



OUR LADY OF THE FALLS

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH | **DECEMBER 28, 2025**



ST. BRIDGET | 2801 N 110th Ave



HOLY GHOST | 412 South Main St



NOTRE DAME | 117 Allen St

ST. BRIDGET | HOLY GHOST | NOTRE DAME

www.ourladyofthefalls.org

Our Lady of the Falls Office

117 Allen St. Chippewa Falls, 54729 | 715-723-7108

Mon. 9am-3pm | Tues. Closed | Wed. 9am-3pm

Thur. 9am to 3pm | Fri. 9am-Noon | Or by appointment

CLERGY & RELIGIOUS SISTER

Fr. Daniel Sedlacek, Pastor
dsedlacek@ourladyofthefalls.org

Fr. David Nowicki, Parochial Vicar
dnowicki@ourladyofthefalls.org

Deacon Kevin DeCook, ND
kdecook@ourladyofthefalls.org

Deacon Sean Hanson, HG
shanson@ourladyofthefalls.org

Sr. Yvonne Hiess, Pastoral Minister
yhiess@ssndcp.org

MASSSES & INTENTIONS

WEEKDAY MASSES

NOTRE DAME

MONDAY | 8am | *Dec. 29* – † Arnetta Eckes

WEDNESDAY | 8am | *Dec. 31* – † Andrew Hable

Solemnity of Mary THURSDAY | 8:30am | *Jan. 1* – † Kelly Boggio

Solemnity of Mary THURSDAY | 6pm | *Jan. 1* – Special Intention of the Greg & Kelly Becker Family

SATURDAY | 8am | *Jan. 3* – † Kirby Bullard

HOLY GHOST

TUESDAY | 5:30pm | *Dec. 30* – David Smith

Solemnity of Mary Vigil WEDNESDAY | 5:30pm | *Dec. 31* – † Donna Snyder

FRIDAY | 8am | *Jan. 2* – † Joanne Oleson

ST. BRIDGET

Solemnity of Mary Vigil WEDNESDAY | 7pm | *Dec. 31* – † Georgiann Olson

SUNDAY MASSES

ST. BRIDGET

SUNDAY | 9:15am | *Jan. 4* – † Bob & Marty Conlin

HOLY GHOST

SUNDAY | 7:30am | *Jan. 4* – Deacon Sean Hanson

SUNDAY | 11am | *Jan. 4* – † Al & Alice Marshall

NOTRE DAME

SATURDAY | 4:30pm | *Jan. 3* – † Steve Cyr

SUNDAY | 8am | *Jan. 4* – For the parishes

SUNDAY | 10:30am | *Jan. 4* – † Jerry Naiberg

SUNDAY | 7pm | *Jan. 4* – † Dave Sullivan

Confession Schedule

(Confessions also available by appointment)

ND: Weekdays beginning 5 min after daily Mass.

Saturday: 3:45-4:15pm | Sunday: 7:15-7:45am; 9:45-10:15am; 6:15-6:45pm.

HG: Tuesdays: 5pm-5:20pm. Thursdays: 3pm-4:50pm | Fridays, 5 min after Mass.



From Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

Peace be with you! A very blessed and merry Christmas to you all! Did you know that the Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve night and lasts until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which is on Sunday, January 11th this year? So, you can and certainly should continue to wish others a "Merry Christmas" at least until then. It is certainly appropriate and encouraged to leave up your Christmas decorations until that day as well. The mysteries of our Lord's Nativity and Epiphany are too deep to reflect upon for only one day. And it is certainly too wonderful to celebrate for only one day!

During the Advent and Christmas seasons, I often find myself meditating on the "hidden life" of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the Holy Family, and their life at Nazareth. After all, that is the place where Jesus spent a vast majority of his life on earth, 30 out of about 33 years. What was His life like? What could we expect to see if we were "flies on the wall" in the home of the Holy Family?

