

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
might not perish
but might have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

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Lent This Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally all “*Laetare Sunday*,” from the Latin meaning “to rejoice” or “to be joyful.” It might seem odd to “rejoice” in Lent, but that exhortation is a reminder, or rather a foreshadowing of Easter. It is as though Easter itself is breaking into the Lenten season this Sunday.

For the gospel we continue from last week with another reading from John that includes the famous passage cited in football end zones. The first two Sundays of lent heard Mark (the temptation of Jesus, and the transfiguration of Jesus). Last week was John’s version of Jesus overturning the money changers in the temple. Today we have Jesus and Nicodemus, a story unique to this gospel.

The passage that many use to sum up the gospel is simply this: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.” We proclaim a God of love, not a God of condemnation. And this love results in God sending his only Son, Jesus. The starting point of our theology is, then love.

Though many today and throughout history seem to prefer a God of judgment, a God of condemnation, today we are reminded that our God is love. And God’s love is eternally expressed in a never-ending life he wants for each of us, where the relationships and bonds we create in this life are never broken. On Laetare Sunday, where we read John 3:16, may the joy remind us of a joy we have at Easter, when the promise of eternal life is fulfilled.

Living Liturgy, 2021, p. 76

FOURTH LENT

SUNDAY OF
MARCH 14, 2021





Fourth Sunday of Lent

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

— John 3:17

Readings for the Week

Mon: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tue: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

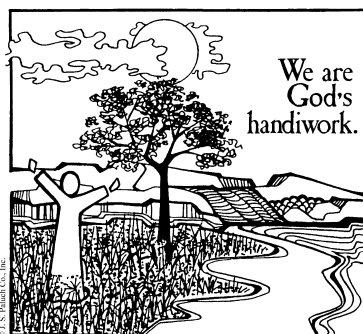
Wed: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thu: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Fri: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Sat: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sun: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33



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

St. Boniface Catholic Church

551 Main Street, Stewart, MN 55385

Phone: 320-562-2344

This Week's Area Worship Schedule

DATE/TIME

LOCATION

INTENTION

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

MONDAY, March 15

5pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

Gene & Marilyn Borgert

TUESDAY, March 16

7am, Mass

St. Anastasia

WEDNESDAY, March 17

5pm, Mass/Stations

St. Anastasia

THURSDAY, March 18

9am, Mass

St. Anastasia

John E. Clasen & Family

FRIDAY, March 19

7am, Mass

St. Anastasia

5pm, Mass/Stations

St. Anastasia

SATURDAY, March 20

3pm, Confessions

St. Anastasia

4:30pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

+Judy Blazinski

6pm, Confessions

St. Boniface

6:30pm, Mass

St. Boniface

++Jerome & Evelyn Ewert

SUNDAY, March 21

7:30am, Mass

St. Anastasia

10:30am, Mass

St. Anastasia

7:30pm, Mass

St. Anastasia

For Our Faith Community

Calendar

MONDAY, March 15

Noon, Common Cup Reps.

St. Anastasia

hospitality area

6:30pm, Grief Group

St. Anastasia

hospitality area

TUESDAY, March 16

4pm, Kindergarten Open House

St. Anastasia

school

7pm, St A Admin Council

St. Anastasia

hospitality area

WEDNESDAY, March 17

1pm, 5pm "SEARCH" (Station/Mass)

St. Anastasia

church

7pm, Youth Group

St. Anastasia

youth room

THURSDAY, March 18

1pm, "SEARCH"

St. Anastasia

hospitality area

FRIDAY, March 19

6am, That Man Is You

St. Anastasia

hospitality area

5pm, Mass/Stations/"SEARCH"

St. Anastasia

church

SATURDAY, March 20

Noon, Fatima Rosary

St. Anastasia

rosary walk

7pm, "SEARCH"

St Boniface

in-person, hall

SUNDAY, March 21

2pm, Reconciliation

St. Anastasia

MONDAY, March 22

6:30pm, Grief Group

St. Anastasia

hospitality area

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

Parish & Community Events



*Developing the hearts and
minds of students since 1954.*

Kindergarten Open House Dates

Tuesday, March 16, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Thursday, March 25, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Join Us for Kindergarten Open House!

Half Off Kindergarten Tuition for 2021-22

Join us to learn more about St. Anastasia Catholic School and meet Mrs. Johnson (the Kindergarten teacher) and Mrs. Jodzio (the principal). Both Kindergarten open houses are come-and-go as your schedule allows, but we ask that you RSVP so that we can monitor numbers and allow for social distancing. All COVID protocols, including face coverings, will be required. Virtual or individual meetings with Mrs. Johnson are available upon request. For more information, and to RSVP, visit stanastasia.net/admissions or call the school office at 320-587-2490.

