



# Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church

200 East Church Street | Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011 | (952) 873-6564 | ourladyoftheprairie.com

## Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday | 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

## MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses  
Saturday | 4:15pm  
Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am

Weekday Masses  
Tuesday | 6:30pm  
Wed, Thur, Fri | 8:30am

Holy Days & Holidays  
Consult bulletin.

## Eucharist Adoration

Wednesday | 9:00am - 10:00pm  
Available 24 hours / 7 days a week

## SACRAMENTS

**Sacrament of Confession**  
30 mins prior to Mass.

**Sacrament of Marriage**  
Make arrangements with the Parish Office six months prior to proposed wedding date.

**Sacrament of Baptism**  
Congratulations! Thank you for accepting and caring for one of God's greatest gifts. As part of Baptism preparation, expectant parents are required to attend Mass weekly. Please contact the Parish Office (952) 873-6564. We look forward to getting to know you and your baby.

## Bulletin Announcements

If you would like to post in the bulletin, please send an email to: [bulletineditor@olp.church](mailto:bulletineditor@olp.church) by noon on Monday for the following Sunday (Holidays may have earlier deadlines).

## In Case of an Emergency

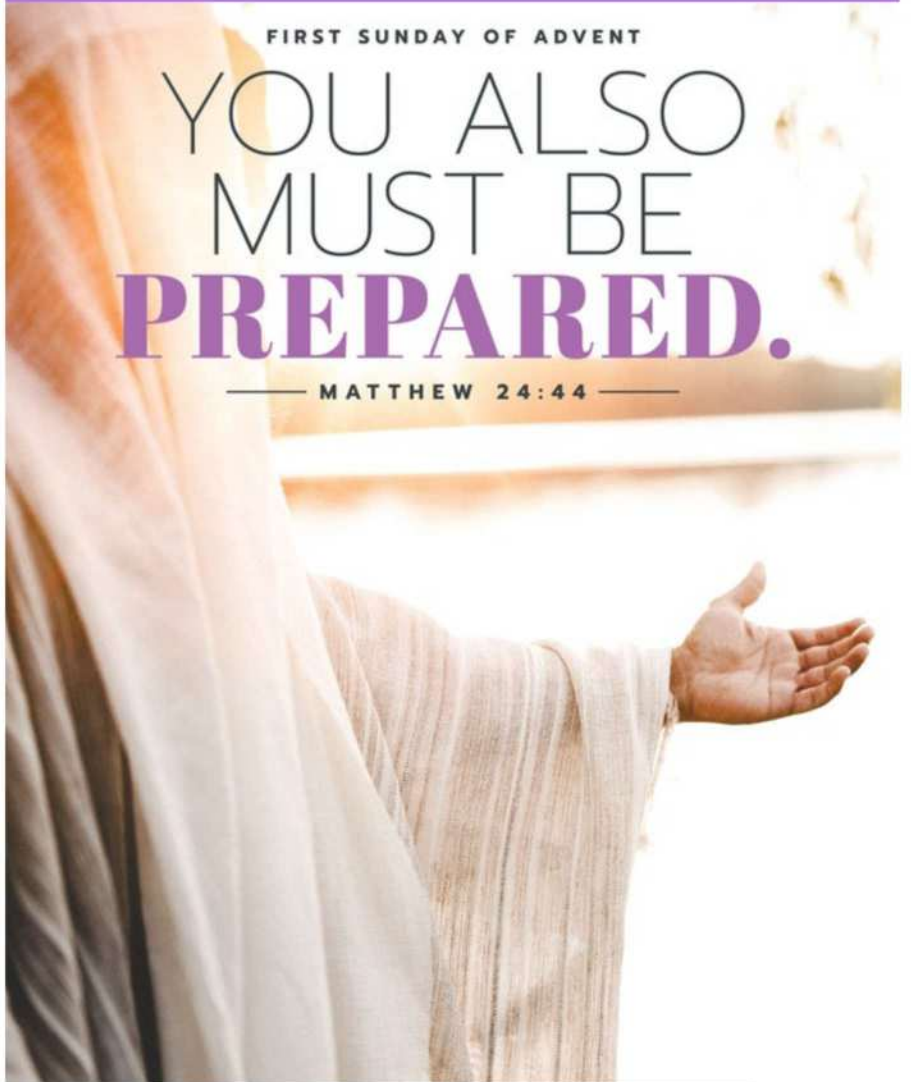
Please contact 952-992-0140

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YOU ALSO  
MUST BE  
**PREPARED.**

— MATTHEW 24:44 —



*Prepare your heart for the Lord . . .*



ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE

Wednesday, December 3  
6:30 PM

Several visiting pastors will hear confessions.

