



# St. Theodore Catholic Church

Inviting people to actively participate in the Life of Christ!

BIENVENIDOS

315 E. Clark Street, Albert Lea, MN 56007-2456

www.sttheo.org

## PARISH PASTOR

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## SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

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## ST. JAMES TRUSTEES

Ed Bellrichard.....383-1779  
Janice Stensrude.....373-4024

## ST. THEODORE TRUSTEES

Linda Cruz-Lares.....373-1329  
John Forman.....373-0498

## CEMETERY: St. Theodore & St. James

Steve Merfeld.....507-402-4343

## OUTREACH to HOMEBOUND

Annie Schleck.....507-373-2940

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Joye Wolf - Counselor.....507-377-3664  
www.ccwinona.org

## PARISH COUNCIL

Betsy Schultz - Chair  
Loren Lair - Vice Chair  
Cheryll Intihar  
Gina Montero  
Carmen Bueno  
Darren Schone  
Harold Kermes  
Lucy Villagomez  
Cindy Merfeld  
Jeff Jimenez

**Be Prepared:** Today's biblical texts invite us to be prepared always to meet the Lord. It's not a preparation for death, but for new life. God's life is already in our midst as we share our faith with others. This life was announced by the prophet Isaiah who, in today's first reading, recognizes the mercy of God, whom he calls "Father." Saint Paul joyfully shared this new life with the communities entrusted to his care as he recognized in them the gifts of the Holy Spirit. What about us? Are we prepared to meet the Lord during this season of joyful expectations? How can we better prepare ourselves to invite others to share our faith in God, whom we call "Father"?



**Estar preparada:** Los textos bíblicos de hoy nos invitan a estar siempre preparados para encontrarnos con el Señor. No es una preparación para la muerte, sino para una nueva vida. La vida de Dios ya está entre nosotros cuando compartimos nuestra fe con los demás. Esta vida fue anunciada por el profeta Isaías que, en la primera lectura de hoy, reconoce la misericordia de Dios, a quien llama "padre". San Pablo compartió con alegría esta nueva vida con las comunidades confiadas a su cuidado, reconociendo en ellas los dones del Espíritu Santo. ¿Qué pasa con nosotros? ¿Estamos preparados para encontrarnos con el Señor durante esta temporada de gozosas expectativas? ¿Cómo podemos prepararnos mejor para invitar a otros a compartir nuestra fe en Dios, a quien llamamos "Padre"?

## Christmas Masses

### Christmas Eve

Thursday  
December 24  
4:00 PM  
7:30 PM (Español)  
10:00 PM (Live Stream)



### Christmas Day

Friday  
December 25  
9:00 AM  
(Broadcast & Parking Lot Mass)

## MASS TIMES

**Saturday:** 5:15 pm  
**Sunday:** 9:00 am (Broadcast on KATE 1450 AM)  
11:00 am (Español)

## RECONCILIATION

**Saturday:** 4:00 pm  
**Sunday:** 1/2 hour before 9 & 11 am Masses

## PRIVATE PRAYER IN CHURCH

**Tuesday - Friday:** 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Prayer Chapel open all hours

## Parish Office Hours

**Monday-Thursday**  
8:00 am-4:00 pm

### Closed Friday

Office closes from 9:00-9:45 am on Wednesday so staff can attend Mass and

## PRAYER CHAIN

Deanna Ille  
373 - 6285 ♦ deille@charter.net

## From the Desk of Father Kurt

This weekend we begin the season of Advent. Advent is a time for waiting, a time for longing for the coming of God in our lives. A longing that once fulfilled, will bring lasting joy. As a child I remember Advent as a time for the anticipation of Christmas. I enjoyed going with my family to pick out the Christmas tree, baking Christmas cookies with my mother, buying Christmas presents for my parents, brothers and sister, and most of all, the thought of all the good things that I would get underneath the Christmas tree and in my stocking Christmas morning. I couldn't even sleep at night as the days drew closer for the permission to unwrap all those presents underneath the Christmas tree with my name on them. Christmas morning brought great joy as I tore through all those packages, but after a couple of weeks after playing with my new gadgets, the joy was gone.

