



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

October 22, 2023
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*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.
John 15:5*

Liturgies This Week

Mon Oct 23	NO Mass <i>Romans 4:20-25; Luke 12:13-21</i>
Tues Oct 24	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Norbert Sturm <i>Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Luke 12:35-38</i>
Wed Oct 25	(Lamb) 8:00am Mass +The Welsch Family <i>Romans 6:12-18; Luke 12:39-48</i>
Thur. Oct 26	(Sanb) 8:00am Mass +Lawrence & Ruth Schmidt <i>Romans 6:19-23; Luke 12:49-53</i>
Fri. Oct 27	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Marion Roiger <i>Romans 7:18-25a; Luke 12:54-59</i>
Sat. Oct 28	(Spfld) 5:30pm Mass +Jerome Juenemann <i>Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-16</i>
Sun. Oct 29	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Cy & Carol Steffl (Lamb) 10:30am Mass –For the People <i>Exodus 22:20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40</i>

Church of St. Raphael & Area Office

20 W Van Dusen Street ~ 507-723-4137
Springfield MN 56087

Email: straphael@newulmtel.net

Prayer Chain–Karen Brandl 507-920-6709

Church of St. Joseph

400 W 2nd Ave, PO Box 458
Lamberton MN 56152

& St. Thomas Oratory, Sanborn MN
507-752-7269

Email stjoseph@centurylink.net

Prayer Chain– Sue Imker 507-829-1846

St. Joseph Secretary—Sue Imker

Pastor

Fr. Jeremy Kucera Phone: 507-828-5247
fatherjeremykucera@gmail.com

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

Trisha Ludewig 723-4135
straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation

✠Saturday 4:30—5:15pm at **St. Raphael**

✠Wednesday 7:15-7:45am at **St. Joseph**

◆Prayer Chain

507-920-6709, 507-441-1049, 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 Stipend 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

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.

Hello everyone,

This Tuesday and Wednesday the priests of our diocese have been with Bishop Zielinski in Willmar for our biannual clergy days. The topic yesterday was on the charisms of the different generations of priests in our diocese (and the shadow side of those charisms). Today we will be focusing on sacred music.

Because of the bulletin deadline being earlier due to MEA I was not able to write much of an article. Please enjoy the selection I've chosen from the liturgy of the hours we priests recently prayed.

From the Pastoral Guide by Saint Gregory the Great, pope
(Lib. 2, 4: PL 77, 30-31)

Let the pastor be discreetly silent, and to the point when he speaks

A spiritual guide should be silent when discretion requires and speak when words are of service. Otherwise he may say what he should not or be silent when he should speak. Indiscreet speech may lead men into error and an imprudent silence may leave in error those who could have been taught. Pastors who lack foresight hesitate to say openly what is right because they fear losing the favor of men. As the voice of truth tells us, such leaders are not zealous pastors who protect their flocks, rather they are like mercenaries who flee by taking refuge in silence when the wolf appears.

The Lord reproaches them through the prophet: They are dumb dogs that cannot bark. On another occasion he complains: You did not advance against the foe or set up a wall in front of the house of Israel, so that you might stand fast in battle on the day of the Lord. To advance against the foe involves a bold resistance to the powers of this world in defense of the flock. To stand fast in battle on the day of the Lord means to oppose the wicked enemy out of love for what is right.

When a pastor has been afraid to assert what is right, has he not turned his back and fled by remaining silent? Whereas if he intervenes on behalf of the flock, he sets up a wall against the enemy in front of the house of Israel. Therefore, the Lord again says to his unfaithful people: Your prophets saw false and foolish visions and did not point out your wickedness, that you might repent of your sins. The name of prophet is sometimes given in the sacred writings to teachers who both declare the present to be fleeting and reveal what is to come. The word of God accuses them of seeing false visions because they are afraid to reproach men for their faults and thereby lull the evildoer with an empty promise of safety. Because they fear reproach, they keep silent and fail to point out the sinner's wrongdoing.

The word of reproach is a key that unlocks a door, because reproach reveals a fault of which the evildoer is himself often unaware. That is why Paul says of the bishop: He must be able to encourage men in sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. For the same reason God tells us through Malachi: The lips of the priest are to preserve knowledge, and men shall look to him for the law, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. Finally, that is also the reason why the Lord warns us through Isaiah: Cry out and be not still; raise your voice in a trumpet call.

