

Immaculata

...from our parish family to yours

Vol. 19 Issue 2 Summer Issue 2026



A Message from Fr. Craig Timmerman

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I Trust in You!



150 years ago in September 1876, the first St. Mary church was dedicated and our parish was born. 125 years ago, July 4, 1901, the cornerstone was laid on the new church building. October 16, 1902, our current church was dedicated. August 15, 1963, our church was consecrated. Even though this year, 2026, is actually our 150th anniversary, we will celebrate it next year on August 15, 2027, with the glorious, newly renovated church, which will also be 125 years from the dedication of the current church and the anniversary of our consecration! Lots of dates. Lots of history.

In this issue of the Immaculata you see lots of Sacraments: confirmation, first communion, weddings, funerals, baptisms. These are the important dates and consecrations of our spiritual life with God. What are the important dates of your life? I remember Pope Francis encouraged us to celebrate the day of our baptism, our ‘supernatural’ birthday. Honestly, I had to look up my baptism day: April 30, 1978, I was born into Christ as an adopted son of God.

The dates of St. Mary’s Church carry deep meaning because of the history of our parish family: the people who received faith here, prayed here, lived here, died here. It represents how God was active in their lives and the work God has done over 150 years. Similarly our sacraments carry deep meaning because of the history of our personal life with God: how God has been active and the work He has done in your life.

These dates represent all the work that went into the construction or renewal of the church. So also the dates of your sacramental life represent all the work you put into choosing God, loving God, practicing your faith since you were young until now. This ‘work’ activates the grace of your sacraments. God’s grace is intimately involved in every detail of your life, every moment, and every day. You are being built into a spiritual building, a temple of the Holy Spirit. So let’s get to work and activate His grace in your life!

Right now the workers are pulling off the damaged plaster and replacing it with new. It was messy. It was hot up there. But it needed it. Our spiritual life needs constant attention. If we don’t tend to it, it falls apart. When we pray daily, go to adoration, go to confession when we need it, go to Mass every Sunday or even daily Mass, and we do them with faith and love, God is so pleased. We are building our personal faith history. This summer, where does your spiritual building need a bit more work or attention, to make sure the next important date in your life is one you celebrate with God.

About the Cover: The cover of this issue gives you a glance inside St. Mary’s Church with the scaffolding put up by Solid Platform as the crew from Chicago Ornamental Plaster, subcontracted by Conrad Schmitt Studios, Inc., continues to repair the plaster before the painting begins. (Photo by Josh Sellner)



Sacrament of First Holy Communion at St. Mary's Catholic Church

Eighteen second graders received the sacrament of their First Holy Communion at St. Mary's Catholic Church on Sunday, May 3, 2026. Pictured in the front row (left): Fr. Sam Perez, Rowyn Schultz, Delaynie Karg, Maddyn Krzmarzick, Quinn Walter, Evelyn Hillesheim, Florence Forster, Brooklyn Braulick and Zellie Turbes and Fr. Craig Timmerman. Back row: Louis Seidl, Parker Rothmeier, Emmitt Nachreiner, Xavier McKeown, Luke Miller, Bennett Braulick, Lennon Ludewig, Kolson Brandl, Vincent Braulick and Emmett Borchardt.



Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary's Catholic Church

Thirty-five juniors were confirmed by Bishop Chad Zielinski on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sleepy Eye. Front row (left): Bishop Chad Zielinski, Deacon Mike McKeown, Morgan Mathiowetz, Kylie Pelzel, April Hacker, Aubrey Steffl, Brynne Ibberson, Natalie Zarn, Elizabeth Currans, Taylor Mathiowetz, Sydney Zarn, Amelia Tersteeg, and Carson Bremseth. Second row: Fr. Craig Timmerman, Jackson Webb, Kolbe Turbes, Benjamin Ryer, Santiago Martinez, Leah Kucera, Rivers Helget, Grace Hoffmann, Zocorro Rico, Eva Schweiss, Kiauna Suess, Sidney Tauer, Nell Weiss and Lucy Remer. Third row: Fr. Nathan Hansen, Fr. Samuel Perez, Eli Christensen, Ezra Heiderscheidt, Kyle Nelson, Noah Braun, Thomas Gent, Merrick Mathiowetz, Brecken Hulke, Conner Kyllonen, Adam Steffensmeier, Nicholas Tauer, and Ethan Schwartz.