Give Us This Day

For a number of years we have had a group subscription to the monthly Give Us this Day. Our contract with Liturgical Press, the company publishing the magazine, is about to run out. We have decided to not continue the group subscription. It has become more difficult for folks to pick up their copies at the office. The company itself is encouraging people to go to online subscriptions to save on printing and postage costs. The publication is still available—on line and in the traditional print version—to any interested individual. Information pertaining to individual subscriptions is available in the current copy of the booklet or on line at litpress.org

Fatima Rosary



Join us at noon on Saturday, March 20, at the rosary walk (or inside if the weather is not cooperating) to pray a rosary for "One Man, One Woman." Questions? Call Bernie Griep for more information.

Sacramental Celebrations

These 2nd graders are anxiously preparing to receive Jesus in the Eucharist! Please pray for them and their families:



Leera Dahl * Everly Burchill * Zoey Fox
*Hadley Mikulecky * Yesenia Nino * Elin Spors
*Brielle Root * Hartlee Schlueter * Briella Nonescan
* Adalyn Feuerborn * Emalise Field *
Liam Gregory *Nora Rannow * Jordyn Dettman
*Madelyn Schwartz * Aubree Schwecke * Delilah
Wallyn * Kaylyn Davis * Blade Retzlaff * Leonardo
Rabago * Jocelyn Kottke* Sam Heitman * Loki
Schiefer* Littney Baysinger*Jaxson Young

Flower Memorials

If you would like to purchase an Easter flower memorial in memory or a loved one, please put your donation in an envelope marked Flowers and drop it in the collection plate at St B's or St A's. donations will be used to enhance the Easter environment of each church.

Blue Tooth Hearing Aid App

William Sound Wave Cast (Apple Store and Google Play). Download the app, go to WiFi on phone, click assisted listening, then go to the app and open it. Additionally, listening assisted aids may be found by the audio/visual booth in the entrance of the church.

KC Fish & Shrimp Fry

The KC of Bird Island host their drive thru Fish & Shrimp Fry, March 26, 4-7pm or until gone. \$10 per take out. St Mary's Church parking lot. All are invited.

St Anastasia Cemetery Notice

All Christmas wreaths and decorations must be removed from gravesites before April 15. After that date all Christmas decorations will be removed by cemetery staff. Questions? Refer to your cemetery guide book or call Mike Schall, Cemetery Manager. Thank you.

Faith Formation

FEAST OF FAITH

Lent-A Season of the Word

Each year on the First Sunday of Lent we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the temptation of Jesus. In Luke's account, the devil cites the scriptures repeatedly, urging Jesus to interpret them in a false, self-serving way—if God sends angels to protect those whom God loves (as it says in Psalm 91), then prove it! But Jesus resists this insidious temptation by turning to scripture passages that tell of right relationship with God—living by God's word, trusting in God, and worshiping God alone.

Jesus himself listened to the inspired word of God and let it shape and form him. Through the liturgy, we do the same. The readings we hear at Mass can teach us, but that is not their primary function. Rather, the scriptures are meant to reveal the Lord to us, to let us experience his presence, and to form us in our Christian identity. Christ's presence is realized by his spoken word, "since it is he himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church" (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 7). In the readings proclaimed at Mass, we hear the voice of Christ himself.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THE GOOD NEWS

God's Mercy

Today's reading from the second book of Chronicles contains a sort of "mini-history" of Israel. It highlights God's mercies in choosing Cyrus the Persian to be an instrument of deliverance when the people were in captivity in Babylon. Despite their sinfulness and the deserved punishment they were

undergoing, God's mercy was lavished on the people in the form of a miraculous act of liberation.

The Letter to the Ephesians, in much more theological terms, gives a similar account of a God "who brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved." The author stresses that it was when we were "dead in our transgressions" that God saved us, an act of pure grace. He emphasizes that it is not our own efforts that freed us from sin ("this is not from you"); rather, "it is the gift of God." This, of course, is the heart of the entire Pauline corpus, that salvation comes to us by faith in God's mercy, revealed in the death of Jesus.

Youth Ministry

The envelope fundraiser board is located in the church entryway. We are fundraising for both the mission trip to Benton Harbor, MI, as well as the Steubenville Youth Conference located in Rochester, MN. Your support for our youth is very much needed and appreciated. Please, spread the word and help us bring in funds for these opportunities. Thank-you!

GOD UPHOLDS ME

I take for my sureties: The power of God to guide me, the might of God to uphold me, the wisdom of God to teach me, the eye of God to watch over me, the ear of God to hear me, the word of God to give me speech, the hand of God to protect me, the way of God to go before me, the shield of God to shelter me.

