

Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”

*Luke 1:41-42*



*The Visitation*  
Albrecht Dürer (German, 1471-1528), c. 1504  
Cleveland Museum of Art

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The large mysteries of the first three weeks of Advent converge this Sunday into the truth that the Christ who will rule the cosmos was once carried in the small world of Mary’s womb. John the Baptist, whose strong voice we heard on the Jordan riverbank last week, today has no voice and can only announce the good news of Jesus’ equally silent advent by an exultant leap of joy in Elizabeth’s womb.

As the ark of the covenant was being taken up to Jerusalem, David’s dance before it is joyful reverence for the sacred artifacts of Israel it contained. John now dances before Mary, the new “ark” of a new covenant, sealed in the flesh and blood of the child she carries in her womb. When John leaps in Elizabeth’s womb, she too becomes a prophet. Filled with the Holy Spirit, she reads the signs of the times and proclaims the blessedness that God has bestowed on Mary and the One she carries.

The Advent mystery tells us so clearly that God has a special love for apparently unimportant people and places: for backwater Nazareth and its young woman; for the unnamed village of an old country priest and his aging wife; for the town of Bethlehem eclipsed by Jerusalem in importance even though the former was David’s birthplace. The one to come will be a shepherd of his flock, carrying them in the strength of the Lord and bringing peace and security. In such unimportant places and in unexpected ways the Son of David will be born as the fulfillment of the dreams of his people. In us, too, such dreams will be fulfilled if we offer Jesus hospitality.

Do we recognize the glory of God in unimportant people and places? Or do we drop a veil over the poverty and pain that can exist not only in far-off places, but also nearby, and even in our own hearts? Some people dread the approach of Christmas. The loneliness, for example, of those suffering the pain of broken relationships and family gatherings of those around them. In many places, the rates of suicide and domestic violence rise during the “season of goodwill” when not much goodwill is experienced by some people. This is a challenge to our parishes and families and one that many Christians are meeting with great generosity and hospitality.

God has given us the most wonderful of Christmas gifts: his own Son, wrapped in our human flesh. But the whole Christ, head and members, is not yet fully formed. Until the end of ages, he continues to wrap himself in the love and fidelity of his disciples.

*(Living Liturgy, p. 18)*

# Advent

December 19, 2021

*Fourth*  
Sunday of

## 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



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## Fourth Sunday of Advent

O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted.— *Psalm 80:15-16*

## Readings for the Week

**Mon:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 241-6; Lk 1:26-38

**Tue:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

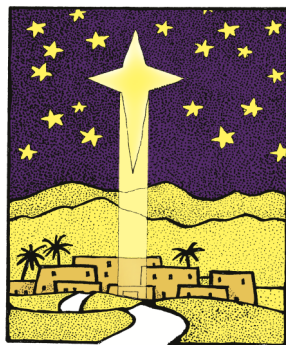
**Wed:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

**Thu:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

**Fri:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

**Sat:** **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 **Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

**Sun:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



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**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 20</b> 5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	
<b>TUESDAY, December 21</b> 9am, Mass/School	St. Anastasia	+Jerry Beeler
<b>WEDNESDAY, December 22</b> 5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+Anna Jakob Living & Deceased of Herman Griep family
<b>THURSDAY, December 23</b> 7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+Mary Ludowese
<b>FRIDAY, December 24</b> 7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	
<b>FRIDAY, December 24</b> 4pm, Mass 6pm, Mass 8pm, Mass 10pm, Mass	<b>Christmas Eve</b> St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Boniface St. Anastasia	+Bernadette Libor  Paul & Margaret Mwiers
<b>SATURDAY, December 25</b> 7am, Mass 9am, Mass 11am, Mass	<b>Christmas Day</b> St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	For Our Faith Community +Ann Lewandowski +Melvin Klinkner
<b>SUNDAY, December 26</b> 7:30am, Mass 9:00am, Mass 10:30am, Mass 7:30pm, Mass	<b>Feast of the Holy Family</b> St. Anastasia St. Boniface St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	+Roger Lhotka MacKoy Kenney +Birdie Lehn, +Ray Urban For Our Faith Community

