



St. Theodore Catholic Church

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

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

www.sttheo.org

PARISH PASTOR

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

BOOKKEEPING

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

OFFICE

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

FAITH FORMATION

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

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

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

SCHOOL SECRETARY

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

KITCHEN

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

MAINTENANCE

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

ST. JAMES TRUSTEES

Alan Amundson.....852-2169

ST. THEODORE TRUSTEES

Linda Cruz-Lares.....373-1329
 John Forman.....373-0498

CEMETERY: St. Theodore & St. James

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

OUTREACH to HOMEBOUND

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

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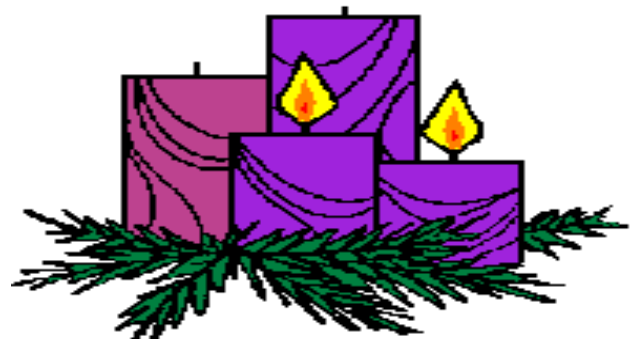
PRAYER CHAIN

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



The longing for salvation expressed by God's people in last Sunday's readings centers around John the Baptist today.

He, like the prophet Baruch, asks a sleeping and frustrated people to wake up and clothe itself in happiness after atoning. Jerusalem and the people are part of the same reality for Baruch; both the holy city and the faithful must joyfully await the arrival of the Messiah. In the second reading, the Philippians, grateful to God for the supreme gift of love reflected in Jesus Christ, read the letter of Saint Paul and discover they must share that love with humanity just as Christ did when he was born for us. What topics could modern prophets proclaim? Who in our time has presented him or herself as a prophet? These and other similar questions can be discussed in youth group or parish ministry meetings.



El anhelo de salvación expresado por el pueblo de Dios en las lecturas del domingo pasado se centra hoy en día en torno a Juan el Bautista. Él, como el profeta Baruc, pide a un pueblo dormido y frustrado que despierte y se vista de felicidad después de la expiación. Jerusalén y el pueblo son parte de una misma realidad para Baruc; tanto la ciudad santa como los fieles deben esperar con alegría la llegada del Mesías. En la segunda lectura, los filipenses, agradecidos a Dios por el don supremo del amor reflejado en Jesucristo, leen la carta de San Pablo y descubren que deben compartir ese amor con la humanidad tal como lo hizo Cristo cuando nació por nosotros. ¿Qué temas podrían proclamar los profetas modernos? Quién en nuestro tiempo se ha presentado como profeta? Estas y otras preguntas similares se pueden discutir en reuniones de grupos juveniles o de ministerio parroquial.

MASS TIMES

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

Nursing Home Masses - 2:00 pm

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

RECONCILIATION

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

PRIVATE PRAYER IN CHAPEL

Open all hours

Parish Office Hours

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

Closed Friday

Offices Close Daily

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

The Catholic Shoppe ♦ Parish Office

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

FROM THE DESK OF FR. KURT



In the first reading today from the prophet Isaiah we hear the prophecy of the Messiah. When He comes, "Not by appearance shall He judge, nor by hearsay shall He decide, but He shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted."

Jesus is the Messiah who brings fulfillment to this prophecy, but He expects to use our hands and feet to do it.

I often listen to the cries of the poor and those who suffer, and I'm surprised that such poverty could exist in a country so abundant in wealth. I think sometimes the social problems in our country; such as illegal immigration often times cloud our obligation to help the cry of the poor. As a Christian we are not to ask for identification of legal residency before we feed a hungry child or a stop to console a crying mother. Our obligation to the poor and suffering transcends boundaries and borders.

Jesus is still in our midst fulfilling the prophecy of old and he is using his disciples to carry out his mission.

Love of Christ

Father Kurt Farrell

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Mon Dec 9	5:00am 5:30am	Rosary Mass of the Immaculate Conception † Salvador Renteria by Lucy & family	Church Church
Tues Dec 10	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass † Ron Grein by family	Church Church
Wed Dec 11	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass † Tom Sellner by his sister Gerri	Church Church
Thurs Dec 12	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass † Dennis Manning	Church Church
Fri Dec 13	8:30am 9:00am	Rosary Mass † Mike Dickens by family	Church Church
Sat Dec 14	4:00pm 5:15pm	Confessions & Rosary Mass Memorial Mass Association	Church Church
Sun Dec 15	8:30am 9:00am 11:00am	Rosary Mass † For the decease family members of Terry & Peggy Vandersnick Spanish Mass For all Parishioners and those listed in our book of intentions	Church Church Church

2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL

Please prayerfully consider how the Lord is calling you to help with this year's appeal. We have **\$14,905** yet to collect before January 1, 2025.

