



Let the children come to me;

do not prevent them,
for the kingdom of God
belongs to such as these.

Mark 10:14

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 3, 2021

Jesus' sayings are hard. Sometimes there are few ways we can explain away the plain meaning of the text. We tend to be familiar with the stories of Jesus that remind us that the law was made for humans, not humans for the law.

But in today's gospel, rather than offer a flexible interpretation of the Mosaic Law concerning divorce, Jesus doubles down. He tells the audience that the only reason Moses even permitted divorce was because of human stubbornness. In actuality, Jesus says, in quoting Genesis, "what God has joined together, no human being must separate." He goes even further and makes a startling statement that the man who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery. And for parity's sake, he says that the woman who divorces her husband and marries another commits adultery. In fact, many scholars see in the prohibition against women as well as men that the audience was likely Roman. Roman women, unlike Jewish women, had the right to divorce their husbands.

In any case, this prohibition was, and remains, extreme. Matthew's gospel, which uses Mark's gospel as a source, already amends the prohibition and makes an exception for divorce in cases of unlawful marriages, sometimes erroneously translated as "sexual immorality."

But Matthew was not the only New Testament text to relax Jesus' absolute prohibition on divorce. Paul too, writing before and gospel was composed, was aware of Jesus' radical teaching on divorce. He even quotes it before offering an exception (1Cor 7:10-16)! Paul basically says that if a Christian has an unbelieving spouse who separates, the Christian person is not bound.

Today's passage seems to be of the kind that we have seen before in the Gospel of Mark, where Jesus might say, if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off! Or if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out! The idea that there would be no divorce is a great ideal, but unfortunately it does not match lived experience. The fact that two New Testament authors already created exceptions is clear evidence of that. The early church understood that some of Jesus' sayings were not to be taken so literally, as difficult as that might seem to us.

As adults, we need to approach faith with a certain maturity. Rather than accept at face value each and every saying in the Bible, or even each and every saying of Jesus, we discern the meaning of the text in a community of faith. In 1980 the US bishops published a document titled "Called and Gifted: The American Laity." In it they wrote, "Adulthood implies knowledge, experience and awareness, freedom and responsibility, and mutuality in relationships. It is true, however, that the experience of lay persons 'as church members' has not always reflected this understanding of adulthood." So we read today's gospel in light of our knowledge and experience of human relationships. We grapple with its meaning, recognizing that Jesus' sayings are hard. But we never stop following. We never stop being a disciple. We are adults in his church, with freedom, responsibility, and mutuality in relationships. (Living Liturgy, p. 222)

**Month of the Rosary: Join in praying the Rosary as a family.
We will be praying in church 30 minutes before
the weekend Masses.**





The Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Let the children come to me;
do not prevent them,
for the kingdom of God belongs
to such as these.

— *Mark 10:14*

Readings for the Week

Mon: Jon 1:1 — 2:2, 11; Jon 2:3-5, 8;
Lk 10:25-37

Tue: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8;
Lk 10:38-42

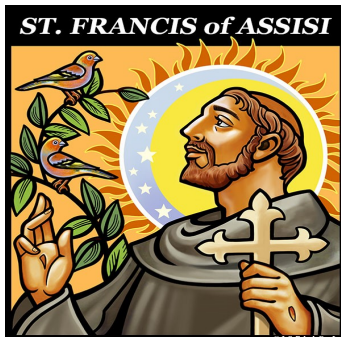
Wed: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk
11:1-4

Thu: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk
11:5-13

Fri: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 16,
8-9; Lk 11:15-26

Sat: Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12;
Lk 11:27-28

Sun: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17; Heb
4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]



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

This Week's Area Worship Schedule

DATE/TIME LOCATION INTENTION

Eucharistic Adoration: 5am on Monday until 5pm on Friday.

MONDAY, October 4

5pm, Mass St. Anastasia +Sr Lucille Hass

TUESDAY, October 5

7am, Mass St. Anastasia

WEDNESDAY, October 6

5pm, Mass St. Anastasia Special Intention (SL)

THURSDAY, October 7

9am, Mass St. Anastasia +Greg Jodzio

FRIDAY, October 8

7am, Mass St. Anastasia

SATURDAY, October 9

3pm, Confessions St. Anastasia
4:30pm, Mass St. Anastasia ++Alvin & Margaret Schlueter
+Rosemary Dudek

SUNDAY, October 10

7:30am, Mass St. Anastasia +Ann Lewandowski
9:00am, Mass St. Boniface Thanksgiving for Personal Intention
10:30am, Mass St. Anastasia 70th Wedding Anniversary of
John & Bernie Griep
7:30pm, Mass St. Anastasia For Our Area Faith Community

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, October 3

9am, RE grades 1-5 St. Anastasia
10am, Atrium St. Anastasia
1pm, Pet Blessing St. Anastasia KC Shelter

MONDAY, October 4

6:30pm, GriefShare St. Anastasia hospitality area

TUESDAY, October 5

9:45am, Atrium St. Anastasia
6:30pm, Education Advisory Committee St. Anastasia hospitality area

