

# Tri-Parish Catholic Community News



**St. Patrick Catholic Church**  
436 W. Main St, LeRoy, MN 55951  
Sunday Mass @ 8:30 AM



**St. Finbarr Catholic Church**  
504 1<sup>st</sup> St SW, Grand Meadow, MN 55936  
Saturday Mass @ 5:00 PM



**St. Ignatius Catholic Church**  
213 W. Franklin St, Spring Valley, MN 55975  
Sunday Mass @ 10:30 AM

**Sunday, December 18, 2022**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**From the Desk of Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy**

**Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24**

Each Advent season, we prepare to welcome Jesus into the inns and stables of our hearts. But Jesus' coming wasn't welcomed by everyone with choirs of angels. For St. Joseph, the first coming of Jesus was a bit more complicated. "When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit." For Joseph, opening his heart (and home) to Jesus meant, at best, appearing to all the world like a man who had impregnated his wife out of wedlock. At worst, he appeared a cuckold, raising the child of another man. God doesn't always appear the way we expect.

For some of us, the birth of Christ is a bit relationally complicated. Perhaps over the past few months, a loved one has died. This Christmas, you're taking it upon yourself to keep up the traditions and hold the family together. Welcoming Jesus means welcoming grief. Perhaps it's a difficult relative (or two or three) and it's all you can do to bite your tongue and swallow your pride while they're under your roof. Welcoming Jesus means welcoming strife, discord, and tension.

Yet "do not be afraid," the angel says. Do not be afraid. Why? Because we celebrate the birth of "Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" Before Jesus' earthly ministry would begin, Jesus would lose his father, Joseph. God is with us in our grief. Wherever Jesus went, he stirred up controversy and faced down challenging personalities. God is with us in our stress. The trick is, like Joseph, to allow supernatural grace to prevail. Joseph was a good man, filled with natural virtue in that he didn't want to "expose [Mary] to shame." Yet he was prepared to "divorce her quietly" all the same. Our natural abilities only take us so far. Where is receiving Jesus complicated this Christmas season? Are you relying on your own strength to get you through, or are you truly ready to accept the grace of Emmanuel, God with us?

***Advent Blessings!***

*"We are not the sum of our weaknesses and failures, we are the sum of the Father's love for us and our real capacity to become the image of His Son Jesus."*

*St. John Paul the Great*

## St. Finbarr Announcements

### Mass Schedule

Tues., Dec. 20, 8:30 AM for Deceased Members of  
Norbert & Edith Burke Family  
Sat., Dec. 24, 3:00 PM for Bernie Hathaway †

### Offering from December 10, 2022 – Week 25

Weekly Support: \$ 4,361.00  
Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$ 1,540.00  
YTD Support Received: \$ 51,105.00  
YTD Expenses Paid: \$ 90,537.00

### Liturgy Schedule Sat., Dec. 24, 3:00 PM

E. M.: Kristie Skifter  
Lector: Becky Oehlke  
Servers: Holly Weiss / Travis Weiss  
Opener: Kristie Skifter  
Ushers: John Warmka / Al Stier  
Counters: Dom Stier / Jenny Weiss

- **Altar Flowers:** If you would like to donate money toward Poinsettias for the altar, please contact Kristal at 507-251-6291 or Dawn at 507-273-4225.
- **Would you like to learn what the Catholic Church teaches about Angels as we approach the birth of Jesus?** Join us on Wed., Dec. 21, 7 PM in the Social Hall. More information in the Tri-Parish News on next page.

## St. Patrick Announcements

### Mass Schedule

Wed., Dec. 21, 8:30 AM for Edward Arndorfer †  
Sat, Dec 24, 5:00 PM for Lisa Hovde †

### Offering from December 11, 2022 – Week 25

Weekly Support: \$ 1,628.00  
Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$ 1,322.00  
YTD Support Received: \$ 34,005.00  
YTD Expenses Paid: \$ 32,009.00

### Liturgy Schedule Sat., Dec. 24, 5:00 PM

Greeters: Rod & Shirley Miller  
E. M.: Jessica Yoch / Loren Rickerl  
Lector: Vicky Nolt  
Servers: Laney Huff / Marie Nolt  
Ushers: Jim Yoch / Nick Kasel  
Counters: Shirley Miller / Kathy Mason

- **If you would like to donate a Poinsettia** for the Christmas altar, please let Joyce Arndorfer 507-440-3692 or Pat Utz 507-951-9333 know. Cost is \$10.00.
- **LeRoy Area Food Shelf** needs several items. See the list on the bulletin board in the church entry.

## St. Ignatius Announcements

### Mass Schedule

Thurs., Dec. 22, 8:30 AM for Francisco Mercado †  
Fri., Dec. 23, 8:30 AM for Todd and Corinna Mlenar and Family  
Sat, Dec 24, 7:00 PM for Deceased Members of Mulhern,  
Mergen and Schommer Families  
Sun., Dec. 25, 9:00 AM for The People of God

### Offering from December 11, 2022 – Week 25

Weekly Support: \$ 2,155.00  
Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$ 2,013.00  
YTD Support Received: \$ 47,793.00  
YTD Expenses Paid: \$ 70,869.00

### Liturgy Schedule Sat., Dec. 24, 7:00 PM

Greeters: Bill & Sue Puffer  
E. M.: Bob Capelle / Joanie Betsinger  
Lector: Teri Hill  
Servers: 2 Drees  
Ushers: Joe Mulhern / John Mulhern  
Counters: Engesser / J/A Mulhern

### Liturgy Schedule Sun., Dec. 25, 9:00 AM

Greeters: Lois Boelter / Mary Ann Meyers  
E. M.: John Gladly / Rosann Sanford  
Lector: Candis Wiste  
Servers: 2 Mettlers  
Ushers: P Mettler / Paul Klockeman  
Counters: Arndorfer / Rahe

- **Altar Flowers:** Please donate \$10 or more towards the purchase of poinsettias for Christmas. Please put the donation in an envelope in the collection box or give to Rita B.
- **Parish Potluck with Search Video** will be today after Mass. Everyone welcome!

