



BEHOLD, I AM  
THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD.  
MAY IT BE DONE TO ME  
ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.

LUKE 1:38

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. - Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 2008, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, C.O.D. All rights reserved.  
Photo: Pronoia/Adobe Stock. Advent flame art: Tony Ward for J. S. Paluch Co., Inc., 2019

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 20, 2020

Merry Christmas! On behalf of the Parish and School Staff, I sincerely hope that the remembrance of Christ's birth brings you much peace and hope.

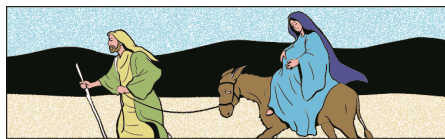
For the four weeks of Advent, our hopeful voices sing, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel", and at last, at the glorious birth of our Lord and Savior, we joyfully proclaim, "Emmanuel, God is With Us!" May we all be surrounded with the joy and light which the birth of Jesus brings into the world! And so as we gather to celebrate Christmas, another year has passed with many events, public and private, touching our lives in different ways. No doubt this year has brought joys and sadness in different measure to each person, all coloring our memories of 2020. And as we all know it has been a difficult year; we need our God to once again bring us his light, hope, and peace.

Christmas is a time of peace and joy, a time to celebrate with family, with friends and loved ones. This may not happen as we might like; however, we do hope that your Christmas will have something of that peace, joy and celebration. Such joyful celebrations may not be possible for some. You may have lost a loved one since last Christmas, or you may be overburdened by money worries, family problems or for many other reasons. I want to assure you that, as a parish community, we do care and offer you our support.

As we celebrate Christmas, I would like to thank you for your presence and prayers with our parish community. I extend a special welcome if you are joining us for the first time, if you are visiting from any other places or faith traditions, or if you do not worship with us on a regular basis. Just as the shepherds were led to a humble stable in Bethlehem to worship the infant Jesus, so have we been led to be together at this time and in this place to sing with the angels: *Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on earth! I hope that God's presence will be made known to you not only today but every day.*

Know that we pray for you, your loved ones and your intentions. Thank you for lifting us in prayer as well. May you have the grace to find happiness and joy this Christmas and throughout the New Year... and may we meet each day in our prayers!

In joyful hope,  
*Fr. Paul*



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

—Luke 1:35

## Readings for the Week

**Mon:** Sg 2:8-14, Lk 1:39-45

**Tue:** 1 Sm 1:24-28, Lk 1:46-56

**Wed:** Mal 3:1-4, 2-24; Lk 1:57-66

**Thu:** Daytime 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lik 1:67-79

Vigil Is 62:1-5, Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25

**Fri:** Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

**Sat:** MAacts 6: 8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

**Sun:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:22-40

### St. Boniface Catholic Church

551 Main Street, Stewart, MN 55385  
Phone: 320-562-2344

### St. Anastasia Catholic Church

460 Lake St SW  
Hutchinson, MN 55350

Office Hours: M-F, 8am-4:30pm

Phone: 320-587-6507

Emergencies: 507-829-0965

E-mail: stanastasia@stanastasia.net



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## This Week's Area Worship Schedule

### DATE/TIME

### LOCATION

### INTENTION

*Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5am on Monday and concludes at 5pm on Friday*

### MONDAY, December 21

5pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

### TUESDAY, December 22

7am, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Gertrude Griep & family  
+Judy Blazinski

### WEDNESDAY, December 23

5pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Richard Roskammer

### THURSDAY, December 24

7am, Mass

St. Anastasia

2pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

+George Horesji

4pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Francis Mikolasek

6pm, Mass

St. Boniface

8pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

10pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

For Our Faith Community

### FRIDAY, December 25

7am, Mass

### The Nativity of the Lord

St. Anastasia

9am, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Noel Mohs

11am, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Myron Seifert

### SATURDAY, December 26

3pm, Confessions

St. Anastasia

4:30pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

+John E. Clasen and family

6pm, Confessions

St. Boniface

6:30pm, Mass

St. Boniface

### SUNDAY, December 27

7:30am, Mass

St. Anastasia

10:30am, Mass (live stream)

St. Anastasia

+Robert & Carol Cogley & family

7:30pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

For Our Faith Community

## Calendar

*No Youth Center hours this week*

### WEDNESDAY, December 23-J Sunday January 3

Christmas vacation—No School at St Anastasia

### THURSDAY, December 24

Parish office closes at noon

### FRIDAY, December 25

Parish office closed today

### FRIDAY, January 1

Parish office closed today

### MONDAY, January 4

6:30pm, Grief Group



St. Anastasia hospitality area

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC AREA FAITH COMMUNITY OF ST. ANASTASIA & ST. BONIFACE

## Parish & Community Events

### Christmas Masses

We're sure you have noticed that there are more than the usual number of masses scheduled for Christmas and that the first one will be in the early afternoon of December 24. The United States Council of Catholic Bishop's Committee on Divine Worship and Canonical Affairs is of the opinion that during this exceptional time of the COVID 19 pandemic we need to interpret more broadly the meaning of "evening." Individual dioceses will decide what is pastorally appropriate for their regions. We do have permission for the extra masses and for the earlier start time.

