

April 5th, 2026

~ Easter Sunday ~

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 (Apr 6th – Apr 12th)

MON ~ No Mass ~
TUE ~ No Mass ~
WED Mass – 8:30 am Wheaton ~
THU Mass – 10:00 am TCC ~
FRI Mass – 10:00 am BVCC ~
SUN Mass – 8:00 am Chokio ~Dallas & Carolin Pillen
Mass – 9:30 am Wheaton ~
Mass – 11:00 am Browns Valley ~

STEWARDSHIP – for Sunday, March 29th

Adult \$1665 Youth \$14 Loose \$254 Votive \$40.50
Easter \$530 Crafts \$25 Utilities \$1000 Mainten. \$150
Stipends \$100 Flowers \$280 Rice Bowls \$297.12

Hour of POWER:

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

Confessions: 5:30 pm

Tues (None this week), Wed (Wheaton), Thurs (B.V)

No Mass, Hour of Power, or Confessions on Tues, Apr 7th
due to the padre “planning” to be out of town.

Divine Mercy Retreat will be offered on Sat, Apr 11th
Look towards Ave Maria’s column for details.

Saints are raising “**Fun**” on Sat, Apr 11 @ 5 pm – 10 pm
at the D.B.G. (Dumont Bar & Grill)

Blessing of Seed or Soil will be Sun, Apr 19 at each parish.
Feel free to bring like a handful sample of seed & / or soil.

Easter Thanks:

Thanks everyone from the music, decorations, lecturing,
serving, cleaning, & snow removal these past 40 days &
nights! Thanks for your hard work & making this season so
special 😊

Ministry Schedule, Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12th, 8:00 a.m.

EM's: David Asfeld & Jerry Heltemes

Lector: Vivian Heltemes

Ushers: Landen Gibson & Jace Kleindl

Servers: Kimber Baxter & Kendal Baxter

Sacristan: John & Mary Lou Berlinger

Spring Schedule:

---April 27th, Bloodmobile at St. Mary's Hall, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Go to
redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appt.

Donations for Easter Flowers have been received in memory of:

Fabian & Liz Ritter Family (Peggy, Geri, Lynn, Tom, Jayne & Joan);
Dan & Leona Curran, Peter & Burnys Koch, Darlene Carpentier,
Elaine Snyder; Ken & Jeanne Asmus; Ben Schneider, Wally & Liane
Raasch; Bill, William & Dorothy, & Tony Schott, Eleanor
Nickolauson, Herman & Rose Wencel, John & Vic Wencel, Eleanor
Carrington; Sam & Ellie Logan, Nancy Logan & Steve Thompson;
Matt & Edna Marty, Steve & Mary Berlinger; Jim Schwebach,
Ambrose & Evelyn Schwebach, Norbert & Phyllis Deslauriers,
Thomas Schwebach & Wyatt Tritz; Nick Daly; Dennis & Marie
Marlow, Frank & Marian Weber, John, Julianne, & Mary Marlow &
Becky Marlow Steffen. ***HAPPY EASTER TO EVERYONE!***

**St. Mary's Annual Calendar Raffle Ticket Sales begin April 12, next
Sunday before and after Mass.** Tickets also available in the office
or by calling calendar chair, Mary Koch, 320-808-5475. All tickets
should be sold & turned in by June 14th. Drawing is June 24th.

**Next Sunday, Dallas & Carolin Pillen will be celebrating their 65th
Wedding Anniversary with a blessing during Mass. Congrats!!**

Knights of Columbus Meet in Morris, 4/7/26, 7 pm Lunch served!

Free Movie/ Morris Theatre, April 18th, 1:00 pm/ Prince of Egypt.

