

# March 2026



## SAINT CATHERINE CENTER FOR *Special Needs*

### *Ash Wednesday Service*

Students, young adults, and staff at Saint Catherine Center gathered together for a special Ash Wednesday prayer service marking the beginning of the Lenten season. The service was led by Father Chris Ford, who was joined by Laura Groizer, Executive Director, in distributing ashes to all who wished to receive them.

During the service, Father Ford shared the meaning of this sacred season, explaining that Lent is a special time to remember our friendship with Jesus and to recommit ourselves to that friendship through prayer, reflection, and kindness to others. He reminded everyone that the cross of ashes placed on our foreheads represents this renewed commitment and our desire to grow closer to Christ.

The atmosphere created a moment of reflection for all who participated. Students, young adults, and staff were encouraged to pause from their daily routines and prepare their hearts for the journey toward Easter. This Ash Wednesday service offered a beautiful beginning to the Lenten season at Saint Catherine Center—one filled with prayer, renewal, and hope as our community continues to walk together in faith



### *Spreading Love*



Love was in the air this Valentine's Day at Saint Catherine Center for Special Needs. Throughout the week, our community celebrated friendship, kindness, and the joy of sharing love with others.

The Adult Program celebrated the holiday with a party and festive activities. Peers exchanged valentines, decorated sweet treats to bring home, and created colorful Valentine's crafts. In the spirit of giving, participants in the Adult Program also created handmade Valentine cards for retired priests. Each card was thoughtfully decorated and filled with kind messages, offering a small but meaningful reminder that they are remembered and appreciated.



Students at Saint Catherine Academy joined in the effort to spread kindness beyond our Center walls. They crafted Valentine's Day cards for veterans, sharing messages of gratitude and appreciation for those who have served our country.



Valentine's Day at Saint Catherine is always a joyful celebration, but it also serves as a reminder of the importance of compassion and connection. Whether through a simple card, a shared treat, or a friendly smile, our students and participants showed that small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

## *SOUPer Bowl of Kindness*

The weeks leading up to the Super Bowl were filled with generosity and community spirit at Saint Catherine Center for Special Needs as we participated in the SOUPer Bowl of Kindness in partnership with Assumption School in Fairfield.

Students, adult participants, and staff joined in the effort, collecting canned goods to contribute to Assumption School's food drive. Together, our community worked to gather donations that would be shared with those in need.



This meaningful initiative allowed our students and adult program participants to practice kindness in action. Each contribution made a difference and reminded us all of the importance of caring for others.

Through the SOUPer Bowl of Kindness, our community was proud to share the love and generosity that defines Saint Catherine Center. It was a wonderful way to come together, give back, and make the Super Bowl season about more than just football—showing that teamwork and compassion can have a powerful impact.



## *Let the Games Begin*



The excitement of football season brought plenty of energy and friendly competition to Saint Catherine Center for Special Needs this past month!

To celebrate the big game, adult participants enjoyed a Super Bowl celebration. Individuals wore their favorite jerseys, played fun football toss games, and shared their predictions about who they thought would win the big game.

The sporting celebrations continued with our very own Saint Catherine Center Olympics, where adult participants competed in a variety of sports games. From volleyball to kickball and other fun athletic activities, everyone had the opportunity to participate, cheer on their peers, and demonstrate wonderful sportsmanship and team spirit.

The Center Olympics concluded with an award ceremony where each young adult received a certificate in recognition of their hard work and enthusiasm. Events like these remind us that at Saint Catherine Center, every season brings new opportunities to stay active, build friendships, and celebrate each other's achievements.



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