From the very brief snippets of Jesus' infancy and childhood that are recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, we get the sense that it would have been wonderful, and yet also very like our own lives. There were happy times and difficult times. Times of worry about paying bills (and taxes!), business stress with Joseph's carpentry customers, and even the normal annoyances that are inevitable when more than one person dwells under the same roof, though without sin. In the Gospel of Luke, when the "lost" Jesus is found in the Temple, Mary says, "Son, why have you done this to us! Can't you see that your father and I have been searching for you with great anxiety?" And the twelve-year-old Jesus says, "But why were you looking for me?" Then the Gospel writer relates, "And they did not understand what he was saying to them." Even the sinless Mary and the sinless Son of God did not always understand each other.

Continued on Pg.3

PARISH SUPPORT STAFF

Office Needs & Appointments

Dan Rislove, *OLF Office Manager*

Call - 715-705-2241

drislove@ourladyofthefalls.org

Becoming Catholic & OCIA

John Shakal, *Dir. of Outreach & Evangelization*

jshakal@ourladyofthefalls.org

Join the Parish, Volunteering, & Parish Life

Kate Zweber, *Volunteer & Hospitality Coordinator*

C: 715-705-2240 or kzweber@ourladyofthefalls.org

Enroll Your Child in Faith Formation

Michael Van Hemert, *Dir. of Youth Ministries*

m.vanhemert@macs.k12.wi.us

Caleb Heckman, *Coordinator of Faith Formation*

heckman@ourladyofthefalls.org

Parish Finance

Kellie Anderson, *Notre Dame Finance*

kanderson@ourladyofthefalls.org

Karin Hawkins, *Holy Ghost & St. Bridget Finance*

khawkins@ourladyofthefalls.org

Emmaus Discipleship & Growing in Practicing the Faith

Angela Katz, *Coordinator of Discipleship*

C: 715-705-2310 or akatz@ourladyofthefalls.org

OUR LADY OF THE FALLS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Lady of the Falls

Thank you to all those who made our Christmas Masses and celebrations so special! All our liturgical ministers helping with Mass, our musicians, and our church decorators worked so hard to make this Christmas a beautiful celebration of our Savior's birth! THANK YOU!

The Chosen - Season 3 Beginning on Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 6pm in the GREC as we watch Season Three of The Chosen together (8 weeks). We will watch, and discuss the episode with the help of the St. Augustine Institute. It's okay if you missed Season 1 or 2, we can catch you up. This event is a great way to invite someone back. Contact (715) 723-7108 to RSVP or have questions.

St. Bridget

BIRTHDAYS Dec.28-Jan.4: Mike Konzen, Jr., Rebekah Konzen, Emily Dressel Drilling, Caleb Poziombke, Fr. Brandon Guenther, Carrie Peterson Carla Christenson, McKayla Olson, Roger Kohls | **Anniversary:** John & Sandy Krumenauer | **RIP:** Denny Fenner

THIS & THAT — "THE HOLY FAMILY" | After the visit from the Magi, Joseph again gets a message in a dream. Joseph was to take Mary and Jesus into Egypt to protect them from Herod's threats to kill all boys under the age of two. They became immigrants to avoid persecution. This might lead us to think of our present-day immigrant situation and what is happening today even in our own country. Jesus told us to love everyone, especially those who suffer. Most families, in their ancestry, have members who came to our country for a better life and have been a blessing in many ways. We do need law and order, but we need to live in peace and harmony, too. Immigrants have contributed a lot to our country. In our gospel from Matthew 2:13-23, we are encouraged to pray together that our family will protect and care for one another as Mary and Joseph cared for Jesus. So, what is the key to living as the Holy Family? We might use this feast to recall the

responsibility that each family member has to contribute to the good of the family and to recommit ourselves to each other. Together let us ask God to look with compassion on all families where love and understanding have long been absent. We ask you God that in your merciful kindness you would bring comfort, peace and joy to all members today. May all of our families take inspiration and courage from Jesus, Mary and Joseph! **A HAPPY & BLESSED NEW YEAR OF 2026 TO ALL AND HAVE A BLESSED WEEK! STAY HAPPY AND HEALTHY ALL YE HOLY FAMILIES!** — Sr. Yvonne

Needed: Money counters to help count the Sunday Mass offering at our parish. We are looking for 3-5 people. You would come to Holy Ghost rectory on Tuesday mornings. It takes about 30 minutes of time to count and verify and then take the money to the bank. If we get 3 people, we will have two teams, and so the frequency of this service would be every other week. If we get more than 3 people to help, then even less of a time commitment. For more information, please talk to Father, Sister Yvonne, or Karin Hawkins.

