MARY Mother of God
AREA FAITH COMMUNITY

Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Advent & Dec. 28, 2025 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

St. Mary's, Cottonwood	Holy Redeemer, Marshall	St. Michael's, Milroy	St. Mary's, Tracy
255 W. 4th Street S.	503 West Lyon Street	200 Euclid Avenue	249 6th Street
Cottonwood, MN 56229	Marshall, MN 56258	Milroy, MN 56253	Tracy, MN 56175
507-423-5220	**507-532-5711**	**507-336-2505**	**507-629-4075**

AFC Liturgical Schedule - Dec. 22-28, 2025

Monday
December 22: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
10:00 a.m. Mass (NH) ✞ Joseph & Frances Bot family
5:30 p.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Eric Boerboom

Tuesday
December 23: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
7:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Helen Wambeke
3:30 p.m. Mass (BE) ✞ Julia Claeys
5:30 p.m. Mass (MIL) ✞ Dan Schuh

Wednesday
December 24: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
3:30 p.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Deceased members of the Coudron, Thooft & DeSutter families
4:00 p.m. Mass (SM) ✞ Jerry Sanders
4:00 p.m. Mass (TR) ✞ Larry Buysse
5:30 p.m. Mass Engl./Span. (HR) ✞ Joe & Ruth Mortier

Thursday - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
December 25: Vigil Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25; Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14, Lk 2:1-14; Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20; Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
8:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Addy Van Moer
8:30 a.m. Mass (MIL) ✞ Richard Vroman
10:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Orville & Marge Hennen

Friday - Saint Stephen, the First Martyr
December 26: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
NO Masses today

Saturday - Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
December 27: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
5:00 p.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Joe Van Keulen

Sunday - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
December 28: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
8:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Gary Deutz
8:30 a.m. Mass (MIL) ✞ Delmar Debbaut
9:00 a.m. Mass (SM) ✞ Don & Phyllis Blazek
10:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Anthony, Betty & William Krogman
10:00 a.m. Mass (TR) ✞ Mary Ann Alcorn
11:30 a.m. Mass (HR-Spanish) For People of the Parish
NO 6 p.m. CRC Mass

The AFC Communal Penance Service with Individual Confessions will be held today, December 21 at 4 PM at Holy Redeemer Church.

AFC Liturgical Schedule - Dec. 29, 25 - Jan. 4, 26

Monday - Fifth Day within Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
December 29: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
10:00 a.m. Mass (NH) ✞ Joe & Betty Claeys
5:30 p.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Alfred & Edith Baus; deceased & living members of the Baus, Simon & Schmidt families

Tuesday - Sixth Day within Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
December 30: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
7:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Jack Rehkamp
3:30 p.m. Mass (BE) ✞ Helen DeSleer
5:30 p.m. Mass (MIL) ✞ David Snyder

Wed. - Seventh Day within Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
December 31: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (HR) ✞ Alice Louwagie
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (SM) ✞ Doris Gregoire
5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass (TR) ✞ Chris Hannasch

Thursday - The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God *(Holy Day of Obligation)*
January 1: Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
8:30 a.m. Mass (MIL) ✞ Terrance Dolan
9:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Steve Moorse

Friday - Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church
January 2: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
7:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Maynard & Lula Hodges
8:30 a.m. Mass (TR) ✞ Bev Stassen
10:30 a.m. Mass (HS) ✞ Robert, Harriet & Ricky Tholen

Saturday
January 3: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34
8:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Dennis Peterson & Sandra Bouquet Altman
5:00 p.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Monica Stephenson

Sunday - The Epiphany of the Lord
January 4: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3:5-6; Mt 2:1-12
8:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Monica Hoof
8:30 a.m. Mass (MIL) ✞ Melvin Welu
9:00 a.m. Mass (SM) ✞ Donna Bjorklund
10:00 a.m. Mass (HR) ✞ Frank & Augusta Deutz family
10:00 a.m. Mass (TR) ✞ Joe Van Keulen
11:30 a.m. Mass (HR-Spanish) For People of the Parish
5:00 p.m. Perpetual adoration week begins (SJC)
NO 6 p.m. CRC Mass

