



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

512 South Elm Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060

Office Phone (507) 451-4845

Website: www.stjosephowatonna.org



December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

Parish Priest

Father Marreddy Pothireddy

Assisting Priest - Father Joshua Miller

(For St. Joseph, Sacred Heart
& Christ the King Parishes)

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8:30am-4:30pm

Friday 8:30am-3:00pm

Mass Schedule: Weekends

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am

Weekdays and Holy Days

(See schedule in the bulletin)

Confession

Saturday 3:00pm - 3:45pm



A message from the desk of Father Marreddy

2nd Advent Sunday, December 8, 2024 – C Cycle

Readings: Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

John's baptism at the Jordan was a rite of repentance and *metanoia*: a conversion of heart and spirit. The Baptizer's ministry fulfilled the promise of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 36: 25-26) that at the dawn of a new age, the God of Israel would purify His people from their sins with clean water and instill in them a new heart and spirit.

Ronald Rolheiser, a theologian, in his book "**Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Community**", writes about the two baptisms John speaks of in today's Gospel: "John's baptism is only a preparation for Jesus' baptism. What's John's baptism? It is a baptism of repentance, a realization of what we are doing wrong and a clear resolution to correct our bad behavior. What is Jesus' baptism? It is an entry into grace and community in such a way that empowers us internally to do what is impossible for us to do by our willpower alone."

Conversion involves receiving God's word into our heart and mind and allowing His Word to change our attitudes and wrong ways of thinking and judging. Repentance is the deliberate turning away from sin (wrongdoing) and turning to God to receive His pardon, healing, and strength to do what is good and reject what is wrong.

Each one of us is called to be a **prophet** of Christ. The same Word that came to John in the desert comes to each of us in the deserts of our own hearts, enabling us to transform the wastelands and straighten the winding roads of our lives in the compassion and justice of God.

John comes to fulfill Isaiah's vision of the prophet: to "make straight" a highway for God, to create a level road for all of us to travel to the kingdom of God. In baptism, we take on that same prophetic role of "road building" to create passageways and entries of hope, healing and support for all of us to complete our journey to God's dwelling place

In giving the needs of others priority over our own interests, in taking the first humbling steps toward reconciliation with another, in seeing in other people the face of Christ, we make a "highway" in our world for the Lord who comes.

I take this opportunity to invite you all to participate in St. Joseph's "*Singing with the Angels*" Christmas Carols on December 15 @ 3pm, please join us to celebrate Christmas at St. Joseph's Parish as a big extended family to enjoy some Christmas music and have a fellowship together as family.

Blessed Advent Season.

Blessings!

Christmas Mass Times

St. Joseph Parish Christmas Vigil - 4:00pm, 8:00pm

Christ the King, Medford Christmas Vigil - 6:00pm

Sacred Heart Church Christmas Vigil - 5:00pm, 7:00pm (Español), 10:00pm

St. Joseph Parish Christmas Day - 9:00am

Sacred Heart Church Christmas Day - 8:00am, 10:00am

Please consider St. Joseph Parish as you prepare for the year end giving. Your generosity will go a long way in the life of the Church upkeep and grounds. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Weekly Readings and Mass Intentions

Monday, December 9, 2024 <i>Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12</i> <i>Lk 1:26-38</i>	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7:00am - Sacred Heart Church 8:10am - Sacred Heart Church - SMS Mass
Tuesday, December 10, 2024 <i>Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14</i>	Advent Weekday - Our Lady of Loreto 8:00am - Mark Hall†
Wednesday, December 11, 2024 <i>Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30</i>	Advent Weekday - St. Damasus I, Pope 8:00am - Andrew & Hannah Steichen† family
Thursday, December 12, 2024 <i>Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab</i> <i>Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47</i>	Our Lady of Guadalupe 8:00am - Gladys Tupy† 6:00pm - Sacred Heart Church - Spanish Mass
Friday, December 13, 2024 <i>Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19</i>	St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr 8:00am - Christ the King - Candy and Angie Jenot†
Saturday, December 14, 2024 <i>Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13</i>	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church 8:00am - Dick Thamert†
Sunday, December 15, 2024 <i>Zep 3:14-18a</i> <i>Phil 4:4-7</i> <i>Lk 3:10-18</i>	Third Sunday of Advent 12/14/24 4:00pm - Parishioners 12/14/24 5:30pm - Christ the King - Edward Miller† 12/15/24 8:00am - Jeffery Adelman† 12/15/24 10:00am - Emmett & Rosemary Gallagher†

