



ST. ANASTASIA NEWSLETTER



Lord, We Need You

“We need the Lord, like ancient navigators needed the stars.”
-Pope Francis

Welcome to another year of faith formation at St. Anastasia Catholic Community. As we come back together, we realize life has been anything but easy for most over the past few months. The importance of community and gathering together has been revealed in the painful presence of fear and isolation during the pandemic. We hope and pray that the changes and precautions we have made allow us to continue to gather back together as members of the Body of Christ. We need each other. We need love and life itself. Lord, we need YOU.

Please, come back to the Father’s house. Come to the place where everyone has a room; where heaven meets earth; where everyone is fully-known and eternally loved; where Jesus is physically found, waiting for us. You are loved. You have been missed. We hope that no matter where you are on your faith journey, you’ll join with us this year. Our church needs exactly who you are.

Sunday Schedule

7:30am - Mass

8:30am - Coffee/Juice/Rolls Served

8:45am - Adult Faith Formation

9:00am - K-5 Faith Formation

10:30am - Mass

6:00pm - 6th-12th Grade Faith Formation

5:45pm - Adult Faith Formation

7:30pm - Mass

Fridays

6:00am - That Man is You

First Saturday of the Month

9:00am - Into the Breach

Adult Formation
Sundays - 8:45am & 5:45pm

Elementary Formation
Sundays - 9:00am

Middle School Formation
Sundays - 6:00pm

High School Formation
Sundays - 6:00pm

ADULT FORMATION

Faith is not a destination, it is a journey we take our entire lives. The goal of our adult faith formation is to help men and women continue on that journey to grow in knowledge, faith, and fellowship. It is to serve as the nucleus of parish catechesis and the foundation for all programs and activities that serve families with children. In 1999, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' issued a Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation, "Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us". This document reminds us that every adult must do their part to be mature in faith and able to share the Gospel message.

FORMED Free for all 24/7

FORMED is the revolutionary digital platform that gives our parish unprecedented access to video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from the Church's foremost presenters. Whether new to the Catholic faith, or you have been Catholic your whole life, there is something on FORMED for you. Free to access anytime, anywhere.



TMIY Fridays 6:00am—Sept 11th

That Man is You! honestly addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. The program harmonizes current social and medical science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive!

GriefShare Mondays 6:30pm—Sept 14th

Fall session starts September 14, concludes December 2; Winter session starts January 6, concludes March 30, and is held at 6:30pm in the Hospitality Area. GriefShare is for people grieving the death of a family member or friend. You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any session. Each is "self-contained," so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. You will be able to continue with GriefShare through the next 13-week cycle and view any of the videos you have not seen.

ALPHA Sundays 8:45am & 5:45pm—Sept 20th

The Alpha Course provides an opportunity to rediscover the roots of our faith. A short video is shown followed by group discussion. This discussion time is very open and welcoming of everyone. Join us once a week to seek answers and learn the foundation of the Christian faith. This course is free and open to everyone. Drop your children off for their Faith Formation and come to Alpha for yours!



Eucharist Sundays 8:45am & 5:45pm—Sept 20th

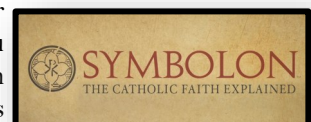
"The Lamb of God," "The Bread of Life," "The Body and the Blood of Christ"... these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching? We'll discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God's plan for our salvation. Ten Sessions. Drop your children off for their Faith Formation and come to Eucharist for yours! Books are \$10.

R.C.I.A. Sundays 8:45am—Sept 20th

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is an inquiry process for adults who are interested in learning more about and fully joining the Catholic Church. It is specifically designed for those 18 and older who have never been baptized, those who were baptized in other recognized Christian denominations, and adults who were baptized as Catholics, but have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

Symbolon Sundays 8:45am & 5:45pm—Sept 20th

Symbolon features 20 video and discussion sessions that brings together some of the most trusted Catholic teachers in the world to guide you through the depth and richness of the Catholic faith. Drop your children off for their Faith Formation and come to Symbolon for yours! Books are \$10.



Into The Breach First Saturday-Monthly 9am—Oct 3rd

Into the Breach is a groundbreaking 12-episode video series from the Knights of Columbus that seeks to answer what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world.

