judge.

Are we open to the challenge of Advent as well as the joy? Can we be truly joyful except in humbly acknowledging that we desperately need a savior and He has come? Do we show proof of our repentance or merely go through the external motions of religion?

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**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

**Grateful Hearts – Forward in Faith**

We continue to inch closer to our stretch goal of $5 million—keep praying! Many thanks to all those who have already generously sacrificed to get us this far!

We are also working with the city staff and our architects to finalize the design of our new facility. By Christmas we hope to obtain city approval and have a display to show you what it will look like!

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**A PRAYER FOR OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Loving Father,
our grateful hearts are filled with joy as we remember your blessings.

We look forward in faith, trusting your providence to guide us by the light of the Holy Spirit.

Make us generous in your service and direct our present efforts to build a parish life center where your family of faith may continue to flourish for generations to come.

Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

“The Church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come again. When we remove all obstacles to His presence, He will come, at any hour and moment, to dwell spiritually in our hearts, bringing with Him the riches of His grace.” ~ St. Charles Borromeo

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**STAY CONNECTED**

Get updates through Holy Family’s communication tool, Flocknote. You’ll get weekly updates from the parish, as well as any timely updates from the groups you join (e.g. Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament).

**JOIN FLOCKNOTE:**
1. Visit www.flocknote.com/HFC - or - Text HFCMN to 84576
2. Fill in your information and join those groups that pertain to you. Please be sure to join the group representing your regional neighborhood.
3. You can log in anytime to change what groups you follow!

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!**
“Like” Holy Family on Facebook to get updates on parish life, Catholic topics around the archdiocese, and upcoming parish events! For the Church, click the button on the homepage at www.hfcmn.org. For HFA, click the button at www.hfamn.org.
ADVENT AT HOLY FAMILY


SPECIAL EVENTS

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION—MONDAY, DEC. 9TH
8 AM & 5 PM Masses
We ask for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title by which we honor her as patroness of the United States. Because December 8th falls on a Sunday this year, this solemnity is transferred to Monday so remains a holy day but it is not obligatory for the faithful to attend Mass. We still hope many people will want to honor Our Lady and ask for her prayers for our nation as we head into an election year!

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE FIESTA—SUNDAY, DEC. 15TH
Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, always falls near the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We thus take the rejoicing of this Sunday of Advent and combine it with honoring the Blessed Mother with the special title under which the popes have crowned her “Empress of America”!
11 AM Mass: Bring the Baby Jesus figurine from your nativity scene for the “Blessing of the Bambinelli” during Mass so it will be all ready to display come Christmas Eve!
12:15 PM: Mexican Fiesta downstairs in Fr. Moorman Hall (free-will offering but advance registration required)
RSVP for the luncheon at [www.hfcmn.org/events/lady-Guadalupe](http://www.hfcmn.org/events/lady-Guadalupe) by noon on Monday, Dec. 9th
1 -2 PM: Kid-friendly activities in Fr. Moorman Hall after lunch such as the ever popular piñatas!

Come experience these beautiful devotions, delicious food, and lots of fun for the whole family!

Parish Advent Confession Night—Wednesday, Dec. 18th
A number of priests are joining us to help you avoid long lines at the confessional in the days preceding Christmas. Come for confessions 7-9 PM!

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Advent Angels
We have a number of parishioners who are not able to afford to buy Christmas gifts for their families. If you would like to help them in this season of giving and become an Advent Angel, now is your chance! You can purchase for a single person or commit to an entire family. To participate or to find out more, please contact Lori Gonzales at 612.426.8254 or email adventangels@hfcmn.org Thank you for your generosity!

MUSIC

Holy Family Academy Advent Concerts—Thursday, Dec. 19th
Come enjoy the sounds of the seasons from the students of Holy Family Academy. Concerts are in the church, light refreshments after each concert in Fr. Moorman Hall, Church basement.
2:30 PM Pre-K thru 3rd Grade
3:30 PM 4th Grade thru 8th Grade

SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP

“Stewardship is not about raising money; it’s about raising Christians who willingly trust God.”
– Unknown

Contributions for Weekend of November 23-24, 2019
Member Envelopes $13,099.00
Online Giving $6,858.05
Plate $709.59
Total Contributions $20,666.64
Second Collection:
The Care Fund $1,181.06

Contributions for Weekend of November 30-December 1, 2019
Member Envelopes $12,108.00
Online Giving $7,038.05
Plate $1,117.50
Total Contributions $20,263.55
Second Collection:
Altar & Rosary Society $955.25

This week’s and next week’s Second Collection will benefit the Care Fund which meets the emergency needs of Holy Family parishioners and the wider community.