Unlike the joy of material gifts, Christmas cookies and cards, the joy of accepting the Christ child into our hearts is everlasting. Christmas is not about gifts underneath the Christmas tree, but about a child being born, a child, which brings hope of salvation to a world so broken by violence and hatred. This advent let us make sure that we have a burning desire for the coming of the birth of Jesus in our hearts.

If you have not seen the movie, the Nativity, or even if you have, now is a great time to rent it and watch it as a family.

Love in Christ,  
Father Kurt Farrell

## 2020 Catholic Ministry Appeal (11/23/2020)

Goal	Amount Received	% Goal Received
\$61,725.00	\$38,117.00	61.75%

## Sacrificial Giving

November 16-22, 2020

Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Imp Fund	St. James
\$7,133.10	\$847.00	\$25.00	\$250.00

## Sunday Broadcast Sponsors

Date	Intention(s)
Dec 13	† Lupe Ortiz by family For living & deceased member of Evelyn Schultz family <b>Additional Sponsors Needed</b>
Dec 20	† Jeanne Johnson by Lloyd
Dec 27	† Betty Cashin by Don Cashin family & friends † Edie Siglooski by Evie <b>Additional Sponsors Needed</b>
Jan 3	<b>Sponsors Needed</b>

## 5th Annual Christmas Bake Sale

Marian Hall

Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> ♦ 2-7 pm

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> ♦ 9 am until supplies last.

All items have been prepared and packaged in our licensed parish kitchen.  
COVID-19 restrictions will be followed.

## Mass Intentions & Schedule

The dispensation from the obligation to attend and participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains in effect until further notice for all who may be hesitant at this time to be in larger gatherings. St. Theodore will continue to provide the opportunity to listen to Mass on 1450 AM, KATE radio.

Tues Dec 1	8:30 am 9:00 am	Rosary <b>Mass</b> † Kassi Haskins by Stacia St. Romain	Church Church
Wed Dec 2	8:30 am 9:00 am	Rosary <b>Mass</b> † Sue Gutknecht by Roger & Mary Jemming	Church Church
Thurs Dec 3	8:30 am 9:00 am	Rosary <b>Mass</b> † Victor & Joan Soller by Charlene Kukuzke	Church Church
Fri Dec 4	8:30 am 9:00 am  9:30-10:00 am 9:30am-6:30 pm	Rosary <b>Mass</b> † Jean & Duane Haiar by family  <b>First Friday Confession</b> <b>Adoration</b>	Church Church  Church Church
Sat Dec 5	4:00 pm 4:45 pm 5:15 pm	Reconciliation Rosary <b>Mass</b> † LeRoy & Helen Wilder by Ann Utzka & Marvin Wilder	Church Church Church
Sun Dec 6	8:30 am 9:00 am   11:00 am	Reconciliation & Rosary <b>Mass</b> † Bob, Eddie, & Andy Luna by Ray Luna & Mary Larson For living & deceased member of Evelyn Schultz family <b>Hispanic Mass</b> † Senor Margarito Castillo by Angela Lazaro	Church Church   Church

## Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

5:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM

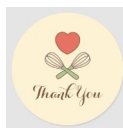
## Daily Scripture Readings

Mon: 11/30 Tues: 12/1 Wed: 12/2 Thurs: 12/3 Fri: 12/4 Sat: 12/5 Sun: 12/6	Rom 10: 918, Is 11: 1-10 Is 25: 6-10a Is 26: 1-6 Is 29: 17-24 Is 30: 19-21, 23-26 Is 40: 1-5, 9-11 2 Pt 3:8-14	Mt 4: 18-22 Lk 10: 21-24 Mt 15: 29-37 Mt 7: 21, 24-27 Mt 9: 27-31 Mt 9: 35-10: 1, 5a, 6-8 Ps 85: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14 Mk 1: 1-8
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## This Week's Activities & Reminders

