

CHURCH OF ST. TIMOTHY  
707 89th Avenue NE  
Blaine MN 55434

Church of St. Timothy

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All bulletins are available on our website: [www.churchofsttimothy.com](http://www.churchofsttimothy.com)

Mission Statement: We are a progressive, welcoming Catholic community that values full participation in worship and community service. We commit to being a peace-loving, Eucharistic community providing integrated faith formation and applying gospel values to daily living.

Parish Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	Fr. Joe Whalen
<b>Deacon/Marriage Ministry</b>	Joe Frederick
<b>Receptionist</b>	Kelly Boxwell
<b>Middle/High School Faith Formation; Youth Ministry</b>	Rick Craig
<b>Receptionist</b>	Jill Hanson
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Joy Heifort
<b>Coordinator of Liturgical Music</b>	Therese Jorgensen
<b>Communications Director</b>	Rhonda Miska
<b>Director of Parish Faith Formation</b>	Cindy Novak
<b>Pastoral Minister</b>	Maggie Philbrook
<b>Children’s Ministries/Safe Environment Coordinator</b>	Kristen Raaen
<b>Maintenance Director</b>	Barry Schuetzler
<b>Director of Liturgy and Music</b>	Bill Steffl
<b>Director of Administration and Finance</b>	Cathy Sullivan

See our website for full listing of parish staff.

**Office hours:**  
Monday - Thursday      8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Friday and Sunday      8:00 a.m. - noon  
Saturday      Closed

**Weekend liturgy schedule**  
**Saturday:** 5:00 p.m. (with American Sign Language interpretation) **Sunday:** 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.  
**Saturday evening livestreaming Mass:** 5:00 pm  
**Daily Liturgy** Mass or Word and Communion service is celebrated Monday-Friday at 9 a.m. (rosary at 8:25 a.m.) unless there is a funeral scheduled. Daily Mass intentions are posted on the bulletin boards at church entrances.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays at 3:00 p.m. or call the office to make an appointment.  
**Prayer requests:** Call 763.755.5027 or 763.757.3776.  
**Communion for homebound:** Contact the parish office.  
**Baptisms:** Call the office for information on baptismal preparation class for parents.  
**Weddings:** Contact the office to make arrangements and learn more about preparation for the sacrament of matrimony at least six months prior to the wedding.



December 24 and 25, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Advent and  
Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)



## Welcome to St. Tim's!

### Loving Our Neighbors And Sharing Christmas Joy



In keeping with our commitment to outreach and charity, the Church of St. Timothy continued our longstanding tradition of reaching out to our neighbors in need during the holiday season. Nearly 200 local families received Christmas baskets with food, gifts, and hand-tied fleece blankets. Thank you to the hundreds of parishioners who generously volunteered or donated to help support this initiative that brings warmth and kindness to our neighbors this Christmas.



Our parish Blanketier team (pictured below) has been hard at work for many months creating 322 hand-tied fleece blankets. Father Joe, Blanketiers and basket volunteers gathered last week to pray over the blankets and ask God's blessing on those who will receive them.



### Daily Scripture Readings

#### Readings for the week of December 24

Monday: (Nativity of the Lord)

Tuesday: (St. Stephen) Acts 6:8-10 and 7:54-59; Ps 31:3-6, 8, 16-17; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: (St. John) I Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1-8

Thursday: (Holy Innocents) I Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7-8; Mt 2:13-18

Friday: I Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-6; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: I Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Sunday: (Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph) Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-17; Lk 2:22-40

## Parish News and Updates

### Holiday Office Hours

In honor of the Christmas holiday, the parish office will be closed Saturday, December 23 through Monday, December 25. In honor of the New Year's holiday, the parish office will be closed Saturday, December 30 through Monday, January 1.

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Mass will be celebrated in the church at 9 a.m. that day. Since it falls on a Monday this year, it is not a holy day of obligation. However, all are welcome to attend and prayerfully begin the new year.

### Connecting Digitally At St. Tim's

St. Tim's has a Facebook page that is updated at least once daily. Like and follow us at [facebook.com/StTimothyBlaine](https://facebook.com/StTimothyBlaine). Our YouTube channel [youtube.com/StTimothyChurchBlaineMN](https://youtube.com/StTimothyChurchBlaineMN) includes livestreamed liturgies, music and more. We also have a parish app where you can access the bulletin, worship aid, and more. Download the app by texting sttimothyapp to 77977. Our Encounter podcast can be accessed through the homepage of our website. Contact Rhonda Miska, Director of Communications, with questions about these opportunities to connect digitally at St. Tim's.

