

# THE CHANCERY BULLETIN & CATECHETICAL LEADER

FEBRUARY 2026 | VOLUME 69 | NO. 2

DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR | THE BISHOP HAMMES CENTER

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### ATTACHED AT THE END OF THIS BULLETIN:

- Respect Life Essay Contest Flyer and Reflection
- Safe Haven Sunday Step-by-Step
- Flyer: Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary Vocation Information
- Flyer: Catholic Devotions
- Flyer: St. Francis De Sales Seminary Vocation Information
- Flyer: Pre-Marriage Retreat
- Intercessions for Lent and Divine Mercy Sunday
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### LINKS

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[SPECIAL INTERCESSIONS](#)

[HANDBOOK CHANGES](#) NONE

### CONTACT US

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BISHOP HAMMES CENTER

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## CALENDAR



**JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 1**

WOMEN'S RETREAT #1

TRINITY WOODS RETREAT CENTER | TREGO

**FEBRUARY 7 - 8**

WOMEN'S RETREAT #2

TRINITY WOODS RETREAT CENTER | TREGO

**FEBRUARY 9**

TOTUS TUUS SITE LEADER MEETING

VIRTUAL | ZOOM

**FEBRUARY 13 - 14**

SCHOOL OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP

ST. ANTHONY | TONY

**FEBRUARY 18**

ASH WEDNESDAY

**FEBRUARY 22**

RITE OF ELECTION/CALL TO CONT. CONVERSION

CATHEDRAL | SUPERIOR

**FEBRUARY 21 - 22**

SAFE HAVEN SUNDAY | YEAR 3

**FEBRUARY 21 - 23**

IHM SEMINARY VISIT

IHM SEMINARY | WINONA, MN

**FEBRUARY 23**

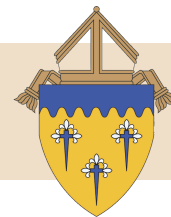
PRINCIPAL MEETING

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER | MERRILL

**MARCH 3**

VISION FORMATION GATHERING

VIRTUAL | ZOOM



## CHANCERY NEWS

### SDCCW MARY JANE MORANCYK HENNESSY SCHOLARSHIPS

The Superior Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will award four (4) \$1,000 scholarships to women completing their second year of post high school education or continuing their education for career advancement or returning to the work field.



Applications may be obtained by contacting the SDCCW Scholarship Committee: Mary Werner, W5490 County Road O, Medford WI 54451 – Telephone (715) 748-4709, email: [werner@tds.net](mailto:werner@tds.net). Applications are available from the SDCCW website: [sdccw-wisconsin.weebly.com](http://sdccw-wisconsin.weebly.com)

Winners will be notified by phone or email. Applications will be accepted starting February 1<sup>st</sup> and all materials need to be available for the scholarship committee by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

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### ANNUAL CEMETERY & COLUMBARIUM CERTIFICATION REPORT IS DUE FEBRUARY 6

The State of Wisconsin mandates that each cemetery establishes and maintains a Perpetual Care Fund for the future upkeep of parish cemeteries. The Chancery office will report to the State on behalf of all parishes. This year the state-required report covers cemetery activity between January 1st and December 31st, 2025. The Chancery office will report to the State on behalf of all parishes, based on your completed form. If your parish has a cemetery and/or stand-alone columbarium (NOT in the cemetery), a 2025 Cemetery Certification Request form must be completed. Forms were mailed January 7th. An instructional webinar was held December 10th in an effort to answer topical questions and concerns regarding the Cemetery reporting process and completing the form. If you were unable to attend, all instructional materials including the slide deck, account listing, and recording can be found at: [catholicdos.org/webinars](http://catholicdos.org/webinars). To view only the video go to: [youtube.com/watch?v=C9FpO8ljwJo](https://youtube.com/watch?v=C9FpO8ljwJo). All forms must be completed and returned no later than February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

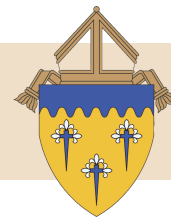


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### ANNUAL STATUS ANIMARUM QUESTIONNAIRE: SAQ2025

Considering Diocesan needs when moving forward, “looking back” in the form of the Status Animarum Questionnaire (SAQ) is beneficial and necessary. The SAQ2025 was sent via Survey Monkey February 2nd to the email addresses that were confirmed available to receive it. For those who did not reply to the Jan 7 request for email verification, the survey was sent to the email address that received the SAQ2024 last year.

Before completing the survey on survey monkey, please use the hardcopy recently sent to collaborate with your team to develop accurate and thorough responses. Also, please remember to have the separate certification page signed by your pastor/parochial administrator, or supervising pastor where necessary. Thank you, we appreciate your efforts!



## CHANCERY NEWS

### RESPECT LIFE NEWS

#### **“LIFE: OUR SIGN OF HOPE” - ANNUAL YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities annually selects a theme highlighting the dignity of each person and respect for his or her life. The October 2025 – September 2026 theme is ***Life: Our Sign of Hope***, highlighting our baptism, where we share in the life of Jesus, and our hope for eternal life.



In conjunction with this theme, the Diocese of Superior Respect Life Committee annually holds a pro-life youth contest, endeavoring to:

1. Help young people deepen their understanding of our God-given human dignity and what it means for our daily lives and decisions, particularly within the context of respect for human life, and
2. Move hearts and minds with the joyful Gospel of Life through the artistic expressions of the young participants.

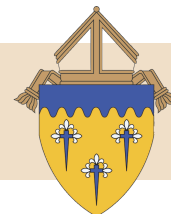
The contest is intended for use across multiple age ranges and disciplines. Youth in grades 5-12 are eligible to enter. Contestant entries can be in essay or poem format. Please encourage your parish youth to participate in this initiative and engage them in the Catholic faith, help them grow in their relationship with Christ, and provide them an opportunity to bear faithful witness in our local community. Please see the attached flyer and reflection for more information. You can also find the info here: [Essay Contest Information](#)

Essays from each grade category will be honored with an Amazon Gift Card and recognition in the Catholic Herald Newspaper. Entries should be submitted to [Carol Grund](#) at the Chancery no later than Monday, February 16th, 2026.

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### INTERCESSIONS FOR LENT AND DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Prayer for Post Abortive Healing: Ash Wednesday and Lent is a fitting time to include prayer on God’s forgiveness and healing after abortion especially for those who attend Mass infrequently. Please consider using the Intercessory Prayers from Project Rachel (in addition to those found in the Word of Life for February 2026) attached at the end of this bulletin. God greatly desires that we turn to Him for mercy after abortion. Prayer is helpful to instill hope, encourage repentance, and invite people back to active participation in the Church and into relationship with God.



## CHANCERY NEWS

### MILEAGE RATE 2026

As of January 1st, 2026, the new IRS mileage rate for 2026 is 72.5 cents per mile, up 2.5 cents from 2025. Please be mindful when filling out mileage reimbursement vouchers as the old rate of 70 cents per mile needs to be applied to any mileage used in December 2025.



