

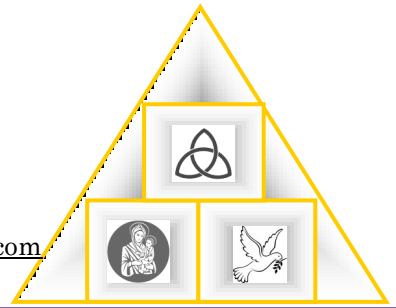
Holy Trinity Parish

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21, 2025

Fr. Thomas McCabe, Pastor frmccabe@bevcomm.net

Deacon Mick Humbert mhumbree@comcast.net

Zachary Siebenaler, Faith Form. Assistant/Bookkeeper holytrinitygoodhue@gmail.com



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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 attendance at Mass.

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

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the office especially if in 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 Wednesday noon. The business office reserves the right to edit.

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This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Mt 1:18-19

| HOLY MASS SCHEDULE | | | | | READINGS |
|------------------------|---------|----|---------|--|---|
| Sat. | 5:30PM | HT | Dec. 20 | Nassaralla Family | Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38 |
| 4th Sun. Advent | 8:45AM | SM | Dec. 21 | +Fr. Dennis C Kampa | (Sat. Vigil/Sunday Mass) Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24 |
| | 10:30AM | SC | | Parishioners | |
| Mon. | 8:00AM | SM | Dec. 22 | Archbishop Bernard Hebda | 1 Sm 1:24-28; (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1,4-8d; Lk 1:46-56 |
| Tue. | 8:00AM | HT | Dec. 23 | Maureen Revak | Mal 3:1-4,23-24; Ps 25:4-5b,8-10,14; Lk 1:57-66 |
| Wed./Chris tmas Eve | 8:00AM | | Dec. 24 | Nassaralla Family | (Advent) 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14,16; Ps 89:2-5,27,29; Lk 1:67-79 |
| | 4:00 PM | HT | | Pope Leo XIV | Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5,16-17,27,29; Acts 13:16-17,22-25; Mt 1:1-25 |
| Thu./Christ mas Day | 8:45AM | SM | Dec. 25 | Parishioners | (Mass at Dawn) Is 62:11-12; |
| | 10:30AM | SC | | +Joseph and Mary C. O'Reilly | Ps 97:1,6,11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 |
| Fri. | | | Dec. 26 | | Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4,6,8ab16-17; Mt 10:17-22 |
| Sat. | 12 Noon | HT | Dec. 27 | For a deepening love of God/Parish Retreat | Adoration/Reflections/Mass 12 Noon; 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12; Jn 20:1a,2-8 |
| Sat. | 5:30PM | HT | Dec. 27 | Nassaralla Family | (Vigil Mass - readings below) |
| Sun. | 8:45AM | SM | Dec. 28 | +Fr. Dennis C Kampa | Sunday, Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15,19-23 |
| | 10:30AM | SC | | Parishioners | |

Mission: *We grow together in Christ.*

Welcome to our Parish Churches!



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



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



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

From Father McCabe

People of God, we are gathered together as a Christian family to hear stories of Jesus Christ, the fulfiller of our life and our salvation.

Jesus Christ is God, and with the favor of God the Father and God the Holy Spirit – this mystery of One God in three divine persons, the Holy Trinity – we begin to see how God intervenes in our history for the sake of our families.

The way Jesus was conceived and brought to birth affirms the basic goodness of all human life, no matter how or where, when or why human life was conceived. God wants all human life to be respected, loved and given the opportunity to follow Jesus Christ into heaven.

Today's Gospel is the beginning of a perfect love story with Mary and the Holy Spirit taking center stage, but just as within any love story, there are tensions. For example, Mary had to overcome her fear through prayer before giving her consent to receive the Eternal Son of God, the Second divine person of the Holy Trinity, so that he could take on our human nature and be named Jesus.

The name Jesus is significant because it means, "God saves", that is, God will save his people from their sins and all evil.

Indeed, God is with us in Jesus Christ, especially in the Holy Eucharist and the other sacraments, but we are not always conscious of his presence, especially when we are in a strange or stressful situation.

Joseph found himself to be in a strange situation. We heard that Joseph was betrothed to Mary, but before they lived together, he discovered that she was pregnant. That is a stressful situation.

Now since Joseph thinks that Mary must have another man in her life, he decides to divorce her quietly. Yet, before acting on this decision, God intervenes and sends an angel to Joseph to tell him in a dream that he is to take Mary into his home as his wife.

The angel also informs Joseph that "it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her." This fact is so vital for our true faith: it is God who has united himself to Mary in a supernatural wedding bond.