Goal	\$55,629.00
Amount received 11/27/24)	\$40,724.00

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

November 24-December 1, 2024

Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Improvement Fund
\$9,540.00	\$1,767.75	\$50.00
Salvation Army Donation 12/2/24		21 lbs

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon:12/9	Gn 3:9-15, 20, Eph 1:3-6, 11-12	PS 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, Lk 1:26-38
Tues:12/10	Is 40:1-11	Mt 18:12-14
Wed:12/11	Is 40:25-31	Mt 11:28-30
Thu:12/12	ZEC 2:14-17	LK 1:26-38
Fri: 12/13	Is 48:17-19	Mt 11:16-19
Sat: 12/14	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11	Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sun:12/15	Zep 3:14-18a Phil 4:4-7	Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 Lk 3:10-18

SUNDAY BROADCAST SPONSORS

Date	Intention
Dec 22	† Mike Olson & family by Karen Olson
Dec 29	Sponsors Needed
Jan 5	Sponsors Needed
Jan 12	Sponsors Needed
Jan 19	† Jose Fransico Magdalero by his wife and children Additional Sponsors Needed

We pray for the following family who mourns the loss of their loved one:

- Florence Delores Wyant** (died November 24, 2024)

We pray the Lord will bring her soul peace, mercy and eternal rest and comfort for her family during this difficult time.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

2024 Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24,
4:00 PM

7:30 PM (Español)

9:30pm Christmas Carols

10:00 PM



Christmas Day

Wednesday,
December 25

9:00 AM

(Broadcast)

Welcome: We welcome the following into the church family through the Sacrament of Baptism.

- Elsy Leilani Camarillo Valle** daughter of Luis Enrique Camarillo Valle & Lucia Valle

We celebrate the blessing of her beautiful eternal soul and may we help her grow to be the saints the Lord has called her to be.



BAPTISM

Poinsettias for Christmas!



Contact Addie's Floral directly at 377-2081 by 12/18/23.

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

Donors may take their plant home after the 1/5/25 weekend Masses.

Scrip: We have a limited number of gift cards in our inventory so if you need a large amount please email Mandy Grzybowski: agrybow@me.com

The Holy Father's Intention for December 2024

For Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis requests this month's prayers "so that this Jubilee strengthens us in faith, helps us recognize Christ risen in our lives, and transforms us into pilgrims of Christian hope."

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES & REMINDERS		
Mon Dec 9	Loaves & Fishes 4:45-5:30pm Hispanic Bible Study 6-8pm Fundraising Committee Group 6:30-8pm	Marian Hall Church Basement Marian Hall
Tues Dec 10	Aztec Dancing Practice 5-6pm No Hispanic Holy Spirit Group 6-8pm	Church Church
Wed Dec 11	Morning Prayer Group 6-7am Eucharist Revival Meeting 10:30am-12pm Hand Bell Practice 5:30-6:30pm Faith Formation Class grades 5-11 6:30-8pm Faith Formation Adoration 7-8pm Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary 10:30-11:30pm Las Mañanitas 11:30pm	Parish Meeting Room Parish Meeting Room Church Basement School/Church Church Church Church
Thurs Dec 12	Las Mañanitas 12:30am Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass 12:30-1:30am Our Lady of Guadalupe Gathering: Coffee, Hot Cocoa and Mexican Bread	Church Church Marian Hall
Fri Dec 13	Adoration 9:30am-6:30pm Hispanic Adoration 6:30-8pm	Church Church
Sat Dec 14	RCIA Class 8:30-11am Pageant Practice 9-11am	Parish Meeting Room Church/Church Basement
Sun Dec 15	Faith Formation Class PreK-4th Grade 10-11am	School/Church

LITURGICAL MINITERS			
	Saturday December 14, 2024 5:15pm	Sunday December 15, 2024 9:00am	
Accompanist	Ada Theusch	Ada Theusch	
Cantor	Jodi Blong	Betsy Schultz	
Lectors	Grzybowski's	Judy Popp-Anderson	
Servers	Lauren & Lily Raleigh	Ethan Chrissinger & Blake Redman	
Immaculate Conception ♦ Monday, December 9, 2024 5:30 PM			
Accompanist	Cantor	Lector	Servers
Acapella	Peter Sullivan	Nick Schiltz	Needed

