

# Vine & Branches **Area Faith Community**

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

June 11, 2023 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit. because without me you can do nothing. Iohn 15:5

#### **Liturgies This Week**

Mon

2 Corinthians 1:1-7; Matthew 5:1-12 June 12

8:30am Mass – David Goedtke Family (Spfld) Tues 2 Corinthians 1:18-22; Matthew 5:18-22

June 13

(VVNH) 1:30pm Mass Wed

2 Corinthians 3:4-11; Matthew 5:17-19 June 14

8:00am Mass +Delores Frericks (Sanb) Thur.

2 Corinthians 3:15-4:1, 3-6; Matthew 5:20-26 June 15

NO MASS Fri.

Deuteronomy 7:6-11; 1 John 4:7-16; June 16

Matthew 11:25-30

5:30pm Mass +David Ochs (Spfld) Sat.

2 Corinthians 5:14-21: Luke 2:41-51 June 17

8:30am Mass +Cy & Carol Steffl (Spfld) Sun. 10:30am Mass –For the People June 18 (Lamb)

Exodus 19:2-6a; Romans  $5:\hat{6}$ -11;

Matthew 9:36-10:8

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**\$\Prices\$ Saturday 4:30—5:15pm at St. Raphael** ⊕Wednesday 6:30-7:30 pm at St Raphael

**♦**Praver Chain

507-920-6709, 507-276-2887, 507-227-6606

**◆Good Neighbor Thrift Store** 723-5778

20 E. Central, Springfield, MN

**◆Office of Catholic Charities** 866-670-5163

**Baptism:** Pre-baptism classes required - Contact AFC Office

Suggested fee for Sacrament of Baptism—\$25.00 Marriage: All Catholics are to contact the parish and

pastor at least 6 months before their wedding.

➤ Mass Stipend \$10.00

➤ Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday at 1:00pm

#### Church of St. Raphael & Area Office

20 W Van Dusen Street ~ 507-723-4137

Springfield MN 56087

Email: straphael@newulmtel.net

Praver Chain-Karen Brandl 507-920-6709

## Church of St. Joseph

400 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, PO Box 458

Lamberton MN 56152

& St. Thomas Oratory, Sanborn MN

Email stjoseph@centurylink.net

Prayer Chain-Sue Imker 507-829-1846

#### **Pastor**

Fr. Garrett Ahlers Office Phone: 723-4141

gahlers@dnu.org

#### Deacon

Dcn. Barry Reindl Phone: 723-5952

barkmr7@gmail.com

#### **Parish Secretary**

Raquel Kieper 723-4137 straphael@newulmtel.net

#### Parish Bookkeeper

Connie Vogel 723-4138

cvogel@newulmtel.net

#### **Faith Formation/Youth Ministry**

Karen Reindl

mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com

**School Principal** 

Beth Steffl 723-4136 mrssteffl@straphaelpk-6.com

#### **School Secretary**

Bev Krueger 723-4135 straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net

The Mission of the Vine & Branches Area Faith Community empowered by the Holy Spirit is to bear fruit that will last as Jesus commanded: by celebrating and proclaiming our Catholic faith as disciples of Jesus using our God-given gifts; by reaching out to and welcoming all people; and by centering our lives on the Eucharist, sacraments, scripture, service and the teaching of the Church.

#### A.M.D.G.

June is traditionally observed as the Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The 'Sacred Heart' is Christ, the Word Incarnate, who is enflamed with an infinite divine-human love for the Father and for us, whom he has saved. While the Sacred Heart of Jesus had long been a source of devotion, with its origins in the early Church, in the seventeenth century, Jesus appeared to a Visitation nun—St Margaret Mary Alacoque—and encouraged her to promote this devotion. (At St Raphael Church, we have a beautiful depiction of this in the center window on the west-side of the nave.) Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus traditionally centers upon an awareness of our sinfulness and the recognition of Christ's invincible love for us.

The real struggle for Christians today—and not just for "other people," but for you and me—is not that we are "evil, wretched sinners," but that we have grown lukewarm in our relationship to Jesus. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is literally aflame with love for us. And yet, so often, we are tepid in our relationship with God. That is why Jesus spoke the following words to St. Margaret Mary: "Behold the Heart which has so loved the human race that it has spared nothing, even to exhausting and consuming Itself, in order to testify Its love; and in return, I receive from the greater part only ingratitude, by their irreverence and sacrilege, and by the coldness and contempt they have for Me in this Sacrament of Love." Jesus did not speak these words in anger, but in sadness. He has come to set us aflame with love for Him: do we respond with ardent faith and love, or merely with a halfhearted willingness to fulfill our basic obligations of religion?

