



July 27, 2025 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 27, 2025

Sat, July 26, 4:00PM (Sacred Heart) † Tony & Martha Knoll
 Sat, July 26, 5:00PM (St. Henry) Special Intention—Mark & Ellen Ceynowa
 Sat, July 26, 7:00PM (Holy Cross) For the People
 Sun, July 27, 8:00AM (St. Henry) † Karen Byer
 Sun, July 27, 8:30AM (Sacred Heart) † Deacon Mark Stenger
 Sun, July 27, 10:00AM (St. Henry) Special Intention—Eugene & Carol Doll
 Sun, July 27, 10:30AM (St. Lawrence) † Ted Guck
 Sun, July 27, 11:45AM (St. Henry - Spanish Mass) † Marlene Josefina Gonzalez Alfonso
 Tue, July 29, 8:45AM (St. Henry) † Ray & Edith Boedigheimer
 Tue, July 29, 7:00PM (Sacred Heart) Living & Deceased Christian Mothers
 Wed, July 30, 8:30AM (St. Lawrence) † John & Deloris Paatalo
 Wed, July 30, 5:15PM (Holy Cross) † Mike Minten
 Thu, July 31, 8:30AM (Sacred Heart) Leo & Elaine Winkels Family
 Thu, July 31, 8:45AM (St. Henry) † John & Angie Birchem
 Fri, Aug 1, 8:30AM (St. Lawrence) † Beverly Schwartz-fisher
 Fri, Aug 1, 10:00AM (Perham Living) † Jerry Moriarity
 Sat, Aug 2, 4:00PM (Sacred Heart) † Lorraine Engel
 Sat, Aug 2, 5:00PM (St. Henry) 50th Anniversary of Don & Pat Hendrickx
 Sat, Aug 2, 7:00PM (Holy Cross) 50th Anniversary of Brad & Cindi Koll
 Sun, Aug 3, 8:00AM (St. Henry) Deceased Members of the Wegscheid Family
 Sun, Aug 3, 8:30AM (Sacred Heart) † Gracie Langlie
 Sun, Aug 3, 10:00AM (St. Henry) † Joe & Delores Wasche
 Sun, Aug 3, 10:30AM (St. Lawrence) † Kathy Young
 Sun, Aug 3, 11:45AM (St. Henry - Spanish Mass) For the People

Financial Blessing for July 19th
 Adult.....585.00 Plate.....46.00
 Children.....3.00 Votives.....20.00
Total.....654.00

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

Financial Blessing for July 19th & 20th
 Adult.....1,548.00 Plate.....1,195.00
 Youth.....56.08 Elec. Transfers.....325.00
Total.....3,124.08

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

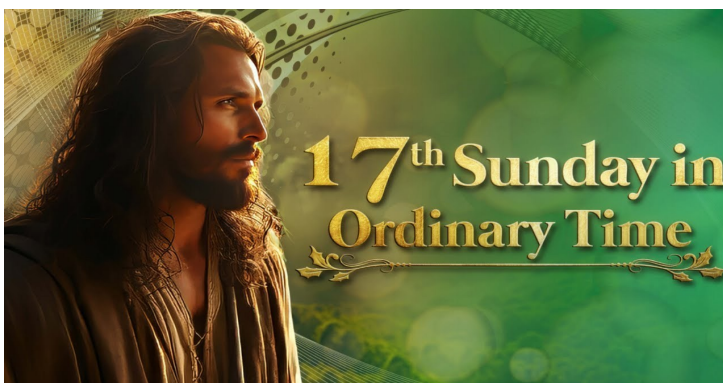
Financial Blessing for July 19th & 20th
 Adult.....5,281.00 Plate.....2,189.00
 Children's Basket.....76.60 Calendar Sponsor....450.00
 Elec. Transfers.....3,799.00 Coffee.....44.00
 Votives.....74.50
Total.....11,914.10

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

Financial Blessing for July 20th
 Adult.....1,125.00 Plate.....766.00
 Youth.....21.00 Elec. Transfers.....380.00
Total.....2,292.00

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

Thanks to the generosity of the Northern Cross ACC parishes the following amounts were raised for the flood victims in Texas. *Thank you*
 Holy Cross, Butler \$515.00
 St. Henry, Perham \$6,774.00
 St. Lawrence, Rush Lake \$1,888.00
 Sacred Heart, Dent \$2,621.00