**Please remember your parish as you make year-end gifts.**





## **Tri-Parish News**

- **Would you like to learn what the Catholic Church teaches about Angels as we approach the birth of Jesus?** Join us on Wed., Dec. 21, 7 PM in the St. Finbarr Social Hall to learn about Angels, and how these messengers of God and servants of Christ are "sent to aid those who are to gain salvation" (Heb 1:14). The angels are our constant companions through life "taking part in all our good works" (Thomas Aquinas) "leading (us) to life" (CCC 336). Our guest speaker, Cindy Meyerhofer, a certified Spiritual Director and our 6th grade catechist at St. Finbarr, will share the role of angels, how to draw nearer to your own guardian angel, and how the Catholic Church promotes Consecration to your Guardian Angel through Opus Angelorum. A second meeting will be held Wed., Dec. 28, 7 PM for anyone who feels called to make the consecration to his or her Guardian Angel. Everyone is invited to attend both meetings.
- **The Annual Spring Valley Community Christmas Dinner**, Faith United Methodist Church, 617 Maple Lane, SV, Sun, Dec. 25, 12 noon. The dinner is for those who may be alone or wish to be with other people for a meal on Christmas Day. It is an enjoyable time for those who work and those who attend. For transportation or meal delivery, please make reservations by calling Faith United, 346-2830. The number to call on Christmas Day for a meal is 346-7153. There is no cost, but a free will offering basket will be available. Proceeds go to the Spring Valley Area Ministerial Association.
- **Courier:** The December edition is on the Diocese of Winona-Rochester website [dowr.org](http://dowr.org) then click "The Courier."
- **Tri-Parish Masses:** Please give all mass stipends to Father Marreddy or place them in the collection basket along with the name(s) for whom the Mass is to be offered. Mass intentions are said during the week, as well as on weekends. Please make checks payable to St. Ignatius. Stipend requests are \$5 per Mass.

### **Christmas Mass Schedule**

Saturday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 3 PM at St. Finbarr  
 Saturday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5 PM at St. Patrick  
 Saturday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7 PM at St. Ignatius  
 Sunday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> @ 9 AM at St. Ignatius  
**New Year's Weekend: Regular Mass Schedule**



### **Faith Formation Announcements**

#### **St. Patrick**

Last Class before Christmas Break	6:45 PM	12/21
Classes Resume	6:45 PM	1/4

#### **St. Finbarr**

Last Class before Christmas Break	7:00 PM	12/21
Classes Resume	7:00 PM	1/4

#### **St. Ignatius**

Last Class before Christmas Break	9:00 AM	12/18
Classes Resume	9:00 AM	1/4

## **Prayer Chain**

Please keep the following sick, hospitalized & homebound Tri-Parish members in your prayers.

Joyce & Ronnie Miland – St. Ignatius	Ron Neis – St. Ignatius
Jane Reineke – St. Ignatius	Phil Weiss – St. Ignatius
Caleb Bell – St. Ignatius	Hallie Koenigs
Tom Colwell	Lois Gehling – St. Finbarr
Dorothy & Leon Steinkamp – St. Finbarr	Robert Steinkamp – St. Finbarr
Ann Soltau – St. Patrick	Kurt Fuhrmann Jr. – St. Patrick
Peggy Hammon – St. Patrick	Ed Bunne – St. Patrick
Vandana Pothireddy	Nick Neeser
Ben Speiser	

*If you know someone who needs to be included in the prayer chain, email their name to [triparishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:triparishsecretary@gmail.com).*

### **Tri-Parish Staff Directory**

Father Marreddy: 507-346-7565 (office)  
 507-951-7985 (cell)  
 Email: [stignatius213@yahoo.com](mailto:stignatius213@yahoo.com)

#### **Tri-Parish Bookkeeper:**

Elaine Mills 507-440-0674  
 Email: [memills@frontiernet.net](mailto:memills@frontiernet.net)

#### **Tri-Parish Secretary:**

Mary Kuhlman 507-346-7565  
 Email: [triparishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:triparishsecretary@gmail.com)

St. Ignatius Office 507-346-7565  
 St. Ignatius Fax 507-346-7725

Tri-Parish Website: [www.tri-parish.net](http://www.tri-parish.net)

## **Sacraments**

**Baptism:** Arrangements for infant baptism are made at least one month in advance. A one-hour Pre-Jordan session is required for parents who have not participated in one previously. Baptism is preferably celebrated during the Mass on Saturday or Sunday. To make arrangements, contact Fr. Marreddy.

**Marriage:** Arrangements for marriage should begin six months prior to the intended date of the wedding. Marriage preparation requires a series of meetings and a marriage encounter weekend. This sacrament is not celebrated during Lent or Holy Week.

**Confession:** This is offered before the Saturday Mass from 4:15 – 4:45 p.m., before or after daily Mass in the respective parishes or by appointment with Fr. Marreddy or Fr. Collins (LeRoy, 507-289-7637).

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

### **St. Finbarr:**

*Tuesdays, 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.*

### **St. Patrick:**

*Wednesdays, 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.*

### **St. Ignatius:**

*Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.*