—St. Patrick

Social Concerns

Rice Bowls

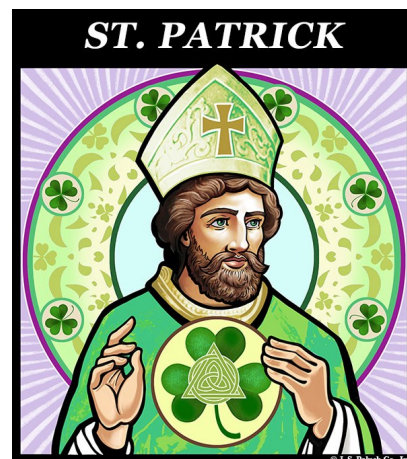
As part of our traditional Lenten practices we will be collecting for Operation Rice Bowl. Your contribution of spare change during lent helps feed the hungry in this country and around the world.

Rice Bowls will be available in the hospitality area. Please take one for your table at home. A prayer and your loose change can make a huge difference in the world.

Rice Bowls will be collected at the end of Lent.

March Is Food Share Month

Every March Minnesotans make a special effort to help stock local food shelves. Many corporate and state sponsored organizations will match local donations, giving food shelves a real boost in their supplies. You can drop off any donations at the McLeod County Foodshelf or in St A's hospitality area. Monetary donations can be placed in the collection plate, but please mark it clearly "Food Shelf." Canned items (vegetables, meats, fruits, beans, soups, etc) baking goods, pastas, cereals, rice, boxed meals—all are welcome donations. Personal care items (toothpaste, detergents, soaps, etc) are also welcome!



Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

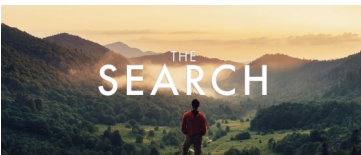


March 19, 6 a.m. That Man Is You: Week 24 - Life in the Spirit

How can you tell if you are living a life filled

with the Holy Spirit or a life filled with the works of the flesh? Is it tangible and discernible? Fr. Dave is back this week and we will discover the differences are not subjective, but rather clear and easy to identify. Our aspiration is to come to know and experience the Spirit of God in a way that sets our hearts on fire and animates our very being. The Holy Spirit can take something that is already dead and bring it back into the fullness of life. A relationship with the Holy Spirit is essential to your spiritual life. It's the gift and petition we need the most but ask for the least.

See you there!



Our Lenten Program for 2021

Episode 5: Who is Jesus? The most beautiful part of this story is this we can know God's love, personally. This is the person of Jesus. But how did this seemingly insignificant carpenter born into poverty in a dusty corner of the Roman Empire become the most pivotal figure in all of history? Christianity isn't simply a philosophy for life – the center of Christianity is a person. We look at the life of Jesus and what he came to do. Ultimately, we need to decide if Jesus really was who he said he was. We can't sit on the fence. Because if Jesus really was who he said he was, we need to make him the Lord of our lives, and everything changes.

Episode 6: Am I Saved?

What Jesus did for us through his life, death and resurrection was the greatest act of love in history. He saved us. He did this for each one of us. Personally. But some might feel unworthy of this gift of love. We may feel we have too much baggage. We may feel unlovable. But God didn't come to reveal himself to us on a pedestal, he came to enter into our messy human condition. To fix us from within. To transform us from the inside out. Some might be surprised by how generous the love of God really is. We don't deserve God's love, but that's the amazing reality of God's mercy. This relationship with God isn't all about our love for Him. It's about His love for us that changes our lives forever.



March 15, 6:30 p.m. Lessons of Grief: Part 2. If you persevere, your grief can teach you invaluable lessons.

You might not want to learn them. But others who've completed the journey of grief say these lessons, while painful, are worth learning. Join us.

School News

At St. Anastasia Catholic school, we believe each child is unique. We aim to meet spiritual, academic, emotional, physical and aesthetic needs by educating the whole student in a Christian environment. We would love for you to be a part of our St. Anastasia school family! **Enrollment for new students in all grades is open at stanastasia.net/admissions.** Call the school office at 320-587-2490 for more information.



Now Enrolling Kindergarten - Grade 6

Half Off Kindergarten Tuition for 2021-22

CCW News

CCW Rummage Sale

Thank you to everyone who donated items, helped set up for the sale, clean up after the sale or shopped at our sale. We couldn't do it without you! We will have more details in an upcoming bulletin. Thanks a bunch!