Please keep in mind, we must continue to adhere to the rules applying to social distancing and mask wearing—even for Christmas. This means we simply cannot have 700 people in the church for the 4:30pm Christmas Eve mass. There will be socially distanced overflow seating in the hospitality area and gym. Please keep these limitations in mind when planning your family's Christmas worship.

We are need of lector/commentators for the 8pm Mass on Dec 24 and for the 7am, 9am & 11am masses on Dec 25. If you can help, please call Fr Paul at the parish office 587-6507.

We have a number of people in our community who attend mass regularly on line or tv broadcast. This allows them to join us in worship but does not give them the opportunity to join us for communion. If you would be willing to take communion to someone's home so they could share in this most important part of our worship as well, please contact Fr Paul at the parish office 587-6507. Thank you!



### Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels is looking for volunteer drivers—approx. 1 hour route. They also need help with packing the meals. If you can help please contact LLS at 587-6029 or April Hulke at 1-320-282-1002. Leave a message and someone will get back to you a.s.a.p.

### Mark Your Calendar!

**Please note these future dates and place them on your calendar:**

- ♦ 12/24 Christmas Eve Mass: 2pm-A, 4pm-A, 6pm-B, 8pm-A, & 10pm-A
- ♦ 12/25 Christmas Day Mass: 7am-A, 9am-A & 11am-A
- ♦ 01/03 Resume K-5 at 9 am, EDGE & Confirmation 6-7:15 pm all on Sunday
- ♦ 01/03 Begin Lectio: Mary and Symbolon/RCIA at 8:45 am Sundays
- ♦ 01/04 Saint Anastasia School resumes.
- ♦ 01/04 GriefShare 6:30 pm
- ♦ 01/06 Youth Group/Meeting 7 pm
- ♦ 01/07 Lectio: Eucharist 10 am Thursday (Adult Formation)
- ♦ 01/07 That Man Is You 6 pm



### Flower Memorials

If you would like to purchase a flower memorial for a loved one to be used in the church environment, please put your contribution in an enveloped marked "Flowers" along with the name(s) of those you would like remembered, and drop it in the contribution basket at either St Boniface or St Anastasia. Thank you!

### KC Christmas Tree Sale

The Glencoe KCs are holding their annual Christmas Tree Sale at Coburn's parking lot in Glencoe, Nov 29-Dec 22 or until the trees are gone. Mon-Fri: 5:30-7:30pm, Sat: 9am-5pm. Sun: 11am-5pm.



### Eucharistic Adoration Schedule Change

Eucharistic Adoration will close on Wednesday, December 23 at 5pm and resume at 5am on December 28. Adoration will close at 5pm on December 30 and resume regular hours on January 4. Thank you for your dedication to this most important ministry! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## Faith Formation

### God's Promise

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### Treasures From Our Traditions

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the *Christkind* in Austria and Belgium, *El Niño Jesús* in Columbia, and *Le Petit Jesus* in France, where he shares

his duties with *Père Noël*. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but *Ježíšek*, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver. .