Holy Ghost

Extra Hands Make Light Work | Several of the church cleaning groups could use an extra person, especially during the Winter. Groups are on a six-week rotation and decide which day and time work best for them. Call or email Karin Hawkins at the parish office if interested.

Notre Dame



Hospitallity Sunday is Jan.4 after the Notre Dame morning Masses.

Join us for a light breakfast and great company! Anyone is welcome!

We will be in the GREC Dining Hall, 22 S. Prairie St. (*the building across the street from the church*). Use the triple doors, the ones closest to the Heyde Center.

Church Cleaning is on January 8th after the morning Mass, 8:45am. Please consider helping keep our church clean and well kept. Thank you to all of our dedicated church cleaning volunteers!

OUR LADY OF THE FALLS COMMUNITY



WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC?

Do you know someone interested in exploring the Catholic faith or becoming Catholic? Christian Initiation is for them! Sunday 9am sessions will introduce them to Jesus, the Church, Christian life, and much more. Any interested person can contact John Shakal at jshakal@ourladyofthefalls.org.



BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY AT OUR LADY OF THE FALLS

Looking for comfort in grieving a loved one? Our Lady of the Falls Bereavement Ministry is for those who have lost someone they care about, find comfort in community and pray for loved ones. Meetings are on the second Wednesdays of the month, 6:30pm at 22 S. Prairie St. (the GREC Mary Room).

CHIPPEWA CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS (CCYA)

The CCYA is a community of faith-driven individuals in their 20s & 30s who come together to deepen their Catholic faith, support each other in faith. We have monthly Adoration and community days, plus a monthly event and weekly sports. Whether you're a lifelong Catholic or exploring your faith, any young adult is welcome! For updates on events, text 715-705-2240, email kzweber@ourladyofthefalls.org, or join the GroupMe messaging app for updates at, https://groupme.com/join_group/91240539/QHocs2uT

New Year's Mass Times *The Solemnity of Mary*

New Year's Eve

- St. Charles - 4pm
- Holy Ghost - 5:30pm
- St. Peter's - 6:30pm
- St. Bridget's - 7pm

New Year's Day

- Notre Dame - 8:30am
- St. Peter's - 9am
- St. Charles - 10:30am
- Notre Dame - 6pm

St. Charles Borromeo & St. Peter the Apostle

February 8-13 Pilgrimage to Mexico with Fr. Tim – Marian Messengers.

Come and visit Our Lady of Guadalupe with Fr. Tim Oudenhoven. We will be walking the actual steps of St. Juan Diego and learning firsthand of the incredible message and mission that Mary has for us!

For More information visit: www.marianmessengers.org or call 800-842-4842

EPIC Families

EPIC families is a social/community-building group that the whole family is invited to participate in. EPIC is hosted by different families in their homes. We meet Saturday evenings, with the time set by the host. The session begins with a shared meal that everyone contributes to. Following the meal, kids play and parents chat and talk about life and faith over some adult beverages. More information can be found at <https://www.ourladyofthefalls.org/emmaus-discipleship>.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

If anybody has a family member or knows of someone who is in a nursing home or is homebound that would like to have the Holy Eucharist brought to them on first Fridays or would like a visit from a priest please contact Vicki Korger at vkorger@ourladyofthefalls.org or call the Notre Dame office number 715-723-7108.

