

February 22, 2026 | First Sunday of Lent



Our Lady of Mount Carmel | 27 Main Street, Easton, MN 56025 | Sunday Mass 10:00 am
St. Casimir Church | 320 2nd Ave SW, Wells MN. 56097 | Sunday Mass: 8:00 am
St. John the Baptist Church | P.O. Box 158, Minnesota Lake, MN 56068 | Mass: 5:00 pm

Mass Schedule and Intentions: February 25-March 1, 2026

<u>25</u>	Wed.	8:30 am	Easton	+Jim Hassing
<u>26</u>	Thurs.	8:30 am	MN Lake	+Marion Jones
<u>27</u>	Fri.	8:30 am	Wells	+Toni Gimberline
<u>28</u>	Sat.	4:00 pm	Mn Lake	+Clem and Viola McCue
1	Sun.	8:00 am	Wells	+Marlene H Staloch
1	Sun.	10:00 am	Easton	+Frank Doyle

Every Saturday: 3:30 pm Confessions before Mass

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Pratap Reddy Salibindla, OFM
320 2nd Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097
Cell: 507-226-4536
Email:
TriparishPriestApril2024@gmail.com

FB: TRI-PARISH CATHOLIC FAITH
COMMUNITY OF OLMC,STC, & STJB
Website: www.olmcstcstjb.org

WELLS OFFICE:

Ilda Reyerson: Administrative Asst.
Phone: 507-553-5391

Monday-Thursday

8:00 am—4:30 pm
E-Mail: scasimir@bevcomm.net
Kristen Dulas: FF Coordinator
E-mail: 25FAITHFORMATIONSTC@GMAIL.COM

EASTON OFFICE:

Sue Cory: Administrative Asst.
Phone: 507-787-2303
E-mail: olmc@bevcomm.net
Chris Schultz: FF Coordinator

MINNESOTA LAKE OFFICE:

Rhonda Drager: Administrative Asst.
Phone: 507-462-3636
E-mail: stjb@bevcomm.net

YOU ARE INVITED TO PRAY THE ROSARY 1/2 HOUR PRIOR TO MASSES: Minnesota Lake— Thurs. and Sat.; Easton —Wed. and Sun.; Wells—Tues. Fri. and Sun. Rosary is always prayed every night of the year at 7:30 pm, at St. Casimir.

Know that Fr. Pratap includes all of us in his daily prayers and private Mass intentions. If a Mass is cancelled, Fr. Pratap will include that scheduled Mass Intention at his private daily Mass. If you prefer it be rescheduled, please let Father or your respective parish office know.

Tri Parish Prayer Intentions:

Triston Father	Dace Smith	Dave Sonnek
Steve Sonnek	Craig Sonnek	Jan Stenzel
Sue Sonnek	Zach Fendrich	Colette Caeli Drees
Teresa Berry	Charlie Kalis	Mary Stevermer
Chuck Evan	Don Yokiel	Tiffany Sonnek
Rosemary Larson	Koltun Kunz	Darrin Hueper
Ann Ehrich	Ken Tibodeau	Katie Ascheman
Quentin Staloch	Colton Smith	Norbert Yokiel
Grace Drager	Tyler Doyle	Carol Gregor
Sharon Obermeyer	Jane Swehla	Mark Woitas
Donnie Becker	Frank Diaz	Gregory Woitas
Vincent Schultz	Cathy Pluym	Rick Girard
Geri Peyton	Jan Elmer	John Paul Herman
Grant Supalla	Mike Redig	
Betty Ziegler	Randy Hodge	
Steven Nowak	Tom Warmka	
Scott Bull	Jennifer Pinkelman	
Kay Beyer	Lea Nowak	
Dale Stevermer		
MaryAnn Woitas		

PRAYER & WORSHIP

Lent-1st Sunday, February 22, 2026-A Cycle

Readings: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Life can easily spin us out of control. While there are so many wonderful opportunities before us, we can also get easily distracted and exhausted. There is always something to do, respond to, or check. The clutter of our lives can take us off course, and the best remedy for getting back on track is the experience of the desert.

Here we can face our demons square on, resist them, and get back on course. We desperately need the season of Lent. This simple time of the year forces us into greater awareness and grounds us in what is good and true.

What weighs us down and keeps us trapped? Anxiety and worry, lack of faith, can quickly tempt us with despair. It could be that we are listening to too many voices and allowing all the negativity to erode the genuine goodness in our hearts. Do anger, bitterness, stubbornness, greed, gluttony, pride, lust and hatred have homes in our hearts?

What tempts us away from a childlike trust in God? Let's define this and use the next few weeks to allow God to chart us a course away from them. Silence, being alone, grace, honesty, struggle, tears, and dryness are all found in the desert. We will also find God and our true self in this holy place. Are we ready to go?

The first Sunday of Lent sets the tone for the season: it's about turning away from sin and turning toward God.

- Adam and Eve remind us of our weakness.
- Jesus in the desert reminds us of our strength when we rely on God.

St. Paul reminds us that grace is stronger than sin.

Lent is not just about giving up something. It's about choosing life, resisting temptation, and deepening our trust in God.

- Face temptations with Scripture: Memorize short verses that strengthen you.
- See Lent as renewal: It's a chance to undo Adam's "no" with Christ's "yes."
- Trust grace over guilt: Sin is real, but God's mercy is greater.

~Fr. Pratap

SACRAMENTAL LIFE



MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Contact the priest 6 to 12 months in advance of the date of marriage to fill out the forms, to do FOCCUS Test and to attend Marriage Prep Mentoring Sessions. Fr. Pratap is seeking married couples who are practicing Catholics, and have children, who would be willing to volunteer to help prepare our engaged couples for marriage. Please contact Fr. Pratap at 507-226-4536, or your parish office, if interested.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Contact the parish office a month in advance to fill out the form and to attend Baptism Mentoring Sessions.