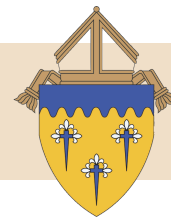
### NEW FACES AT THE CHANCERY!

**Donna Perkins**, Building and Grounds Supervisor, was welcomed warmly by her new Chancery Family on October 27<sup>th</sup>. With enthusiasm and a prayerful heart, she looks forward to each day, and enjoys the challenges that come her way. She comes to us from the Wisconsin Correctional Center System where she served as Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds in Gordon, WI. Prior to state service, Donna was a Maintenance Mechanic for East Aurora School District in Illinois. When asked what brought her to these great Northwoods, Donna says that this is her “Happy Place”, having spent summers here since she was born. Donna and her husband are blessed with two children, now adults, and fills her free time enjoying her family, the outdoors, distance running, and many different hobbies, including fishing, woodworking, and painting. Welcome , Donna!



The Chancery welcomed **Abigail (Abby) Landwehr** on January 14th as our part-time Human Resources Assistant. Abby comes to us by way of Loras College in the heart of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa. Abby spent the past two years as a FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) missionary at UM-Duluth Newman Center. Abby enjoys running, hosting dinner parties, line dancing, traveling, hiking, reading fantasy novels & thrifting. Welcome, Abby!

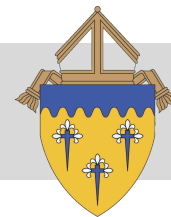




## CHANCERY NEWS

### SPRING 2026 CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

<u>PARISHES</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
<b>Grantsburg</b> - Immaculate Conception w/ Frederic, St. Dominic	Wednesday	April 8	6:00p
<b>Somerset</b> - St. Anne w/ Osceola, St. Joseph Farmington, Assumption of BVM	Sunday	April 12	10:30a
<b>Ladysmith</b> - Our Lady of Sorrows w/ Bruce, St. Mary Flambeau, St. Francis of Assisi Tony, St. Anthony de Padua Weyerhaeuser, Ss. Peter and Paul Gilman, Ss. Peter and Paul Sheldon, St. John the Apostle Jump River, St. Michael Lublin, St. Stanislaus	Sunday	April 19	2:00p
<b>Tomahawk</b> - St. Mary	Sunday	April 26	11:00a
<b>Turtle Lake</b> , St. Ann w/ Cumberland, St. Anthony Abbot Almena, Sacred Heart of Jesus	Wednesday	April 29	7:00p
<b>Superior</b> , Cathedral of Christ the King w/ Superior, St. Anthony Superior, Holy Assumption Pattison Park, St. William Superior, St. Francis of Xavier	Friday	May 1	7:00p
<b>Hammond</b> - Immaculate Conception w/ Glenwood City, St. John the Baptist Wilson, St. Bridget	Saturday	May 2	6:00p
<b>Amery, St. Joseph w/</b> Balsam Lake, Our Lady of the Lakes Clear Lake, St. John	Wednesday	May 6	6:30p
<b>Rice Lake</b> - St. Joseph w/ Dobie - Our Lady of Lourdes Haugen - Holy Trinity Birchwood - St. John the Evangelist	Saturday	May 9	4:30p
<b>River Falls</b> - St. Bridget	Sunday	May 10	11:00a



## BISHOP HAMMES CENTER

### **WOMEN'S RETREAT | FEBRUARY 7 - 8**

The diocese will host the second of two annual Women's Retreats at Trinity Woods Catholic Retreat Center in Trego this weekend! **The retreat is FULL.** To those who are coming - the retreat will begin Saturday with registration beginning at 8:00am and will wrap up on Sunday around noon following Mass. We will be lead on retreat by the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus! This will be a reflective weekend focusing on authentic femininity and how the Lord reveals to us our deepest identity as women. It will provide many moments of silence, allowing you to enter into the heart God. If you'd like to be added to the email list to hear about the retreats for next year, let JulieAnne Johnson know at [jjohnson@catholicdos.org](mailto:jjohnson@catholicdos.org).

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### **TOTUS TUUS SITE LEADER MEETING | FEBRUARY 9**

These virtual meetings are for Parish Catechetical Leaders and volunteers who are in charge of hosting Totus Tuus at their church. Even if a volunteer primarily holds this position, a PCL should be in attendance at these meetings as well. During these monthly meetings, we'll go over host site expectations, timelines / check lists for what needs to be completed by the time the week of Totus Tuus comes, housing / meal planning for the Totus Tuus teams, etc. Contact Tyler Kircher with any questions at [tkircher@catholicdos.org](mailto:tkircher@catholicdos.org).

### **Monthly Meetings, February - May**

- February 9<sup>th</sup> | 1:00pm - 2:00pm
- March 9<sup>th</sup> | 1:00pm - 2:00pm
- April 13<sup>th</sup> | 1:00pm - 2:00pm
- May 11<sup>th</sup> | 1:00pm - 2:00pm

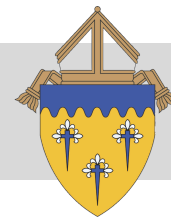
**Link** | [Join Zoom Meeting](#) | Meeting ID: 825 8050 2539 | Passcode: 560845

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### **SAFE HAVEN SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 22**

Once again, under the direction of Bishop Powers and the Presbyteral Council, our diocese will be celebrating our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Safe Haven Sunday during the first weekend of Lent, February 21st - 22nd. In 2024 the theme, "Equipping the Family, Safeguarding Children," was meant to draw our attention as a diocese to the seriousness of the issue of pornography and to recommit ourselves to take steps to ensure our homes are safe havens for all. In 2025 the theme, "Having Critical Conversations", was meant to guide parents and other adults in having the difficult discussions on pornography with their children. In 2026, the theme, "Safety Through Connection," is meant to emphasize the importance of strong family bonds to protect children from online dangers. A timeline with resources for you to implement Safe Haven Sunday (links included) can be found in the attachment at the end of this bulletin. If you have not ordered the book "Connected" yet, please do so ASAP to ensure there are enough books available. You can do so [HERE](#). If you have any questions, please call/email Loree Nauertz @ (715) 234-5044 or [lnauertz@catholicdos.org](mailto:lnauertz@catholicdos.org).

*Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls. -Mother Teresa*



## BISHOP HAMMES CENTER

### PRINCIPAL MEETING | FEBRUARY 23

The quarterly principal meeting on February 23rd, 2026 will be held at St. Francis Xavier School in Merrill from 10:00am - 3:00pm. There will be presentations on Mystery Science and Friendly as well as business and curriculum items. Contact Peggy Schoenfuss [pschoenfuss@catholicdos.org](mailto:pschoenfuss@catholicdos.org) with any questions.

