



FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

His fame spread everywhere
throughout the whole
region of Galilee.
- Mk 1:28

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

7:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. – Holy Cross Harding

THURSDAY

7:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

6:00 p.m. – Holy Cross Harding

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

10:00 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

**See inside cover for any changes for the upcoming week

JANUARY 28, 2024

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 3:30 p.m. St John Nepomuk Lastrup

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m. St. Michael's Buckman

*Confessions 30 minutes before each weekday Mass and by appt.

*First Weekend of the Month: After 6 p.m. Mass at Holy Cross Harding and after 10 a.m. Mass at St Joseph's Pierz

Fr. Aaron Nett, Pastor: 320-468-6033, fnett@midco.net

Deacon Craig Korver: ckorver@molschool.org

Deacon Leo Wehseler: leowehseler@gmail.com

St. John/Holy Cross Office: 320-360-9720, ltthesing@hotmail.com

St. Joseph/St. Michael Office: 320-468-6033, stjoes@midco.net

A MESSAGE FROM FR. AARON NETT



Praying the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Dear Friends,

One of the great privileges I have been given as a priest is to offer the Holy Mass with and for the people of God. I am able to do this each day. Even on my day off, on Mondays, I always offer Mass either with my mother, other priests or by myself. The Mass is a gift beyond all price. It brings us our dear Lord in the Holy Eucharist, who offers himself as spiritual nourishment for our body and souls.

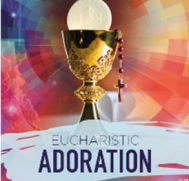
On occasion people wonder why Mass might take a little longer or why the purifying of the vessels (not "doing the dishes!" The Eucharist is not a normal meal, but Jesus Himself.) after Holy Communion, takes longer. Perhaps the following will help to answer these questions.

In the Church's current Eucharist Revival there is a focus on a greater love and devotion to the Holy Eucharist, the true Bread from Heaven. In recent years there has been an effort to bring more reverence, prayerfulness and silence in the Mass throughout the Church. The Catechism describes the Holy Sacrifice of Mass as, "The memorial of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection." (ccc 1330) Notice the emphasis on sacrifice. It goes on to say, "The Holy Sacrifice, because it makes present the one sacrifice of Christ the Savior and includes the Church's offering. The terms holy sacrifice of the Mass, "sacrifice of praise," spiritual sacrifice, pure and holy sacrifice are also used, since it completes and surpasses all the sacrifices of the Old Covenant." In Holy Sacrifice of the Mass we make our own sacrifice as we offer our highest praise, honor and worship to the Holy Trinity, the Almighty God and Father through Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit.

Praying before Mass, silent moments during Mass, reverent gestures and sacred and prayerful music help to detach from our busy minds, noise and the duties of daily life. This allows us to recollect, settle the mind and heart, and enter into the mystery of God who is silently present and speaking to the hearts of his people. "In the silence of the heart God speaks." St Mother Theresa.

In a world torn apart by division, confusion and selfishness it is only Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, who can heal our world and bring us unity. I thank God that we can worship and adore him together in the Holy Mass.

This coming Thursday the daily Mass will be offered at 7:00 am upon the request of the high school students. They have asked that Holy Mass be offered earlier so they can attend before school starts. This love and reverence for Christ in the Eucharist which is exactly the goal of the Eucharistic Revival. "Know, O Christian, that the Mass is the holiest act of religion. You cannot do anything to glorify God more, nor profit your soul more, than by devoutly assisting at it, and assisting as often as possible." -St. Peter Julian Eymard. God bless you, Father Aaron