In this month dedicated to Jesus' Heart, let's pray for the grace to be renewed in our devotion to Him; let us pray—and start there: pray! Pray by spending time to listen to Jesus in silence or to meditate on His words in the Scriptures. Pray by sharing our hearts with His. Pray by asking: "Heart of Jesus: make my heart like unto thine."

A few items for our AFC: firstly, I wish to extend a special word of gratitude for the many volunteers, parents, and friends of St Raphael School who labored so indefatigably to throw an awesome evening at our Night in Havana fundraiser. While I was only able to enjoy a bit of the evening, it was a great occasion to see so many of our parishioners and community members come together in support of our Catholic School. Our mission at St Raphael School is to bring our children closer to Jesus and the Church while providing excellent education. I am sincerely thankful to those who work so hard to support this mission and provide for our school children.

I also offer my heartfelt congratulations to Mr Cole Jackson who was received into the Catholic Church this week, on Wednesday, 7th June, at St Joseph in Lamberton! Each and every member of the Catholic Church is a treasured gift: we are blessed not only in our parish to receive this new member, but the whole Body of Christ rejoices that Cole has come into full communion with the Lord. As we keep Cole in our prayers, let us pray for the grace of others in our communities who might seek to be received into the Catholic communion.

Lastly, in a moment of shameless self-promotion, I offer a humble reminder that that there will be a farewell-reception following the evening Mass on Saturday, 17 June 2023 in the St Raphael gym/auditorium as I conclude my time in our AFC and prepare to embark on life's next adventure at the end of the month. Though I know many people have expressed their regrets at not being able to attend, I am thankful all the same for your prayers, kindness, and support in these weeks. Let's keep one anther in prayer...I'm not done yet, and there is still work to be done!

Have a blessed weekend, and a holy celebration of this Solemnity of Corpus Christi which we observe this weekend.

## ~Church of St. Joseph~

### **Meetings and Activities**

June 11	10:30 am	Mass
June 14	1:30pm	Mass—Valley View Nursing Home
June 15	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
June 18	10:30am	Mass

St. Joseph Contribution Budget July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023			
	Annual Budget	<b>Budget to Date</b>	Received to Date
Adults	\$60,000.00	\$56,538.65	\$67,372.86
Student	\$300.00	\$282.73	\$200.95
<b>Loose Plate</b>	\$2,500.00	\$2,355.92	\$2,351.92

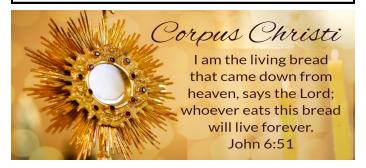
Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph		
Adult Envelope	\$480.00	
Student Envelope	\$3.00	
Loose Plate	\$29.00	
Votive Candles	\$5.00	
Fr. Bruno Mission Collection	\$214.00	
Catholic Campaign	\$20.00	
Cemetery Fund	\$50.00	
Total	\$801.00	

#### **Upcoming VIRTUS Training Sessions**

†A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for Tuesday, June 20, 2023, from 6:00pm-9:00pm at Church of St. Edward, (Knight Hall).

You can register online through the diocesan website <a href="www.dnu.org/safeenvironment">www.dnu.org/safeenvironment</a> by clicking on the large red button in the left margin of the main Safe Environment web page.





This week we remember these people in our prayers.

Cindi VanMeveren and Mark & Anita Vogel



#### Our Shepherd of the field:

Father Matt Wiering

~Please also pray for those in need ~

Bruce Olson Mary Arnoldi Pat Dauer

Barb Axford Linda Riley Bob Peterson

Brett Baumann Marcie Anderson "Pickle" Riley

#### June 18 Ministries

**Lector** Pat Story

**EMC** Teresa Wenisch

Servers Celia Vogel & Max Vogel

Sacristan Teresa Wenisch

Ushers Jim Imker & Tom Wenisch
Gift Bearers Jared Wenisch Family
Money Counters Marg Weber & Pat Story

**Sign up sheets for annual church cleaning** are now out on the cry room table. You are encouraged to sign up on your own, with a friend or as a family. Our goal is to complete all tasks by June 14<sup>th</sup>. Cleaning supplies are available in the church basement or you may bring your own if you prefer.

