

# *Immaculata*

*.....from our parish family to yours*







# Processions in the Catholic Church

Depending on where a person grows up in the world, different processions can mark one's life in the Catholic Church. Here in Sleepy Eye, we had a Rosary Procession in May to honor

Our Lady (pictured on this issue's cover) that began at the Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Center and followed the foot path along Sleepy Eye Lake to end at St. Mary's Church with Eucharistic Adoration and some hymns sung by the St. Mary's High School Schola, ending with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. We had another procession on Sunday, August 15, to mark the Feast of the Assumption of Mary and the anniversary of the dedication of the parish church, and a final procession for the calendar year is scheduled on October 3rd, the Month of the Holy Rosary.

Another "procession" that many Catholics are familiar with is a Eucharistic procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi, the Feast of the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus, which each year falls in the month of June. In our part of the world, such a procession usually follows the principal Mass of a parish, sometimes with the students who made their First Communion in a prominent place, and the priest who carries the Holy Eucharist in the monstrance, under a canopy, to three different altars that are set up outside of the church. As the procession moves from altar to altar, Eucharistic hymns are sung. (Although this year, the windy conditions forced us to abandon the use of the canopy half way...)

When I was a student in Italy, I helped in a parish in Sicily one year for Holy Week. That little village had an elaborate procession for each day of Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday that was connected to the different events of Our Lord's life during each of those days. I had never experienced anything quite like it!

We may not think about it, but it is very deliberate that the Mass begins and ends with a procession of the priest and Mass servers, and the offertory procession, when people who represent the entire church bring up the collection and the wine and hosts that will be used to make present the Lord Jesus on the altar for us to receive, as the Lord in the Eucharist makes His home among us.

The idea of "liturgical processions" is not a new one. In fact, we can look to the Old Testament, to find many times when there were processions involving the temple in Jerusalem. Many places in Europe, it is common to make a pilgrimage involving a walk of many miles on foot to

a significant destination such as the tomb of an apostle or shrine of Our Lady.

These processions, whether the short ones at the beginning of Mass or ones that last for miles, in addition to allowing us to enter into liturgy, are also meant to remind us that we are all on a journey to eternal life, that this walk from place to place is a reminder that our lives are a journey from one place to another, beginning in one location and ending elsewhere. As Catholics, we hope to be the new and eternal Jerusalem of Heaven.

When we have hosted the Marian/Rosary and the Corpus Christi processions at St. Mary's, I am always happy with the positive feedback, especially from young families who appreciate the opportunity to be involved as a family in the movement of the processions which engages little hands and feet in a meaningful and memorable way. A friend of mine, who is a priest in Europe, likes to say, "never let a good opportunity for a procession pass by!" I would whole-heartedly agree with that advice. If you haven't made one of the Rosary processions yet, put it on your calendar, and bring a friend!

*By Fr. Steffl, Parish Priest*







Thirty-eight juniors from the Divine Mercy Area Faith Community were confirmed by Fr. Mark Steffl on Sunday, March 14, 2021, at St. Mary's Church in Sleepy Eye. The Divine Mercy Area Faith Community consists of four parishes: St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye, St. Michael's, Morgan, St. Paul's, Comfrey and Japanese Martyrs, Leavenworth. Front row (left): Fr. Mark Steffl, Joseph Herzog, Priscilla Martinez, Nayzeth Luna, Maddison Helget, Presley Bauer, Hailey Meinert, Mallory Drake, Emma Windschitl, Macey Ludewig, Blake Arnold, Mr. Dan Davis. Second row: Fr. Zachary Peterson, Madilyn Mages, Trevor Zeig, Maya Nelson, Morgan Hoffmann, Sophie Kyllonen, Natalie Marti, Kya Krzmarzick, Miah Brown, Brennen Meyer, Laurence Simonsen, Third row: Jacob Stevens, Carson Domeier, Trenton Steffensmeier, Logan Mickelson, Adam Veerkamp, Jadon Schroepfer, Hannah Pelzel, Katelyn Rutscher, Julia Helget, Katelyn Fromm, Madeline Hose, Reagan Severson, Madison Mathiowetz, Grace Schouvieller, Matthew Zeug, Josh Moldan, Cody Nickel, Clay Wuertz, Fr. Sam Perez.



