



Mary Therese Ray

March 5, 2024 - July 7, 2024

The Mass of Christian Burial for Mary Therese Ray, infant daughter of Isaac and Martha Ray of Wadena, will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 18, at St. Ann Catholic Church in Wadena. Visitation will be at the church one hour prior to the Mass. A luncheon will follow in St. Ann's Parish Hall. Interment will be at St. Mathias Cemetery, Camp Ripley, MN.

~~~~~

The funeral service will be livestreamed on: Schuller Family Funeral Home's Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Schuller-Family-Funeral-Homes-Cremation-Services-100063798813543/>

or YouTube channel at

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9\\_jZx4o7kREPtz8aSI4tEw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_jZx4o7kREPtz8aSI4tEw)

~~~~~

Mary Therese Ray, born March 5, 2024, died on Sunday, July 7th, 2024 in rural Wadena where she lived with her parents and siblings, supported by Lakewood Hospice.

We were blessed to have almost 18 weeks with Mary. Although she shared the same genetic metabolic disease as her brothers, hers was her own unique journey. Named after our Mama Mary and St. Therese of Lisieux, Mary showed us how to live and love in all the small, ordinary daily living. She helped us learn to surrender our own will, to give God our "fiat". She was

bold, forging her own way, arriving 9 weeks early. After confirming her metabolic deficiency, our goal for her was to receive the Sacraments and to come home so we could love her as a family with an added bonus if she could celebrate the Triduum and Easter with us. The fantastic team at the U of M Fairview made that happen and we came home in a snowstorm on Monday of Holy Week, after only 20 days in the NICU. On March 27th she was fully initiated into the Life of Christ, receiving Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, surrounded by family and friends. The Easter season was spent in joyous celebration of the Resurrection and of having Mary at home. She was able to meet extended family and many friends, celebrate her Grandparent's 50th Anniversary and mourn her great-grandmother's death. Mary continued to baffle us as well as the medical experts. We had to learn to trust in the day-to-day and be present without knowing what the next day would bring. (A good lesson for every life.)

We spent the next months loving Mary and letting her lead us. And lead us she did. Because of her early arrival, Mary Therese received her name before her diagnosis. Divine Providence. God knew what he was doing when he placed these particular names on our hearts. We often think of these two women (Mama Mary and St. Therese) as humble, loving, and pious (as they most certainly are!). What we failed to recall was the amount of suffering that each endured and how they offered that to God as a sacrifice of love. The suffering they endured was not chosen, but graciously and humbly received. Mary did not choose to suffer and we did not choose it for her or for us. However, St. Therese is quoted that "Suffering is the very best gift He has to give us. He gives it only to His chosen friends." It is with humble gratitude that we accept this gracious gift, knowing that God will be glorified through Mary's life. Her impact on our family will ripple through eternity.

Preceding Mary in death were her brothers, Renaldo, Gabriel. Eli and Benedict. She is survived by her parents, Isaac & Martha Ray (Shively),

siblings Joseph, Dominic, Margaret, Louis, Maria and Mara; grandparents Scott and Ruthann Ray, of Pillager, Steve and Iris Shively of Brainerd, great-grandmother Frances Ray of Brainerd, along with aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Cemetery Details

St. Mathias Catholic Cemetery

4529 County Rd 121
Fort Ripley, MN 56449

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 18. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Service

JUL 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Tribute Wall

WL

“ *Wadena City Library lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray*



Wadena City Library - July 29, 2024 at 03:48 PM

BS

“ *Bruce & Trish Steinkopf lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray*



Bruce & Trish Steinkopf - July 19, 2024 at 08:44 PM

BB

“ *Isaac, Martha and family - The memory of you holding this sweet little angel in your arms at Mass will remain with us forever. She touched our hearts. Blessings to your family.*



Bruce and Joyce Boyne - July 17, 2024 at 11:54 AM

HS

“ *Our hearts and prayers are with you. Even in her short life she touched so many hearts. Love, Helen (Kirzeder) and Jerry Schulte*

Helen G Schulte - July 16, 2024 at 10:47 AM

AF

“ Isaac, Martha and family, praying for all of you during this challenging time.

Andrew & Ruth Freyholtz family.

Andrew Freyholtz - July 12, 2024 at 10:13 AM

DH

“ Our hearts go out to all of you. We send our condolences for your loss and happiness for the life you had here on earth together.

Dorothy and Tom Highum - July 10, 2024 at 11:37 PM

LK

“ So sorry for your loss ,,a beautiful child of God Peace be with all of you..



Lee and Pat Kicker - July 10, 2024 at 10:27 PM

LF

“ Love, Drew & Lisa Friebohle purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Therese Ray.



Love, Drew & Lisa Friebohle - July 10, 2024 at 09:45 PM

TW

“ Our deepest sympathy in the loss of your precious Mary. Prayers for her and your family.

Tom and Mary Dee Weber - July 10, 2024 at 03:25 PM

AB

“ Audrey Blashack sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Ray



Audrey Blashack - July 10, 2024 at 02:19 PM

PL

“ Our sympathy to you and your family. Our joy for Mary to have shared her life with all who knew her. The obituary is beautiful and a generous testament. God bless you with love and peace.



Paul and Elaine Lorentz - July 10, 2024 at 10:20 AM

LS

“ Love Angela and John Scott purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mary Therese Ray.



Love Angela and John Scott - July 10, 2024 at 10:17 AM

PE

“ Peter and Margaret Van Erp lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray



Peter and Margaret Van Erp - July 10, 2024 at 10:06 AM

EG

“ Erin Guck lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray



Erin Guck - July 10, 2024 at 09:29 AM

GC

“ Gary and Marcy Collins lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray



Gary and Marcy Collins - July 10, 2024 at 07:19 AM

MH

“ Marge Mohs- Harrison lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray



Marge Mohs- Harrison - July 10, 2024 at 07:14 AM

DE

“ Dean and Cheri Endres lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray



Dean and Cheri Endres - July 10, 2024 at 06:31 AM

DS

“ *Dan and Deb Sweere lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray*



Dan and Deb Sweere - July 09, 2024 at 10:57 PM

KH

“ *Karen and LeRoy Haman lit a candle in memory of Mary Ray*



Karen and LeRoy Haman - July 09, 2024 at 03:27 PM

EW

“ *With our profound sympathy on the loss of your precious Mary. May Jesus wrap his arms around your family and hold you close.*



Ellen & Steve Wallgren - July 09, 2024 at 02:56 PM