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## Social Concerns

### Coming Together in Song XIV



The annual Common Cup Christmas Concert—*Coming Together In Song*—has

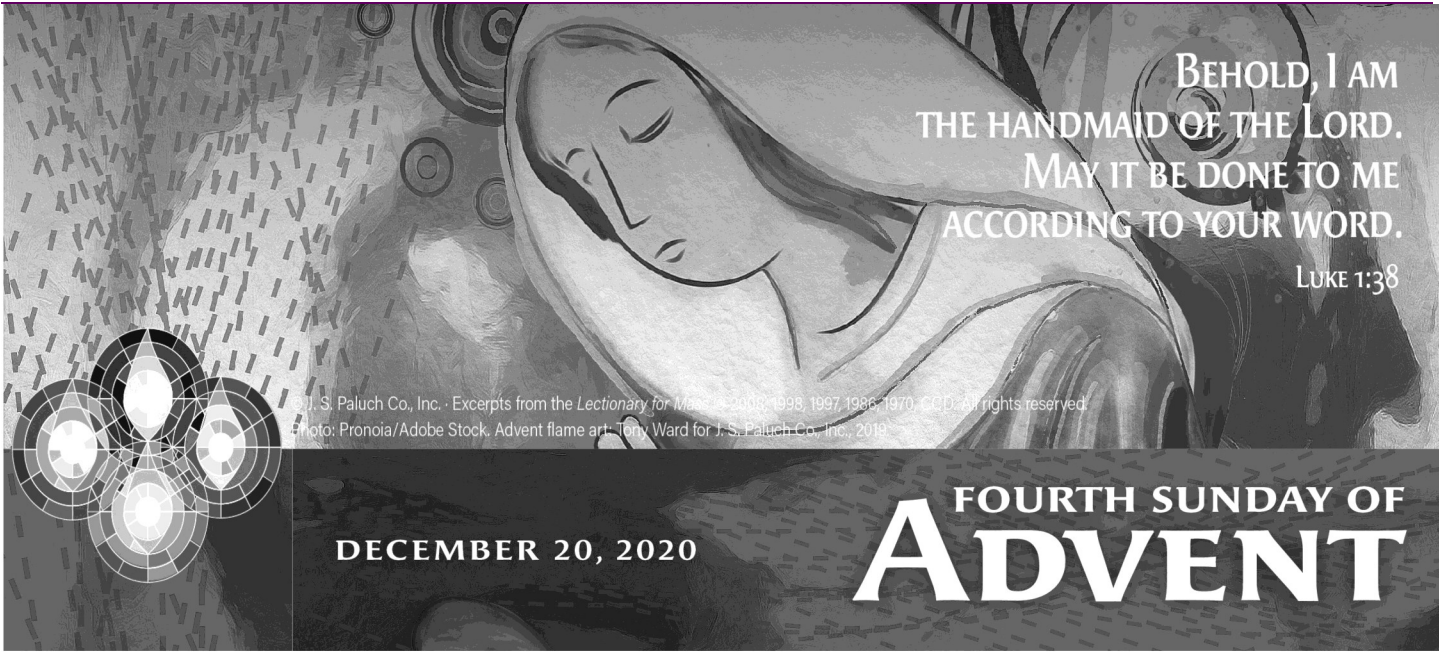
become a Hutchinson tradition. This year, because of COVID restrictions, the tradition has changed a bit. Working with HCVN, Common Cup has put together a DVD/Blu Ray disc of the past 13 concerts' mass choir numbers. It is a lovely reminder of concerts past and a taste of concerts yet to be. You can pick up your copy, for a free will donation, at St A's parish office during regular office hours or at St Boniface. A great Christmas gift and easy to mail! All proceeds go to support Common Cup's programs for individuals and families in need.

### McLeod County FoodShelf

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone—especially those dealing with food shortages in their homes. If you can donate a few items, or a few dollars, to the McLeod county FoodShelf, it will be greatly appreciated. You can drop off items in the entryway of St A's, or put your money donation in an envelope marked "Food Shelf" and put it in the collection plate. Thank you so much!

Our sponsor of the week is  
**Pizza Ranch.**

Please show your appreciation by  
patronizing their business.



BEHOLD, I AM  
THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD.  
MAY IT BE DONE TO ME  
ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.

LUKE 1:38

J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. - Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 2008, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, C.D.P. All rights reserved.  
Photo: Proncia/Adobe Stock. Advent flame art: Tony Ward for J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. 2019

DECEMBER 20, 2020

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When we think of today's Gospel, the image of this meeting between the Angel Gabriel and Mary by Fra Angelico (1440–1445) likely comes to mind. In this fresco, Gabriel and Mary are outside sitting among the columns, and Gabriel, with his big wings and hands crossed, gazes upon Mary and gestures towards her. She is well dressed in a traditional blue garment, and though her face shows shock, her folded hands model submission and humility. This work of art is so beautifully executed that we can miss some of its finer details. Similarly, because the Gospel scene is so familiar, we can forget to take in its small details. A few years ago, this author found a children's book called "The Nativity" illustrated by Julie Vivas. Because her drawings were so fresh and charming and simple, she invited new perspective on the story.

### LOOKING AGAIN

Luke says that Mary "was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be." She asks, "How can this be?" These questions don't fit with how Fra

Angelico positioned Gabriel and Mary. In the Vivas illustrations, the Angel Gabriel sits down with battered wings and a balding head and has a cup of coffee with Mary as the two of them try to figure it out together. The text is the same, but the message conveyed is different. There is a different degree of comfort and familiarity to these illustrations.