Anyone ordained a priest undertakes the task of preaching, so that with a loud cry he may go on ahead of the terrible judge who follows. If, then, a priest does not know how to preach, what kind of cry can such a dumb herald utter? It was to bring this home that the Holy Spirit descended in the form of tongues on the first pastors, for he causes those whom he has filled, to speak out spontaneously.

God's blessings,

Fr. Jeremy

~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

Oct 22	10:30am	Mass
Oct 25	8:00am	Mass
	6:30-7:30pm	Faith Formation Classes
Oct 26	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
Oct 29	10:30am	Mass

This week we remember *these people in our prayers.*
Tasha & Jeremiah Frasher and Lee & Joann French

Our Shepherd of the field:

Father Jeffrey Horejsi



~Please also pray for those in need ~

Bruce Olson	Mary Arnoldi	Pat Dauer
Barb Axford	Linda Riley	Bob Peterson
Brett Baumann	Marcie Anderson	

St. Joseph Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	62,000.00	\$19,076.96	\$15,561.00
Student	\$250.00	\$76.96	\$68.00
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$769.28	\$1,085.75

October 29 Ministries

Lector	Brenda Derickson
EMC	Diane Arnsdorf
Servers	Maia Scheffler & Oliver Hubert
Sacristan	Cathy Graff
Ushers	Vern Hillesheim & Jim Imker
Gift Bearers	Mark Vogel Family
Money Counters	Teresa Wenisch & Katy Wille

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph	
Adult Envelope	\$1,890.00
Student Envelope	\$9.00
Loose Plate	\$84.00
Cemetery Fund	\$300.00
Total	\$2,283.00

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, October 25

6:30-7:30pm Faith Formation Classes

CCW dues are now payable for this year. Please give your \$10.00 to Cathy Graff. You can put them in the regular collection in an envelope labelled CCW or put them in Cathy's mailbox. They can also be mailed to PO Box 234.

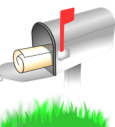
We have Mass intention availability at both St. Joseph and St. Thomas. If you would like to have a Mass said in honor or in memory of your loved one, please contact Raquel at the Parish Office, at 507-723-4137 to reserve a date.

Please remember in your prayers **Giles "Pickle" Riley**, who recently passed away. We extend our prayers and sympathy to his family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.

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 next available weekends is Nov 17-19, 2023 in WINDOM, 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.



EXCITING NEWS!!! Our Area Faith Community has determined it is time for our new pictorial church directory. Our dates for photography will be: November 20 & 21 in Lambertton and November 24 & 25 and November 28—December 2 in Springfield. Sign up is now available online at www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **mn371** in the Church Code and enter **photos** in the password field. If your family consists of 6 or more people, please use 2 consecutive time slots.



Address, Phone, Membership Changes? Please remember to update the office on any address, phone, or membership changes for yourself or your children, especially if they have completed their post-high school education. Thank you!

~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$103,076.96	\$73,211.00
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$338.56	\$0.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$338.56	\$0.00

The 400 Club Winners this Week

#113	Amy Baier	\$65.00
#40	Pat Ryan	\$65.00

~ Serving next Funeral will be Group C~

October 28 & 29, 2023		
	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	Kallen Riederer	Riley Arnsdorf
	Zoie Riederer	Carson Arnsdorf
Lector	Max Meine	Mariah Pietig
EMHC	Cathy Ochs	Donna Krueger
Accompanist	Kathleen Goedtke	Julie Prechel
Song Leader	Denise Reiner	Adult Choir
Rosary	Jane Irlbeck	VOLUNTEER
Head Usher	Keith Riederer	Mike Reiner
	Jill Riederer	VOLUNTEER
	Terry Ochs	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	Noah Riederer	

Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$4,938.00
Loose Plate	\$525.00
Playground Donation	\$565.00
Coffee Connections	\$18.00
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	\$563.66
Total Income	\$6,609.66

The 2023-2024 CCW Booklets are now available for pickup in the gathering space.

Dear Church family,

It's time for a New Directory!





**Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.**

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
- Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!

