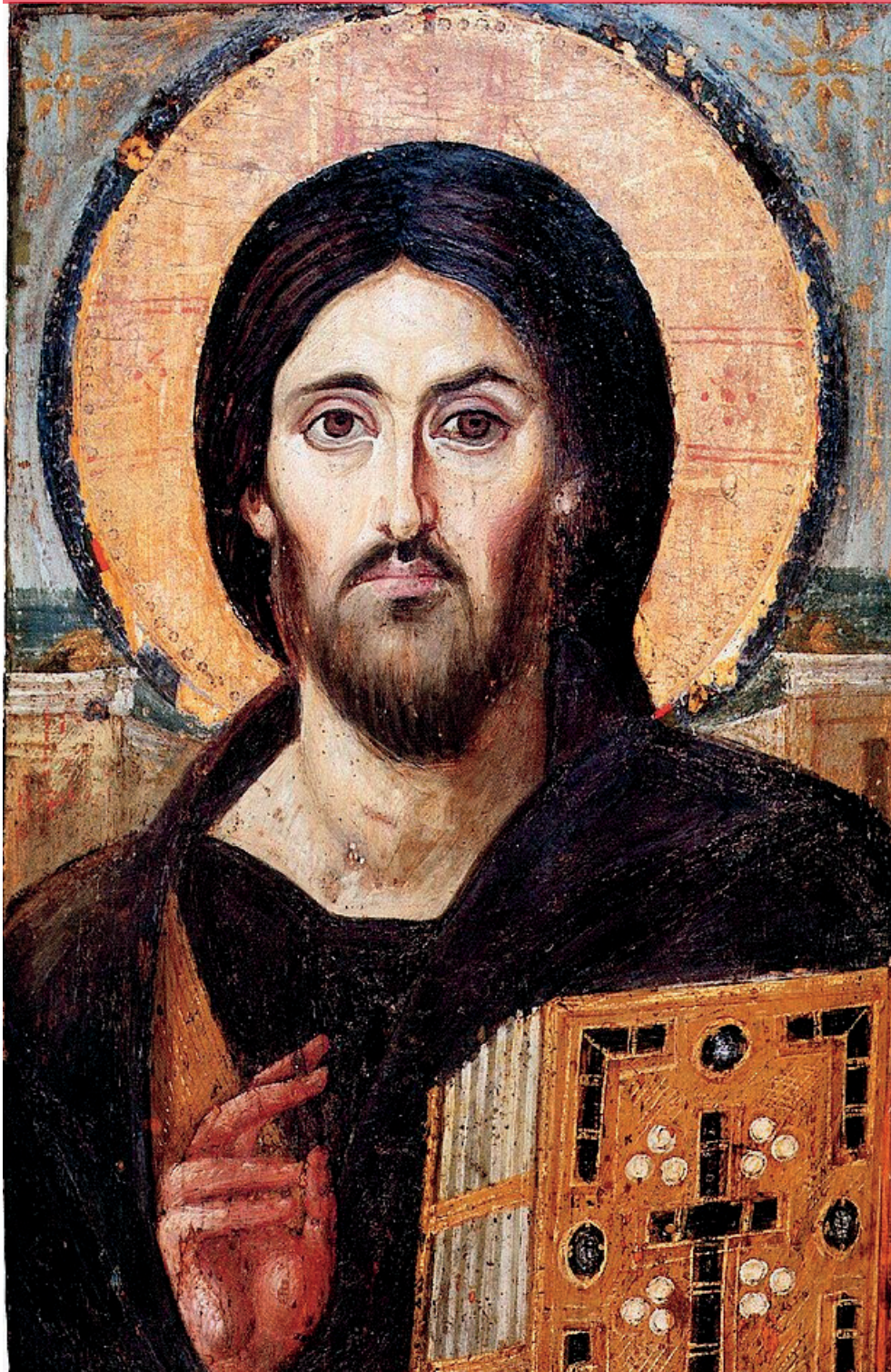


THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
KING OF THE UNIVERSE -
NOVEMBER 26, 2023