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### PARISH CATECHETICAL LEADER CHECK-IN DAYS | MARCH 16, MARCH 17 OR MARCH 18

We are hitting the road and coming to you! We are offering regional [PCL Check-in Days](#) this spring and are looking forward to connecting with you! Each day will run from 9:00am - 3:00pm. PCLs are invited to come to one of the three options - whichever one works best for your schedule. These days serve primarily as a check-in between you and the diocese: How are things going? How can we serve you better? What questions do you have? Where do you need assistance? The day will also include lunch and Mass. See calendar below. If you have any questions, please contact Tyler Kircher at [tkircher@catholicdos.org](mailto:tkircher@catholicdos.org). **Please RSVP** to JulieAnne at [jjohnson@catholicdos.org](mailto:jjohnson@catholicdos.org).

Date	Location
March 16	Immaculate Conception   New Richmond
March 17	St. Joseph   Hayward
March 18	St. Mary   Tomahawk

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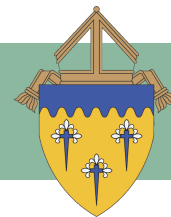
### EXTREME FAITH CAMP PARISH REGISTRATIONS UPDATE

Thank you so much for getting your Parish Registration Forms in! We are in the midst of getting numbers added up and seeing what we have left for space (especially for the CrossWoods weeks). Thank you for your patience in this process! If there is space open after initial numbers have been entered, I will email all Parish Catechetical Leaders to let them know. Feel free to keep sending in Parish Registration Forms and deposits, but know that your students may be waitlisted (again - especially for the CrossWoods weeks). Looking to promote camp at your parish? Check out the [Extreme Faith Camp page](#) of the diocesan website. Questions? Reach out to JulieAnne at [jjohnson@catholicdos.org](mailto:jjohnson@catholicdos.org) with any questions.

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### CATHOLIC DEVOTIONS

Catholic devotions are simple, heartfelt ways for Catholics to pray and show love for God, Jesus, Mary, and the saints every day. They are not the Mass or sacraments, but extra prayers and actions that bring faith into normal life. Devotions help us pray without stopping, like the Bible says. They grow our love for God, help us fight sin, and build good habits. But they must fit with the Church's Mass and rules - they lead to the liturgy, not replace it. To help deepen our understanding of ways we can pray continuously, a series explaining various devotions will be included in this bulletin over the next few months. Enjoy learning about these special moments with God and give some of them a try. See attachment at the end of this bulletin.



## OFFICE OF ECCLESIAL MINISTRIES | [Chris Newkirk](#)

### SCHOOL OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CALENDAR 2025-2026

August - April

Fridays, 6:00pm - 9:00pm and Saturdays, 8:30am - 4:00pm

Meals provided

St. Anthony Parish Hall | Tony



His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."  
(John 2:5)

Get ready to lead with purpose! The Diocese of Superior's 2025-2026 School of Servant Leadership is back – and you won't want to miss it!

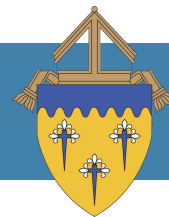
This inspiring series of presentations is designed for those who feel called to lead -- in the Church, in the community, or in the workplace – and who recognize that true leadership begins with service.

Led by Christine Newkirk, Bluette Puchner, and a lineup of engaging speakers, this year's program will challenge and empower you to embrace your vocation to serve with courage, compassion, and commitment. Discover what it means to be a servant leader, and, as a disciple of Christ – someone who lifts others up, fosters growth, builds community, and lives with purpose. Whether you're discerning your path or already leading in your parish or profession, this is your chance to be inspired, equipped, and transformed. Answer the call. Step into your potential. Be a light to the world.

<del>September 12-13</del>	Foundations in Servant Leadership	Tom Thibodeau
<del>October 3-4</del>	Servant Leadership through Evangelization and Missionary Discipleship	Chris Hurtubise
<del>November 7-8</del>	Building Assets and Affirming Strengths	Bob Lecheler
<del>December 12-13</del>	Building Community	Richard Kyte
<del>January 16-17</del>	Stewardship/Ethical Decisions	Richard Kyte
<b>February 13-14</b>	<b>Prophetic Leadership</b>	<b>Bob Lecheler</b>
<b>March 13-14</b>	<b>Peace Building Conflict Resolution</b>	<b>Sr. Georgia Christensen</b>
<b>April 17-18</b>	<b>Ritual/Tradition/Celebration</b>	<b>Tom Thibodeau</b>

Course information and program details are available online at [catholicdos.org/school-of-servant-leadership](https://catholicdos.org/school-of-servant-leadership). Registration for the complete program has closed, but you may contact Christine directly if you are interested in registering for a specific course, or with any other program-related questions. Registration forms may be mailed to the address listed on the registration form, or register online by clicking the link [here](#).





## OFFICE OF WORSHIP | [Paul Birch](#)

### 2025-2026 DIOCESAN CALENDAR OF FEASTS, FASTS AND PARTICULAR LITURGICAL OBSERVANCES

[catholicdos.org/liturgical-seasons](http://catholicdos.org/liturgical-seasons): Call the Office of Worship at (715) 394-0233 for paper copies.

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### NEW TRANSLATION OF RITUAL BOOK: *Order of the Anointing of the Sick and their Pastoral Care*

This newly translated text will replace the Anointing ritual that has been in use since the early 1980's, "Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum". Besides the newly translated texts, the structure of the ritual book has changed. The ritual from the 1980's was arranged in a manner suitable for use by both clergy and lay ministers. The new ritual text will be only for use by Priests and Deacons. However, as the implementation date approaches, the USCCB will ensure that non-ordained ministers continue to have access to those texts which they use in ministry to the sick and homebound. The newly translated rite may begin to be used as of February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes). Its use is obligatory as of April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Easter Sunday). Once information about the publishers is released there will be an opportunity for a diocesan bulk order of the new ritual books, timed so that they will be available for pick-up at our diocesan 2026 Priest Assembly / Mass of Chrism – Sunday, March 22 - Tuesday, March 24. [catholicdos.org/ritual-books-new-editions](http://catholicdos.org/ritual-books-new-editions)

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### ANNIVERSARY OF CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING DEDICATION | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

This celebration ranks a feast day in the diocese and as a solemnity at the Cathedral. Mass orations are taken from the Common of the Dedication of a Church, Anniversary of Dedication. (Form "A" is used at the Cathedral and form "B" is used elsewhere in the diocese.) Scripture readings are from the Lectionary at numbers 701-706.

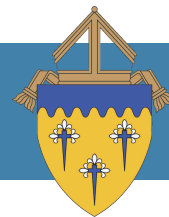
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### 34<sup>TH</sup> WORLD DAY OF THE SICK | FEBRUARY 11

World Day of the Sick is sponsored by the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care and has been celebrated since 1992 on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. This celebration reminds us to pray for all who are sick and to recognize and honor healthcare workers and caregivers.

"The compassion of the Samaritan: loving by bearing the pain of the other" is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for this World Day of the Sick. This year's theme is centered on the Gospel figure of the Samaritan who manifests love by taking care of the suffering man who has fallen into the hands of thieves. This is intended to emphasize this aspect of love for one's neighbor: love needs concrete gestures of closeness, through which we take on the suffering of others, especially those who are ill, often in a context of fragility due to poverty, isolation and loneliness.