Gathering families,
Connecting generations.




Online Scheduling Available!
To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **ms971** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**

2021 Dear Family Letter

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~


Monday-Friday 9:30am-3:30pm
Closed Saturdays

October 23-27

Last Thursday of the Month—Oct 26

50% off All Clothing

Now accepting Fall/Winter Clothing Donations



The 400 Club

~ Please show your support for the 400 Club. Our loyal sellers are out and about selling tickets. **There are also tickets available in the Parish Office.** Please be supportive of this worthy fundraiser.

The Springfield Area Community Center offers Senior Cards every Thursday afternoon from 1:00-3:30pm. Some of the games played are 500, Sheep Head, and Pinochle. They are looking for more people to join in on the fun! If you are available, just show up at the community center ready to play.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities

Oct 22	8:30am	Mass
		Coffee Connection
Oct 24	8:30am	Mass
	9:15am	Adult Faith Formation in Holy Family Room
	4:00-5:30pm	Atrium
Oct 25	5:00-6:00pm	Children's Choir Practice
	6:00-7:00pm	Praise & Worship Choir Practice
	6:00-7:00pm	Faith Formation grades 1-6
	7:15-8:15pm	Faith Formation grades 7-12
Oct 26	6:30pm	Adult Faith Formation in Holy Family Room
Oct 27	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You
	8:30am	Mass
Oct 28	5:30pm	Mass
		Rolls sold after Mass
Oct 29	8:30am	Mass
		Coffee Connection
	1:00-7:30pm	Confirmation Retreat

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.

Please remember in your prayers:

✠ Our Shepherd of the Field:

Father Steven Verhelst

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Mary Lipetzky

Mon: Philip & Julie Lipetzky Family

Tues: Steve & Diane Lipetzky

Wed: Tim & Hyon Lipetzky

Thur: Lance & Heather Lothert Family

Fri: Joshua & Trisha Ludewig Family

Sat: Kevin & Rhonda Ludewig

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 5:00 pm

***The Future Depends of Love—Episode 4**

Every Tuesday at 11:00am & Thursday at 7:00pm



Coffee Connection has begun and we are looking for people willing to help serve coffee and treats on Sundays after mass. You can find the sign up sheets in the Gathering Space on the counter by the sink. Contact Vicki Roiger 507-822-1504 if you have questions.



Mark your calendars! Saturday, June 22, 2024 at 4:00pm, Bishop Chad Zielenski will be here to celebrate Mass and the 150th anniversary of St. Raphael's parish.



Congratulations to Lila Marie Portner, daughter of Alex and Olivia Portner, as she recently received the Sacrament of Baptism and was welcomed into the Holy Catholic Church and the St. Raphael Parish. Community!



St Raphael School will be selling rolls after Mass on Saturday, October 28, 2023.

~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.

Greetings!

Candy Bar Sales: They're going fast!!! If you would like to purchase candy bars, please check with a St. Raphael Catholic School family or come in to the school office to get your chocolate fix! The varieties we have left in the office are crisp and almond. They are on sale for \$1.00 each. All the proceeds go to the school.

Iverson Tree Farm: The K-3rd grade students went on a field trip to Iverson Tree Farm this past Tuesday. They had a wonderful time and a beautiful day doing fall activities.

Grandparents Day: This week we hosted Grandparents Day for our K-6th grade students and their grandparents. We had a super time sharing in a morning of fun activities like the living Rosary, BINGO, recess and lunch! Thanks so much to all our grandparents for attending and supporting your grandkids and their education. We truly appreciate you!

Upcoming School Masses: Please join us for school Masses at 8:30a.m.

Friday October 27: Grade 5 leads

Wednesday November 1: Grade 4 leads

End of the Quarter: This week marks the end of the first quarter. Students were dismissed Wednesday at 12:30p.m. There was no school on Thursday October 19th or Friday October 20th for the Education Minnesota break.

All Saints Day: K-6 students and staff will celebrate All Saints Day with a special Mass at 8:30a.m. on Wednesday November 1st. The staff and students will also be celebrating with an All Saints Day party organized by Mrs. Reindl in the afternoon.

