

St. Joseph Catholic Church & Christ the King Catholic Church

512 South Elm Ave. Owatonna, MN. 55060

205 2nd Ave. NW PO Box 120 Medford, MN. 55049

St. Joseph website: www.stjosephowatonna.org | Christ the King website: www.ctkmedfordmn.org

Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday 8:30am - 3:00pm
Parish Priest – Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy
pastor@stjosephowatonna.org (507) 451-4845

Assisting Priest - Fr. Joshua Miller
vicar@sacredheartowatonna.org

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

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

Bookkeeping– Erika Starman

St. Joseph Liturgical Music Director -
Carol Hodapp, carolhodapp@gmail.com

Christ the King Liturgical Music Director -
Melodie Morris, pennyrose58@hotmail.com

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

Christ the King Faith Formation Coordinator -
Alyse Miller (507)456-1033
medfordcatholicyouth@gmail.com

Maintenance - Dave Oman

Mass Schedule: Weekends
Sat. 4:00pm - St. Joseph
Sat. 5:30pm - Christ the King
Sunday 8:00am & 10:00am
St. Joseph Church

Weekdays and Holy Days
(See schedule in the bulletin)

Confession at St. Joseph
Saturday 3:00pm - 3:45pm

Stations of the Cross:
Wednesdays during Lent - 7:30pm - Christ the King Church
Fridays during Lent - 5:30pm - St. Joseph Parish

**The KC Council 945 "All You Can Eat"
Fish Fry Dinner Friday, March 28, 2025
5pm - 7pm at the KC Hall**
Enjoy fried pollock, baked cod, mashed potatoes with country gravy, vegetable, coleslaw and dinner roll. Advance sale tickets are \$15, at the door \$17. (Free for kids under 6). Advanced tickets can be purchased from members of the **Huskies Fast Pitch Club** - Jamie Hergot 507-774-9309; members of the **KC Council 945** - Brad Fandel 507-456-4161 or at the KC Hall 820 S Elm Ave.



March 23, 2025

**Third Sunday
of Lent**

**Confession and Adoration
at Christ the King** -
The first Friday of the
month after 8:00am Mass

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. Your wish to register your family with the Parish.



4th ANNUAL MARIAN CONFERENCE THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CHAMPION

The Shrine of Our Lady of Champion is the site of the only approved Marian Apparition site in the United States. All are welcome to join us for the 4th Annual Marian Conference with wonderful guest speakers, a rosary walk, prayer time, and masses. There is limited walking if you skip the rosary walk. Pick up a flyer in the gathering area or go to "championshrine.org/marian-conference/" for more information. KC Council 945 is sponsoring the pilgrimage to the Conference and is paying for the coach bus.

"Come join our summer events! Totus Tuus is a week-long summer camp for grades 1-12 will run from June 15-20 at Sacred Heart Church and St. Mary's School. Steubenville-Rochester is a weekend youth conference with others from around the Diocese for youth who are going into 9th grade -12th grade this will be from July 11-13. Camp Summit is a 4 day, 3 night adventure at Eagle Bluff gives youth an opportunity to go out of their comfort zone in various activities and meet new friends from July 21-24. Please email Brittany Boubin at shsjyouth@shsjfaithformation.org for more details."



St. Joseph Parish
Appeal Goal - \$50,716.00
of Contributors -
What we need - \$

Christ the King Church
Appeal Goal - \$10,631.00
of Contributors -
What we need - \$

3rd Sunday of Lent, March 23, 2025- (C)

Readings: Exodus 3:1-8a,13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,1-12; Luke 13:1-9

Third Sunday of Lent invites us to examine our lives and change for the better through a process of repentance and the need for the transformation of heart. It is something that we constantly need to be reminded about. Repentance demands that we become honest to ourselves and recognize our unfruitfulness.

