Holy Trinity Parish

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Jesus Christ, January 4, 2026

Fr. Thomas McCabe, Pastor frmccabe@bevcomm.net

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Website: www.holytrinitygoodhue.org
Office Hours: Mondays 10am-2pm at HT.
Building use request: Call the office.
Confession: Sat. 4:45-5:20pm at Holy

Trinity, Sun. 8:20am at St. Mary, or by

appointment.

Baptism: Call at least 3 months before the birth to attend a class and set a date.

First Penance/Eucharist: Register for 1st grade catechism classes in preparation.

Confirmation: Register as soon as possible in the fall since there are requirements including weekly Mass attendance.

Marriage: Please call Father McCabe at least nine months prior to tentative date.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the office especially if serious illness, near death or upcoming major surgery.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: If you move to a nursing home/care facility, would like a priest to visit, or are unable to attend Mass and would like Communion at home, contact the office.

Funerals: Contact the office.

Mass Intentions: Mail to the office or place in collection. (\$10/Mass suggested.)

Bulletin Items: Email to holytrinitygoodhue@gmail.com by Tuesday noon. The business office reserves the right to edit.

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They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Mt 2:11b,c

		H	OLY M	ASS SCI	READINGS	
	Sat.	5:30PM	HT	Jan. 3	Parishioners	(Vigil Mass - readings below)
)	Sun.	8:45AM	SM	Jan. 4	+Rita McNamara	Sunday, Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-13; Eph 3:2-31, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
		10:30AM	SC		Berdell Gadient	
	Mon.	8:00AM	SM	Jan. 5	Deepening conversion of parish	1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17,23-25
	Tue.	8:00AM	HT	Jan. 6	+ Dave Schimek	1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4,7-8; Mk 6:34-44
	Wed.	8:00AM	HT	Jan. 7	Berdell Gadient	1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2,10,12-13; Mk 6:45-52
	Thurs	9:00AM	SC	Jan. 8	+Dec. members Catholic Order of Foresters	1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2,14,15bc, 17; Lk 4614-22a
	Fri			Jan. 9		1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15,19-20; Lk 5:12-16
-	Sat.	5:30PM	HT	Jan. 10	+Grant Schimek	(Vigil Mass - readings below)
	Sun.	8:45AM	SM	Jan. 11	Parishioners	Sunday, ls 42:1-4,6-7; Ps 29:1-4,9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17
		10:30AM	SC		+Henry Gorman	

Mission: We grow together in Christ.

Welcome to our Parish Churches!



Holy Trinity Church (HT) 211 4th Street North Goodhue, MN 55027



St. Columbkill Church (SC) 36483 County 47 Boulevard Goodhue, MN 55027



St. Mary Church (SM) 221 Chester Avenue Bellechester, MN 55027

From Father McCabe

A moment of understanding or insight, that is what the word "epiphany" means.

Today we celebrate the holy epiphany because the three wisemen saw the new star as a sign that an Old Testament prophesy was fulfilled: a newborn King of the Jews was born.

They brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to Jerusalem looking for the newborn King. These gifts have meaning: Gold has great value and it signifies royalty, for Jesus was truly the newborn king from the house of King David.

Frankincense is incense used in Jewish ceremonies to symbolize fervent prayers rising toward God. We read in the last book of the Bible, the Book of Revelation: "And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand." Revelation 8:4.

The frankincense symbolized that Jesus was the perfect priest and sacrifice. He offered himself on the cross as the perfect victim of fervent love to God the Father to save us from our sins and win his saving grace for us.

Myrrh was used to anoint the prophets, especially at their death. They were often martyred proclaiming the Word of God and exhorting the people to return to God and true worship, which was not always well received.

Jesus Christ, of course, is the perfect prophet who fulfills all the Old Testament prophecies. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Jn 14:6

As the King of kings, Jesus has complete control over himself, and this self-discipline helped him conform his life completely to his heavenly Father's Ten Commandments. Jesus said, "If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love." Jn 15:10

Jesus is God and he gives us his divine life through the seven sacraments. It is by living the sacramental life courageously and honestly that we are saved by him who is divine love, truth and mercy. True, we sometimes commit venial sins, but when we call them to mind with sorrow at Mass they are taken away, provided we are free from all mortal sins.

We celebrate today by seeking insight, an epiphany, into how to live deeply as a royal, priestly and prophetic people. We come here with the gifts of our time, talent and treasure to understand how to defend and promote our saving faith in Jesus Christ and his Church.

One time some Jehovah Witnesses knocked on my door. I invited them in and we talked. Then one of them asked me why I promoted a lie. I asked him what he meant. He told me that he saw our nativity scene and that the three wise men were around the infant Jesus in the manger. I said that was our traditional way of depicting the epiphany.

However, he pointed out to me in the Gospel we read today, that the three magi entered into the "house" and presented the three gifts to the infant Jesus. I looked in my own Bible and sure enough, he was right, it says, "house".

In fact, the wise men probably arrived to give homage to Jesus many months after his birth. We know this because King Herod ordered his officials to kill all the baby boys two years and younger in Bethlehem, but St. Joseph was warned by God to take his family to Egypt.