Please Keep In Your Prayers

Nicole Glesener Sandy Jerabek Margie Navara Maureen Reiner Barb Olson Jenny Trettin Al Cotter Delores Beich Clinton Gruett 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 Jerome Stoll Norbert Mohs

For all those in the military, serving our country at home and abroad. All those suffering with illness, loneliness, mental illness and those who are helping them. 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

Total Contributions for:
March 8, 2021

Contribution Budget 2020-2021	\$800,000
February 28 Contributions	\$13,470
Total Contributions YTD	\$559,577
Total Budget YTD	\$553,846
Average weekly given in 2020-21	\$15,544
Average weekly needed during 2020-21 to make budget	\$15,385
Average weekly needed for remaining 16 weeks to make budget	\$15,026

Capital Campaign

Pledges Received	\$1,500,36000
Contributions Received	\$572,830.00

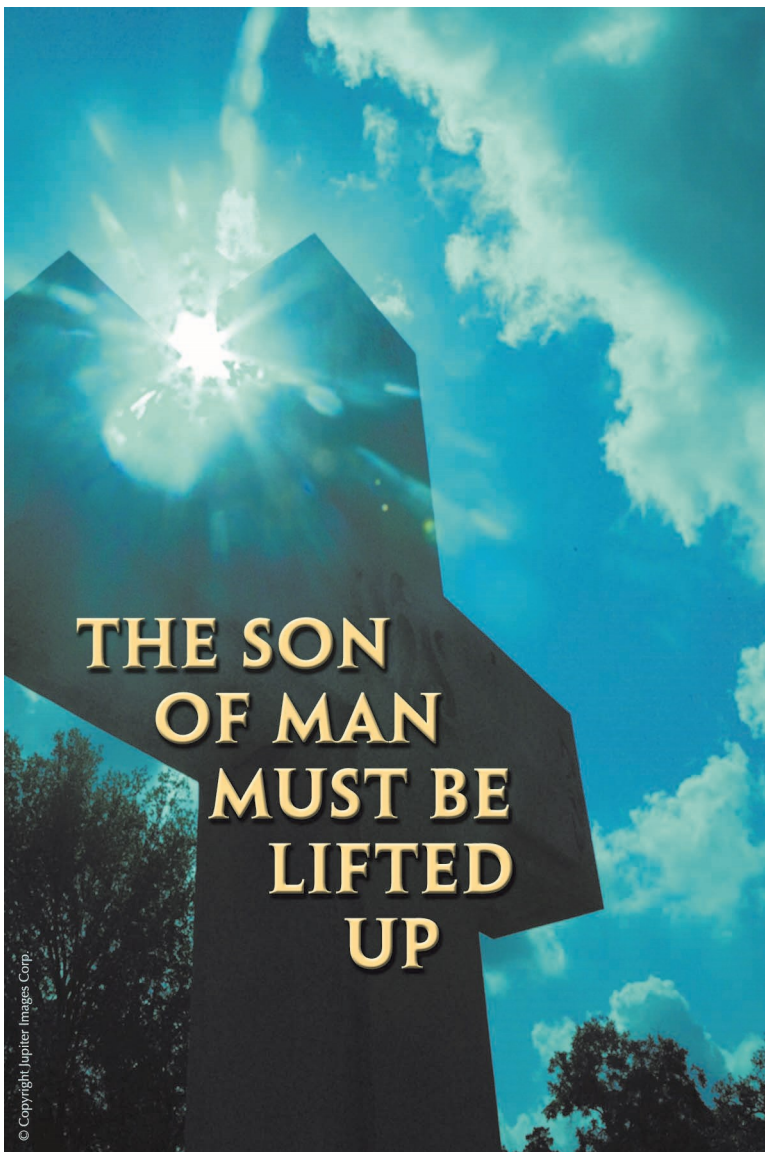
DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL

<u>St A's</u>	Parish
Goal	Total rec'd Portion
\$50,517	\$37,289 \$7,458

<u>St B's</u>	
\$3,999	\$2,325 \$665

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.



Prayer For a New Bishop

Almighty God, who by the Holy Spirit moves the hearts of Your people, direct the councils 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.

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 in the Eucharistic Chapel.

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> March 16, 7pm	St Anastasia	parish office
STB Administrative Council Chair: Mark Maiers	TBA, 9am	St Boniface	church basement
Cemetery Committee Chair: Jeff Lehn	April 8, 3pm	St Anastasia	parish office
School Advisory Committee Chair: Jason Jennissen	<i>usually meets on the 1st Tuesday each month</i> March 2, 7pm	St Anastasia	hospitality area
Home & School Association Chair: Gina Jennissen	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, 10am	St Anastasia	hosp. kitchen
STB Council of Catholic Women	TBA, 6pm	St Boniface	basement
Knights of Columbus Grand Knight: Mark Maiers	March 3, 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, Business Manager		parishadmin@stanastasia.net
Meghan Laffen, Development Director	320-587-6507	development@stanastasia.net
Beth Hauth, Music Co-Ordinator		beth.hauth@stanastasia.net
Merriane Miller, Bookkeeper		mmiller@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, Principal	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.