LITURGICAL LIFE

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Minnesota Lake	Wells	Easton
Sat. 4:00 pm	Sun. 8:00 am	Sun. 10:00 am
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SERVERS	Tillea Goette Loxlee Feist Lennox Feist	Claire Schimek Sophia Schimek Josette Schimek
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SACRISTAN	Abe and Laura Langager	Jonah Lippert
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LECTOR	Jackie Mullery Kristen Dulas	Don Linder
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ORGANIST	Connie Stenzel	Mary Kasyer
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EXTRAORDINARY Ministers of Holy Communion	Ike Dulas Jerry Dulas Scott Bute	Chelsea Sonnek Dean Warmka Doug Ascheman Jon Rath C
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USHERS	Nathan Goette Hannah Goette Randy Feist Jon Feist	Ryan Strom Dale Yokiel Mark Braunshausen
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ROSARY	Scott Bute	Dawn Doyle
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Shepherd's Inn	Joanne Tibodeau	
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MONEY COUNTERS	Kay Herman Rosemary Brand Pat Greff	Cheryl Warmka Mark Braunshausen



LENTEN SEASON

Lent is a 40 day period of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It is time of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, Christians seek the Lord in prayer, serve by giving alms, and practice self-control through fasting. The number 40 appears throughout Scripture as a period of testing, trial, and transformation, inviting believers to enter their own wilderness experience and preparation for the resurrection.

Remember that God is just fine with more than one effort in Charity from us! Be Aware! Rosary, 7:30 pm, every evening of the year. Adoration, Wednesday from 9:00 pm to Thursday 10:00 pm. EITHER or both help keep sanity in and depression out. We'll keep the light on for you!



Can you spend an hour with Jesus? Adoration is held at St. Casimir Church, Wells, Wednesdays at 9:00pm through Thursday 10:00 pm. You are invited to sign up for a weekly hour or just come and pray anytime.

Next week's readings:
First Reading—Genesis 12:1-4a
Second Reading —2 Timothy 1:8b-10
Gospel—Matthew 17:1-9

FAITH COMMUNITY GENEROUS GIVING

	Weekly	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Minnesota Lake	\$885.00	\$62,087.88	\$109,876.00
Wells	\$7,306.11	\$207,409.70	\$350,598.00
Easton	\$2,665.00	\$87,384.00	\$137,700.00

**IN OUR PRAYERS: Richard Stenzel, Don Yokiel
Soldiers Overseas: Andrea Schultz**

Whenever any of our parish members or families in need of special prayers, please call and we will begin our prayer lines for any need-give only details you wish. OLMC- Sue Cory 507-787-2598, STJB- Rhonda Drager 507-462-3627, and Barb Stenzel 507-553-3805.

NOTES FOR ALL PARISHES

TRI-PARISH COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

3rd Sunday of Lent, March 8, 2026. Wells at 4:00 pm. All parishioners of the Tri-Parish together with the Faith Formation children are encouraged to attend the Communal Penance Service as to strengthen your relationship with the Lord and one another. (Five priests will be available for Confessions).

OLMC SOUP LUNCHEON

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a soup Luncheon at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on Sunday, February 22, 2026 after Mass in Madonna Hall. Serving will run from 11 am to 12 noon. A free will offering is much appreciated! A bake sale sponsored by MCCW.

Save the Date! FISH FRY

STJB Holy Name Society will be having their annual Fish Fry on Friday, March 20, 2026, from 5-7. More details to come.

EASTER MEMORIALS

Memorial donations for Easter environment are now being accepted. Forms can be filled out and placed in the offertory baskets or sent to the respective parish office. Also Memorial donation envelopes may be found in with you contribution envelopes.

THANK YOU TRIVIA NIGHT SPONSORS AND PARTICIPANTS

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our Trivia Night! We want to extend a special shout-out to our generous sponsors. The money raised will go towards the faith formation program and new ultrasound machine at Options for Women in North Mankato. Your generous contribution is deeply appreciated. -*Holy Family Council of the Knights of Columbus.*

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT

Join us Saturday, March 21, 2026. St. Theodore's Church, 315 E Clark St. Albert Lea, MN "Made for More" Registration forms will be available in the handicap entrance and the main entrance of St. Casimir Church. Cost is \$50 per person. Make your check out to Winona-Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (WDCCW). Registration deadline March 13, 2026.

TRI-PARISH ADORATIONS AND CONFESSIONS:

Saturday, March 14th at Easton from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

Saturday, March 21st at Wells from 9:00 am until done.

Saturday, March 28th at Minnesota Lake from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.

CATHOLIC LENTEN RETREAT

Return to the Father

-A Day of Reflection on the Prodigal Son and the Lord's Mercy in the Sacrament of Penance

All are warmly invited to step away from the busyness of life and enter into a meaningful day of prayer, reflection, and renewal during Lent. Join us on Saturday, March 7, 2026, for a Catholic Lenten Retreat, beginning with Mass at 9 AM.

The day will be facilitated by Monsignor Thomas Cook, current pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Owatonna and former pastor of OLMC and STJB. The retreat is hosted by the OLMC, STC & STJB Tri-Parish Faith Community. ***Free will offering will be accepted.**

Come, rest in the Lord, and allow this Lenten season to deepen your relationship with Christ.

Where: St. Casimir Catholic Church, 320 2nd Ave. SW, Wells, MN

When: Saturday, March 7, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM,

Please RSVP by March 2, 2026, to 25faithformationstc@gmail.com or 507-553-5391.