Thirty second graders received the sacrament of their First Holy Communion at St. Mary's Catholic Church on Sunday, May 2, 2021. Pictured in the front row (left): Haylee Ibberson, Payton Krebs, Nathan Kucera, Hudson Schmid, Brayden Deibele, Alivia Braulick, Inara Andres, Justin Marti, Olivia Hinderman, Valentina Tovar. Second row: Religious Ed Director - Dan Davis, Joziah Almanza, McKenna Ibberson, Easton Walter, Walker Cook, Skylar Martinez, Paige Rothmeier, Kara Miller, Kinley Bertrand, Jacinta Turbes, Bella Eckstein, Mason Schottenbauer, Elsie Weicherding, Fr. Sam Perez. Third row: Fr. Zachary Peterson, Max Murphy, Harper Armbruster, Stella Schieffert, Jaxsen Suess, Emily Moldan, Bentley Bauer, Braedyn McColley, Madison Seifert, Fr. Mark Steffl. Back row: Catechists - Karri Hoffmann and Arlene Dietl.



## ***Born into God's Family*** February 28, 2021 - August 1, 2021



Genevieve Barbara Lee Ferk, daughter of Anthony & Cecilia Ferk  
 Virginia Mae Hirsch, daughter of Jacob & Dana Hirsch  
 Celia Beatrice Armbruster, daughter of Adam & Karlyn Armbruster  
 Gage Harris Lux, son of Alex & Julia Lux  
 Elliot Craig Berkner, son of Craig & Stephanie Berkner  
 Arlene Christine Domeier, daughter of Chris & Ashley Domeier  
 Josephine Grace Braulick, daughter of Ryan & Katie Braulick  
 Hayden Hugh Pelzel, son of Andrew & Barbara Pelzel  
 Laineae Rae Steffl, daughter of Joshua & Jillian Steffl  
 Brody Michael & Weston Mark Bruggeman, twin sons  
 of William & Mikayla Bruggeman  
 Otto Scott Helget, son of Nolan & Saydi Helget  
 Kash Elliot Ibberson, son of Dylan Ibberson & Alexia Roiger  
 Hayden Jo Surprenant, daughter of David & Larissa Surprenant  
 Pia Marie Ferk, Joachim & Jaselyn Ferk  
 Brock Vernard Riebel, son of Terry & Misty Riebel  
 Alvin Xavier Seidl, son of Steven & Nola Seidl  
 Zoe Ann Cooper, daughter of Daniel & Angela Cooper  
 Franz Sophronius Kober, son of Shaun & Katie Kober  
 Ashton Brandon Hinderman, son of Brandon & Sarah Hinderman

## ***Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, Oh Lord...*** February 2, 2021 - August 9, 2021



Velma Hoffmann 2/2/2021  
 Arthur Sellner 2/18/2021  
 Fr. Eugene Hackert 3/2/2021  
 Patricia Reynolds 3/3/2021  
 Paul Nuytten 3/6/2021  
 Donald Hirsch 3/11/2021  
 Rhoda Dietz 3/10/2021  
 Sherry Eigen 3/15/2021  
 Michael Wagner 3/22/2021

Robert R. Hoffmann 3/27/2021  
 Scott Tauer 4/6/2021  
 Patrick Welter 4/7/2021  
 Ordell Krambeer 4/17/2021  
 Ione Woessner 5/10/2021  
 Douglas Stoneberg 7/5/2021  
 Cecilia Scherer 7/13/2021  
 Henry Brandel, Jr. 7/9/2021  
 Melania Meyer 8/9/2021

*Bequests - Remembering St. Mary's Church in your will is the ultimate demonstration of commitment to this institution and the values it represents. Continuing the good works you support on earth, beyond your lifetime, is the ultimate form of good stewardship.*