ELEMENTARY FORMATION

Elementary Faith Formation

Our Elementary Faith Formation program is two fold: building a bridge for the child to encounter Jesus and then fostering this friendship. In other words, to plant a mustard seed (the smallest of all seeds) and aid its growth to become the greatest of all shrubs where the birds can build their nests. What does a seed require for it to grow? Who are the ones helping this seed to grow? How often is that seed to be tended to if it is to grow to full maturity? Where does that seed get its power to grow and become what it is to become?

We need faith in God for our lives to be formed, trimmed, fostered— aimed towards lives grown to full maturity as God intends for them to be. St Anastasia's elementary faith formation program collaborates with you, the parents, in bringing the lives of the children to a full maturity at this stage in their life. Christ is a person and our Lord, and together let us strive to bring Him to be *The* friend for our children, a true and faithful friend. Who is a friend? What impact can this friendship make in your child's life, and in yours? How can we work together for this end?

These are our proposed means to accompany you in this mission:

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Ages 3-5)

We are so pleased to host the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd level one atrium, for 3 to 5 years old children. Children at this young age are open, pure and so responsive to listening to the Good Shepherd. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd offers a simple, synthesized, profound involvement with the Good Shepherd, the Gospel and with the liturgical life of the Church through the presentations and the opportunity for the children to work, sing and pray and so reflect upon these points time and again, making them their own. Specially designed materials and inspiring presentations help children explore areas of faith formation topics relevant to their developmental age. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd formation responds to the child's silent plea at every age: "Help me come closer to God by myself." This program uses Montessori teaching principles to present the most essential realities of the Catholic faith to the very young children.

We will gather on **Tuesday mornings at 10 am**. Please contact Jennifer Eckstein if you have a child 3-5 years old and would like more information: religioused@stanastasia.net

First Reconciliation & First Communion Preparation (Grade 2)



Our love for God is elevated and strengthened through the sacraments of Reconciliation and receiving Jesus Himself in the Eucharist. Therefore, this year is intentional in preparing the hearts of the children for these encounters with Christ. As you interact with your child, both in the home and at Sunday Mass, you can discern your child's readiness to begin preparation for Reconciliation & First Holy Communion. Two concrete means to being now:

- Make regular Sunday Mass attendance a priority, with special focus during the moment of Consecration when Jesus becomes present in the Eucharist.
- Bring your child with you when you go to the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Parish Means of Preparing:

- Our program includes all children of the parish preparing for the sacraments, whether they attend St. Anastasia, public school, or are homeschooled. For those attending St. Anastasia School, at a minimum, you are asked to attend the dates listed below, though invited for the whole year!
- We will host 2 parent meetings this year, one each semester, to discuss each sacrament.
- Parents will have two books, one for each sacrament, to work through with their child, allowing for 1-on-1 conversations and sharing, we will also have a morning retreat together in February focusing on the Eucharist and Mass.

November 1, 8, 15, 22

December 5

January 31, February 7, 21, 28

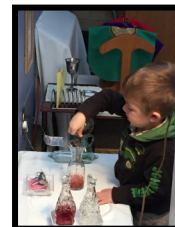
April 11

Classes focused on preparing for Reconciliation

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:30 am

Classes focused on preparing for the Eucharist

Celebration of First Eucharist at 10:30 am Mass

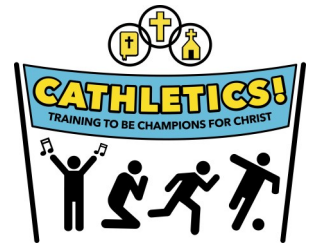


ELEMENTARY FORMATION

Grades K-5 Theme: **CATHLETICS: Training to be CHAMPIONS** for Christ

SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:00 am to 10:15 am

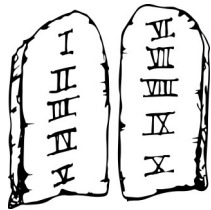
Just as it takes hard work to train for the Olympics, it is also important to get the right training to live out our Catholic faith. The goal of this year's Faith Formation program is to engage kids into the LIFE OF CHRIST with teachings from God's Word on the Commandments, Beatitudes and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Our sport-themed year will be packed with rock-solid songs, unforgettable games, practical and motivational crafts and interactive lessons that will motivate kids ages 5-11 to run the great race of faith!



Training Schedule

Sunday mornings: 9:00 am to 10:15 am, followed by the 10:30 am Mass.

Training practice starts with **FAMILY OPENING CEREMONY** Sunday, September 13th, at 9:00 am



Our Play Book

Team Bonding: Classrooms will participate in short lessons focused on a teaching of Jesus based on the Golden Rule & 10 Commandments, reinforced through a game, craft, or service project.