St. Vincent de Paul Society



December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent:

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord," and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to all.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please provide them with the phone number (507-676-5508) to call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas. Happy 10th Anniversary to St. Vincent's Table! We have served over 51,000 meals since we began and have contributed more than 30,000 volunteer hours. Thank you for serving those in need of a hot meal.

We meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at **6:30 p.m.**, at **St. Joseph's Church**. **If you would like further information on growing your spiritual life and serving those in need in our community**, please join us at a meeting or contact Ed Wacek at edwacek46@gmail.com. **Our phone is 507-676-5508.**

Parish Staff

Parish Priest – Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy
pastor@stjosephowatonna.org (507) 451-4845

Administrator– Al Christenson (507) 451-4845
apchristenson@stjosephowatonna.org

Parish Office– Linda Strand (507) 451-4845
parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org

Bookkeeping– Erika Starman

Liturgical Music Director – Carol Hodapp
carolhodapp@gmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinator – Brittany Boubin
shsjyouth@shsjfaithformation.org (507) 686-5184

Maintenance– Dave Oman

Facebook– <https://www.facebook.com/StJosephParishOwatonna/>

Church News & Events



You're invited to attend the Installation Mass of Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy as Parish Priest of St. Joseph Parish, Owatonna and Christ the King Church, Medford celebrated by
The Most Reverend Bishop Robert Barron
Diocese of Winona-Rochester
10:00 AM Sunday, December 22, 2024
St. Joseph Parish, Owatonna
Brunch will be served in Joseph Hall after Mass. (Free will offering)
Please **RVSP by Monday, December 16** if you plan to attend the meal at 507-451-4845.



Volunteers needed to decorate the church!

We will begin decorating the Gathering and Joseph Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 18th around 9am.

On Sunday, Dec. 22nd after the Installation Mass, volunteers can set up the manger scene and the two 10 foot tall Christmas trees on the altar.

Monday, Dec. 23rd we can set out the poinsettia on the altar and finish what is left.

If you would like to volunteer again this year, please call the parish office at 507-451-4845.

Your help in decorating our church for the Christmas season is greatly appreciated and can be a fun memorable tradition for your family!

The 2025 Catholic Family Appointment Calendars will be available in the Gathering Hall next weekend!

These calendars are generously provided by the following businesses:

***Brick-Meger Funeral Home
Owatonna Bus Company
Community Pathways***

Owatonna KC Council 945 Benefit Breakfast for Catholic Daughters & Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival
Sunday, December 15 • 8am - 12pm

St. Mary's School Cafeteria

Advance tickets are \$9 or \$10 at the door.

Two sensational breakfast choices and table service!

KC Omelet Breakfast: 3 egg omelet selections

KC Country Breakfast: eggs fried or scrambled, ham or sausage.

Served with pancakes or french toast, milk, or coffee.

Advanced sale tickets may be purchased in the parish office or from breakfast benefactors.



Catholic Community Communal Penance Service
Tuesday, December 17th at 6:00pm
St. Joseph Parish

Toys for Tots of Steele County and Family to Family of Steele County

are working together to provide a Christmas for needy children age 15 & younger and families.



Consider taking an angel tag from the tree in the Gathering Hall. Attach the angel tag to a new, unwrapped item you've purchased and place in the Toys for Tots box - located in the parish office or Gathering Hall.

