



St. Theodore Catholic Church

Inviting people to actively participate in the Life of Christ!
¡Invitando a las personas a participar activamente en la Vida de Cristo!

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

www.sttheo.org

PARISH PASTOR

Father Kurt Farrell.....507-373-0603
pastor@sttheo.org

ADMINISTRATION

Joanne Tibodeau.....507-373-0603
jjt@sttheo.org

BOOKKEEPING

Linda Andersen.....507-373-1646
bookkeeping@sttheo.org

OFFICE

Joanne Tibodeau.....507-373-0603
Lucy Martinez.....507-373-0603
office@sttheo.org

FAITH FORMATION

Irene Nelson - director.....507-373-5254
faithformation@sttheo.org

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Sue Amundson.....507-373-9657
principal@sttheo.org

SCHOOL SECRETARY

Kristina Garcia.....507-373-9657
secretary@sttheo.org

KITCHEN

Jolene Dilleuth.....507-373-1545
kitchen@sttheo.org

MAINTENANCE

Leonel Lopez Ortiz.....507-473-4637
maintenance@sttheo.org

ST. JAMES TRUSTEES

Alan Amundson.....852-2169
Imogene Attig.....373-6794

ST. THEODORE TRUSTEES

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John Forman.....373-0498

CEMETERY: St. Theodore & St. James

Josh Fossum.....651-788-2058

OUTREACH to HOMEBOUND

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

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PRAYER CHAIN

Norma Kane
507-279-9828
Jkane_1981@yahoo.com



On this first Sunday, the liturgical texts present an image of a God who calls us together to his kingdom. These readings invite us to be grateful to God for choosing us to be his people, a people called to bring God's light and presence to the world. For this reason, we must always live prepared to walk on the path that God has placed before us, avoiding the ways of selfishness and isolation.

If the Gospel today announces a better tomorrow with the phrase "when the Son of Man comes" (Matthew 24:39), the Letter to the Romans insists that "salvation is near at hand (Romans 13:12)." Perhaps our community groups could reflect on these phrases, sharing their thoughts on what it means to "wait in our times" for salvation in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

En este primer Domingo, los textos litúrgicos presentan una imagen de un Dios que nos llama juntos a su reino. Estas lecturas nos invitan a estar agradecidos a Dios por elegirnos para ser su pueblo, un pueblo llamado a llevar la luz y la presencia de Dios al mundo. Por esta razón, debemos vivir siempre preparados para caminar por el camino que Dios ha puesto delante de nosotros, evitando los caminos del egoísmo y el aislamiento.

Si el Evangelio de hoy anuncia un mañana mejor con la frase "cuando venga el Hijo del Hombre" (Mateo 24:39), la Carta a los Romanos insiste en que "la salvación está cerca" (Rm 13,12)". Tal vez nuestros grupos comunitarios podrían reflexionar sobre estas frases, compartiendo sus pensamientos sobre lo que significa "esperar en nuestros tiempos" la salvación en Jesucristo, el Hijo de Dios.



MASS TIMES

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

Nursing Home Masses - 2:00 pm

1st Thursday - All St. Johns Locations
2nd Thursday - Good Samaritan
3rd Thursday - Thorne Crest

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 pm ♦ **Sunday:** 1/2 hour before Mass

PRIVATE PRAYER IN CHAPEL

Open all hours

Parish Office Hours

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

Closed Friday

Offices Close Daily

- 9:00-9:45 am for Mass (except Monday)
- 12:00-1:00 pm for lunch

The Catholic Shoppe ♦ Parish Office

- 1:00-4:00 pm
- Monday-Thursday

FROM THE DESK OF FR. KURT



This weekend we begin the season of Advent.

Advent is a time for waiting and longing for the coming of God into 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 and all the good things that I would get underneath the Christmas tree and in my stocking Christmas morning. I couldn't even sleep at nights as the days drew closer for the permission to unwrap all those presents underneath the tree with my name on them. Christmas morning brought great joy as I tore through all those packages but after some time of playing with my new gadgets, the joy was gone.

Unlike the joy of material gifts, the joy of accepting the Christ Child into our hearts is everlasting. Christmas is not about gifts underneath the tree. It's about a child being born who brings hope of salvation to a world so broken by violence and hatred.

This advent let us make sure that the coming of the birth of Jesus is what we long for. Best way to prepare for the Christ child to be born in our hearts is to be free of sin. Please take advantage of God's forgiveness found in the Sacrament of Penance.

