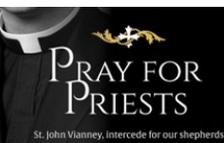


January 7, 2024

# The Epiphany of the Lord

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sat, Jan 6, 4:00PM (Sacred Heart) † Leon Westhoff  
 Sat, Jan 6, 5:00PM (St. Henry) † Stephen J. Doll  
 Sat, Jan 6, 7:00PM (Holy Cross) For the People  
 Sun, Jan 7, 8:00AM (St. Henry) † Leonard & Lorene Wegscheid  
 Sun, Jan 7, 8:30AM (Sacred Heart) † Jack & Odilia Riestenberg  
 Sun, Jan 7, 10:00AM (St. Henry) † Leona Loerzel  
 Sun, Jan 7, 10:30AM (St. Lawrence) † Duane Anderson  
 Tue, Jan 9, 8:45AM (St. Henry) † Betty Sweere  
 Tue, Jan 9, 7:00PM (Sacred Heart) † John Tschida  
 Wed, Jan 10, 8:30AM (St. Lawrence) Special Intention- Luke Potts  
 Wed, Jan 10, 5:15PM (Holy Cross) Catholic United Financial Members  
 Thu, Jan 11, 8:30AM (Sacred Heart) † Rita Kuester  
 Thu, Jan 11, 8:45AM (St. Henry) No Mass  
 Fri, Jan 12, 8:30AM (St. Lawrence) Special Intention  
 Fri, Jan 12, 8:45AM (St. Henry) † Sarah Derkey  
 Fri, Jan 12, 10:00AM (Perham Living) † Barb Jarchow  
 Sat, Jan 13, 4:00PM (Sacred Heart) † Duana Reed  
 Sat, Jan 13, 5:00PM (St. Henry) † Jackie Friedsam  
 Sat, Jan 13, 7:00PM (Holy Cross) † Leona Loerzel  
 Sun, Jan 14, 8:00AM (St. Henry) For the People  
 Sun, Jan 14, 8:30AM (Sacred Heart) † Deland Porath  
 Sun, Jan 14, 10:00AM (St. Henry) † Donald Lex & † Michael Lex  
 Sun, Jan 14, 10:30AM (St. Lawrence) † Patty Doll



The Serra Club of St. Cloud has chosen Thursday, January 11th as a special day of prayer for Fr. Tom. Please pray for our priests always and say a special prayer for Fr. Tom on January 11th.



**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Wednesday Noon**

### Financial Blessing for December 30th

Adult.....	1,205.00	Plate.....	51.00
Children.....	1.00	Christmas.....	380.00
Sol. of Mary.....	120.00	Votives.....	22.00
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>1,779.00</b>	

*Thank you for remembering Holy Cross Church with your Stewardship throughout the year.*

### Financial Blessing for December 30th & 31st

Adult.....	1,283.00	Plate.....	694.68
Youth.....	20.00	Elec. Transfers.....	585.00
Sol of Mary.....	55.00	Christmas.....	3,540.00
Votives.....	114.00		
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>6,291.68</b>	

*Thank you for remembering Sacred Heart Church with your Stewardship throughout the year.*

### Financial Blessing for December 30th & 31st

Adult.....	17,201.00	Plate.....	1,183.00
Children's Basket.....	101.00	Initial Offering.....	60.00
Votives.....	82.00	Sol. of Mary.....	535.00
Christmas.....	2,745.00	Kitchen.....	150.00
Copies.....	1.00	Elec. Transfers.....	3,901.00
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>25,959.00</b>	

*Thank you for remembering St. Henry Church with your Stewardship throughout the year.*

### Financial Blessing for December 31st

Adult.....	6,920.00	Youth .....	93.00
Plate.....	721.00	Elec. Transfers.....	340.00
Christmas .....	1,710.00	Rel. Ret.....	50.00
Christmas Flowers.....	40.00	Memorial.....	1,000.00
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>10,874.00</b>	

*Thank you for remembering St. Lawrence Church with your Stewardship throughout the year.*



