

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
~ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent ~

Pastor ~ Fr John Paul Knopik  
johnknopik@gmail.com  
Browns Valley ~ 320-695-2621  
Chokio ~ 320-324-2680  
Wheaton ~ 320-563-4421



St. Mary's ~ Chokio

P.O. Box 187, Chokio, MN 56221

Office 320-324-2680; website: stmaryschokio.org

Sandi Marlow-Weber—secretary / bookkeeper

Parish Email: stmarych@fedtel.net

**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE (Mar 9<sup>th</sup> – Mar 15<sup>th</sup>)**

**MON** ~ No Mass ~  
**TUE** Mass – 8:30 am Chokio ~Christian Mothers/Women  
**WED** Mass – 8:30 am Wheaton ~  
Stations – 6:00 pm (All Three Parishes)  
**THU** ~ No Mass ~  
**FRI** ~ No Mass ~  
**SUN** Mass – 8:00 am Chokio ~Monica Juba  
Mass – 9:30 am Wheaton ~  
Mass – 11:00 am Browns Valley ~

**STEWARDSHIP** – for Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

Adult \$1550 Youth \$8 Loose \$149 Votive \$19  
Utilities \$610 Cent MN Cath \$180.00

**Hour of POWER:**

7:00 Adoration & 8:00 am Rosary  
Tues (Chokio), Wed (Wheaton), Thurs (B.V)

**Confessions: 5:00 pm**

Tues (Chokio), Wed (Wheaton), Thurs (B.V)

**Extra Confession Opportunities**

Tues, Mar 10 @ 5:00pm–8:00pm (Chokio)  
Wed, Mar 11 @ 5:00pm–8:00pm (Wheaton)  
Thur, Mar 12 @ 5:00pm–8:00pm (Browns Valley)  
Sun, Mar 22 @ 4:00pm (Morris)  
Wed, Mar 25 @ 7:00pm (Herman)

Happy “95<sup>th</sup>” Birthday to **Merlita Lupkes**  
& “80<sup>th</sup>” to **John Berlinger!!**

We welcomed newly baptized **Piper Mae** last weekend 😊

Daughter of Mason & Samantha Deal!  
Great Granddaughter of John & Lois Deal!!

**Ministry Schedule, Wed., Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> Stations of the Cross, 6 p.m.**

**Presider:** Paula Baxter

**Servers:** Mandy Kleindl & Otto Kleindl

**Ministry Schedule, Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m.**

**EM's:** Jade Marty, Jamie Van Eps, Rich Weber, & David Asfeld

**Lector:** Sandi Marlow-Weber

**Ushers:** Bruce Berlinger & Mark Gibson

**Servers:** Berdine Kleindl & Braxton Nelson

**Sacristan:** John & Mary Lou Berlinger

**Winter Schedule:**

---Mar 10<sup>th</sup>, Penance Service, 5-8 p.m. confessions available

---April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Holy Thursday Mass 7 p.m. First communicants and teachers will get their foot washed.

**Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Lenten Retreat is at**

**Assumption, Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 9 am-3 pm.** THANKS to all who have offered to bring bars. Call Sandi to attend/forms in back.

**During the month of March, we'll be collecting donations to the Stevens County Food Shelf.** Use the decorated envelopes in basket.

**Please take a CRS Rice Bowl, from the back table:** Hunger is on the rise. **Catholic Relief Services**, invites Catholics to pray, fast and give alms through CRS Rice Bowl. **Bishop Patrick Neary**, chairman of the CRS board of directors, suggests making a meatless meal once a week, during Lent, and giving the savings to the CRS Rice Bowl. Recipes at crsricebowl.org.

**Catholic Relief Services Collection is next week (envelope in pack)**

Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and **reveal Christ's love** to those most in need!

**Collection of Old Palms during Lent:** If you have old palms you'd like to donate, place them in the vase in the entrance. They will be burnt on Palm Sunday, during Faith Formation, weather permitting.

**Donations for Easter Flowers can be put in the collection, in an envelope with the names of whomever you are remembering!**

**NEEDED:** One or two people to take over as Directors of Religious Education. We thank Rachel Schott for her many years of service and understand her need to step down as her girls are adults! Contact Rachel or the office, if you have a heart for this.