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## OFFICE OF WORSHIP | [Paul Birch](#)

### **34<sup>TH</sup> WORLD DAY OF THE SICK | FEBRUARY 11** ...continued from the previous page

The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development offers these 2026 materials: [humandevelopment.va/en/news/2025/mensaje-del-papa-para-la-jornada-mundial-del-enfermo-2026.html](http://humandevelopment.va/en/news/2025/mensaje-del-papa-para-la-jornada-mundial-del-enfermo-2026.html)

Over the last several years the National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC) has provided support materials for this celebration: [www.nacc.org/resources/world-day-of-the-sick/](http://www.nacc.org/resources/world-day-of-the-sick/)

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### **FACULTY TO CONFIRM**

The question of who possesses faculties to confirm can be confusing (Canon 883). By the law itself, a priest may lawfully confirm in virtue of office or mandate when:

- He baptizes an adult.
- He receives a previously baptized non-Catholic into full communion.
- He readmits into full communion a previously baptized Catholic who apostatized from the faith.
- He readmits into full communion a previously baptized Catholic who through no personal fault was instructed in or adhered to a non-Catholic religion.
- He confirms a baptized Catholic in danger of death.

A priest must, however, request the faculty to confirm a baptized Catholic if this person:

- Was baptized (Catholic) before the use of reason and un-catechized.
- Never belonged to another church.
- Never apostatized from the faith.
- Never left the church.

In the situations stated, the priest must request in writing, the faculty to confirm from Bishop James Powers to facilitate the above process. Link to the “Sacrament of Confirmation” page on our diocesan website: [catholicdos.org/confirmation](http://catholicdos.org/confirmation), then scroll-down to “REQUEST TO CONFIRM ADULT CANDIDATES” button for a printable copy of the form.

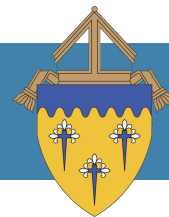
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### **IN PREPARATION OF LENT | FEBRUARY 18**

#### **Lenten Communal Penance Service Materials**

The Diocesan Office of Worship provides Lenten Communal Penance Service Materials for parish use. The format includes a leader’s booklet intended for use by the Priest-celebrant and assisting ministers. A separate one-page worship booklet for assembly use is also provided. Click here for the materials: [catholicdos.org/communal-penance-services](http://catholicdos.org/communal-penance-services)

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## OFFICE OF WORSHIP | [Paul Birch](#)

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### Rules on General Absolution

Pastors are reminded that use of General Absolution (or “Form III”) of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is forbidden except in cases of grave necessity as defined by Canon Law and the Apostolic Letter *Misericordia Dei*. This form of the Sacrament may not be celebrated without explicit permission from Bishop James Powers.

### A Guide for Lent, Holy Week, The Paschal Triduum and the Easter Season

This diocesan document includes regulations for fasting and abstinence as well as pertinent liturgical details for this timeframe: [catholicdos.org/lent](https://catholicdos.org/lent)

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### ASH WEDNESDAY, SPECIAL DAY OF PRAYER | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and one of the prescribed Special Days of Prayer in the Diocese of Superior. The focus of this day is for the general needs of humankind. While the scriptural readings and texts must be for those of Ash Wednesday, the idea of the needs of humankind may be woven into the Prayer of the Faithful and/or be reflected in the homily. Operation Rice Bowl begins.



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### RITE OF ELECTION / CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION (FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT) SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

The Rite of Election / Call to Continuing Conversion is always celebrated on the First Sunday of Lent. It will be celebrated in 2026 on Sunday, February 22nd at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Superior. The liturgy, which is not a Mass, begins at 3:00pm with Bishop Powers presiding. All parishes are asked to submit the names of their catechumens (unbaptized) and their candidates (already baptized) who will take part in this annual liturgy in Superior. Additional information and the electronic submission form are available here: [catholicdos.org/rite-of-election-call-to-continuing-conversion](https://catholicdos.org/rite-of-election-call-to-continuing-conversion)

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### PRIESTS' ASSEMBLY AND MASS OF CHRISM | SUNDAY - TUESDAY, MARCH 22-24, 2026

#### Priests' Assembly

St. Francis Xavier Church, Superior  
Sunday, March 22nd | 6:00pm

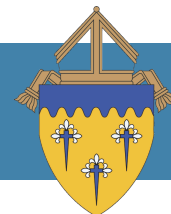
#### Mass of Chrism & Luncheon following

(reservations required for luncheon)  
Cathedral of Christ the King, Superior  
Tuesday, March 24th | 12:00pm



The 2026 Priests' Assembly will be held in Superior, Sunday through Tuesday, March 22nd - 24th. All Priests are invited to gather for Evening Prayer at St. Francis Xavier Church, Superior, at 6:00pm on Sunday, March 22nd with hospitality following. The Assembly continues on Monday and Tuesday at St. Francis Xavier.

continued on the next page...



## OFFICE OF WORSHIP | [Paul Birch](#)

...continued from the previous page

The Mass of Chrism will be held at 12:00pm on Tuesday, March 24th, at the Cathedral. The Mass is followed by a luncheon in Kress Hall, located in the Cathedral's lower level. A mailing will be sent very soon to all Priests with information regarding registration for the Assembly, reservations for the luncheon following the Mass of Chrism, and other details.

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### EASTER VIGIL | SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026

Earliest allowable start times by sunset:

**45 minutes after sunset**

This year, the celebration of the Easter Vigil occurs on Saturday, April 4th, 2026. In order to ensure sufficient darkness, at least 45 minutes (preferably one hour) should elapse after sunset before the Vigil may begin. The following sample is the listing of the time of sunset in key parishes in our Diocese (from East to West), and the earliest the Easter Vigil should begin there. Parishes to the North and South of these locations would use similar times.

City	Time of Sunset	Earliest Start Time
Rhineland	7:30 p.m.	8:15 p.m.
Merrill	7:31 p.m.	8:16 p.m.
Park Falls	7:34 p.m.	8:19 p.m.
Ashland	7:37 p.m.	8:22 p.m.
Rice Lake	7:39 p.m.	8:24 p.m.
River Falls	7:42 p.m.	8:27 p.m.
Superior	7:42 p.m.	8:27 p.m.

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### SYNOD ON SYNODALITY IMPLEMENTATION STAGE 2025 - 2028

Within the implementation stage of the synod, our local Church is called to receive the directives of the [Final Document](#) of the Synod and begin to apply them through a process of accompaniment and evaluation. In review of the Final Document, the Diocese of Superior has identified that much of what is expressed and expected of the local Church is already in process through our Maintenance to Mission initiative and pastoral plan. As a diocese, we will continue follow the [Pathways for the Implementation](#) through our Maintenance to Mission Initiative. While we remain on this journey, **please continue to recite the Synodal Prayer at Mass at a minimum of one weekend per month.** If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Schoenfuss, [pschoenfuss@catholicdos.org](mailto:pschoenfuss@catholicdos.org).