Thank you for your generosity!

Stewardship Note:
Even when the second collection goes to another organization, please fill out all checks to “Holy Family Catholic Church” with the name of the second collection on the memo line; the church then is able to write one check to the organization.

FROM PARISH OFFICE

Welcome Our Newest Staff Member
We welcome Mark Eldridge (pictured here) as our new Facilities Manager. Trever Bergman, who has served in the role since July 2015, will continue to assist us and Mark during the transition and then continue in a part-time maintenance capacity.

Bulletin Submissions
Please submit written bulletin content to carrie.havlicek@hfcmn.org by Monday, December 9th for the December 22nd bulletin.
**Mass Intentions**

Sun. Dec. 8th Mary Jane & Linus Thell † 9:00 AM
Sun. Dec. 8th For the Parish 11:00 AM
Mon. Dec. 9th Holy Family Academy Staff 8:00 AM
Mon. Dec. 9th For our nation 5:00 PM
Tues. Dec.10th Ione Hurly † 8:00 AM
Wed. Dec.11th Paul & Lara Rampetsreiter Family 8:00 AM
Thu. Dec.12th Carol Youngberg † 8:00 AM
Fri. Dec.13th Mike Jeremiah 8:00 AM
Sat. Dec.14th Luke Delaney † 5:00 PM
Sun. Dec.15th For the Parish 9:00 AM
Sun. Dec.15th Katy Kurimay † 11:00 AM

**Here at Holy Family**

**Pester the Pastor!**
Please join other parishioners in Fr. Moorman Hall at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, December 11th for a "Pester the Pastor" edition of Wednesday Donuts! Enjoy attempting to stump Fr. Joseph with your hardest questions about the Faith!

**Blessing of Expectant Mothers**
All expectant mothers are invited to receive a special blessing next week, Sunday, December 15th at 10:30 AM. Please come to the communion rail. Family is welcome to attend!

**Theology à la Carte**
Youth group activities are open to all current 8-12 graders with a welcome to recent Youth Group alumni. We will meet in the Nazareth House on Sunday, December 15th from 6-8 PM for pizza, snacks, night prayer, etc. Sorry for the confusion last weekend.

**December Christmas Potluck Saints & Sinners Dinner**
For December, our monthly, community-building, small-group dinners will be changed to be one, big potluck dinner so that we can all celebrate Christmas together! Come to re-kindle friendships or get to meet new people and celebrate the Christmas season as a family of faith!

Who: All adult singles and couples of the parish (21+)
What: A fun way for parishioners to meet in a relaxed, informal atmosphere over a meal
Where: Fr. Moorman Hall, lower level of Holy Family Catholic Church
When: **Friday, December 27th at 6:30 PM**
How: Please sign up online www.hfcmn.org/news/monthly-potlucks **RSVP by Sunday, December 22nd**

**Youth Group (Teens)**

**Carolining—Friday, Dec. 20th**
All Holy Family teens and friends are invited to our 4th annual neighborhood caroling party on Come warmly dressed and meet in the church for Vespers at 6:30 PM. We will then carol, visiting the nearby homes of parishioners and Fr. Joseph! Song sheets provided. Hot chocolate and snacks provided afterwards in Fr. Moorman Hall. Parents, you are invited to bring cookies and help serve! Email Elizabeth at elizabeth.brown@hfcmn.org with questions/to offer cookies.

**FORMED.ORG**

Gain free access to Catholic movies, books, audio recordings and more, by registering at www.hfcmn.formed.org!

This week’s recommendation:

**FORMED: Redemptoris Mater**
Reflect on the Model of our Faith, Mary, during this season of anticipation, delving into the only encyclical Saint John Paul II wrote about her. To access this eBook, click on the search tab at www.Formed.org, and enter “Redemptoris Mater,” following the download instructions. Enjoy!

