

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 8, 2026

Mission Statement: We are a united faith filled community, dedicated to Christ, obedient to the Holy Spirit. We strive to live the Word of God through sacramental life. We are committed to the enrichment of our children with faith, hope and love.

Faith Formation News Noticias de Formacion de Fe

St. James & St. Mary

Faith Formation Classes

No classes on Ash Wednesday 2/18/26. We will resume classes on 2/25/26. Thank you

Las clases de formación en la fe

No habrá clases el Miércoles de Ceniza, 18 de febrero de 2026. Volveremos a clases el 25 de febrero de 2026. Gracias.

St. James

Wednesdays Grades 1st - 5th
1:30pm - 3:00pm

Grades 6th - 12th
7:00pm - 8:00pm

Miércoles Grados 1ro - 5to
1:30pm - 3:00 pm

Grados 6to - 12
7:00pm - 8:00pm

St. Mary

Wednesdays Grades 1st - 5th
4:30pm - 5:30pm

Miércoles Grados 1ro - 5to
4:30pm - 5:30pm

For questions and inquiries, please call the Faith Formation Office.

Para preguntas y consultas, por favor llame a la Oficina de Formación en la Fe.

Diocese of Winona-Rochester Married Couples Retreat

"Becoming One"

Friday, February 27 - Sunday, March 1
Deadline is February 13, 2026

\$275/ couple (commuter rate)
\$475 with two-night stay at the Alverna Center
(limited availability!)

Includes Friday evening refreshments, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday brunch.

<https://www.dowr.org/event-details/3786>

Diocese of Winona-Rochester Men's Conference

"Man of God"

Saturday, February 21, 2026

Ss Peter & Paul Church in Mankato

To Register, go online to
<https://www.dowr.org/event-details/3997>

St. Mary's School ~ Winter Raffle Winners



February 8, 2026 ~ \$200 ~ Keenan Sieve

Please note that Mass times and locations may change during this transitional period. We ask for your flexibility and understanding as we receive support from the Diocese and neighboring parishes.

Tengan en cuenta que los horarios y lugares de las misas pueden cambiar durante este período de transición. Les agradecemos su comprensión y flexibilidad mientras recibimos el apoyo de la diócesis y las parroquias vecinas.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 8, 2026



Mass Schedule & Intentions: February 9 - 15, 2026

Mon 9	No Mass		
Tues 10	No Mass		
Wed 11	No Mass		
Thur 12	No Mass		
Fri 13	No Mass		
Sat 14	5:30 p.m.	St. Mary Parish	✠ Charles & Vida Larkin
Sun 15	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary Parish - <i>Spanish Mass</i>	<i>pro populo</i>
Sun 15	10:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✠ Merlin Reinke
Sun 15	12:00 p.m.	St. James Parish - <i>Spanish Mass</i>	Sandmeyer Goins Family

Liturgical Roles: February 14 & 15, 2026

Sat. 14 - St. Mary 5:30 p.m.

Servers: David Hagen, Annika Hagen

Reader: Karen Lester

Ushers: Steve Kelsey, Mary Woolsey

Sun. 15 - St. James 10:00 a.m.

Servers:

Reader: Paul Schmitz

Communion Ministers:

Ushers:

2025 ~ Catholic Ministries Appeal Update

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Donors</u>
St. James	\$19,158	\$6,635	21
St. Mary	\$11,211	\$3,200	7

Remember: If parish goals are not met by December 31, 2025, the parishes **must** pay the amount remaining from operating funds.

***“And of all that you give me
I will surely give one tenth to you.”*** *Genesis 28:22*

<i>As of February 1, 2026</i>	St. James	St. Mary
Church Support needed per week:	6,379	2,388
Church Support giving last week:	2,908	1,966
Church Support needed fiscal year-to-date:	197,749	74,028
Church Support giving fiscal year-to-date:	128,354	49,561



READINGS For the Week

MONDAY, February 9

Weekday

1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13

Mark 6:53-56

TUESDAY, February 10

St. Scholastica, Virgin

1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30

Mark 7:1-13

WEDNESDAY, February 11

Our Lady of Lourdes

1 Kings 10:1-10

Mark 7:14-23

THURSDAY, February 12

Weekday

1 Kings 11:4-13

Mark 7:24-30

FRIDAY, February 13

Weekday

1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19

Mark 7:31-37

SATURDAY, February 14

Ss. Cyril, Monk,

and Methodius, Bishop

1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34

Mark 8:1-10

SUNDAY, February 15

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 15:15-20

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Matthew 5:17-37





Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Good spiritual reading can really be an aid in our spiritual lives. I came across this very nice reflection in the Office of Readings of the Liturgy of the Hours that I would like to share with you. It is the 2nd

Reading from the Office of Readings on Wednesday, Week IV in Ordinary Time:

From the Treatise On Spiritual Perfection by Diadochus of Photice, Bishop

The mind has a spiritual sense which teaches us to distinguish between good and evil.

