



ST. IGNATIUS

213 W Franklin St
Spring Valley, MN 55975

ST. FINBARR

504 1st St SW
Grand Meadow, MN 55936

ST. PATRICK

436 W Main St
LeRoy, MN 55951

DECEMBER 14, 2025

GAUDETE SUNDAY – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Office

213 W Franklin St, Spring Valley · www.fmparishes.org

Pastor
Secretary
Bookkeeper
Faith Formation
—St. Finbarr
—St. Ignatius
—St. Patrick

Father Parrott (507) 346-7565
Mary Kuhlman (507) 346-7565
Elaine Mills (507) 440-0674
Rochelle Fay (507) 259-2675
Nichol Arndorfer (507) 273-3705
Elaine Mills (507) 440-0674

father@fmparishes.org
office@fmparishes.org
elainemills55@gmail.com
gmpath@fmparishes.org
svpath@fmparishes.org
elainemills55@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Tues, Dec 16	8:30 AM	St. Finbarr	† David Hoehn
Wed, Dec 17	8:30 AM	St. Patrick	Bonnie Books
Thur, Dec 18	8:30 AM	St. Ignatius	† Eugene Dingels
Fri, Dec 19	8:30 AM	St. Ignatius	† Don & Barb Wannarka
Sat, Dec 20	5:00 PM	St. Patrick	† Ralph Smith
Sun, Dec 21	8:30 AM	St. Finbarr	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Sun, Dec 21	10:30 AM	St. Ignatius	† Russ Betsinger

Adoration & Confession

Tues	9:00-9:30 AM	Adoration	St. Finbarr
Wed	9:00-9:30 AM	Adoration	St. Patrick
Thur	9:00 AM-7:00 PM	Adoration	St. Ignatius
	6:45 PM	Benediction	St. Ignatius
1 st Sat	9:00 AM	Confession	St. Ignatius
Sat	4:15-4:45 PM	Confession	St. Patrick
Sun	8:00-8:20 AM	Confession	St. Finbarr

Or Confession by appointment. Call Father Parrott at the office or Father Collins (LeRoy, 507-289-7637).

Infant Baptism

Reach out to Father to arrange your child's baptism as soon as possible, even before the birth. A baptism preparation is required for first-time parents.

Matrimony

Recently engaged? Contact Father soon to prepare for this holy union. Marriage preparation (meetings with Father, with a mentor couple, and a usually a Pre-Cana retreat) is required for at least six months before your wedding.

OCIA

Everyone is invited to follow Christ in the Catholic Church. Call the office to inquire about becoming Catholic. OCIA meets at St. Ignatius on most Thursdays at 6:45 pm.

Care of the Sick

For Holy Communion for you or a family member who can no longer come to Mass, contact the office. Any who are gravely ill or in danger of death should be anointed. The Anointing of the Sick cannot be given after death.

From Father's Desk

Rejoice! It's Gaudete Sunday. Marking the halfway point, this day every year marks that Christmas is quickly – too quickly – approaching. Every year it gets to be around December 15 and I wonder where all the time has gone and how in the world can Christmas only be 10 days away.

This weekend all three of our parishes have the Christmas programs. It's great to see the kids put this together. Some of them might like the spotlight, as it were, and some of them might have to overcome some fear. Likely all of them have some nerves. Nevertheless, it's good to work with others in this way. And most importantly, even if simple, to honor our Lord and the gift that is His Advent into the world.

I want to thank our Faith Formation Coordinators, especially, as well as our catechists and other volunteers who put the Christmas programs together. But also for all their work throughout the year with our Faith Formation programs. This is some of the most important work a parish does – hand on the teachings of our faith to the next generation so that they can know how Jesus wants to save us and bring us closer to Himself. Thank you!

There are several opportunities for Confession, yet, before Christmas. The saints have long given the example of making a regular Confession. Oftentimes, many Catholics throughout the world keep their faith alive by making a monthly Confession around First Friday and First Saturday. The precepts of the Church require only an annual Confession, but the precepts are "meant to guarantee to the faithful the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor" (CCC 2041).

Encouraging not only the minimum but a little more is why it is such a widespread practice to have ample opportunity and really encourage going to Confession twice a year, during Advent and during Lent – the two seasons of penance in the liturgical year. Please find time to make a good confession, yet. It's one of the most important ways of preparing for Christmas.

This past week saw two feast days that are closely related. First, on December 9 is the optional memorial of Saint Juan Diego, the young peasant who became a great witness to the faith by encountering the Blessed Virgin Mary. And that encounter is commemorated on December 12 in the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, when Mary revealed herself and won over the hearts of the Mexican people by showing herself to be the Mother of God and the ambassador for life and the dignity of life. In Christ, Fr. Parrott

St. Ignatius

Liturgy Schedule – Sunday, December 21

Greeters: Youth
Gifts: Youth
EMHC: Bill Mettler & Rosann Sanford
Reader: Youth
Servers: Youth
Ushers: Youth
Counters: Colwell & Sanford

Offering from December 7 – Week 23

Weekly Support:	\$ 1,625.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 1,980.00
YTD Support Received:	\$ 30,351.00
YTD Expenses Paid:	\$ 48,667.00

Announcements

- The Annual Spring Valley Community Christmas Dinner will be held at Faith United Methodist, 617 Maple Lane, on Thursday, Dec. 25 at noon. As you know, St. Ignatius is one of the organizers of the annual dinner. To help, please sign-up in the Narthex. Some things can be done ahead of time, others on Christmas Day. Also, sign-up if you want a meal delivered or if you would like a ride on Christmas Day. Any questions, please call Teri Hill, 507-273-3712.
- Please give \$10+ donations for poinsettias to Rita Bezdicek for the Christmas altar until Dec 21.
- Salvation Army Bell Ringers: Still time to volunteer. Register at www.springvalleyeda.org.



