

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

87 Main Street
Rollingstone, MN 55969
507-689-2351

office@htpm.us

Mass Times

8:30 a.m. Tues,
4:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil
Office hours Wednesday 10-Noon



ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHURCH

180 S. Fremont St.
Lewiston, MN 55952

Mass Time

8:30 a.m. Sunday
8:30 am Wednesday, Thursday



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

111 N. Mill St.
Rushford, MN

Mass Time

10:00 a.m. Sunday
9:00 a.m. Friday
Contact: Arlene 608-406-1124
arlene@st-rose.org

Third Sunday of Advent, Dec.17

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11
1 Thes 5:16-24
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8
Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a
Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday, December 20

Is 7:10-14
Lk 1:26-38

Thursday, December 21

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a
Lk 1:39-45

Friday, December 22

1 Sam 1:24-28
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday, December 23

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24
Lk 1:57-66

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec.24

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Rm 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

Tri-Parish Church cluster web site: st-rose.org

Pastor: Rev. Chinnappa Pothireddy – frchinnappa@htpm.us; 507-523-2428

Secretary -Karin– office@st-rose.org; 507-523-2428

Office Hours T, W, Th 9:00 to 11:00

Mailing Address: PO Box 402, Lewiston, MN 55952.

Bookkeeper Elaine memills@frontiernet.net

Faith Formation: St Rose-Ashley Gossen 507-523-3548 faithformation@st-rose.org

Holy Trintiy - Tina Lehnertz 507-458-5384 dtlehnertz@hotmail.com

St Joseph - Karen Eich 507-864-7820 kveich1946@gmail.com



Gaudete Sunday



Rejoice!

This Week Mass Intentions

Tuesday	December 19	
7:30 am	Holy Trinity	Adoration
8:30 am	Holy Trinity	<i>Len & Irene Merchlewitz+</i>
Wednesday	December 20	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Jerome Patzner+</i>
Thursday	December 21	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Robert Kanz+</i>
Friday	December 22	
9:00 am	St. Joseph	<i>Rose Ann Laumb+</i>
10:00 am	Valley View	<i>Joann Ziegeweid+</i>
Saturday	December 23	
4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	<i>LaVern Scherbring+</i>
Sunday	December 24	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Robert Franzen+</i>
10:00 am	St. Joseph	<i>For the Parishioners</i>

Adoration times:

St Rose First Wednesday	8:30 am – 8:30 pm
Holy Trinity Tuesdays	7.30 am – 8.30 am
St Joseph First Friday	8:30-9:30 am

Reconciliation times:

St Rose 8-8:20 am Sunday and Wednesdays
Holy Trinity 4-4:20 pm Saturday
St Joseph 8:30-8:50 am Friday

Or by appointment.

NEW PARISHIONERS are invited to contact the Tri-Parish Office at 507-523-2428 or office@st-rose.org.

BAPTISM - Baptisms are regularly celebrated during Saturday and Sunday Masses or by appointment. Parents are asked to meet with Fr. Chinnappa before the baptism of their first child. Please call the tri-parish office to set the date of the baptism.

MARRIAGE - Instruction must begin at least six months in advance. Please contact Fr. Chinnappa to begin the preparation process. An Engaged Encounter or similar course is also required.

Need Prayer? Call Rosie Moger 507-429-5525
Call with all requests and to join the group.

Prayer Requests: Jim Vogel, David Taylor, Becky Haxton, Chuck Woodford, Clem Wiley, Theresea Elliott, Bill Schultz, Steve Rader, Father Bill Kulas, Bishop Harrington,

Advent Masses

Dec. 16-17: Third Sunday of Advent–Regular Mass
Dec. 23-24: Fourth Sunday of Advent–Regular Mass

Holy Trinity

Giving, December 9, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 1089.00

Liturgical Ministry – December 23, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Paula Harrigan
<u>EMHC:</u>	Theresa Speltz
<u>Cantor</u>	Tammy Schmit
<u>Usher</u>	Roger Maschka & Rebecca McCormick
<u>Gifts</u>	Leo & Mary Speltz
<u>Servers</u>	Allie Donald and Savannah Russell
<u>Greeter:</u>	Terry Full and Randall Sullivan

St. Rose

Giving, December 10, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 1567.25

