

St. Joseph + St. Matthew + St. Teresa

Good Thunder

Vernon Center

Mapleton

The Catholic
Diocese of
Winona

Welcome!

We're here to help you begin or continue your faith journey, so you can find true peace, happiness and purpose in life. If you would like to join one of our parishes, contact any staff member and we will be honored to officially welcome you home!

Tri-Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m. at St. Joseph (1st, 3rd, 5th)
At St. Matthew (2nd, 4th)
Sunday 9:00 am at St. Teresa

Weekdays: Please see Inside Bulletin

Holy Days See Inside Bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration held before daily Mass

Tri-Parish Office

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm
Address: 104 West Silver Street
Mapleton, Minnesota 56065
Phone: (507) 524-3127
Email: sjsmst@hickorytech.net
Website: www.sjsmst.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SJSMST
Mass Times: (507) 387-8806

Tri-Parish Staff

Father Jason Kern, Pastor
(507) 524-4628
frjkern@hickorytech.net

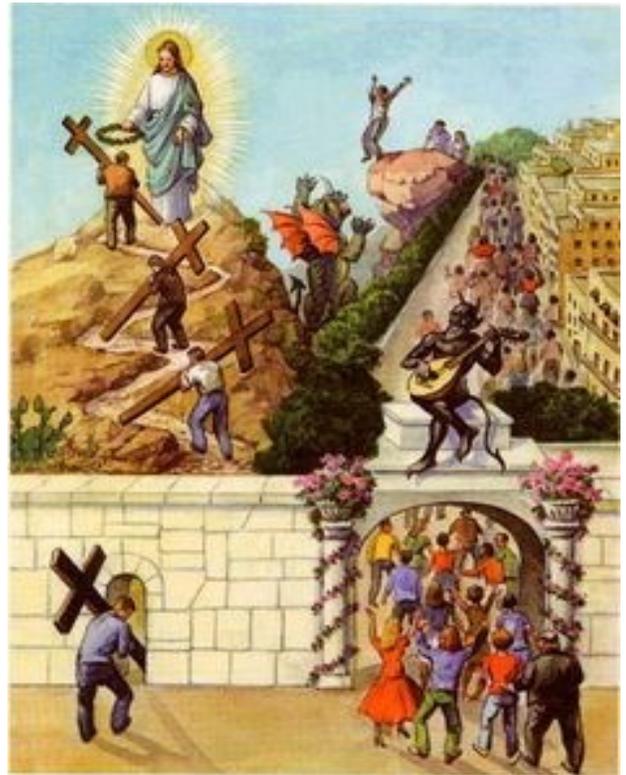
Deacon Chris Walchuk
(507) 469-5563
cwalchuk@frontier.com

Carol Cyr, Tri-parish Manager
(507) 524-3127
sjsmst@hickorytech.net

Darla Graf, Bookkeeper
(507) 524-4646
darlatp@hickorytech.net

Jonah Lippert
Tri-parish Director of
Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
(507) 327-2767
tri-parish.youthminister@gmail.com

August 21, 2016
Twenty-first Sunday
in Ordinary Time



Strive to enter through the narrow gate,
for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter
but will not be strong enough. Luke 13:24

The Sacrament of Baptism

Pre-Baptism preparation is required. Please contact the office at least one month before the desired date.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick Please notify the office if you or a family member is in the hospital or homebound and would like a pastoral visit.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

One half hour before each weekend Mass, 8a.m. Thursday at St. Teresa or by private appt. with Fr. Kern

The Sacrament of Marriage

All Catholics need to meet with the priest or deacon at least 6 months before being married. Contact the office at least 6 months in advance of your wedding.



From the Heart by Fr. Jason Kern

This week the Tri-Parish met to discuss our plans with the Faith Formation Program of our Tri-Parish. I want to thank everyone who came to this initial meeting to hear about our visioning and plans that have come about with the Faith Formation Committee over the last few months. The meeting was a first step in casting a new vision to help build our programs in the best way we can to hand on the faith to the next generation. It was exciting for some and sobering for others.