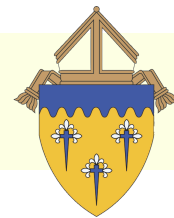
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### LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS MATERIALS AVAILABLE AT A 35% DISCOUNT

Most LTP materials include a 35% discount if ordered via our diocesan website [HERE](#). Upon receipt of the LTP invoice, parishes should reimburse LTP directly. LTP shipping charges (minimum \$9) are 10% of order value or actual cost, whichever is higher, plus a fee of \$6.00 per drop-ship delivery address. Orders for electronic items do not qualify for the discount.



Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls. -Mother Teresa



## SUBMITTED EVENTS

### RETROUVAILLE MARRIAGE WEEKEND | FEBRUARY 13 - 15, 2026

Retrouvaille \Retro- vī\ Marriage Help Weekend Coming Soon! — Retrouvaille offers hope and a path to a joyful marriage with forgiveness & trust. The next program begins with a weekend stay Feb 13th - 15th, 2026. Fully confidential, affordable, and open to couples of all faiths or no faith background. For availability, call (877) 922-HOPE (4673). More info at [HelpOurMarriage.org](https://HelpOurMarriage.org).

### MEN'S RALLY FOR CHRIST: THE CALL TO MASCULINE SAINTHOOD | FEBRUARY 28, 2026

#### *A Major League Mission of Faith, Courage, and Holiness*

7:00am Registration | 7:30am Rosary | 8:00am – 1:30pm Program  
St. Bridget Catholic Church, River Falls WI

Mike Sweeney, Five-time Major League Baseball All-Star and disciple of Jesus Christ, will share baseball stories, his faith journey, and how to aim for sainthood. Mike and his wife, Shara, recently returned from a private audience with Pope Leo XIV, the first American pope. In a nod to the Holy Father, Mike presents: **Knighted by the Lion, the Call to Masculine Sainthood from the Chair of St. Peter.** This event includes presentations, prayer, small group discussions, and helpful take-home materials. A light breakfast and lunch will be served; goodwill donations are appreciated. Previously titled, "Knights for Dads," the event is expanding to include ALL MEN. Sponsored by Western Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Councils. Registration/Info: Scan the QR Code or go to: [signupgenius.com/go/mensrallyforchrist#/](https://signupgenius.com/go/mensrallyforchrist#/)



### HANDMAIDS OF THE HEART OF JESUS COME & SEE OPPORTUNITIES | MARCH 13-15, 2026

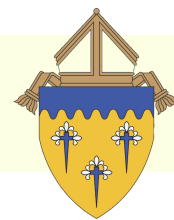
The [Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus](https://www.handmaidsoftheheartofjesus.org) are a religious community of sisters in New Ulm, MN. They are offering a handful of Come and See opportunities this school year. "A Come and See retreat is designed to give women an experience of our life from the inside. In addition to entering into our rhythm of prayer and the joys of community life, retreatants receive conferences on religious life and guidance in their discernment. Above all, it is a time to be with Jesus as He reveals His love and the desires of His Heart. Good candidates for a Come and See retreat are single Catholic women, ages 20-30, who are in good health and have been living a life faithful to prayer and the sacraments for at least one year." Click [here](#) for more info!



### OUR LADY OF SORROWS SCHOOL SEEKING CRUCIFIX

Our Lady of Sorrows is looking for a crucifix for their school gym. They are hoping to find one about 24" by 48" to hang on the wall. Contact Bob Lecheler, [rlecheler@catholicdos.org](mailto:rlecheler@catholicdos.org).

*Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls. -Mother Teresa*



## SUBMITTED EVENTS

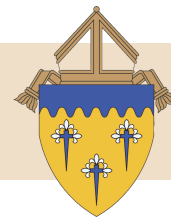
### PRE-MARRIAGE RETREAT DAY | MARCH 28, 2026

Pre-Marriage Retreat Day will take place at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Medford on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am - 6:00pm. This retreat offers virtue-based topics on spirituality/faith, communication, conflict resolution skills, financial decision-making, intimacy/cohabitation, children, commitment, ceremony planning, marriage as a sacrament, sexuality, theology of the body, and couple prayer. The purpose of these courses is to deepen the couples' understanding of the sacrament, helping the couple to get to know each other, learn about their values, and become even more aware of one's own inner worlds. Retreat content per: "Living a Joy Filled Marriage program" from [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com). Invited are couples who wish to exchange vows in a Catholic Church or couples who have married outside of the Catholic Church and want their marriage validated in the Catholic Church. Coffee & snacks will be provided in the morning, lunch included. Materials needed for the day are provided. To register, contact Michelle Oates at (715) 748-3336 ext. 247. Must register by March 18<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$100 / couple. See attached flyer.

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February 18<sup>th</sup>  
*Ash Wednesday*



## CLERGY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### **BIRTHDAYS**

2/01 Rev. John C. Anderson  
2/01 Rev. J. Patrick Hardy  
2/01 Rev. Anthoni Reddy Yannam  
2/05 Rev. Sunder Reddy Vadireddy  
2/06 Most Rev. James P. Powers  
2/15 Dcn. Steven G. Linton  
2/16 Rev. James J. Kinney  
2/18 Rev. Hrudaya Raju Sunkara  
2/23 Rev. Gerald P. Harris  
2/27 Rev. Richard Rhinehart  
2/28 Dcn. Clifford F. Eggett

### **ORDINATIONS**

2/14 Rev. Lourduraju Madanu  
2/18 Rev. Joseph Anil Kumar Pasala, SCJ  
2/18 Most Rev. James P. Powers  
2/20 Dcn. Joseph F. Roe  
2/22 Rev. Anthoni Reddy Yannam  
2/23 Rev. Fr. Ronald Olson, OFM Conv

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## CLERGY PRAYER CALENDAR

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## WORD OF LIFE

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## WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED

OFFICE OF RESPECT FOR LIFE | Bonita Thom

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## IMPACT

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP & DEVELOPMENT | Steve Tarnowski

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## SPECIAL INTERCESSIONS

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS | Intercessions for Mission/Evangelization, Youth and Vocations

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## HANDBOOK CHANGES - NO CHANGES

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR | Peggy Schoenfuss

# LIFE

## Our Sign of Hope



There is perhaps no more beautiful celebration than when parents bring their newborn child to the waters of baptism. Parents, godparents, family, and friends share in this sacrament with incomparable joy. For in baptism, we share in Christ's death and resurrection, and through the outward signs of water and oil, are made *children of God* and given the hope of eternal life with Him.

"The death and resurrection of Jesus is the heart of our faith and the basis of our hope."<sup>1</sup> Through our Lord Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, death is overcome, and life is victorious. "Hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite not knowing what the future may bring."<sup>2</sup> Because of this Christian hope, we can face the unknown trials of life with faith rather than fear.