**PARISH STAFF**

(952) 873-6564

**Pastor**

Fr. Michael Kaluza | [mkaluza@olp.church](mailto:mkaluza@olp.church)

**Business Administrator | SEC**

Kelly Pumper | [kpumper@olp.church](mailto:kpumper@olp.church)

**Administrative Assistants**

Anita Glisczinski | Bonnie Weber  
[frontdesk@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:frontdesk@ourladyoftheprairie.com)

**Principal of Parish School  
& Preschool Director**

Sheila Hendricks | [shendricks@olp.church](mailto:shendricks@olp.church)

**Facilities Manager**

Marty Huss | 952.873.6564

**Director of religious Education**

Mark Simons |  
[msimons@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:msimons@ourladyoftheprairie.com)

**Cemetery Caretaker**

Keith Heitkamp |  
[heitkampkeith@gmail.com](mailto:heitkampkeith@gmail.com)

**LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS**

**Trustees**

Charlotte Mulroy, Sue Schultz

**Parish Council**

Mike Buchanan, Dan Flynn,  
Ginny Morgan, Ty Buesgens,  
James Fogarty, Brian Berger,  
Susan Cole, Greg O'Brien,  
Jim Glisczinski, Tom Otto,  
Mona Altman, Edsel Faunillan

**School Advisory Council**

Ashley Simons, Matt Offerdahl,  
Kim Baltus, Stephanie Otto,  
Danielle Campos

**Finance Council**

Dan Neisen, Maria Tracy, Jim Koepp  
Jerome Flaherty, Joe Vandermark

A big 'thank you' to everyone who supported our recent collection of baby items for Birthright of Mankato. The items were delivered on November 15th, and were very appreciated! A special 'thank you' to the person or persons who created the lovely handmade baby quilts, booties, hats, and other items.

If you wish to make a monetary donation, please contact Birthright of Mankato at (507) 387-7818. No gift is too small. Your donation is 100% tax deductible. Thank you and God bless you for helping mothers and babies.

**MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL . . .**

Advent

Once again we have the fresh start of a new liturgical year beginning with the First Sunday of Advent this weekend. We have experienced a year filled with many blessings and our anticipation of many good things to come await us in the not so distant future. New beginnings are always possible with God .



Advent allows us to look both back and forward. We know that Jesus came for our salvation and the historical presence of Jesus is always remembered and celebrated. We also anticipate the return of Christ and for that we must always be ready. Advent reminds us to be vigilant and prepared. We know not the day or hour, but we know it will happen. So may our Advent preparations be fruitful and allow us ample time for spiritual growth prior to the celebration of Christmas!

Advent is a time of patient waiting. God remains continually in our midst, whether at work or leisure and enlightens our hearts and minds at all times. We are called to recognize the presence of God in our lives and cooperate always with the grace that God lavishes upon us. God desires to be a part of our lives, so the choice is ours to make.

May our new year be filled with many blessings for our parish and families!

God bless you!

Father Michael Kaluza



- |                    |                |                        |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Bud Steen          | William Busch  | Bob Weldon             |
| Deacon Bob Raleigh | Kelly Scott    | Ron (Franny) Gerres    |
| Mona Bentfield     | Jan Walerius   | Annette Schmit Mann    |
| Elmer Lambrecht    | Kevin Halloran | Mary Ann Bigaouette    |
| Don Morrison       | Pat Sexe       | Bruce & Cathy Halloran |
| Lisa Pobuda        | Jessi O'Brien  | Barb Wentworth         |
| Kurt Kruger        | Betty Wolf     | Melissa Kjonaas        |
| Katie Cates        | Mary Tuma      | Maureen Millard        |
| Chad Feltmann      | Briar Fritz    | Betty Chard            |

If you know of someone you would like added to the prayer list, please notify the bulletin editor or Parish Office. Obtain the permission of the person you wish to add before calling or emailing. Names will remain on the list for at least four weeks.

### Young Adult Women's Bible Study

Ladies, are you looking for a space to grow in faith, build meaningful friendships, and find encouragement for your daily walk with God? We're launching a new Young Adult Women's Bible Study beginning this December!

Join us for inspiring conversations, laughter, and community as we **meet in person one evening each week** right here at the church. Whether you're new to Bible study or have been in the Word for years, you're welcome here!