Confession Times

Tuesday 5 pm (MIL)
Third Tuesday 6 pm (CRC)
Saturday 8:30 am-1st Sat. Only (HR)
Saturday 11 am (TR)
Saturday 4 pm (HR)
Sunday 8 am (MIL)
Sunday 8:15 am (SM)
Sunday 5:15 pm (CRC)

Faith Formation / Religious Education News

Mary, Mother of God AFC Winter Skating Party will be held on Wednesday, **January 7, 2026**, from 6 to 8 PM at the Red Baron Arena & Expo. Free skate rentals are available (limited supply), or bring your own skates. All participants, including adults, must complete a waiver. Forms can be found on the link below: https://www.mmogafc.org/youth-opportunities.html or filled out at the event. Please print and bring completed forms to help reduce wait times.

Christmas Break: There will be **no** faith formation classes on **December 24th and 31st**. There will be no Sunday morning Pre-K through 4th grade Sunday school in Cottonwood on Sunday, **December 28th**. Sunday school will resume on **January 4**. Mary, Mother of God Faith Formation will resume on Wednesday, **January 8** with the Winter Skating party. Enjoy your holiday break.

Holy Redeemer Church

Adoration—Holiday Hours: *St. Joseph's Adoration Chapel at Holy Redeemer School is closed for the holiday until **5 PM** on **Sunday, January 4**. Adorers are needed at 4 **PM on Wednesdays from January 7 through March 11, Fridays at 12 AM and Thursdays at 10 AM beginning in January.** Please call Deacon Ken at 507-401-1060 or Barb at the Parish Office at 507-532-5711 with questions.*

Holy Redeemer Choir: The adult choir will practice on Tuesday, **December 23** at 6 PM at Holy Redeemer Church. They will sing at the 3:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass.

Holy Redeemer Parish Office Holiday Hours: The office will be closed from **December 24, 2025 through January 1, 2026**. If you are in need of a priest during this time, please call or email them directly.

Guatemalan Coffee: It makes a great Christmas gift or stocking stuffer. Holy Redeemer CCW sells ground or whole bean coffee from San Lucas, Guatemala. It is available for purchase at the Holy Redeemer Parish Office during business hours.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who made our annual HR Cookie Walk a success again this year. We couldn't have done it without the workers at the event, those who bought the cookies, and those who made the cookies. We are very grateful on behalf of the HR CCW. —CCW Cookie Walk team

St. Mary's Church, Cottonwood

St. Mary's, Cottonwood 2026 Calendar Raffle Tickets are available for purchase after the weekend masses at St. Mary's in Cottonwood or by contacting Lynn at 507-532 5711. Ticket Cost is $25.00 each. Monthly Prizes are $125.00/$75.00/$25.00. ***These would make great Christmas gifts.***

Thank You: The Cottonwood Area Food Pantry would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to St. Mary's (Cottonwood) religious ed students and their families for hosting a peanut butter drive for us again this year. Peanut butter is a wonderful source of protein and a frequently requested item. Also, thank you to St. Mary's CCW for the donation of birthday cake kits. We love the assortment! Thank you to everyone who donated items this past year. We truly appreciate your continued support of this mission.

St. Mary's Church, Tracy

Guatemalan Coffee: It makes a great gift! Coffee will be sold after Mass today at St. Mary's in Tracy. Stop by to purchase coffee benefitting the San Lucas Mission.

St. Mary's, Tracy, CCW would like to send a big THANK YOU to everyone who came out in the cold on Saturday to help with church cleaning. With so many helping it made it a much easier task. A special thank you to the Confirmation students who came to help. We appreciate your willingness to help.