The Blessing of Seeds & Soil will take place Sunday, April 19th:

Bring Ziploc bags or covered jars/containers of seeds and/or soil
with your name on them, and put them in the wagon at the back of
church when you come. They will be blessed during church, and
you can take them home to spread on your garden/fields. **Please
check out your April Central MN Catholic magazine, as St. Mary's
blessing last year is featured in an article.** Weston Kampmeier
was the driver last year of the mini-tractor and Max Blackwelder
will be the driver this year! Otto & Mandy Kleindl are shown as
servers. It's great to be recognized by our diocesan magazine!



St. Anthony ~ Browns Valley

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Website: 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 – April 12 - 11:00 a.m.

- Lector:** Jeanette Pistorius
- EM:** Jeanette Pistorius, Ma Nigg & Edith Foren
- Choir & Congregation:** David & Julie Metz
- Servers:** Daxtin Miller & Emmett Piechowski
- Greeters/Gift Bearers:** Harry & Marlys Ziemer
- Ushers:** Mike Piechowski & Larry Deutsch
- Home Communion:** Cindy Haggerty
- Sacristan:** Brenda Bartz

Stewardship as a Way of Life: *“This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.” Acts 10:40-41*

The first disciples were people who witnessed the risen Christ in the flesh. The author of Acts emphasizes that they ate and drank with the risen Christ. How we take care of each other "in this life" is an important part of our spiritual life. Stewardship is not about having pious thoughts, but about making life better for others in the flesh.

Bishop’s Annual Appeal – Hearts of Mercy: As we celebrate our risen Lord, may our hearts be filled with hope, peace, and renewed joy, and may His mercy inspire us to care for one another with generous love.

Please accept our deepest gratitude to those of you who have already supported diocesan ministries this year. As of March 23, the Bishop’s Annual Appeal for 2026 has raised total cash and pledges of \$806,852 toward our goal of \$1,550,000 (52.05%). This was made possible through the generous donations of 4,006 people throughout the 16 counties of our diocese. Will you help these ministries meet their funding needs? Visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Adoration and Rosary begins at 700 a.m. on Thursday mornings. All are welcome!

First Holy Communion and May Crowning is scheduled for Sunday, May 3rd. Leeland Donnay will be making his First Holy Communion. Pray for him.

Graduating seniors include: Dasani Miller, Emilie Metz, Carson Jurgens & Abby Fryer. The graduates will be honored at Mass on Sunday, May 10, 2026!

HAPPY EASTER!



~~~ Easter Blessings ~~~

Ave Maria ~ Wheaton

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Laurie Karsky ~ Secretary/Bookkeeper

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Website Email: contact@avemariawheaton.org

Sunday, April 12th ~ 9:30AM

- Lector:** Matt Franzese
- EM:** Deb Mucha, Paul Thielen, Dean Frisch
- Servers:** Gentry McKinley & Lachlyn McKinley
- Ushers:** Mark Koch & Hank Frisch
- Home Communion:** Cindy Sanasack
- Fellowship:** Herman Barutt & Deb Mucha

SaveThe Date

Sunday, April 12th ~ Faith Formation 10:30 – 11:30

Sunday, April 12th ~ Fellowship after Mass

Wednesday, April 16th ~ First Reconciliation 6:00pm

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

~~ Divine Mercy Retreat ~~

A talk on Divine Mercy Sunday

Given by: Father Peter Anderl

Where: Ave Maria Church in Wheaton

When: Saturday, April 11, 2026

9:30AM: Doors Open

10:00AM – Noon: Talk & Chaplet

Noon – 12:30PM: Lunch will be served

12:30 – 2:00PM: Eucharistic Adoration

12:30 – 2:00PM: Confessions Available

Please join us for this free retreat! All are welcome! Gift Shop will be open from 9:30-10:00AM and again from Noon-2:30PM – offering Divine Mercy Items for a suggested cash donation.

Please call the church office at 320-563-4421 or Karen at 320-760-4852 with any questions.

The Ave Maria Ladies Guild would like to say “Thank You” to everyone for the last 36 years of participation with our Spring Luncheon!!

Due to a decline in attendance, we will not be having our annual luncheon this year.