My answer to them was that the Church condenses the whole life of Jesus Christ into one year, so that we can receive the lessons of eternal life every year, instead of every thirty -three years, since Christ was crucified in his thirty third year. Can you imagine celebrating Christmas and Easter only once every thirty-three years?! They also began to question the virgin birth of Jesus, intimating that Joseph was his biological father. I pointed out to them that Joseph wanted to divorce Mary until the angel told him that the

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

child was conceived by the Holy Spirit. They departed soon afterward.

Like St. Joseph we are called to defend the Lord's life, much like the three wise men who were warned by God in a dream not to return to King Herod who felt threatened by the new baby King.



How can anyone feel threatened by the newborn King whose Kingdom is true life, divine love and forgiveness? And yet, there are some politicians who feel threatened by innocent, new life and refuse to protect its absolute inviolability. And sometimes we too are afraid to defend new life and our faith because we do not always have an answer. When stumped, a good answer is, "Let me talk to my priest and get back to you." Or, "Let me consult the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and get back to you."

This new year may we seek an epiphany, a moment of insight about how we can be a witness to Jesus Christ who is the King of life, our perfect Priest and Prophet of eternal life. May we who are baptized into the Lord Jesus persevere by following Christ in his Catholic Church who passes on the full meaning of the Gospel. We read Jesus speaking to his closest apostles, St. Peter (our first pope) and some other apostles (predecessors of our Catholic bishops): "Many false prophets will arise and deceive many; and because of the increase of evildoing, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who perseveres to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come." Mt 24:11-14.

In the Gospel of Luke we hear the voice of Jesus, "And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." Lk 21:27-33

"Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man." Lk 21:36

For this reason, we stand when we read the Gospel, and we can use incense at Mass to evoke that sacred cloud of Jesus coming anew into our presence.

We also are called to stand to receive Jesus Christ in Holy Communion when we are in full communion with his Catholic Church and in the state of grace; but when a Catholic has not fasted one hour before communion time, or is conscious of unconfessed mortal sin, or is young and has not yet made their first confession, they can still stand before Jesus in the Holy Eucharist with arms crossed over their chest so that the deacon, priest or bishop (ordinary ministers of Holy Communion), or any extraordinary eucharistic minister, can give them a blessing in hope that someday that person will be able to stand and receive Jesus Christ in Holy Communion – the pledge of Eternal Life.

Peace in Christ,

Fr. Thomas McCabe

P.S. Thank you for your generosity!

Holy Trinity Church (HT) Collection: **12/24** \$8,008.00

St. Columbkill Church (SC) Collection: 12/25: \$8,328.00

St. Mary Church (SM) Collection: **12/25** \$1,910.00



Behold the Lamb of God!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Mondays at St. Mary from 6:30-9:00PM, Wednesdays at Holy Trinity from 9:00AM-2:00PM, and Thursdays at St. Columbkill from 8:00AM-9:00AM (unless otherwise noted). Come and spend some time with Jesus!

News/Events

2026 Calendars are available in the church entries.

Catholic Daughters of America: Annual "Meal in a Bucket" sale for the next few weeks. Pre-order slips are in the church entry. Available meals are BBQ with buns, chili, potato soup, portage soup and cinnamon rolls. All meals are \$9.00/order. Meals will be available for pickup after Mass January 24 in Goodhue and January 25 at St Mary and St Columbkill. Your support is truly appreciated.

<u>Diaper Drive:</u> Catholic Daughters is hosting a diaper drive benefiting First Choice Clinic in Red Wing. Donations will be collected from Dec. 1 to Jan. 6 at the back/entry of each church. Diaper sizes 3-7 are in the greatest need. Thank you!

Gift Card Project: HT/SC CCW Gift Card Project from Dec. 6-Jan. 10. You can donate cash or checks made out to Deb O'Connor or Diane Opsahl and we will purchase the gift cards. Amounts of \$10, \$15, \$20, or \$25 are suggested. Businesses are: Target, Walmart, grocery stores in the Goodhue County area, Kwik Trip, Casey's, and gift certificates from local vet clinics, as some clients have companion animals. Drop boxes are at both churches or you can mail cards or donations to: Holy Trinity Parish, Attn: Christmas Gift Card Project, Box 275.

Heaven in Your Home: The next *Heaven in Your Home* Gathering: January 10, 6:30-8:00 pm at Holy Trinity Church. All families are invited to join us for dinner, discussion, & fellowship. Ideas for living out your faith in a joy filled home will be shared. Child care will be provided. Sign up is not necessary, but helpful.

Email rponcelet@sleepyeyetel.net.

<u>Knights of Columbus Free Family Bowling:</u> The first families to RSVP can bowl free at Pin and Pool Trailhead, Pine Island, **Sunday, Jan. 18, 3:00 - 4:30 PM**. Call Holy Trinity Parish office to reserve your lane! 2 free lanes left. Transportation/snacks are your responsibility. God bless!

Dear Parishioners,
Thank you for you

Thank you for your generous donation towards our outreach efforts in Eastern Kentucky. Your gift of \$100.00 will help to brighten the Christmas season for those in need in Appalachia. We plan on helping 30 local families with their Christmas needs. God willing, each family will receive Christmas gifts and a few weeks' worth of food.