2026 Northern Cross ACC Parish Calendar Sponsors
 Please Notice This We are in need of sponsors for the 2026 Northern Cross ACC parish calendars. A donation of \$150.00 to the parish in the name of your business or in memory of a deceased loved one is requested. **We are in need of 1 more sponsor.** Please contact your parish office if you are interested.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Tuesday Noon

ST. LAWRENCE UPCOMING EVENTS



*The Parish of St. Lawrence extends a special congratulations to **Dick & Brenda Wegscheid** Who will celebrate their 40th Anniversary on August 3rd. May the Lord bless you.*

St. Lawrence Café

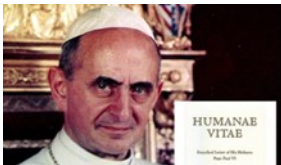
Open Wednesday, August 13th
Bring a dish to share and join us for breakfast after the 8:30AM Mass.



PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH FESTIVALS



Heavenly Father, we give You praise and thanksgiving for all that You have given to the Northern Cross ACC parishes of St. Lawrence, Sacred Heart, St. Henry and Holy Cross. We look forward to a day of worship, work, fellowship, and good times as we celebrate our parish festivals and we ask You to bless us with Your beautiful sunshine. We pray for a good response from parishioners and visitors. We ask you to guide us to do our very best to make our festivals successful and to support each other in our efforts. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



July 24 ♦ Humanae Vitae Mass and Award Reception: This event will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Cloud. We will celebrate the 57th anniversary of *Humanae Vitae* with Mass at 7:00 p.m. with Bishop Patrick Neary presiding. A reception will follow, with the presentation of the 2025 *Humanae Vitae* Award to Rev. Daniel McCaffrey. For more details, visit <https://stcdio.org/event/2025-humanae-vitae-mass-award-reception/>.

"I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love."
—Mother Teresa



St. Lawrence Polka Festival August 3, 2025



Keep selling the Polka Festival raffle tickets. Extra books are available in the office or contact Marlene Boedigheimer, 218-457-1588. All wonderful cash prizes!

Start thinking of items you can donate to the Silent Auction. You can also ask businesses for a donation to our Silent Auction. Your help with this is greatly appreciated, and we have had wonderful creative items donated in the past!



Cake Walk items will be needed for the annual St. Lawrence Polka Festival. Many homemade or boughten items are needed for this popular event so please plan ahead to donate the needed items. Reminder: they need to be covered.

Polka Festival sign up sheets are in the hall. Please fill in the spots needed; we still need workers in a few spots! You will be reminded of your shift in August.



St. Lawrence needs people to help set up and take down chairs for the outdoor Masses. Please call the parish office (218-346-7729) if you can help with this .

Cemetery News

Rick Guck is the sexton of St Lawrence Cemetery. Please, contact Rick (218-849-5488) or the parish office (218-346-7729) with any questions regarding cemetery plots.



Community Outreach Ministry is in need of twin, full and queen beds in good condition. Please call Cindy Olson at 218-849-8658 if you have these items. Blessings to you all.

Text App to 55321
to download our parish app!
Search for "Northern Cross Area Catholic Community"



Pastor:
Parochial Vicar:
Deacons:

Fr. Omar Guanchez, E-mail: fatheromar@ncacc.net
Fr. Nathaniel Daubner, E-mail: fathernathaniel@ncacc.net
Deacon Richard Quistorff; deaconrichard@ncacc.net
Deacon Randy Altstadt; deaconrandy@ncacc.net

Em: 218-346-4240 *Press 7
Phone: 218-758-2888
Phone: 720-688-1015
Phone: 218-457-0925



St. Lawrence Catholic Church of Rush Lake

46404 County Highway 14

Perham, MN 56573

Phone: (218) 346-7729 Fax: (218) 346-5946

Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00AM-Noon

Email: sandi@ncacc.net

Parish Website: sacredheartstlawrencecatholicchurches.com



SACRED HEART UPCOMING EVENTS



PARKING LOT PAVING & RESURFACING

The Sacred Heart parking lot will be resurfaced and striped soon. Once it is completed the parking lot will be blocked off for several days. If you see that it is blocked off please do not enter but rather park on the city street. Thank you.

Sacred Heart is in need of Altar Servers and lectors to assist at the Saturday 4:00PM Masses. If you are able to help with these ministries please contact the parish office at 218-758-2700.