Join the Schoenstatt
Family in Minnesota in
celebrating our Shrine's

50th
Anniversary

Sunday | September 20th
9:30 am to 4:00 pm

27762 County Road 27
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

RSVP:
507-794-7727
schoenstattmn@gmail.com
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Program for the Jubilee Weekend

Friday, September 18

7:30 pm Covenant Renewal

Saturday, September 19

10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Family Program

11:15 am Mass

7:00 pm Marian Serenade

Sunday, September 20

9:30 am Welcome

Share the mission/Crown petitions

Witness videos/Skit Part 2

Noon Lunch

1:00 pm Rosary Walk

2:00 pm Holy Mass with Bishop

3:15 pm Sending out from the Shrine

4:00 pm Departure

Parish Family Profile

By: Lisa Schmitz

“Is your Catholic faith inherited?”

This was the question I posed at the beginning of a lovely visit with one of St. Mary’s Parish’s newest young families. Zachary Koralewski and his wife, Maryanne, were quick to share how each of them, both individually and as a married couple, has embraced the Catholic faith. Now, as new parents, they are beginning another important chapter in their faith journey.

Maryanne and Zach first met while training in Sleepy Eye to become Totus Tuus missionaries. As they got to know one another, Zach felt particularly drawn to Maryanne’s joyful personality and deep faith in God. After the conclusion of the Totus Tuus program, the missionaries gathered for a reunion. It was on that day that Zach asked Maryanne on their first date. She accepted, and they soon enjoyed a picnic together along the beautiful shores of Sleepy Eye Lake.

Zach and Maryanne were married at St. Michael’s in Morgan on November 16, 2024. Zach attended the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, where he majored in Cybersecurity Administration. While currently finishing his degree online, he has also begun a new career as the manager of Stark Farmers Insurance Company in Sleepy Eye.

Maryanne attended Lake Area Technical College in Watertown, South Dakota, where she studied to become a physical therapist assistant. Her education led her to serve clients through the physical therapy departments of several nursing homes, primarily Divine Providence Community Home in Sleepy Eye and St. John Lutheran Home in Springfield. She is currently a stay-at-home mother, but she continues to maintain her professional license and assists when needed.

Zach and Maryanne moved to Sleepy Eye in September 2025 and soon became members of St. Mary’s Parish, where they attend both the Novus Ordo and Traditional Latin Masses. Regular Mass attendance is deeply important to the couple because of their belief in the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist. They especially appreciate the opportunity to participate in a reverent celebration of the Mass that emphasizes the living presence of God. For this reason, they are very happy to call St. Mary’s their parish home.

Parenthood is now an important part of their path. They welcomed their first child, Leo, four months ago. Leo



has since been baptized into the Catholic faith, giving Zach and Maryanne new reasons to embrace God’s plan for their family. As young parents, they recognize the decisions and sacrifices they are now being called to make. What comes next for this young family? They are currently preparing to purchase their first home, further establishing their family here in Sleepy Eye.

Originally from Glencoe, Zach grew up Catholic in a large family. He first attended his local Catholic elementary school and later attended a family-operated Catholic school in Cambridge, Minnesota. His faith steadily grew as he received the sacraments and sought opportunities to attend Steubenville conferences, TEC retreats, and other Catholic events.

During college, Zach experienced the joy of living his Catholic faith authentically. He was surrounded by other young adults who were also strong in their faith, and he even attended daily Mass. Despite this incredible support, there came a time when he felt that he had lost touch with his faith. He then realized that he needed to make a personal choice to develop an authentic relationship with God. He could not rely solely on the faith formation he had received during his childhood to carry him through adulthood.

As a young adult, Zach recognized the need to actively seek answers to his questions and to defend his faith when it was challenged. Many young people find it difficult to live out their faith, particularly when they are surrounded by a culture that does not support it. Zach encourages them, “Never be afraid to be a dragon slayer in a time of dragons.” Be diligent, practice the Catholic faith, and do not be afraid to defend it.

Maryanne is one of six children born to Pat and Mary Kate Larsen of Morgan, who are also members of the Divine Mercy Area Faith Community. She attended St.

...continues on page 6

A Piece of St. Mary's History

By: Josh Sellner



On July 4, 1901, St. Mary's Parish celebrated two auspicious events. On that day, the cornerstone of the present church was laid in a ceremony presided over by Bishop James Trobec, who was the bishop of the St. Cloud diocese at that time. Bishop Trobec was often called upon in those years for the dedication of the various furnishings in the church (the altars, etc.) when Archbishop John Ireland was unavailable due to his busy schedule. On that same day, the parish celebrated the 25th anniversary of the founding

of the parish, which occurred in 1876 with the construction of the first church. The poster seen in this photograph was printed to advertise the event, and surfaced recently.

2026 marks 150 years since the founding of our parish. We will celebrate this milestone on August 15, 2027, with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Chad Zielinski. We are delaying the event due to the restoration of the church. Here's to the next 150 years!



...Parish Profile from page 5

Michael's Elementary School in Morgan before transferring to St. Mary's School in Sleepy Eye for grades seven through twelve. She graduated in 2021.

