



scsucatholic.org | 320-251-3260 | newmancenter@scsucatholic.org |    @SCSUNewman

**March 9, 2025**  
**1st Sunday in Lent**

**Sunday Masses**  
10am & 8:00pm

**Confessions**  
Sunday, 7:30pm

**Pastor:**

Father Derek Wiechmann  
fatherderek17@gmail.com

**Sacramental Minister:**

Father JohnPaul Igbokwe  
igbokwejohnpaul7@gmail.com  
\*In case of immediate need, call  
your parish office to reach a  
priest directly.

This Week's Happenings

**Monday (3/10)**

7:00pm Music Rehearsal

**Tuesday (3/11)**

10-11 am Staff Mtg. (Office Closed)  
5:30pm Bible Studies (Wil's Place)  
6:30pm Passion Play Practice

**Wednesday (3/12)**

5:45pm SEND/Root Session #4

**Thursday (3/13)**

6:00pm Theology on Draft

**Friday (3/14)**

6:00pm ACC Taize Prayer & Supper

**Sunday (3/16)**

11:00am Coffee & Rolls

Dear brothers and sisters,

Prior to being admitted to the hospital, Pope Francis wrote his 2025 Lenten message on the virtue of Hope. As we begin these holy days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, let's take comfort in our Holy Father's message.

Peace,  
Fr. Derek

This Lent, as we share in the grace of the Jubilee Year, I would like to propose a few reflections on what it means to *journey together in hope*, and on the summons to conversion that God in his mercy addresses to all of us, as individuals and as a community.

First of all, *to journey*. The Jubilee motto, "Pilgrims of Hope", evokes the lengthy journey of the people of Israel to the Promised Land, as recounted in the Book of Exodus. This arduous path from slavery to freedom was willed and guided by the Lord, who loves his people and remains ever faithful to them. It is hard to think of the biblical exodus without also thinking of those of our brothers and sisters who in our own day are fleeing situations of misery and violence in search of a better life for themselves and their loved ones. A first call to conversion thus comes from the realization that all of us are pilgrims in this life; each of us is invited to stop and ask how our lives reflect this fact. Am I really on a journey, or am I standing still, not moving, either immobilized by fear and hopelessness or reluctant to move out of my comfort zone? Am I seeking ways to leave behind the occasions of sin and situations that degrade my dignity? It would be a good Lenten exercise for us to compare our daily life with that of some migrant or foreigner, to learn how to sympathize with their experiences and in this way discover what God is asking of us so that we can better advance on our journey to the house of the Father. This would be a good "examination of conscience" for all of us wayfarers.

Second, *to journey together*. The Church is called to walk together, to be synodal. Christians are called to walk at the side of others, and never as lone travellers. The Holy Spirit impels us not to remain self-absorbed, but to leave ourselves behind and keep walking towards God and our brothers and sisters. Journeying together means consolidating the unity grounded in our common dignity as children of God (cf. *Gal 3:26-28*). It means walking side-by-side, without shoving or stepping on others, without envy or hypocrisy, without letting anyone be left behind or excluded. Let us all walk in the same direction, tending towards the same goal, attentive to one another in love and patience.

-Pope Francis, February 6, 2025

### March Employee Spotlight

**Name:** Heather Schmitt  
**Job Title:** Office Assistant  
**Parish:** Church of the Holy Spirit



**Brief description of what you do:** I take great pride in designing the weekly bulletin for Holy Spirit and St. Anthony. I answer phone calls and help parishioners with many tasks. There's too much to list, know that my plate is often very full.

**One or two projects that you did that you are proud of or most enjoyed doing:** I have successfully, in the past, ran two large silent auction fundraisers. Most recently I'm proud of the parent I have become despite a chronic illness, and breaking generational trauma while attempting to fix my own and our children's.

**Fun fact about yourself:** I am an extremely creative person. I ran a photography business for 13 years, and I have been published six times!

### SAVE THE DATE

#### Fr. Wil Illies Memorial Lecture - Sat, April 5th at 6:30 PM

Gerard Thomas Straub is this year's speaker at the annual Father Wil Illies "Heart Speaks to Heart" Memorial Lecture. Straub's multimedia presentation, "A Pilgrimage from Hollywood to Haiti: Searching for God through Poverty, Prayer, and Action" will feature selected clips from his films from impoverished areas around the world. Straub, who seeks the Face of God in the eyes of those experiencing poverty, will help us reflect on our own journey in making God's love real in our own ways.

#### Taizé Prayer at St. Mary's Cathedral March 14th

All are invited to Taizé Prayer at St. Mary's Cathedral on Friday, March 14th, following the 5:30pm Stations of the Cross. Join for 6:00pm soup supper and 7:00pm prayer. Taizé is a contemplative prayer style incorporating repetitive refrains, candles, and silence as we enter into the desert with our Lord this Lent. Contact Abbey Dupuy, music director at St. Mary's, for more information: [musicatstmaryscathedral@gmail.com](mailto:musicatstmaryscathedral@gmail.com)

#### Youth Group Calendar for March:

**March 9th:** Topic Night

**March 16th:** Activity Night (Survivor)

#### Castaway 2025 - March 28-30

High schoolers are invited to the 2025 Diocesan Castaway Retreat in Detroit Lakes, March 28th-30th!

This three day retreat includes incredible talks, music, Adoration, Reconciliation, Mass with Bishop Neary, and a ton of fun! It continues to be one of the most affordable overnight retreats available at \$200. This retreat is made possible for our area through Illuminate Youth Ministries, 3 ACC collaboration making vibrant youth ministry possible in St. Cloud.

Contact Kelli Kleinschnitz at [kelli@holysaintsmn.org](mailto:kelli@holysaintsmn.org), for more information on how to sign up for this impactful weekend!

#### ACC Faith Formation Reminders

**Confirmation:** March 19, 7:00pm

**SEND:** March 12, 5:45pm Root Session 4

**1st Sacraments:** 1st Communion Learning Stations 3/19 or 3/26

### Parish Prayers

†Bob Trisko  
†Frank Roehl  
†Mary Helen Montgomery  
†Mary Morton  
•For Sam Warner discernment  
† Millie Moran Sister of Jay Schroeder  
† Sam Skoien  
• Jill Schultz

**Pastor:** Fr. Derek Wiechmann [fatherderek17@gmail.com](mailto:fatherderek17@gmail.com)  
**Sacramental Minister:** Father JohnPaul Igbokwe  
**Director of Discipleship & Evangelization :** Philip Shefveland—[pshefveland@scsucatholic.org](mailto:pshefveland@scsucatholic.org)  
**Cluster Business Manager:** Janice Wuebkers—[jwuebkers@spiritandsaints.org](mailto:jwuebkers@spiritandsaints.org)  
**Music Director:** Stacy Ellens—[sellens@scsucatholic.org](mailto:sellens@scsucatholic.org)  
**Cluster Office Manager:** Nathan Schmitt—[nrschmitt@spiritandsaints.org](mailto:nrschmitt@spiritandsaints.org)  
**Office Assistant/Coordinator of Middle School Faith:** Melanie Solland—[melanie@allcalledtochrist.com](mailto:melanie@allcalledtochrist.com)  
**Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministry:** Andy Tolman [andy@allcalledtochrist.com](mailto:andy@allcalledtochrist.com)  
**Peace & Social Justice Coordinator:** Kevin LaNave—[klanave@scsucatholic.org](mailto:klanave@scsucatholic.org)  
**Parish Office:** 320-251-3260  
**Cluster Website:** [spiritandsaints.org](http://spiritandsaints.org)