A 2nd Grade Teacher gave her students the assignment to memorize Psalm 23, one of the most quoted passages in the Bible. One little boy practiced and practiced, but just could *not* memorize the Psalm. When the day finally came for the children to recite the Psalm in front of the congregation, the little boy was nervous. When it was his turn he proudly marched up to the podium and said, **"The Lord is my shepherd and that's all I need to know!"**

*"Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall receive mercy."
Matthew 5:7*

Cemetery News

Tim Stoll (218-841-4251) and John Kratzke (218-758-2275) (Sacred Heart) and Mark Riestenberg (218-731-2867) (St Joseph) are the sextons of Sacred Heart and St. Joseph Cemeteries. Please, contact them or the parish office (218-758-2700) with any questions regarding cemetery plots.

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; Third Saturday from 6:00PM– 7:00PM at Holy Cross. Tuesday & Thursday, 8:15AM–8:45AM; 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); Dawn Swanz & Jason Schik (Holy Cross)

Northern Cross Area Catholic Community Pastoral Council Members: Chelsey Hendrickx, Dawn Swanz, Dan Schik (Holy Cross); Brenda Aschnewitz, John Kratzke, Kenny Moenkendick (Sacred Heart) Gina Cavanagh, Ken Guck, Jason Smith (St. Henry); Sandi Carrlson, Jack Werner, Caleb Carrlson (St. Lawrence)



Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Dent

36963 State Highway 108

Dent, MN 56528

Phone: (218) 758-2700

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:00AM-1:00PM

Email: sandi@ncacc.net

Parish Website: sacredheartstlawrencecatholicchurches.com



Sacred Heart Church Bazaar: August 10, 2025

Sacred Heart Bazaar Raffle Tickets are in your mailboxes. PLEASE PICK THEM UP! If you are



able to sell tickets after the weekend Masses contact Ken (218-329-0807) or Kim



(218-329-4022) Stenger. Extra tickets are available in the Parish Office.

SILENT AUCTION: Silent Auction Items Needed! Items can be placed in the first classroom (#3) downstairs. Contact person: Pat Helmeke at 218-298-2100.



RAFFLE PRIZES: *Be sure to turn in your raffle prize money to the church office ASAP.*

COUNTRY STORE: We're counting on parishioners for their generous donations to the Country Store. Garden produce, jams, jellies, baked goods, plants & craft items are needed. You may put them in the second classroom (#4) in the church basement.

CASH DONATIONS: Cash donations to offset the cost of purchased items (chicken, coleslaw, etc.) are always welcomed. Your donation can be put in an envelope labeled "bazaar donation" and placed in the collection basket or brought to the parish office.

PRIZE DONATIONS: There is a box placed in the gathering space for any prize donations you can provide. We need items for our dollar game and for our secret door game. Thank you.

CAKES FOR THE CAKE WALK:

Group 1 members each bring 2 cakes. (9x13 size, covered and marked).

PIES: Groups 2 & 3 members each bring **two 9"** pies (No cream pies please; diabetic pies are welcomed).



Congratulations to our Calendar Raffle winners: 7-25-25-Everett Wegscheid-\$100



The 16th Annual Heavenly Hackers Golf Tournament will take place on August 3, at 2:00 pm at Perham Lakeside Golf Club. This is a 4-person scramble golf tournament. Your \$75 per person entry fee will get you 9 holes of golf, cart, eligibility for prizes, and a light lunch prior to the tournament. If you or your business is interested in becoming a hole sponsor for this fundraiser event, there are two options available. The "Gold" sponsor is a donation of \$250 and the "Silver" sponsor is a donation of \$125. With this donation, you will get a sponsor sign on one of the holes and the satisfaction that you are supporting St. Henry's Area School. If you have any questions or would like to participate, give Jason a call at 218-346-6190. You could also email your team names to Jason at sthenryschooll@arvig.net.

Jason Smith, Principal
218-346-6190 or sthenryschooll@arvig.net

ST. HENRY UPCOMING EVENTS



The Perham KC's are hosting their 2nd Annual Pickleball Tournament on **Saturday, August 2nd** at the KLN Pickleball Courts in Arvig Park. Check in is at 9AM with a 10AM start. Entry fee is \$30/team. Register by July 31st by calling 701-429-3651.



Welcome to
William & Mary Blixt
&
David & Sierra Doran
[Sedona, Acadia & Joshua]
who recently registered as members
of the St. Henry parish family.