Please contact Beth Schaffran or Anita Vogel if you have any questions or notice that any cleaning supplies need to be restocked. Thank you for your help!

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend renews the promises you made to each other on your wedding day. Experience an enrichment for your marriage that will make your good marriage great! The available Weekends are Nov 17-19, 2023 in WINDOM, MN and Oct 6-8, 2023 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: southmnwwme.org or contact Miki at applications@southmnwwme.org or 507-227-8229.



## ~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$315,673.19	\$309,332.98
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$1,036.84	\$556.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$1,036.84	\$10.00

Last week's Parish Revenue		
Adult Envelopes	\$6,028.00	
Loose Plate	\$381.00	
DUF	\$10.00	
Men's Dinner Matching Grant	\$1,500.00	
Capital Improvement	\$10.00	
Air Conditioning	\$20.00	
Red Heart Envelope	\$20.00	
Adopt a Student	\$250.00	
Father Bruno's Mission Collection	\$791.00	
School Gift	\$300.00	
Candles	\$37.00	
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	\$400.74	
<b>Total Income</b>	\$9,747.74	

## ~Good Neighbor Thrift ~ New Store Hours

Monday9:00am-12:00pm Tuesday-Friday 9:00-5:00pm Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm

## **June 12-17**

## 50% off everything in the Kids Room

#### Prayer to St. Raphael

The Archangel

St. Raphael, the Archangel,

Great prince of the heavenly court, you are radiant with your gifts of wisdom and grace.

You are a guide of those who journey, the consoler of the afflicted, and refuge of sinners.

Because you are the "Healing of God," we pray you to heal the many weaknesses and ills of our body, mind, and soul, and to assist us in our needs and sufferings in this life.

St. Raphael,

As once you helped young Tobias, we ask you to guide and lead our youth, to serve Almighty God with their whole strength and to spend their lives gladly to serve the Church as priests, Brothers, and Sisters.

Amen.

The 400 Club Winners this Week		
#130	Alan Roiger	\$65.00
#117	Amy Baier	\$65.00

#### ~ Serving next Funeral will be Group H~

June 17 & 18, 2023				
	5:301	om	8:30am	
Servers	Alexis	Walter	Paul Goedtke	
	Jaden	Walter	Andrew Reindl	
Lector	Pat Dauer		Max Meine	
ЕМНС	Pat Dauer		Den Barry Reindl	
Accompanist	Youth Choirs		Julie Prechel	
Song Leader	Youth Choirs		Julie Prechel	
Rosary	Jane Irlbeck		VOLUNTEER	
Head Usher	Dean Walter Brooklyn Sturm		Steve Meine	
			VOLUNTEER	
	VOLUNTEER		VOLUNTEER	
	VOLUNTEER		VOLUNTEER	
Videographer		VOLUNTEER		



Thank you to all who helped with Spring Cemetery Clean Up this past week. Nick Dauer, Duane Dauer, Greg Roiger, Mike Krueger, Bryson Vogel, John Olcott, Ryan Beyer, Bob Sturm, Steve Meine, Scott Cowan, Paul Goedtke, and Duane Feser.

Also a special Thank You to Mike Krueger for all of the repairs made to the road.

~The Cemetery Committee



St. Raphael's Adult Choir is in need of new choir robes and stoles. We estimate our current robes are almost twenty-five (25) years old. Each robe and matching stole cost around \$120.

The Choir would like to purchase thirty (30) robes. If you would like to donate, make your check payable to St. Raphael's Church and earmark your check for Choir Robes. Any amount is so appreciated. Thank you for your support of our music ministry!

St. Johns Lutheran Church, Springfield, offers a free meal every Thursday evening from 5:30-6:30pm. There is **no** cost to those who attend. Everyone is welcome.

## ~Church of St. Raphael~

#### **Meetings & Activities**

June 11	8:30am	Mass	
June 13	8:30am	Mass	
June 16	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You	
		NO MASS	
	9:30am-4:00 pm	Adoration	
June 17	5:30pm	Mass	
	6:30pm	Father Garrett's Farewell Reception	
June 18	8:30am	Mass	

#### **Summer Parish Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-12:00pm Friday CLOSED

Hours may vary, please watch bulletin for notices.