This "having a cup of coffee" is something we need to learn to do with the scriptures and with our lives. After this event, pregnant Mary traveled into the hill country to be with Elizabeth; an older, wiser, mentor—a mother figure. She spent three months there reflecting and preparing for the birth of her child. In this final week of Advent, take a few moments to find a Gabriel/Mary or an Elizabeth/Mary moment and read the Christmas readings again to see what you might have overlooked, and to find a new way for Christ to dwell in you.

Today's Readings: 2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16;  
Ps 89:2–3, 4–5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25–27; Lk 1:26–38

Copyright © 2020, J. S. Paluch Company, Inc., 3708 River Road, Suite 400,  
Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158 1 800 621-5197. With Ecclesiastical Approbation.

### Catholic Charities

During the COVID 19 Pandemic, Catholic Charities counselors are conducting counseling sessions via telehealth. They are also still accepting new clients during the pandemic. Individual counseling, marriage counseling, family counseling, etc. are available. Please call 866-670-5163 if you have any questions related to Catholic Charities counseling services.

### Prayer For a New Bishop

Almighty God, who by the Holy Spirit moves the hearts of Your people, direct the counsels of those who are appointed to choose a bishop for the Diocese of New Ulm, that we may be given a pastor who in faithfulness and wisdom shall lead Your people in the way of holiness.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.



## Please Keep In Your Prayers

Nicole Glesener Sandy Jerabek Margie Navara Maureen Reiner Barb Olson Jenny Trettin Al Cotter Delores Beich Clinton Gruett Otto Levno Kami S. Roger Steintl Nancy Kottke Belinda Bureke Delores Muetzel Gloria Pohlmann Eric Haffley Wendy Stoll Sr Carmen Sonnek Teri Niemeyer Betty & Larry Gunderson Darlene Artmann Terry Bisbee Sheryl Mose Marilyn Reinarts Mary Anne Kerkvliet Colleen Carlson

The recently deceased:

Jerry Ewert Robert Schmid Flora Schaufler

and:

All those in the military, serving our country at home and abroad.

All those suffering with illness, loneliness, and depression.

All those who are making extra efforts to be of service to their family, friends and community.

For a clear path in our troubled times.



## Stewardship

### St. Anastasia

Contribution Budget 2020-21	\$800,000
Dec 6 Contributions	\$13,193
Total Contributed so far	\$325,583
Total Budgeted so far	\$353,846
Average weekly given	\$14,156
Average weekly amount needed to make the budget:	\$15,385
Needed each week for 29 weeks to make budget	\$16,359

### DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL

St A's	Total rec'd	Parish Portion
Goal		
\$50,517	\$16,722	\$16,418

### St B's

\$3,999	\$3,999	\$1,640
---------	---------	---------

### TRY ONLINE GIVING AT ST A'S!

Online Giving is a secure way to give to the parish. Manage your account and donations by computer, tablet, or smart phone. Go to [www.stanastasia.net](http://www.stanastasia.net), and click on the Online Giving icon to find out more. You can download the free App in the App Store, Google Play Store, or go to [OLGapp.com](http://OLGapp.com). Register by entering our church ID of 78.

## Just For Fun

### Pastor Al®



"I've been thinking... do you suppose that Santa wears a 'What Would Jesus Do?' bracelet?"

© 2003 WLP, a division of J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

### Year End Giving

The end of the year is not far away, and it is time to start thinking of strategies to maximize the tax benefits of year-end giving. Federal tax laws and many state laws make it possible to reduce or eliminate taxes on gift to charities like your parish, diocese, school and other ministries. Remember that only gifts made by Dec 31 can help reduce the amount of taxes you owe next April. Please consult your professional tax advisor for tax strategies for your personal situation. Thank you for your generosity to our parish!

## General Information

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at 3pm on Saturday at St. Anastasia or by appointment.

### Marriages

Contact the Area Faith Office at least 6 months in advance of the planned wedding date. Couples complete a premarital inventory and are required to attend an approved pre-marriage program.

### Baptisms

Contact Fr Paul Wolf, 320-587-6507, to schedule a baptism and the necessary preparation. The pre-Baptism program helps parents take an active role in their child's Baptism. It provides reflection and instructions for parents as they assume their new responsibility as the primary teachers of their child.

### Hospital Visitation

If you, or anyone you know, is hospitalized or ill at home, notify the Area Faith Office to arrange for visitation.

