

St. Joseph Catholic Church & Christ the King Catholic Church

512 South Elm Ave. Owatonna, MN. 55060

205 2nd Ave. NW Medford, MN. 55049

St. Joseph website: www.stjosephowatonna.org | Christ the King website: www.ctkmedfordmn.org



September 7, 2025
Twenty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time



Please contact the Parish office if... A member of your family is in the hospital. You want communion brought to your home. Your address, phone, email has changed. Your wish to register your family with the Parish.

Office Hours: Mon. - Thursday: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday: 8:30am - 3:00pm

Parish Priest – Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy
pastor@stjosephowatonna.org (507) 451-4845

Assisting Priest – Fr. Miguel Proaños
vicar@sacredheartowatonna.org (507) 214-0196

Administrator– Al Christenson (507) 451-4845
apchristenson@stjosephowatonna.org

Parish Secretary – Linda Strand (507) 451-4845
parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org

Bookkeeping– Erika Starman

St. Joseph Liturgical Music Director -
Carol Hodapp, carolhodapp@gmail.com

Christ the King Liturgical Music Director -
Melodie Morris, pennyrose58@hotmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinator – Brittany Boubin
shsjyouth@shsjfaithformation.org
(507) 686-5184

Christ the King Faith Formation Coordinator -
Alyse Miller (507)456-1033
medfordcatholicyouth@gmail.com

Church Maintenance - Dave Oman
St. Mary's School - Jen Swanson, Principal
(507) 446-2300

Confession at St. Joseph

Saturday 3:00pm - 3:45pm

Mass Schedule: Weekends

Saturday 4:00pm - St. Joseph

Saturday 5:30pm - Christ the King

Sunday 8:00am & 10:00am - St. Joseph

Weekdays and Holy Days

(See schedule in the bulletin)

Confession/Adoration at

Christ the King Church

The first Friday of the month

after 8:00am Mass

**Be a part of our new
Church Directory!**

Reserve your photo session
for the new St. Joseph Church / Christ the King
Church Directory from Universal Church
Directories! Our directory will not be complete
without you! Sign – up online for a photo session
at **www.ucdir.com**



Church code = mn564 Password = photos

***Reminder - when you sign up on Sept. 18th - 20th, the photo sessions will be at Christ the King Church in Medford.**

Photo sessions at St. Joseph: Sept. 30 - Oct. 4th & Oct. 6 - 8th.

If you need to cancel, change or have help signing up for a photo session, call the parish office at 507-451-4845.

It's time to renew your subscription to the Magnificat.

The yearly subscription is \$35.00 payable by check or cash to St. Joseph Parish. Payments can be brought to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket. **Write "Magnificat" on the memo line.** Every month you will need to pick up your copy at the church - we do not deliver them. For all questions concerning renewing or first time orders, call 507-451-4845.

"Beloved" Diocese of Winona - Rochester Women's Conference November 1, 2025
St. Ann's Catholic Church Janesville, MN. Register online at dowr.org

Sacred Heart/St. Joseph Faith Formation News

The Faith Formation year will begin with a family Mass on Wednesday September 10 at 6:30 pm at Sacred Heart Church with fellowship to follow. If you have not yet registered, please do so at <https://shsjfaithformation.org/faithformation-registration>. Classes at St. Mary's School will begin on September 17 from 6:30-7:45 pm. We will have a Confirmation meeting for our youth and at least one parent on Wednesday September 17 at 6:30 pm at Sacred Heart Parish Center. A parent only meeting for First Communion, both for Faith Formation and St. Mary's families will be Wednesday September 24 at 6:30 pm at Sacred Heart Parish Center. Please email Brittany Boubin at shsjyouth@shsjfaithformation.org for any questions.

A message from the desk of Father Marreddy

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 7, 2025-C

Readings: Wisdom 9:13-18; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33

The parables of the tower and the king preparing for war: "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple . . . Anyone who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." Luke 14: 25-33
The images of the unfinished tower and the king poorly prepared for battle illustrate the frustration and ultimate failure of the disciple who does not give himself/herself totally to the Gospel. When a follower of Jesus begins to hold anything back in imitating Christ, discipleship becomes a charade.

What do the twin parables of the tower builder and a ruler on a war campaign have in common (Luke 14:28-32)? Both the tower builder and the ruler risked serious loss if they did not carefully plan to make sure they could finish what they had begun. This double set of parables echoes the instruction given in the Old Testament Book of Proverbs: "By wisdom a house is built" and "by wise guidance you can wage a war" to ensure victory (Proverbs 24:3-6).