Joseph takes that step of faith and realizes that God wants him to be a chaste husband of Mary. He realizes that he is called to absolutely respect this mystical marriage between God and Mary.

Joseph obeys the angel of God and names the child Jesus, and so becomes the legal foster father of Jesus. This is important because Joseph is of the royal family of King David, who lived a thousand years before Jesus' birth.

By being a righteous man, that is a man of prayer and worship of the One True God, Joseph is the model for all Christian husbands and fathers. Before acting on his decision to separate from Mary, Joseph brings this situation to the Lord in prayer before going to bed. He is not going to act in haste, but will sleep and discern this option and consider how God sees it.

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

It is then that the angel visits Joseph in a dream and he begins to realize that Jesus will be the King of the Jews, the Messiah that the Jews were waiting for. He understands that he is the primary provider and protector of Mary and her divine child.



God's intervention into Joseph's life does not stop there. We read later on in the Bible that King Herod wants to destroy Jesus, the newborn King. But since Joseph is a prayerful man, not perfect, but prayerful and open to God's ways, the angel tells Joseph in another dream to take Mary and Jesus into Egypt since King Herod ordered his army to find and destroy the child Jesus.

God called Joseph to this important role, as he calls all fathers and husbands, including spiritual fathers like priests and bishops, by giving them the grace to fulfill their role as primary providers and protectors of their family of faith. True, we all need to provide and protect each family member, but husbands and fathers should take the lead service in this area for their family.

As we prepare for the coming of Jesus in glory, and the celebration of the anniversary of his birthday, December 25th, let us take the opportunity to provide and protect our families, and share stories of how God has intervened in our life to help us attain the goal of our salvation in Christ.

Parents, but especially fathers, please consider taking your family to any of the extra confession times I have provided. The most assured way that we can cleanse our souls from all of our sins, fight off evil and be prepared for receiving Jesus in the Eucharist and when he comes in glory, is by making a good confession after a thorough examination of conscience.

As God the Father and the Holy Spirit surrounded the Holy Family – Jesus, Mary and Joseph - with love and protection, let us prayerfully do the same with our family. Our spiritual provision and protection for the Christ child in every family member's soul, beginning with our morning prayers, will tap into the presence of God and fulfill our story, by filling us with the natural and supernatural gifts of God.

Peace in Christ and have a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Fr. Thomas McCabe

I would like to thank Father and all parishioners for the opportunity to serve the churches of this parish for almost twelve years. May God bless you all and I hope to still see you around at the parish ...but in the pews, not the office! - Sara McNamara



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. Columbkille from 8:00AM-9:00AM (unless otherwise noted). Come and spend some time with Jesus!

News/Events

Early Bulletin Deadline: Please note that due to the Christmas holiday, the deadline for bulletin articles is Tuesday, December 22, for the Dec. 28 bulletin.

2026 Calendars are available in the church entries. Please plan to spend some quality time with Our Lord in prayer in the new year, 2026!

Christmas Program at St. Columbkille: All parishioners' children, including those who don't attend faith formation at Holy Trinity, are invited to partake in the program. The Christmas Pageant is December 21 after the 10:30AM Mass, surprise treat afterward.

All preschool or kindergartener children are invited to join in a song before the Christmas Pageant at St. Columbkille after Mass on Sunday, December 21. Please meet with Shannon Dicke in back of church after Mass.

Catholic Daughters will be having their 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. Columbkille. Your support is truly appreciated.

Thank you St. Mary's for your generous donations for our Goodhue County Christmas families. You helped 5 families with 13 children have a wonderful Christmas!

Diaper Drive: 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.



Catholic Young Adults: Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 21. Potluck 6:30-7:30PM at Holy Trinity and then caroling until 9:00PM with hot drinks afterwards.

Liturgical Roles: Christmas Masses

4:00 PM December 24, Christmas Eve Mass at Holy Trinity

Music: Eileen Frischmon **Cantor:** Michelle Matthees
Lector: Loretta Froyum **Servers:** Madalyn & Caleb Schofield, Lucas and Nora Frederick

Ushers: Ron Goebel, Mike Zorn

8:45 AM Christmas Mass at St. Mary

Music: Wanda Schafer **Cantor:** Taylor Dowden
Lector: Jeremy Keller **Servers:** Danny Keller, Cooper Uteley
Ushers: Ted Keller, Henry Keller

10:30 AM Christmas Mass at St. Columbkille

Music: Cindy Eppen **Cantor:** Shelly Jacobson
Lector: Ann Buck **Servers:** Patrick, Francis, Phillip, Michael O'Reilly
Ushers: Chris O'Reilly, JJ O'Reilly

Please pray for: 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 Frederix, Gabe Ryan, Ryan Zorn, Beth Carlson, Chuck Havrilla, Randy Nardinger, Amy Feely, Alan Gadi-ent, Roy Goranson, Susan Brown, Jocelyn O'Reilly, Marci Dillworth, and Bjorn Ottersness.