Interested or want more information?  
Fill out our quick sign-up form: →



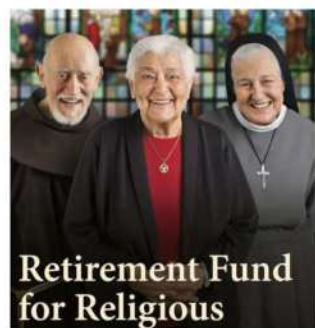
### Weather Policy

If school is delayed, closes early or is closed due to poor weather conditions the following activities will not meet:

- All meetings (e.g. CCW, Knights of Columbus, Marriage Encounter).

The following activities will continue unless further notification is provided:

- Daily Mass: Mass is always celebrated Tuesday – Sunday
- Religious Education classes and Adoration.



### Retirement Fund for Religious

**Support those who have given a lifetime.** For 174 of our 175 years as an Archdiocese, we have been blessed with the presence of religious. These Religious Sisters and Brothers and Religious Order Priests have dedicated their lives to service—praying, teaching, and caring for those in need—usually for little to no pay.

The Annual Retirement Fund for Religious helps enable many religious communities to meet their pressing retirement needs for the essential care, medicine and daily needs of thousands of senior women and men religious. Your contributions also support newer religious communities with their retirement planning. In 2025, the faithful of our archdiocese donated \$474,939 to the fund. A testament to how much we love our consecrated religious!

We thank you for your past generosity and ask that when the collection takes place the weekend of **December 13 and 14, 2025**, that you may give generously in gratitude for our religious sisters and brothers and religious order priests. Donations may be given directly to your parish for them to forward onto the archdiocese.

An envelope is included in your mailed contribution packet, or pick up at the back of the church.

Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School  
presents

## Lessons and Carols A Shadow Nativity

Tuesday, December 16  
after 6:30 pm Mass



## “Culture of Invitation” Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly



### JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FAITH • FAMILY • FRATERNITY • SERVICE

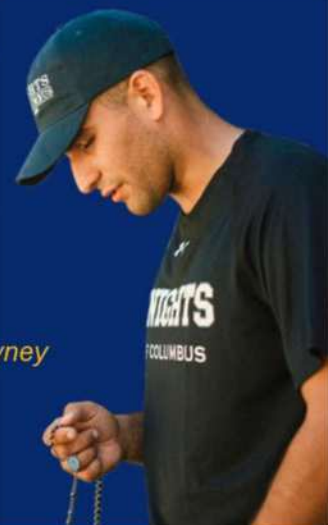
The Knights of Columbus is more than just a men's group. We are a brotherhood of Catholic men committed to:

- Deepening faith through prayer, devotion and service.
- Supporting families and building community
- Defending life from conception through natural death
- Serving the Church and those in need

Be the man who invites.  
Be the man who **answers**.  
Become a Knight of Columbus!



Join us today!  
[www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join)  
Promo Code: BlessedMcGivney



Belle Plaine Police Department

**TOY DRIVE**



This holiday season some families will not be able to purchase gifts for their children. **This is an opportunity to help someone in need.** All donated toys will be distributed to local children who are far less fortunate.

All toys should be new and unwrapped. Gifts are accepted for children up to 18 years of age. Note: Realistic looking toy weapons and gifts with food will not be distributed.

While purchasing items for smaller children is a pretty simple task, donors often wonder what to get pre-teens. We recommend sporting equipment, board games, books, hand-held electronics and gift cards.

*Families in need of toys can call the Belle Plaine Police Department Monday thru Friday (7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) to make an appointment to shop.*



OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE  
**HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE**  
CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL MATCHING GRANT EVENT

<p>SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 3:00PM – 7:00PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bake Sale</li> <li>• Vendor &amp; Craft Fair</li> <li>• Soup Dinner</li> <li>• Holiday Photo Op</li> </ul>	<p>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 9:00AM – 12:00PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bake Sale</li> <li>• Vendor &amp; Craft Fair</li> <li>• Coffee &amp; Donuts</li> <li>• Holiday Photo Op</li> </ul>
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Join us to celebrate the season and support our school!