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

2024 Children's Christmas Pageant!

We need more PreK-12th grade St. Theo youth to participate! There are several roles to fill yet! Adult volunteers as well as Middle/High School students are needed! Please contact Irene if you'd like to take part in the pageant. **Next practices are: Saturday, December 14th, 9-11am and Sunday, December 22nd (Dress Rehearsal) from 2-4pm. Please meet in the church for all practices.**


First Reconciliation Day

Sunday, December 8th at 3:00pm, in the church. Please arrive 10 minutes early. All First Communion students must attend and with at least one parent.

Hey 5th-11th graders! Gifts needed for local TEENS this Christmas!

Please consider making a local teenager's Christmas extra special by **bringing an unwrapped gift for a TEEN boy or girl to Faith Formation on Wednesday night, Dec.11th.** The items collected will go to the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program.


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





KC Social
For all KC Members

No need to bring anything, just come and enjoy the camaraderie with your brother knights.

Thursday, December 12, 2024 ♦ 6:30-7:30pm *Parish Rectory*



 If you or someone you know would like to receive the Eucharist, please contact the parish office at 373-0603.



We want to give thanks to the Loaves and Fishes Gang for preparing the Thanksgiving Meal! They served 198 meals. **Awesome crew - Awesome job!**

ST. THEODORE SCHOOL NEWS

We are still collecting items for the Winter Gear Drive sponsored by United Way of Freeborn County. Collection boxes are located in the church entrance, the parish office, and also in the school office.

ATTENTION! We are starting our search for Elementary school teachers for the 2025/2026 school year. We are looking to split our classrooms back to single grade rooms, we will be looking for multiple teachers for the 2025/2026 school year. If you or anyone you know would like to come teach at St. Theodore School, please send your resume to Sue Amundson at: samundson@sttheoschool.org.

We hope everyone has a blessed holiday season filled with family and friends. Have a blessed weekend,
St. Theodore Catholic School

Winter Weather Cancellations: In the event that school is canceled, all parish activities are also canceled and the parish office is also closed. If school starts late or closes early, the parish will follow the same practice. We will also advertise closings through KATE Radio 1450 am, KAAL TV, Flocknote Texts & emails, and Church Door Signage.

<p>CPA Hill, Benda, Skov & Bernau, P.A. Certified Public Accountants 507-377-1333</p> <p>Accounting Services Bookkeeping, Payroll, & Tax Preparation Heather Benda-Parishioner ◊ Lance Skov ◊ Andrew Bernau</p> <p>1206 W. Front St., Suite 1 Albert Lea, MN 56007</p>	<p>PLAZA MORENA MEXICAN RESTAURANT</p> <p>507-373-9194 www.plazamorenarestaurant.com</p> <p>Northbridge Mall 2588 Bridge Ave. Albert Lea, MN 2588 Northbridge</p> <p>Rafael Herrera General Manager Parishioner</p>	<p>Struggling? Let's Talk</p> <p>Dr. Brenden Troster, PhD Licensed Therapist Parishioner Call: 507-216-4949 brendentroster.com</p> <p>Troster Holistic Wellness LLC Holistic Mental Health</p>	<p>St Theodore Catholic School</p> <p>Accepting Registrations for Pre-K - Grade 5</p> <p>Stop in or call us at 373-9657.</p> <p>St. Theodore Albert Lea</p>
<p>DOUG'S PAINTING & SANDBLASTING 377-1508</p> <p>Interior/Exterior Painting of Commercial Buildings, In-Shop Painting and Staining Doug, Jason & Dan Evans</p>	<p>Raleigh's ACE Hardware</p> <p>252 Bridge Ave. 507-377-8636 Peggy Raleigh, Matt & Ellen Raleigh Parishioners</p> <p>REGAL COSMETIC PAINT</p>	<p>2202 Stevens St Albert Lea, MN</p> <p>Semcac People Are Our Business 373-1329</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING ALBERT LEA ELECTRIC CO. SINCE 1919 CAL JOHNSON</p> <p>1410 Olsen Dr. Albert Lea, MN 56007 (507)-373-6650 www.albertleaelectric.com</p>
<p>Senior Resources of Freeborn County Call us at 377-7433</p> <p>Serving Seniors in programs of Ride Services Advocacy Chore</p>	<p>SOUTHSIDE CUSTOM 507-373-4164</p> <p>Mechanic Collision Repair ◊ Insurance Estimates 1401 S.E. Broadway, Albert Lea</p>	<p>Helping to beautifully preserve your memories.</p> <p>Mandy Grzybowski Creative Memories Consultant 507-383-1558 agrzybow@me.com</p> <p>cm</p>	<p>Charlene's BEAUTY SALON 373-1731 2306 Milo Ave. Albert Lea, MN 56007 Charlene Kukuzke Owner & Parishioner</p> <p>Your Family Hair Care Center</p>
<p>Bisek Gardens Sweet Corn Sweet Bicolors In Season Open daily noon-6pm</p> <p>Linda Bisek 425 W. 11th St. Albert Lea 373-4566</p>	<p>24/7 Emergency Service 724 W. Clark St. 373-6161</p> <p>PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING JIM & DUDLEY'S Since 1923 Turn to the Experts</p>	<p>Steam Brothers The Cleaning Experts 373-9850</p> <p>WE SPECIALIZE IN WATER, SMOKE, SOOT, DAMAGE CLEAN-UP COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL</p>	<p>BONNERUP FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES</p> <p>2210 E. Main St., Albert Lea Phone: 373-2461 • 1-800-204-2461</p>
<p>Bayview Freeborn FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES</p> <p>"We can cross this bridge together"</p> <p>JOSH FOSSUM Director/Manager Email: bayviewfuneral@gmail.com</p> <p>1415 Hwy. 13 N Albert Lea, MN 56007 Phone: (507) 373-4330</p>	<p>Knights of Columbus Council 1590</p> <p>Albert Lea, MN A Catholic Fraternal Organization 373-5678</p>	<p>Knights of Columbus 1590 Women's Auxiliary</p> <p>Open to all Catholic Women 18 & over</p>	<p>SAVELKOUL LAW OFFICE Donald W. Savelkoul Parishioner</p> <p>2302 E. Main St. 507.552.5291</p>