**Confirmation Retreat**  
 For all Northern Cross ACC  
 Confirmation students  
 Sunday, January 14, 2024  
 10:00AM to 4:00PM  
 St. Henry Church, Perham

*Fr. Tom will be on retreat this week so please pray that he will have a peaceful and inspiring retreat. There will be no Confessions on Wednesday, January 10th at St. Henry and no 8:45AM Mass at St. Henry on Thursday, January 11th.*



# ST. LAWRENCE UPCOMING EVENTS



## FAMILY OUTDOOR FUN UTILITY CART

**\$5 per chance or 3 chances for \$10**

You could win the utility cart along with all its contents. This event is sponsored by St. Lawrence Christian Mothers with all proceeds going toward the 2024 Polka Festival. Chances will be sold after Sunday Masses or contact Marlene Boedigheimer at 218-457-1588.

**Wed. Jan 10:** All Grades; 6:30-7:30PM

**Sun. Jan. 14:** Confirmation Retreat; 10AM-4PM; St. Henry

**Wed. Jan. 17:** All Grades; 6:30-7:30PM

**Sat. Jan 20:** Grade 2; First Reconciliation; 9:00AM

**Stephanie VonRuden-Faith Formation Director**  
218-298-1050 or Vonruden.27@gmail.com

Epiphany marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of “chalking the doors.” The formula for the ritual is simple: take blessed



chalk and write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C + M + B + 24**. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: “May Christ bless the house.” The “+” signs represent the cross, and the “20” at the beginning and the “24” at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

Most often the chalking takes place after Epiphany Mass, and can be done at any church, home, or dwelling. Traditionally the blessing is done by either a priest or the father of the family. This blessing can be performed simply by just writing the inscription and offering a short prayer. The chalking of the doors of a home encourages Christians to dedicate their life at home to God and to others. Seeing the symbols over our doors can help to remind us, while passing in and out on our daily routines, that our homes and all those who dwell there belong to Christ.

### *Epiphany Blessing Prayer*

*May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.*



**CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE 2024 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES. PLEASE PICK THEM UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.**

### St. Lawrence Café

**Open Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

Bring a dish to share and join us for breakfast after the 8:30AM Mass.



### St. Lawrence Parish Life Meeting

Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

(after the 10:30AM Mass)

All are welcome.



### St. Lawrence Parish Breakfast

Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

(after 10:30AM Mass)

Groups 4 & 1 serve



# CHUBBY SUNDAY

## SOUP & CHILI COOKOFF

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
February 11th!  
More info to come!

<b>Canonical Administrator:</b>	<b>Fr. George Michael, E-mail: gmichaelvc@gmail.com, fathergeorge@ncacc.net</b>
<b>Parochial Vicar:</b>	<b>Fr. Thomas Skaja, E-mail: fathertom@ncacc.net 218-298-0585</b>
<b>Deacons:</b>	<b>Deacon Richard Quistorff; Deacon Randy Altstadt</b>



**St. Lawrence Catholic Church of Rush Lake**  
46404 County Highway 14  
Perham, MN 56573  
**Phone: (218) 346-7729 Fax: (218) 346-5946 Em: (218) 758-2888**  
**Email: stlawrence@arvig.net**  
**Parish Website: sacredheartstlawrencecatholicchurches.com**



# SACRED HEART



**Wed., Jan. 10:** Grades 1-11; 7:00PM  
**Sun., Jan. 14:** Confirmation Retreat; 10AM-4PM; St. Henry Church  
**Wed., Jan. 17:** Grades 1-11; 7:00PM

**Joe & Diane Szama—Faith Formation Directors**  
 218-849-7520 or [woolyacres@arvig.net](mailto:woolyacres@arvig.net)

The Parish of Sacred Heart extends congratulations to **Dzylan Michajl** son of Mike & Kelsey Wiskow who received the Sacrament of Baptism on January 6th



# SACRED HEART UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sacred Heart Christian Mothers Coffee & Rolls**  
 Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>  
 (after 8:30AM Mass)  
 All are welcome!



