



Parish Newsletter

**"If we can just communicate,
Together we'll walk thru Heaven's Gate"**



ST. WENDELIN'S - LUXEMBURG, MN * January 28, 2024 - 648th Edition

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ATTENTION!!!!

Tis the season!

It is time to think **MARKETPLACE**. As you are shopping and finding treasures consider putting a basket together for the **MARKET-PLACE SILENT AUCTION**. If you find some goodies, but do not want to put a basket together, donate the items and we will assemble the basket.

Are you a quilter, knitter, crocheter, canner, baker, gardener, or artistic?? The **MARKET-PLACE** needs you!

Feel free to drop items in the bin in the back of church, drop items off at the Hayloft (and have a beverage), or call us to make arrangements for pick up.

Thanks,

**Marla Honer 320-266-0336
Mary Schaefer 320-250-1650**

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

January 28 - February 2

We are very **THANKFUL** for our **AMAZING** St. Wendelin's School
And all the Students and Teachers

NEXT NEWSLETTER

February 25, 2024

DEADLINE for News:

Monday February 19, 2024

If you can get your items in earlier,
it would appreciated.

Get your articles to Sheila Albers
7876 Ahles Road St. Cloud, MN
Phone 320-251-7116

Or e-mail: alberssheila@gmail.com



Ash Wednesday Begins February 14th

SCHOOL NEWS

January is a very busy month for us at St. Wendelin's School. The CUF raffle is major fundraiser for us. In order for us to continue to participate in the raffle in years to come we need to have the local CUF group continue. If you are interested in participating in this group please contact the school at 251-9175.

Catholic Schools' Week is an annual event celebrated by Catholic Schools throughout the nation. Students and Families will be celebrating CSW Jan. 28-Feb.. 3. The theme for CSW this year at St. Wendelin's is "We Can Make a Difference". We will focus on how we can make a difference for fellow students, within our families and parish community as well as making a difference in the greater community.

During CSW St. Wendelin's School will be hosting an Open House on Feb. 1 (6:30 pm) for families interested in registering for the 24-25 school year. St. Wendelin offers a preschool program for children ages 3, 4 and 5 as well as grade levels Kindergarten through grade 6. Please help us spread the word to your friends, relatives or neighbors that have preschool or school age children about our wonderful school.

It is surprising to hear how many area families are not aware that we have a preschool and K-6 educational at St. Wendelin's.

Bonnie Massmann
Principal

PRESCHOOL NEWS

The preschoolers came back from break ready to learn! The first week back was full of stories and hugs but they also wanted to jump right back into their routine. Our main focus for January is mastering letter sounds. A couple of students have this down and have progressed to learning to spell 3-letter words with the moveable alphabet.

In our weekly rosary prayer session, we learned about the fourth and fifth Glorious Mysteries and have moved on to learning

about the Luminous Mysteries. They have come so far in memorizing the prayers and with treating their rosaries with respect. It has been a beautiful thing to witness.

Mrs. Haselkamp & Mrs. Gruenes

KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE

We celebrated Epiphany by visiting our Atrium for the presentation of the Magi. We also make sure that we change the colors in the Atrium to green for Ordinary time. We learned about our own baptisms, as well as the baptism of Jesus, and are covering some of the healing miracles that Jesus performed. I have also been using the friendships Jesus had with his chosen disciples to learn about what qualities and behaviors we want to both look for and model in our own friendships here on earth.

In science, we are learning about the concept of collaboration and how to work together as teams to solve problems and come up with solutions. Being an effective team member requires the ability to show empathy, so we are making a conscious effort to focus on understanding and showing empathy.

Mrs. Matchinsky

2ND & 3RD GRADE NEWS

The second and third graders discovered their talent in the form of cursive writing this month. With the start of the new year I wanted to challenge the children to something new. They have been writing everything in cursive and it looks beautiful. We have lined the school halls with bible scripture- in cursive. :D The challenge has been good for us, it is a great reminder that God does not give us things that are easy, he wants us to put in hard work to get the job done. We will be ending the month with a persuasive writing on "Why I'm glad I go to a Catholic school" to get us in the spirit of Catholic schools week!

Mrs. Rebstock

4TH & 5TH GRADE NEWS

4th and 5th graders have been working hard after Christmas break. We started a new novel unit using The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe and learned about the author's (C.S. Lewis) inspiring faith journey.

They continue to be role models for our younger students when they volunteer to demonstrate stories, read, or pray during our rosary time!

Our social studies lessons lately are about European influence in the Americas so we are learning the role religion played in history.

Mrs Hules

GETTING TO KNOW YOU WAYNE & CINDY PHILIPPI

Wayne and Cindy Philippi live at 9508 Ahles Road St. Cloud MN 56301. They have been assigned to group 4.

