

I am baptizing  
you with water,  
but one  
mightier than I  
is coming.  
I am not  
worthy to  
loosen the  
thongs of  
his sandals.

Luke 3:16



*John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness*

Gustav Doré (French, 1832-1883), 1867

nickolae Adobe Stock

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During the cold winter months of December 1531, when the daylight was shorter, the air drier, and the environment arid, the community was spending more time indoors around the fireplace. It had been ten years since the Aztecs were colonized by Spanish conquistadors. They were denied the freedom for self-determination, and their way of life was hybridized by a foreign power that established itself on their soil through conquest that took the lives of loved ones, relatives, and friends.

In this environment of resentment and a discomforting presence of an invader arrived another visitor, a celestial visitor to the land and its people. She arrived as one of the locals, and not as a foreigner. After the gospel reading, the Blessed Mother arrives at the home of Elizabeth and Zechariah, her first ever known public visit since the encounter with the angel of the Lord, bringing joy to Elizabeth and her unborn child. Onwards, she makes visits and appearances all over the world, arriving to the Americas as Our Lady of Guadalupe. She comes to this community as an evangelizer to proclaim the good news of God's loving presence among God's children, especially the vulnerable and the disenfranchised.

At the home of Elizabeth and Zechariah, Elizabeth hears Mary's greeting and recognizes it, calling the Blessed Virgin Mary "the mother of my Lord." Similarly, Juan Diego heard the Blessed Mother speak to him in his native language. Just as the Blessed Mother fills the house of Elizabeth and Zechariah with joy because she has been endowed with divine favor and God is with her, likewise, during the winter month of torpidity and inertia, she visited a people under the weight of foreign occupation, bringing them joy and hope. Appearing to Juan Diego, an indigenous commoner, and speaking to him in his native language of Nahuatl, she brought a renewed sense of dignity and hope to the Aztecs.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is venerated as a symbol of national unity and she is a Mother who unites God's children in the Americas and beyond. (*Living Liturgy* p. 12)



### Christmas Season Masses (gym)

#### **December**

- 24: Christmas Eve 4pm - A, 6pm - A, 8pm - B, 10pm - A
- 25: Christmas Day 7am - A, 9am - A, 11am - A (no 4:30pm Mass this evening at St. Anastasia)
- 26: Feast of the Holy Family 7:30m - A, 9am - B, 10:30am - A, 7:30 pm - A

- 31: Solemnity of the Motherhood of Mary/  
New Year's Eve 5pm - A & 7pm - B
- 1: Solemnity of the Motherhood of Mary/  
New Year's Day 9am - A (no 4:30pm  
Mass at St. Anastasia this evening)
- 2: Feast of the Epiphany 7:30am - A,  
9am - B, 10:30am - A, 7:30pm - A

*Advent*

December 12, 2021

*Third*  
Sunday of



## Third Sunday of Advent

With joy you will draw water  
at the fountain of salvation.

— Isaiah 12:3

## Readings for the Week

**Mon:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27

**Tue:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

**Wed:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23

**Thu:** Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30

**Fri:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

**Sat:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

**Sun:** Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

**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
<i>Eucharistic Adoration: 5am on Monday until 5pm on Friday.</i>		
<b>MONDAY, December 13</b> 5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	Souls in Purgatory
<b>TUESDAY, December 14</b> 7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	++Betty & Roland Tauer
<b>WEDNESDAY, December 15</b> 5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+Joshua Schultz +Michael vanOverbeke
<b>THURSDAY, December 16</b> 9am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+Dan Holy
<b>FRIDAY, December 17</b> 7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+Bernie Libor
<b>SATURDAY, December 18</b> 3pm, Confessions 4:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	+Chuck McLagan, +Jim Hartl
<b>SUNDAY, December 19</b> 7:30am, Mass 9:00am, Mass 10:30am, Mass 7:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia St. Boniface St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> +Ann Lewandowski Max Kenney +Ken Schons, +Ricky Roskammer Our Faith Community