## ***Holy Matrimony***



Christopher Bertrand & Elizabeth Rummel 4/10/2021  
 Austin Trebesch & Justine Gonzalez 6/5/2021  
 Jesus Montemayor & Stephanie Trevino 6/12/2021  
 Jordan Kirk & Allison Schwartz 7/16/2021  
 Bethany Berkner & Carter Krzmarzick 8/14/2021  
 Boston Portner & Robert Davis 8/21/2021

## ***Be Still and Know...***

"What does Jesus Christ do in the Eucharist? It is God who, as our Savior, offers himself each day for us to his Father's justice. If you are in difficulties and sorrows, he will comfort and relieve you. If you are sick, he will either cure you or give you strength to suffer so as to merit Heaven. If the devil, the world, and the flesh are making war upon you, he will give you the weapons with which to fight, to resist, and to win victory. If you are poor, he will enrich you with all sorts of riches for time and eternity. Let us open the door of his sacred and adorable Heart, and be wrapped about for an instant by the flames of his love, and we shall see what a God who loves us can do. O my God, who shall be able to comprehend?"

— St. John Vianney

# Welcome To Our Parish



Joseph Docksey



Samuel Rosemeier



William & Gretchen Lehn  
and their children, Leonard & Silas

Not pictured:

Steve & Lori Koenig

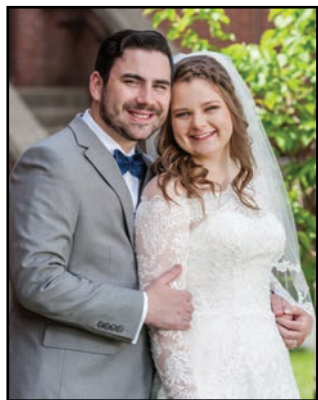
Tom Honse

Dale Sellner

Ben & Kaitlin Orbeck

Thomas & Emily Ferk and their  
daughter, Beata Clare

## Parish Family Profile



There are few things more beautiful than the uniting of two souls in the sacrament of marriage, who aspire to help each other get to heaven and bring the love of Christ to everyone they encounter. After seeing many beautiful marriages that exemplified that purpose, Gregory and Bethany Derrickson made it their goal to live that out after getting married in May of 2020.

Bethany grew up on a dairy farm outside of Sleepy Eye and attended Sleepy Eye Public School while being a member of St. Mary's parish for her entire life. She has always enjoyed watching sports, singing, and playing instruments. While she was studying at Winona State, though, she developed a deep love of singing classical music, especially opera music.

Gregory also has farm roots, as he spent many years of his life on a farm with dairy goats and chickens, as well as other livestock; However, when people ask Gregory "Where are you from?," there is not a short, concise answer, as he has lived in many states throughout his life. He spent his first eight years of his life in Central Pennsylvania and has lived in South Carolina, South Dakota, and Minnesota since then. During his life, he has become passionate about everything that has to do with music, from playing guitar to studying the lives of classical music composers for fun. He also really enjoys being active in the form of cycling.

In June of 2018, Bethany reached a time in her life when she was very serious about finding the right man with which she would enter the vocation of marriage. Knowing that there were many devout Catholic men in the world whom she hadn't yet met, she decided to try the online platform of CatholicMatch. It was a life-changing decision because within a few months, she met Gregory, who was living in Mankato, and they hit it off over their love of the Lord, music, and making each other laugh.

Throughout their marriage, they have served the Church by being members of the Latin Mass Choir at St. Mary's. Bethany is also an Elementary/ Middle School Music teacher at St. Mary's Catholic School and appreciates being able to teach that subject and share her faith with her students. Although Gregory commutes every day to North Mankato to design roof and floor trusses for Lloyd Truss Systems, the couple considers Sleepy Eye to be their home for life. They hope to add to their family in God's time.

Regarding any insight the couple wanted to share, they emphasized the importance of the Eucharist. "It is essential that we examine whether we receive Christ with true reverence, or if we just receive Him out of routine or based on others' thoughts. We must understand that our focus should be on what pleases Christ most, and every time we receive Him in Holy Communion or adore Him in the form of the Blessed Sacrament, we are being welcomed by Him. In return, He asks that we welcome Him into our hearts as well."