**Pastor’s Picks**

From a bookish priest, some recommended reading:

**The Great Adventure Storybook: A walk through the Catholic Bible**

This is a great resource for teaching your children about the Bible written by a team of authors including one of our own parishioners! You don’t have to be an expert in Scripture—this book gives you all the tools you need. The stories of the Bible are the ways God reveals His Love to us. Get this as a Christmas gift for your family and then make reading it with your children part of your Sunday routine!
YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18-39)

For those in their 20’s and 30’s, the following are a series of activities designed to promote both fellowship and the faith. Contact Adrian Ahlquist at youngadults@hfcmn.org for more information about any of the following events:

VESPERs / FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP
Thursday evening, December 12th, young adults gather for evening prayer – open to everyone, in the church at 6:30 PM. From 7-9 PM, they meet in the Nazareth House (behind the church parking lot) for prayer, discussion, and socializing each week. Initial evenings will focus on faith and culture. There is never any homework for Thursday evenings—just show up!

ONGOING WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES
*Sunday Gospel Discussion about the Scriptures from Mass following the 9AM Mass in the Nazareth House. No homework – just show up!
www.facebook.com/pg/holyfamilyya/community/

*Friday evenings “Indoor Sports Night” hosted by West Metro Young Adults. Friday, December 13, 7 PM at St. Gabriel’s (St. John’s Campus) 6 Interlachen Blvd. in Hopkins. Check out their webpage for more events www.facebook.com/pg/westmetroya/events/

HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY

ADVENT WORK OF MERCY: BABIES IN BETHLEHEM
Again this year, the children of Holy Family Academy are collecting alms for the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem, a maternity and neonatal hospital just 1,500 steps from the birthplace of Christ. Like Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, families today in Bethlehem are in need of care. By collecting donations to support Holy Family Hospital this Advent season, we will share the gift of a safe and healthy birth with a mother and baby thousands of miles away. You too can make a difference! Please join us in prayer for the success of this mission, or if you would like to contribute financially, bring a check to the Holy Family Academy office with “Babies in Bethlehem” in the memo. Alternatively, you can donate online at www.birthplaceofhope.org. Thank you!

SHOP ON AMAZONSMILE FOR HFA!
Shop on Amazon?
Instead, shop on AmazonSmile (www.smile.amazon.com), and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of price of eligible items purchased to HFA (On your first visit to AmazonSmile, before you begin shopping, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization- please choose Holy Family Academy). From then on, each eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation to our school! Thank you!

DINE OUT FOR SCHOOLS!
Holy Family Academy will receive 5% of sales from Parkway Pizza, all day on Tuesday, December 16th. Parkway Pizza is located at the corner of Dakota Avenue & Minnetonka Blvd.

NOTE FROM THE KNIGHTS

The Knights of Columbus St. Louis Council #3949 would like to thank the parishioners of Holy Family Church for supporting our September pancake breakfast. Due to your generous support, the Knights contributed $1,000 to the Robbinsdale Women's Center (RWC), a life affirming organization. More info about the RWC is available at www.mychoicetwincities.com. Please contact Grand Knight Tim Heeren at GrandKnight@KofC3949.org with any questions or comments.

VOCATIONS CORNER

ARCHBISHOP’S DISCERNMENT RETREAT
Saturday, December 28 at 5 PM – Monday, December 30 at 1 PM, Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, MN
The Director of Vocations offers this annual retreat with talks by Archbishop Bernard Hebda. This is for men discerning priesthood who are seniors in high school to age 50. This retreat is a wonderful opportunity to gain clarity in your discernment process and to meet other men who desire to follow Christ and to know his will for their lives. Register online at 10000vocations.org.

TRAVELING CHALICE
We welcome more families to sign up for the traveling chalice and to pray for vocations in their homes for one week. The chalice with the prayers are exchanged at church on Sunday in the Sacristy. Please contact Phyllis with questions 612.702.3735 or email thegconnect@aol.com to sign up. Thank you for praying for vocations!