We would like to welcome Chad & Kelly Sprenger and their children, Olivia & Drew, to St. Raphael Parish Community. We are happy to welcome you to our parish family.



The church basement carpets will be cleaned professionally on Saturday, June 10, 2023. Please remain out of the church basement until Sunday, June 11th.



#### Please remember in your prayers:

⊕ Our Shepherd of the Field:

Father Jeremy Kucera

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Madonna Ebnet Mon: David Feirer

Tues: Robert & Sharon Ferdinandt

Wed: Duane & Deb Feser

Thur: Gladys Feser

Fri: Gerard & Paulette Fischer Sat: Dan & Maria Flor Family

Weekly Candle Intentions (\$5.00 offering)

Special Intentions
Special Intentions DGF

♦ Small Votive Candles are now \$1.00 each \$Large Intention Candles are now \$5.00 each

#### **Check out Channel 8-Cablecast**

\* St. Raphael Sunday Mass

Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm & Friday at 6:00 pm

\*Crossing the Goal: Marks of a True Christian— Episode 7 Every Tuesday at 11:00am & Thursday at 7:00pm



## ~St. Raphael School~

It is the mission of St. Raphael Catholic School to bring students to a deeper relationship with Jesus while providing excellent education.

**Thank You!!!** I would love to give a huge shout out to all of our "A Night in Havana" committee members, dedicated volunteers, school staff, parish staff, attendees, and sponsors. Our "A Night in Havana" event was absolutely beautiful, well executed, and so much fun! Thanks to everyone for making the event the best it could be. I do not have final totals yet for the dollar amount raised, but I will keep everyone updated as all the expenses are paid and all the income is received! Save the date for next year's "A Night in Havana" fundraising event on June 1, 2024.

**Shoe Drive:** This fundraiser/service project is back by popular demand! The school is collecting new and used shoes for our shoe drive from June 5- August 7. There is a collection box in the gathering space.

**Summer Hours:** I plan to work most Wednesdays, and Fridays throughout the summer (and some Mondays, too) but will be taking more time off in July for vacation. If you would like to meet with me in person, I am happy to do so, but would appreciate setting up an appointment.

**Scholarship Applications:** Scholarship applications for the 2023-2024 school year are due June 30th and will be awarded mid-July. We have been blessed with folks who regularly give to our scholarship fund, therefore we usually award partial scholarships to each family who applies. If you feel moved to help families give their children a Catholic education, please donate to our St. Raphael Catholic School scholarship fund. This is the best time to donate!

**Still Searching:** We are still searching for a 4th grade teacher and a 5th grade teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Please continue to encourage the educators your family knows to apply! Qualified applicants may send a cover letter, copy of teaching license, resume, and two letters of recommendation to <a href="mailto:mrssteffl@straphaelpk-6.com">mrssteffl@straphaelpk-6.com</a>.

**Daycare Update:** We have begun our waiting list for the new daycare. Look for the Google form on our Facebook page. Fill out the Google form if you would like to sign up on the wait list. We are currently working on licensure, policies, and procedures and are still anticipating a fall opening.

**Playground Project:** The school will be embarking on a playground project in the next fiscal year. The project will include removing and replacing most of the existing equipment and then using our current space plus a small part of the parking lot to create a new and redesigned space to fit our growing needs. We intend to create a fenced-in area for our youngest learners with smaller age-appropriate equipment. Then, we will add larger, new equipment for our 5-12 year old learners. We have one bid and plan and are in the process of getting another bid and plan. I will also be working on obtaining grants and other sources of funding!

Blessings, Mrs. Beth Steffl



# JUST BY DONATING YOUR SHOES

We are collecting shoes again! The drop box is located in the Gathering Space. We are accepting all gently worn, used and new shoes.



Save your pop tabs and bring them into the Gathering Space and add them to our pop tab collection house. Once the house is full, we will make a

delivery to Cash Heemeyer in Marshall so he can deliver them to the Ronald McDonald House.



**Help our environment & Choices Pregnancy Center, Redwood Falls** ~ In an effort to raise money for Choices **Pregnancy Center, Redwood Falls, we are** 

asking that you please donate all empty/used Inkjet Cartridges. Cartridges should be placed in a Ziploc/plastic bag to prevent leakage and dropped off at church.