TERRY & MARY MICK

Terry & Mary Mick live at 5792 County Road 146 South Haven MN 55382. They have been assigned to Group 3.

WELCOME TO ST. WENDELIN'S PARISH COMMUNITY!!!

.....

**Like any other gift, the gift of grace
Can be yours only if you'll reach out and
take it. Maybe being able to reach out
and take it is a gift, too.**

I can forgive, but I cannot forget, is only another way of saying, I will not forgive. Forgiveness ought to be like a cancelled note---torn in two, and burned up, so that it never can be shown against one.

CHURCH CLEANING

FEBRUARY 2024

GROUP 3

(Cleaning time is 8:30 a.m.)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD

***Mary Broda

Jolene & Steve Brang

Laurie & Steve Opatz

Sue Eckerman & Larry Mohs

Marie & Ron Kotzer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

***Judy & Dan Walters

Sheila & Ron Albers

Erin & Paul Koshiol

Geralyn & Todd Hurrle

Clara Witte

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

***Ruth & Paul Roufs

Marla & John Honer

Jayne & Keith Thole

Sharon & Ray Gohman

Margie & Dale Koshiol

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

***Sandi & Mike Weber

Gina & Joe Bartell

Julie & Dale Kraemer

Nancy & Jeff Albers

Sue & Paul Koshiol

*** If you have an asterisk in front of your name, please call the other members the week prior to remind them of church cleaning. If you are unable to work your shift, please find your own replacement or switch with someone else. Thank you all so much!!!

Everyone has his or her own philosophy about how to live. Let grace guide your personal outlook on life. You'll see that grace touches on everything—including how to love, accept humility, create beauty, forgive others, and endure hardship. In short, grace teaches us how to live.

MARCH FOR LIFE/PRAYER SERVICE

On Monday, January 22nd, I was fortunate to be among the thousands who attended MCCL's March for life at the capitol as well as the Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Joined by my daughter-in-law, granddaughter and her two friends, we were among the 35 people who took the bus from Rockville to join thousands of other pro-lifers at these events. Having not been to this March for a good number of years, I was especially grateful to attend this one which MCCL called "a pivotal moment in the fight for life". They were, of course, referring to the current extreme abortion laws in MN which have stripped away all protection for the unborn to the point of making it legal to allow a newborn to die. All this said, MCCL promised no ordinary program this year, but instead promoted one to help us push back on this extremism as well as a powerful public display featuring 12,000+ life size models of unborn babies to represent the number of lives lost to abortion in MN during 2022. Indeed MCCL delivered well on this promise.

More on that in a bit, but going back to the day's events, while enroute to our first stop at the Cathedral for the Prayer Service, we prayed the rosary asking God's blessing on our day as well as the entire pro life effort. Approaching the majestic Cathedral, one's breath is nearly taken away at its beauty as it beckons one and all to come and worship. Having arrived well ahead of the service time, we joined many others walking through the church ooh...ing and ahh...ing at its distinctive features including numerous side chapels each dedicated to a certain saint, its marble columns, statues, art work, finely detailed stained glass windows including the ones high above in the dome and oh, so much more! As my mind went into overdrive trying to take in all this beauty, we completed our self-tour and seated ourselves to await the soon to start Prayer Service officiated by the Most. Rev. Joseph A. Williams. As we did so, I became aware that this huge church (capacity 3000) was quickly filling up and by the time the service started was **FULL** with people of all ages but especially many young people including families with babes in arms and toddlers, school children and best of all, lots of young adults affirming recent statistics that say **"our younger generation is very pro life!"**

With that positive observation happily in mind, we all rose to the heavenly sounds of the pipe organ leading us in song to promptly begin the 10:30 service, which, besides singing, included Scripture readings and intercessions in support of life. The highlight was the homily by the Most Rev. Williams in which he shared a memorable experience which he called **"The most powerful Gospel of Human Life"** he's ever witnessed. He then related how the joy of a young, newly married couple at the news of the impending birth of their 1st child, turned to deep concern as they learned the child had major developmental defects. Choosing to give life rather than abort, Rev. Williams shared how, after the child was born, the baby girl who lived only 6 hours, was tenderly passed to the parents and other family members who, during that special time, each, while holding the baby girl (Camilla), wept, prayed and thanked God for this precious life. Father then showed a picture of little Camilla, which he carries with him to this day. The service concluded with awards given to various pro life leaders in the twin cities area. After a final blessing and song, we were dismissed to begin our walk to the capitol. Fortunately, after the extreme cold of recent weeks, we thanked God, for giving us 20+ degree weather which felt downright balmy.