**St. Anthony ~ Browns Valley**

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Office 320-695-2621 Marlene Appel ~ Secretary/Bookkeeper  
Home: 605-694-2642 Cell: 605-237-3399

Email: [st.anthony359@yahoo.com](mailto:st.anthony359@yahoo.com)

Website: [brownsvalleycatholic.org](http://brownsvalleycatholic.org)

Prayer Line: Mary Schwagel 320-695-2994 or Connie

Miller 320-695-2137 or 2376 or Edith Foren 320-695-2260

**Liturgical Ministers – March 15 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Lector:** Jeanette Pistorius

**EM:** Jeanette Pistorius, Marlene Appel & Mary Nigg

**Choir & Congregation:** Brenda Bartz & Michelle Cooley

**Servers:** Emmett Piechowski & Daxtin Miller

**Greeters/Gift Bearers:** Mike & Sue Toelle

**Ushers:** John & Ryan Toelle

**Home Communion:** Edith Foren

**Sacristan:** Marlene Appel

**Bishop's Annual Appeal:** Thank you so much to those of you who have already supported diocesan ministries this year through the Appeal. As of February 23, the Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2026 has raised total cash and pledges of \$207,918 toward our goal of \$1,550,000 (13.41%). This was made possible through the generous donations of 1,184 people throughout the 16 counties of our diocese. Will you help these ministries meet their funding needs? Visit [www.stcdio.org/annualappeal](http://www.stcdio.org/annualappeal).

**Stewardship as a Way of Life:** *"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again."* John 4:13

Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us over the long run. When we build our lives around material possessions we will always want more, and no amount will ever satisfy our desire. True joy and peace only come when we follow Jesus - when we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered."

**Confirmation will be Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at Assumption Church in Morris, MN at 2:00 p.m.**

**Confirmands need to be there by 12:15 and sponsors by 1:00 p.m. Those being confirmed by Bishop Patrick Neary this year are Rylie Metz, Caden Gibson and Cody Nelson.**

**Please pray for them!**

**Stations of the Cross are on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. and Adoration and Rosary begins at 700 a.m. on Thursday mornings. All are welcome!**

Thanks to those who helped with World Day of Prayer or attended. Appreciated your help!



**Ave Maria ~ Wheaton**

201 9<sup>th</sup> St S Wheaton, MN 56296

Office: 320-563-4421

Laurie Karsky ~ Secretary/Bookkeeper

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**Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> ~ 9:30AM**

**Lector:** Colleen Violet

**EM:** Colleen Violet, John Tauber, Philip Deal

**Servers:** Lyla Peterson & Teddy Peterson

**Ushers:** Jeff Peterson & Mel Smith

**Fellowship:** Matt Franzese

**Home Communion:** Colleen Violet

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Wednesday, Mar 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Stations of the Cross 6:00pm**

**Sunday, Mar 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Faith Formation 10:30am – 11:30am**

**Sunday, Mar 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Fellowship after Mass**

**Just a reminder to throw away your 2025 box of envelopes because your number has changed, this way another member does not get credit for your donation. Thank You!**

**Prayer List**

Curtis Frisch, Barb Tauber, Carole Schmitz, Gene Stueve, Carrie Frisch, Kaye LeCuyer, Darlys Forcier, Dale Larson Mary & Willie Rinke, Shirley Montonye, Wally Hennen, Roger & Kathi Schmitz, Carol Marihart, Fred Schmidtke, and all of our military who are deployed

**The St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will be holding their Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-3:00pm at Assumption Church in Morris.**

The registration fee is \$30.00 at the door.

**Ave Maria has been asked to bring 3 pans of bars for the retreat. If you are able to make a pan or would like to register for the retreat please call the office at 563-4421. Thank You!!**

**The Traverse Care Center in Wheaton**

Is looking for patient visitors, people who would regularly visit with their patients. It is such a rewarding time for both the patient and the volunteer. Being able to spend time with someone during one of the most vulnerable times of their life is extremely humbling and such an honor.

~~ There is not a required number of hours ~~

~~ Training and paperwork are done online ~~

~~ This is a non-medical role ~~

If this sounds like something that you would enjoy doing,

Please reach out to the Volunteer Coordinator

Cami Richter at 973-946-2425

**Do you like to sing?** Our choir is looking for people who would like to sing for our **Sunday Mass** or how about joining our **"Funeral Choir"**. If you think this could be you, please give **Cindy** a call at **320-815-6760. Thank You!!**