Cemetery News

Mike Johnson (St. Stan) (218) 849-0501 and Ron Berns (St. Henry) (218) 298-0545 are the sextons of St. Stan and St. Henry Cemeteries. Please, contact them or the parish office (218-346-4240) with any questions regarding cemetery plots.



We are seeking volunteers to lead a Parish Life Committee. The Parish Life Committee would coordinate and lead social gatherings of the parish. If this is something you would be interested in, please call the parish office at 218-346-4240. Thank you!



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 hour we need a second adorer is: Wednesdays 1-2pm.* If you would be interested in taking this time slot, please call the parish office at 218-346-4240.



Requirements for having your first child baptized are: registration at a parish and attendance of a pre-baptism class. This class is normally offered on the 2nd Saturday of each month. The next class will be offered on **Saturday, August 9th** at 9:00AM in St. Henry's conference room. If you want your child baptized but have not yet attended the required class, please call the parish office at 218-346-4240. Pre-registration is required.



To add a name to our prayer chain, or if you would like to be added as a pray-er, please email sthenryprayerchain@gmail.com. Names will only be added with permission from an immediate family member or from the person we are praying for.



Coffee is available for purchase at St. Henry! We offer medium roast ground, French roast beans, and dark roast ground for \$12 for a 1-pound bag. We purchase the coffee from the Church of Saint Andrew, Elk River, who grinds and roasts the coffee beans purchased directly from the farmers in Guatemala.



FAITH AS SMALL AS A MUSTARD SEED CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS. Are you climbing a mountain in your life right now? **CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA** is a weekend retreat program that commemorates the Paschal Mystery in a community setting. The next weekend is scheduled for September 19-21, 2025, at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. Cost of the weekend is \$70. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.



St. Henry's Catholic Church of Perham
234 2nd Ave SW
Perham, MN 56573
Phone: (218) 346-4240
Email: chelsey@ncacc.net

HOLY CROSS NEWS



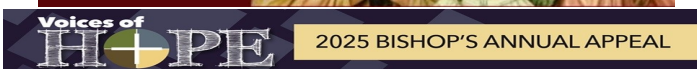
Raffle tickets are done and in your mailboxes. Please pick them up and sell, sell, sell! If you need more tickets contact Dawn or Faye.

We are in need of ushers for the next few months; the sign up sheet is on the table in the entry.

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



On August 9th after Mass there will be a card night here at Holy Cross; bring snacks to share and your own beverage. All are welcome.



Voices of Hope - Bishop's Annual Appeal: The diocese recognized the need to walk with individuals and their loved ones experiencing mental health challenges by providing spiritual support and accompaniment, practical resources and educational opportunities for mental health awareness. Our 11-member Mental Health Ministry Team is currently working to form a ministry of presence in the ACCs for those affected by mental illness. To learn more about mental health ministry, please use your smartphone or visit: <https://youtu.be/TDs-TL2FKGM>



Cemetery News Sexton for Holy Cross cemetery is Edgar Hendrickx who can be contacted at 298-2434 or 385-3850.



Please pray for those in need of healing in our parishes: Ashley Duerfeldt (Wilkowski), Barry Hansen, Brandon Carmichael, Carol Thompson, Colleen Musgrave, Dakotah Wattercott, David Hammers, Dean Salo, Jean Heston, Jen Aanenson, Jim Guck, Joe

Jaroszewski, Joe Riepe, John Guest, Joyce Bauer, Karen Omberg, Lacey Johnson, Larry Bucholz, Larry Indieke, Larry & Eileen Kawlewski, Linda Bellanger-Rethwisch, Mike Hendrickx, Melvin Hoaas, Mike Ruther, Paul Juen, Richard Bergeron, Robert Daiker, Ron Bertram, Ron Pikula, Ron Wallace, Sally Cavalier, Scott Randall, Sebastian Mettler, Sue Loerzel, Tammy (Steinbach) Coryell, Tanner Wegscheid, Terry Cavalier, Tait Bormann, Vivian Honer, Leonida Fritz

All military personnel, especially: Derick Burr, Greg Hirschey, Sandra Silbernagel, Nicholas Melz, Miguel Martinez, Noah Zeleny, Tyler Van Watermulen, Andrew Schlosser

Always remember in prayer our leaders in faith, especially: Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Patrick Neary, Bishop Emeritus Donald Kettler, Dcn Randy Altstadt, Dcn Richard Quistorff, Fr. Omar Guanchez, and Fr. Nathaniel Daubner.