Starting a building-project, like a watchtower, and leaving it unfinished because of poor planning or insufficient funds would invite the scorn of the whole village. Likewise, a king who decided to wage a war against an opponent, who was much stronger, would be considered foolish if he did not come up with a plan that had a decent chance of success. Counting the cost and investing wisely are necessary conditions for securing a good return on the investment.

Jesus challenges us to live every moment of our lives as a time for preparation and "planning" for much greater and lasting things than this world of ours offers. Jesus challenges us His disciples to examine who and what we love first and foremost as we can be ruled and mastered by many different things: money, drugs, success, power, or fame.

Jesus' sobering words in today's Gospel are meant to make us fully aware of the cost of discipleship before we embrace something we are not prepared for. The gift of grace comes at the price of the same Cross awaiting Jesus in Jerusalem.

What is the 'way of the Cross' for you and me? It means that when my will crosses with God's will, then His will must be done. The way of the Cross involves sacrifice, the sacrifice of laying down my life every day for Jesus' sake.

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on September 8th

The feast is the birthday celebration of the mother of Jesus, our Heavenly Mother and the Mother of the Church. It is the birthday of an ordinary woman who was chosen to become the mother of an extraordinary Divine Child. The Church celebrates the death day of a saint as his/her feast day, considering it his/her "birthday in Heaven." The three exceptions are Jesus' birthday (Christmas), Mary's birthday (September 8), and John the Baptist's birthday (June 24). Mary's birthday is celebrated because of her Immaculate Conception. John the Baptist, in Elizabeth's womb, was filled with the Holy Spirit during Mary's visitation of Elizabeth. We honor Mary because God *has done great things for her* (Luke 1:49), a) by choosing her as the mother of Jesus His Son, b) by filling her with His Holy Spirit twice, c) by making her the embodiment of all virtues ("*full of grace*"), and our Heavenly Mother and d) by allowing her to become the most active participant with Christ, her son, in our redemption.

Blessings!

Christ the King Church News & Events

Preplanning Seminar - Medford Funeral Home (310 East Central Ave) Tues. October 14, 2025 | 10am OR 6pm

Hear about the importance of pre planning your last wishes. There will be time for questions and answers.

See our recent remodel projects. **Space is limited, so call to reserve your seat 507-455-1363.**

Food will be served at both seminars.

Medford's CCW is planning to meet on Monday, September 15th at 6pm in the church basement.

Lots to review and discuss. Please join us with your thoughts and ideas. All are welcome!

Music Ministry - Christ the King Choirs are starting again!

First Saturday - Auto Organ - Traditional music • **Second Saturday** - Full Choir - Piano & Adults

Third Saturday - Youth Choir - Any & All Students • **Fourth Saturday** - Hand Bells

Please prayerfully consider joining one or more of these Choirs! A visiting priest once told me..."When you sing a hymn, it's like praying twice." All are welcome - keep a song in your heart. God Bless, Melodie Morris

Please feel free to contact me at 507-491-3452. We practice the Wednesday before the Mass 6:30pm-7:45pm.

Youth Choir practice is the Wednesday before Mass, during part of Religious Education Class.

Christ the King Faith Formation Registration is Open!

Registration for the 2025-2026 Faith Formation year is now open!

We're excited to kick off the new year with our

3rd Annual Family Mass on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:00 PM at Corpus Christi.

Visit our website to register online or scan the QR code to get started. Click on Faith Formation Program under the menu. We look forward to growing in faith together this year!

<https://ctkmedfordmn.org/2025-2026-faith-formation-class-registration>



Weekly Readings and Mass Intentions

| | | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Mon. | 09/08/25 | Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16,18-23 | 7:15am: Sacred Heart Church |
| Tues. | 09/09/25 | Col 2:6-15/Lk 6:12-19 | 8:00am: Ray Willmott† |
| Wed. | 09/10/25 | Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26 | 8:00am: Darlene Gathje† |
| Thurs. | 09/11/25 | Col 3:12-17/Lk 6:27-38 | 8:00am: Grace Jardine (living) |
| Fri. | 09/12/25 | 1 Tm 1:1-2,12-14/Lk 6:39-42 | 8:00am: CTK - Dylan Lauwers† |
| Sat. | 09/13/25 | 1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49 | 8:00am: Brown family living & deceased |
| Sun. | The Exaltation of the Holy Cross | | 4:00pm: Bill Hannum† |
| | Nm 21:4b-9 | 09/13/25 | 5:30pm: CTK - Luella & Bernard Heim† |
| | Phil 2:6-11 | 09/14/25 | 8:00am: James Bulver† |
| | Jn 3:13-17 | 09/14/25 | 10:00am: Parishioners |



September 7 – Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the demands of following him, the great cost of discipleship. The Mission Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states: "Vincentians witness God's love by

embracing all works of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ."