St. Mary's Giving Tree: Located In the back of church is our "Giving Tree" for donations towards items needed in our parish community. Pick an ornament and donate towards this need. Drop in the collection or put in an envelope and drop at the school office. Thank you for your generosity this season. God Bless you.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR WINNERS:
December 19 - $100: Mark LaVoy
December 26 - $100: Karin Radke

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed St. Mary's in Tracy is in need of a **Meals on Wheels Coordinator** to help schedule drivers during the weeks when our parish is responsible for meal delivery. We are also in need of **drivers**. Meal delivery takes approximately **45 minutes**, from about **11:15 a.m. to noon**, and volunteers may serve **as many days as they are able**—there is no requirement to commit to every day. If you are willing to help us continue this long-standing ministry, please contact **Carol Strand at 507-829-0135**. St. Mary's has proudly been part of this program for many years, and your help is essential for us to continue serving our community. Our next scheduled delivery dates are **January 19–30**.

Decorating: St. Mary's in Tracy will be decorating the church for Christmas on Monday morning, Dec. 22 at 9 AM. Please come if you are able. We could especially use more men.

St. Michael's Church, Milroy

St. Michael's CCW would like to thank all the women of our parish who have sent in their CCW dues. If you have not paid your dues, please put a payment of $25.00, made out to St. Michael's CCW, in the collection basket, or mail it to: St. Michael's, 200 Euclid Ave., Milroy, MN 56263. The CCW is a service group, in which all women of our parish are members. The dues help us offset some of our expenses and help with the care of the Altar cloths. If you have not paid your dues, prompt payment would be much appreciated. Thank you.

Don't forget to pick up a box of yummy Caramels. They are on sale now till Christmas. Cost per box is $15.00. If you wish to order a box call 507-828-2171. Proceeds go to help build homes in San Lucas, Guatemala.

Thank you to Eli Lightfoot and Tanner Michelson for removing snow this winter. Thanks for taking on this important job. Also, thanks to all those who helped with the **St. Nicholas breakfast**. Great time was had by all.

Mark your calendar: The Baby-Bottle Fundraiser begins on **January 5th** at St. Michael's. Coins, cash or checks are placed in bottles and returned by the end of January. Proceeds go to MCCL and Birthright.

Weekly Happenings

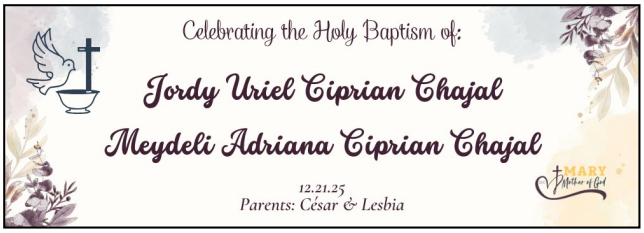
Monday, December 22
9 am (TR) Decorating for Christmas
5:30 pm (SM) Choir practice
Tuesday, December 23
6 pm (HR) Adult choir practice
Wednesday, December 24
Parish Offices Closed
NO Faith Formation classes
3 pm (SM) Choir practice
3:30 pm (SM) Carols & Preludes
Thursday, December 25
Parish Offices Closed
Friday, December 26
Parish Offices Closed
Saturday, December 27
Sunday, December 28
NO Sunday School classes (SM)

Monday, December 29
Parish Offices Closed
Tuesday, December 30
Parish Offices Closed
Wednesday, December 31
Parish Offices Closed
NO Faith Formation classes
Thursday, January 1
Parish Offices Closed

Friday, January 2—First Friday/Communion Calls
12 pm (HR) Parish Office closes
Saturday, January 3
Following 8 am Mass (HR) First Sat. Devotions/Confessions
Sunday, January 4
10 am (SM) PK—Gr. 4 Sunday School

Year-End Giving: Other ways of maximizing your tax benefits include gifts from retirement plans, charitable remainder trusts (CRTs), Charitable Gift Annuities (CGAs), and life insurance. For more information on any of these year-end giving options, please contact the parish office at 507-532-5711.