Love of Christ

Father Kurt Farrell

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues Dec 5	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass For all Parishioners	Church Church
Wed Dec 6	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass For all the poor souls in Purgatory	Church Church
Thurs Dec 7	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass † Mike Moore & Ryan Moore by Suzanne & family	Church Church
Fri Dec 8	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass For all the Parishioners	Church Church
Sat Dec 9	4-4:30pm 4:45 pm 5:15 pm	Confession Rosary Memorial Mass Association	Church Church Church
Sun Dec 10	8:30 am 9:00 am 11:00am	Rosary Mass † For all Parishioners Spanish Mass For all Parishioners and those listed in our book of intentions	Church Church Church

2023 CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL

Goal	\$54,208.00
Amount received (11/17/23)	\$48,203.00

Catholic Ministry Appeal (CMA)

We have only a few weeks left to reach our goal of \$6,005 before January 1, 2024. Thank you to those you generosity given.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

November 20– 27, 2023

Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Improvement Fund
\$7,198.00	\$1,098.28	\$125.00

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon: 12/4	Is 2:1-5	Mt 8:5-11
Tues: 12/5	Is 11:1-10	Lk 10:21-24
Wed: 12/6	Is 25:6-10a	Mt 15:29-37
Thu: 12/7	Is 26:1-6	Mt 7:21, 24-27
Fri: 12/8	Gn 3:9-15, 20	Lk 1:26-38
Sat: 12/9	Is 30:19-21, 23-26	Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sun: 12/10	Is 40:1-5, 9-11, PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14	2 PT 3:8-14, MK 1:1-8

SUNDAY BROADCAST SPONSORS

Date	Intention
Dec 17	Need Additional Sponsors
Dec 24	† Jack Bloomquist by Rosemary Bloomquist † Dave Mullenbach by Sandy & family Need Additional Sponsors

The Holy Father's Intention for December, 2023

For Persons With Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Poinsettias for Christmas!



Addie's Floral & Gifts are filling orders for poinsettias to decorate our church for Christmas until December 18th. Contact Addie's Floral directly at 377-2081. You may designate your plants as either a memorial or in honor of, for the following costs:

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

Donors may take their plant home after the 1/7/23 weekend Masses.

Feast of the

Immaculate Conception

Vigil Mass

December 7

5:30 PM

Feast Day Mass

December 8

9:00 AM



American
Red Cross

Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

12 noon - 6 pm in Marian Hall.

Call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment

Every donation can help up to three people

Church Decorating Helpers Needed

We need your help with decorating the church for Christmas (12/23/23 9-10AM)

and taking decorations down after Christmas.

(1/10/24 5:30-6:30 PM)


Go to sttheo.org to sign up to help or contact the parish office!



THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES & REMINDERS

Mon Dec 4	Jesus and the Eucharist Group Study 1:30-3:30pm Loaves & Fishes 4:45-5:30pm Hispanic Bible Study 5-6pm Life in the Spirit Prayer Group 6-7pm	Parish Meeting Room Marian Hall Church Church Basement
Tues Dec 5	Hispanic Holy Spirit Group 6-8pm	Church
Wed Dec 6	Morning Prayer Group 6-7am Hand Bell Practice 5:30-6:30pm Faith Formation Class grade 5-11 6:30-8pm Faith Formation Adoration 7-8pm	Parish Meeting Room Church Basement School/Gym/ Church Church
Thurs Dec 7	Father teaches 4th-5th grade 8:25-8:45am Quilting Group 1-4pm Mass ♦ Immaculate Conception 5:30-6:30pm	School Church Basement Church
Fri Dec 8	Adoration 9:30am-6:30pm Hispanic Adoration 5-6:30pm	Chapel Church
Sat Dec 9	RCIA 9am-12pm Quincenera 2-3pm Baptism 3:30-4:30pm	Parish Meeting Room Church Church
Sun Dec 10	Faith Formation Class-PreK-4th 10-10:55am Spanish Mass: Our Lady of Guadalupe 11am-12pm Fiesta Meal 12-1:30pm	School Church Marian Hall

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	Saturday, Dec 9, 2023	Sunday, Dec 10, 2023
	5:15 pm	9:00 am
Accompanist	Ada Theusch	Ada Theusch
Cantor	TBD	Jodi Blong
Lectors	Lois Ahem	Steve Schwab
Altar Servers	Kyle & Mathew Ramirez	Evyana Bartelt & Evalyn Holcomb
Immaculate Conception		
Accompanish/ Cantor	December 7, 2023 ♦ Vigil Mass ♦ 5:30pm Ada Theusch	
Lector	Dec 7, 2023 ♦ 5:30pm Leon Axtman	Dec 8, 2023 ♦ 9:00am Joanne Tibodeau
Servers	Dec 7, 2023 ♦ Vigil Mass ♦ 5:30pm Keagan Winslow Contact office if you can serve or just come forward	

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Family Advent Day – December 3rd

Sunday, December 3rd is the first day of Advent! ALL PreK - 4th graders are invited to attend a special Family Advent Day with their parents. **This event will be held during the children's regular Faith Formation class time, from 10-11am, in Marian Hall.** Siblings, Godparents, and/or grandparents are welcome too! **Enjoy learning about Advent by doing a variety of activities and take-home projects together with your student.**

First Reconciliation Day

Sunday, December 3rd at 3:00pm, in the church.

All First Communion students must attend and with at least one parent.

Christmas Pageant Practices!

All parish youth are welcome to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant! Our next practices are as follows: ♦ Sunday, December 10th, 2-4pm
♦ Saturday, December 16th, 1-3pm ♦ Saturday, December 23rd, 1-3pm

Salvation Army Angel Tree

Please consider making a local child's Christmas magical, by taking a tag (or 2!) from the Angel Tree in the church entrance. Instructions for gift drop-off are included on each tag. The Angel Tree deadline is Dec. 15th. Thank you for your generosity this Christmas season!



