

# First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023



## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

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

[office@htpm.us](mailto:office@htpm.us)

### Mass Times

8:30 a.m. Tues,  
4:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil  
*Dec 6<sup>th</sup> - Office hours Wednesday 4-6*

## First Sunday of Advent, Dec. 3

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7  
I Cor 1:3-9  
Mk 13: 33-37

## Monday, December 4

Is 1:1-5  
Mt 8:5-11

## Tuesday, December 5

Is 11:1-10  
Lk 10:21-24

## Wednesday, December 6

Is 25:6-10a.  
Mt 15:29-37

## Thursday, December 7

Is 26:1-6  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

## Friday, December 8

### *Immaculate Conception*

Gn 3:9-15, 20  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12  
Lk 1:26-38

## Saturday, December 9

Is 30:19-21, 23-26  
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5A, 6-8

## Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 10

Is 40:1-5, 9-11  
2 Pt 3:8-14  
Mk 1:1-8



## 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*  
[stjoseph@st-rose.org](mailto:stjoseph@st-rose.org)

Tri-Parish Church cluster web site: [st-rose.org](http://st-rose.org)

Pastor Rev. Chinnappa Pothireddy, – [frchinnappa@htpm.us](mailto:frchinnappa@htpm.us); 507-523-2428

Secretary -Karin– [office@st-rose.org](mailto:office@st-rose.org); 507-523-2428

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

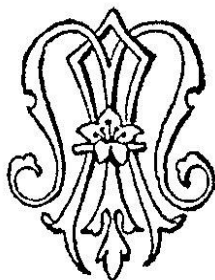
Mailing Address: PO Box 402, Lewiston, MN 55952.

Bookkeeper Elaine [memills@frontiernet.net](mailto:memills@frontiernet.net)

Faith Formation: St Rose-Ashley Gossen 507-523-3548 [faithformation@st-rose.org](mailto:faithformation@st-rose.org)

Holy Trinity - Tina Lehnertz 507-458-5384 [dtlehnertz@hotmail.com](mailto:dtlehnertz@hotmail.com)

St Joseph - Karen Eich 507-864-7820 [kveich1946@gmail.com](mailto:kveich1946@gmail.com)



**Solemnity of The  
Immaculate Conception  
Of the Blessed Virgin  
Mary  
December 8**



# This Week Mass Intentions

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 5</b>	
7:30 am	Holy Trinity	<b>Adoration</b>
8:30 am	Holy Trinity	<i>Fr. Bill Kulas</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 6</b>	
08:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Wilma Mueller+</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 7</b>	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Robert Franzen+</i>
7:00 pm	Holy Trinity	<i>The People of the Parishes</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 8</b>	
9:00 am	St. Joseph	<i>Helen Novlan+</i>
10:00 am	Good Shepherd	<i>Patients of the home</i>
6:00 pm	St. Rose	<i>Daniel Driscoll</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 9</b>	
4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	<i>Edward Speltz+</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 10</b>	
8:30 am	St. Rose	<i>Parishioners of St Rose Cluster</i>
10:00 am	St. Joseph	<i>Ernie &amp; Agnes Moreau+</i>

## Adoration times:

**St Rose First Wednesday 8:30 am – 8:30 pm**  
**Holy Trinity Tuesdays 7 am - 8 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](mailto: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, Father Bill Kulas, Theresa Elliott, Steve Rader Bishop Harrington, Bill Schultz*

## Holy Trinity

### Giving, November 25, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 702.00

### Liturgical Ministry – December 9, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Terry Full
<u>EMHC:</u>	Sandy Lande
<u>Cantor</u>	Theresa Speltz
<u>Usher</u>	Steve & Bonnie Kalmes
<u>Gifts</u>	Dave & Mary Berg
<u>Servers</u>	Charlie & Juniper Lingen
<u>Greeter:</u>	Jeanette Borger and Louise Kalmes