**Sacred Heart Liturgy/Parish Life Committee Meeting**  
 Tuesday, January 16th (after 7:00PM Mass)  
 New members are always welcome!



**Sunday, January 21**  
**1:00 PM**

**Sacred Heart Church of Dent, MN.**  
**FOOD/FUN/CASH PRIZES/DOOR PRIZES**  
 Hosted by Sacred Heart Christian Mothers



**CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE 2024 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES. PLEASE PICK THEM UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.**

Court St Rita #409 will be sponsoring the **National Catholic Daughters Education contest!** The deadline locally is January 31, 2023. Themes this year are: God's love and kindness will shine upon us like the sun that rises in the sky-Luke 1:78 OR How does my love shine for others? All students grade 4-12 are eligible to enter as well as Adult CDA members. Entry forms and rules are available at St. Henry's office or contact Leanne Stoll, Regent Court St. Rita.



The **2024 Marriage Prep Course** will be held at St. Henry on **January 28th, 2024 from 8:00AM-4:00PM.** The fee is \$175.00 per couple. For more information or to register, please contact St. Henry's Parish Office.

**Diocesan Festival of Families** will take place at Sacred Heart Church in Sauk Rapids on February 11th from 10:30AM–3:00PM for a day of celebrating our Catholic faith. Cost is \$20 per family. Register your family at: <https://stcdio.org/event/festival-of-families/>

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Contact the Parish Offices**

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Diocesan Policy requires that the Pastor be contacted at least 6 months before the anticipated date of marriage to allow time for premarital inventory, instructions and planning.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** ½ Hour before Weekend Masses at Sacred Heart, St. Lawrence and Holy Cross; First Friday from 9:00AM-10:00AM at St. Lawrence; Second Thursday from 9:00AM-10:00AM at Sacred Heart; Third Saturday from 6:00PM– 7:00PM at Holy Cross. Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8:15AM-8:45AM; Wednesday, 9:00AM-10:00AM; Saturday, 4:00PM—4:45PM (Before 5:00PM Mass) at St. Henry

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Contact the Parish Offices**

**Trustees:** Brenda Aschnewitz & Jan Januszewski (Sacred Heart); Jack Werner & Andy Klinnert (St. Lawrence); Mark Halbakken & Lisa Hemmelgarn (St. Henry); Michele Hofland & Clint Brandt (Holy Cross)

**Northern Cross Area Catholic Community Pastoral Council Members:** Dawn Swanz, Michele Hofland, Jason Schik (Holy Cross); Brenda Aschnewitz, John Kratzke, Kenny Moenkendick (Sacred Heart) Tim Graff, Lisa Hemmelgarn, Jason Smith (St. Henry); Sandi Carrlson, Jack Werner, Jerry Guck (St. Lawrence)



**Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Dent**  
 36963 State Highway 108  
 Dent, MN 56528  
**Phone: (218) 758-2700 Em: (218) 758-2888**  
**Email: [sacredheart@arvig.net](mailto:sacredheart@arvig.net)**  
**Parish Website: [sacredheartstlawrencecatholicchurches.com](http://sacredheartstlawrencecatholicchurches.com)**





Congratulations to our Calendar Raffle winners this week. 1-3-24-Stephanie and Andrew Johnson-\$50 & 1-5-24-Marlene Boedigheimer-\$100. Thank you to everyone who helped make the calendar project a success. We sold 234 calendars this year.

St. Henry's Area School is looking for people interested in being on our sub list for teachers and paraprofessionals. Experience preferred, but not required. If interested, please contact Jason at 218-346-6190 or [sthenryschool@arvig.net](mailto:sthenryschool@arvig.net).

**Jason Smith, Principal**  
218-346-6190 or [sthenryschool@arvig.net](mailto:sthenryschool@arvig.net)

We are looking for people to commit to spending a scheduled hour a week with Jesus in the **Blessed Sacrament at Adoration** at St. Henry. The hours we could really use a guardian are:

- Monday from 3-4pm
- Tuesday from 2-3pm
- Tuesday from 6-7pm
- Wednesday from 2-3pm
- Wednesday from 11pm-12am



Please prayerfully consider giving Jesus an hour of your week in Adoration. If you would be interested in taking a time slot (even on a substitute basis), please call the parish office at 218-346-4240.