Irene Nelson, Faith Formation Director - ian@sttheo.org 507-373-5254

ST. THEODORE SCHOOL NEWS



We are still collecting Winter Gear for the United Way of Freeborn County. They are looking for gently used coats, hats, gloves, snow pant, and boots, also they are looking for NEW socks. If you have any items you would like to donate there are collection boxes for the winter items in the School and Parish offices, and in the Church Access. We will be collecting these items until the end of December.

Have a blessed weekend,
St. Theodore Catholic School

Offering Envelopes



Please pick up your offering envelopes located in the lower church access area. It costs us \$9.63 to mail them out so please be sure to pick them up when you attend Mass. Thank you!

Jesus and the Eucharist

Adult Formation Small Group Study ♦ December 4, 2023
1:30-3:30 PM
St. Theodore Parish Meeting Room



Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24
4:00 PM
7:30 PM (Español)
9:30pm Christmas Carols
10:00 PM

Christmas Masses



Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25
9:00 AM
(Broadcast)



The St. Theodore **Handbell Choir** is rehearsing in the Church Basement from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on 12/6, 12/13, and 12/20. If you are interested in joining the group for this Christmas, please email Ada Theusch at atheusch@ac242.us. Experienced and new members are welcome!

CPA Hill, Benda, Skov & Bernau, P.A. Certified Public Accountants 507-377-1333 <u>Accounting Services</u> Bookkeeping, Payroll, & Tax Preparation Heather Benda-Parishioner Lance Skov Andrew Bernau Skyline Plaza ♦ 1655 West Main St. Albert Lea, MN 56007	 507-373-9194 www.plazamorenarestaurant.com Northbridge Mall 2588 Bridge Ave. Albert Lea, MN 2588 Northbridge Rafael Herrera General Manager Parishioner	LEA TAXI 507-318-6323 Albert Lea, MN	 Ben J. Bartelt Agent/Parishioner 507-377-0227 www.albertleasf.com 505 Bridge Ave. ♦ Albert Lea, MN
DOUG'S PAINTING & SANDBLASTING 377-1508 Interior/Exterior Painting of Commercial Buildings, In-Shop Painting and Staining Doug, Jason & Dan Evans	Raleigh's ACE Hardware  2525 Bridge Ave. 507-377-8636 Peggy Raleigh, Matt & Ellen Raleigh Parishioners	 JONES HAUGH SMITH Professional Engineers & Land Engineers • Surveyors Surveyors 373-4876 ♦ Brian J. Johnson	 ALBERT LEA ELECTRIC CO. CAL JOHNSON 1410 Olsen Dr. Albert Lea, MN 56007 (507)-373-6650 www.albertleaelectric.com
 Senior Resources of Freeborn County Call us at 377-7433 Serving Seniors in programs of Ride Services Advocacy Chore	SOUTHSIDE CUSTOM 507-373-4164 Mechanic Collision Repair ♦ Insurance Estimates 1401 S.E. Broadway, Albert Lea	Helping to beautifully preserve your memories.  Mandy Grzybowski Creative Memories Consultant 507-383-1558 agrzybow@me.com	 Charlene's BEAUTY SALON 373-1731 2306 Milo Ave. Albert Lea, MN 56007 Charlene Kukuzke Owner & Parishioner Your Family Hair Care Center
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 Bayview Freeborn FUNERAL HOME "We can cross this bridge together." JOSH FOSSUM Director/Manager Email: info@bayviewfuneral.com 1415 Hwy. 13 N Albert Lea, MN 56007 Phone: (507) 373-4330	 Knights of Columbus Council 1590 Albert Lea, MN A Catholic Fraternal Organization 373-5678	 Knights of Columbus 1590 Women's Auxiliary Open to all Catholic Women 18 & over	SAVELKOUL LAW OFFICE Donald W. Savelkoul Parishioner 2302 E. Main St. 507.552.5291 dsavelkoul@savelkoullaw.com

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<p>The Catholic Shoppe</p> <p>Located in St. Theodore Parish Office Open Monday-Thursday ♦ 8:00AM-4:00 PM</p> <p>Come and check out our selection of religious books, gift and so much more!</p>		 <p>Online Auction</p> <p>• Consignment Auction</p> <p>• Estate Sale Auction</p> <p>• Charity Auction</p> <p>Contact No. 507-552-3911 • Mobile No. 507-318-0783</p> <p>Website: www.amonlineauction.hibid.com</p> <p>Email: amonlineauction@yahoo.com</p> <p>Lance & Mimey Anspach 525 Prospect Ave. Albert Lea, MN 56007</p>	
<p>St. Theodore Parish VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</p> <p>Money Counters Ushers Altar Servers Quilting Group Members Church dusting team members</p> <p>Please contact the parish office at 507-373-0603</p>	<p>ST. THEODORE PRAYER CHAIN</p> <p>Norma Kane 507-279-9828 Jkane_1981@yahoo.co... Can also take requests in Spanish</p>    <p>2202 Stevens St Albert Lea, MN</p> <p>373-1329</p>		