Liturgical Ministry – December 24, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Eric Speltz
<u>EMHC:</u>	Jerry Hennessy Greg Bronk Stacy Bronk
<u>Servers:</u>	Leah Kurth, Marabelle Kurth Shawn Kurth Nevaeh Mitchell
<u>Ushers:</u>	Tim Hennessy, Mark Ernster Joe Daley, Cory Schmitz

St. Joseph

Giving, December 10, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 2,000.00

Liturgical Ministry –December 24, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Marv Hosch
<u>Usher & Cross:</u>	Gary Marcoux & Steve Feldmeier
<u>Rosary:</u>	Barb Mensink
<u>Offertory:</u>	Bob & Anne Spartz
<u>EMHC:</u>	Barb Mensink
<u>Sacristan:</u>	Luanne Dvorak

Christmas Season Masses

December 24 Christmas Eve Mass: 4:30 Holy Trinity preceded by Christmas Carols.

December 25 Christmas Day Mass: Monday, 8:30 am St. Rose; 10:00 am St. Joseph.

December 30-31 Sunday: Feast of the Holy Family. Regular Mass Schedule.

January 1 New Year's Day: Mary Mother of God, Monday. Not a Holy Day of Obligation.

January 6-7 Epiphany of Our Lord: Sunday, Regular Mass Schedule.

Tri Parish News and Notes

This weekend' Second Collection is being taken for the **Retirement Fund of Women and Men Religious** who have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education, and care for those in need, usually for little or no pay. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women members. Please be generous. Thank You.

Christmas is near: Please avail yourself of the opportunities for Individual Reconciliation- before and after Masses and by appointment.

Available online resources for Advent and Christmas through Formed Subscription that has been renewed and is free to all parishioners. I encourage you to, please, make use of the free resource. Please go to: <https://signup.formed.org/> to subscribe. If you have questions about how Formed works, please call the office for help.

Summary of Advent and Christmas Books available at the Narthex to take home and read:

1. The Rocking Chair Prophet: It is a rich exploration of life and the human condition. It's an invitation to rediscover yourself and reorient your life. Mathew Kelly has masterfully woven into the story a piercing wisdom that is thought provoking on a life-changing scale. It is stunning that one book can have something meaningful to say on so many topics.

2. Beautiful Eucharist: It is a stunning collection of life-changing reflections about Jesus truly present in the Eucharist and wonderfully present in our lives. It is an invitation to encounter the life-giving presence of Jesus in the Eucharist so you can be a life-giving presence in the world.

3. This is My Body: It is designed to accompany the Eucharistic revival. Bishop Robert Barron analyses the source and summit of the Christian life according to the categories of meal, sacrifice, and Real Presence. It is meant to understand the sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood more thoroughly, and precisely to fall in love with the Lord more completely.

St. Joseph News and Notes

Thank You to all who helped in supporting our recent bake sale at St. Joseph. We had a wonderful turn out of baked goods to sell, and great help in

selling the items. The generous support of our community was amazing, you made a difference.

<https://youtube.com/live/TiGjeK0Iuf0?si=AS-cf1SMJ3RZS0Hr> **Recommended Video**

Overcoming Obstacles to Prayer and Holiness by Fr. Ripperger.

Christmas Flowers: Once again, we are looking for donations for Christmas flowers for our Sanctuary. If you would like to donate in memory or honor of a loved one, please write on a paper who the donation is from and who you would like listed in memory of the or honor of. You can drop your donation in the weekend collection basket in a separate envelope or you can give to Marcia Siegel or Barb Mensink. This year we hope to make it easier; Marcia has offered to place an order for Christmas flowers according to what donations we receive. Thank you.

The Faith Formation classes at St. Joseph's will be presenting a Christmas Program on Sunday December 17, 2023 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. All classes will be involved. Beth McManimon-Myers's and her daughter Raquela will be directing this program. The program is open to everyone and we're hoping there will be a good turnout to support the students.

St. Joseph Parish Envelopes for 2024 are available for you in Montini Hall. If you don't see your name on a box of envelopes, please get in touch with Arlene at 608-406-1124 or email at arlene@st-rose.org. Thank You for picking up your parish envelopes.

Christmas Giving Tree Thank you for the generous support with the Christmas Giving Tree, all the tags were filled. Your generous gifts are helping to make Christmas a little brighter for a special someone in our area.