**We have ribs available as a fundraiser!**  
**\$20.00/rack again this year. If you would like to purchase some, talk to Ann or Joe.**

Youth from our area are invited to be part of the annual Steubenville conference in Rochester, MN and pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe near La Crosse, WI. The conference and travel will take place on July 12-14. All students currently in 8th grade are welcome to take part. The conference will include adoration, songs, and dynamic speakers with about 1000 other young people. To express interest and seek more information please contact John Bell at [johndbell35@gmail.com](mailto:johndbell35@gmail.com) or 218-457-2235.

**join us for**  
*fellowship*  
**COFFEE**  
*and*  
**DONUTS**  
**2nd Sunday**  
**of every month**  
**after 8 & 10 am Mass**



**St. Henry's Catholic Church of Perham**  
234 2nd Ave SW  
Perham, MN 56573  
Phone: (218) 346-4240 Em: (218) 758-2888  
Email: [admin@st-henrys.org](mailto:admin@st-henrys.org)  
**Parish Website:** [www.parishfaith.com](http://www.parishfaith.com)



**Wed., Jan 10th:** Class; 6:30-7:30PM  
**Sun., Jan 14th:** Confirmation Retreat; 10AM-4PM; St. Henry Church  
**Wed., Jan 17th:** Class, 6:30-7:30PM

**Caleb Carrison, Faith Formation Director**  
218-457-0987 or [religiously@st-henrys.org](mailto:religiously@st-henrys.org)



**Dorothy Day House:** Help the homeless in our area by supporting the Dorothy Day House men's shelter in Moorhead, MN. They are currently in need of the following items: Ziploc bags (gallon and sandwich); bath towels, winter hats, gloves and scarves; deodorant, men's underwear, plain white t-shirts, socks (these clothing items preferred to be new); disposable razors; sleeping bags; blankets and hygiene products. **They are especially in need of warm hats, gloves, mittens and socks.** For more information, see the website at [www.churches.united.org](http://www.churches.united.org) or call Teresa Elkin at 218-298-1274 or Cecile Guck at 218-298-4386.

On Tuesday, January 9th, there will be a Knights of Columbus meeting at 7:00pm in St. Henry's Church basement.



*thank you!* Thank you to those who donated and supported the Holiday Bake, Craft & Gift Sale. **\$3,015.36** was raised! This was the most successful sale we have had!

Thank you to everyone who thought of us this Christmas Season. Thank you for all the gifts and cards that were given to us. May Christ Bless all of you this Holy Season. *Deacon Randy & Deacon Richard*

There will be a virtual Holy Family Council of Catholic United Financial meeting on Monday, January 8th at 6 PM. If you would like the link to the meeting sent to you, please reach out to Jason at [sthenryschool@arvig.net](mailto:sthenryschool@arvig.net).

A "Widows Walk" is an informal group of Catholic women who meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:00PM in the conference room at St. Henry's Catholic Church. For more information and to RSVP, please contact: Judy Christopherson at 218-298-0797.

**HOLY CROSS UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Wedding Bans II**

Madelin Swanz & Ethan Doll

Contributions envelopes for 2024 are in your mailboxes; if you did not receive any; talk to Faye.

Usher sign up sheet is on the table in the entry; please sign up as a family or group.

**Resurfacing the Parking Lot at Holy Cross**

You may have noticed that Holy Cross parking lot is in need of renovation. Our Finance Council has received the Bishop's approval for the resurfacing project. The cost of this project will be about \$30,788. I hope you will support this project with a donation to offset the expense. Together, we will continue to preserve our church and grounds, as we pave the way for future generations of Holy Cross families.



*May God bless you always. Fr. George*

Adoration will be held every third Saturday of the month from 6-7PM.

Cards will be played every Thursday at 1:00 pm.