The exchange is at the 9 AM Mass
- Dec. 8 Tim & Liz Toenjes Family
- Dec. 15 Paul & Kathy Fink Family
- Dec. 22 Nate & Jenny Bullard Family
- Dec. 29 Daniel & Hope Dobson Family

MESSAGE FROM VOCATIONS DIRECTOR:
Are you called to be “A herald's voice in the desert” preparing the way of the Lord in the hearts of His people? If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at 651.962.6890 or email Fr. David Blume frblume@stthomas.edu.
### Calendar

#### Sunday, December 8
- **8:00 AM** Confessions
- **9:00 AM** Mass
- **9:00 AM** Sugar Plum Days, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **10:00 AM** Young Adult Gospel Discussion, Nazareth House
- **11:00 AM** Mass

#### Monday, December 9
- **8:00 AM** Mass
- **8:30 AM** Lectio Divina Small Group, St. Joseph Room
- **8:45 AM** FIAT Mothers Group, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **Noon** Deadline to RSVP for Our Lady of Guadalupe Fiesta 952.929.0113
- **3:00 PM** Widow & Widowers Holy Hour, Adoration Chapel
- **5:00 PM** Mass
- **7:00 PM** Squires for Christ, Fr. Wilkins Room
- **7:00 PM** Respect Life Committee, St. Joseph Room

#### Tuesday, December 10
- **7:30 AM** Confessions
- **8:00 AM** Mass
- **9:00 AM** Scripture Study, Fr. Wilkins Room
- **3:30 PM** Youth Choir, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **7:00 PM** Neocatechumenal Way, Fr. Wilkins Room

#### Wednesday, December 11
- **7:30 AM** Confessions
- **8:00 AM** Mass
- **8:30 AM** Donut Wednesday, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **9:00 AM** Children’s Holy Hour, Adoration Chapel
- **9:30 AM** Pester the Pastor, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **6:30 PM** Confirmation Class, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **6:30 PM** Religious Ed Class, School
- **6:30 PM** Gr.10-12 “Lessons with Fr. Mike Schmitz”, Nazareth House

#### Thursday, December 12
- **7:30 AM** Confessions
- **8:00 AM** Mass
- **1:00 PM** Merciful Love Prayer Group, St. Joseph Room
- **3:30 PM** Youth Choir, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **6:30 PM** Vespers-Young Adults, Nazareth House
- **7:00 PM** Young Adults Faith & Fellowship, Fr. Wilkins Room
- **7:00 PM** R.C.I.A, School, Room 305
- **7:00 PM** Parish Choir, Choir Loft

#### Friday, December 13
- **7:30 AM** Confessions
- **8:00 AM** Mass
- **1:00 PM** Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction
- **3:30 PM** Confessions, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **6:30 PM** Vespers-Young Adults, Nazareth House
- **7:00 PM** R.C.I.A, School, Room 305
- **7:00 PM** Parish Choir, Choir Loft

#### Saturday, December 14
- **9:00 AM** Dante’s Divine Comedy, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **3:30 PM** Confessions, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **4:45 PM** Benediction, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **5:00 PM** Mass, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **6:30 PM** Friendship Club, Fr. Moorman Hall

#### Sunday, December 15
- **8:00 AM** Confessions
- **9:00 AM** Mass
- **10:00 AM** Young Adult Gospel Discussion, Nazareth House
- **10:30 AM** Blessing of Expectant Mothers, Church
- **11:00 AM** Mass, Fr. Moorman Hall
- **12:00 PM** Our Lady of Guadalupe Fiesta, Nazareth House
- **6:00 PM** Theology à la carte

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### Archdiocesan Synod

**Come Holy Spirit**

*Make our ears to hear*

*Make our eyes to see*

*Make our mouths to speak*

*Make our hearts to seek*

*Make our hands to reach out*

*And touch the world with your love.*

**AMEN.**

*Mary, Mother of the Church,*

*Pray for us.*

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### Around the Archdiocese

#### Chesterton Academy Sophomore Play
Come and join Chesterton Academy in our West Campus theater at 1320 Main Street, Hopkins, for our sophomore comedy entitled: "Game Called: Because of Murder" A locker room mystery by Dale Ahlquist and directed by Laura Ahlquist. The event will take place on December 12 & 14 and December 19 & 20 at 6:30 PM. It is sure to be a suspenseful night. Watch for ticket sales at www.chestertonacademy.org.