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 4	
<p><u>Tuesday, January 30</u> 7:00 p.m. Lastrup +Edna Stuckmayer</p> <p><u>Wednesday, January 31</u> 8:00 a.m. Harding +Dick Lucken 7-8 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Thursday, February 1</u> (Note Mass Time Change in Buckman) 7:00 a.m. Buckman +Jeanette Janson 10:00 a.m. Villa +Fr. Ken Brenny</p> <p><u>Friday, February 2</u> – HT School Mass – HT Staff/Students 7:30 a.m. Pierz Prayers for Our Nation (Prayer Service) 8:30 a.m. Pierz +Dale & Dominick Dahmen 3-6:00 p.m. Pierz Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Saturday, February 3</u> 4:00 p.m. Lastrup +Richard & John Boser, & +John Stoll 6:00 p.m. Harding +Mary & Peter Voitalla</p> <p><u>Sunday, February 4</u> 8:00 a.m. Buckman +Dennis Kujawa 10:00 a.m. Pierz +Charles & Maureen Watercott, & +Pam Voitalla</p>	<p>*Going forward the weekday Mass in Buckman will be at 7:00 a.m. in order to accommodate the schedules of students and working people.</p> <p>*Bulletin Announcement Deadline: The deadline for submissions of bulletin announcements is <u>Mondays at 3 p.m.</u> You can email stjoes@midco.net, mail PO Box 428, Pierz MN 56364, or call 320-468-6033.</p> <p><u>Pierz & Buckman Office Hours:</u> Located in Pierz. Mon, Tue, Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fridays closed.</p> <p><u>Lastrup & Harding Office Hours:</u> Call 320-360-9720</p> <p>*Contribution Envelopes can be put into any of our 4 area parishes' collections or the drop box in the entryway of the Pierz parish office and we will make sure they get to the correct parish. Thank you!</p> <p>*Emergency Contact: If you have an emergency and need a priest, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.</p>
 <p>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION St Joseph Pierz – Fridays 3-6 p.m. St. Michael Buckman – Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. and the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Holy Cross Harding – Adoration chapel always open</p>	

*If you are seeking information on **baptism, marriage, or RCIA** preparation or would like to sign up as a new member of the parish, please call 320-468-6033 (Pierz and Buckman) or 320-360-9720 (Lastrup & Harding).

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK

28520 Church St., PO BOX 38
Lastrup, MN 56344
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.stjohnlastrup.org



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 at 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Julie Laney

Servers: Duncan & Freya Wipper

Ushers: Cory Loidolt & Colin Boser

E. Minister (Choir): Cathy Boser

BAR BINGO NEWS: Come to the Fisch House in Lastrup to play bingo every Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. Please come and join us for a fun evening. The jackpot numbers will be posted online and at the Fisch House and also on their Facebook page. St. John's gaming #02115.

MEAT RAFFLE: We now have a meat raffle at the Fisch House every Sunday at 5:00 PM. Please join us for some fun and try and win some meat. St. John's Gaming #02115.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: You can pick up your end of year tax statements at the back of the church.

REMINDER: When looking for the Lastrup website, please use their new address: stjohnlastrup.org. There is no "s" on the end of John.

NOTE: If you have been married 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 60 & 60 plus years in 2024 and would like to be invited to Honoring Marriage Day Mass on May 4th at Sacred Heart parish in Sauk Rapids, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.

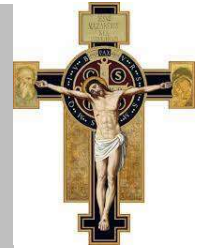
ST. JOHN NEPOMUK WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, January 20th: Adult env. \$1,203.00, Adult loose \$349.66, Children env. \$2.00, Children loose \$59.79.

Mass attendance: 178

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

29482 243rd Street
Pierz, MN 56364
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.Hardingchurch.org



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 at 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Doug Knopik

Servers: Adam Woitalla & Maverick Woitalla

Ushers: Gary Matlock & Andy Woitalla

E. Minister (Choir): Diane Virnig

Rosary: Phyllis Schmidtbauer

NOTE: If you have been married 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 60 & 60 plus years in 2024 and would like to be invited to Honoring Marriage Day Mass on May 4th at Sacred Heart parish in Sauk Rapids, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: You can pick up your end of year tax statements at the back of the church.

HOLY CROSS WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

*Saturday, January 20th: Adult env. \$1,204.00, Adult loose \$195.00, Children env. \$8.31, Children loose \$13.00.

Mass attendance: 167

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR LASTRUP & HARDING:

Olivia Waldorf, Horst Hanneken, Pat (Rod) Boser, Jane Weiss, Alice Matlock, Kurt Lucking, Sally Lentner, Lois Woitalla, Rhys Boser, Glen Anderson, Carmen Britz, Doris Weiss, Mary Ann Schomer, Justin Lindgren, Eric Halbert, Aaron Boser, Karen Schommer, Ione Hoskins, Gerard Virnig, Serena Truskowski, Gina Virnig, Donny Schommer, Scott Bednar, Jerod Bursch.

Communion & Mortal Sin

Question: I have a friend who receives communion, but who I know for a fact is in a state of mortal sin. Should I tell our priest? Is it my responsibility to say something?