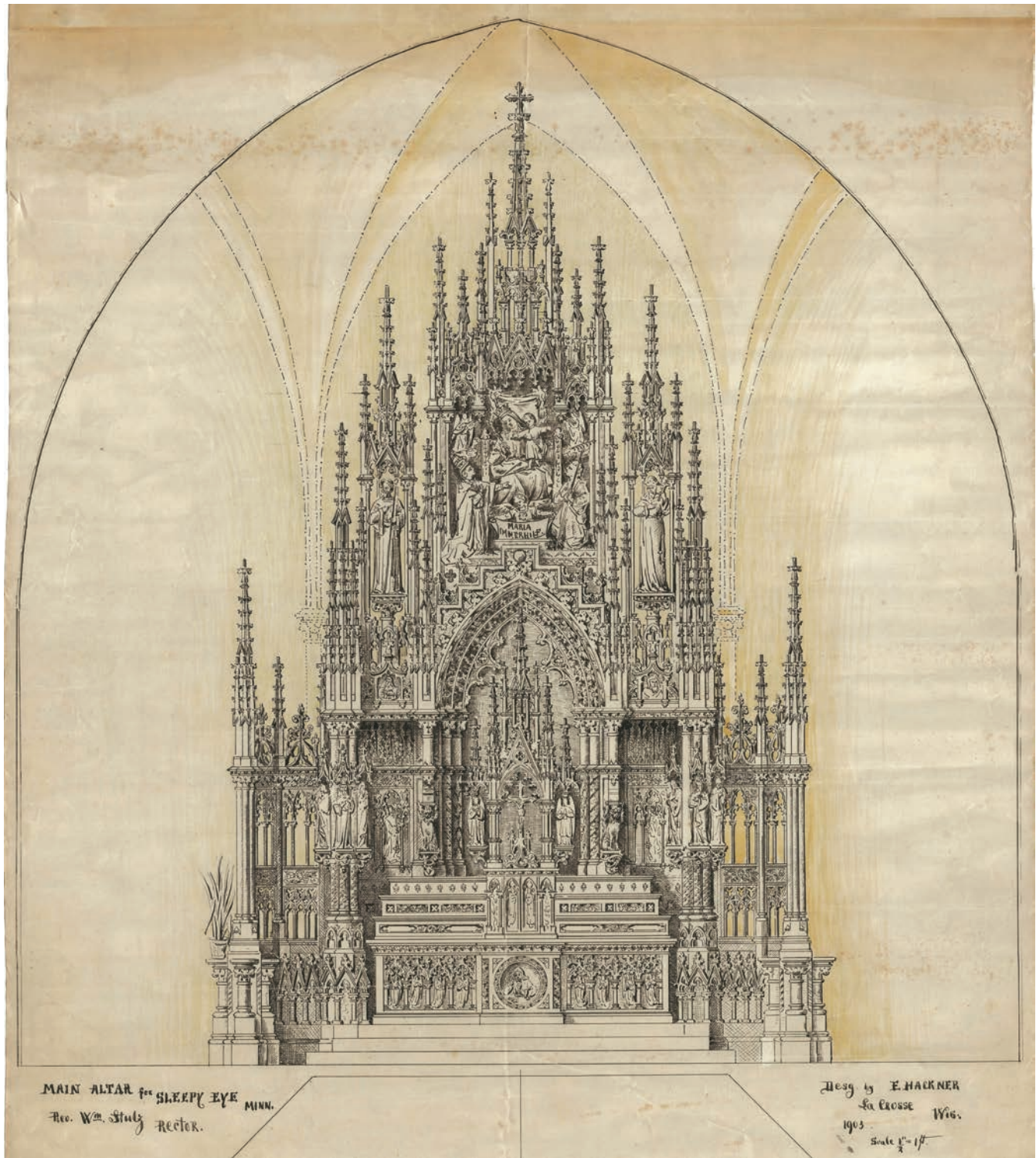
Submitted by Bethany Derrickson



# A Piece of St. Mary's History

by Josh Sellner

*This section is dedicated to the  
history of St. Mary's Parish.*



This beautiful concept drawing of the high altar recently surfaced. It was drawn presumably by Mr. Egid Hackner himself. Mr. Hackner's carving studio in La Crosse, Wisconsin (the E. Hackner Altar Company) made all of the wooden furnishings in St. Mary's Church. Given the 1903 date on the drawing, we now know that it took two years to carve the high altar and its reredos, which is not surprising given the high level of exquisite detail and magnificent execution of the altar. The three altars were installed in 1905. The finished product is mostly faithful to the drawing, with two notable exceptions being the tracery (the carved area that looks like a rose window) above the tabernacle tower in the finished product, and the placard at Our Lady's feet displays the Latin phrase 'Auxilium Christianorum'. The drawing portrays a banner at Mary's feet being held by an angel, and it reads in German 'Maria Immerhilf' or 'Mary of Perpetual Help'. A smaller-scaled framed replica of this drawing hangs in the main floor hallway of the rectory, outside of the parish offices.

# Church of St. Mary Financial Report

For the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021

Parish Revenue	Actual	Budget	Parish Expense	Actual	Budget
Sunday Offertory			Administrative Expense		
Adult Envelopes	\$ 681,700	\$ 600,000	Salaries & Benefits	\$ 187,752	\$ 225,821
Student Envelopes	\$ 3,472	\$ 4,000	Diocesan Untied Fund	\$ 84,079	\$ 77,000
Loose Plate	\$ 43,085	\$ 35,000	Other Admin Expense	\$ 233,899	\$ 153,049
			Catering Expense	\$ 24,406	\$ 50,000
Total Sunday Offertory	\$ 728,258	\$ 639,000	Total Admin Expense	\$ 530,136	\$ 505,870
Special Collections	\$ 119,995	\$ 124,400	Worship Expense	\$ 42,733	\$ 22,800
Other Revenue			Other Expense		
Universal Collections	\$ 5,286	\$ -	Social Concerns	\$ 5,286	
Fundraising & Donations	\$ 463,053	\$ 151,650	Misc. Expense	\$ 5,978	\$ 3,716
Misc. Revenue	\$ 87,299	\$ 82,560	Total Other Expense	\$ 11,264	\$ 3,716
Other Income - PPP	\$ 400,300				
Total Other Revenue	\$ 955,938	\$ 234,210	Facility Mgmt Expenses		
			Repairs / Improvements	\$ 236,016	\$ 125,117
Catering Income	\$ 32,661	\$ 100,000	Utilities / Maintenance	\$ 236,016	\$ 125,117
Interest	\$ 15,946	\$ 8,956	School Subsidy	\$ 595,674	\$ 515,865
<b>Total Parish Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,852,797</b>	<b>\$ 1,106,566</b>	<b>Total Parish Expense</b>	<b>\$ 1,415,823</b>	<b>\$ 1,173,369</b>
<b>Religious Ed Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 42,576</b>	<b>\$ 37,241</b>	<b>Religious Ed Expense</b>	<b>\$ 55,107</b>	<b>\$ 48,880</b>