#### ~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

#### Lifelong Faith Formation

Children + Youth + Adult



Have your ever heard someone say, or maybe you thought to yourself, "I don't get anything out of Mass." This is a backward comment because honestly, that is not why we attend Mass. We attend Mass to give back. We do the giving. We are giving our time, honor, thanks and praise back to God. God is a merciful and generous God in that in return he gives us His Only Son, Jesus, in the Word and the Eucharist.

Coming to Mass we should prepare so that we can be at our best. You don't run a marathon without training and the same is true with our Faith. First and foremost arrive on time. On time means 10-15 minutes before the procession.

I too was a parent who on a cold winter morning was not excited about packing up four kids under the age of 7 to get to Mass 15 minutes before it started. I knew I should be there to read over the readings and Gospel beforehand so that I could hear them proclaimed by the priest. I knew I should settle myself in prayer and do an examination of my week so that I would be prepared to ask forgiveness. I admit this did not happen when my kids were little but I learned that it worked to invite my children to join me in the preparation.

Read the readings and Gospel together at home on Saturday night to prepare for the next morning. Even though I know they did not understand many of the words I did this to prepare myself and to teach them by example, plus I got it done this way!

Each night of the week, do a small examination to evaluate your day to help you to easily bring to mind the slights of the week on Sunday morning.

To our parents of young children please know I am glad you are with us at Mass. Thank you for bringing your children because actions do speak louder than words.

Thank you to CCW for their donation for hard covered Bibles for the students of St. Raphael! I am so very grateful to be able to use these Bibles year after year to help our children learn about God's great love for each of them.

~Mrs. Karen Reindl



St. Raphael Vacation Bible School called Totus Tuus is a program lead by four young adults sponsored bv Diocese. Youth in grades 1-6

participate in games, Mass, skits and learning starting Monday, July 17- Friday, July 21 from 9am-2pm each day. Teens in grades 7-12 will enjoy games, adoration and small groups for an engaging, meaningful and enjoyable week. They will meet each evening from 7:30-9:30pm July 16-20. Registration forms are located on the Faith Formation table in the gathering space or email to request a form mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com

Visit www.dnu.org/liturgy-matters to learn about the Mysteries of the Sacred Liturgy, the Mass. These are reflections on the Sacred Liturgy by Bishop Chad W. Zielinski

# Meet Your Totas Tuus team!





Birthday: Feb. 27, 2002. Hometown: Ghent, MN. Favorite food:

Birthday: May 14, 2003. Hometown: Litchfield, MN. Favorite food:

Confirmation Saint: St. John Bosco. Confirmation Saint: St. Martha. School/Major: SJV/Seminarian.

# of siblings and rank: 2nd of 8.

HAZEL CHVATAL

School/Major: North Dakota State University/Architecture

# of siblings and rank: 1st of 3.



April 30, 2003. Hometown: Morgan, MN. Favorite food: Any soup!

Birthday: Oct. 29, 2001. Hometown: Sicklerville, NJ. Favorite food: Hamburgers.

MARYANNE LARSEN

Confirmation Saint: St. Maria Goretti. School/Major: Lake Area Tech/ Physical Therapist Assistant

# of siblings and rank: 5th of 6.

LUKE HASSON

Confirmation Saint: St. Paul. School/Major: University of Mary/ Philosophy.

# of siblings and rank: 2nd of 8.

## ~Upcoming Area Events~

#### St. Paul's Parish Council

will be hosting a

## Hot Chicken Sandwich/BBQ Luncheon Sunday, June 11

Serving: 11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Church Social Hall, Comfrey, MN

Menu will include:

Choice of Sandwich, Baked Beans, Chips, Bar & Beverage

Please SJoin Us i

COST: \$8.00 Extra Sandwich: \$4.00

Take-out meals available)

Proceeds will go towards general expenses of the parish

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!









CORPUS CHRISTI

## **EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION**

LED BY BISHOP CHAD ZIELINSKI

Join the Diocese of New Ulm's Eucharistic Procession on Corpus Christi, Sunday, June 11 at 4:00 pm beginning at the Diocesan Pastoral Center and ending at the Cathedral.

A shuttle will be available from the Cathedral to the Pastoral Center from 3:00-3:45 pm. There will be an opportunity for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 3:00 pm in the Pastoral Center Chapel. Please bring non-perishable food to the Pastoral Center for the Food Shelf.

After the procession, there will be prayers and Benediction at the Cathedral. Barbecue to follow in Washington Park, across from the Cathedral.