MARCH FOR LIFE/PRAYER SERVICE CONTINUED

As we approached the Capitol grounds, one couldn't help but notice the wide array of pro-life signs throughout the crowd. One that I saw time and again, carried by the younger people, simply stated, **"I am the pro life generation"**! What a reassuring and motivational thought! As we started ascending the capitol steps, each attendee was given a small replica of a baby in the womb, (symbolizing a baby lost to abortion) to be placed in a container; eventually when all the containers were filled, they were solemnly brought up during the program and placed on the capitol steps, Yes indeed, **just as MCCL had promised and advertised, this display did not disappoint, but surely was a unique and graphic, never to be forgotten visual of the 12,000+ babies lost to abortion in MN during 2022.** Also, during the program various MCCL and legislative leaders were warmly received as they commented on the current abortion and political climate in MN prompting cries of "No More! No More!!! Undoubtedly the high point was a talk given by 15 year old, Abby Hewett, whose parents were warned prior to her birth that she had major heart defects which would cause serious cognitive and other issues. Yet, they chose to give birth and today Abby is an honor student and star athlete who's active in many areas including pro-life. During our last MN legislative session, she spoke out strongly against abortion with plans to remain active in the pro-life area. Stating that if she were born in MN today, she would probably not be here, she added, **"I am defined not by my heart defects but rather on who and what I have become,"** a comment that brought a thunderous ovation from the crowd. When the applause died down, the containers with the replicas of a baby in the womb were moved from the capitol steps to the rotunda.

Once all the containers were inside, MCCL officials alerted the crowd that MN abortion supporters are hoping to put a pro-abortion amendment on the ballot in either 2024 or 2026 to "enshrine" a right to abortion in our Constitution. Also looming on the horizon is an effort to promote legalized euthanasia. Attendees were advised to keep up with developments as they happen by regularly checking the MCCL website, mccl.org.

With that, a final invocation was given and the crowd sent on its way realizing that even though we've come a long way, we still have much to do until, with God's help, life from conception until natural death, is valued, protected and respected! As I boarded our bus for the return trip home, I think it's safe to say that all in attendance left with a feeling of gratitude to MCCL as well as those who planned the Cathedral Prayer Service, for the optimism and motivation of the messages heard during the course of the day. As we prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet on our way home, I was feeling uplifted at having spent the day amidst so many other pro-lifers and especially grateful that so many young people, including my granddaughter and her two friends, were there to see for the first time this "democracy in action". Nearing home, I couldn't help but think of a one of a kind sign I had seen in the capitol crowd that seemed to capture the essence of all our efforts... **"GOD WILL WIN"**. Indeed He will, which is what motivates all pro-lifers to keep going, sometimes in spite of seemingly overwhelming odds, because we are assured that in the end, victory will be ours!

Char Volkmuth

RECIPE CORNER

Ron Albers

BEEF STEW WITH CARROTS AND POTATOES

INGREDIENTS

3 lbs. boneless beef chuck (well-marbled), cut into 1½-inch pieces
2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
3 Tbsp. olive oil
2 medium yellow onions, cut into 1-inch chunks
7 cloves garlic, peeled and smashed
2 tbsp. balsamic vinegar
1½ tablespoons tomato paste
½ cup all-purpose flour
2 cups dry red wine *****
2 cups beef broth
2 cups water *****
1 bay leaf
½ teaspoon dried thyme
1½ teaspoons sugar
4 large carrots, peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks on a diagonal
1-1 ½ lbs. small white boiling potatoes (baby Yukons), cut in half
Fresh chopped parsley, for serving (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 325°F and set a rack in the lower middle position.
2. Pat the beef dry and season with the salt and pepper. In a large Dutch oven or heavy soup pot, heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over medium-high heat until hot and shimmering. Brown the meat in 3 batches, turning with tongs, for about 5 minutes per batch; add one tablespoon more oil for each batch. (To sear the meat properly, do not crowd the pan and let the meat develop a nice brown crust before turning with tongs.) Transfer the meat to a large plate and set aside.
3. Add the onions, garlic and balsamic vinegar; cook, stirring with a wooden spoon and scraping the brown bits from bottom of the pan, for about 5 minutes. Add the tomato paste and cook for a minute more. Add the beef with its juices back to the pan and sprinkle with the flour. Stir with wooden spoon until the flour is dissolved, 1 to 2 minutes. Add the wine, beef broth, water, bay leaf, thyme, and sugar. Stir with a wooden spoon to loosen any brown bits from the bottom of the pan and bring to a boil. Cover the pot with a lid, transfer to the preheated oven, and braise for 2 hours.
4. Remove the pot from the oven and add the carrots and potatoes. Cover and place back in oven for about an hour more, or until the vegetables are cooked, the broth is thickened, and the meat is tender. Fish out the bay leaf and discard, then taste and adjust seasoning, if necessary. Serve the stew warm -- or let it come to room temperature and then store in the refrigerator overnight or until ready to serve. **This stew improves in flavor if made at least 1 day ahead.** Reheat, covered, over medium heat. Garnish with fresh parsley, if desired.
5. Note: If you don't have a Dutch oven or covered pot that is appropriate for the oven, the stew can be cooked on the stove. The timing will be the same and it should be cooked over the lowest setting.