New School Capital Campaign Update

Complete Project	\$8,100,000.00
Pledged	\$8,327,587.00
Pledges to be Received	\$424,600.00
Received	\$7,902,987.00
Monies Received 07-20	\$2,205.00
Households Contributing	350

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for July For formation in discernment

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel

Readings for the Week

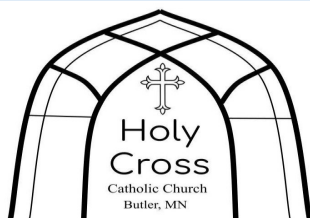
Monday	Ex32:15-24, 30-34	Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28	Jn 11:19-27
Wednesday	Ex 34:29-35	Mt 13:44-46
Thursday	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38	Mt 13:47-53
Friday	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37	Mt 13:54-58
Saturday	Lv 25:1, 8-17	Mt 14:1-12
Sunday	Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23	Col 3:1-5, 9-11
	Lk 12:13-21	

OFFICE HOURS: (HOLY CROSS): Call Faye Hendrickx:
(218) 385-3850

(SACRED HEART): Monday & Thursday : From 9:00 AM-1:00PM , (218) 758-2700

(ST.LAWRENCE): Tuesday & Wednesday: From 9:00 AM-12 Noon, (218) 346-7729

(ST. HENRY): Monday-Friday: From 8:30 AM—1:00PM,
(218) 346-4240

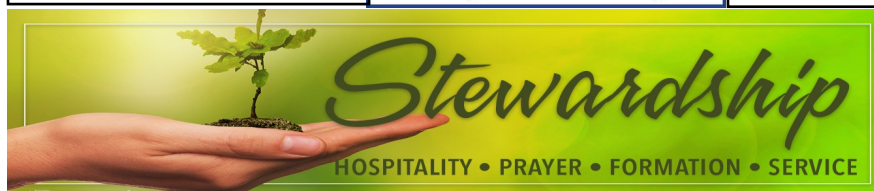


Holy Cross Catholic Church of Butler
57189 Co. Hwy 62 New York Mills, MN
Phone (218) 385-2201 or (218) 385-3850
Email: faye@ncacc.net

