

# Welcome

We Welcome You Wherever You Are On Your Journey

A NOTE FROM FR. GREG MILLER, O.S.B.

Exerpt from: *The Living Word* Leading RCIA Dismissals Year B

**“How Do Catholics Interpret Scripture?”**

Catholics view Scripture as God’s Living Word present among us. Literary genres such as biography or history help us to understand the Bible, but they do not define the genres of literature present in the Bible. The Scriptures—Old and New Testaments together—recount God’s covenantal relationship with his people from creation forward through the New Covenant Jesus made with us, which carries forward today and will exist in years to come.

Catholics look to the historical context of the work and seek to understand the original language in which the authors wrote the texts. We ask questions about the philosophical and scientific background of the texts at the time the authors penned them. We note differences in translations. Yet—and most importantly—we read Scripture as God’s story of love and care for his people—for us. We interpret Scripture neither literally nor as a science or history textbook. Think about the store of creation in Genesis. We first notice there are two vastly different creation accounts that we cannot reconcile scientifically or historically. Creation did not necessarily happen exactly as the passages state. Yet both accounts together teach us the truth about what God reveals to us about salvation. God created the world and all that is in it good. God created us in the divine image and likeness. We are God’s good people. This means the accounts about what God has done for his people.

Though we can and do read the Bible privately, by ourselves, as Catholics we believe we always read and pray the Scripture united with the Church, with the entire communion of the faithful. Together, in communion with the Church, we discern the meaning of the Scripture for our lives and the life of the Church. We read not fundamenatlistiacally, but with a fundamental concern for how allegories, metaphors, stories, miracles, parables, struggles and adventures of God, Jesus, the Israelites, and the disciples become ours. “

Together we go to God,  
Fr. Greg



**The Third Week of Ordinary Time**  
**Mark 1:14-20**

Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus’ disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God’s kingdom?

The Twinned Parishes of:

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST   
of Collegeville

Phone: 320.363.2569

Mailing Address:  
14241 Fruit Farm Road  
St. Joseph, MN 56374

Website:  
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and

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of Avon



Phone: 320.250.5618

Mailing Address:  
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**Mass Schedule**

Mon. & Thurs. (Avon) 8:00AM  
Wed. & Fri. (Collegeville) 8:00AM  
Saturdays (Collegeville) 5:30PM  
Sundays (Avon) 8:00 & 10:30AM  
2nd Sunday of each Month (Collegeville) 8:30AM

**Reconciliation:**

Thurs. (Avon) 7:30AM  
Saturdays (Collegeville) 4:30PM

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**EVENTS IN OUR AREA:**

**January 21, St. Cloud, Parish Breakfast:** Please join us for breakfast serving from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the St. Anthony Parish Center, 2410 1st St N, St. Cloud. The menu features fresh and smoked sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, pancakes with fruit toppings, fresh fruit, rolls, hash browns, coffee, and milk or orange juice. Adults \$8, Children 6-12 years old \$3.

**January 21, St. Cloud, Vespers for Life:** The church of St. Anthony 3:30pm Rosary and 4:00pm Vespers. Vespers includes music, scripture and reflection for the over 59 million children who have been aborted since 1973.

**January 22, St. Paul, March for Life:** Join us on a bus for a prayer service and March for Life from 8:00am-3:00pm at the Cathedral of St. Paul. The bus leaves after the 7:15am Mass at St. Anthony Parish parking lot and will also pick up in Foley and Clearwater. A free will offering will be collected to help defer the cost of the bus. Call 320-252-4721 to reserve a spot on the bus.

**January 23, St. Cloud, A LOOK AT ACE (ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES) THROUGH THE EYES OF FAITH:** Bret Reuter, Director of Mission and Spiritual Care, and Amie Schumacher, Chaplain, with the St. Cloud Hospital will be presenting research linking exposure to abuse, neglect, domestic violence and other adversities from childhood to a wide range of physical and mental diseases and disorders which can endure for a lifetime. The presentation, sponsored by the Spirit and Saints Health and Wellness Team, will be on Tuesday, January 23, in the St. Anthony Parish Center, 2410 1st St N, St. Cloud, from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

**February 3, St. John's University, Catholic Men's Conference:** A Call to Responsibility. 8:00AM-5:30PM a the Humphrey Auditorium. Speaker: Damon Owens. For more information call 320-252-4721 or visit: [www.stcdio.org/mensconference](http://www.stcdio.org/mensconference).