Strength Training: Family Service Sunday: Our goal is to mobilize all families in personalized service projects twice a year. More information to follow.

Mentorship: Taking the cue from the **Saints** who have gone before us, we will learn about the lives and actions of these men and women on All Saints Day & in class on a monthly basis.

CATECHISTS will be our guides each week, leading in example as well as in motivating words! *Come serve our youth!*

Day of Rest: In the Christian life, silence in prayer/dialogue with Jesus is our true nourishment. Classes will again visit Him in adoration time.



We encourage families to attend the 10:30 am Mass each Sunday following class.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FORMATION

EDGE (Grades 6-8) Sunday Evenings 6pm to 7:15pm

EDGE is a Catholic youth ministry program created by **Life Teen**. Each year three different 'EDGE Support' shipments are issued to subscribing parishes—each of which covers a different subject of the faith. **Life Teen** has geared its program towards "**leading teens closer to Christ.**" The typical night begins with a full group gathering for an introduction to the time ahead and prayer. After a fun and unique game, all gather back together to hear and engage in the main teaching segment. The night moves into small group discussion and activity time. A final gathering and sending forth concludes the EDGE time. Join us for Mass at 7:30pm following class.



We need a CORE team for this program! In addition to the catechists who lead small group discussions, a CORE team is vital to the success of each night! Members of this team help prepare and play any games/activities the nights may have. They are also free to join in small group discussions with the catechists. With a little painless training at the beginning of the year, CORE members will be given an introduction into what a fun and amazing role this can be. High school seniors and adults are strongly encouraged to join this team. We currently do not have anyone at this time.

HIGH SCHOOL FORMATION

Confirmation (Grades 9-11) Sunday Evenings 6pm to 7:15pm

Confirmation for all grades is run differently than the traditional textbook-style classroom. The grades gather within their own small groups and with their very own leader(s). Each grade within the Confirmation program has its own specific track for the year. Ninth grade students dive into some of life's most burning questions—looking for answers as to how and why we were created and what it means to follow Christ. Tenth grade students dive deeper into personal identity, the identity of God, Himself, the topic of life and other issues that impact our lives in the world today. Eleventh grade students conclude the process by focusing on answering the call of Jesus, the Sacrament of Confirmation, the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and finally, being sent on mission. Confirmation for our eleventh-grade students is currently set to be held on **Saturday, March 6, 2021 at the 4:30 p.m. mass.**



The teaching and discussion within each small group is done through the “*YDisciple*” video series on **Formed.org**. Confirmation candidates also complete tasks that give them the opportunity to further grow in their faith including service hours, sermon notes, and a saint report. Candidates in confirmation will also attend a retreat experience, typically in the summer between the 9th and 10th grade year. As we continue to move forward, we strive to make each night the very best we can. We are looking into bringing in special guest speakers frequently that will hit on important topics in our world today and connect them to our faith in Jesus. Selection of these speakers and more information will be made available as these things come together.

Drop-In Center (Middle School and High School)

With the addition of our new youth space, outside of the school building, we are excited to offer a space for students and their friends, grades 6-12, a place to come and hang out after school! Our Youth Minister, Jake Burmis, will be overseeing this space **Monday-Thursday from 2:30-5:00 tentatively**. The time will be divided up in order to give students time to work on homework, hang out, listen to music and play games, as well as learn/discuss things about our faith.



Our new youth space is in the old music room, on the church side of the building. Students must enter through the main church doors. A special thank-you to everyone who helped make this space a possibility. Adult chaperones willing to come and spend time with us are greatly requested. Student permission slips will be required.

Youth Group (Wednesdays 7-9pm)

We are striving to make the youth group a fun and powerful environment that kids would like to come to each week. All those attending must enter through the main church doors and come straight to the new, fun youth space! Some nights will have organized games and activities, while others will be filled with hanging out and deep discussions on our faith. Those who currently attend will tell you it's something they look forward to each and every week. Adults, we'd love to have you come and share your time and hearts with us. Please consider helping us make the youth group the best it can be for our youth during their high school careers.

Sunday Masses

Between now and the fall, St. Anastasia youth will be stepping-up their involvement with the 7:30 p.m. Sunday night mass! Youth will be greeting, ushering, singing/playing in the choir, and reading. All youth are warmly welcome to take part in helping and participating in these Masses! Please, come alongside with our youth, alive and active in our church, to worship our King.