## Calendar of Events

<b>SUNDAY, December 12</b> 9am, RE grades 1-5 10am, Atrium 2pm, Penance Service	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	gym
<b>MONDAY, December 13</b> 6:30pm, GriefShare	St. Anastasia	hospitality area
<b>TUESDAY, December 14</b> 7pm, KC Fish Fry Meeting	St. Anastasia	cafeteria
<b>WEDNESDAY, December 15</b> 6:30pm, RE grades 6-11 6:30pm, Adult Ed "Sanctuary" 7pm, Youth Nite/open gym	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	day chapel gym
<b>FRIDAY, December 17</b> 6am, TMIY	St. Anastasia	hospitality area
<b>TUESDAY, December 21</b> 7pm, St A's Admin Council	St. Anastasia	hospitality area
<b>WEDNESDAY, December 22</b> 6:30pm, RE grades 6-11 6:30pm, Adult Ed "Sanctuary" 7pm, Youth Nite/open gym	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	day chapel gym
<b>THURSDAY, December 23</b> 10am, Card Ministry	St. Anastasia	parish office

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



## Community News

### 8th Annual Christmas Market

Thank you to everyone who helped in so many ways to make our 8th annual Christmas Market a success! Details will follow in a later bulletin.



### Flower Memorials



If you would like to enhance the environment of St Boniface or St Anastasia by donating a flower, lights, candles, or other decorative materials, please put your contribution in an enveloped marked

“Flowers” and drop it in the collection basket at either church. Please include the name(s) of the loved ones you wish to have remembered at this special time.



### News From the McLeod County Food Shelf

Thanks to the ongoing support of county community the Glencoe Food Shelf has been able to move to larger quarters allowing it to provide more goods and services. During the first 10 months of the year the Food Shelf provided groceries for approx. 372,700 meals throughout the county. The Mobile Outreach Program (established August 2020) has logged over 1,330 distributions, providing a much needed service to those with transportation/mobility issues. Thanks for your ongoing generosity—it continues to make a difference!

### Mobile Outreach-Driving Away Hunger

Driving Away Hunger is designed to reduce transportation and mobility issues associated with food access in our communities. The Mobile Outreach vehicle is stocked with shelf stable pantry items, fresh produce, frozen proteins, grains and dairy products. Stop & Shop the bus at no cost to you!

Please bring bags and cart to carry food. Full grocery distributions are available up to 2 times per month per household. For updated schedules for all its stops call 320-864-2088, checkout our Facebook page or go on line to [www.mcleodemergencyfoodshelf.org](http://www.mcleodemergencyfoodshelf.org)

### Diocesan Ministries Appeal

Thank you to all who have given to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal. You may return your pledge in the collection basket or simply drop it in the mail. You may also make your pledge or gift online at <https://www.dnu.org/dma/> Either way, your gift will be counted toward our parish goal. Be assured that your gift will only be used to support those ministries designated in the DMA brochure—ministries that are vital to our diocesan church—as well as our own parish projects.

### Matachines Dancers

Usually, a local group of Matachines Dancers celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with us. We have a chance to enjoy the traditions of a country specially blessed by the presence of Our Lady—including a delicious meal! Unfortunately space, time and conflicting events have made it impossible for them to be with us this year. We're thankful for the wonderful times past and look forward to next year in a renovated (and available) church!



### Catholic Podcast from Fr. Mike Schmitz

Takes Listeners Through the Entire Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz featuring Jeff Cavins.



This Bible in a Year brings it all together. — Ignacio G. I have never in my life have gotten so far in the Bible as I am with this podcast. I actually plan on repeating again next year. I love Bible in a Year. Such a blessing! —Vanessa W.

All Devices - listen now on all major podcast platforms and YouTube by simply searching "The Bible in a Year"



Start Listening!  
iPhone/iPad - scan this QR code to listen now on Apple Podcasts

# Faith Formation

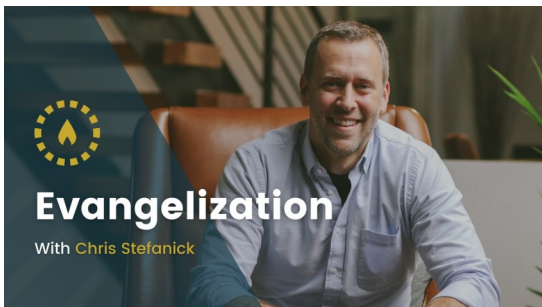
## ADULT FORMATION

### GriefShare.

Mondays at 6:30 PM in the Hospitality Area of the Church. All are welcome.