**COLLECTIONS**

Weekly Collection Goal: \$8,344

Collection & Attendance for November 23<sup>rd</sup> not available due to early printing deadline

Date	Amount	(+/-) Goal
Sunday, November 16	\$7,544	- \$800

**ATTENDANCE**

Saturday, November 15	4:15 pm	191
Sunday, November 16	8:00 am	193
	10:00 am	256
Livestreamed		25

Total Registered Active Families ..... 512  
Total Registered Active Members ..... 1,301

**Automatic Contributions**

Did you know your contributions can be automatically deducted from your checking, savings, or credit card account? For more information call the parish office at 952-873-6564 or check out our website.



17th annual  
**“Blankets Because We Care”**

New or Gently Used  
Blankets, Coats, Socks

**November 22 - January 19**

Look for the bin in back of church.

*Donations will be given to Sharing & Caring Hands, Loaves & Fishes, and the Children’s Hospital in Mpls.*



**Training & Refresher**  
- for -

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Ushers, Servers, and Greeters.

December 6th & 7th following all Masses

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>Monday, December 1</b>	
<b>Tuesday, December 2</b>	
6:30 pm	Mass
7:00 pm	KC Meeting in Roedel Hall
<b>Wednesday, December 3</b>	
8:30 am	Mass - donuts & coffee after Mass
9:00 am	Confession (Grades 3 & 6)
12:00 pm	Ecumenical Lunch
2:15 & 7:00 pm	PTA Meetings
6:20 pm	Advent Confessions: Religious Education Grades (3-8) arrive with families
6:30 pm	Advent Communal Penance
<b>Thursday, December 4</b>	
8:30 am	Mass at OLP
2:00 pm	Mass at The Lutheran Home
6:30 - 7:30 pm	Men's Small Group in Conference Room
6:30 - 8:00 pm	Consecration to Jesus through Mary
<b>Friday, December 5</b>	
8:30 am	Mass
<b>Saturday, December 6</b>	
1:00 - 7:00 pm	Vendor Fair in Roedel Hall and PTA Soup Lunch & Dinner in Parish Hall
4:15 pm	Mass - Training after Mass for Lector, EMHC, Ushers, Servers, & Greeters
<b>Sunday, December 7</b>	
<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	
8:00 am	Mass
9:00 am	Choir Practice
10:00 am	Mass - Training after all Masses for Lector, EMHC, Ushers, Servers, & Greeters CCW Treats & Fellowship after Masses

**MASS INTENTIONS**

MON	1	DEC	No Mass	
TUE	2	DEC	6:30 pm	† d. Matt Robeck Family
WED	3	DEC	8:30 am	† d. Irene Castor
THU	4	DEC	8:30 am	† d. Robert Keonig
FRI	5	DEC	8:30 am	† d. Mary Kolter
SAT	6	DEC	4:15 pm	† d. Elmer & Bernice Wentzloff
SUN	7	DEC	8:00 am	† d. Richard Beach
			10:00 am	† For the Parish

**Saturday, December 6, 4:15 pm**

Greeters	Volunteer
Lector	Charlotte Mulroy
EMHC	Charlotte Mulroy, Betty Weldon, Dan Flynn, Joe Shimota
Ushers	Keith Heitkamp, Randy Schumacher, Brad Schultz, Matt Schultz
Servers	Volunteers (4)
Gift Bearers	Volunteers

**Sunday, December 7, 8:00 am**

Greeters	Bob & Dorene Smith
Lector	Jake Hess
EMHC	Susan Cole, Janice Teal, Volunteers (2)
Ushers	Tim Murphy, Dr. Tim Halloran, Volunteers (2)
Servers	Teresa Fogarty, David Fogarty, Jeffrey Teal, Volunteer
Gift Bearers	Volunteers

**Sunday, December 7, 10:00 am**

Greeters	Terry & Karen Feddersen
Lector	Regina Wilson
EMHC	Edsel Faunillan, Rick Morgan, Jason Palo, Terry Feddersen,
Ushers	Jim Covington, Jim Gerres, Jeff Klein, Volunteer
Servers	Kenzie Berger, Mason Berger, Luke Berger
Gift Bearers	Volunteers
EMHC	Mary Moriarty (Kingsway) Sue Halloran (Lutheran Home)

*Dear Lord, please give us strength to turn away from darkness towards light while waiting for Christ's arrival. Fill us with anticipation and help us to be a beacon of hope for all who are lost.*

**READINGS**

**Readings for the week of November 30, 2025**

**Sunday:** Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

**Monday:** Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/  
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8



# & CLASSROOM REPORT O.L.P. School News IN CHRIST WE GROW

200 East Church Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011

NOVEMBER, 2025

## A Message From The Principal . . .

**Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.**

November, the month emphasizing **gratitude**:

To Jesus for . . .