ST WENCESLAUS CATHOLIC PARISH



Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30 PM SW*
8:15 PM SJ

Sunday: 8:00 AM SS
8:30 AM SW
10:00 AM SJ
10:30 AM SW*

T/W/Th/F: 8:00 AM SW*

Monday: 5:30 PM SW

Wednesday: 5:30 PM SJ

*Our Livestreamed Masses & Rosary may be viewed on our website, npcatholic.org; on our Facebook Page, New Prague Catholic; or on YouTube, search "New Prague Area Catholic Community" at YouTube.com.
One License: 700. A-711205

Parish Contacts



952-758-3225 - PARISH



952-758-3133 - SCHOOL



npcatholic.org



info@npcatholic.org



[@newpraguecatholic](https://www.facebook.com/newpraguecatholic)



[@newpraguecatholic](https://www.instagram.com/newpraguecatholic)



ST JOHN + ST WENCESLAUS + ST SCHOLASTICA

WELCOME

WELCOME to the greater St Wenceslaus Catholic Parish, which includes the Church of St. Wenceslaus, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Scholastica. We are so glad you are here. Should you be visiting just for today, WELCOME! If you are seeking a church home, we would be honored to have you consider joining our faith community. Please feel free to call, or stop by the parish office during office hours to register, or you may do so online. #youbelonghere

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
952-758-3225

SACRAMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

Anointing of the Sick - Available to those who are seriously ill or suffering from a prolonged illness. Call the office.

Confirmation Preparation required.
Call Britt LaVigne at 952-758-0486.

Reconciliation See the schedule or call for an appointment.

Baptism Preparation is required. Call the office.

Marriage Initial in-person visit with priest, followed by six months to one-year preparation time required.

Rosary Monday – Friday 7:30 am in the church.

Fatima Prayer Cell - Thursday in church after Mass.

Adoration Friday 8:30 am to 6:00 pm.

Friday before the First Saturday, Adoration is overnight in the chapel.

Scripture Study Wednesday 7:00-8:00 am – Church Basement.

Prayer Chain Judy Siemon: 952-758-2220
Carol Bauer: 952-457-4057
Marlene Dohmen: 952-492-6879

BeFrienders Ann Schoenbauer: 758 -3456 or
Lois Giesen: 952-758-2138

Hall Rental

SW Lynn Sticha: 952-758-3225
WCC Pamela Sherlock: 952-758-0477

Padre's Pen – Are You Ready?

When I was a kid, my family had two things we would do during Advent to prepare us for Christmas. The first thing we did was right after clearing the table after dinner, we would go to the living room and light the candles of our advent wreath (one for the first week, two for the second week, etc.) and my dad would read a short passage from a book called Jotham's Journey. This book, geared towards kids and broken into short chapters to be read every day during Advent, follows the story of a boy in ancient Israel on an adventure leading him to the newborn Jesus in the manger. Then after we listened to the story, we would take a little "ornament" and put it on our Jesse Tree. This felt tree hung in our living room and each piece we put on represented a story in the Old Testament.

The ritual of fighting my brothers over who got to light the candle(s) and who got to put the ornament on the Jesse Tree, and sitting calmly to listen to the story and prepare ourselves for Christmas was important to each of us. It helped to bring prayer into the home. It helped calm us down in the evening. It helped to teach us about the Bible and Jesus. I know that my brothers and I will always cherish these memories and they have done the same thing with their families, now that they have kids.

So, what will you do this Advent to prepare for Christmas? Advent starts soon. Now is the time to prepare for the preparation. You don't have to do what my family did, but we should be doing something to prepare our hearts and our families for our celebration of Christ coming to us in the manger. You can spend more time serving the poor in our community or an adoration hour once a week.