We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined. As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus' mission on earth. Pope Leo XIV encourages us, "How important it is that each and every baptized person feel himself or herself called by God to be a sign of hope in the world today."<sup>3</sup>

Sadly, there is a devastating absence of hope today. We see this most profoundly in a sweeping disregard for human life in its most vulnerable forms and stages. Abortion and assisted suicide are products of

**"Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us." Romans 5:5**

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hopelessness and despair. Yet even amid the increasing attacks on human life, we know that the "storms that buffet us will never prevail, for we are firmly anchored in the hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ and to overcome sin, fear and death."<sup>4</sup>

We have been entrusted with a message of hope for the woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant or for the man diagnosed with a terminal illness. At these challenging moments, we must bring God's presence, witnessing to His love, and inspiring a renewal of hope in those whose hearts are burdened. For "hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross."<sup>5</sup>

Having been "buried with Christ in Baptism, we receive in his resurrection the gift of a new life that breaks down the walls of death."<sup>6</sup> Confident of God's presence within us, may we share the Gospel of Life with those most in need of hope, knowing that "the grace of God precedes and accompanies his people as they press forward firm in faith, active in charity and steadfast in hope."<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 20.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 1.

<sup>3</sup> Pope Leo XIV, Vatican News, May 26, 2025: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-05/pope-leo-xiv-africa-day-pilgrimage-blessing-vatican-basilica.html>.

<sup>4</sup> Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 25.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 3.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 20.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, 6.



# Hope that Anchors Us

*Facing the end of life, whether for ourselves or someone we love, can stir fear, sadness and deep questions about what lies ahead. Yet, in these moments, we are called to cling to a hope far greater than anything this world offers. Christian hope is not just a wish for things to improve; it is a certainty, rooted in a person who will never fail us. Our hope rests in the One who guarantees it—Jesus Christ, who holds our future in His hands.*

*So how do we truly live out this hope, especially when suffering weighs heavy?*

*Let us use the letters of the word “hope” to reflect more deeply on the assurance Jesus has given us.*

## Holding Fast to Christ

Our hope is not in vague ideas but in Jesus Christ: God who took on flesh, loved us to the end, and conquered death. When life’s final chapter feels uncertain, He remains our sure and steadfast anchor. We are held by a God who keeps His promises. “The mystery of the Redemption of the human person is in an astonishing way rooted in the loving involvement of God with human suffering. That is why we can entrust ourselves to God and to convey this certainty in faith to the person who is suffering and fearful of pain and death.”<sup>1</sup>

## Overcoming Death

Through His resurrection, Jesus Christ, overcame death and gave us the hope of joining Him in eternal life. Eternal life is a relationship with our Lord who does not die, who is Life and Love itself. “Death is a decisive moment in the human person’s encounter with God the Savior.”<sup>2</sup> Thanks to the grace of Christ, death is not the end of life but a promise of communion with God. This is the glorious future awaiting us, and the great hope that steadies us even now when we are suffering.

## Persevering in Solidarity

The Gospel is not just information; it transforms. It changes our life and enables us to act. Since we know who holds our tomorrow, we can face today’s fears with courage. This hope reshapes how we face suffering. It means living our final days not in despair, but with joy, offering our pain as prayer and witness.

This hope is not just for us; it is a light we pass to others. In hospice rooms, family conversations, and quiet acts of care for others, we become living reminders that no life is beyond God’s reach. “The scene of the Cross provides a way of understanding that even when it seems that there is nothing more to do there remains much to do, because ‘remaining’ by the side of the sick is a sign of love and of the hope that it contains.”<sup>3</sup> Together, we can build communities anchored in solidarity that no illness or grief can destroy. We believe that every human

life, to the very last breath, has inestimable value and demands our protection and care.

## Embracing Suffering

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Jesus did not just observe human suffering—He entered into it. Our God chose to become like us! Love Himself chose to suffer with us, and that changes everything. Even when we feel alone, He is there, whispering, “I am with you.” Our suffering becomes meaningful when united to Christ’s suffering on the Cross. When we unite our pain with His, it becomes a share in God’s redeeming work, a mystery where our deepest wounds become vessels of grace. This is the scandal of our faith: a God who did not spare Himself so that we would know we are never abandoned.



Isaiah the prophet tells us, “They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength” (Is. 40:31). In life’s hardest moments, let us fix our eyes on our Lord Jesus Christ. He walks this path with us, redeems our struggles, and promises a dawn where every tear is wiped away. May His hope light our way, guiding us and our loved ones to our heavenly home with Him.

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<sup>1</sup> *Samaritanus bonus*, Conclusion.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, V, 10.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, II.

Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible, revised edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C. and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All rights reserved. Excerpts from *Samaritanus bonus (On the care of persons in the critical and terminal phases of life)* © 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Models used for illustrative purposes only. Copyright © 2025, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.



**UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS**  
Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities | [uscbb.org/prolife](https://uscbb.org/prolife)



[fb.com/uscbbrespectlife](https://fb.com/uscbbrespectlife)

 [@uscbbprolife](https://twitter.com/uscbbprolife)

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

# DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR - RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) announced the 2025-2026 theme which begins in October 2025 and continues through September 2026:



**ESSAY OR POEM CONTENT:** In thinking about respecting all life & using the theme *Life: Our Sign of Hope*. Explain what it means to you by writing an essay or a poem.

**WHO MAY ENTER:** Students in Grades 5 through 12

**ESSAY REQUIREMENTS:**

- ✦ 150-200 words (approximately) - Students in Grades 5,6,7,8
- ✦ 200-300 words (approximately) - Students in Grades 9,10,11,12

*If writing a **poem**, the number of words are not a requirement.*

Entries must include the following information on the following Essay ID ½ page:

- ✦ Contestants' Name, Address, City, Zip code
- ✦ Number of Words in **Essay** (*NOTE: the entry is disqualified if the number of words in the essay does not meet the standards listed above; the number of words in a poem is not required*).
- ✦ Grade
- ✦ Teacher's Name & contact information
- ✦ Fill in blanks for Home School, Religious Education, or Catholic School

**SEND ESSAYS TO:** **Carol Grund / RESPECT LIFE OFFICE**

Diocese of Superior  
PO Box 969  
Superior, WI 54880

**POSTMARK DEADLINE:**

- ✦ *Monday, February 16, 2026*

*If you have further questions, please contact Bonita Thom @ 715-394-0206; [bthom@catholicdos.org](mailto:bthom@catholicdos.org).*

*QUOTES FROM THE ESSAYS MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE CATHOLIC HERALD NEWSPAPER.*

*PRIZES AWARDED TO THOSE ESSAYS CHOSEN BY THE JUDGING COMMITTEE.*

ESSAY/POEM IDENTIFICATION 1/2 PAGE (include this completed 1/2 page sheet with each entry):

# OF WORDS IN ESSAY: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTESTANT'S NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME, EMAIL & PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