Holy Trinity News and Notes

The Giving tree is up, and tags are going fast. As is tradition for Holy Trinity, we are sponsoring families who are in the Rollingsstone Community. If you take a tag, please write your name, number of tags and phone number on the paper next to the tree. For clarification, on the tags that state children's books we are looking for preschool age and younger or Kindergarten and 1st grade to 3rd grade. Please have gifts back to the church by December 18th. The faith formation students will deliver gifts during the Christmas holiday.

Church Cleaning: we will have a sign-up sheet in the narthex for parishioners to identify which week they will come in to clean the church. It can be a family, friend(s), or solo activity in making our church clean and

welcoming. The more people who sign up each week, the less amount of time it takes. We will have cleaning supplies and equipment for you to use. A description will be available next to the sign-up sheet. Thanks to those who have done this over the past years in the absence of a sign-up sheet. Please be generous with your time to make this happen.

Office hours on Wednesday the 20th will be moved to 9 am to 11 am.

St. Rose News and Notes

The Children's Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 17th during the 8:30 am Mass. Practice will be after school on Friday, December 15th. The students will walk over to the church together after school.

“Jesus: The Great Vindicator”

We live in difficult times. Perhaps, these are the worst times our world has ever experienced. There are on-going problems in Israel/Palestine, Ukraine – and potentially in Taiwan.

Furthermore, modern warfare is capable of destroying whole nations in a short time – perhaps, even the earth itself! Because of our inherent sinfulness, human race has suffered hardship from our very beginning – And we continue to suffer today. Our nation has a national debt that continues to grow.

The average American family is plagued with their own debts. Health care is more costly – as is everything else. And Primary Care Physicians are hard to find in our North State!

Fortunately, the scriptures for today provide us with both hope and direction – However, they do not deliver us from the difficulties and hardships we face. Isaiah wrote for those Chosen People who returned to Israel from Babylon. However, their repatriation in the Promised Land did not remove their problems or their hardships.

Isaiah speaks of someone who will bring good tidings to the poor – But he would not eliminate their material poverty. He would heal the brokenhearted – But he would not restore what broke their hearts. He would liberate the hearts of those who were controlled by others – But not destroy the powerful who exercised that control. Even prisoners would find a new freedom within the walls of their confinement!

All that the prophet promised would be fulfilled with the coming of a great Vindicator. And Jesus is the Vindicator who fulfilled all

that had been foretold. Unfortunately, the Chosen People interpreted these words of Isaiah in a very literal, limited material way. They believed that the one sent by God would solve all their problems and take away the hardships of life. Sadly, they were so far off base, that many – in fact, most – missed who Jesus was when he finally came! Jesus seemed very ordinary. He was a mere carpenter from Nazareth in their minds.

Nevertheless, Jesus came to show us how to live with our problems and suffering. He taught us of God's unfathomable love – of God's mercy – of His hope for all of His creation! Most of all, Jesus came to deliver us from our sins. He came to open a pathway for us back to God. He came to prove that our death is but a doorway – It is a doorway into a new and everlasting kind of life!

John the Baptist came to help Israel prepare for the appearance of Jesus. John told everyone that they would have to repent and change their lives. Thus, he challenged everyone to accept the truth about themselves!

Unfortunately, most of the people had their own ideas of what the Vindicator/Messiah would be. Many even thought that John might be the one. However, John insisted that he was not. John was the precursor, the forerunner, the herald. He would point to the one that God had sent. But everyone would have to change their expectations as well as themselves!

We are, indeed, blessed to live in the time after Jesus came. Although our world is in disarray, we can live and do more than just survive during these trying times. St. Paul urges us to rejoice in our deepest selves. God is always present to us in the presence of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Consequently, we must pray unceasingly. We accomplish this by letting everything we do become a prayer.

We must also be people of gratitude and praise for all that God has done for us. Furthermore, if we stay open to the Holy Spirit, we will understand that, in the end – all will be well. The ultimate victory and triumph will be God's – and His alone! Because God is the Creator. He orders all things according to His will and His Love!

So, let us pray, Brothers and Sisters, that we never lose hope during these most difficult times. May we remain faithful to Jesus and his Gospel Way – no matter what we suffer. And may we, ultimately, inherit the Kingdom that Jesus has promised us! Amen.

Msgr. Russel G. Terra, stjosephredding.org