Radio Rosary *is broadcast on KMHL (1400) Sundays at 7 am, Weekdays at 6:10 pm (Mon.-Sat.). Send intentions to Radio Rosary, 2787 County Road 24, Cottonwood, MN 56229. Cost:* ***$25.00*** *per broadcast. Please include your contact information (email address or phone #) when requesting a radio rosary. Questions call Karla at 507-828-0397 or Coreen 507-531-7348. Rosary intention names are listed on the Mary, Mother of God AFC Website:* https://www.mmogafc.org/radio-rosary.html



Upcoming Events:

- ***Ecumenical Prayer Service***: Sunday, **January 18**, 3 PM, Church of St. Mary in Willmar
- ***Forgiven Retreats***: **January 11** in Minneota, **March 8** in Willmar & **April 19** in Fairfax
- ***Consecrated Life Mass***: **February 2, 2026** at 5:30 pm in New Ulm at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity

Studio 1 - Marshall's local cable access is airing the series *"Savoring Our Faith with Father Leo Patalinghug (Season 2)."* Episode 6 titled ***"Christmas Special"*** will air on Studio 1 public access Bluepeak channel 325 & Spectrum channel 180 at 4 PM on **Tues.**, **Dec. 23** & at 9 AM on **Fri., Dec. 26.** Episode 7 titled "***Cooking with Kids"*** will be on **Dec. 30** at 9 AM & **Jan. 2** at 4 PM.

Marriage Enrichment Retreat – **January 23-25, 2026** at Schoenstatt on the Lake in Sleepy Eye Take this opportunity to rediscover the spiritual foundation of your marriage and deepen your faith together! Whether you are just starting your journey or have decades of love under your belt, this retreat is for you. Enjoy inspiring sessions, meaningful conversations, and plenty of time to relax. Come away refreshed, recharged, and ready to celebrate your love and faith like never before. For more information and/or registration scan the QR code or visit https://www.dnu.org/familylife.

Holy Redeemer CCW United in Prayer, Study & Service	In loving memory of our parents, Ernie & Jane Louwagie. By Wayne, Conni, Gwen, Lisa & families	In Memory of Richard & Janet Doom, Maurice & Margaret Doom and Wesley & Leona Cuypers By The Doom Family	In Memory of John & Agnes Coudron by The Coudron Family	In Memory of Leo Andries, Brenda Andries & Trisha Andries DeWolf by The Andries Family

School Information

Principal: Ashley Honetschlager, ahonetschlager@holy-redeemer.com
Dean of Students: Justin Condelli, jcondelli@holy-redeemer.com

Holy Redeemer School, 501 S. Whitney, Marshall, MN 56258 - 507-532-6642
Administrative Assistant: Sue Donner, sdonner@holy-redeemer.com
https://www.holyredeemerschools.com

Holy Redeemer Catholic School, Marshall , MN Holy.redeemer.school

St. Mary's School, 225 6th Street, Tracy, MN 56175 - 507-629-3270
Administrative Assistant: Shea Pedersen, spedersen@stmarystracy.com
https://www.stmarystracy.com

St. Mary's School - Tracy, MN St.marys.catholic.school_tracy

AFC Bulletin Submittal Deadline: Wednesdays by 9 AM. Send to Barb Marron at bmarron@mmogafc.org.
More news and events can be found on www.mmogafc.org. To sponsor an ad on back contact Latiefa at 507-532-4493.

Bulletin Key:

BC - Boulder Creek (Marshall)	**HR** - Holy Redeemer Church	**PV** - Prairie View (Tracy)
BE - Boulder Estates (Marshall)	**HRS** - Holy Redeemer School	**SJC** - St. Joseph's Chapel (FF)
CRC - Campus Religious Center	**HS** - Hill Street Place (Marshall)	**SM** - St. Mary's-Cottonwood
CH - Carlin Hall (at HR)	**MIL** - St. Michaels - Milroy	**SMS** - St. Mary's School, Tracy
FF - Faith Formation at HRS	**NH** - Nursing Home (Marshall)	**TR** - St. Mary's - Tracy
HP - Heritage Pointe (Marshall)	**OBC** - O'Brien Ct (Tracy)	**WG**-Walnut Grove Country View

In Memory of Our Precious Son and Brother, Jeremy John by Reinhold and Connie Mathiowetz & Families	In Loving Memory of the deceased members of the Strandberg and Labat families by Gerri Labat and family	In Loving Memory of Robert Derynck by His Family	In Loving Memory of David & Sharon Gruhot by Brian, Kevin, Brad and their families	In Loving Memory of the Deceased Family Members of Roger & Shirley Verly

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