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

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

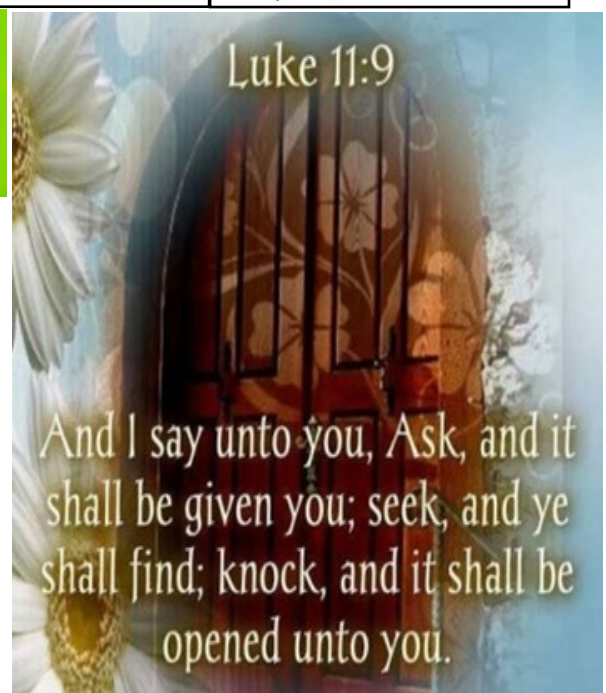
 Schoeneberger FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE 100 Jake Street, Perham, MN (218) 346-5175 www.SchoenebergerFH.com	ALL CREATURES VETERINARY HOSPITAL 905 Jenny Ave., Perham, MN 56573 218-346-PETS (7387) Dr. Raeanna Tisdell-Covington, DVM Dr. Ciarrin Sailer, DVM Dr. Darl Enga, DVM Dr. Lani Vincent, DVM  allcreaturesperham.com		
 EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS WITH HIGHER QUALITY PRODUCTS AND SERVICE		 Perham Dairy Queen 802 - 3rd Ave SE 218-346-4070 Marc & Mike Winjum U.S. Pat. Off. Am.D.Q. Corp. Copyright, 1989 Am. D.G.	 SCHMITZ MOTOR COMPANY, INC. Perham, MN 218-346-3900 OWNERS: GREG, TONY, JONNIE, COLE & RYAN "ROO" SCHMITZ
 218-346-4688 Cell: 218-298-1477	 218.346.3530 218.346.2138 EsserPlumbingandHeating.com	 3D RENDERING AVAILABLE! CALL US ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING PROJECT 218-298-0676	 Solving local water problems since 1984. Lake Country RainSoft 231 Main St West, Ottertail, MN 56571 218-367-7873 * 1-800-450-1212
 From our family to yours.	 Marie Hanson 725 9th St NW Perham, MN 56573 218-298-0598 fitnessfirst@mail.com	 5:30 am - 3 pm (Mon-Sat) 8 am - 2 pm (Sun) 136 W. Main St Perham (218) 346-5920	 Preschool to 6th Grade 218-346-6190
CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS COURT ST. RITA PERHAM, MN Serving the community for 105 years To Join, CONTACT REGENT LEANNE STOLL AT 218-758-3050	 www.hci-mn.com 218-346-2195	 Water Treatments Reverse Osmosis Bottled Water Softener Salt Quality & Service at an affordable price! www.BenHolzerUnlimited.com Call Adam or Char at 218-346-6445	 255 3rd Ave SE Perham, MN 56573 218-346-6250 www.overlandinsurance.com
 Open 24 hours a day 7 days a week Keystone Inc. 211 Market Drive Perham, MN 56573 Phone: 218-346-6750 Fax: 218-346-6752 thefreshplace.com	FLORENCE HAMMERS RENTAL PROPERTIES Perham, MN 218-346-6770	 218-346-6200 Over 42 years of Service	FIVE STAR STORAGE East Industrial Park, Perham Secure Location, Rodent Deterrent Call for your inside or secure outside storage needs. 218-346-7925
 Knights of Columbus Perham Area Council 1773 Join the Knights at kofc.org/joinus	 Becky King Rep since 2005 (218) 841-4600 BKing@catholicunited.org	 PASSIONATE ABOUT PROTECTION New York Mills-218.385.2430 * Wadena-218.631.1065 Eagle Bend-218.738.3442 * Park Rapids-218.732.5745	ROHDE INSURANCE SERVICES Writing all lines of insurance.   WESTERN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF MINNESOTA 218-739-3295 Mickey Rohde, Dianne Rohde-Szarke & staff



Stewardship as a Way of Life:

"Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

Jesus assures us that if we ask, God will take care of what we need. The problem is that our culture often confuses what we really need with what we simply want. The truth is that many of us need very little. However, we usually want so much more! Stewardship is simply being grateful for all that we are and all that we have been given, and generously sharing all of our God-given gifts with others. Gratitude and generosity are gifts that open doors to new relationships with others and with God.



St. Lawrence Parish Festival

Outdoor Polka Mass

Sunday

August 3, 2025 10:30 am



Picnic Style Lunch

Adults & Carry outs - \$10
Children 6 to 12 - \$5

Mass at 10:30

Served 11:30 - 1:30

Silent Auction

**Music Provided by
Jerry and Joyce
Band**

**Pulled Pork
Baked Beans
Coleslaw
Chips**

Bingo

**Children's Games
Family Games**

**Raffle Drawing
at 2:00**

**Homemade Apple Pie
Lemonade/Coffee**

Cake Walk

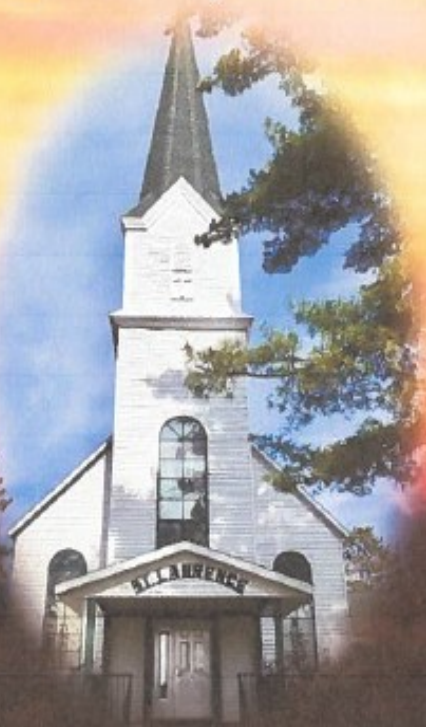
**38th annual
Summer Polka
Mass**

**Soft Served Ice
Cream
Cotton Candy**

Beer and Pop

Refreshments

**ST. LAWRENCE
CHURCH**



46404 Co. Hwy 14 Perham, MN
Handicapped Accessible

Dear parishioners:

With this letter I want to inform the Northern Cross faith communities about the new Diocesan guidelines for Mass intentions.