**Honoring Marriage Day** will be held on May 4th, 2024 at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud for couples celebrating 5, 25, 40, 50 or 60 plus years of marriage in 2024. Please let your parish office know if you are celebrating these anniversary years no later than January 31, so we can send the information to the diocese.

**Community Outreach Ministry** is in need of twin, full, and queen beds in good condition, end tables, mixers, coffee pots, toasters, pots & pans, and crock pots. Please call Cindy Olson at 218-849-8658 or Teresa Elkin at 218-298-1274.

**Weekly Bulletin Email List**

If you would like to have the bulletin emailed to you each week, please let us know by calling or by emailing your parish office.

**OFFICE HOURS: (HOLY CROSS):** Call Faye Hendrickx:

(218) 385-3850

**(SACRED HEART):** Monday, Thursday & Friday: From 9:00

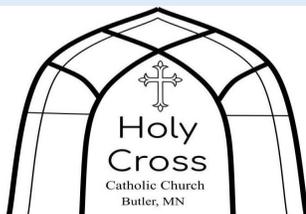
AM-12 Noon, (218) 758-2700

**(ST.LAWRENCE):** Tuesday & Wednesday: From 9:00 AM-

12 Noon, (218) 346-7729

**(ST. HENRY):** Monday-Friday: From 8:30 AM—4:30PM,

(218) 346-4240



**Please pray for those in need of healing in our parishes:** Ashley Wilkowski, Dean Salo, Diana Billie, Jean Schmitz, Jen Aanenson, Julie Carr, Karen Omberg, Larry Bucholz, Larry Imdieke, Larry Van Watermulen, Lowell Siebels, Lucille Schik, Mike Ruther, Nancy Moris, Paul Juen, Richard Bergeron, Robert Daiker, Ron Bertram, Ron Wallace, Sebastian Mettler, Steve & Sue Loerzel, Sue Kalinoski, Tammy (Steinbach) Coryell, Tanner Wegscheid

**All military personnel, especially:** Joseph Fonseca, Derick Burr, Greg Hirschey, Sandra Silbernagel, Nicholas Melz, Luke Potts, Miguel Martinez, Noah Zeleny, Tyler Van Watermulen, Andrew Schlosser, Ed Guck

*Always remember in prayer our leaders in faith, especially: Pope Francis, Bishop Patrick Neary, Bishop Emeritus Donald Kettler, Dcn Randy Altstadt, Dcn Richard Quistorff, Fr. George Michael and Fr. Tom Skaja.*

**WINTER WEATHER POLICY**

When school is cancelled, there will be no Masses or adoration at any of the four NCACC parishes. If school is two hours late, all morning Masses and Adoration will be cancelled, but evening Masses may take place, if weather permits. Please watch for updates on our parish app for Tuesday evening Adoration weather-related cancellations.



**New School Capital Campaign Update**

<b>Complete Project</b>	\$8,100,000.00
<b>Pledged</b>	\$8,243,993.00
<b>Pledges to be Received</b>	\$495,477.00
<b>Received</b>	\$7,748,516.00
<b>Pledged Monies Received 12-31</b>	\$105.00
<b>Households Contributing</b>	350

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January**

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

**Readings for the Week**

<b>Monday</b>	Is 42:1-4, 6-7	Mk 1:7-11
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Sm 1:9-20	Mk 1:21-28
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20	Mk 1:29-39
<b>Thursday</b>	1 Sm 4:1-11	Mk 1:40-45
<b>Friday</b>	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a	Mk 2:1-12
<b>Saturday</b>	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1	Mk 2:13-17
<b>Sunday</b>	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19	
	1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20	Jn 1:35-42

**Holy Cross Catholic Church of Butler**

57189 Co. Hwy 62 New York Mills, MN

Phone (218) 385-2201 or (218) 385-3850 Em: (218) 758-2888

Email: fayeaddell@yahoo.com

Parish Website: <https://www.parityfaith.com/holy-cross---butler>

Please let the advertisers know you saw their ad in the bulletin.