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Diocese of Winona-Rochester Child Sexual Abuse Policy

The Diocese of Winona-Rochester will provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (employees, volunteers, vendors, religious or clergy). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 507-454-2270, Extension 255. A caller will be asked to provide his or her name and telephone number. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. The Diocese of Winona-Rochester is committed to protecting children, young people and other vulnerable people in our schools, parishes and ministries. The diocesan policy is available on the diocesan web site at www.dowr.org under the Safe Environment Program. If you have any questions about the Diocese of Winona's implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, please contact Michael Gerard, at 507-361-3377, or mgerard@dowr.org.

Anyone working or volunteering in a Catholic parish or school is a mandated reporter. Anyone who knows or has reason to believe that a minor (a person under the age of 18) or vulnerable adult is or has been abused or neglected, must report all suspected abuse or neglect to proper civil authorities/law enforcement within 24 hours of the abuse or neglect becoming known to him or her and must also follow up with a written report to civil authorities within 72 hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays. Many people working or volunteering in a Catholic parish or school, including clergy, are mandated reporters under state law.

Procedimientos Diocesanos Para Hacer Frente al Abuso Sexual de Menores

La Diócesis de Winona-Rochester se ha comprometido a proteger a los niños, los jóvenes y otras personas vulnerables en nuestras escuelas, parroquias y actividades apostólicas. Tenemos un cuidado especial y la intención permanente de atender eventuales víctimas de abuso sexual y sus familias. Para informarnos sobre alegaciones actuales de abuso sexual por parte de miembros del clero o empleados laicos o voluntarios en la Diócesis de Winona-Rochester contacte: 507-454-2270, Extensión 255 Víctimas de abuso sexual, además de contactar a las autoridades civiles, se les pide de dirigirse a la diócesis para recibir asistencia pastoral. El Coordinado de Asistencia a la Víctima le proveerá tal asistencia.

“Cualquier persona que trabaje o sea voluntario en una parroquia o escuela católica, tiene la obligación de reportar o denunciar abusos o negligencias. Cualquier persona que sepa o tenga razones para creer que un menor (una persona menor de 18 años) o un adulto vulnerable es o ha sido abusado o ignorado, debe denunciar toda sospecha de abuso o abandono a las autoridades civiles o autoridades policiales pertinentes dentro de las 24 horas desde que tuvo conocimiento del asunto y además deberá dar seguimiento haciendo un informe escrito a las autoridades civiles dentro de un margen de 72 horas, excluyendo fines de semana y feriados”.

<http://www.dowr.org/offices/safe-environment/report-a-complaint.html>