### Year End Giving

IRS standards require the Church of St. Timothy to treat all contributions received in 2023 as 2023 contributions for tax purposes. The following contributions will be recorded in 2023: anything mailed with a postmark in 2023; donations hand delivered to the parish office by noon on Friday, December 29; donations initiated online through our website or given at Mass on or before December 31, 2023. Contact the parish office with any questions about your financial giving. We are thankful for our parishioners' generous support of our parish mission.

### St. Tim's Overseas Projects

For fifty years, St. Tim's Overseas Projects (STOP) have provided financial support from Lenten almsgiving to human development projects around the globe. The social justice outreach committee is now accepting applications for 2024 STOP grants. If you are connected to an organization working overseas that would benefit from STOP funding, visit the social justice page of our website to access grant application and details about eligibility.

### Supporting Refugee Families

The Church of St. Timothy has a long history of supporting refugee families during the Christmas season when we recall how the Holy Family fled to Egypt for safety. The weekend of January 6 and 7, parishioners are invited to bring donations of items such as new towels, cleaning supplies, and toiletries to help new Minnesotans establish households. If you prefer to make a financial donation, scan this QR code.



### May They Rest In Peace

We prayerfully remember Mary Ann Penick and all in our parish family who have died. May they rest in peace and may the grieving know God's consoling presence. A list of parish deaths and funeral information can be found on our parish website.

### Family Game Night

Celebrate the Feast of St. Timothy on Saturday, January 27 with a family game night. Doors will open at 6 p.m. A pizza dinner will be followed by gym games, various board and card games, and even some competitive games between families. Move between games as you wish and find the ones your family likes best. Stay tuned to parish communications channels for more details about this and other fun, family-friendly parish events.



## 2023 Year in Review

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus and prepare to begin a new year, there is much to celebrate and give thanks for about past year at the Church of St. Timothy.



In January, twelve adult parishioners participated in a service trip to the US/Mexico border in Texas, a meaningful experience of cross-cultural encounter, prayer, and community-building.

The forty-day Lenten season was marked by KC fish fries in the hospitality center and fundraising for St. Tim's Overseas Projects in Colombia, El Salvador, and Uganda. Holy Week featured the talents of our parish music ensembles at liturgies, as well as parish youth who presented Living Stations of the Cross.



Spring brought the celebration of first communion for children and confirmation for youth. In spring we enjoyed the Divine Mercy concert that featured vocal and instrumental musicians from our parish and beyond, as well as the "New York, New York"-themed volunteer appreciation dinner.



Summer highlights included a youth mission trip to Paintsville, Kentucky and a fun-filled week of Vacation Bible School for elementary-age children.

St. Tim's Carnival, held the second weekend in September, was blessed by beautiful weather and a strong turnout from the local community. It was our most financially successful carnival to date, thanks to the generosity of hundreds of parishioner volunteers who sold raffle tickets, put up tents, donated items, prepared and served food and drink during the carnival, and volunteered in many other ways. September also brought the launch of Encounter, a podcast-style conversation series that further expands our parish's digital outreach.



In October, Cathy Sullivan, Director of Administration and Finance, offered her annual state of the parish address at weekend Masses. Parishioners responded generously, with many increasing their giving to ensure that our parish will be an active, thriving faith community for generations to come.

Throughout the year, our parish lived out our commitment to charity and outreach through ministries including our food shelf garden, soup line, and BeFrienders, as well as fundraising and providing in-kind donations for organizations that support human dignity. And we lived out our commitment to community-building through events like KC breakfasts, turkey bingo, a ministry fair, and countless faith formation offerings.



November and December brought us some beloved parish holiday traditions, including the CCW Christmas cookie sale, the American Sign Language worship choir performance, and Santa's Workshop for kids.

As we look back on 2023, we give thanks to God for all the many blessings of the year, and pray for God's continued guidance in the year to come.

Christ Our Savior Is Born!



Father Joe and the entire staff of the Church of St. Timothy wish you and yours a blessed Christmas and a joyful, peaceful 2024!