



OUR LADY OF THE FALLS

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD | JANUARY 4, 2026



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

MASSES & INTENTIONS

WEEKDAY MASSES

NOTRE DAME

MONDAY | 8am | *Jan. 5* – NO MASS

WEDNESDAY | 8am | *Jan. 7* – † Alice Kelly Seitz

THURSDAY | 8am | *Jan. 8* – † Patrick Murphy

SATURDAY | 8am | *Jan. 10* – † Josephine & Allen Mattingly

HOLY GHOST

TUESDAY | 5:30pm | *Jan. 6* – † Deceased members of the Olson family

WEDNESDAY | 8am | *Jan. 7* – † Helen Fijalkiewicz

THURSDAY | 5:30pm | *Jan. 8* – Deacon Sean Hanson

FRIDAY | 8am | *Jan. 9* – † Allen Schemenauer

SUNDAY MASSES

ST. BRIDGET

SUNDAY | 9:15am | *Jan. 11* – For the parishes

HOLY GHOST

SUNDAY | 7:30am | *Jan. 11* – † Ron Petska

SUNDAY | 11am | *Jan. 11* – † James Felix

NOTRE DAME

SATURDAY | 4:30pm | *Jan. 10* – † Les & Rosemary Davis

SUNDAY | 8am | *Jan. 11* – † Brooklyn Kelly

SUNDAY | 10:30am | *Jan. 11* – Living & deceased of Bohn/Bauer family

SUNDAY | 7pm | *Jan. 11* – † Kristopher Rahr

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. Thursday: 3pm-4:50pm | Fridays, 5 min after Mass.



From Fr. David Nowicki

Happy Epiphany! One of my favorite traditions of Epiphanytide is blessing one's house by chalking the lintel of the entry door with the following inscription: 20+C+M+B+26. The tradition is an old one with roots in the medieval period, and the visual sign of the inscription on the door can be quite memorable. I recall when I was five years of age, and we had moved into a new house. During the first Christmas season in the place we began calling home, we received chalk from our pastor to inscribe the markings for the new year above our front door. It left a deep impression upon me!

There is one closely related tradition that I prefer even to the chalking of doors: "kolęda" (roughly pronounced "coh-len-dah"). It's a Polish practice where the priests of the parish visit homes of all the parishioners between the first day of Christmas on the 25th of December until Candlemas on the 2nd of February. This tradition has equally historic roots in the middle ages, and it serves a twofold function. The first is that priests would bless the homes with holy water during this time and participate in the chalking of doors. The second is that it allows priests to get to know parishioners on a more personal level by sharing in the Christmas joy. The visits may not be long, but they are memorable. A few years ago I was visiting a priest friend in Poland who brought me along for his kolęda, and I vividly remember the joy of parishioners to receive the priests.

We even sang Christmas carols with each household!

My invitation to you is to take this January to send out an invitation to Fr. Sedlacek and/or myself to come for a visit and house blessing and to enjoy the joy of Christmas together. I know such a prospect might be a daunting one, so I'll have some practical tips on how to welcome a priest into your home next week. ***Stay tuned!***

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*

checkman@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

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.

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

St. Bridget

BIRTHDAYS Jan.4-11: McKayla Olson, Roger Kohls, Cloe Schneider, Gavin Huber, Hannah Milkert, DeShaun Gilles, Karla Peterson, Velma Wilbur, Elena Raffesberger

THIS & THAT — "WE HAVE SEEN HIS STAR AND HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM" | In Matthew 2: 1-12 the Christmas story continues with the coming of the Magi. The experience of the Magi (sometimes called Wise Men) evokes the journey of every man and woman who are following their particular signs toward Christ. The Wise Men from another culture, who came to offer Jesus gifts for a royal messiah, symbolize that Jesus came as the savior of all races and cultures.

Although we know little about the Magi, we know that they came from the East and journeyed to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe they were astrologers. Tradition has it that they were named Casper, Melchior and Balthazar. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of the three gifts. We believe that the gift of gold represented Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of Jesus' divinity because priests burned the substance in the temple. Myrrh was used to prepare the dead for burial and was offered in anticipation of Jesus' death. By giving these gifts, the Magi acknowledged that Jesus was to be our Savior. May we acknowledge Jesus as our Savior in all that we

do and say. May we continue to offer our gift of time, attention to the needs of the church, and our financial support in this new year. May God bless us all! Happy NEW YEAR as we come together for the first Sunday of 2026. — 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.

Christmas Bazaar Results Thanks to all who set up, sold, donated, baked goods, and took down. We made \$2,112.10! The winners of the raffle are Snuggle Basket-Gabby Black, Snowman Chair and Cookies-Carol Stone, Grinch Basket-Sandy Furst, Wine Stand and Coasters-Carla Steinmetz, Porch Pot-Carol Stone, Charcuterie Board and Cookies-Vicki Monpas. Thanks again, Mary Harings

Notre Dame



Hospitality 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 Jan. 8 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



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 and 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

CHALICE OF MERCY

19TH ANNUAL UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS DINNER

Fundraiser to support Emergency Aid to Ukraine. Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026. 5:30pm-9pm at Lilydale Event Center 6343 Co Hwy N. Tickets \$100/person \$700/table of 8/children 10 & under free. Call for reservations 715-226-0376

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 www.ourladyofthefalls.org under Formation.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF
THE SOULS OF
† Ronald L. Ruf (ND)
† Donald "Don" Keuchler (ND)
† Dennis E. Fenner (SB)

Congratulations

Clayton Schulte & Dana Mercier
who were married from Notre Dame.

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 @vkorger@ourladyofthefalls.org or call the Notre Dame office number 715-723-7108.

LOCAL & DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.diolc.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.



The Chippewa Falls School District is proud to offer a 4-Year Old Kindergarten program. This program is open to children that live in the district and are 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2026. Enrollment for the 26-27 school year opens Jan.5, 2026. The CFAUSD website has more information on registration. Please contact 4kcardinals@chipfalls.org for more info.

The Jubilee Year of Hope officially ends on Jan.6 when Pope Leo XIV closes the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. A Mass to close the Jubilee Year in the Diocese of La Crosse will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman by Msgr. Richard Gilles, 10 a.m. on December 28th. All are welcome.

Retrouvaille \Retro- vi\Marriage Help Weekend Coming Soon!— Retrouvaille offers hope and a path to a joyful marriage with forgiveness & trust. The next program begins with a weekend stay Feb 13-15, 2026. Fully Confidential, affordable, and open to couples of all faiths or no faith background. For availability call 877-922-HOPE (4673). More info at HelpOurMarriage.org

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: \$122,125.47 (124% of our \$98,145 goal) Congratulations!
- Holy Ghost: \$44,645 (79% of our \$56,420 goal)
- St. Bridget: \$6,835 (43% of our \$15,855 goal)

PARISH SUPPORT

St. Bridget Support

Collection Received Dec. 21: ...

Holy Ghost Parish Support

Collection Received Dec. 21: \$4,392.25

Notre Dame Parish Support

Collection Received Dec. 21: \$9,911.60

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. 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
- **Feb. 2** | Catholicism on Tap | *The Shroud of Turin*, 6pm - GREC Dining Hall

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

Wednesdays | 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

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

offering, and kids' carnival wristbands are \$3 per 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.

MACS Spaghetti Spectacular & Kids Carnival – Sunday, January 25

Kick off Catholic Schools Week with the 18th Annual Spaghetti Spectacular and 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



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