The parable of the fig tree is a parable of crisis and compassion: the fig tree draws strength and sustenance from the soil but produces nothing in return. Its only value is as firewood. A similar fate awaits those who squander their lives in greedy, selfish pursuits. God is the ever-patient gardener who gives every “fig tree” all the time, care and attention it needs to harvest.

The parable of the fig tree has been called the “Gospel of the second chance.” The vinedresser pleads for the tree, asking that it be given another year to bear fruit. We always live in the hope and mercy of God who keeps giving us “second chances” to rise from the ashes of sin to rebuild and reform our lives.

Jesus' parable of the barren fig trees illustrates His warning about the consequences of allowing sin and corruption to take root in our hearts and minds. Fig trees were a common and important source of food for the people of Palestine. A fig tree normally matured within three years, producing plentiful fruit. If it failed, it was cut down to make room for more healthy trees. A decaying fig tree and its bad fruit came to symbolize for the Jews the consequence of spiritual corruption caused by evil deeds and unrepentant sin.

The unfruitful fig tree symbolized the outcome of Israel's indifference and lack of response to God's word of repentance and restoration. The prophets depicted the desolation and calamity of Israel's fall and ruin due to her unfaithfulness to God as a languishing fig tree (read Joel 1:7,12; Habakkuk 3:17; and Jeremiah 8:13). Jesus' parable depicts the patience of God, but it also contains a warning that we should not presume upon God's patience and mercy. God's judgment will come in due course very soon or later.

The real danger and calamity which Jesus points out is that an unexpected disaster or a sudden death does not give us time to repent of our sins and to prepare ourselves to meet the Judge of heaven and earth. Jesus asks us to take responsibility for our actions and moral choices and put sin to death today before it can destroy our hearts, minds, souls, and bodies as well. Unrepentant sin is like a cancer which corrupts us from within. If it is not eliminated through repentance asking God for His forgiveness and healing grace, it leads to a spiritual death which is far worse than physical destruction.

Lenten Blessings!

Synod on Evangelization & Vocation Survey: His Excellency Bishop Robert Barron has convoked a Diocesan Synod focused on the themes of evangelization and priestly vocations. Every member of the local church are invited to participate in this preparatory phase by completing the survey on evangelization and vocations. Access the survey at: dowrsynod.my.canvas.site or scan the code.



Christ the King Church News & Events

Watch for Friendship Bags! Court St. Anne, Medford Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be collecting Friendship Bag items throughout Lent. They will be distributed to deserving non-profits like Ruth's House, Crisis Resource Center, Hospitality House, Dorothy Day, Steele County Transitional Housing, Hope Center, etc. You will find bags at both entrances of the church. You can fill them with items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, washcloths, bath towels, shampoo, conditioner, hand sanitizer, Kleenex, lotions, razors, deodorant, soap, and other small items. **Filled Friendship bags can be placed by the cross at the back of the altar at Christ the King Church, Medford.**



In Loving Memory...

Thomas Wencil of Medford, MN.
March 15, 2025

Come See The living Stations of The Cross

Presented by Faith Formation Students

WEDNESDAY APRIL 2ND @ 7:30PM

& SATURDAY APRIL 5TH(AFTER MASS)@6:30PM

Living Stations of the Cross 2024



Weekly Readings and Mass Intentions

Mon.	03/24/25	2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30	7:15am: Sacred Heart Church
Tues.	03/25/25	Is 7:10-14;8:10/ Heb 10:4-10/ Lk 1:26-38	8:00am: Paul Jardine family
Wed.	03/26/25	Dt 4:1,5-9/Mt 5:17-19	8:00am: Jerry Fix†
Thurs.	03/27/25	Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23	8:00am: Lana Young†
Fri.	03/28/25	Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34	8:00am: Christ the King - Joe & Mark Smith†
Sat.	03/29/25	Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14	8:00am: Harlan Kern†
Sun.	Fourth Sunday of Lent	03/29/25	4:00pm: Parishioners
	Jos 5:9a, 10-12	03/29/25	5:30pm: Christ the King - Marvin Purrier Jr.†
	2 Cor 5:17-21	03/30/25	8:00am: Bill & Joan Driessen†
	Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32	03/30/25	10:00am: Larry Lockner†

The Catholic Relief Services collection raises funds for the USCCB Offices of International Justice and Peace, Migration and Refugee Services, and Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees; relief work of the Holy Father; and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network. Please use the Catholic Relief Services envelope if you would like to make a donation in next weekend's collection. Thank you for your support!