While in high school, Maryanne found peace in the beauty of daily Mass before beginning the school day. As a teenager, she attended Camp Beloved, other Schoenstatt camps offered in the area, and Totus Tuus programs during the summers.

While attending college, Maryanne noticed that very few of the people around her appeared to be practicing their faith.

This experience strengthened her belief that faith is not simply inherited. Although a Catholic upbringing provides an important foundation, she believes adulthood requires a conscious and intentional decision to nurture one's prayer life each day, participate in the sacraments, attend Mass regularly, and receive the Holy Eucharist reverently.

For Zach and Maryanne, the Catholic faith is both a gift they received and a commitment they continue to choose. Together, they are building a marriage, raising their son, and establishing a home grounded in their relationship with God.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, Oh Lord...

December 2025 thru July 2026



Rev. William Sprigler 12/30/2025

Darleen Carroll 1/26/2026

Gary M. Schroepfer 1/27/2026

Gerald Piehl 2/11/2026

Leonard Nachreiner 2/25/2026

Lucille Losleben 2/28/2026

Margaret Seidl 3/18/2026

Gerald Riebel 3/20/2026

Louise Forster 3/28/2026

Janet Kral 3/31/2026

Josephine Rose 4/5/2026

Paul Flannery 4/5/2026

Phyllis Lux-Schouvieller 4/8/2026

Ervan Moldan 4/11/2026

Ismael Bustos 4/17/2026

Norbert Peschong 5/2/2026

Paul Hoffman 5/16/2026

Marvin Windschitl 5/26/2026

Edwin Trembl 6/6/2026

Bernice Goldschmidt 7/8/2026

Nicholas Lux 7/11/2026



Holy Matrimony at St. Mary's

Keegan Christensen & Olivia Berkner 4/11/2026

Max Heiderscheidt & Kelsie Kosak 4/18/2026

Joseph Bradley & Nadia Cardenas-Diaz 5/9/2026

Anthony Helget & Hannah Olson 5/16/2026

Jeremy Helget & Jennifer Tauer 5/30/2026

Nicholas Strate & Lillian Snow 6/6/2026

Welcome at St. Mary's Parish

Ricky & Amy Hanson

Alex Haala

Born into God's Family

January - July 2026

Audrey Elizabeth, daughter of Eric & Alexis Berkner

Ruthie Sue, daughter of Scott & Abby Salfer

Leo Valerian son of Zachary & Maryanne Koralewski

Imelda Clare, daughter of Joseph & Ashley Swedzinski

Amelia Rose, daughter of Andrew & Alaine Steffl

Laynee Lorraine, daughter of Jeffrey Meyer & Ashley Braulick

Leighton Renee, daughter of Elliot & Kayla Braun

Elias William, son of Isaac & Cecilia Braun

Roman Todd, son of Tristan & Jamie Pietig

Lloyd John, son of Nicholas & Kirstin Evjen

Harlan Andrew, son of Andrew & Molly Hawkins

Archer Dale, son of Bryan & Maria Windschitl

Theresa Louise, daughter of Riley & Angelina Freitag

Alexander Arthur, son of Cody & Alissa Groen

Tathan Joseph, son of Christopher & Gemma Boxrud

Millie Rose, daughter of Ethan Langseth & Elle Kyllonen

Isaac Paul and Jude Thomas, twins of Kevin & Mary Kate Losleben

UPCOMING EVENTS...

AUGUST

15-Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15-Mary Procession

21, 22-Sleepy Eye Summerfest

24-SEPS grds 1-7 begins

25-SEPS grds 8-12 begins

25-SESM School begins

26-SEPS Kindergarten begins

SEPTEMBER

7-Labor Day/All Offices Closed

8-Bishop Chad Zielinski Birthday

9-Religious Ed begins

12-SESM Alumni Golf Tourney

13-Fr. Sam Perez Birthday

18-SESM Marathon/Homecoming

18-20 Schoenstatt Jubilee Weekend

OCTOBER

4-Respect Life Sunday

13, 14-Priest Clergy Days

17, 18-CCW Mission Bake Sale

24-God's Plan for a Joy-

Filled Marriage Class

25-St. Paul's, Comfrey Annual

Sausage Dinner

NOVEMBER

1-Daylight Saving Time ends

1-All Saints Day

2-All Souls Day

11-Veteran's Day

26-Thanksgiving Day

27-Office Closed

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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Fr. Nathan Hansen – Associate Pastor
Fr. Sam Perez – Associate Pastor
Deacon Mark Kober - Permanent Deacon
Deacon Mike McKeown - Permanent Deacon
Nicholas Liese - Parish Liturgist
Amanda Murphy - Director of Religious Ed
Matt Grausam - Business Manager
Chris Heiderscheidt-Development Director
Joan Windschitl - Parish Secretary

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