***Home School** - please list the address if different than the contestant's above:*

***Religious Education** - please write the parish info:*

PARISH NAME ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

***Catholic School** - please write the school info:*

SCHOOL NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_



Office #: \_\_\_\_\_

ESSAY/POEM IDENTIFICATION 1/2 PAGE (include this completed 1/2 page sheet with each entry):

# OF WORDS IN ESSAY: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTESTANT'S NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

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***Religious Education** - please write the parish info:*

PARISH NAME ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

***Catholic School** - please write the school info:*

SCHOOL NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_



# SAFE HAVEN SUNDAY

2026 YEAR 3: SAFETY THROUGH CONNECTION

1

## PREPARE

Date

- Familiarize yourself w/ [Safe Haven Sunday: Year 3](#)
- Order ["Connected: How Strong Families lead to Internet-Safe Kids"](#)
- Order [Prayer Cards](#) (optional, printed locally)
- Download [Social Media Kit](#) (optional, use to promote event)
- Order Materials you want for Confessional and elsewhere
  - [You are Loved](#)      [Are you Equipped For the Fight?](#)
  - [5 Keys to Freedom](#)      [What's Wrong with Porn Anyway?](#)
  - [Strive](#)      [Restored Vows](#)      [Arise](#)      [Reclaim](#)

As soon as possible

2

## PROMOTE

Date

- Mention Safe Haven in bulletin using [Bulletin Blurb](#)
- Mention Safe Haven Sunday using [Social Media](#) (optional)

Jan 18/19

3

## SEND

Date

- Circulate "Connected" book to families
  - **Principals:** Send w/ school students
  - **DREs:** Send w/ religious ed. students
- Send "Heads up" email for parents beforehand
- [Letter from priest](#) included w/ book in sealed envelope

Week of Feb 15-19

4

## PREACH

Date

- Give Safe Haven Homily (Resource will be sent when ready)
- Use [General Intercessions](#) @ Mass
- Pray using [Prayer Cards](#) after intercessions @ Mass
- Continue promotion:
  - 2nd [Bulletin Blurb](#)
- Hand out **Connected** books to parishioners

Feb 21/22

Safe Haven Sunday

5

## FOLLOW UP

Date

- 3rd & final [Bulletin Blurb](#)
- Post "thank you" on your social media (optional)
- Have resources available in confessional, etc

Feb 29 and Ongoing

A digital version of this document has been emailed to each pastor.  
If you need an additional copy, email [jjohnson@catholicdos.org](mailto:jjohnson@catholicdos.org)



# VOCATION INFORMATION

## *Weekend*



## Feb 21 - 23 2026

Hang out with college seminarians, get a taste of seminary life, attend Sunday Mass, and visit classes! Open to young men who are in college or are juniors or seniors in high school.

For more information  
or to sign-up,  
please contact:



**Immaculate Heart of  
Mary Seminary  
Winona Mn**

**Fr. Julian Druffner**  
[frjuliandruffner@hrmedford.org](mailto:frjuliandruffner@hrmedford.org)  
**Ph: 715.748.3346**



**21-23, February, 2026**



**CALLED NORTH**  
DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

[\\_https://callednorth.org](https://callednorth.org)

# Catholic Devotions

## What Are Devotions?

Devotions are ways that we can express our love for God. Participating in the Sacraments and the Liturgy of the Church are the primary ways this happens, but devotions support that participation by saturating our everyday life with prayer; to “pray without ceasing,” as 1 Thes 5:17 says. While there is a wide variety of popular devotions, their shared quality is that they provide consistency and stability to our prayer.

## What Devotions Are Not:

It is possible for devotions to be distorted in ways that hinder faith, like through superstition or content that misrepresents God’s character. Thankfully, there are many time-tested devotions that can enrich our spiritual life and help us to grow in our love of God and neighbor.



## “This man was righteous and devout...”

The Presentation of the Lord is a great example of devotion: Mary and Joseph by fulfilling the requirements of the Mosaic Law – even though they would be exempt by their unique circumstance – and Simeon and Anna by faithfully “awaiting the consolation of Israel” (Lk 2:25). Both show us why it is important to remain consistent in prayer in daily life, even when we are unable to see its effects.





There are many forms of devotion to the **Blessed Virgin Mary**. The most well-known is the Rosary. Another is praying the **Angelus** throughout the day (usually at 6am, noon, and 6pm), which reminds us that God has come into the world and continues to come into our lives.

*"With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty of Christ's face and to experience the depths of his love."  
- St. John Paul II, Rosarium Virginis Mariae*

Mary has been given many titles to show her unique role in the Church and in the lives of each of the faithful. The **Litany of Loreto** contains many such titles and can provide a new perspective on who Mary is to us.

### The Sacred Heart of Jesus

Popular devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus comes from the repeated appearances of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. While devotions to Jesus' Passion and his Five Wounds already existed, a number of new practices spread due to the promises attached to them, including the Holy Hour and reception of Holy Communion on First Fridays. Other practices include the **Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus** and **prayers of consecration**.

*"O most Sacred, most loving Heart of Jesus, Thou art concealed in the Holy Eucharist, and Thou beatest for us still." - St. John Henry Newman*



### The Holy Name of Jesus

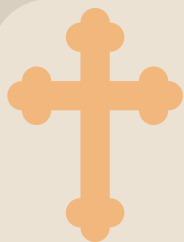
Reverence for Jesus' name and its power is found throughout the New Testament. From Jesus' promise that everything asked of God in his name will be given (Jn 16:23) to the declaration that all of creation should kneel at his name (Phil 2:10).

**Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus**



Two of the most widespread prayers centered on the Holy Name of Jesus are the **Hail Mary** and the **Jesus Prayer**. Even his name alone is an all-encompassing prayer, since Jesus is present in the heart of the one who calls on his name (CCC 2666-2668).

*Jesus Prayer  
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
have mercy on me a sinner.*



### The Stations of the Cross or Way of the Cross

This meditation on Jesus' Passion developed from pilgrims' practice of following in Our Lord's footsteps through Jerusalem. Although the Stations are frequently prayed during Lent, they can be prayed at any time. They are a way to make a spiritual pilgrimage to Calvary and to renew gratitude toward God.

The USCCB website has more resources for praying with this devotion.

### The Holy Angels

The Church teaches that each of the faithful have an angel as a personal protector and guide, and the Catechism reminds us that the angels are constantly present and helping the Church (CCC 334-336).

Devotion to your Guardian Angel – or to all the holy angels – as a powerful intercessor and friend is a sure way to grow closer to God and overcome temptation (as the angels cheer you on! Lk 15:10) Some devotions to the Angels include saying the **Prayer to Your Guardian Angel** regularly or praying the **Chaplet of St. Michael**.

Angel of God,  
my guardian dear,  
to whom God's love  
commits me here,  
ever this day  
be at my side,  
to light and guard,  
to rule and guide.  
Amen.



