

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

December 24, 25, 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

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec.24

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

Christmas Day, December 25

Is 52:7-10
Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday, December 26

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday, December 27

1 Jn 1:1-4
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday, December 28

1 Jn 1:5-2:2
Mt 2:13-18

Friday, December 29

1 N 2:3-11
Lk 2:22-35

Saturday, December 30

1 Jn 2:12-17
Lk 2:36-40

Feast of the Holy Family, Dec.31

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
Col 3:12-21
Lk 2:22-40

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 Trinity - Tina Lehnertz 507-458-5384 dtlehnertz@hotmail.com

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



*May you be filled with
joy and happiness, and
may you be always at
peace. Wishing you a
Merry Christmas*
Fr. Chinnappa & Staff

This Week Mass Intentions

Sunday	December 24	Christmas Vigil
4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	<i>The people of the Parishes</i>
Monday	December 25	Christmas Day
8:30 am	St Rose	<i>The people of the Parishes</i>
10:00am	St Joseph	<i>The People of the parishes</i>
Tuesday	December 26th	
7:30 am	Holy Trinity	Adoration
8:30 am	Holy Trinity	<i>Communion Service</i>
Wednesday	December 27	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>NO Mass</i>
Thursday	December 28	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Elmer Fabian+</i>
Friday	December 29	
9:00 am	St. Joseph	<i>Helen Gorman Webb+</i>
10:00 am	Good Shepard	<i>Elizabeth (Beth) Lafleur</i>
Saturday	December 30	
4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	<i>Dick Hohensee+</i>
Sunday	December 31	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Rick Spencer+</i>
10:00 am	St. Joseph	<i>Paul Dvorak+</i>
Monday	January 1st	
9:00 am	St Joseph	<i>The People of the Parishes</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,

Holy Trinity

Giving, December 16, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 1,273.00

Liturgical Ministry – December 30, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Tina Lehnertz
<u>EMHC:</u>	Leo Speltz
<u>Cantor</u>	Theresa Speltz
<u>Usher</u>	Pete Hutkowski and Duane Klein
<u>Gifts</u>	Mike Hoffman Family
<u>Servers</u>	Grayson and Greenlee Speltz
<u>Greeter:</u>	Bill and Becky Haxton

St. Rose

Giving, December 17, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 4,734.00

Liturgical Ministry – December 31, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Ben Kuhn
<u>EMHC:</u>	Mark Ernster, Suzanne Pilger, Ben Kuhn
<u>Servers:</u>	Alyssa Hansen, Jayden Hansen, Kaylee Hansen, Emily Burt
<u>Ushers:</u>	Brian Daley, J. R. Cardwell, Patrick Kalmes, Phil Thesing

St. Joseph

Giving, December 17, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 1,140.00

Liturgical Ministry –December 31, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Karen Eich
<u>Usher & Cross:</u>	Jim Calhane and Al Schollmeier
<u>Rosary:</u>	Gary Marcoux
<u>Offertory:</u>	Charlie and Edie Mueller
<u>EMHC:</u>	Chuck Ehler
<u>Sacristan:</u>	Jacob Kramer

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. 9.00 am Mass at St. Joseph's.

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

Tri Parish News and Notes

Available online resources for 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.

St. Joseph News and Notes

January 1 Monday, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. 9:00am Mass at St. Joseph's Church.

Donations for St Joe's Family Corner: We are looking to provide a comfortable space for young families in Montini Hall. Seeking donations including a small couch, a recliner, a toy shelf or storage unit, and toys. Please talk to Beth Ann McManimon or Cadence Hogge if you'd like to contribute! Call or text 507-450-7993

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.

St. Joseph CCW will be meeting on Sunday, January 14th, following mass. All women of the parish are invited to join us.

Holy Trinity News and Notes

Thank you to all those who have given themselves and their resources to our parish. May God richly bless you for all you do.

St. Rose News and Notes

Thank you to all the Children and the teachers for the Christmas Program of the true meaning of Christmas.

4th Sunday of Advent **The Obedience of Faith**

We all have plans. We all have plans for the short-term – and for the long-term as well. We all have hopes and dreams for the future. We devise our plans to help us realize those hopes and dreams. However, very often, our plans are thwarted. Life gets in the way of fulfilling those hopes and dreams. And yet, we continue on, trying to make the best of what life has become for us.

Believers should have an easier time accepting what life forces upon them than non-believers. Believers can learn how God has

intervened in human history. And the scriptures for today tell us just how others responded when God intervened in their lives.

King David was finally settled in his new palace. He chose Jerusalem for his royal city because it was almost central between the territories of Judea and Israel. However, David still needed something to keep the people of both territories united. A temple was the answer. It would bring all the faithful to David's City for worship and sacrifice. Furthermore, it was a more fitting place of honor for the Lord God than a tent was in former times. Nevertheless, God had other plans which were much more wonderful and farsighted. David wanted to secure his reign and have his future generations continue in his royal line.

But God would do far more than secure and extend that reign. God would send His own, divine Son in the world. That Son would be from the ancestral line of David himself. And we see that age-old prophecy fulfilled in the Gospel of Luke, today.