Veterans Day Program: Our St. Raphael students will be putting on a Veterans Day program on Friday November 10th at 11:00a.m. We are partnering once again with the American Legion and they will be joining us for this special event. Our students will prepare poems, songs, decorations, and remarks. We invite everyone to join us for this special event!

Save the Date: Please save the date for our St. Raphael Catholic School annual Christmas program on Wednesday December 6th at 6:30p.m.

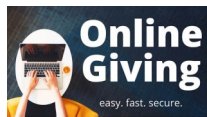
Blessings,

Mrs. Beth Steffl

School Office Hours

Monday-Friday 7:30am—3:30pm

Hours may vary if school is closed. Please watch bulletin for notices.



We have a new online giving link for Alumni Contributions for St. Raphael School! Please use this link when making your donation:

<https://vineandbranchesafc.churchgiving.com/>



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.

Parking-lot notice: Our school children are outside for recess each day Monday-Friday 10:30-11:00am. We are asking parishioners not to drive or park in the north parking lot during those times (we do not want any accidents to occur during the kids' play time). If you need to enter the church, please park on Van Dusen Street and use the south gathering space entrance.

Thank you.

~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

It's not too late to join us for the Study titled "Presence The Mystery of the Eucharist." Choose which time works best for you;

Thursdays at 6:30pm (October 26, November 2, 9)
Tuesdays at 9:15am (October 24, 31, November 7, 14)

This study is being offered through the Augustine Institute program, Formed.

Gathering 2 = The story of the Eucharist (Tues. October 24)

Gathering 3 = Bread for the Journey (Thurs. Oct. 26 and Tues. Oct. 31)

Gathering 4 = Biblical Foundations of the Eucharist (Jewish and pagan) (Thurs. Nov. 2 and Tues. Nov. 7)

Gathering 5 = Biblical Foundations of the Eucharist (Protestant and Secular) (Thurs. Nov. 9 and Tues. Nov. 14)

Please join us if you like or look for this program on FORMED.

~Mrs. Karen Reindl

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, October 25

6:00-7:00pm Faith Formation Classes grades 1-6
7:15-8:15pm Faith Formation Classes grades 7-12

Youth Choir Schedule

Wednesday, October 25

5:00-6:00pm Children's Choir Practice
6:00-7:00pm Praise & Worship Choir Practice

The confirmation retreat is set for Sunday, October 29 starting at 1:00pm for those in grades 9 and 10 and those who have not attended a confirmation retreat before in grade 11, an email was sent out last week.

Please eat lunch before coming, we will have snacks and supper at the retreat. The retreat will end at 7:30pm

Please invite your sponsor or a parent to join us at 5:30pm for supper.

The Eucharistic Miracles Display is a traveling museum-like exhibition featuring the Eucharistic Miracles as chronicled by Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991-2006).

Blessed Carlo was a teenager from Italy who developed a website dedicated to the documented and scientifically scrutinized occasions when the Holy Eucharist changed in its physical appearance, reminding us that the bread and wine of the Mass truly become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Eucharistic Miracles Display will travel across the Divine Mercy AFC Oct 10th - 26th.

The schedule is as follows:

St Paul's, Comfrey - Oct 23rd - 26th

Please stop by and view the display during these times.

WANTED:



Piano Accompanist for the
Children's Choir and
Praise and Worship Choir!



Accompanist needed for service rehearsals
Wednesday evenings and 2 services per month during the
months September—May.

5:00-6:00 Children's Choir
6:00-7:00 Praise and Worship Choir

This is a paid position. Please contact Lori Kretsch for
more details: 507-276-5160

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.