#### Providence Academy High School Admissions Open House
Thursday, January 9, 6-8:15 PM
Providence Academy invites families of rising 9th-12th grade students to join us at our Winter Open House. Families will get an overview of our high school, have an opportunity to meet our school administrators and faculty, and tour the campus. For more information or to RSVP, call 763.258.2502.

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For this week’s daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings
Join in with the many opportunities to prepare your heart and share joy this Advent season at www.hfcmn.org/news/advent-2019.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Children’s Christmas Eve Pageant**
All children (ages 5-12) from Holy Family are invited to participate in the Nativity Pageant just before the 4 PM Christmas Eve Mass. There is a mandatory rehearsal on Saturday, December 21st from 9-11 AM. We are looking for shepherds and angels and a few lead roles. We can provide some costumes but if you have your own, please bring it. The special parts of Mary, Joseph, the Christmas Star and the Angel Gabriel, will be drawn at 9 AM the day of the rehearsal. Please arrive on time. Call Marilyn Grutsch 952.240.6191 or Katie Norton 952.221.9413 if your child is interested in being in the drawing.

**Christmas Potluck: Special December “Saints & Sinners” Get-Together**
Save December 27th to attend this celebration, see page 4 for more details.

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITY**

**Decorating the Church for Christmas**
+ It will soon be time to decorate the Church for Christmas, so please check your calendars in advance and schedule in a bit of time to help.
  On Monday, December 16th we will put up ALL the trees, large and small! Many hands are needed to shape the trees and put the lights on (men, you are particularly needed!) Please meet in Fr. Moorman Hall after the 8AM Mass (adults only please, due to the nature of the work.) After coffee and a donut you will be given instructions; we will start work at 9:30 AM.
+ On Monday, December 23rd, the Liturgical Decorating Committee will finish the remaining decorating: wreaths, banners, and poinsettias. After the 8 AM Mass, come to Fr. Moorman Hall for a cup of coffee and a few instructions. Work will begin at approximately 9 AM. Thank you for your time and assistance! If you have questions, call Sharon at 952.999.4890.

**Tree for Life**
Starting Monday, Dec. 9th in the back of the church can be found the “Tree for Life.” This tree will be decorated with ornaments indicating items needed for parents who have chosen life for their babies. If you are able to donate an item, please choose an ornament. Place your new, unwrapped gift, with the ornament attached, under the tree by January 6. The unwrapped donations will be taken to the Robbinsdale Women’s Center and Southwest Options for Women. Thank you for your generosity!

**DONATE A POINSETTIA**
You are invited to help decorate the sanctuary this Christmas by donating a beautiful poinsettia plant! The cost per plant is $10.00. For your convenience, either put your offering in any weekend collection basket (you can enclose it in the “Christmas Flower Offering” envelope included with your donation envelopes), or go to www.hfcmn.org/donate-poinsettias. Thank You!

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**EUSTHETIC ADORATION**

**Please pray for:**

- Linda Kraemer †
- Elinor Shaw †
- Bishop Paul Sirba †
- Jacob (grandson of Mark & Maureen Fischer)

To request prayers, go to www.hfcmn.org/prayer-requests, or call the parish office 952.929.0113. Submitted prayer intentions will be shared via “Prayer Partners” Flocknote messages and the bulletin for one week per request.

**WEDDINGS**

Please congratulate

Sam Pellegrene & Allie Wooden
and
Maxwell Majkowski & Mariah Brown
on recently being joined in the holy sacrament of marriage.

**INTERCESSIONS**

Currently, the times of our greatest need are:

- Sundays: 3-4 PM
- Mondays: Midnight– 1 AM, & 1-2 PM
- Tuesdays: 8:30-10 AM, Noon-1 PM & 5-6 PM
- Wednesdays: 3-4 PM
- Thursdays: 1-2 AM, 3-4 PM & 8-9 PM
- Fridays: 1-2 PM
- Saturdays: 2-3 PM

We urgently need adorers to fill the times in red.