**February 4, Staples, Carnival:** Sacred Heart Area School. Annual Carnival. 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 50¢ Game Tickets. Raffle Drawing @ 1:00 p.m. At Sacred Heart School, Staples. Half pot bingo - Games – Concessions - Cake Walk Prizes & More!

**February 9, Sobieski, Parish Dinner:** St. John's Catholic Church in Swanville will have their 12 annual Auction/Dinner. Only \$15 for the dinner thicket which includes one free drink and your name will be put in the \$100 AND the \$500 cash drawing. This will take place at the Community Center in Sobieski. Call 320-547-2920 in the mornings for information and tickets.

**March 10, St. Cloud, Catholic Women's Conference:** Why the Pope was Right: A Day of Reflection. Speaker: Janet Smith (consultor to the Pontifical Council on the Family. Conference will be held at The Church of St. Anthony in St. Cloud. 9:30am-3:00pm. For more information call 320-252-4721 or visit: [www.stcloudcatholicwomen.org](http://www.stcloudcatholicwomen.org)



**JANUARY**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Parish Office Closed 6:30PM Faith Formation Meeting (Local Blend)		8:00 MASS + Kim Albright Breakfast		8:00AM Mass Benediction	9:30-4:00 PM Rental 5:30 PM Mass ++ Mike & Flo Loso Confirmation Retreat 9-9	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

All events take place at St. John's Church/Parish Center unless otherwise noted.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: SATURDAY JANUARY 27TH 5:30 PM						
GREETERS:	SERVERS:	LECTORS:	GIFT BEARERS:	EUCH. MINISTERS:	SACRISTAN:	MUSIC:
Confirmation Students	Confirmation Students	Confirmation Students	Confirmation Students	Dan Ortloff Evie Dumonceaux Alyssa Maty	Dan Ortloff	Jason Prigge Ensemble

Thank you to those who volunteer for our various liturgical ministries.

**PARISH STAFF**

When you have a question or concern regarding some aspect of parish life, please contact us. We will do our best to provide an answer for you.

**Pastor:** Fr. Gregory Miller, OSB  
Office: (320)363-2569  
Cell: (320)291-5223  
E-Mail: glmiller@csbsju.edu

**Business Manager:** Julie Ortloff  
Office: (320)363-2569  
Cell: (320)492-2835  
E-Mail: jortloff@csbsju.edu

**Music Coordinator:** Jason Prigge  
Telephone: (320)356-0763  
E-Mail: jason.prigge@stbenedictavon.org

**Faith Formation Coordinator:** Alyssa Maty  
Telephone: (815)207-3208  
E-Mail: amaty001@csbsju.edu

**Trustees:** Dean Merdan: 320-356-7131  
Lori Fuchs: 320-267-1283

**Pastoral Council Representatives:**  
Elaine Omann (15-18) 320-333-2005  
Dan Backes (15-18) 320-428-2895  
Michaela Roske (16-19) 320-224-4143  
Joe Warner (16-19)  
Jason Mohs (17-20b) 320-309-6340  
Joe Theisen (17-20) 320-282-9032

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Adult Envelopes.....\$ 1,632.00  
January 15 Electronic Contributions..... \$ 3,925.00  
Donations fiscal year to date.....\$ 82,442.00  
Budgeted donations fiscal year to date.....\$ 77,818.00

**Other income:**  
Loose Plate.....\$ 44.00  
Children Envelopes.....\$ 8.00  
Wednesday Coffee Cup.....\$ 13.00  
Green Envelope (Facility Fund).....\$ 0.00

Thank you to those who regularly and generously give of their treasure as well as those who give of their time and talent to support the work of our parish.