Faith Formation

St. Finbarr

Class	9:00-10:00 AM	Jan 7
Christmas Program	8:30 AM	Dec 14

St. Patrick

Class	6:45-7:45 PM	Dec 17
Christmas Program	5:00 PM	Dec 13

St. Ignatius

Class	9:00-10:20 AM	Dec 14, 21
Confirmation Class		
in Grand Meadow	6:45-7:45 PM	Dec 17
Christmas Program	10:30 AM	Dec 14

St. Finbarr

Liturgy Schedule – Sunday, December 21

Opener: Tye Davis
EMHC: Kristal Brogan & Dawn Stier
Reader: Adyson Brogan
Servers: Sean Brogan & Holly Weiss
Ushers: Clint Weiss & Chris Stier
Counters: Dom Stier & Clint Weiss

Offering from December 7 – Week 23

Weekly Support:	\$ 2,506.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 1,646.00
YTD Support Received:	\$ 52,402.00
YTD Expenses Paid:	\$ 33,889.00

Announcements

- The funeral for Stephen Baudoin was held at 11 am Friday. Please remember Stephen and his family in your prayers.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve, December 24, 3:00 pm – St. Finbarr
Christmas Eve, December 24, 5:00 pm – St. Patrick
Christmas Eve, December 24, 7:00 pm – St. Ignatius
Christmas Day, December 25, 9:00 am – St. Ignatius

St. Patrick

Liturgy Schedule – Saturday, December 20

Greeters: Nick & Kathi Bunne
Gifts: Rod & Shirley Miller
EMHC: Jennifer Lewis
Reader: Travis Lewis
Servers: Vanessa Lewis & Chloe O'Bannon
Ushers: Rod Miller & Mike Welsh
Counters: Cathy Yoch & Travis Lewis

Offering from December 6 – Week 23

Weekly Support:	\$ 5,214.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 1,365.00
YTD Support Received:	\$ 32,137.00
YTD Expenses Paid:	\$ 37,440.00



Upcoming Confession Times

Sun, Dec 14	4:00-5:00 pm	St. Finbarr
Wed, Dec 17	6:00-7:00 pm	St. Patrick (Fr. Collins)
Sun, Dec 21	4:00-5:00 pm	St. Ignatius

Community News

- There will be a second collection this weekend for the Retirement Fund for Religious and Catholic University.
- Nativity House of Austin: The Austin Knights of Columbus would like to invite everyone to visit this incredible collection of over 900 nativity sets celebrating the birth of Jesus. They are displayed in the Queen of Angels school building, 1001 Oakland Ave East, every Sat. (noon-5) and Sun. (10-5) now through Jan. 11.
- Students Grades 8-12: The Minnesota State March for Life on Jan. 22, 2026, is a great way to pause and reflect on the God-given dignity of every human life. Throughout the day we'll take part in the Prayer Service for Life at the Cathedral of St. Paul, hear from individuals and organizations who are working to make our state more pro-life in every way, and of course walk together so our law makers and fellow Minnesotans know how important this theme of Catholic Social Teaching really is to us and to all of human flourishing. Visit the March for Life webpage on dowr.org.
- The Diocese of Winona-Rochester (DOW-R) is excited to send, for a second time, a group of religious and laity from our diocese to experience and participate in the Walk to Mary from May 1-3, 2026 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion in Wisconsin! Visit DOWR.org to learn more and register. Deadline Jan. 1.
- Formed: How to Advent is now streaming! Prepare your heart for the coming of Christ.
- OCIA (the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) will meet on Thursdays from 6:45 PM– 8:00 PM.
- Courier: The December edition is available on the Diocese of Winona-Rochester website dowr.org, click "The Courier."
- Mass Intentions can be given to Father Parrott. The customary stipend is \$10. Please indicate the name(s) and whether they're deceased.
- Bulletin & Announcements: Please e-mail Mary with bulletin items by 9 AM Wednesdays. Announcements by 9 AM Thursdays. Subject to edit and Father's discretion.

Prayer Chain

Please keep the following sick, hospitalized & homebound parishioners and friends in your prayers.

Dorothy Steinkamp – St. Finbarr	Jerry Marr – St. Ignatius	Sharon Hammon – St. Patrick
Lori Brogan – St. Finbarr	Don Mulhern – St. Ignatius	Kurt Fuhrmann Jr. – St. Patrick
Todd Mlenar	Joe O'Connell – St. Ignatius	Jodi Miller – St. Patrick
Maxine Mlenar	Jane Reineke – St. Ignatius	Crystal Stern – St. Patrick
Kathleen Domaille	Diane Reineke	David Geary
Jason Emanuel	Cheri Jose	Karen Sanford
Bob & Margaret Cole	Sandy Stern	

If you know someone who needs to be included in the prayer chain, email their name to Mary in the office.