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? Tuesday evening there were 175 delicious meals served to those in need at Vincent's Table.

We meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at **6:30 p.m., at St. Joseph's Church.** If you would like further information on growing your spiritual life and serving those in need in our community, please join us at a meeting or contact Joe Stiles at jrstiles1224@msn.com. Our phone number is 507-676-5508.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday, September 13 - 4:00pm

EMs: Rose Ann Rypka, Julio Letona, Linda Strand
Lector: Tim Vogt
Sacristan: Julio Letona
Ushers: Scott Yentsch, Sue Yentsch
Joan Erdman, *Usher needed*
Altar Servers: Julio Letona, 2 Servers needed
Greeter: Katherine Rypka

Sunday, September 14 - 8:00am

EMs: Lynn Lattery, Linda Huffington, Matt Thurnau
Lector: Annika Slacter
Sacristan: Joanne Evans
Ushers: Tyler Keller, Pat Rose
Tom Wolfe, Mark Kearin
Altar Servers: Henry & Stella Seykora, Ophelia Slacter
Greeter: *Greeter needed*

Sunday, September 14 - 10:00am

EMs: Elyn Jardine, Lee Jardine, *EM needed*
Lector: Lee Jardine
Sacristan: Ruth Broumley
Ushers: Chuck Jurgens, King Jurgens
Jerry Atkinson, Dina Atkinson
Altar Servers: Alexandra Nylund, Cole & Westin Trom
Greeter: Julie Bosshardt

September - St. Joseph Funeral Chairpersons

LaRae Evans (507) 456-9416
Roberta Zak (507) 451-2041

News from St. Mary's School

St. Mary's welcomed back students, families and staff for the 2025-2026 school year. We started with an ice cream and root beer float social out on the playground. After that, we welcomed back students to a new school year!



KC Council #945 Benefit Breakfast - Sunday September 14th.

Tickets \$9 in advance and \$10 at the door. (free under 6 years) at the **St. Mary's School cafeteria. Tableside service is 8am-12pm.** benefitting the *Owatonna Area St. Serra Club*. Tickets available in the parish office or by contacting Shirley Schultz at 507-456-8511 or Jo Ann & Tom Eichten at 507-451-6499.

Owatonna Young Adult Catholic September Event: Stump The Clergy

Young Adults ages 20-35 are invited to attend a fun educational evening of trying to "stump the clergy" on Tuesday, September 16th at 5:30pm. This adults only social event will be held at Mineral Spring Brewery in Downtown Owatonna, and will be a great way to get to know the Clergy and other young adults in our parishes. Food and beverage will be available for you to purchase at the Brewery. Please contact Natalie Meger at 320-760-9831 if you have any questions.

Monday Sept. 8, 2025. Deacon Scot Berkley will be speaking, "Let's talk about Deacons" at 6:30 PM in Joseph Hall, at St. Joseph Parish. 5PM Holy Hour of Adoration for Vocations in St. Joseph's Church. Pizza available at 6PM. Come and bring a friend!



NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ABORTED CHILDREN

Saturday September 13th • 9:30 AM at Sacred Heart Cemetery

Priests for Life has established Saturday September 13 as the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. KC Council 945 is holding a Rosary March Saturday morning September 13 at 9:30 AM at Sacred Heart Cemetery starting at the KC Memorial for Life. Please give a few minutes of your day to pray for all of the aborted children and to pray for the end of this barbaric act.