If you prefer to donate money, send gift cards or checks to:

Toys for Tots

PO Box 199

Owatonna MN 55060

Gift cards will be used to purchase toys. Cash donations

will be used to purchase food

cards. **The final day for**

donations will be Thursday, December 12th.

Thank you for your generosity!



Church News & Events

You're invited for Christmas music and fellowship!

Sunday, December 15th • 3pm
St. Joseph Parish, Owatonna

The Adult and Youth Choir will perform
"Sing With the Angels"
and Christmas carols.

Refreshments will be served in Joseph Hall.
For information contact Carol Hodapp at
carolhodapp@gmail.com.

Free will offerings will be
accepted for the Music Ministry.



We are recruiting Altar Servers!



Parents, if your son or daughter have received their First Holy Communion, are entering the 4th Grade and would like to be an altar server, call the parish office at 507-451-4845 for more information about Altar Server training at St. Joseph Parish.

Court Owatonna Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Potluck/Meeting Monday,
December 16th at 6:00pm

Joseph Hall, St. Joseph Parish

Members bring a dish to pass along with your own eating utensils. *Family of CDA members are invited to eat.* **Please bring a wrapped gift no greater than \$8 for the gift swap.**

The luncheon committee will provide dessert and beverages. A brief meeting will follow.

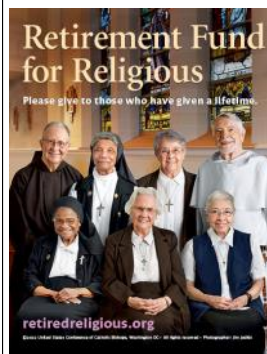


Keeping Christ in Christmas!
Parish Christmas Cards are back!
A pack of 25 cards are reduced to \$20!

St. Joseph Parish Card featuring the beautiful mosaic of St. Joseph and the Holy Family. **Cards can be purchased in the parish office.** Proceeds from the sales of these cards assist the Knights of Columbus with their charitable work.



Diocesan Collection December 8, 2024



Many aging religious spent decades ministering for little pay. Now, their communities do not have enough retirement savings to care for them. You can help meet their needs by donating to the Retirement Fund for Religious at Mass this weekend. If you can't give today, give online another time at retiredreligious.org
Thank you!

Young Adult Catholic December Event

Young Adult Catholics ages 20-35

are invited to attend the next
Young Adult Catholic Fellowship

Night on Thursday, December

19th from 5:30pm-7:30pm at

Joseph Hall, St. Joseph Parish.

Singles, couples, and families with young children are invited to a Christmas Social!

Plan to come dressed in an ugly sweater or your favorite Christmas attire. The night will also include fellowship, fun, and light refreshment. Feel free to invite friends!

If you have any questions please text Lucas and Kristine Arndt at 507-573-3532.



Back by Popular Demand!

The OHS Carolers will performing at
11:00am next Sunday, Dec. 15th

after the 10:00am Mass

at St. Joseph Parish!



Magnificat renewals or new subscription orders are due by the end of December. Cost for the year is \$34.95. Checks can be dropped off in the parish office or the collection basket marked "Magnificat."



How can I serve?



Please consider becoming a Liturgical Minister at St. Joseph Church. There's something for everyone! See contact info. below:

Altar Servers – Parish Office (507)451-4845,
parishoffice@stjosephwatonna.org

Communion Ministers – Linda Huffington
(507)456-5274 (leave message) or
lindamwhuffington@gmail.com