Answer: While we may always want to do what is best for our friends and family members, we have a responsibility to respect their privacy and their conscience. In its reflections on the Eighth Commandment ("You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"), the Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "Respect for the reputation of persons forbids every attitude and word likely to cause them unjust injury. [One] becomes guilty: -of rash judgment who, even tacitly, assumes as true, without sufficient foundation, the moral fault of a neighbor; -of detraction who, without objectively valid reason, discloses another's faults and failings to persons who do not know them; of calumny who, by remarks contrary to the truth, harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgments concerning them" (no. 2477).

We will never truly know what is in a person's mind, heart, and soul; only God knows those things. We should, of course, take our concerns to God and entrust the person about whom we are concerned to God's grace and mercy. If we have concerns about the spiritual wellbeing of someone with whom we are close, we should go to the person themselves and talk about our fears and concerns. Unless it is a case of abuse or endangerment (which we have a moral and even legal responsibility to report to the appropriate authorities), we ultimately do not have the freedom to share another's persons faults or sins, however good we think our intentions might be.

**I ENCOURAGE YOU,
DEAR STUDENTS,
TO MAKE
YOUR TIME
OF FORMATION
AN UNREMITTING
QUEST FOR GOD**

St. John Paul II | Catholic Schools Week



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9251 Hwy 25, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 at 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Janice Janson

Communion Ministers: Mary Kay Zilka & Cindy Scholl

Servers: Andrew & Izzy Scheel

Ushers for Feb.: Mick Gruber, Frank Hoheisel & Steve Kahl



New Life in Christ

Caden Scott, son of Evan & Alivia Weitalla, was baptized on Sunday, January 21. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

Catholic United Financial

CUF MEETING: Catholic United Financial Meeting Thursday, February 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the Buckman Parish Center.

SM CM/W: St. Michael's Christian Mothers/Women will pray the rosary for Eleanor Fromelt at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Royalton on Saturday, February 3 at 9:15 a.m.

WEEKDAY LECTOR: We are in need of a few people to volunteer to be on a lector schedule for the weekday Masses. If you are interested in helping out, please give the parish office a call at 468-6033. Thank you!

BUCKMAN HALL RENTAL: If you are interested in renting the St. Michael's Parish Center for this coming December/January, St. Michael's parishioners may do so after February 1st, non-parishioners after March 1st. Thank you!

ST. MICHAEL WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (Jan 21)

Adult	\$ 3,650.00
High School	\$ 3.00
Elementary	\$ 16.00
Plate	\$ 104.00
	\$ 3,773.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance **January 21st Sunday:** 298

ACC Faith Study Groups

*Bible study is being offered every other Sunday evening for the young female youth (9th grade and older) of our ACC. This is held in the St Joseph Church basement at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please call Jenny (320-360-6650), Kari (320-412-6164), or Rebecca (320-360-7004).

*Man Accountability: Men of all parishes, give us the honors of joining us on Saturdays from 6:45-8AM at the Pierz parish office for Gospel prayer, Acts 2:42, and accountability. Iron sharpens iron! Questions/reminders please text/call Mark Loidolt, 701-388-2323.

*Women's Group meets on Saturday mornings from 8:15-9:30 a.m. We'll meet in St. Joseph's church at 8:15 to pray a rosary followed by discussion in the parish office until 9:30. All women are welcome! Call or text Cari Stumpf with any questions, 320-761-6336.

*The Sunday Night Adult Education Group meets on Sunday night at 7PM in the Pierz parish office meeting room. We watch a short video on a variety of Catholic topics followed by a discussion. For more information, call Al Pekarek at 468-0220.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

68 Main St N, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 at 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Mark Fyten

E. Ministers: Keith Marshik, Wanda Kapsner & LeRoy Swanson

Servers: Kessler children

Sacristans: Doris Thyen & Jan Kimman

Ushers for February: Jim Gerwing (Lead), Steve Boser, Mike Stangl & Steve Maus

AT PEACE WITH GOD: *Harold "Bub" Jansen* passed away on January 12th. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, January 16th at St. Joseph's Church with burial in the parish cemetery at a later date. We extend our sympathy to the families and assure them of our prayerful support.

CM/W MEMBERSHIP DUES: Christian Mothers/Women membership dues are due in the month of January, for current members. There is an envelope included in your pack. If you give to the parish electronically and do not have envelopes, please use a plain envelop and write Christian M/W Dues on it. If you are interested in joining our confraternity, please contact Rachel Young at 320-630-3630. We will welcome new members at our next meeting on April 10, 2024 at 6PM.