<b>Elementary School Revenue</b>			<b>Elementary School Expense</b>		
Operating Revenue			Administrative Expense		
Tuition Income	\$ 331,070	\$ 353,465	Salaries & Benefits	\$ 562,405	\$ 533,510
Fundraising & Donations	\$ 105,161	\$ 57,725	Administrative	\$ 92,407	\$ 72,980
Other	\$ 34,486	\$ 37,279			
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 470,717	\$ 448,469	Total Admin Expense	\$ 654,813	\$ 606,490
			Instructional Expense	\$ 38,631	\$ 29,111
Athletic Program Income	\$ -	\$ 3,000	Facility Management Expense		
Caribbean Knights Income	\$ 69,750	\$ 55,000	Repairs / Improvements	\$ 161,091	\$ 115,318
Parish Subsidy	\$ 314,697	\$ 246,449	Utilities / Maintenance	\$ 161,091	\$ 115,318
			Total Facility Expenses	\$ 161,091	\$ 115,318
<b>Total Elem School Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 855,163</b>	<b>\$ 752,918</b>	Athletic Program Exp	\$ 629	\$ 2,000
<b>Learning Tree Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 36,026</b>	<b>\$ 37,500</b>	(Excluding Salaries)		
<b>High School Revenue</b>			<b>Total Elem School Exp</b>	<b>\$ 855,163</b>	<b>\$ 752,918</b>
Operating Revenue			<b>Learning Tree Expense</b>	<b>\$ 46,809</b>	<b>\$ 48,049</b>
Tuition Income	\$ 608,387	\$ 624,528	<b>High School Expense</b>		
Fundraising & Donations	\$ 101,865	\$ 27,400	Administrative Expense		
Other	\$ 38,713	\$ 42,427	Salaries & Benefits	\$ 754,905	\$ 739,846
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 748,965	\$ 694,355	Administrative	\$ 69,745	\$ 64,330
Athletic Program Income	\$ 75,843	\$ 111,000	Total Admin Expense	\$ 824,650	\$ 804,176
Caribbean Knights Income	\$ 69,750	\$ 69,750	Instructional Expense	\$ 65,927	\$ 61,462
Parish Subsidy	\$ 282,977	\$ 269,416	Facility Management Exp	\$ 141,791	\$ 116,818
			Repairs / Improvements		
<b>Total High School Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,177,535</b>	<b>\$ 1,144,521</b>	Utilities / Maintenance	\$ 141,791	\$ 116,818
<b>Nex Tu Nu II Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 79,958</b>	<b>\$ 72,000</b>	Total Facility Expense	\$ 145,168	\$ 162,066
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 540,793</b>	<b>\$ 418,459</b>	Athletic Program Expense		
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 4,584,848</b>	<b>\$ 3,569,206</b>	(Including Coaching Salaries)		
			<b>Total High School Expense</b>	<b>\$ 1,177,535</b>	<b>\$ 1,144,521</b>
			<b>Nex Tu Nu II Expense</b>	<b>\$ 29,892</b>	<b>\$ 25,777</b>
			<b>Other Expense</b>	<b>\$ 543,209</b>	<b>\$ 379,162</b>
			<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>\$ 4,123,539</b>	<b>\$ 3,572,677</b>
			<b>Net Income (Loss) From Operations</b>	<b>\$ 461,309</b>	<b>\$ (3,471)</b>