## St. Rose

### Giving, November 26, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 1410.50

### Liturgical Ministry – December 10, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Joel Hennessy
<u>EMHC:</u>	Shelly & Dean Depestel, Kelly Dahl
<u>Servers:</u>	Lydia Pilger, Kyli Ketchum, Hailey Larson, Karlie Larson
<u>Ushers:</u>	Brenda Knutson, Amie Miller, Julie Haake, Jill Pasche

## St. Joseph

### Giving, November 26, 2023

Church Support..... \$ 1200.00

### Liturgical Ministry –December 10, 2023

<u>Lector:</u>	Jacob Kramer
<u>Usher &amp; Cross:</u>	Marv & Marcie Hosch
<u>Rosary:</u>	Chuck Ehler
<u>Offertory:</u>	Schollmeier Family
<u>EMHC:</u>	Jo Bingaman
<u>Sacristan:</u>	Sandee & Mike Jeresek

**God's love and blessings to Arianna Burback, Brandon Sovell, Brianna Sovell, and Aria Sovell for the gift of Baptism on Saturday December 2, 2023**

**Thank you for being people of prayer.** If you would like a name added to the bulletin for prayer, please contact the Holy Trinity office at [office@htpm.us](mailto:office@htpm.us) or 507-689-2351. Names will cycle off the list. If you would like a name to remain on the list for continued prayers, please let us know.

## Tri Parish News and Notes

**Advent - New Liturgical Year:** This weekend, we begin a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. Our readings speak about anticipation and uncertainty, which are very much part of our lives today. Nevertheless, in Jesus, we have been “enriched

in every way” so that we can follow his instruction to “Be watchful! Be alert!”

**The Feast of the Immaculate Conception** (Patronal Feast of USA) is December 8<sup>th</sup> and a Holyday of Obligation. Mass times are:  
**Holy Trinity**, December 7 at 7 pm  
**St. Joseph**, December 8 at 9:00 am  
**St. Rose**, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

**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.

### **St. Joseph News and Notes**

**Recommended Video:** This is a wonderful follow up to the previous bulletin link. Please enjoy  
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=IH092GTREYM&si=HwNFncIV7fKdRWlq>

St Joseph's Church will again be sponsoring a **Christmas Giving Tree** To benefit the children in Fillmore County. There will be a Christmas Tree in Montini Hall with gift tags and directions. The amount suggested was \$50. Thank you for gathering your family together to support this cause.

St. Joseph hosts the **Good Shepherd Christmas Party**; this year the party is scheduled for December 4th, beginning at 2PM. We are looking for a few people to help with singing and passing out treats.

**The CCW Cookie/bake and craft sale** is scheduled for December 9th. We need Lots of people to help bake for that. We stress the cookies, but ALL baked goodies are accepted and welcomed.

**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.

A quick reminder, if you have not had the chance to drop in the collection or send in **your donation to St. Joseph in lieu of the parish dinner**. We are still collecting these donations. **Thank you** for all your support in helping us with the above items, it's greatly appreciated to have the support from our parish family. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Mensink or Edie Mueller.

**Christmas Flower** 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.

### **Holy Trinity News and Notes**

**Tuesday Mass time change:** To align with other parishes and to facilitate more parishioners to participate, timing is being moved on Tuesdays. **Mass time to 8.30 am. Adoration will begin at 7:30 am. This begins December 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**Advent Reconciliation Service** on Wednesday, December 6 from 6:30pm both for children and adults. There will be two priests to help with confessions.

**Liturgy/FF/Funeral Committee Meeting** on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in the new office.

**The Giving tree is up**, and tags are going fast. As is tradition for Holy Trinity, we are sponsoring families who are in the Rollingstone 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 1<sup>st</sup> grade to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Please have gifts back to the church by December 18<sup>th</sup>. The faith formation students will deliver gifts during the Christmas holiday.

**Holy Trinity Holiday Choir:** Practice will begin on Monday December 4 at 7 pm for the Holy Trinity Holiday Choir. The Choir will sing at Christmas Eve Mass. Practices will be on Monday evening at 7 pm this year. If you have questions, you can contact Tammy Schmit at 689-2469. All voices are welcome. Let's make a joyful noise!

