# Welcome to HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Serving the People of Virginia and Mountain Iron 306 2<sup>nd</sup> Street So. Virginia, Minnesota 55792

# Holy Spirit Parish Staff

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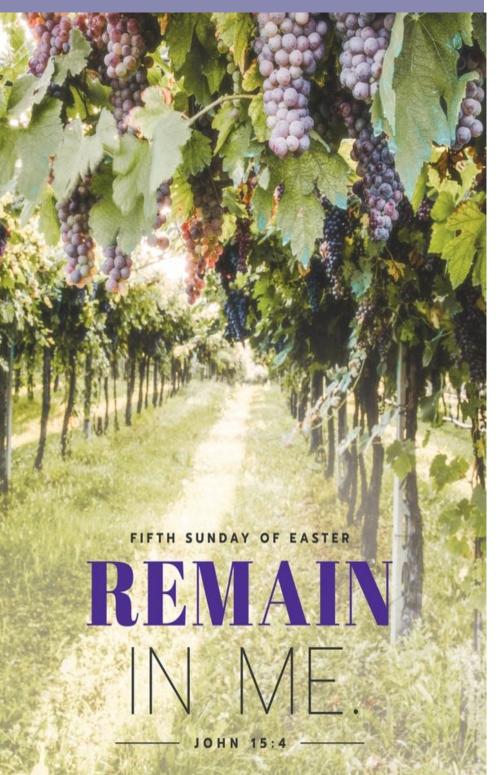
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Joyfal; Docile

Stewardship of Treasury Fiscal Year July 2023-June 2024

#### Month of April 2024

Monthly Goal......\$40,583.00 Received to Date for month..... \$34,879.43

Ordinary Income (April 20/21) \$7,531.00

<u>Annual Goal23/24</u>....\$487,000.00 Received to Date..... .....\$384,661.46

> **Diocesan Ministries Appeal** 2024 Assessment \$73,637.00 Funds Collected \$7,995.00

MCS Capital Campaign \$4,363,290.54

Marquette Catholic School Endowment Fund Balance: \$146,362.57

Holy Spirit Endowment Fund Balance \$50,651.86

#### Love in Deed

*It's a Wonderful Life* is one of my favorite Christmas movies. It only occurred to me recently, though, that this film, for all its yuletide aesthetic, is actually more of an Easter story.

I love this movie because it's a very Catholic film — not overtly, although we do see the main character, George Bailey, going to Mass. No, it's the themes that are Catholic, not the set dressing. It's a story about the choices we make — to love, or not to love? To sacrifice, or not to sacrifice? To put oneself first, or to put oneself last? It's a story about what the consequences of those choices look like here in the world, and what they look like in heaven.

In the film, we meet a young George Bailey who dreams of growing up to do amazing, impressive things. Over the years, he makes a choice here and he makes a choice there ... and when all is said and done, the adult George Bailey is a tired, overworked husband and father with no worldly attributes that anyone would envy.

But he's a man who has loved in deed, not just in word, and who has reaped the spiritual rewards of those choices.

The season of Easter is about rejoicing in true redemption, not in worldly triumph. The Word of God is not a bedtime story. It's a pruning shear. To hear it is to be changed, to be shaped. To live it is to lose some things, so that you might bloom in unexpected ways. To welcome the Word is to be willing to look different, to feel different.

Anyone can say, "I love you, I accept you, I want to help you." But what does it actually look like, to love in deed and not just in word? It looks like giving something up: free time, wealth, comfort, worldly approval. It looks, to the casual observer, like pain.

To someone who has no concept of how plants grow and thrive, a gardener's pruning shears look like an executioner's sword. To someone who has no concept of how souls grow and thrive, a tomb barred by a stone looks like the end of a story, when in fact it's just the beginning.

"Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." -1 John 3:18

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## Congratulations to our First Communion Students:

This weekend we celebrate many of our children who will be receiving our Lord in Holy Communion for the very first time. To each of the 1st communicants and their families we offer our sincere congratulations at such a monumental moment in these children's lives. May our Lord continue to bless these children and all the youth of our parish. They are all truly a sign of great hope!

Cecilia Kubat	Isabella Aluni	Maisy Ralston
Sadie Anderson	£mma Phaneuf	Maggie Pollak
Cliver Jhayer	Adelaide Krebsba	ich Nash Carlson
Gwen Leonard	Jaina Simetkosky	fdith Frost
fila Raida	Elisse Gunderson	Jaavi Rosandich
Jucker Weaver	Davis Hacker	Daycee Hardy
	Ward Hautamak	i

# Relentless Prayer; United

Altar Server Schedule Weekend of May 4-5		
Sat. 4:30pm	Sun. 8:00am	Sun. 10:00 am
M. Pollak	C. Hagberg	C. Bialke
	L. Evans	S. Carlson
	P. Gramm	J. Seeber
		H. Frost
		G. Devich

S	acristan Schedule
W	eekend of May 4-5
5/4 Sat. 4:30pm	S. Babiracki
5/5 Sun. 8:00am	C. Pond
5/5 Sun. 10:00am	C. Gerzin
	Lector Schedule
	ekend of May 4-5
5/4 Sat. 4:30pm	D. Krall
5/5 Sun. 8:00am	<b>B.</b> Youngman
5/5 Sun. 10:00am	

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<u>Youth Ministry's Fundraiser of Vern's Greenhouse</u> <u>Certificates</u> continues, certificates are available after weekend Masses or at the parish office. Vern's Greenhouse spring opening will be the first weekend of May.



The Changing Baby's Lives Coin Collection continues through May. Your kind, generous donations may be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office. Thank you for helping moms and babies in need!

**Did You Know?** St. Gianna Beretta Molla was a 20th century physician, wife, and mother whose feast day is celebrated on April 28. A novena to St. Gianna is available and can be prayed any time of year: walkingwithmoms.com/saint-gianna-novena.

## **Formed Feature**

Lectio: Mark with Dr. Tim Gray Discover the Gospel of Mark like never before. Immerse yourself in this action-packed Gospel that offers Saint Peter's account of Christ's life and teaching. Combining the insights of Dr. Tim Gray with the masterful artistry of the Augustine Institute, this Lectio series uses the Church's rich tradition of Lectio Divina to help you better understand and better pray with the Gospel of Mark.

Mon.	<sup>7</sup> Masses at Holy Spirit -Fri
	Mass at 8:30am
Wed.	
	Mass at 5:30pm
	Masses at Marquette Middle School
	n school is in session)
Mon.	-Thurs.
	Mass at 10:45am
Weel	kend Masses at Holy Spirit
	Sat. 4:30pm
	Sun. 8am & 10am
Conf	essions
	Wed. at 4:45pm
	Sat. at 3pm
Rosa	ries at Holy Spirit
	Thurs. 8pm
	-Prayer for Vocations
Ador	ation
	9am-9pm
	Tues. & Thurs.

Monday	April 29
8:30 AM †	Kathleen Kishel
10:45 AM †	Jacob Carlson
Tuesday	April 30
8:30 AM †	Lucille Fiola
10:45 AM †	The Lawrence Family
Wednesday	May 1
8:30 Ам †	Marc Westerbur
10:45 AM †	Ralph Harvey
5:30 PM †	Joanne Thibault
Thursday	May 2
8:30 AM †	Don & Martha Virkus
10:45 AM †	Elide Young
Friday	May 3
8:30 AM †	Earl Milton
Saturday	May 4
4:30 PM †	Lori Marcella
Sunday	May 5
8:00 Ам †	Bev & Mel Aus; Merico & Ann Olivanti
10:00 AM †	Paul Haverkamp