March 23 - Third Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel Jesus is quite clear in his message: "bear fruit or be cut down." This Lent we are called to cultivate and fertilize our spiritual lives through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Know that your donation to SVdP is helping those in need, providing them with a sense of relief and security, making them aware that others care about them.

On Tuesday there were 145 meals served at Vincent's Table. 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 Joe Stiles at jrstiles1224@msn.com. **Our phone is 507-676-5508.**

News from St. Mary's School



On March 3rd, our 7th and 8th grade students traveled to the cities to hear international Catholic speaker Jason Evert. He is a best-selling author, speaker and frequent guest on radio and tv programs throughout the country. The presentation focused on chastity and presented the topic in an age-appropriate way that allows the students to start thinking about chastity in the context of their faith before they enter high school. This presentation reinforces our Theology of the Body curriculum. We feel it is important for our students to understand God's plan for them, especially since that plan often opposed what they are being told from social media or general society. The students enjoyed the presentation and received Catholic resources such as books, pamphlets, links to Jason's programs and medals. They also had the opportunity to speak with Jason afterward.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule Saturday, March 29 - 4:00pm

EMs: Katherine Rypka, Rose Ann Rypka, Julio Letona
Lector: Linda Strand
Sacristan: Julio Letona
Ushers: Scott Yentsch, Sue Yentsch
Larry Goettl, Amador Ramirez
Altar Servers: Julio Letona, Brianna & Sophia Harinen
Greeter: Cynthia Letona

Sunday, March 30 - 8:00am

EMs: Martha Kearin, Linda Huffington, Diane Kaplan
Lector: Mark Cashman
Sacristan: Joan Salmonsén
Ushers: Doug Phillips, Cindy Phillips
Joel Dulas, Rhynda Dulas
Altar Servers: Charlie, Jacob, & Sam Dulas
Greeter: *Greeter Needed*

Sunday, March 30 - 10:00am

EMs: Elyn Jardine, Stacey Ginskey, Ryan Heydon
Lectors: Lee Jardine
Sacristan: Rith Broumley
Ushers: Chuck Jurgens, King Jurgens
Jerry Atkinson, Dina Atkinson
Altar Servers: Macey & Lucas Ginskey, Everett Sennott
Greeter: *Greeter Needed*

**March - St. Joseph Funeral Chairperson
Janet McDonald
507-451-5174**

TONIGHT after the 5:30pm Mass, Medford Catholic Daughters are hosting a **SOUP SUPPER & "Cupcake" BINGO** event in the basement at **Christ the King Church**. We'll be serving Chili, Wild Rice Soup, and Mac & Cheese, beverages and dessert. **Free will offering accepted!** **Take out available!** *Proceeds benefit the Faith Formation Program



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 Open during business hours.
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 Key fobs available in the parish office.

Sharing of Time & Talent *» Clip, fill out and drop in the collection basket*

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to: _____

Liturgical Ministries: Greeters | Sacristan | Eucharistic Minister | Lector | Usher | Rosary Leader | Altar Server | Faith Formation | Adult & Youth Choir
Pastoral Ministries: Taking Communion/Visiting the Homebound

- * Funeral Lunch Helper
- * Money Counter
- * Be a "Martha" - Altar linen/candles/dusting
- * Helping to Decorate
- * Help water outdoor planters
- * Serve at Donut Sunday
- * Clean the Adoration Chapel
- * Meals on Wheels
- * St. Vincent de Paul Society
- * Parish Council
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