To help us prepare as a parish, we mailed out booklets for Advent to everyone. (If you haven't picked up a copy, there are extras in back of each church.) These books have daily spiritual exercises to help get our minds and hearts ready for Christmas. If you want to use this to prepare for Christmas, open the book soon because it even has things you can read in the seven days leading up to Advent. Prep for the prep! Whatever you and your family choose to do to prepare for our celebration of Jesus' birth, take some time in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season to be simply with Him.

We are looking for people to light the Advent wreath in church. Please consider signing up for this special way to be involved this Advent season.

Father Joseph Gifford



PARISH NEWS

Christmas Adopt-a-Family & Santa Anonymous

Starting in mid-October, the Le Sueur County Department of Human Services sent out Adopt-a-Family forms to families in need. Parents then chose three items and listed the sizes of their children. These forms were forwarded to our group (anonymously) where they were then numbered. The families are listed on SignUpGenius. These lists were made available on **November 12**. See below for the QR code or SignUpGenius link.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44AEAC2FA6FDC61-45407830-adopt#/>

There are still many needy families available on the list.

For more information, call Kathy McNamara - 952-200-4949.

St. Scholastica Church Cleaning - Help Wanted!

Church basement and kitchen cleaning in preparation for the Country Style Breakfast at St Scholastica will be on Wednesday, November 29 beginning at 4:30 pm. All men, women, and families are invited to come and help prepare for this fundraiser as many hands make light work.

Announcing the Breakfast Committee for the Countrystyle Breakfast at St Scholastica:

Gary & Sue Odenthal, Karen Odenthal, Paul & Lisa Scharf, Ron & Diane Weiers, John & Cindy Schmitz, Kevin & Sheri Odenthal, Ken & Monica Odenthal, Millie Odenthal, Brian & Rose Rynda, Mke Riebe, Geraldine Odenthal, Matt & Jena Graf - Thank you!

Christmas Decorating!

Any help would be greatly appreciated!

After the 10:30 am Mass on December 17:

- Set up and decorate the Creche
- Put up both large trees and lights

On December 24 there will only be one morning Mass (the fourth Sunday in Advent) and that will be at 8:30 am.

After the 8:30 am Mass at St. Wenceslaus on December 24:

- Put wreaths on the walls
- Decorate the balcony

Light our Advent Wreath!

We are looking for individuals, families, groups, etc. to come up and light our Advent Wreath at the beginning of Mass. Our smaller wreath is much easier to light (and absolutely no need to climb a ladder). This is a special way to get involved and embrace the Advent season. You can sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5A823AAFACE9-advent>

Financial - Weeks of 11/19/2023

St. Wenceslaus

Total Collected.....\$19,658
Under Budget YTD.....-\$15,599
Actual Collections YTD.....\$293,224

Western Catholic Churches

Total Collected.....\$4,499
Over Budget YTD.....+\$1,150
Actual Collections YTD.....\$69,091

Thank you for your support!

Blessed Karl's Corner - A Happy and Blessed Christ the King!

We hope you had a blessed Thanksgiving. Please join us for Rosary and Mass at their usual time this Wednesday.

The Giving Tree

St. John the Evangelist will again be sponsoring a Giving Tree this year, which will be put up by the first weekend of Advent. Please stop by and pick out a paper ornament(s) of your choice - there will be various age ranges for both boys and girls. Gifts may be purchased or can be handmade, wrapped, or unwrapped. We ask that you have your gifts topped with the paper ornament under the tree by December 13. These gifts will be delivered to Sharing and Caring Hands in Minneapolis. If you have any questions or need someone to pick up your gift(s), please contact Lori Huebl via phone (952) 492-3635 or email lori.huebl@gmail.com.

Blankets Because We Care Drive.

November 27 - January 20

Show you care and help those in need this Christmas season! We accept gently used or new blankets, coats, and winter gear. We share these donations with Sharing and Caring Hands in January. Please put your donations in the box labeled "Blanket Donations" in Martha's Corner by the stairs in the SW church basement. Donations will be accepted through January 20. Thanks so much for your generosity and God Bless!

Our Lady of Good Help Christmas Meeting.