**Due to recent changes with COVID, all parish board & committee meetings and prayer groups have been postponed for the month of December 2020. Please check parish media sources for future updates and changes.**

Mon Nov 30	Loaves & Fishes 4:45-5:30 pm	Marian Hall
Tuesday-Thursday December 1-3, 2020		
No Parish Activities		
Fri Dec 4	Set up Bake Sale 3-7:00 pm	Gym
Sat Dec 5	Annual Bake Sale 9:00 am till gone	Gym
Sun Dec 6	Baptism 11:00am	Church



A big thank you goes out to all those who donated groceries or funds to help us prepare for our upcoming Annual Bake Sale. We also want to thank those that helped create the items in our licensed kitchen. We are so greatly blessed by the talented bakers who volunteered to help!



Thank you to all those who participated in the Box of Joy program. For our first time to participated, we had a total of 13 boxes that were included with the total 406 boxes that were collected by the Austin

Area CCW. These Christmas blessings were sent to the Cross Catholic Outreach to be distributed to various missions throughout the world. Thank you again for your generous support!

**Welcome:** We welcome the following into the church family through the Sacrament of Baptism.

- Shantal Garcia, daughter of Edwin Garcia and Melissa Turrubiarres (11/29/2020)
- Yarizeth and Yaneth, twin daughters of José DeLeón and Laiza Amador (11/29/2020)

We celebrate the blessing of their beautiful eternal souls and may we help them grow to be the Saints the Lord has called them to be.



*We pray for the following family who mourn the loss of their loved one:*


- Dorrene Walker, whose private funeral was held Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

*We pray that the love, mercy and compassion of our Lord bring her family peace and comfort during this difficult time.*



In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

## Liturgical Ministers

	Saturday Dec 5, 2020	Sunday December 6, 2020	
	5:15 pm	9:00 am	11:00 am
Accompanist	TBD	TBD	
Cantor	TBD	TBD	
Lectors	Mary Larsheid	Sue Amundson	Picked by Carmon
Eucharistic Ministers	3 from November schedule	5 from November schedule	3 needed from schedule

**Ministers are needed for our Christmas Masses. The signup sheet is located in the access area.**

## St. Theodore School News

**Happy Thanksgiving!** We hope you all were able to celebrate the way you felt most comfortable. There has been so many things this year that we have all been unsure of but always remember, God loves us all. That is something we can all be thankful for this year.

**We are so very thankful for our school.** To our school families, thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. To our teachers, thank you for working so hard to help our students learn through this difficult time. To our maintenance staff, thank you for keeping our school clean and sanitized so we can continue to educate students.

Have a blessed weekend!

**St. Theodore Catholic School**

## Faith Formation News

### THE SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

Angels still remain on our Angel Tree Program. Please select an angel from the tree located in our church entrance area. Purchase a \$10-\$20 age appropriate gift for a boy or girl and return the unwrapped gift to our Angel Tree by December 11th.

**For the month of December, all Faith Formation classes will be online.**

**Kristy Minear ♦ St. Theodore Faith Formation**



Thanks to Deanne & Brian Zogg for their generous donation of Mathew Kelly's latest book, *I Heard God Laugh*. All are encouraged to take a free copy located in the church's access and chapel entrance areas.

## Poinsettias for Christmas!

Addie's Floral & Gifts are filling orders for poinsettias to decorate our church for Christmas until December 17<sup>th</sup>. Contact Addie's Floral directly at 377-2081. You may order memorials or in honor of plants for the following costs:

**6½" pot single plant - \$13.00 or 8" pot two plants - \$25.00**

You will be able to take your plant home after the Christmas Season!