**Holy Trinity office hours** on December 6<sup>th</sup> will be moved to the afternoon 2 pm to 4 pm. Apologies for any inconvenience.

**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 of what we would like to have done will be available next to the sign-up sheet. We want to thank 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.

### **St. Rose News and Notes**

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

**Christmas decorating** after mass on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>.

There will be **confessions at St. Rose** on Dec 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

### **Faithful and Watchful**

#### **My Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,**

There can be no doubt that more and more Americans are leaving organized religion. Fewer people are coming to church than was the case 10 years ago. Over 30% of young adults believe in almost nothing at all. It is estimated that in 50 years, believers will be only 30% of the population.

Of course, there are many reasons for what is happening. Many stopped attending church during the Covid lockdown and have not returned – Some have been alienated because of the abusive behavior of some clergy and religions – Many don't see the need for the Gospel of Jesus – or for what God revealed through Jesus.

Others have let their quest for a good material life become their focus – and they transmit these values to their children. – Those who experience the hardships of life – – Those who see the rampant evil in the world – – All these people think that God could not allow these things – if He truly existed!

It is noteworthy that the scriptures for this Sunday can help us with regard to what we have considered thus far. Isaiah speaks for a people who have blamed God for all the tragedy they have experienced. They wondered why God has allowed them to wander and go so far astray – They, wrongly, complain that God has hardened their hearts – when their own wills have resisted and rebelled against Him.

So the prophet pleads with God to make a new and awesome appearance – that He frighten the people into repentance and change. He even hopes that God will come when they are doing something good amid their life of sin and selfishness! He, further, complains that God has hidden Himself from them. This is despite the reality that they have been blinded by all the glitter and false splendor of the culture! Finally, he admits that even their good deeds have become contaminated – their guilt, overpowering – and their commitment, lost!

Nevertheless, in all this hopelessness, the prophet trusts that God will, somehow, make things right. For God is their Father – they are the clay – He is the potter – and they are the work of His creative hand!

In his First Letter to the Corinthians, Paul seems to be commending them – when, actually, he is not. He has listed all the ways that they have been blessed by God. However, they must make changes. They believed that the purpose of their newfound faith was to enhance their life in a material way. They thought that their faith would make life easier and better for them materially. But they were wrong! Instead, their faith should help them to become more like Jesus himself.

They must learn to live like Jesus in every way – They must accept hardship, suffering, and the cross – And they must do all that they can to share the Gospel message of hope and ultimate salvation. In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus teaches us that God can come for us at any time. He will come at our death. He will come at the final judgment at the end of the world. But He also comes in everything He has created. God is present in every moment – in every person – in every creature – in every interpersonal encounter – whether religious or not!

What is important is that we are watchful. What is essential is that we do the work that God has entrusted to us – And that we do it in the spirit of Jesus, himself!

Brothers and Sisters, Jesus did not come to make life easier for us in a material way. He did not come to teach us how to acquire wealth, power, and the pleasures of life. Besides dying for us and for our sins – Jesus came to show us how to live – how to truly love – how to survive a world of hardship and pain. Jesus came to help us survive a world of disappointment and failure – a world in which evil has become rampant – a world in which even our church men and women have sinned – and hurt the most vulnerable of all!

Jesus came to establish a Church – He came to establish a community of believers who continue to do the best they can. Yes, we sin – we fail – we make mistakes. But we admit that we have sinned and failed – We do not deny our mistakes.

Furthermore, we know and believe that Jesus, himself, is present whenever we gather together. He is present in the scriptures we hear. Ultimately, he is present in the Bread and the Wine which is somehow, mysteriously, himself!

So, let us pray that we never abandon this Church that Jesus established – May we always be faithful to him and his Gospel – And may he find us watchful and waiting whenever he comes for us! Amen.

~ Msgr. Russell G. Terra