Mary was a virgin betrothed to Joseph. Both of them were within the bloodlines of David. What their plans, hopes, and dreams were for the future we can only guess. Because anything they had planned was seriously disrupted when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary. Mary would conceive a child – but it would not be with Joseph. This child would come into being through the miraculous power of the Most High God and the intervention of the Holy Spirit!

Thus, this child would be the Son of God – but in a completely human form. He would fulfill all that the prophecies foretold. He would be a Savior – but a Savior who would deliver us from our sins!

His name was to be Jesus – And his reign would be forever! Fortunately, for us and for all the world, Mary said: “Yes!” to the invitation of God. She set aside whatever future she had planned with Joseph. Mary had the “obedience of faith”. Her personal relationship with God enabled her to listen and hear what God was asking of her – And she complied.

Each of us must, likewise, develop the obedience of faith. Obedience comes from the Latin word which means “to hear”. Obedience means that we take to heart what we have heard from another – And “taking something to heart” means that we implement it into our lives.

Of course, with God, this means that we base our life on what we have heard through faith! In this way – with trust in God – it becomes far easier to accept life when everything is turned upside down!

Brothers and Sisters, God has a plan for His creation. God has a plan for every one of us. We must never let our plans get in the way of God's plans. God's plans are always far more worthwhile. They

will always have outcomes that exceed and transcend our human reckoning!

Fortunately, if we live long enough – and if we live a life of faith – we can, perhaps, begin to see God's providence in all that has taken place. Ultimately, what we all need is faith and trust. We need the faith and trust of Mary who was without sin – And we need the faith and trust of David who was a sinner like ourselves.

So, let us pray, today, for a renewed faith and trust – as well as the obedience of that faith – May we open our minds and hearts to all that God asks of us – And may we become true disciples of His Son – who is about to be born again in our midst!

Msgr. Russel Terra. Stjosephredding.org

Nativity of the Lord **Jesus. Our Light in the Darkness**

We truly, live in dark and difficult times. There is warfare on several fronts – Our nation is severely polarized – There are demonstrations of ethnic hatred in our cities – Our hard-earned money is worth less than it was – There is a crisis at our southern border – And there are increasing deaths from fentanyl and suicide!

People are upset and very unhappy – Consequently, they turn to drugs, alcohol, and sex – But these escapes can never heal their hearts, souls, and spirits. Consequently, they, very often, take their own lives. They do this when their pain becomes too much to bear – and they feel completely hopeless and beyond help!

However, the darkness in our world – and the darkness in our hearts and spirits – can never be the last word. Because God cares about us. And those who have even a smidgen of faith can survive the darkness we experience. They can overcome its power in their hearts.

This is one of the messages in the scriptures for this day. Isaiah spoke words of hope to the Chosen People who were facing even more than we are in our time. They were soon to be overrun by Assyria and Babylon. Nevertheless, Isaiah gave them hope. He spoke of a better time – a new age of peace, justice, love, and inner joy. A Savior was coming! He would be a Wonderful-Counselor – a Godly-Heroic Champion – a Father who would always be with them – a Prince who would bring universal and everlasting peace!

Truly, this was a wonderful prophecy. But it would take centuries to unfold. It would begin with the Birth of the God-Child that we celebrate today – And it continues to develop as we journey to the Kingdom of Heaven!

One of the things that we must remember about the Lord God is that He often comes in unusual ways – in unexpected ways! The Lord God is full of surprises for us. Perhaps, the most surprising of all was His Birth – and the ones who were enabled to discover and recognize Him!

Mary and Joseph were common folk – They must have been surprised when they learned of God's plan. Yet, they believed and discovered the God-Man in their son.

The shepherds must have been almost overwhelmed when the angel appeared to them. They were outcasts – They were one step from unemployment – Basically, they were homeless. They were dirty, unwashed, bedraggled, and living in tents. They lived simple lives – They owned almost nothing – Still, they were open to God – And for this, God blessed them beyond belief!

Despite the darkness in our world, believers continue to celebrate Christmas. However, more and more people have forgotten its real meaning. Christmas has become commercialized!

For millions it is merely a "Happy Holiday!" For millions it is exchanging gifts that many don't need – For millions it is getting even deeper into personal debt at usurious rates of interest! Realistically, none of these things can bring enlightenment, interior freedom, or peace of heart and soul. Only the God-Child – the Infant of Bethlehem – can!

However, St. Paul reminds us that we must accept the new way of living that Jesus has laid out for us. We must reject all ungodly ways – all worldly material desires. Instead, we must live lives of moderation, justice, and charity with the Gospel of Jesus to guide us!

God sent His Son in the person of Jesus to teach us how to love, how to become better – in a Godlike way! To learn this, we must develop a relationship with Jesus. This means a faith relationship that goes beyond formal prayers and Sunday worship – yet still includes them. It is a relationship of faith which goes beyond belief to the real – the known – that is in our hearts and souls!

Brothers and Sisters, this is the wonderful gift that God gave us with the Birth of His Son in Jesus. As Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds knew him and loved him in a manger – so must we!

For Jesus is the Light of the World – and the Light – the Revelation – of God in our hearts! So Come! Let us adore Him on this most wonderful day of hope, deliverance, and ultimate salvation!

Msgr. Russel Terra. Stjosephredding.org