- His walking closely beside us in trials and weaknesses.
- His yearning for us to visit with him in Adoration and tell him the desires of our hearts.
- His unending faithfulness to us through grace and mercy.

To Our Lady of the Prairie families, students, teachers, & staff for Commitment to keep showing up.

- Sharing your God-given gifts and talents each day.
- Making OLP the best school and community we can be.

## November Service Projects were:

- 6th grade students visiting Lutheran Home
- Veterans Day Program
- Socks for Veterans (6th grade students)



## Congratulations VFW Flag contest winners:

- William Scheff - 6th grade - essay contest (3rd place)
  - Paisley Pekarna - 2nd grade (3rd place)
  - Kenan Otto - 2nd grade (2nd place)
  - Max Omtvedt - Kindergarten (3rd place)
  - Evie Simon - 1st grade (First Place)
- Evie's picture has moved forward to District competition. Results will be given by January 2026.



## OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER



## A Word from Father . . .

We are looking forward to Thanksgiving! It is right and fitting that we have a secular national holiday to recognize the abundant gifts that God has bestowed upon us. Gratefulness is essential to worshipping God and our culture can contribute to making God's presence known in our hearts, families, schools, workplaces and communities. I am thankful for our school and our willingness to make faith the center of our learning.

All of us have much for which we should be very grateful. A big part of our prayer life should be to give thanks to God for the abundance of blessings that we receive each day and throughout our lives. God is the giver of all good things and we are fortunate to receive so many of these gifts from God. May we always recognize his goodness and be ever thankful!

God bless you,  
Father Michael Kaluza

# Here's what's happening in the classrooms . . .

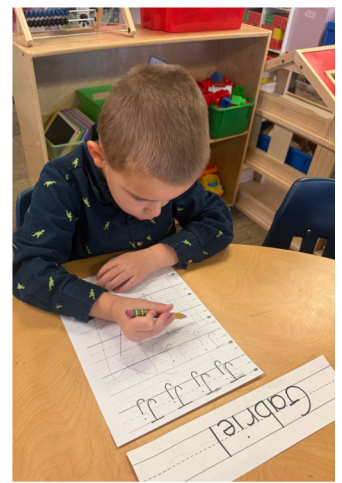
## Preschool

This month of November our students have enjoyed being outside exploring the different leaves around the Outdoor Learning Center. They have been busy creating festive projects to decorate for Thanksgiving. Learning about leaves, turkeys, being thankful, with our thoughts, sharing the goodness in our hearts. The students have been continuing lessons on numbers, letters, colors, and shapes.

A special day was celebrated "Veterans Day" the program was put on by the OLP students to honor those who have served and continue to serve. Thank you to all our Veterans!

Wishing Everyone a Happy Thanksgiving !

Blessings,  
Mrs. Smith



## Kindergarten

This month we celebrated the 50th Day of School! We're officially halfway to 100 days. Each morning we count the days of school together, practicing how to group by tens and ones. To celebrate, we had lots of fun "50th Day" center activities: writing numbers to 50, counting out 50 stickers, painting 50 dots, and searching for numbers in a "50 Number Find." We also honored Veterans Day as a school. Kindergarteners enjoyed drawing American flags and eagles, and creating cards for our veterans. We are truly blessed by all who serve. In Catechesis, we are learning about the Sign of the Cross gesture and exploring more of the special items used on the altar at Mass. Our Science unit is all about what animals need to survive. Students are using observations to understand the basic needs of animals- food, safety, and shelter. In Believe and Read, we continue practicing all letter names and sounds to build a strong foundation for future reading. We are now beginning to tap out CVC words to read and spell! We've also been talking about vowels and consonants, and slowing down in our handwriting to become neat and confident writers and spellers. As we head into the Thanksgiving season, we are taking time to notice the blessings in our lives and to remember that all we have is a gift from God. I am truly grateful for your wonderful children and for all the joy they bring to our classroom and school. God Bless, Ms. Schroers

## Grades 1st and 2nd

Hello Families,

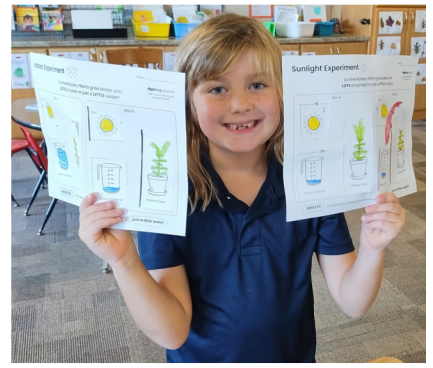
Our first and second graders are filled with Fall goodness and warm smiles. Each day is a learning adventure. In Language Arts we are continually tapping sounds or chopping syllables for reading and spelling. There are many spelling and reading rules that we go over daily. First graders are reading and spelling consonant blend words with consonants in the beginning and ending of words. They are also discussing fiction stories and figuring out who the narrator is and making inferences. Second graders are working on long vowel words and suffixes. They are also learning about identifying the setting, main events, and character traits.