“The light of true knowledge makes it possible to discern without error the difference between good and evil. Then the path of justice, which leads to the Sun of Justice, brings the mind into the limitless light of knowledge, since it never fails to seek the love of God with all confidence.

Therefore, we must maintain great stillness of mind, even in the midst of our struggles. We shall then be able to distinguish between the different types of thoughts that come to us: those that are good, those sent by God, we will treasure in our memory; those that are evil and inspired by the devil we will reject. A comparison with the sea may help us. A tranquil sea allows the fisherman to gaze right to its depths. No fish can hide there and escape his sight. The stormy sea, however, becomes murky when it is agitated by the winds. The very depths that it revealed in its placidness, the sea now hides. The skills of the fisherman are useless.

Only the Holy Spirit can purify the mind: unless the strong man enters and robs the thief, the booty will not be recovered. So by every means, but especially by peace of soul, we must try to provide the Holy Spirit with a resting place. Then we shall have the light of knowledge shining within us at all times, and it will show up for what they are all the dark and hateful temptations that come from demons, and not only will it show them up: exposure to this holy and glorious light will also greatly diminish their power.

This is why the Apostle says: *Do not stifle the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of goodness: do not grieve him by your evil actions and thoughts, and so deprive yourself of the defense his light affords you. In his own being, which is eternal and life-giving, he is not stifled, but when he is grieved he turns away and leaves the mind in darkness, deprived of the light of knowledge.*

The mind is capable of tasting and distinguishing accurately whatever is presented to it. Just as when our health is good we can tell the difference between good and bad food by our bodily sense of taste and reach for what is wholesome, so when our mind is strong and free from all anxiety, it is able to taste the riches of divine consolation and to preserve, through love, the memory of this taste. This teaches us what is best with absolute certainty. As Saint Paul says: *My prayer is that your love may increase more and more in knowledge and insight, and so enable you to choose what is best.*”

This week (evening of February 8 – 13) all of the priests of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester will be out of the Diocese for our annual retreat up in Buffalo, MN at Christ the King Retreat Center. Please lift us up in prayer during this special time. Know of our prayer for all of you. Also, just a heads up, Fr. Tim Welch will be writing the priest bulletin column on occasion. He is my parochial vicar at St. John Vianney, Fairmont and Ss. Peter and Paul, Blue Earth.

God bless!
-Fr. Dobbs



Hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Una buena lectura espiritual puede ser de gran ayuda en nuestra vida de fe. Encontré esta hermosa reflexión en la Liturgia de las Horas, en la Oficina de Lecturas, que me gustaría compartir con ustedes. Se trata de la segunda

lectura de la Oficina de Lecturas del miércoles de la cuarta semana del Tiempo Ordinario:

Del Tratado sobre la perfección espiritual de Diádoco de Fotice, obispo:

La mente posee un sentido espiritual que nos enseña a distinguir entre el bien y el mal.

“La luz del verdadero conocimiento permite discernir sin error la diferencia entre el bien y el mal. Entonces, el camino de la justicia, que conduce al Sol de Justicia, introduce la mente en la luz ilimitada del conocimiento, ya que nunca deja de buscar el amor de Dios con plena confianza.”

Por lo tanto, debemos mantener una gran serenidad mental, incluso en medio de nuestras dificultades. Así podremos distinguir entre los diferentes tipos de pensamientos que nos asaltan: los buenos, enviados por Dios, los atesoraremos en nuestra memoria; los malos, inspirados por el diablo, los rechazaremos. Una comparación con el mar puede ser útil. Un mar en calma permite al pescador contemplar sus profundidades. Ningún pez puede esconderse allí y escapar a su vista. Sin embargo, el mar embravecido se enturbia cuando es agitado por los vientos. Las mismas profundidades que revelaba en su placidez, ahora las oculta. Las habilidades del pescador resultan inútiles.

