

A VOICE CRIES OUT:
IN THE DESERT PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!
MAKE STRAIGHT IN THE WASTELAND A HIGHWAY FOR OUR GOD!
EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED IN,
EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW.

ISAIAH 40:3-4

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 6, 2020

We celebrate two Marian feasts this week: The Immaculate Conception, December 8 and Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12.

The Immaculate Conception refers to the sinless state of Mary. Pope Pius IX proclaimed this doctrine of the Immaculate Conception of Mary on December 8, 1854.

The Immaculate Conception doctrine states that Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin. The grace given to Mary is permanent and unique.



Our Lady of Guadalupe, Spanish Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, also called the Virgin of Guadalupe, in Roman Catholicism, the Virgin Mary in her appearance before St. Juan Diego in a vision in 1531. The name also refers to the Marian apparition itself. Our Lady of Guadalupe holds a special place in the religious life of Mexico and is one of the most popular religious devotions. Her image has played an important role as a national symbol of Mexico.

Scripture Study on Mary: *Lectio: Mary* (Formed.org).

Fr. Paul

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

Reconciliation:

3-4 pm Saturdays – A

6-6:30 pm Saturdays - B

9:45-10:15 am Sundays of Advent – A

2- 3 pm December 6 & 13



Second Sunday of Advent

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.

— Mark 1:3

Readings for the Week

Mon: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;
Lk 5:17-26

Tue: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bde, 19; Lk 1:26-38

Wed: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10;
Mt 11:28-30

Thu: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab;
Mt 11:11-15

Fri: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt
11:16-19

Sat: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sun: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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



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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 7

5pm, Mass
7pm, Mass

St. Anastasia
St. Boniface

+Faithful Departed of 2020

TUESDAY, December 8

9am, Mass (live streaming)
5pm, Mass

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
St. Anastasia
St. Anastasia

+Ron Jonas

WEDNESDAY, December 9

5pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Thomas Hofmann +Anna Jakob

THURSDAY, December 10

9am, Mass (live streaming)

St. Anastasia

+Larry Griep

FRIDAY, December 11

7am, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Mike Murray

SATURDAY, December 12

3pm, Confessions
4:30pm, Mass
6pm, Confessions
6:30pm, Mass

St. Anastasia
St. Anastasia
St. Boniface
St. Boniface

+Colette Wallyn, +Judy Blazinski

SUNDAY, December 13

7:30am, Mass
9:45-10:15am, Confessions
10:30am, Mass (live stream)
7:30pm, Mass

Third Sunday of Advent
St. Anastasia
St. Anastasia
St. Anastasia
St. Anastasia

+Dan Entinger

For Our Faith Community

Calendar

No Youth Center hours this week

MONDAY, December 7

3pm, Grief Share

St. Anastasia

FRIDAY, December 11

6pm, TMIY

St. Anastasia

Hospitality Area

SATURDAY, December 12

4:30pm, Matachines Dancers at Mass

TUESDAY, December 15

7pm, St A's Admin Council

St. Anastasia

parish office

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

**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. Health and safety requirements must be kept in mind. 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. Please keep these limitations in mind when planning your family's Christmas worship.

We are need of lector/commentators for the Masses at 8 pm & 10pm 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!



Christmas Market

We regret to announce that, in accordance with the new COVID 19 restrictions, the annual Christmas Market will be postponed until February 13, 2021, 9am—noon. We'll still have great vendors, a great silent auction and fantastic Mayan items for sale. It will be a Valentine's Day Market instead!



Boxes of Joy

The St. Boniface religious education students enjoyed themselves as they participated in the Christmas Box of Joy event. They filled 25 boxes

with gifts and lots of love. We prayed over them, and for the children who will be wonderfully surprised on Christmas. We pray they will feel God's love through their giving. Thank you to all who donated to and helped pack boxes. May God bless you all!



Meals on Wheels

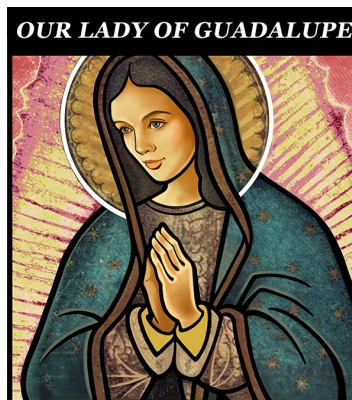
Meals on Wheels is looking for volunteer drivers—approx. 1 hour route. They also need help with packing the meals. If you can help please contact LLS at 587-6029 or April Hulke at 1-320-282-1002. Leave a message and someone will get back to you a.s.a.p.