In Math class our first grade is enjoying place value to 100. The second graders are starting to subtract two-digit numbers with regrouping.

Our Religion lessons are about the liturgical calendar and we will discuss what Advent is and celebrate the Advent season after Thanksgiving. In our (CGS) Catechesis of the Good Shepherd we are learning about the books of the bible.

We recently began a Social Studies unit about the World Around Us and finding out about the different landforms, seasons, climates, and weather. We will also learn about cardinal directions, equator, and north and south hemisphere. These are pretty big words for our young minds and they do great!. We made landform flip books to help us understand some different regions of the United States and North America.

Our Mystery Science is wrapping up Plant Life where we learned about seed dispersal, where plants grow well, and how much water and sun light does a plant need. Blessings, Mrs. Hennen



## 3rd Grade

In November students celebrated Veterans Day by participating in Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School Veterans Day service. Students created a Veteran photo collage, and wrote Veteran poems.

In reading, students learned about the history of The Statue of Liberty, and the process of immigration that took place at Ellis Island.

In math, students were busy learning multiplication facts, and how to solve math word problems.

In science, students studied electricity, and safety regarding electricity.

In social studies, students enjoyed exploring the history and traditions of The Midwest and Great Plains Native Americans. Additionally, students studied the history of money in the USA.

In religion students planned and participated in school Mass, attended Divine Mercy, and school Rosary prayer time. Students attend CGS weekly. Each morning students enjoy devotional prayer time. Students learned about Saint Elizabeth of Hungary during the month of November. Blessings, Mrs. Eischens



## Art

In K-3, our next Famous Artist is Edvard Munch, a Norwegian painter and print maker who is best known for his 1893 work, *The Scream*. A pioneer of Expressionism, Munch often portrayed strong emotions like melancholy, anxiety and jealousy in his art. Students explored the use of color and facial expressions to depict emotions even in things like emojis. [Continued on page 4 . . .](#)

**Art** continued from page 3 . . .

For our studio project, students created their interpretation of The Scream with tempera paint and oil pastels on cardboard, like what Munch had used.

In our Global Art series, our 6th graders studied the Japanese art of anime. We discussed the characteristics of anime that distinguish it from other animation styles, including the large, expressive facial features of the characters, serial-based storylines, and strong Japanese cultural references. For our studio project, students created portraits of an original anime character using pencil, a black Sharpie, and colored pencils. Blessings, Mrs. Vandermark



### Physical Education

We have been blessed with some amazing weather, your children really love to get outside and run around. This past month we played dodgeball, which they all loved. They even teamed up and played a few rounds against me, and you may have guessed they dominated, but that's okay they all had fun. I look forward to P. E. class every week with your amazing children. You as parents, should be proud. May God bless you and your children. Mr. Palo

**Mrs. Moonen's 6th grade Stars** are ready to report another month of out of this world learning!

Our monthly trip to the Ney Center focused on bats and their importance in our ecosystem. Students explored bat habitats, learned about bat anatomy, and discovered fun facts about how bats use echolocation.

The Stars participated in their first Catholic Math League competition. While our performance wasn't as strong as we hoped, students showed great effort. We will continue practicing and improving as a team!

While we continue to study religion using the Sadlier We Believe curriculum, the Stars put their faith into action at the Lutheran Home. This month, they treated residents to a ukulele performance. They also created the Sock Drive fliers and posters now displayed throughout the community.

On Veteran's Day our school honored veterans with a special program recognizing their courage and service. The Stars participated in the White Table Ceremony, sang God Bless America, and led the crowd in reciting the Veterans' Prayer. In addition, they studied the difference between Memorial Day and Veteran's Day.

In science, students learned about homogeneous and heterogeneous mixtures. They explored examples, conducted small experiments, and practiced identifying mixture types in everyday items.