Solo el Espíritu Santo puede purificar la mente: a menos que el hombre fuerte entre y venza al ladrón, el botín no será recuperado. Por lo tanto, por todos los medios, pero especialmente mediante la paz interior, debemos esforzarnos por ofrecer al Espíritu Santo un lugar de reposo. Entonces, la luz del conocimiento brillará en nosotros en todo momento, revelando la verdadera naturaleza de todas las tentaciones oscuras y malignas que provienen de los demonios, y no solo las desenmascarará: la exposición a esta luz santa y gloriosa también disminuirá considerablemente su poder.

Por eso el Apóstol dice: *No extingan el Espíritu. El Espíritu Santo es el Espíritu de la bondad: no lo entristezcan con sus malas acciones y pensamientos, y así no se priven de la protección que les brinda su luz. En su propia esencia, que es eterna y vivificante, no puede ser extinguido, pero cuando se le entristece, se aparta y deja la mente en tinieblas, privada de la luz del conocimiento.*

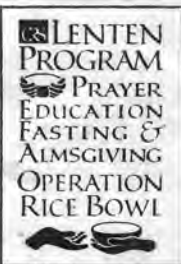
La mente es capaz de saborear y distinguir con precisión todo lo que se le presenta. Así como cuando gozamos de buena salud podemos diferenciar entre los alimentos buenos y malos gracias a nuestro sentido del gusto y elegir lo que nos beneficia, del mismo modo, cuando nuestra mente es fuerte y está libre de toda ansiedad, es capaz de saborear las riquezas de la consolación divina y de conservar, a través del amor, el recuerdo de este sabor. Esto nos enseña con absoluta certeza qué es lo mejor. Como dice San Pablo: *“Mi oración es que vuestro amor crezca cada vez más en conocimiento y discernimiento, para que así podáis elegir lo mejor.”*

Esta semana (del 8 al 13 de febrero) todos los sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Winona-Rochester estaremos fuera de la diócesis para nuestro retiro anual en Buffalo, Minnesota, en el Centro de Retiro Cristo Rey. Les pedimos que nos tengan presentes en sus oraciones durante este tiempo especial. Sepan que también oramos por todos ustedes. Además, les informamos que el Padre Tim Welch escribirá ocasionalmente la columna del boletín parroquial. Él es mi vicario parroquial en San Juan Vianney en Fairmont y en San Pedro y San Pablo en Blue Earth.

¡Que Dios los bendiga!

-Padre Dobbs

Meetings & Events Calendar ~ February 8 - 21, 2026

Sunday 8	Monday 9	Tuesday 10	Wednesday 11	Thursday 12	Friday 13	Saturday 14
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time		St. James Rosary - 7:30 am in the church.	St. Mary Rosary - 8:00 am in the church. St. Mary No Mass - Due to all Priest's being at a retreat. Faith Formation Classes See Faith Formation News Colum on page 1 for details.	Madelia American  Legion Bingo Hosted by St. Mary's Church, CCW Doors open at 5pm. Bingo starts at 7pm.	St Mary's No School Diocese of Winona- Rochester Married Couples Retreat Registration Deadline See page 1 for details	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Vigil Happy Valentine's Day 
Sunday 15	Monday 16	Tuesday 17	Wednesday 18	Thursday 19	Friday 20	Saturday 21
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	St Mary's No School President's Day 	St. James Rosary - 7:30 am in the church.	St. Mary Rosary - 8:00 am in the church. No Faith Formation Classes See Faith Formation News Colum on page 1 for details. Ash Wednesday Day of Fasting & Abstinence Collection for The Church in Europe Masses: English St Mary - 8:30am St James - 5:30pm Spanish St James - 7:00pm		Abstain from Meat	First Sunday of Lent Vigil  Diocese of Winona- Rochester Men's Conference Ss Peter & Paul Church See page 1 for details

Living in the present

Sometimes, we get so bogged down by worries about the future or regrets of the past, we forget to live in the present. Instead of worrying about what you can't control, entrust those worries to God knowing that he will help you through them all. Trust that his grace is enough.

Vivir el presente

A veces, nos agobian tanto las preocupaciones por el futuro o los remordimientos del pasado que nos olvidamos de vivir el presente. En lugar de preocuparte por lo que no puedes controlar, encomienda esas preocupaciones a Dios, sabiendo que Él te ayudará a superarlas. Confía en que su gracia es suficiente.