***** I use Apothic Merlot wine. I use 3 cups of wine instead of 2 in the recipe (there are 3 cups wine in a bottle) and I reduce the water to 1 cup. Whatever is your preference works or if you want to drink some of the wine, then keep the recipe the same as written.

THINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR

The good, green earth beneath our feet,
The air we breathe, the food we eat,
Some work to do, a goal to win,
A hidden longing deep within
That spurs us on to bigger things
And helps us meet what each day brings,
All these things and many more
Are things we should be thankful for.

And something else we should not forget
That people we've known or heard of or met
By indirection have had a big part
In molding the thoughts
of the mind and the heart.

And so it's the people who are like you
That people like me should give thanks to,
For no one can live to himself alone
And no one can win just on his own.
Too bad there aren't a whole lot more
People like **you** to be thankful for.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOU FORGET YOUR AGE

Live as though you have no idea of your age.
The primes of our lives come at different
stages. You're old only if you surrender your
dreams. After all, who says you have to play
by set rules? Live by the day; the years will
take care of themselves.

BREAK OUT

At times we all find ourselves in a rut. That's
when we may have to look at things
differently. If you can change your
circumstances, do so. If you can't then try a
different viewpoint. Before you can break out,
you need to realize where you're confined.

WAYS TO BALANCE YOUR LIFE

Show extreme humility the next time
you win and extreme dignity the next
time you lose. Boastful winners and
sore losers---in a sport, on the job, or in
life---are rarely respected by anyone.

For one month, consult a dictionary
and learn one new and difficult word
each day. By the end, you'll know
thirty new words to enrich your
conversations.

Learn to identify the chirps and warbles
of at least five different species of birds
in your area.

Buy a package of yellow smiley-face
stickers and put one on the back of
every envelope you mail. Use them
especially when paying bills that drain
your checking account.

Choose a week to get a minimum of
fifty-six hours of sleep over the course
of seven nights. Take this charge
seriously and, at least for that week,
you'll feel like a new person.

Go an entire day without saying one
negative comment about anything or
anyone! To really test your resolve,
pick a day when you're going to be
talking to a lot of people—at a party, or
at work or a church event for example.

For at least one week, take 15 minutes
a day to sit in a chair and do nothing
but think about relaxing things. Don't
think about anything even remotely
stressful: let every thought soothe your
mind, body, and soul.



**ST. WENDELIN
CHURCH BREAKFAST
Sunday February 11, 2024**

8:30 a.m. – Noon

St. Wendelin Parish in Luxemburg
(7 miles South of St. Cloud on Hwy 15)

Scrambled Eggs * Pancakes with Toppings

Pep's Pork Sausage * Fruit

Cold Spring Bakery Rolls & Pastries

Juice * Milk * Coffee

Adults - \$10.00

Children Ages 5-10 - \$5.00

Children 4 and under – FREE



BAKE SALE AND RAFFLE

MARCH

St. Wendelin Church Group 4 Spring Dinner

Saturday – March 16, 2024

Serving from 5:00p-7:00p

Social Hour starting at 4:30p (Cash Bar Available)



Dinner includes:

Prime Rib or Chicken Dinner (choose below)
Cheesy potatoes, Vegetable, Dinner roll &
Cheesecake dessert (choose below)



Please return the bottom of this form with payment to:

**St Wendelin's Church – Attn: Pat Salzbrun
22714 St Hwy 15
St. Augusta MN 56301**

-OR-

Drop off in Sunday collection basket or in parish house mail drop

Please RSVP by March 1st, 2024

Name: _____

Meal (please circle): Chicken (\$30/plate) or Prime Rib (\$35/plate)

Dessert: Lemon cheesecake or Turtle cheesecake

Name: _____

Meal (please circle): Chicken (\$30/plate) or Prime Rib (\$35/plate)

Dessert: Lemon cheesecake or Turtle cheesecake

I can't make it but would like to donate
Please make checks payable to St Wendelin Church

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St. Wendelin Council # 17025

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 Contact Gary Maus, Ph. 320-296-6604 or
 Email: kofc17025@outlook.com

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K-YES Radio, airing Relevant Radio programming, can be found at AM 1180 on your dial.

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