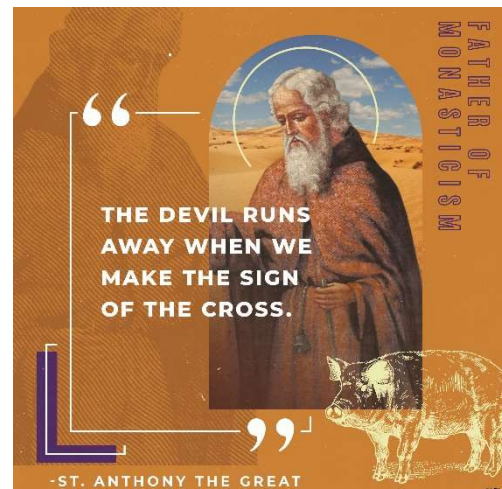
ST. JOSEPHS QUILT CIRCLE: We will be quilting on Monday, January 29th at 1 p.m. and Thursday, February 1st at 9 a.m. Come and go as is convenient for you. **We are again asking for pieced quilt tops.** Just a reminder we have kits done up with directions and ready to go for tops. Feel free to stop down and observe. We are always looking for new quilters. Questions call Eileen 360-2434 or Chris 630-0606.

ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (Jan 21)

Adult	\$ 2,845.12
High School	\$.50
Elementary	\$ 6.25
Plate	\$ 134.00
	\$ 2,985.67

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance **January 21st Sunday:** 286



GENERAL NEWS

NOTES:

*The weekday Mass in Buckman going forward will be at 7:00 a.m. in order to accommodate the schedules of students and working people.

*Fr. Aaron will be gone Jan. 29-Feb. 5. There will still be weekday & weekend Masses during this time.

THANK YOU FROM MICHAEL PEKAR: Mary Kay and I would like to thank all of the kind folks from the four parishes and non-parishioners who have wished us well on our new adventure with the Lord, given us Christmas cards, thank-you cards, thank-you conversations and heart-felt prayers. Many people of the parishes will always have a special place in our hearts. The Lord has led us an apartment home in Hoyt Lakes, Minnesota and weather permitting, we plan to leave February 7th. We pray that God will bless the four parishes of the ACC. May the parishes, Mary Kay and I, by our actions, be pleasing in God's eyes. May we abide, in God's loving Spirit.. ~ *Michael Pekar*


40-HOUR DEVOTION: There will be a 40 Hour Devotion held in Lent at St. Michael's Church. The dates are March 8, 9, and 10. We will start at 4 p.m. on Friday and conclude at 8 a.m. Sunday.

PRAYERS FOR OUR NATION: Please join us on Friday, February 2nd at 7:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church to pray for our nation. Everyone is welcome to join!

CHILDREN ENVELOPES: If your child did not receive contribution envelopes and would like them, please contact the 320-468-6033 for Pierz or Buckman, and 320-360-9720 for Lastrup or Harding.

Knights Of Columbus Local Free Throw Contest: Sunday, Jan. 28th Noon-2pm at the High School MAC gym for 9-14-year-old boys and girls. Goes by what your age is on 1/1/24. You can show up at any time in that time frame. If you can't make it and want to shoot contact Jason 320-360-0001. I tried to find a day there's hopefully no youth tournaments.

Pierz Community Education is offering an introduction class to beekeeping. Molly Gensmar has a wealth of knowledge on starting and maintaining bees related but not limited to costs, equipment and time. Contact Sarah at 320-468-6458 ext 7 for more info. Held Jan. 29 5:30-8p.m.

Catholic United Financial  **QUILT BINGO:** Sunday, February 4th, 2024, at 1 p.m. at the Holy Trinity School Gym in Pierz. Catholic United Financial Matching Grant Fundraiser. Sponsored by St. Joseph's Church. Beautiful handmade quilts, free lunch, and door prizes.

CENTRAL MN KOINONIA: A weekend Catholic retreat sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. March 1-3, 2024, cost of the weekend is \$70.00. www.centralmnkoinonia.org.

DIOCESAN FESTIVAL OF FAMILIES: This week is your last chance to register for this family event! Register at <https://stcdio.org/event/festival-of-families/> \$20 per family. The day includes a free carnival, family games, lunch, parent-children-teen sessions, Mass with Bishop Neary and more!

SOUP SUPPER: The Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls will host an all-you-can-eat Soup Supper on Saturday, February 10, 4:30-7 p.m., at St. Francis Convent, Little Falls. A variety of homemade soups, fresh bread, bars and beverages will be served. Tickets: Adults-\$12, Children 5-12-\$5, Children under 5-Free. Tickets are available at the Franciscan Gift Shop and at the door. Proceeds from the Soup Supper benefit St. Francis Health & Wellness Center and St. Francis Music Center, Little Falls. For more information contact (320)632-2981 or info@fslf.org.