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 December 2025:

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Calendar/Events

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|--------------------|---|
| Sat., Dec. 20 | HT | 4:45-5:20 PM | Sacrament of Confession |
| Sun., Dec. 21 | SM | 8:20-8:40 AM | Sacrament of Confession |
| Sun., Dec. 21 | SC | After Mass | Christmas Pageant followed by refreshments |
| Sun., Dec. 21 | HT | 6:30-9:15PM | Catholic Young Adult potluck/caroling |
| Mon., Dec. 22 | SM | 6:30-9:00PM | Eucharistic Adoration/ Confession 7:30-8:45PM |
| Tues., Dec. 23 | HT | 7:30-8:30PM | Communal Penance Service/Many Priests |
| Wed., Dec. 24 | HT | 9:00-2:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration/ Confession 2:45-3:45PM |
| Thurs., Dec. 25 | SM | 8:20-8:40 AM | Sacrament of Confession |
| Sat., Dec. 27 | HT | 9:00AM-2:30 PM | Parish Retreat /Eucharistic Adoration (12 Noon Mass) |
| Sat., Dec. 27 | HT | 11:00-11:45 AM | Parish Retreat /Sacrament of Confession |
| Sat., Dec. 27 | HT | 4:45-5:20 PM | Sacrament of Confession |
| Sun., Dec. 28 | SM | 8:20-8:40 AM | Sacrament of Confession |

**Holy Trinity Church
(HT) Collection:**
12/13: \$ 1,035.05

**St. Columbkille Church
(SC) Collection:**
12/14: \$1,844.00

**St. Mary Church
(SM) Collection:**
12/14 \$1,759.00

Weekend Ministry Schedule

| Church | Role | Dec. 20/21 | Dec. 27/28 |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| HT: Saturday 5:30PM Dec. 20 & 27 | Musician | Wanda Schafer | Eileen Frischmon |
| | Cantor | Katie Ludwig | Laural Seither |
| | Lector | Leeta O'Reilly | Kyla Nardinger |
| | Servers | Aubriel, Oleana, & Stuart O'Reilly | Ellie Nardinger |
| | Ushers | Mike Zorn | |
| SM: Sunday 8:45am Dec. 21 & 28 | Musician | Wanda Schafer | Wanda Schafer |
| | Cantor | Laural Seither | Cathy O'Reilly |
| | Lector | Patricia Mensink | Taylor Buck |
| | Servers | Isaac Ryan, Will Poncelet | |
| | Ushers | Todd Majerus, Dominic Frazier | Jim Strauss, Ross Freiheit |
| SC: Sunday 10:30am Dec. 21 & 28 | Musician | Cindy Eppen | Cindy Eppen |
| | Cantor | Joel Hernke | Shannon Dicke |
| | Lector | Michael Poncelet | Barb Lexvold |
| | Servers | Jay Roschen | Brady and Liahna McNamara |
| | Ushers | Chris O'Reilly, JJ O'Reilly | |

Join us for Christmas Carols, 8:00 AM @ St. Mary's, on Christmas Day before 8:45 AM Mass!

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end abortion*




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**BAPTIZED
IN THE NAME
OF THE
FATHER
AND OF THE
SON
AND OF THE
HOLY
SPIRIT**

*Congratulations to
Ryan Nathan
Wenker, son of
Ashley and Nathan
Wenker, who was
baptized on
November 30, 2025
at the Church of St.
Columbkil!*



Communal Penance Service: All are encouraged to attend this Penance Service with multiple priests, **Tuesday, December 23, 7:30-8:30PM at Holy Trinity.** The service begins at 7:30PM and after a short reflection the penitents go to one of the confession areas where one of the priests will hear individual confessions. People can stay for the final prayer as a community if they wish, or leave quietly after they complete their penance. Jesus' first words in the Gospel of Mark, *"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*



4th Sunday of Advent

Plan to attend the 2025 Christmas Pageant after Mass on **Sunday, December 21,** at St. Columbkil. The children have a special program ready to help us prepare the way of the Lord! And enjoy a surprise treat after the Pageant! Hope to see you there!

Heaven in Your Home: The next *Heaven in Your Home* Gathering will take place on January 10 from 6:30-8:00 pm at Holy Trinity Church. All families are invited to join in the evening of dinner, discussion, & fellowship. Ideas for living out your faith in a joy filled home will be shared. Dinner and child care will be provided. Sign up is not necessary, but helpful. Email rponcelet@sleepyeyetel.net.