The Building Committee is seeking an historic Notre Dame pew for the Goldsmith crypt. Identifying features on the pew ends are a clover-shaped top (pre-1950) and an arched top (c.1950-1970). Do you have one you'd donate? Contact OLF office or Joanne Stuttgen at 715-404-6482 or jstuttgen@charter.net

LOCAL & DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Father's Column (Cont.)

I encourage us all to reflect upon the Holy Family and to spiritually enter into what Pope St. Paul VI calls the "school of Nazareth." "Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and even to understand his Gospel. Here we can observe and ponder the simple appeal of the way God's Son came to be known, profound yet full of hidden meaning. And gradually we may even learn to imitate him." - Fr. Sedlacek

Jan. 1: Chippewa figure skaters perform a small program to help support Saint Francesca Food Pantry at 2 pm. The high school skaters take the lead in the exhibition event where all of the Chippewa Figure Skaters get the opportunity to show their stuff to the general public. This event is organized by the high school skaters and entry to the event is by donation.

Jan.17: Catholic Charities Event | Join the 16th Annual Evening in the Chippewa Valley. Jan.17, 2026. The Florian Gardens in EC @5:30pm

St. Olaf's All You Can Eat Fish 4-7pm. See poster in back of church.

Rebuild My Church What did people say at the 40 listening sessions this fall? Those comments are now available for viewing, along with a summary of the top trends. You can also check out a brief video from Fr. Derek Sakowski sharing a Christmas story illustrating what it means to "pivot from maintenance to mission" <http://www.dioc.org/rebuildmychurch/updates>



Your Ways Are Not My Ways, Says The Lord. Do You Know What The Lord's Ways Are?

CENTRAL MINNESOTA KOINONIA is a weekend Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese and is designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. The next retreat is scheduled for Jan.23-25, 2026, 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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GOLDSMITH COUNCIL 974

KC974 Friday Jackpot Bingo - Doors open @ 4, food @5, Bingo @7. Details
www.KC974BINGO.com

KC Events

- **Red Cross Blood Drive** - Monday, Jan.5, 2026 12pm-6pm, KC Hall
- **KC White Elephant Party** - Sunday Jan.11, 2026. 6pm-8pm at the KC Hall. Potluck. Members & Families welcome.

Recent Donations

July through October Donations \$59,500 Total

- Blacktop - St Peters: \$25,000.00
- Coats for Kids - \$2,300.00
- Trichy Dioceses - India \$1,500.00 *Transportation for Priests*
- KC Disaster Relief - TX Floods \$1,000.00
- SEEK - \$2,000.00 MACS student trip

To become a member of the Knights of Columbus contact us at 715-271-4737 or
ttozer77@gmail.com



St. Francesca Resource Center

Located on the west side of the GREC. Enter the single blue door by the flag pole.

Open Tuesdays: 9 am-1 pm & 4-7 pm

715-215-2638 | st.francesca.rc@gmail.com

www.stfrancesca.org

Diocesan Annual Appeal

Thank you to all who have contributed so far!

- Notre Dame: \$118,945.47 (121% of our \$98,145 goal) Congratulations!
- Holy Ghost: \$44,445 (79% of our \$56,420 goal)
- St. Bridget: \$6,785 (43% of our \$15,855 goal)

PARISH SUPPORT

St. Bridget Support

Collection Received Dec. 14: \$975.25

Holy Ghost Parish Support

Collection Received Dec. 14: \$8,708.85

Notre Dame Parish Support

Collection Received Dec. 14: \$15,581.06

We need your financial support! There are several ways you can contribute.
You can place it in the collection basket at Mass or:

- Mail your envelope to us at Notre Dame, 117 Allen St., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729. | Holy Ghost, 412 S. Main St., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729.
- Contact the parish office to set up ACH automatic withdrawal, or visit the parish website for online giving via credit card.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Jan. 1** | Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God - See Our Lady of the Falls Announcements for Holy Day Mass times
- **Jan. 4** | Hospitality Sunday, After ND Morning Masses - GREC Dining Hall
- **Jan. 8** | Chippewa Catholic Young Adult's Source & Summit, 7pm - ND Church
- **Jan. 8** | OLF Bereavement Ministry Night, 6:30pm - GREC Mary Room
- **Jan. 10** | EPIC Families Gathering, 5:30pm - Contact Parish office for location
- **Jan. 12** | Catholicism on Tap | *False Gospel of Materialism*, 6pm - GREC Dining Hall
- **Jan. 22** | Christ with Us Adult Study, 9am - GREC St. Joseph Room

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays | 9am-10:30am | Order of Christian Initiation Classes (Becoming Catholic) - GREC

Mondays | 9am-10am | Monday Prayer Group - Goldsmith Adoration Chapel

Tuesdays | 9am-11am | Bible Study - GREC St. Joseph Room

Tuesdays | 9am-1pm & 4pm-7pm | St. Francesca's Resource Center - GREC

Wednesday | Faith Formation - Locations and Times Vary

Thursdays | 10am-11:30am | Mom's Group - GREC Mary Room

OUR LADY OF THE FALLS MINISTRIES

The ministries below do not include Volunteer Ministries, for more information on volunteering or these ministries call/text 715-705-2240

Moments of a Mother's Hope - Women who have lost children

Chippewa Catholic Young Adults - Adults in their 20's & 30's

Mom's Group - Mothers with children still at home

Ave Maria Homeschool Co-op - Homeschooling Families

Monday Morning Prayer Group - Everyone

Rooted - Families with Young Children (0-6)

E.P.I.C. Families - Families looking for community

Emmaus Discipleship - Parishioners looking to become intentional disciples

OLF Bereavement Ministry - Those seeking comfort after loss

Prayer Ministry - Prays for all requested intentions

Adoration

Goldsmith Chapel Adoration Christmas Season Hours:

- **New Year's: Closing** - 3pm, Wednesday, Dec.31
- **Reopening:** 7am, Sunday, Jan.4

Available hours-Sun. 8am-Thur. 11pm There is a great need for night adorers! Early Monday mornings & early Thursday mornings are most critical. **Wed. 3pm Wed. 8pm Thurs. 1am Thurs. 2am** Please call or text Andy at 708-846-6681 if you can help with any of these hours. You will not regret spending time with Jesus, who so much desires to spend time with you.





News from ...

McDONELL AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Fund & make a difference in the lives of MACS students today!

MACS Spaghetti Spectacular & Kids Carnival | Sunday, Jan. 25 | Kick off Catholic Schools Week with the 18th Annual Spaghetti Spectacular & 6th Annual Kids Carnival at McDonell Central Catholic High School (1316 Bel Air Boulevard, Chippewa Falls) from 11am-4pm! Enjoy a delicious spaghetti meal, carnival games, bouncy houses, prize drawings, and more. We will offer the spaghetti dinner for a free-will offering, and kids' carnival wristbands are \$3/child with a \$10 family cap. We hope to see you and your family there!

New Mack Messenger Out Now The latest edition of the Mack Messenger magazine is out now! Inside we talk about growing our Catholic Identity. Take a look inside to also meet our new Dean and Campus Ministry Coordinator. You'll also find our latest Alumni Class Notes and information on upcoming reunions. Grab a copy now at the back of church.

Become a Hero for MACS Students! We are blessed to have a generous donor matching all gifts up to \$120,000 now through Dec.31. Your gift will have twice the impact and will directly support all students at MACS. Will you be the hero for our students? Scan the QR code, or go online to McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org to donate to the *A.B. McDonell Vision*



715-723-4404 | horanfuneralhome.com
100% locally owned and operated

REALTOR®
READY TO
BUY OR SELL?
CALL SAL
480-213-4393
sal@propertyshopperealty.com
pealtorsalmartin.com