### Prayer Requests

You may list your prayer intentions in the Book of Communal Prayer at the rear of the church.

### Prayer Chain

St. A's has a prayer chain that prays for any needs you have. Anyone can call with a prayer request, and anyone can be a part of the prayer chain. If you would like to participate or ask for prayer support, call Janet Hall at 320-455-7927 email 3furballmom@gmail.com.

### New Parishioners

Please register! Call or stop by the Area Faith Office.

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation)

Considering becoming fully Catholic? Call Fr Paul Wolf, 320-587-6507.

### Coffee Sales

Coffee from San Lucas, Guatemala is available in the Area Faith Office during business hours. Cost is \$10 per bag.

### Area Bulletin Deadline

Tuesdays, 12pm, at St. Anastasia.

### KC Picnic Shelter Rental at St. A's

Call Mark Lewandowski, 320-583-0357.

### Adoration Hotline

For the latest changes to the Adoration schedule call 320-484-7126.

## Area Faith Community Leadership

<b>STA Administrative Council</b> Chair: Jim Fahey	<i>usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month</i> _____, 7pm	St Anastasia	parish office
<b>STB Administrative Council</b> Chair: Mark Maiers	TBA, 9am	St Boniface	church basement
<b>Cemetery Committee</b> Chair: Jeff Lehn	TBA, 3pm	St Anastasia	parish office
<b>School Advisory Committee</b> Chair: Jason Jennison	<i>usually meets on the 1st Tuesday each month</i> TBA, 7pm	St Anastasia	
<b>Home &amp; School Association</b> Chair: Gina Jennissen	<i>usually meets on the 3rd Thursday each month</i> TBA, 6:30pm	St Anastasia	library
<b>Worship &amp; Outreach Committee</b>	TBA, 7pm	St Anastasia	parish office
<b>Maintenance Committee</b>	TBA 5pm	St Anastasia	parish office
<b>Social Concerns Committee</b>	TBA, 6pm	St Anastasia	parish office
<b>STA Council of Catholic Women</b>	TBA, 9:30am	St Anastasia	hosp. kitchen
<b>STB Council of Catholic Women</b>	TBA, 6pm	St Boniface	basement
<b>Knights of Columbus</b> Grand Knight: Mark Maiers	, 8pm	St Anastasia	cafeteria
<b>Knights of Columbus Squires</b>	TBA, 5pm	St Anastasia	hosp. kitchen

## Area Faith Community Staff

Fr. Paul Wolf, Pastor	507-829-0965 (cell)	pwolf@stanastasia.net
<b>St. Anastasia Parish Staff</b>	320-587-6507	
Diane Pedersen		parishadmin@stanastasia.net
Beth Hauth, Music Co-Ordinator		beth@stanastasia.net
Merrienne Miller, Bookkeeper		mmiller@stanastasia.net
Jason Corby, Development Director		development@stanastasia.net
Donna Conrad, Secretary		dconrad@stanastasia.net
Kevin Scott, Facility Manager	320-583-0807 (cell)	
<b>St. Boniface Staff</b>		
Millie Navara, Administration	320-562-2463	mmnavara@embarqmail.com
Merri Schaufler, Contributions	320-562-2245	
<b>St. Anastasia School</b>		
Betty Jodzio	320-587-2490	principal@stanastasia.net
Marilyn Schreiner, Secretary	320-587-2490	secretary@stanastasia.net
<b>Kids' Depot Daycare &amp; Preschool</b>		
Michelle Nies, Director	320-587-4760	depot@stanastasia.net
<b>Religious Education &amp; Youth Ministry</b>		
Jennifer Eckstein, RE Dir, St Anastasia	320-234-6129	religioused@stanastasia.net
Karen Maiers, RE Dir, St Boniface	320-833-6020	karenmaiers1@gmail.com
Jake Burmis, YM Director	320-587-6507	youthmin@stanastasia.net
<b>St. Anastasia Cemetery</b>		
Mike Schall, Manager	1 mile north of Hutchinson on Highway 15 320-583-7199	mgshall@mediacommbb.net
<b>St. Boniface Cemetery</b>		
Richard Navara, Manager	1 mile south of Stewart on City Rd 7 320-562-2128	rnavara@embarqmail.com

**TO REPORT ABUSE:** If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a member of the clergy (priest, deacon or bishop), and you need to talk with someone about abuse, exploitation, or harassment, please contact the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator or the Bishop's Delegate in Matters Pertaining to Sexual Misconduct, 1421 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073; phone: (507) 359-2966.