**That Man Is You.** Fridays 6 AM in the Hospitality Area of the Church. All are welcome.



**Evangelization with Chris Stefanick.** We are all on a mission. Pope Paul VI famously said, "the Church exists to evangelize" - that is, to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples. Let renowned speaker, writer, and expert Chris Stefanick teach you his tried and true methods of spreading the Gospel, that is, evangelization. We will email you (if we have your email) the session to be watched and invite you to a Facebook round table of discussion.

### Important Adoration Message

Distracted? Stressed? Just too much? Lay it before the Lord—take an hour in His presence and just breathe!

**Regular hours** are 6am Monday through Friday noon. 24/5

### Christmas break

Closing on Thursday Dec. 23rd at noon and reopening on Jan 3rd at 6am

Please if you have any questions call or email parish office. Information also on the Adoration Hotline 320-484-7126

### Rejoice

The prophetic writings we hear in today's scriptures call us to rejoice and celebrate the goodness of God. Zephaniah, Isaiah, Saint Paul, and John the Baptist in Luke's Gospel all follow the rich tradition of the Biblical prophets, a tradition that reaches full expression in Jesus. The prophets warn that human failings have truly disastrous consequences. All are summoned to repent, and to change their lives. Today we hear the Good News that God's gracious love exceeds and overcomes all human corruption. God has not given up on us. Indeed, God keeps pursuing us, and eagerly seeks to reconcile with us. God's initiative to set the world aright culminates with Jesus, whose coming John the Baptist announces. John's prophetic message summons us to join in God's reconciling work, by living generously and justly in our daily lives. As we rejoice in God's grace, we then extend the fruits of this grace to all.



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### Prayer of the Week

#### Third Sunday of Advent

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever.

### Reflection question:

How am I faithfully awaiting the Lord's Nativity?



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**Saint Lucy**, was a martyr who died during the Diocletianic Persecution. St Lucy brought food, medicine & comfort to the Christians hiding in the catacombs beneath Rome. She is venerated as a saint in the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran & Eastern Orthodox churches. She is one of eight women explicitly commemorated in the Canon of the Mass. Her feast day is December 13 which, before calendar reforms, coincided with the winter solstice. It quickly became associated with light, hope & coming joy. She is the patron saint of the blind.



## St A's School News

A huge thank you for the incredible support of our Jimmy's Pizza Fundraiser!!!! Because of you, we raised over \$1000 to benefit our school! Your kindness, generosity, and excellent taste in pizza is much appreciated.

THANK  
YOU!



In anticipation of the holidays we celebrate St. Nicholas day on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Students learn about his life by hearing stories and watching a video. St. Nicholas secretly comes through school and leaves them treats of candy canes, Hershey kisses, and mandarin oranges in boots that have been left by our entry way Christmas trees. It's a fun opportunity for me to get into the classroom and read as well!



This week at school students have been preparing gifts for others. They have generous hearts and want to share!



Blessings for the start of a beautiful season.

The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation has generously offered St. Anastasia School & Kids Depot the opportunity for a \$25,000 Challenge Grant! Our school has been tasked with raising \$25,000 in new or extended (giving more than their largest previous gift) donations, and the Foundation will match it! We will be using these funds to improve our playground and create a more excellent learning experience for all of our students here at St. Anastasia! We've seen our community and school do amazing things and know that we can count on you as we work together to meet this goal! The deadline to make a donation for this grant is December 30th, 2021! For more information on donating or to learn more about this incredible opportunity, please visit: <https://www.stanastasia.net/playground-grant-challenge/>

**BEST BUY****RICHARD SCHULZE**  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

PRESENTED TO ST. ANASTASIA SCHOOL

# A CHALLENGE MATCHING GRANT!

**BE A PART OF THE CHALLENGE!**



**Grant Guidelines:**

- Must be a new donor to St. Anastasia School  
OR
- A previous donor whose donation exceeds their largest previous donation to St. Anastasia

Deadline to Donate: 12/30/21

## Please Keep In Your Prayers

Nicole Glesener Maureen Reiner Barb Olson Jenny Trettin Al  
Cotter Delores Beich Clinton Gruett Roger Steintl Delores  
Muetzel Gloria Pohlmann Betty Gunderson Darlene Artmann  
Terry Bisbee Marilyn Reinarts Cristy Wallstrom Roseanne Genz  
Logan Erpelding Veronica Jacobs Special Intention  
Bruce Bjerkelund Jenny Lhotka