Our Lady of Good Help Council of Catholic Women is holding a meeting on Monday, November 27 in Koenig Hall. We will begin with Rosary at 6:30 pm, a delicious home-cooked potluck meal followed by a meeting and some Christmas fun. This will be our last meeting until March.



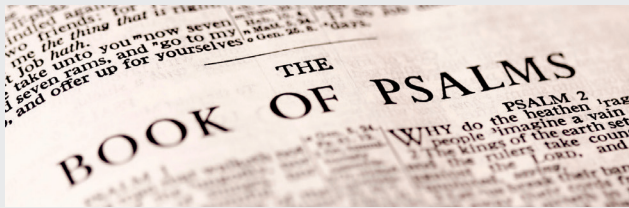
SCHOOL NEWS

Our Mission Statement.

St. Wenceslaus Catholic School is a Christ-centered family community committed to the intellectual and spiritual formation of our students. We provide a high-quality academic program that builds leadership and self-confidence while nurturing a loving relationship with God and encouraging service to others.

Psalm 86:11

Teach me Your way, O Lord



Kitchen Volunteers.

We will take any time that you can give us. One day per week or one day per month - 2-3 hours per day or even 1 hour will help. Currently, we need people to wash dishes 8:00-9:30 AM and others to serve lunch and wash dishes - 10:30-12:30. Please contact our school food services director, Katie, if you can help: katie.cleveland@swsaints.org



Basketball Referees Are Needed.

Male or female - if you know basketball, we need you. Our boys team of grades 4-7 will have 6-8 home games beginning on 12/5. All games start at 4:00 or 4:30 PM. We need a ref to play. Open to high school or college students, parents, grandparents, or any relative/neighbor. You do not need to be a professional. Our games are simple and are learning experiences for our players. Those parents with younger students at SWS - please consider.

Catholic Schools have TALENT!

The CSCOE- Shine On Showcase of Talent Performing Arts Auditions are OPEN! All 4th-8th grade students in Minnesota are invited to submit an audition tape from now until December 15. Please share this website with your families. Putting together an audition would be a great activity for your students over the Thanksgiving weekend!
<https://cscoe-mn.org/shine-on/>

Dear Parishioners, Parents, Grandparents, and Friends of SWS,

Who are your favorite saints? I know that I have a group that I appreciate and I call them my friends in heaven. Each saint has a special story and significant things that happened to them or because of them. I find their stories interesting and inspiring.

In a recent encounter that I had with some people, they were accusing Catholics of worshiping false gods because we prayed for the intercession of the saints and angels in our lives. Do we not all ask our loved ones to watch out for us when they reach heaven? In my opinion, it is worth having a team of helpers in heaven, whether they are saints or angels. or family members. Let's all call upon our favorite saints and bring many favors and blessings upon our parish, our school, and our families.



Thank you for your generous donations to the Peace Center last week! As a school community, we collected 798 pounds of food to donate to the Peace Center. The volunteers there were blown away! We appreciate everyone's generosity.

Kim Doyle, Principal



Art Room Projects - Donations Wanted

- Old Picture Frames
- Ribbon
- Felt
- Any acrylic or spray paint
- Glitter/sequence/gems/buttons
- Canning rings
- Toilet paper and/or paper towel rolls
- New box of Kleenex

*No more empty gallon jugs, pine cones, magazines, or wine corks -
We have already received an abundance!*

FAITH FORMATION

Women ~ All is Calm, All is Bright Event - Chairs Added!

We have increased our capacity, and it just keeps filling up - what a wonderful problem to have! Join us for this night of reflection, relaxation, and renewal. A link for the sign-up can be found in the Friday Flocknote from last week. Registration is required by December 4. This first-time event will occur in the PAC on Thursday, December 7 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Call Laura at 952-758-5131 with questions. Be sure to sign up today!