At this time it has been announced that our Tri-Parish has made the decision to reduce the number of sites where Faith Formation is going to be offered. For this coming year, in order that we might best consolidate our catechists, resources, and energy, as well as have the best opportunity to share a cohesive vision and approach to teaching the faith, we will have Faith Formation classes available at St. Teresa and St. Matthew churches on Wednesday nights. Because we are implementing a cohesive curriculum we will be offering the same schedule on the same nights at either church.

While it might be difficult to imagine not having faith formation at your church, I cannot help but be compelled at this decision as the best way we can teach the faith to our children is to find people who are dedicated, devoted, and willing to put in the time of preparation. Not simply reducing this change to catechists or sites, we are attempting to bring unity to our teachings and provide the best opportunities for our program to give the youth in every time and place the conditions for a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. By reducing our duplication of energies we maximize the potential for creating opportunities for the youth to learn and live the faith.

This decision has not been made lightly, nor will the evaluation of it be done swiftly. We will continue to evaluate what the future holds and attempt to plan as best we can for the next steps ahead. Classes will continue to be held on Wednesday nights.

Parents, please mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 7th. We will meet at 6pm at St. Joseph Church in Good Thunder to unfold the plan, vision, and everything you can look forward to for your children. I invite young parents who do not have children in our program yet to come as well to see what the future looks like.

Change is difficult yet inevitable. I appreciate all those who have called, written, spoken, or emailed me their input and considerations. I am most appreciative of those who have been involved in our youth faith formation committee as we have had to fight, claw, and struggle to these decisions and others. Please pray for the direction of our parishes and keep hope alive. By uniting our energy we provide ourselves with more opportunity, not less. I am actually convinced that by doing nothing we would be doing ourselves more damage than by taking these actions to move us ahead.



Mass Intentions, Readings, Saints

Monday, August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12; Psalm 96:1-5; Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 23

St. Rose of Lima

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, 14-17; Psalm 96:10-13; Matthew 23:23-26

Rosary for Vocations 8:30 a.m. at St. Joseph

Wednesday, August 24

St. Bartholomew

Revelation 21:9-14; Psalm 145:10-13, 17-18; John 1:45-51

4:15 p.m. Rosary for our country at St. Teresa

Thursday, August 25

St. Louis

St. Joseph Calasanz

1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Psalm 145:2-7; Matthew 24:42-51

7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction

8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa † *Howard La Fleur*

Friday, August 26

1 Corinthians 1:17-25; Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Matthew 25:1-13

10:30 a.m. Mass at MCH † *Anna Breiter*

Saturday, August 27

St. Monica

1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Psalm 33:12-13, 18-21; Matthew 25:14-30

7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction

8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa † *Fr. Don Leary*

5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Matthew *People of the tri-parish*

Sunday, August 28

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Psalm 68:4-7, 10-11; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24; Luke 14:1, 7-14

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa † *Duane Denn*

Meetings and Events in the tri-parish

Wednesday, Sept. 7 6 p.m. At St. Joseph Church
Meeting for all parents of faith formation
students in the tri-parish

I want to conclude today with a final thank you. Since I arrived here three years ago, Cathy Wittrock has come weekly or every other week to clean the offices and rectory. However, she not only did this for 3 years, she has done it for over 30 years. She promised me that she did not decide to let go of this duty because I was the messiest resident in her time! She has done a great job in this paid position and I am most grateful for her service to me and the Church and her respect for the space. Thanks Cathy! You will be missed.



God, grant healing and peace to the sick of our communities who have requested our prayers:

Jan Samuelson, George Pluym, Jerry Wersal, Angie Gartner, Jim Carey, Kitty Cumbee, Aubrielle Catherine Howley, Bill O'Brien, Lloyd Mitchell

If you or a member of your family would like our prayers, please call 524-3127 and ask to be put on this prayer list. Each name will remain on the list for eight weeks unless the office is notified to leave the name for a longer amount of time.