WEDNESDAY, October 6

6:30pm, RE grades 6-11 St. Anastasia
7pm, Youth Nite St. Anastasia youth room
7:30pm, Knights of Columbus St. Anastasia cafeteria

FRIDAY, October 8

6am, TMIY St. Anastasia hospitality area

SATURDAY, October 9

2pm, Sjoberg/Morgan Ebert wedding St. Anastasia gym

SUNDAY, October 10

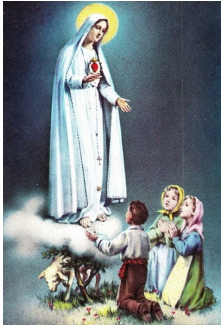
9am, RE grades 1-5 St. Anastasia
10am, Atrium St. Anastasia

MONDAY, October 11

6:30pm, GriefShare St. Anastasia hospitality area

The Roman Catholic Area Faith Community of St. Anastasia & St. Boniface

Community News



Rosary Rally

America Needs Fatima—Rosary Rally, Oct 16, beginning at noon. Meet in front of St A's Church. We will (weather permitting) use the Rosary Walk. (We will go inside if the weather is bad). Everyone is invited to come pray for our country. Questions? Call Bernie Griep

320-234-3604.



We Welcome

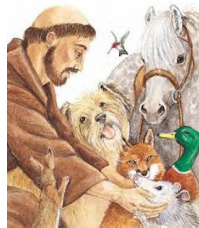
Lainey Mae Weckman

daughter of Jerrod and Ashley

As a community of faith we join her family and friends in celebrating her baptism!

Calling All Critters!

October 4 is the Feast of St Francis, the patron saint of animals, the environment and ecologists. In his honor there will be a simple Blessing of the Animals, October 3, 1pm, at the KC Shelter behind St A's.



Bring your cat, dog, lizard, bunny, bird, horse, goldfish, elephant or other appropriately leashed or contained critter. This is their special day! Oh, and the humans belonging to the animals are invited as well!

St Anastasia Cemetery Decorations

Our decoration policy permits flowers on graves from May 1 until Oct 15. Wreaths are permitted on graves from Nov 1 until Jan 15. **Please remember to remove all flowers & flower stands in a timely fashion.** If flower stands freeze into the ground and we need access to dig a grave, the stands will be cut off at ground level.

St A's Cemetery

The Cemetery Committee has possible openings for one or two members. The Committee meets quarterly to discuss issues and make suggestions for the improvement of the cemetery.

If you have an interest, please contact the parish office or Mike Schall, Cemetery Manager. New terms would start at the beginning of 2022.

Box of Joy!

Last year (2020) Box of Joy delivered packages to 61,422 children! 724 parishes across our country participated in the collection. For most of these children it was their only Christmas present last year. Many of them shared their box with other family members, spreading the joy.

We will be collecting again this year. You may pick up boxes, packing directions, lists of most needed/wanted items, etc. in the main entryway of St A's. All filled boxes can be returned to the same area.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important ministry.



Invitations

St Aloysius Catholic Church in Olivia is having their annual Fall Dinner, Oct 10. Drive in or limited seating from 11am-1pm. Takeout also available. Menu: fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, dressing, candied carrots, coleslaw, cranberries, dinner roll, pumpkin dessert. \$14 for all meals. Everyone is invited!

You are invited to our Take Out/Drive Thru Only Turkey Dinner at Vineyard United Methodist Church (Hutch), Oct 13. Served 4-7pm. No Country Store this year. Enter from School Road and follow the signs.

CCW Fall Rummage Sale



We will have our Fall Rummage Sale on Oct. 21 and 22. We will not be able to set up the gym for donations until Monday or Tuesday. So we will be very busy once we get the tables set up, and we

sure will welcome new volunteers. Please no large furniture or appliances. Would anyone be willing to lend us an enclosed trailer to collect donations for a few days? Let me know - Lori Dahlberg 583-3422 or dahlberg at hutchtel.net

ADULT FORMATION

GriefShare.

It hurts to lose someone. Find help at GriefShare. Grief-



Share is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Our 13 week session begins September 13 at 6:30 PM in the Hospitality Area of the Church. All are welcome.

That Man Is You. (TMIY)

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! Our 13 week session began September 10 at 6 AM in the Hospitality Area of the Church. All are welcome.



FEAST OF FAITH

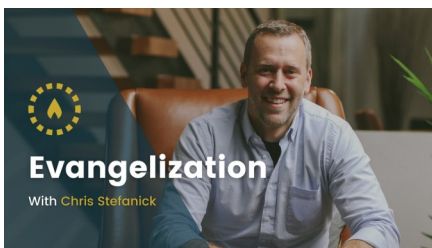
The Sign of Peace

"Greet one another with a holy kiss," wrote Saint Paul to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:20), and he said the same thing to other communities as well. The holy kiss, the sign of peace, has been a hallmark of Christians from the very beginning. In giving and receiving the sign of peace, we are not giving something of our own, but something that Christ has given to us. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you," Jesus told his disciples (John 14:27). Jesus comes to us when we gather together in community. We celebrate the Eucharist not just to receive spiritual nourishment to help us on our solitary way to salvation, but to be transformed into one body, the Body of Christ in the world. As we receive the Eucharist, we are not only united to Christ; we are united to each other. It is never easy to live in community, and we hurt each other on the way. So we need to turn to each other in a sign of reconciliation and forgiveness, to look into each other's eyes, and give and receive the peace that is not ours, but Christ's.