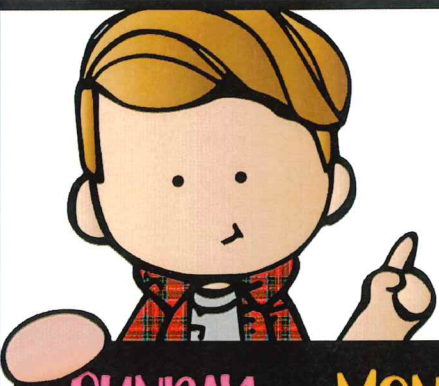
In language arts, we focused on using parenthetical elements — such as commas, dashes, and parentheses — to add extra information to sentences. Students practiced writing clear, detailed sentences while applying proper punctuation.

Thank you for supporting our classroom adventures!



# December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 <b>First Sunday of Advent</b> 8:00am d. Edgar Witt Jr. (AOD) 9:00am Choir Practice 10:00am For the Parish	1	2 6:30pm d. Matt Robeck Family 7:00pm KC Meeting (PH)	3 8:30am d. Irene Castor OLP (Gr. 3 & 6) Confession after Mass 12:00pm Ecumenical Lunch 6:20pm Advent Confessions: (RE Grades 3-8 arrive with families) 6:30pm Advent Communal Penance	4 8:30am d. Robert Koenig 2:00pm Lutheran Home 6:30-7:30pm Men's Small Grp (CR) 6:30-8:00pm Consecration to Jesus thru Mary	5 8:30am d. Mary Kolter	6 4:15pm d. Elmer&Bernice Wentzloff Training for All Extraordinary Ministers,Lectors, Ushers,Servers and greeters following Mass 1pm - 7:00pm Vendor Fair (RH) PTA Soup & Lunch/Dinner (PH)
7 <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b> 8:00am d. Richard Beach 9:00am Choir Practice 10:00am For the Parish Training for All Extraordinary Ministers,Lectors, Ushers,Servers and greeters following Masses Treats & Fellowship after Masses	8 <b>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> (Holy Day of Obligation) 8:30am d. Jim & Mary Daly 6:30pm Liv.&d. Guetin & Klehr Family Formal Act of Consecration to Jesus thru Mary	9 1:30pm Mass at Kingsway 6:30pm Shannon & LaJeunesse Families	10 8:30am d.Susan Flaschenriem 6:20pm Religious Ed Class (K-8)	11 8:30am CCW Members 6:30-7:30pm Men's Small Grp (CR)	12 8:30am d.Brian Weber 10:00am All School Rosary 6:30-9:00pm Youth Group Grades 9-12 / Holiday Trivia Night in Roedel Hall	13 4:15pm d. Joe & Viona Anderson
14 <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> 8:00am d. Dick Hayden 9:00am Choir Practice 10:00am For the Parish 10:00am All School Mass Treats & Fellowship-Sponsored by CUF	15	16 8:30am Divine Mercy Chaplet in Song 1:30pm Mass at Kingsway 6:30pm d. Bob Bigaouette Christmas Musical after 6:30pm Mass	17 8:30am d. Susan Fahey Christmas Musical at Kingsway 6:20pm Religious Ed Class (K-8)	18 8:30am d. Deacon Jim Thornton 6:30-7:30pm Men's Small Grp (CR)	19 8:30am d.Michael John Leuwer 10:30am Funeral: Ronald Schmitz	20 4:15pm For the Parish
21 <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> 8:00am d. Kevin Schmitt 9:00am Choir Practice 10:00am d. Teresa Fritz 11:00am Decorate Church for Christmas	22 No School - Christmas Break	23 No School - Christmas Break 6:30pm d. Irene Castor	24 3:00pm liv.& d. Guertin & Klehr Family 4:15pm d. John Anthony Schilz III No School - Christmas Break No Religious Ed Class (K-8) Office Closed	25 <b>Christmas Day (Holy Day of Obligation)</b> 8:00am d. Carl Gansen 10:00am liv.&d. Guertin & Klehr Family No School - Christmas Break Office Closed	26 8:30am d. Jack VanRemortel No School - Christmas Break Office Closed	27 4:15pm Janice Fahey & Tammy Fahey Schultz
28 <b>The Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, Joseph</b> 8:00am For the Parish 9:00am Choir Practice 10:00am d. Jeff O'Brien KC Treats & Fellowship after Masses	29 No School - Christmas Break	30 6:30pm d.Teresa Witt (AOD) No School - Christmas Break	31 8:30am liv.& d.Thomas & Yvonne Miron 6:30pm d. Wayne Mattison (Vigil Mass for 1/1) No School - Christmas Break No Religious Ed Class (K-8)	1 <b>Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)</b> 8:30am d. Diane Busch No School - Christmas Break Office Closed	2 8:30am d. Rev. Thomas H. Sieg No School - Christmas Break Office Closed	3 4:15pm For the Parish
4 <b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b> 8:00am d. John Anthony Schilz III 9:00am Choir Practice 10:00am Shannon & LaJeunesse Families KC Pancake Breakfast after 8 & 10am Mass	5 School Resumes	Notes	Adoration: Every Wednesday 9:00 AM-10:00 PM Sacrament of Confession: Half Hour before mass each day *RH - Roedel Hall Gathering Space *PH - Parish Hall *CGS - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd			