The Holy Mass is the highest form of worship in the Catholic Church. The Eucharist was instituted by Christ on the night of the Last Supper and He commanded His Apostles to do this 'in Memory of Him' Since the Catholic Mass is the most powerful form of prayer, it is a common practice to have it offered for a person or specific intention. Having a Mass said for someone is a powerful way to intercede or pray for them. This is commonly referred to as a Catholic Mass intention. A Mass intention is a specific petition for which the Mass is offered. This custom has been in existence since the beginning of the Church in observance of what the sacred scripture says: *"It is important to remember that you are not paying for the graces from God, which are of infinite value and cannot be paid for."*

In our parishes the suggested stipend for a Mass intention is \$10. This stipend goes to the priest who celebrates the Mass. Only an ordained priest in good standing can offer a Mass for the faithful. Canon Law prohibits individual priests from accepting more Mass stipends than they could fulfill in one year (c. 953). Thus, parishes may not accept more Mass Stipends than can be fulfilled in one year.

Because of shortage of priests in our diocese the number of Masses offered in our parishes has decreased in the last decades. For this reason, our Bishop is asking parishes to limit the number of Mass intentions permitted per parishioner per year. For example, parishioners of Holy Shoulder Wound Parish are told that they can only give two Mass Stipends per year.

In our Northern Cross ACC (Area Catholic Community) the number that currently seems to be manageable is five (5). This means that from this time forward the maximum number of Mass Intentions each household in our ACC Churches can offer within a year is five (5). Of these five, only one (1) can be offered on a weekend.

The good news is that your Mass Intention can still be offered in the missions. There are many parishes in the US and in the world that do not have enough Mass Intentions so they welcome Mass Intentions and stipends from other dioceses. The priests in the missions are very appreciative of this support because it helps them to provide for themselves as they exercise their pastoral ministry in impoverished regions of the world.

Our Bishop is requesting us to send any unfulfilled Mass intentions and stipends received prior to the last fiscal year to the diocese. Because some of our parishes have a surplus of Mass Intentions and stipends we will send all last year's unfulfilled Mass Intentions to the Diocese by August 15th. The diocese will then send those Mass Intentions to mission parishes to be celebrated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our parish offices, Fr Nathaniel, or myself.

Thank you and God bless

Fr Omar Guanchez



NORTHERN CROSS ACC MASS INTENTION POLICY

Effective July 1, 2025

1. Households are permitted to book up to five (5) Masses per year within the NCACC. One (1) weekend/Holy Day Mass and four (4) weekday Masses.
2. Masses beyond the limit of five (5) will be sent to the diocese at the end of the fiscal year (end of June), where they will be sent to mission parishes.
3. Mass intentions cannot be shared with another intention (one stipend per Mass). However, the donor's intention can include more than one person. For example, Thomas can request a Mass for Peter, James, and John, but Andrew cannot request an intention for his family at the same Mass. Scheduling multiple 'stipend' intentions for one Mass is prohibited by Canon Law.
4. On every Sunday and Holy Day, a *Missa pro populo* (Mass for the people) is celebrated, where the priest prays for all the people in the area, Catholics and non-Catholics alike. The celebrant does not receive a stipend for this Mass, and it cannot be combined with another intention.
5. Daily Mass intentions cancelled due to a funeral or an unforeseen event will be moved to the next available date within the same parish.
6. The customary Mass Stipend is \$10, though a lesser amount will always be accepted if offered, and a greater amount may be accepted, but will never be requested.¹
7. If a sum larger than \$10 is offered without any indication of how many Masses are to be celebrated, the number of Masses is to be calculated using the customary rate of \$10 with one added Mass for any remaining amount less than \$10.
8. We will accept intentions only three months in advance. Scheduling will open up two months prior to the beginning of each quarter as follows:
 - a. November 1: January – March,
 - b. February 1: April – June,
 - c. May 1: July – September,
 - d. August 1: October - December

¹ Priests may only receive one (1) stipend per day. If they celebrate multiple Masses within the same day, they are to donate the other stipends to a charitable cause.