**PRAYER CORNER**



Louise Bartlett,  
Julia Beckmann,  
Lorraine Degiovanni,  
Loretta Dullinger,  
Bob Dumonceaux,  
Gloria Ebacher,  
Ben Hamilton,  
Olivia Eiyneck-Kimlinger,  
Marge Engelmeier,  
Richard Haeg,  
Leo Heck,  
Alvina Klocker,  
Susan McKeon,  
Clara Meyer,  
Military Men, Women and their families.

If you would like your name added to our Prayer Corner, please contact the Parish Office. After 3 months, names are removed, to be re-added contact the office.

**PARISH NEWS/EVENTS**

**THANK YOU:**

Quiet Oaks Hospice House extends its gratitude and appreciation for the generosity of all who donated items throughout the Christmas season. You have surely followed Christ's example and we pray you prosper because of your many charitable gifts that benefit those facing their end-of-life journey. Thank you! -Linda Allen, Quiet Oaks

**SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER**

Central MN Chapter National Federation of the Blind will host an all you can eat Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, January 26th at the St. Cloud Eagles Club. Serving 4:30-7:30PM. \$8/Adults and \$4/Children.

**THE GOLDEN YEARS:**

Happy Birthday to Evelyn "Rusty" Pueringer, who will be celebrating her 90th birthday on Friday, January 26th. May you experience God's best in everything! Have a wonderful and blessed birthday.



**SAVE THE DATE: RUMMAGE SALE**

Our spring Rummage Sale will be held on April 26 & 27th! Donation drop-off days will be Sun-Tues. April 22-24 from 1-7pm and Wed, April 25 from 8:00am-2:00pm.



**FISH FRY DINNER HELP NEEDED:**

1. Volunteers are needed in the kitchen and dining room for our Annual Lenten Fish Fry dinners. Please sign-up to volunteer on the bulletin board or by emailing Julie in the parish office. WE NEED YOUR HELP.
2. Purchase your tickets now. **Our fish fry dinners will be held on Friday, February 16 & 23.** Advance Tickets can be purchased from the parish office for \$10. Tickets at the door will be sold for \$12. Advance Tickets will be sold until February 10th.
3. Help us promote our Fish Fry Dinners by taking posters from the table in the hallway and hanging them at area businesses or your place of employment!



**BINGO PARTY FEBRUARY 9TH**

Catholic United Financial will be sponsoring BINGO Parties this winter...you won't want to miss any of them! BINGO begins at **6:00 p.m.**, cash prizes, refreshments and a whole lot of family FUN!!

Mark your calendar:

**Friday, February 9th**  
**Friday, March 16th**

These matching grant fundraisers are sponsored by our Catholic United Financial Volunteer Team.



**RETREATS AT CHRIST THE KING RETREAT CENTER:**

**Women's Silent Weekend Retreat**

Theme: "Take Courage" Date: Jan. 26-28, 2018  
Offering: \$160/person (includes \$30 deposit to reserve a room)

**Men's Weekend Retreat**

Theme: "Discovering God's Gift Within You!"  
Date: February 2-4, 2018  
Offering: \$175/person (includes \$50 deposit to reserve a room)

For more information or to register call: Lori at (763)682-1394, Ext. 11 or LpoLman@kingshouse.com

**PALMS FOR BURNING:**

We are collecting Palms for burning. Palms can be dropped in the yellow collection box on the table in the hallway of the Parish Center. *Ash Wednesday is February 14th, Mass will be at 8:00am.*

**FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**•CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

Our retreat for Confirmation students will take place on Saturday, January 27th 9am-9pm.

**•Love Letters**

Love letters for your children are due Jan.27th by email (Alyssa.Maty@gmail.com) or drop off at Parish Center.

To all families, as the new year begins, I want to welcome everyone to attend and fully participate in our 8:30 am SUNDAY Faith Formation Masses. After all, we are a faith believing parish and that the person of Christ is at the center of everything we do. There's only 3 left, so please come! Our calendar can be found on our parish website.



"The greatest act of mercy that God performs is giving the gift of faith." —R.C. Sproul