Faith Formation

On September 2 & 3 the youth group of the tri-parish will be running the Brat Stand at Dietz's.

Please come out and support the youth as they work to raise funds for the many summer events and trips.

To the youth: *Remember, if you attended the mission trip, Steubenville, or Camp Summit, and did not work two fundraisers per event you will be charged for the amount of the trip. This brat stand is the last chance to get your hours in. There are sign up sheets in the gathering space to pick a time to work. Adults are also needed to help with this fundraiser.*

Steubenville North Reunion Night!

Wednesday, August 31



Meet at St. John the Baptist in Minn Lake at 6:15 p.m. for Adoration –(Holy 1/2 Hour) afterwards we will walk to the lake for food, games, fun, and a bonfire on the north shore ending around 9:30 p.m. Come and relight the fire!

Parish News



St Joseph Festival in the Park

~ Sunday, September 11

Mass at St. Joseph Church at Noon,

Family Fun until 3:00

Live Music by Culture Bend.

Food! Pork Sandwich, home made goodies, and more!

Free Will Offering

Silent Auction and Bake Sale!

Come Worship with us and then enjoy...

games, great food, relaxation and great conversation!

Invite your family and friends to join in the festivities.

All are welcome! All the time.

Need something interesting to listen to in the car, or read on a hot summer night? Here is your answer...

Thanks to a generous donation from a St. Teresa parishioner, we were able to purchase a kiosk from the Augustine Institute. This will make available to all tri-parish parishioners a large variety of good, Catholic reading and listening materials. There will be books, booklets, CD's, and DVD's available from some of the top Catholic speakers and authors of our time. This is a great opportunity to spend some time learning about the faith and becoming closer to Jesus Christ. The kiosk will be set up in the St. Teresa Gathering Space.

The **Catholic Home Missions Appeal combined with the Black and Native American Mission Appeal** will take place next week. One way the Home Mission Appeal works is by supporting seminarian formation in poor dioceses. The blessing of seminarians places a financial burden on these dioceses because educating each seminarian costs \$35-40 thousand per year. Your support is needed for these young men so that they might go back and serve their parishes.

The funds collected for the Black and Native American Mission Appeal, which began in 1884 as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing, are distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States, supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which otherwise would cease.

Please strengthen the church at home by making a generous gift to next week's appeal.



Tri-parish Family Picnic Sponsored by St. Teresa Church Sunday, August 21

Begin with 9 a.m. Mass, games and fellowship after Mass Live auction at 10:30 a.m.
Lunch begins at 11 a.m.

Grilled pork riblet sandwiches and beverages will be provided Bring a dish to pass
More Games will be held after lunch.
Come and enjoy time with your parish family!

Be the living expression of God's kindness; kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting."

~ Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Community News

The Community Closet is getting ready for the change of seasons. We have lots of summer clothing for the whole family. From now until the end of Sept. we will be having a big sale. 2 Bags for \$4 of all clothing and shoes. There are also many household items at very reasonable prices. Come in and take a look, Saturdays from 9-12. above the Plaid Piper in Mapleton. Also, if you have any groups at your church that would like to earn some monies, call to set a date. Thanks, Gay Rice 507-524-4040

For 44 years Birthright has been helping girls and women with unexpected pregnancies. We are in need of more volunteers so we can be open more hours and serve more women. We are planning a training session toward the end of August. Volunteers serve two-hour shifts, and can choose a day and time than best suits their schedule. For more information, please call Lois at (507) 388-4558. Now is the time to put your pro-life beliefs into action.

Please help Abbie McGregor in her fight against cancer!
Taco Bar and Silent Auction Adults 8.95, Kids 6.95
Sunday, August 21 from 5—8 p.m. At Maggie J's
Questions or donations: contact Jodi Maas 327-8712 or
Melissa Decker 382-3980
Come and support the McGregor family and help defray medical costs!