Greeters – Wayne & Betty Kubicek
(507)451-8683, bj-n-me@hotmail.com

Homebound Ministries – Vickie Skala
(507)456-2230, vskala9174@gmail.com

Lectors – Linda Strand (507)363-2596,
strand619@gmail.com

Music Ministry – Carol Hodapp
(507)213-6981, carolhodapp@gmail.com

Sacristans – Elyn Jardine (507)-444-4088,
leej7@reagan.com

Ushers – Pat Rose (507)456-1146
rosepatp@gmail.com

Liturgical Ministers Schedule December 14/15, 2024

Saturday - 4:00pm

EM: Dianne Unruh, Rose Ann Rypka, Volunteer
Lector: Tim Vogt
Sacristan: Julio Letona
Ushers: Joan Erdman, Mark Stradtherr
Amador Ramirez, Gary Hawkins
Altar Servers: Julio Letona, Brianna Harinen
Sophia Harinen
Greeters: Cynthia Letona

Sunday - 8:00am

EM: Cindy Emanuelson, Doug Phillips, Sue Heller
Lector: Mark Cashman
Sacristan: Rita Goodnature
Ushers: Joel Dulas, Pat Rose
Cindy Phillips, Doug Phillips
Altar Servers: Henry & Stella Seykora
Greeters: *Greeters Needed*

Sunday - 10:00am

EM: Katie Clubb, Stacey Ginskey, Katie Holzerland
Lector: Ryan Heydon
Sacristan: Ruth Broumley
Ushers: Brad Fischer, Nolan Ginskey
Gary Thurnau, Dina Atkinson
Altar Servers: Lucas Ginskey, Macey Ginskey,
Carson Skala
Greeters: Wayne & Betty Kubicek

*Volunteers are needed in all the liturgical ministries.
Call 507-451-4845 if you are able serve.*

December Funeral Chairpersons

Linda Rice
507-451-3606

Diane McShane
507-456-0492

Please Contact the Parish Office If...

- * A member of your family is in the hospital.
- * You want communion brought to your home.
- * Your address, phone, email has changed.
- * You wish to register your family with the Parish.

**Phone: 451-4845 or
email: parishoffice@stjosephwatonna.org**

St. Joseph's Church
Youth Choir

**Come join the St. Joseph's Youth Choir.
Practice will be one hour before Mass.**

December 15 at the 10:00 am Mass
Practice at 9:00 am

January 19 at the 10:00am Mass
Practice at 9:00am

February 16 at the 10:00am Mass
Practice at 9:00am

Rehearsal Location :
Basement - Nazareth Hall

More Information :
Email Carol Hodapp:
carolhodapp@gmail.com

St. Mary's School News



St. Mary's 4th graders were busy at the end of November putting on a balloon parade at school. Students marched up and down the school hallways with music and their Thanksgiving balloons. The halls were filled with students from other grades cheering them on as the parade took place. Great job 4th graders!



Church News & Events



We welcome...
Xander Robert Sletten
Baptized on **December 1, 2024**

Child of Taylor Sletten & Adrianna Mendiola

"A clean heart create for me, O God; renew within me a steadfast spirit" - Psalms 51:10



Magnifikid is back! Please take one for your child(ren) to follow along with the Sunday Mass. The Magnifikid includes the Order of Mass and some family activities. They are on the table in the gathering area and by the doors.

Scan the QR Code for more information on upcoming events and happenings at Christ the King Church in Medford or visit the website at www.ckmedfordmn.org



Ministries Appreciation Dinner **Saturday, January 11, 2025 • 5:30pm** **Joseph Hall, St. Joseph Parish**

We would like to take this opportunity to "Thank" all of our parish volunteers by celebrating with a dinner. If you plan to attend, call 507-451-4845 to RSVP by Monday, January 6th.

This is **ALSO** a good time to learn more about the many ministries at St. Joseph Parish. We need volunteers to serve at Mass, singing and playing in the choir, Homebound Ministers, serving at funerals luncheons, decorating, cleaning, maintaining plants, building and grounds, and so much more!

Sharing of Time & Talent forms are available in the Gathering Hall and throughout the church. God has given you many talents, consider sharing one of them with the St. Joseph Parish community.

Thank you for your gift of service and we hope to see you at the dinner!

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