## Sunday, June 11, 2023

Diocesan Pastoral Center: 1421 6th St. N. • New Ulm

Cathedral of the Holy Trinity: 605 N. State St. • New Ulm

#### Schedule

**3:00 PM:** Opportunity for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Diocesan Pastoral Center

**3:00 - 3:45 PM:** Shuttle from the Catheral parking lot to the Diocesan Pastoral Center

**4:00 PM:** Eucharistic Procession from the Pastoral Center to the Cathedral ending with Benediction and a Blessing

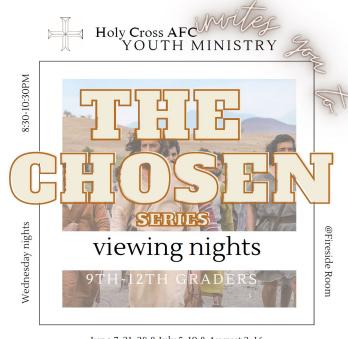
After the Procession: Barbecue in





Catholic Charites provides personal, marriage, and family counseling. Inperson sessions are now available. Call

866-670-5163 (toll free) or 507-233-5318 (local).



June 7, 21, 28 & July 5, 19 & August 2, 16

ALLY OF THE CATHEDRAL 605 N STATE ST. NEW ULM, MN

Holy Cross AFC youth group would like to invite you to their outdoor movie night & bonfire. Snacks and beverages provided. Please bring camping chairs and blankets if you'd like!

Mrs. Karen Reindl will be driving to this event, if you would like to ride with her, please contact her at mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com.



## YOU ARE INVITED TO COMMUNITY WORSHIP DURING RIVERSIDE DAYS!

**DATE:** SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: RIVERSIDE PARK SHELTER #3

Riverside Park is located on S. Cass Ave. – over the bridge in Springfield.

With Music from Gospel Express and other local musicians!

THE OFFERING WILL BE DONATED TO THE SPRINGFIELD AREA FOOD EMERGENCY PROGRAM.

#### PLEASE BRING A LAWN CHAIR OR BLANKET

A few extra chairs will be available - first come, first served.



Camping visitors, families, and friends are all welcome!



To parishioners and all concerned citizens of Minnesota,

I am writing this letter to make citizens aware of abortion statistics for the state of Minnesota and to discuss recent legislation in the state concerning abortion. While going through this information, I would ask all of you to think about whether what is happening is truly good for Minnesota, and whether it is truly women's health care.

The state of Minnesota maintains abortion statistics for abortions performed in Minnesota at the Minnesota Department of Health website. Here is a summary of selected data. In 2021, (latest reported data) there were 10,136 abortion patients of which 9,127 were Minnesota residents. 41% of these women had one or more previous abortions. The most common reason cited for an abortion was "not wanting children at this time", of the total number of abortions reported, 41 abortions (.4%) were done due to rape or incest. Of total abortions, 69% took place on women who were under nine weeks pregnant with 39% via surgical procedure and 61% were induced via medication. The greatest number of the mothers were 20-29 years of age. Half of these abortions received public assistance to pay for the procedure (your taxes?), 22% had private coverage, and 27% self paid.

According to the Catholic Advocacy Network, many changes have occurred during this legislative session even in reporting. You better look quick because they will no longer report why the abortion took place. My question would be why?

Women seeking abortion will no longer have the right to be provided information regarding their child's gestational age and developmental stage as they consider an abortion. My question would be why?

Women no longer have the right to be provided with medically accurate information on the abortion procedure before consent. My question would be why?

Abortion in the second trimester no longer needs to be performed in a hospital. My question would be why?

It is no longer required that a physician perform an abortion. Why?

Lastly, the born-alive infant protection act which protected children who survived a botched abortion by requiring life-preserving care is now gutted. Care currently is a "warm blanket and left to die". Most disturbing, is the fact that now it does not only refer to infants who survive a botched abortion, but refers to "any infant" including those born with medical complications and/or disabilities.

Ask yourself and contemplate these questions:

Is this really health care for women? Why would we not give women information about their child's gestation age or developmental stage? Why would it not be required to give women medical information about the procedure the women will be receiving? They are capable of making a good decision with good information and good support. More to come about the support that is available.

Is it truly good for Minnesota? Is this how we want our most vulnerable treated? If not, vote differently next time.

How can we think that murder on the streets is going to stop when we are murdering the most innocent and vulnerable of our community?

Katie Dauer CCW Reverence for Life Commission