# St. Mary's Catholic Church

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### ***Parish Staff:***

Fr. Mark Steffl – Pastor

Fr. Zachary Peterson – Associate Pastor

Fr. Sam Perez – Associate Pastor

Deacon Mark Kober - Permanent Deacon

Deacon Mike McKeown - Permanent Deacon

Sean Connolly - Parish Liturgist

Dan Davis - Director of Religious Divine Mercy AFC Education

Matt Grausam - Business Manager

Chris Heiderscheidt - Development Director/Office Manager

Joan Windschitl - Parish Secretary

### ***Immaculata Contributors:***

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Matt Grausam, Josh Sellner

### ***Photo Credits:***

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Jason Schutz

Schutz Creative Photography, Luverne, MN

Cover Photo by Jacki Kyllonen



### ***Upcoming Events...***

#### **August**

23-1st day of school for SEPS

24-1st day of school for SESM

#### **September**

3-Way of the Cross at New Ulm

5-Holy Hour & Confessions

8-Religious Ed begins

9-Adult Education begins

10-'That Man Is You' begins

11-St. Mary's Golf Tournament

12-KC Auction

13-KC Rosary & Meeting

20-CCW Meeting

21-CCW Fall Gathering

#### **October**

1-Way of the Cross at New Ulm

1-Marathon/Homecoming at St. Mary's

3-Respect Life Sunday

3-Marian Rosary Procession  
10-St. Michael's, Morgan  
Fall Beef Dinner

11-KC Rosary & Meeting

16-God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage Class

21/22 -No School MEA

24-St. Paul's, Comfrey Sausage Dinner

#### **November**

1-All Saints Day

2-All Souls Day

7-Daylight Saving Time Ends

7-National Vocations Awareness Week Begins

7-Holy Hour & Confessions

8-KC Rosary & Meeting

13-Night of Knights/Hall of Fame

15-CCW Meeting

19-21-St. Mary's HS Musical

21-Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

25-Thanksgiving Day

28-First Sunday of Advent