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.

Matachines Dancers

Traditionally our area Matachines Dancers join us for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with a receptions following after the Mass. As we go to print, the plan this year is that they will join us for the celebration of the mass, as usual, but there will be no reception/meal afterward. Please give them a warm welcome to our community!



Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes

Faith Formation classes (Kindergartners to 5th graders) in the month of December will be at a distance, in your own living room! We sent home a letter with Advent lessons and personalized access to Catholicbrain.com for additional lessons. If you need this letter again, please contact Jen at religioused@stanastasia.net

December 5th will be First Reconciliation for our 2nd graders. Please keep them in your prayers!

News of Comfort

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, “Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God” (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

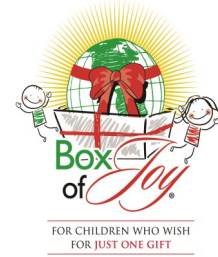
Treasures From Our Traditions

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus’ birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for “surround” or “hedge.”

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where’s Waldo?* children’s book. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

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Social Concerns



Box of Joy

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Box of Joy collection. St Boniface collected 37 boxes

and St Anastasia collected 150 boxes. That’s a lot of joy! Thank you so much for your generosity! Thanks also to the folks who contributed to packing/ mailing costs and to those who brought in items “to just slip into the boxes as something a little extra.” You’re the best!

Thank you for your generosity!



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 a 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.

Our sponsor of the week is
Kim Kotzer, State Farm.

Please show your appreciation by
patronizing their business.

Hutchinson Community Thanksgiving Dinner 2020 Style

Have you ever tried preparing and serving Thanksgiving Dinner for 500? Well, we hadn't either—until this year! We served almost 500 full Thanksgiving meals: turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit salad, cranberries, gravy, roll and pumpkin pie. Free will donations accepted.

And, we have to be honest, it did not go without some glitches and bumps. But, with the grace of God, it all worked out wonderfully well. For a first time effort at this kind of service, unbelievably well. And do you know why? Because St Anastasia has the best volunteers in the world! Period.

People roasted, deboned, sliced, creamed, mashed, packed, decorated bags, filled up plates, delivered car loads of boxes, ran meals out to cars, and just generally did everything that needed to be done to make this event a success.

And, yes, thanks to our wonderful donors and all the folks who generously paid for their meal (and sometimes a few others) we broke even.

Our most sincere thanks to everyone who helped in anyway. Special thanks to the staff at Joanie's Catering for all their hard work, to CashWise staff for helping out the new kids on the block (that was us!), and to all of our guests!



God Bless all of you for your gentle spirits and helping hands!

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 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.



Just For Fun

Pastor Al®



"I quoted Jesus: 'Your light must shine before men.' And yet, my mom simply took my handheld video game, snapped off the light, and yelled 'Go to bed!!!'"

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Stewardship

St. Anastasia

Contribution Budget 2020-21	\$800,000
Nov 29 Contributions	\$13,372
Total Contributed so far	\$312,390
Total Budgeted so far	\$338,462
Average weekly given	\$14,200
Average weekly amount needed to make the budget:	\$15,385
Needed each week for 30 weeks to make budget	\$16,254

DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL

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

St B's

\$3,999

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, 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. Register by entering our church ID of 78.

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

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

Area Faith Community Staff

Fr. Paul Wolf, Pastor	507-829-0965 (cell)	pwolf@stanastasia.net
St. Anastasia Parish Staff	320-587-6507	
Diane Pedersen		parishadmin@stanastasia.net
Beth Hauth, Music Co-Ordinator		beth@stanastasia.net
Merriane 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)	
St. Boniface Staff		
Millie Navara, Administration	320-562-2463	mmnavara@embarqmail.com
Merri Schaufler, Contributions	320-562-2245	
St. Anastasia School		
Betty Jodzio	320-587-2490	principal@stanastasia.net
Marilyn Schreiner, Secretary	320-587-2490	secretary@stanastasia.net
Kids' Depot Daycare & Preschool		
Michelle Nies, Director	320-587-4760	depot@stanastasia.net
Religious Education & Youth Ministry		
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
St. Anastasia Cemetery		
Mike Schall, Manager	1 mile north of Hutchinson on Highway 15 320-583-7199	mgschall@mediacommbb.net
St. Boniface Cemetery		
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.