As you probably know, Christians are called to help the less fortunate. In Matthew 25:40, the Lord tells us, "Whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." When we hear these words as Americans, we often think of faraway places facing extreme difficulty (as we should), but we can forget our fellow brothers and sisters in our backyard! Many people in Appalachian suffer from proverty, both material and spiritual. Despite Eastern Kentucky's position as part of the "Bible Belt," this is one of the most unchurched places in the country. Your generosity has allowed us to continue serving people's bodies and souls!

This has been a tough year, but thanks be to God for your kindness in this time when it counts the most. Prayers for your continued efforts in helping the less fortunate.

God bless and Merry Christmas! Fr. Rob Adams, Pastor St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Pikeville, KY 41501 <u>Please pray for:</u> Bob Eppen, Margaret Wagner, Ann Merry, Ed Heppelmann, Ray & Gloria Poncelet, Dave Buck, Scott Cyert, Jerry Joe Majerus, Louise Heppelmann, Brent Hokanson, Anne Skalicky, Neil Stehr, Jen Berg, Marge Majerus, Shawn Frederixon, Gabe Ryan, Ryan Zorn, Beth Carlson, Chuck Havrilla, Randy Nardinger, Amy Feely, Alan Gadient, Wilma Seither, Susan Brown, Jocelyn O'Reilly, Marci Dillworth, Bjorn Otterness, George ZanMiller and John McCabe, Jr.

Holy Trinity is dedicated to protecting children and vulnerable adults. Volunteers serving with minors and vulnerable adults must complete requirements before engaging in ministry. Contact, Zach Siebenaler parish Safe Environment Coordinator, at: holytrinitygoodhue@gmail.com.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January 2026: For Prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Calendar/Events						
Sat., Jan. 3	HT	4:45-5:20PM	Sacrament of Confession			
Sun., Jan. 4	SM	8:20-8:40AM	Sacrament of Confession			
Mon., Jan. 5	SM	6:30-9:00 PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament			
Wed. Jan. 7	HT	9:00-2:00 PM	Faith Formation: 1st -6th 2:15-3:30 PM			
Thurs., Jan. 8	SC	8:00-8:450 AM	Adoration/Confession (9:00 AM Mass) Sacrament of Confession			
Sat. Jan. 10	HT	4:45-5:20 PM				
Sat. Jan. 10	HT	6:30-8:30 PM	Heaven in Your Home: meal, child care and			
Sun. Jan 11 SM		8:20-8:40AM	Sacrament of Confession			
Mon. Jan. 12 SM 6:3		6:30-9:00 PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament			

Holy Trinity Church (HT) Collection: 12/27: \$ 1,243.00 St. Columbkill Church (SC) Collection: 12/28: \$996.00 **St. Mary Church (SM) Collection:** 12/28 \$6,547.00

	Weekend Ministry Schedule						
Church	Role	Jan. 3/4	Jan. 10/11				
HT:	Musician	Kim Cory	Eileen Frischmon				
Saturday 5:30PM	Cantor	Kim Cory	Laural Seither				
Jan. 3 &	Lector	Judy Ramboldt					
Jan. 10	Servers	Stuart O'Reilly, Cooper Utley	Nora, Brynn and Lucas Frederick				
	Ushers	Mike Zorn	Mike Zorn				
SM:	Musician	Wanda Schafer	Wanda Schafer				
Sunday 8:45am	Cantor	Cathy O'Reilly	Cathy O'Reilly				
Jan. 4 &	Lector	John Huneke					
Jan. 11	Servers	Henry, Noah, Maya Keller	Isaac Ryan, Danny Keller, Derek Stehr				
	Ushers	Stephen Keller, Ray Keller	Steve Welscher, Jake Letsinger				
SC:	Musician	Cindy Eppen	Cindy Eppen				
Sunday 10:30am	Cantor	Shelly Jacobson	Joel Hernke				
Jan. 4 &	Lector	Chris Poncelet					
Jan. 11	Servers		Jay Roschen				
	Ushers	Bruce McNamara					

Congratulations to Berdell Gadient for her 100th Birthday! Family will provide cookies after 10:30 AM Mass!



Cannon Falls, MN 121 4th Street N, Suite 2

Mike Kennedy, J.D. Parishioner

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Hi, Jeremy Keller here, parishioner at Church of St. Mary. I am getting married in April and want to buy a home somewhere near Bellechester. Please call me if you know of any home for sale - THANKS! (507)923-5838

Saturday, December 27, Feast of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist

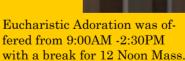
Parish Retreat as we close the Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope!

And continue to celebrate the 175th Anniversary of our Archdiocese!





Joyful, Joyful. we adore vou! God of glory, Lord of Love!



We read quietly the entire Gospel of John with speakers reflecting on certain passages.

Upper left, Cooper Utley. Upper right, Zach Siebenaler. Bottom right, Deacon Mick Humbert. Loretta Froyum and Chris Poncelet also gave wonderful reflections.

Thanks to all who participated!