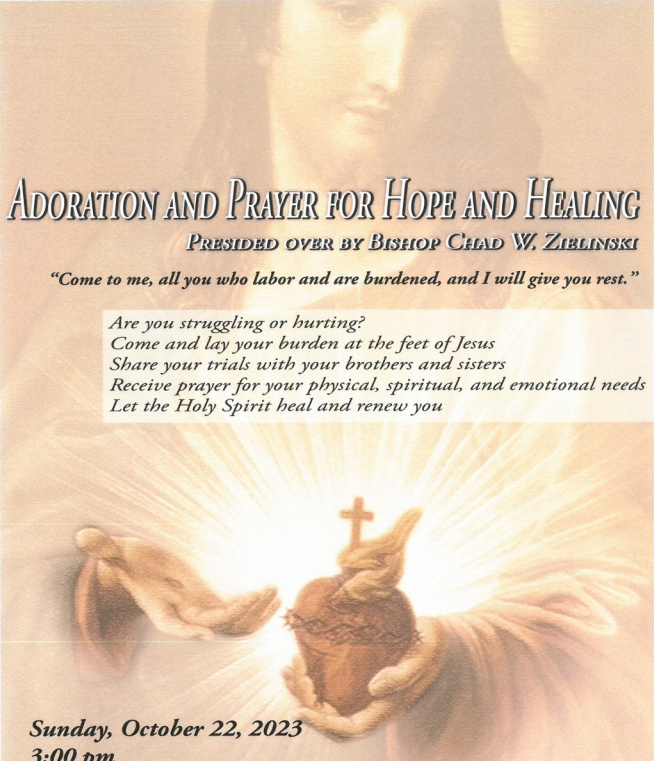


Catholic Charities provides personal, marriage, and family counseling.

In-person sessions are now available.
Call 866-670-5163 (toll free) or

507-233-5318 (local).

~Upcoming Area Events~




ADORATION AND PRAYER FOR HOPE AND HEALING
 PRESIDED OVER BY BISHOP CHAD W. ZIEBLINSKI

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

*Are you struggling or hurting?
 Come and lay your burden at the feet of Jesus
 Share your trials with your brothers and sisters
 Receive prayer for your physical, spiritual, and emotional needs
 Let the Holy Spirit heal and renew you*

Sunday, October 22, 2023
3:00 pm
Holy Redeemer, Marshall, MN
*Eucharistic Adoration with opportunities
 for healing prayer, Confession, spiritual counsel*



35th Annual
TURKEY DINNER
DRIVE-THRU "Meals To Go"
First Come, First Served
No reserved meals

With the trimmings: *dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, cranberries, dessert.*

Wednesday, Nov. 1st, 2023
4:30-6:30 p.m. or until food is gone.
United Methodist Church
Springfield, MN
\$13.00/meal

Delivered meals to shut-ins only between 4:30-5:30.

****Must be ordered by 4 p.m. Call 723-6698.****



St. Paul Lutheran Church
 303 N Cass Ave, Springfield

GERMAN SUPPER



Wed, October 25, 2023
 from 4:30 – 6:00 or Sold Out
DRIVE UP ~ TAKE OUT ~ DINE IN
Served HOT and ready to eat!
**Sauerkraut with Pork and Dumplings,
 German Potato Salad, Brat, and Cookie**

Advance Tickets \$14 per meal
 At the Door Tickets \$15 per meal

Advance Tickets available at St. Paul Lutheran Church Office,
 Springfield Advance Press, or from a member of Church Council

Delivery to shut-ins only. Call 723-5880 by October 24th.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?
 ~ SEEING IS BELIEVING ~

ST. CATHERINE **ST. ANNE**
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH**
3:30 PM – 6:00 PM (WITH INTERMISSION) **6:30 PM – 9:00 PM (WITH INTERMISSION)**

Can miracles stand up to the test of science?

- Exclusive film footage of a stigmatist who bleeds from her hands, feet, and head. Are these the wounds of Christ? *What does science have to say?*
- A consecrated Communion Host becomes living flesh and blood. Is it heart tissue? *What does science have to say?*
- A scientist (former atheist), an attorney and a famous TV Journalist witness statue of Jesus weeping real tears and shedding real blood. Are these claims true? *What does science have to say?*

St. Catherine and St. Anne are hosting an **EVENT** for everyone in the area. If you have an "I will believe it when I see it" attitude, don't miss this event!

"Put it this way - this is either the biggest hoax of the 20th Century, in which case it would have to be a fairly huge conspiracy, or the most important moment of the century, if not the whole millennium."

Alastair Thompson
New Zealand Journalist

Sunday, November 12th
 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm (with intermission)
St. Catherine
 900 E. Flynn St.
 Redwood Falls, MN, 56283

Monday, November 13th
 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm (with intermission)
St. Anne
 950 North St.
 Wabasso, MN, 56283

For detailed itinerary go to
www.ScienceTestsFaith.com/MN
 Same presentation each day - choose one