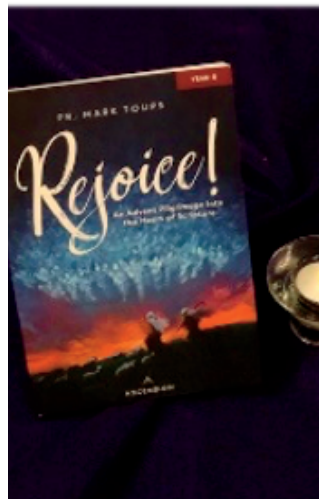
Liturgy of the Word for Children.

What a huge success this has been! I was talking with Jenny Hanson, and she and Taylor would love to be able to make this possible at the 10:30 Mass also. To make this happen, we would need volunteers to serve in this ministry. Jenny, Taylor, and a team of volunteers share the responsibility of leading the children each week during 8:30 Mass at SW. They leave during the Liturgy of the Word and return at offertory. We need two people for each session. Jenny plans the lessons and has everything prepped and ready

each week. Volunteers get a copy of the lesson plan, check for materials before Mass, and then lead the children out for a simple lesson including age-appropriate readings, discussion, prayers, and an activity. If you would like to see this offered during 10:30 am Mass, contact Laura at 952-758-5131. Thank you for considering it.

The Advent Books are in!

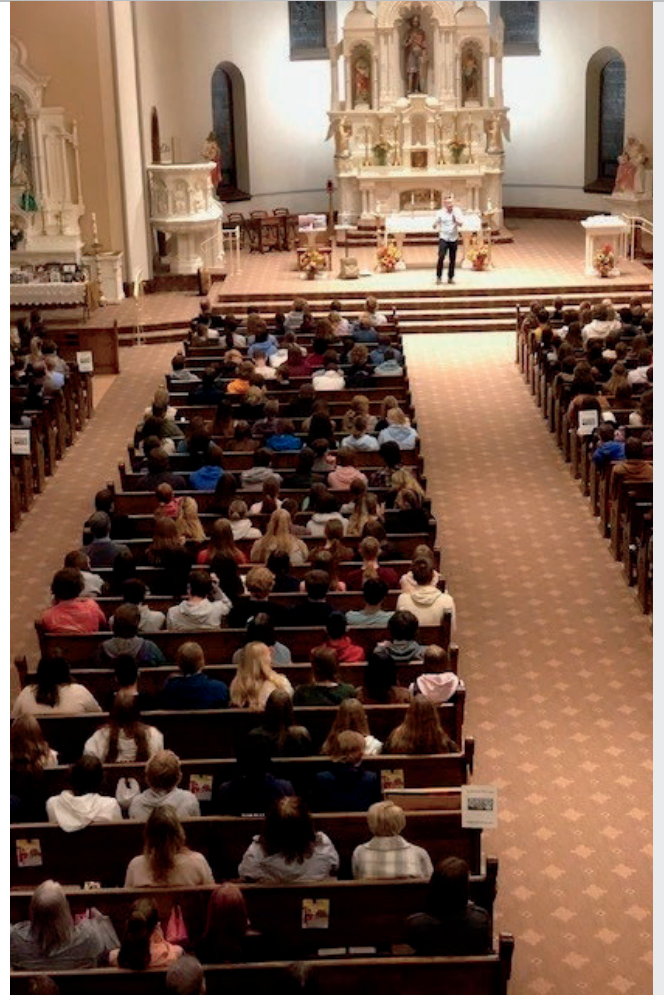
Please consider joining a group for this short study from Ascension Press. You can do the study on your own ... join a group, or form your own group. The discussions can be so beneficial in helping us grow in our faith. Information regarding groups can be found in the book. The books will be located in the back of each church site. Sometimes the best growth and learning can take place through small group discussion - Join a group, or form your own. Sometimes we need the quiet reflection of solitary time - just you and God. Either way, this study is for you. Pick up your copy in the back of church today!



Light the Advent Wreath!

We are looking for people to light our Advent Wreath at the beginning of Mass. This is another great way to get involved and embrace the Advent season. Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5A823AAFACE9-advent>



Purified - What a Night of Inspiration!