SM PROPERTY SHOPPE REALTY LLC
NOTRE DAME PARISH HOME

**ADVANTAGE
DOOR**

GARAGE DOORS
ELECTRIC OPENERS
SALES, SERVICE &
INSTALLATION

715.492.6056
advantagedoorcompanyllc.com

Northwestern Mutual®
Eau Claire

Samuel Rubenzer, ChFC®, CASL®, WMCP®
Wealth Management Advisor
samrubenzer.nm.com | sam.rubenzer@nm.com
1450 Rivers Edge Trail | Ste B | Altoona, WI 54720
P 715-835-2123 | C 715-563-2188 | F 715-835-2123

B&B BOHL & PROULX

PLUMBING - WATER SYSTEMS
1280 W. River Street | Chippewa Falls, WI
715-832-4795 | 715-723-9655
FAX 715-723-1272
Email: bpoffice@bohlandproulx.com

PV PEDERSON-VOLKER
FUNERAL CHAPEL &
CREMATION SERVICE

Phone: 715-723-4649 • Website: www.PedersonVolker.com
Luke and Dana Lucier

R ROOFING
STORM DAMAGE

Jim • 715-226-8037 • Ben

HAAS INC.

REDI-MIX CONCRETE • TOP SOIL • GRAVEL
Eau Claire • Wilson • Bloomer
Thorp • Ladysmith
715-669-5469

JNE MEATS
Wholesale & Retail
EST 2021

715-944-9086
4257 N. Prairie View Road
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
jnemeats@gmail.com

LILYDALE
DANCE HALL & EVENT VENUE

For a tour or reservation, call Elizabeth DeCook
715-456-2328 | 6343 Cty Hwy N | Chippewa Falls
See what's happening at Lilydale: www.lilydalewi.com/events.phtml

Wade Irwin Est. 1972

IRWIN Construction, Inc.
726-1280

4977 174th Street Fax: 715-726-1281
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 irwinhomebuilders.com

NB NORTHWESTERN BANK FDIC MEMBER

JENNA SCHAFER
REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL

715-559-7497

WOODS & WATER®
Your Real Estate Store® REALTY INC.

HOW MUCH IS YOUR HOME WORTH?
GET A FREE HOME EVALUATION WITH NO OBLIGATION -
CALL ROD ELKIN 715-828-0149

**ASK ME HOW I CAN DONATE TO THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
IN YOUR NAME**

HOMETOWN REALTY GROUP

FREE

HEBERT Dental
COME SMILE WITH US

Benjamin Gutschow DDS • Sean Tarpenning DDS
Anthony Butchert DDS • Ryan Swenson DDS
Thomas J. Hebert DDS Retired
4710 Commerce Valley Road | Eau Claire, WI 54701
www.hebertdental.com | 715-997-4540

JERRY'S HEATING & A/C, LLC

P.O. Box 612
11005 47th Avenue
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
(715) 723-8202

FRIES FINANCIAL GROUP

(715) 720-9605
11 E Central Street Chippewa Falls, WI
www.friesfinancialgroup.com

KORGERS FURNITURE & DECORATING

Paint • Window Treatments
Flooring • Furniture
201 N. Bridge St., Chippewa Falls | 715-723-8852

R TREE SERVICE
CHOP LOCAL

Jim • 715-226-8037 • Ben

Stelter Inc.
Ready Mix Concrete,
Black Dirt, Sand & Rock
15331 State Hwy 124, Bloomer, WI,
54724
715-288-6771

MS MOWER SPERRY
Insurance Agency
EST. 1871

Protecting People, Empowering Businesses

mowerins.com 715-723-5525

PLEASANT VALLEY STORAGE

www.pvpstorage.com
715-226-6200
301 Bremer Ave, Cofax, WI 54730
Lauren Scharlau
lauren@pvpwi.com

The Medicine Shoppe & PHARMACY
Caring beyond prescriptions™

603 N. Bridge Street Chippewa Falls,
WI, 54729
M-F-9-6 Sat: 9-1 | Delivery available
715-723-9192

THALER OIL COMPANY, INC.
"We Never Sleep"

715-723-2822
www.ThalerOil.com
Bridge Street - Kennedy Road - Bateman