BUCKMAN FIREARMS SAFETY CLASS

Mondays 6:30-8:30 PM March 4—April 8, 2023

Buckman Parish Center



PIERZ FIREARMS SAFETY CLASS

Mondays 6:30-8:30 PM March 4—April 8, 2023

Eastern Morrison County Sportsman Club

4 miles west of Pierz on Highway 27

- **Must be 11 years of age by the first night of class**
- **Adults are welcome to take the class.** If you were born AFTER December 31, 1979, you must have a firearms safety certificate to purchase a license to hunt with a firearm in Minnesota.
- **A parent or guardian MUST be present to register their child the first night of class and pay the \$7.50 fee for the class**
- **If class is cancelled it will be announced on the Little Falls radio stations**
KLTF AM960 WYRQ 92.1FM KFML 94.1FM

**** Pre-registration is REQUIRED for the Pierz Class ONLY**

Shelly Boser shells291970@gmail.com

Registration for the Buckman Class takes place the first night of class

Questions about the Buckman class contact Ron Kahl (320)360-0986



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 2
HOOKED ON JESUS



Saturday, January 27 & Sunday, January 28: "Celebrating Our Parish"

4:00 pm Mass at St. John's, Lastrup
6:00 pm Mass at Holy Cross, Harding
8:00 am Mass at St. Michael's, Buckman
10:00 am Mass at St. Joseph's, Pierz

Monday, January 29: "Celebrating Our Community"

Student Activity: Students will be on the radio, KLTF Partyline from 10-11 am.

Tuesday, January 30: "Celebrating Vocations"

Student activity: Bishop Patrick Neary will be here for a visit and to talk to the students. The HT alumni seniors will also be visiting.

Wednesday, January 31: "Celebrating the Nation"

Student activity: Students will have adoration and will pray a rosary for the nation. They will also send cards and letters to the military.

Thursday, February 1: "Celebrating Students"

Student activity: Students will be roller skating @ Skatin' Place in St. Cloud

Friday, February 2: "Celebrating Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers"

Student activity:

- 9:45 Spelling Bee
- 2:00 Annual Staff vs. 6th grade Kickball Game



80 Edward St. N., Pierz MN 56364, 320-468-6446

***CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK MASSES-** Saturday, January 27 and Sunday, January 28. Please join our families after each mass for refreshments. Thank you for supporting Holy Trinity and Catholic education. Please see the attached information for more details!

***DISCOVERY NIGHT OPEN HOUSE-** January 31, 2024, 5:00pm-7:00pm. Please see the postcard information for more details.

***HTCS CARNIVAL / COUNTRY STORE-** Our annual carnival WILL NOT have a Country Store this year. Please do NOT bring items to HTCS for this. If you do have items to donate, please contact the staff at Father Pierz School of Religion at 320-468-2640 about donating to their garage sale.

***COFFEE-** Regular (ground or bean) \$13.00, in French, Dark, or Medium Roast. Decaf (ground or bean) \$14.00.

1/21 \$75 Meghann Boser, 1/22 \$35 Hannah Romenesko, 1/23 \$35 Gina Leibold, 1/24 \$35 Jojo Wagner, 1/25 \$35 Nicole Prickett, 1/26 \$35 Crystal Ratke, 1/27 \$35 Cheri Boser

Father Pierz School of Religion



320-468-2640

***Sunday, January 28th** – MCCL ProLife Dinner 12-3p.m. at LF Ballroom.

***Wednesday, January 31st** – SH Girls Night/Guys Night 6-8:30 p.m. (Adoration 5-6 p.m. Pierz Church)

***Sunday, February 4th** – Pierz Quilt Bingo at 1 p.m.

LOOK WHAT'S NEW IN THE ACC!



Recent Baptism
Caden Scott,
son of
Evan & Alivia
Woitalla

You're Invited!

to our ECE/Kindergarten
Discovery Night Open House
Jan. 31, 2024

What to expect:

- ✓ Meet other families, see classrooms, & meet teachers
- ✓ Decorate a sugar cookie
- ✓ Receive registration paperwork to secure your spot for the 2024-25 school year
- ✓ Learn everything Holy Trinity has to offer!

Our Discovery Night is geared toward children ages 3.5-5. New families (grades 1-6) looking to invest in a Catholic education are also welcome!

5-7 PM
Come & go at your convenience



CREATING A FOUNDATION ROOTED IN CHRIST

ProLife
March at the
Capitol