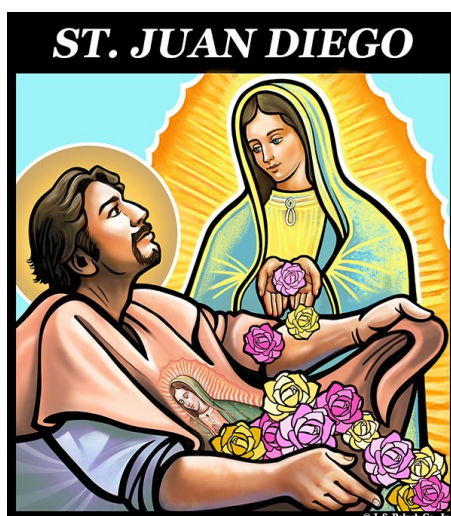
Names will be listed for one month, if you would like to continue your pray request after that time please contact the office and ask for reinstating.

*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. For a clear path in our troubled times.*

### 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.



As we enter the holiday season, our greatest wish for you is to experience the joy of giving. But we know sometimes all of the tasks that come at this time of year can pile up - making our gift wrapping and check writing less joyful and more arduous. Instead of waiting, consider tackling one to-do on your long holiday prep list early. Here are four facts about holiday giving:

1. **Nonprofits need your donations before year-end, but they don't necessarily need them at the end of the year.** A gift in November is no less effective than one in late December. In fact, with the busyness of processing last-minute donations, an early gift might be the best gift.
2. **You get the same tax benefits for the year whether you make a gift in October or December.** Why not ease the burden your financial advisors and stockbrokers feel at the end of the year by giving before the rush? You'll be less stressed, too.
3. **The market doesn't perform according to calendar dates.** Why should your giving? For **appreciated assets**, the best time to give them is when you believe they've appreciated and can maximize your charitable giving. Don't let December 31st make that decision.
4. **There's no need to wait until you receive your year-end bonus or sell appreciated stock to get the ball rolling on a donor advised fund.** You can start the paperwork to establish a fund now. Then, transfer your gift into the fund when you're ready, and start recommending grants!
5. **Thank you for your Gift. Please consider a Gift to St. Anastasia in your Estate.**

## Stewardship

### St. Anastasia

Dec 5 Contributions \$13,383.00

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Pledges Received \$1,505,332

Contributions Received \$984,069.19

Fund balance \$523,419.60

### 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.

### St. Boniface

Dec 5 \$2,269.81

### Year End Giving

We ask that you have any contributions you want credited to 2021 be at the parish office no later than January 2, 2022. This will help us get out the annual contribution statements in a timely fashion. As always, your ongoing support of our parish efforts is greatly appreciated! Thank you so much for your generosity!

## 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

<b>STA Administrative Council</b> Chair: Jim Fahey	<i>usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month</i> Dec 21, 7pm	St Anastasia	parish office
<b>STB Administrative Council</b> Chair: Mark Maiers	Dec 14, 9am	St Boniface	church basement
<b>Cemetery Committee</b> Chair: Jeff Lehn	Jan 13, 3pm	St Anastasia	parish office
<b>School Advisory Committee</b> Chair: Jason Jennissen	<i>usually meets on the 1st Tuesday each month</i> Jan 4 7pm	St Anastasia	hospitality area
<b>Home &amp; School Association</b> Chair: Gina Jennissen	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, 10am	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	Jan 5, 8pm	St Anastasia	cafeteria
<b>Knights of Columbus Squires</b>	Jan 5, 5:30pm	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	
Cindy Meier, Administrative Assistant		Admin@stanastasia.net
Merrienne Miller, Bookkeeper		mmiller@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 Schaeffler, Contributions	320-562-2245	
<b>St. Anastasia School</b>		
Betty Jodzio, Principal	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>	1 mile north of Hutchinson on Highway 15	
Mike Schall, Manager	320-583-7199	mgschall@mediacombb.net
<b>St. Boniface Cemetery</b>	1 mile south of Stewart on City Rd 7	
Richard Navara, Manager	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.