COVID-19 Pandemic Changes Facility Improvement Priorities

The fundamental mission of our Catholic community is to provide spiritual direction to support the mind and body of our members, as they journey here on earth toward their heavenly reward. To accomplish this mission and to support our religious, educational, fellowship and charitable outreach ministries, we need to properly maintain our church and school facilities that require our attention and funding.

With this in mind, and with a desire for ongoing transparency, we want to update you on the progress of our repair and improvements projects and the capital campaign that is helping fund the work. So far, thanks to the generosity of 294 contributors, we have now raised over \$1,570,000 in financial commitments. Of that total, nearly \$330,000 has been contributed and deposited in a secure, interest bearing, account dedicated for the proposed repairs and improvements.

The COVID-19 pandemic, and the resulting safety recommendations for large group worship, required the removal of all paper worship aids from the pews and the body of our church. The resulting need to live-stream our worship services prompted our decision to move forward with the installation of a new audio/visual system. The system will include screens, projectors, an improved sound system, microphones for the celebrant, lectors and musicians, personal ear units for the hearing impaired, and the equipment necessary to live-stream liturgies and other events.

Our immediate objective is to complete the initial design work over the next two months, invite competitive bids early in the fall, and complete all details in time for Christmas Mass. The projected cost estimate is approximately \$300,000. With over \$300,000 already collected in pledge commitments, we are able to proceed with the project having the cash in hand.



Now our goal is to continue to invite your financial support and move forward with the next phase of the repair and improvement projects.

In the midst of this serious health and economic crisis, we recognize that we are all in the same storm and yet, due to varying circumstances, we are not all in the same boat. A "one size fits all response" is not only impractical, it is also unjust. Each household must determine how they can offer their financial support based on their own unique circumstances.

As you consider how you can help, please review the materials you received (or pick up a commitment form at the parish office) and through prayer, invite God into the conversation. In the meantime, know that we will pray for you and those close to you. Be well and be safe. Thank you!

Capital Campaign Cabinet

- Jim Fahey
- Diane Pedersen
- Fr. Paul Wolf
- Carla Reinowski
- Jason Corby

Parish Choirs

DO YOU LIKE SINGING?
Learning new Music?
Having fun?
Praising GOD?

**JOIN ST. ANASTASIA
YOUTH AND ADULT CHOIRS**

Rehearsals Wednesdays

Children's Choir (grades 2-6), 4-5:15pm

Teen Choir (grades 6-12), 6:15-7:30pm

Contact Beth for more information:

beth@stanastasia.net

320-587-6507



St. Anastasia Family Faith Formation Registration Form 2020-2021

Everyone attending Faith Formation must enter through the church doors. Class locations will be posted.

Please read entire Fall Newsletter for full explanation of programs and sessions offered.

Parent(s) First Name(s): _____ Family Last Name: _____ Registered in Parish? Yes ___ No ___
 Parent(s) Email Address: _____ Parent(s) Cell Phone: _____
 Street Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____



Adults Name		Session Attending					Start Date

Childs Name (Include last name if different)	Gender M F	Date of Birth mm/dd/yyyy	Sacraments Received		Atrium 3-5 y.o.	Sacrament Preparation Gr. 2 and Up	Elementary Formation			Middle School Formation			Confirmation				
			Baptism	First Rec.			First Comm.	Gr. 1	Gr. 2	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8	Gr. 9	Gr. 10

Student's Cell Phone Number (used to update student through Flocknote): _____

Was your child baptized at St. Anastasia? Yes ___ No ___ If not, have you transferred records to St. Anastasia? Yes ___ No ___

Stewardship

This year we are asking for a total stewardship of your time, talent and treasures to our Faith Formation Programming. Stewardship of time and talent help our Faith Formation Programs. Whether it be special projects or time spent in the classrooms, drop in center, or youth group, your time and talents will support us in teaching our Catholic Faith. We ask that you prayerfully consider how your time and talents can help support our Faith Formation Programs. Please talk to the program directors about how you can donate your time and talent.

Stewardship of treasure will help us pay for the materials and content used in teaching our classes. The reality is that these classes cost money to purchase programs and materials for all students., we would not be able to offer them without your help. **We are requiring a tuition of \$100 per family.** If this is a hardship for you, please contact the parish office.

Thank you for all that you do to support our Faith Formation!

Office Use

Only

Copied to:

- Adult
- Elementary
- Middle School
- Confirmation
- Information Check

St. Anastasia Catholic Community

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The content and details in this newsletter are current and up to date at the time of printing. Details subject to change. Please be in contact with program directors between now and our start dates in September for any changes that may have occurred.