# December



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> November Saint of the month due  Advent Prayer	<b>2</b> Ney Center Field trip 6 <sup>th</sup> grade	<b>3</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade mass November Saint of the Month Reconciliation for 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> grade students after mass	<b>4</b>  Community Christmas Tour Episcopal Church and Hooper Home Grade 6 Service Project	<b>5</b>  C-STEM	<b>6</b> Saint Nicholas Feast Day Vendor Fair PTA Soup lunch/dinner 1-7pm
<b>7</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  Vendor Fair PTA 9am-12pm	<b>8</b> Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary/6 <sup>th</sup> grade mass Advent Prayer Following mass Lutheran Home Gr. 6	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  6 <sup>th</sup> grade mas	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Our Lady of Guadalupe All School Rosary 10:00	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> All School Mass 10:00am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	<b>15</b> December Saint of the month due  Advent Prayer	<b>16</b>  Divine Mercy 8:30  Teacher/Staff Christmas Party  Christmas Musical Beginning with 6:30pm mass	<b>17</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade mass December Saint Christmas Musical performance at Kingsway 10:00am Teacher/Staff Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  C-STEM  School Newsletter Due	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	<b>22</b>  Christmas Break	<b>23</b>  Christmas Break	<b>24</b>  Christmas Eve	<b>25</b>  Holy Christmas Day	<b>26</b>  Christmas Break	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, &amp; Joseph</i>	<b>29</b>  Christmas Break	<b>30</b>  Christmas Break	<b>31</b>  New Year's Eve	<b>Saint Nicholas, Pray for us</b>		

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# Christmas Cookies

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## **The OLP Youth Group**

The Our Lady of the Prairie Youth Group is in full swing! Members from Grades 9-12 have come together for two outings thus far and continue to grow in number. The inaugural outing was to the Nye Nature Center, outside of Hendersen, back in October for the Creatures of the Night Tour, where the members learned about the nocturnal wildlife common to the Minnesota River Valley, and enjoyed a rousing game of Capture the Flag. (It was boys versus girls, and the young ladies outfoxed their counterparts in swift fashion, taking their flag and the bragging rights.) The last outing was a service project, in which the Youth Group graciously invited our OLP 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders along to Feed My Starving Children, in Chanhassen on a November Friday night. Including Father and the chaperones, 39 souls from OLP helped package food for the needy in Jordan. (The country, not the good folks up 169.)

Led by **Mrs. Kristen Mantel**, this has been a very positive movement in the parish, and the young folks have really developed a sense of pride in their parish and have been proud to represent us out there beyond campus. You would be so proud of them! **The next Youth Group event will be on Friday, December 12, in Roedel Hall.** It will be a celebration in anticipation of our Blessed Lord's Nativity. **Any 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Graders out there are still welcome to attend, even if you haven't been able to make any outings so far.** The group would love to have you and will only grow stronger through your presence!

And speaking of presence, if you adults out there are looking to support these young folks as they grow in their faith and fellowship, we could use your help. **We are looking for anyone who would be willing to donate some "white elephant" presents for the games that are planned for the kids that night, as well as any old gift cards you might have lying around with a little balance left on them.** (It don't have to be much!) If this feels like your kind of thing, you can drop your donations off at the parish office.

With that, I have one quick favor to ask of you. Please continue to set the fabulous example in this parish for the young folks in both prayer and service to the community. They will have some mighty big shoes to fill one day, but in witnessing the wonderful things you are doing in and out of the pews, their mighty steps will ultimately carry Our Lady of the Prairie to the bright heights imagined by the good people who once passed that blessed torch on to you.

May God bless you as you have blessed this parish . . . Mr. Simons

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