Stewardship of Treasure

God's generosity will never be outdone by our own.



Our Catholic World



Results so far for the
2016 Diocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal

	# of donors	Amount	Goal	% of goal
St. Joseph:	8	\$2000	\$4,860	41
St. Matthew:	8	\$1560	\$4,890	32
St. Teresa:	39	\$5785	\$14,310	40

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. **If you have not yet given to this campaign, please consider doing so.** If you do not still have the envelope that was mailed to you, you can get pick one up at church.

St. Teresa: (August 14)

Weekly collection...	\$2318.00
Amount collected year to date...	\$17,281.36
Amount budgeted year to date ..	\$22,820.00

St. Matthew (August 13)

Weekly collection.....	\$1073.00
Amount collected year to date...	\$4035.80
Amount budgeted year to date...	\$7800.00

St. Joseph (August 6)

Weekly collection	\$611.00
Amount collected year to date...	\$4669.96
Amount budgeted year to date	\$6702.00



Ministry Roles

August 27 St. Matthew 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Darla Graf

Minister of Communion: Charly Roelofs,
Maria Sanders

Hospitality: Dave Bartsch family

Servers: Jeff Lewis, Joseph Bennett

Money Counters: Char Schuch, Maria Sanders

August 28 St. Teresa 9:00 a.m.

Reader: Marcie Anderson

Minister of Communion: Butch Bach,
Judy Bach

Hospitality: Emily Minkel, Kay Proehl
Mike and Jan Samuelson

Gifts: Emily Minkel, Kay Proehl

Servers: Dillon Schmidt, Dustyn Schmidt,
Dalton Schmidt, Julia Langworthy

Money Counters: Sandy Miller, Marie Gartner

Ministry schedules are available on the web-site: sjsmst.org

Sunday Bible Reflections with Dr. Scott

Jesus doesn't answer the question put to Him in this Sunday's Gospel. It profits us nothing to speculate on how many will be saved. What we need to know is what He tells us today—how to enter into salvation and how urgent it is to strive now, before the Master closes the door.

Jesus is "the narrow gate," the only way of salvation, the path by which all must travel to enter the kingdom of the Father (see [John 14:6](#)).

In Jesus, God has come—as He promises in this week's First Reading - to gather nations of every language, to reveal to them His glory.

Eating and drinking with them, teaching in their streets, Jesus in the Gospel is slowly making His way to Jerusalem. There, Isaiah's vision will be fulfilled: On the holy mountain He will be lifted up (see [John 3:14](#)), will draw to Himself brethren from among all the nations - to worship in the heavenly Jerusalem, to glorify Him for His kindness, as we sing in Sunday's Psalm.

In God's plan, the kingdom was proclaimed first to the Israelites and last to the Gentiles (see [Romans 1:16](#); [Acts 3:25-26](#)), who in the Church have come from the earth's four corners to make up the new people of God (see [Isaiah 43:5-6](#); [Psalm 107:2-3](#)).

Many however will lose their place at the heavenly table, Jesus warns. Refusing to accept His narrow way they will weaken, render themselves unknown to the Father (see [Isaiah 63:15-16](#)).

We don't want to be numbered among those of drooping hands and weak knees (see [Isaiah 35:3](#)). So we must strive for that narrow gate, a way of hardship and suffering - the way of the beloved Son.

As this week's Epistle reminds us, by our trials we know we are truly God's sons and daughters. We are being disciplined by our afflictions, strengthened to walk that straight and narrow path—that we may enter the gate, take our place at the banquet of the righteous.

FALL. IN LOVE. AGAIN. World Wide Marriage Encounter

Sept 30 - Oct 2, 2016 Good Counsel, Mankato

Web: www.wwme.org

Email: applications@southmnnwwme.org

Call: Miki - St. Michaels, Morgan, MN at [507.227.8229](tel:507.227.8229)

Let us understand that God is a physician, and that suffering is a medicine for salvation, not a punishment for damnation.

---St. Augustine of Hippo