 <p>100 Jake Street, Perham, MN (218) 346-5175 www.SchoenebergerFH.com</p>	<p>ALL CREATURES VETERINARY HOSPITAL 905 Jenny Ave, Perham, MN 56573 218-346-PETS (7387)</p> <p>Dr. Raeanna Tisdell-Covington, DVM Dr. Ciarrin Sailer, DVM Dr. Darl Enga, DVM Dr. Lani Vincent, DVM</p> <p>allcreaturesperham.com</p>		
 <p>EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS WITH HIGHER QUALITY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES</p>	 <p>www.findyourgoose.com</p>	 <p>Perham Dairy Queen 802 - 3rd Ave SE 218-346-4070</p> <p>Marc &amp; Mike Winjum U.S. Pat. Off. Am.D.Q. Corp. Copyright, 1989 Am. D.G.</p>	 <p>218-346-3900 OWNERS: GREG, TONY, JONNIE, COLE &amp; RYAN "ROO" SCHMITZ</p>
 <p>218-346-4688 Cell: 218-298-4777</p>	 <p>218.346.3530   218.346.2138 EsserPlumbingandHeating.com</p>	 <p>3D RENDERING AVAILABLE! CALL US ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING PROJECT 218-298-0676</p>	 <p>Lake Country RainSoft 231 Main St West, Ottertail, MN 56571 218-367-7873 * 1-800-450-1212</p>
 <p>From our family to yours.</p>	 <p>Marie Hanson 725 9th St NW Perham, MN 56573 218-298-0598</p> <p>Bring this in for a free training session fitnessfirst@mail.com</p>	 <p>5:30 am - 3 pm (Mon-Sat) 8 am - 2 pm (Sun) 136 W. Main St Perham (218) 346-5920</p>	 <p>Preschool to 6th Grade 218-346-6190</p>
<p>CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS COURT ST. RITA PERHAM, MN</p> <p>Serving the community for 102 years</p> <p>TO JOIN, CONTACT REGENT LEANNE STOLL AT 218-758-3050</p>	 <p>www.hci-mn.com 218-346-2195</p>	 <p>Water Treatments Reverse Osmosis Bottled Water Softener Salt</p> <p>Quality &amp; Service at an affordable price! www.BenHolzerUnlimited.com Call Adam or Char at 218-346-6445</p>	 <p>255 3rd Ave SE Perham, MN 56573 218-346-6250 www.overlandinsurance.com</p>
 <p>Open 24 hours a day 7 days a week</p> <p>Keystone Inc. 211 Market Drive Perham, MN 56573 Phone: 218-346-6750 Fax: 218-346-6752 thefreshplace.com</p>	<p>FLORENCE HAMMERS RENTAL PROPERTIES Perham, MN 218-346-6770</p>	 <p>218-346-6200 Over 42 years of Service</p>	<p>FIVE STAR STORAGE East Industrial Park, Perham Secure Location, Rodent Deterrent Call for your inside or secure</p>
 <p>Call with all your plumbing needs. Over 20 years Experience</p> <p>Randy Januszewski 218-346-5389</p> <p>Insured &amp; Bonded Lic.#006008</p>	 <p>Becky King Rep since 2005 (218) 841-4600 BKing@catholicunited.org</p>	 <p>PASSIONATE ABOUT PROTECTION New York Mills-218.385.2430 * Wadena-218.631.1065 Eagle Bend-218.738.3442 * Park Rapids-218.732.5745</p>	<p>ROHDE INSURANCE SERVICES Writing all lines of insurance.</p>  <p>WESTERN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF MINNESOTA 218-739-3295</p> <p>Mickey Rohde, Dianne Rohde-Szarke &amp; staff</p>

**Bishop's Annual Appeal:** Blessings to all of you in this New Year. Thank you for supporting diocesan ministries through the Appeal in 2023 and helping us to achieve our goal! As of December 22, the Appeal raised \$1,416,809 in gifts and pledges from 7,406 households. Every dollar raised goes directly to ministries that support our Catholic faith and is not used for any other purpose. Learn more at [www.stedio.org/annualappeal](http://www.stedio.org/annualappeal).



**Stewardship as a Way of Life:**

*“They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Matthew 2:11*

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