On Wednesday, November 15, our Faith Formation department hosted a speaker for teens. Jason Evert delivered an amazing talk about chastity and purity. The event included a talk from Jason where he mixed humor (there was a lot of laughter) with down-to-earth practicality, making the difficult conversations about true love much easier. The evening ended with Adoration, praise, and worship, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, transforming the night into a mini-retreat for teens and their families.

Our teens were joined by 600 other teens from the area to hear his message of love, purity, and chastity. This was a refreshing message that is in direct conflict with what our teens are hearing in the world today.

This event was made possible by United Catholic Financial, parishioner generosity, our parish endowment fund, and our parish families. Thank you!

The WCC invites you!

December 3, 2023
8:30 am - 12:30 pm

St. Scholastica
all you can eat



Country Style Breakfast

Heidelberg, MN



St. John - St. Wendelin - St. Scholastica
#youbelonghere

#youbelonghere

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH US

St. Wenceslaus

Outdoor Live Nativity

Bringing the Light of Christ to the Parade of Lights

Friday, December, 1

5:30PM - 6:30PM

We are excited to bring Christmas' true meaning to the New Prague Parade of Lights again this year! The Live Nativity will take place BEFORE the parade on our front lawn and we are looking for help! Click on the link below for ways you can volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5A823AAFACE9-live#/>



Or, contact Lynn in the parish office at
952-758-3225 or lynn.sticha@npcatholic.org.

215 MAIN STREET E
NEW PRAGUE MN
56071
WWW.NPCATHOLIC.ORG

#youbelonghere



We are looking for several volunteers to help with our Live Nativity on December 1, before the Parade of Lights.

You can help before, during, or after! Please note: The "actors" for the Nativity are all non-speaking parts. There will be a short practice beforehand. Super easy...super fun! Scan the QR code or follow this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5A823AAFACE9-live#/>

Mass Intentions & Readings

Monday, November 27

Dn 1:1-6, 8-20 / Lk 21:1-4

5:30 pm Mass SW - *Tom Pexa †*

Tuesday, November 28

Dn 2:31-45 / Lk 21:5-11

8:00 am Mass SW - *LeRoy Geiger †*

Wednesday, November 29

Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 / Lk 19:11-28

8:00 am School Mass SW - *Living & Deceased Family Members of Joseph Vaughan †*

5:30 pm Mass SJ - *Viola Michel †*

Thursday, November 30

Rom 10:9-18 / Mt 4:18-22

8:00 am Mass SW - *Catherine Stenberg †*

Friday, December 01*

Dn 7:2-14 / Lk 21:29-33

8:00 am Mass SW - *Tom Anderson †*

3:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

3:00 pm Confessions SW

Saturday, December 02

7:30 am Rosary and Benediction SW

8:00 am Mass SW

Dn 7:15-27 / Lk 21:36

3:30 pm Confessions SW

4:30 pm Mass SW - *Mass for the People*

8:15 pm Mass SJ - *Judith Glisczinski †*

Sunday, December 03

First Sunday of Advent

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

8:00 am Mass SS - *Bob Hauer †*

8:30 am Mass SW - *Mike & Katie DeGross & Family, Caroline Shimota †*

10:00 am Mass SJ - *Viola Michel †*

10:30 am Mass SW - *Wally, Kathy, & Rob Kubes †*

***Overnight Adoration is in the chapel.**

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PATRONS

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Back and Neck Clinic of New Prague - 952-758-5135

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New Prague, MN 56071
952-758-3133 PH
952-758-2958 FAX

Rev. Eugene Theisen - Pastor

952-758-0469

Eugene.Theisen@npcatholic.org

Father Joseph Gifford - Parochial Vicar

952-758-0468

Joseph.Gifford@npcatholic.org

Ruth Weinandt - Parish Business Administrator

952-758-0466

Ruth.Weinandt@npcatholic.org

Kim Doyle - Saint Wenceslaus School Principal

952-758-3133

Kim.Doyle@swsaints.org

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