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
|  <p>Premier Banks Keep Your Deposits Local Watch Your Money Grow 507-451-0231 Owatonna, MN</p> |  <p>507-451-7943 Michaelson FUNERAL HOME 1930 Austin Rd. PO Box 482 Owatonna, Minnesota</p> |  <p>Amy Swain Hearing Centers 507-451-3879 Audiologists offering many brands of hearing aids! www.amyswainhearingcenters.com</p> |  <p>Quality People, Products & Service 1430 East Main Street Owatonna, MN 507-451-3377 888-451-3377</p> |
| <p>danceowatonna.com  Jill Hoggard Academy of Dance Ages 2 - Adult * (507) 451-0074 Come Join the Fun!</p> |  <p>www.dowr.org 507-454-4643 Roman Catholic Diocese of Winona-Rochester</p> |  <p>BLOCK PLUMBING & HEATING OWATONNA, MN 507-451-9545</p> |  <p>State Farm Plemel Insurance Agency 920 Hoffman Drive Owatonna, MN 507-451-4619 www.plemelagency.com</p> |
| <p>BRICK - MEGER FUNERAL HOME EST. 1897 GLEN A. MEGER · MIKE MEGER · BRETT MEGER 507-451-1457</p> | <p>LOCAL 455-1628 1-800-385-1628 Steve's Service, Inc. Complete Radiator Repair Wind Generator Repair</p> |  <p>OWATONNA SPORTS & PHYSICAL THERAPY REQUEST THE BEST 507-451-8254 • OSPTinc.com</p> |  <p>RPR NETWORK Real Presence Radio Your Family of Faith and Hope</p> |
|  <p>Scan the QR Code for the St. Joseph Church website</p> |  <p>Central Heating AND Refrigeration, LLC Owatonna, MN 55060 DAVE LAX OFFICE: 507.451.3614 Comfortmaker CELL: 507.456.1575</p> | <p>24 Hour Service • Over 40 Years Experience dave@centralhtg.biz Geothermal Heat Pumps, Heating, Air Conditioning Commercial Refrigeration & Sheet Metal Specialists Commercial & Residential Sales & Service</p> |  <p>Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING JEFFREY HALL, CFP® Financial Advisor 143 W. Bridge St. Owatonna, MN (507) 573-5031 www.edwardjones.com/jeffreyhall</p> |
| <p>Owatonna Area St. Serra Club Foster & Affirm Vocations</p>  | <p>Catholic Community Chapel Open during business hours. Locked after hours for your security. Key fobs available in the parish office.</p> | <p>Full Auto Repair and Maintenance REPAIR, DIAGNOSTICS, & MAINTENANCE TIM'S AUTO SERVICE Tim Blazek 123 East Front St 507-455-9050</p> |  <p>Dan Sawyer Field Agent Dan.Sawyer@kofc.org 660 Lee Street NE Owatonna, MN Office: 952-686-7720 Mobile: 612-840-6608 Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance Protecting Catholic families since 1882</p> |
| <p>Your Health Insurance Coach & Consultant -Medicare Supplement & Part D -Medicare Advantage Jory Mages 507-214-1240 Mages Group Insurance & Financial 741 East Main St Owatonna, MN <small>*We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 7 organizations that offer 12 products in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) to get information on all your options.*</small></p> |  <p>Growing in Mind, Body & Spirit 507.446.2300 stmarys-owatonna.org</p> |  <p>Owatonna GRANITE AND MONUMENT INC John Heerema, President 1180 Frontage Rd. East • Owatonna 507-455-9551</p> | |
|  <p>Locon Inc. General Construction "OUR REPUTATION IS BUILDING" Bob Seykora</p> |  <p>Scan the QR Code for the Christ the King Church website</p> |  <p>Catholic Daughters of the America Court #1180 Owatonna For information about membership: (507) 451-4845 Our motto: "Unity & Charity"</p> | <p>Owatonna Knights of Columbus For A Better Tomorrow, Be A Knight Today Membership 451-6103</p>  |
|  <p>Selective Looks Sandie Kubista - Owner *Dawn Lindell *Paula Johnson *Jennifer Cassen *Vicki Ankram * Pam Rew 507-444-3099 109 Cedar Ave. Owatonna</p> |  <p>OWATONNA BUS COMPANY 507-451-5262</p> | <p>www.georgesofgeneva.com GEORGE'S 507-256-4501 OF GENEVA SUPPER CLUB Tuesday - Saturday 4 - 8pm Scan to see the new Menu</p> |  <p>Ludewig FINANCIAL GROUP Retirement Planning • Investment Management • Tax Planning Financial Advisory Services • Asset Protection Strategies 507-214-1230 www.LudewigFinancialGroup.com 741 E Main St. • Owatonna, MN</p> |

Become a Sponsor of the Church Bulletin!

If you, or someone you know, owns a business, please consider placing a business ad in our parish bulletin.

Your purchase of an ad in our bulletin helps defray publishing costs and is an excellent advertisement resource for you.

The St. Joseph Catholic Church & Christ the King Catholic Church bulletin is distributed to our parishioners and guests weekly and is also posted to both of our parish's websites, www.stjosephowatonna.org & www.ckmedfordmn.org.

If interested, please contact the office at 507-451-4845 or parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org. Thank you for your support!

Help Needed for Meals on Wheels St. Joseph Parish is responsible for delivery of meals on Tuesdays for the months of March, July, October and December. Time required is usually less than one hour and you are not required to deliver every Tuesday. Please call Ken Thurnau 507-451-4033 or 507-456-7736 for details.