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

The Barriers That Separate Us

We live in a society that has many technological avenues for stimulation and entertainment, one in which the urban population exceeds the non-urban. It is curious that loneliness is a prevalent malady. It is easy to reach out and touch someone, we are told. But—in truth—it is not all that easy, and statistics from the mental health field will reinforce that opinion. Today's readings are about the ways in which we can authentically reach out: God touches Adam to create a mate and end his solitude; God—in-Jesus takes on human flesh and death in order that we might come to glory; Jesus reaches out to the children whom the disciples had tried to keep away, showing us the manner in which we must approach the loving embrace that awaits us in heaven. Until that day, however, we must remember that ours is a sacramental church, a church of signs of the love of God. And so we are called to reach out continually to ease the loneliness and the barriers that separate us from one another and, therefore, from the love of Christ. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Evangelization with Chris Stefanick. We are all on a mission. Do you know what it is? Have you planned the goals and oriented your life to achieve it? Pope Paul VI famously said, "the Church exists to evangelize" - that is, to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples.

Spreading the Gospel and inviting others into a relationship with Christ is not just the priest's job; it is the responsibility of all baptized Catholics. What does that look like in our modern world? How do we do it effectively?

Let renowned speaker, writer, and expert Chris Stefanick teach you his tried and true methods of spreading the Gospel, that is, evangelization. In his three hour course, Chris breaks down the why, the how, and the what of effective ministry to help Catholics of all backgrounds fulfill the Church's mission.

Our sessions begin the week of September 13. We will email you (if we have your email) the session to be watched and invite you to a Facebook round table of discussion on the topic of the week, Fridays at 4:30 PM.

Religious Education

Are you ready to **Put Out Into The Deep** for 2021-2022 Faith Formation?! We have some exciting news for the future of Faith Formation at St. Anastasia!

Class times:

Ages 3 to 5 with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: 2 options, both limited to 10 children: Sundays 10:00 am to 11:00 am (then brought into Mass) or Tuesdays 9:45 am to 11:00 am

Grades 1-5: Sundays 9:00 to 10:15 am (more information to follow regarding the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist).

Grades 6 to 11: Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm

Classes begin Sunday October 3rd and Wednesday October 6th.

The Big News:

Confirmation this March 5th: 9th to 11th grades

Confirmation fall 2022: current 8th graders

That's right, we are moving Confirmation preparation to 7th & 8th grades and seeking to bring the Spirit more fully into our youth in the fall of their 9th grade year!

Parent Meeting for 6-11th grade students:

Wednesday October 6th

Registration forms can be found on our website, for both a printable copy and now an online form. Visit www.stanastasia.net Paper copies can be mailed to you—contact the parish office.

Social Concerns

Common Cup Thrift Shop

The Common Cup Thrift Shop in Glencoe (712 11th St E) is newly reorganized and expanded. They have lots of clean gently used items household & clothing items and have room for more! You can shop or donate during their regular hours. All profits go to support Common Cup Ministry's programs.

About Common Cup Ministry

St Anastasia & St Boniface are members of Common Cup Ministry, a non-profit organization whose mission is to gather and share spiritual & financial resources of area churches into one "common cup" so that we may minister to those in need. Common Cup Ministry has 30 member churches. Go to www.common-cup.org for more information on their programs.

School News

Kids' Depot—New Year, New Friends

Kids' Depot is a thriving component of St. Anastasia School. A large portion of preschoolers transfer into our Kindergarten program. Ms. Suzanne does a wonderful job of preparing the children for entry into the classroom setting. Nick Hauer is a new assistant this year.



There are 33 students that come throughout the week for a morning or afternoon program. Four and five-year olds also come every day in the afternoon.

For more information on our Kids' Depot program contact Michelle @ 320-587-4760.

Here is a sample of what they are doing in preschool.



Preschool is learning about God's creation and how to be a good and respectful friend. We have had so much fun getting to know each other these past three weeks.

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

Area Faith Community Leadership

STA Administrative Council Chair: Jim Fahey	<i>usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month</i> Oct 19, 7pm	St Anastasia	parish office
STB Administrative Council Chair: Mark Maiers	Nov 8, 9am	St Boniface	church basement
Cemetery Committee Chair: Jeff Lehn	TBA, 3pm	St Anastasia	parish office
School Advisory Committee Chair: Jason Jennissen	<i>usually meets on the 1st Tuesday each month</i> Oct 5, 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	Sept 9, 10am	St Anastasia	hosp. kitchen
STB Council of Catholic Women	TBA, 6pm	St Boniface	basement
Knights of Columbus Grand Knight: Mark Maiers	Oct 6, 7:30pm	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	
Cindy Meier, Administrative Assistant		Admin@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 Schaeffler, 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@mediacombb.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.