**INTERESTED?  
CONTACT BELOW:**



**CALLED NORTH**  
DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

**OUR WEBSITE:**

[WWW.CALLEDNORTH.ORG](http://WWW.CALLEDNORTH.ORG)



**COME & SEE  
WEEKEND**

**MARCH 20-22, 2026**

**ST FRANCES DE SALES SEMINARY**

**FOR MEN - PRIESTLY DISCERNMENT**

- **What it is:** A weekend retreat to experience life as a seminarian.
- **Activities:** Attend Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, community meals, tour the seminary, discuss formation, participate in recreation, and potentially sit in on classes.
- **Who:** Young adult men (ages 18-35) discerning diocesan priesthood.
- **Where:** Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Diocese of Superior  
Director of  
Vocations & Seminarians  
Fr. David Neuschwander**

**651.300.9739**

[dneuschwander@catholicdos.org](mailto:dneuschwander@catholicdos.org)





# Premarriage Retreat Day

**Pre-Marriage Retreat Day** offers virtue-based topics on spirituality/faith, communication, conflict resolution skills, financial decision-making, intimacy/cohabitation, children, commitment, ceremony planning, marriage as a sacrament, sexuality, theology of the body, and couple prayer. The purpose of these courses is to deepen the couples' understanding of the sacrament, helping the couple to get to know each other, learn about their values, and become even more aware of one's own inner worlds. Retreat content per: "**Living a Joy Filled Marriage program**", <https://ascensionpress.com/>

**Invited are couples who wish to exchange vows in a Catholic Church or couples who have married outside of the Catholic Church and want their marriage validated in the Catholic Church.**

**Saturday March 28, 2026**

**8:30 AM – 6:00 PM**

**Location: Holy Rosary Parish  
215 South Washington Ave  
Medford WI 54451**

**\$100 per couple (includes A.M. coffee & snacks, lunch & materials needed for the day)**

**All registrations are due no later than Wednesday, Mar. 18, 2026  
(Minimum of 4 couples & maximum of 16 couples).**

**Contact: Michelle Oates 715-748-3336 (ext. 247)**

**Emergency contact on Saturday, March 28 (day of the class)  
Mike Czerniak, 715-965-4294 Program Facilitator**

**Intercessions  
Abortion Healing  
For Lent and Divine Mercy Sunday**



**English**

For all who despair of God's forgiveness,  
especially those who have been involved in  
an abortion:

May they trust in God's mercy and find  
peace again through the Sacrament of  
Reconciliation;

We pray to the Lord:

During this Lenten season,  
may all who have participated in abortion  
receive the courage to return to the Lord,  
who is gracious and merciful;

We pray to the Lord:

For women and men suffering after  
abortion:

May the Church's abortion healing ministry  
help them find peace through God's  
limitless mercy;

We pray to the Lord:

For all who suffer because of participation  
in abortion:

May they come to know the mercy of God,  
who longs to forgive all our transgressions  
through the saving power of the Cross;

We pray to the Lord:

For all people:

May we repent for the times we did  
not cherish God's gift of life,  
and may we be inspired to seek His  
forgiveness without fear;

We pray to the Lord:

For mothers and fathers who have lost a  
child through abortion:

That the Lord's Divine Mercy may fill their  
souls, bringing them healing and new life;

We pray to the Lord:

**Oración de los Fieles - La sanación del Aborto  
Para la Cuaresma y el Domingo de la  
Divina Misericordia**



**Español**

Por todos los que pierden las esperanzas del  
perdón de Dios, en especial los que  
participaron en un aborto:

Para que confíen en la misericordia de Dios  
y encuentren paz en el Sacramento de la  
Reconciliación;  
roguemos al Señor:

Durante este tiempo de Cuaresma,  
que todos los que participaron en un aborto:  
reciban el valor para regresar al Señor,  
que es bondadoso y misericordioso;  
roguemos al Señor:

Por las mujeres y los hombres que sufren  
después de un aborto: para que el ministerio de la Iglesia de sanación para el aborto los ayude a  
encontrar paz por medio de la misericordia ilimitada de Dios;  
roguemos al Señor:

Por todos los que sufren por participar en un  
aborto:  
para que logren conocer la misericordia de  
Dios, que anhela perdonar todas nuestras  
transgresiones mediante el poder salvador de  
la Cruz;  
roguemos al Señor:

Por todas las personas:  
para que nos arrepintamos por las veces que  
no atesoramos el don de la vida de Dios,  
y que recibamos la inspiración para buscar  
Su perdón sin miedo;  
roguemos al Señor:

Por las madres y padres que perdieron a un  
hijo por el aborto:  
para que la Divina Misericordia del Señor  
colme su alma, y les conceda sanación y  
nueva vida;  
roguemos al Señor:

# PRIEST WILLING TO ASSIST

Updated February 2026

Name	Contact Info	Address	Considerations
Anderson, Rev. Andy (Barg)	715-719-2875; <a href="mailto:bganderson05@yahoo.com">bganderson05@yahoo.com</a>	20 East John Street, Unit 2, Rice Lake, WI 54868	Unavailable until further notice
Anderson, Fr. Ed	715-817-3736 <a href="mailto:fatheredanderson@gmail.com">fatheredanderson@gmail.com</a>	2153 18 ½ Ave, Rice Lake, WI 54868	Willing to go anywhere
Brinkman, Fr. Jim	715-690-5040 <a href="mailto:j.brinkman536@gmail.com">j.brinkman536@gmail.com</a>	811 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Clear Lake, 54005	SW Deanery only (?)
Devett, Fr. Aaron	715-358-0955 <a href="mailto:fraarond@gmail.com">fraarond@gmail.com</a>	9674 Lin Wood Lane, Woodruff, 54568	
Farrell, Fr. Kevin	H: 715-420-2056; C: 630-361-4916; <a href="mailto:kfarrel31ltr@gmail.com">kfarrel31ltr@gmail.com</a>	3531 Thompson Lake Road Rhinelander, WI 54501	
Harris, Rev. Jerry	C: 715-377-2533 <a href="mailto:pete51quinn@gmail.com">pete51quinn@gmail.com</a>	308 River Street, Apt. 303 River Falls, WI 54022	
Hopefl, Rev. Greg	715-492-5546; <a href="mailto:ghopefl@charter.net">ghopefl@charter.net</a>	11677 N. Mosquito Brook Road Hayward, WI 54843	Dec-March: local only
Mullen, Fr. Dennis	715-566-1781; <a href="mailto:mullen1223@yahoo.com">mullen1223@yahoo.com</a>	715 E. South St., Rice Lake, 54868	must be back in Rice Lake by evening
Murphy, Rev. Eugene	203-241-9990 <a href="mailto:frgmurphy@gmail.com">frgmurphy@gmail.com</a>	108 North St., Hudson, 54016	
Thorn, Rev. Robert	715-902-1339 <a href="mailto:rthorn@diolclergy.org">rthorn@diolclergy.org</a>	1649 Lake Road, Monico, WI 54501	