## Calendar of Events

<b>SUNDAY, December 19</b> 9am, RE grades 1-5 10am, Atrium	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	
<b>MONDAY, December 20</b> 6:30pm, GriefShare 6:30pm, PreSchool Christmas Program	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	hospitality area gym
<b>TUESDAY, December 21</b> 7pm, Administrative Council	St. Anastasia	Parish Office
<b>THURSDAY, December 23</b> 10am Card Ministry	St. Anastasia	
<b>December 23-January 2</b>	<b>St. Anastasia School Closed</b>	
<b>FRIDAY, December 24</b> Parish Office/Kids' Depot Closed	St. Anastasia	
<b>FRIDAY, December 31</b> Parish office/Kids' Depot closed	St. Anastasia	

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

## 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



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Thanks to the ongoing support of our 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!

Just a reminder—we always have a bin in the front lobby for donations to the Food Shelf. Our gracious volunteers transport the goods to the Food Shelf. So feel free to drop off your donation there at anytime—you don't need to wait for the holidays. Thanks so much for your willingness to share!

## 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.

## 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

## Kids' Depot

At Kids' Depot, we strive to develop an active curiosity about the world in which the child lives and to encourage an enthusiasm for learning while stimulating creativity and integrating Christian values. Pre-school, latch-key and daycare programs available! If you'd like to learn more, call Michelle at 320-587-4760.

# Faith Formation

## ADULT FORMATION

### GriefShare.

New set of 13 sessions begin January 10,

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

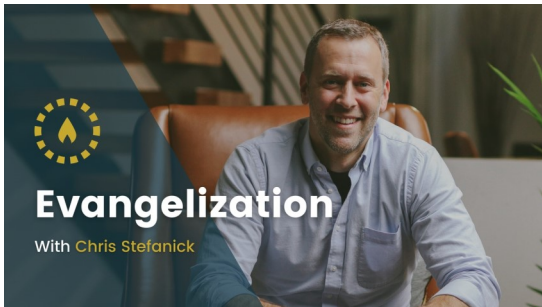


### That Man Is You.

New set of 13 sessions begin January

7, 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.

### Audacity

There is a spirit of audacity in our readings today. During a time of injustice and threat of invasion, the prophet Micah boldly announces that the God of insignificant Israel will raise up a leader from backwater Bethlehem, and this leader will bring justice and peace to the whole world. In the Gospel, Elizabeth and Mary, marginalized women, brazenly celebrate that their sons will be world-changing instruments of God. We further learn that this audacity is rooted in trust in God. The author of Hebrews describes the faithful obedience of Jesus. Mary is shown as the exemplar of faithful trust in God. This is the way God often seems to work, in the ordinary and marginalized in our world. Those who seem weak have learned to trust in God's strength. These have the audacity to become instruments of God's peace and justice.

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### Prayer of the Week

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel,

may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

#### Reflection question:

How can I make known to others the Incarnation of Christ?

Collect text from the English translation of *The Roman Missal*, © 2010, International Commission

### LOVE NOW

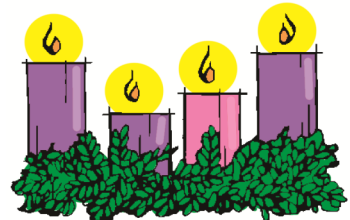
Let those love now who never lov'd before;

let those who always lov'd now love the more.

—Anonymous

Christ is born, that by his birth he might restore your nature.

—St. Peter Chrysologus



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### Important Adoration Message

"Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament has His hands full of graces and He is ready to bestow them on anyone who asks for them." (St Peter of Alcantara)

**Regular hours** are 6am Monday through Friday noon.

#### 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

## Pre-School Christmas Presentation

You are most cordially invited to join the St Anastasia Pre-School Students for their Christmas program at 6:30pm, Monday, December 20, in the gym. They have been working hard on their presentation and are sure to wow you!



### *Christmas All Around the World:*

France, Burundi, Germany, Ireland and America! This was the theme of this year's Christmas Program directed by Ms. Strauss. Students sang songs and read scripture from these countries to celebrate Christmas. The prelude included 19 students who performed solos and/or duets. We have a talented bunch of students!

Thank you to Austin Gertgen, Amanda Hendrickson, Sarah Skoog, Mark Jahnke, Home & School Association, Father Paul, Teachers and Staff for your participation and support.



If you were unable to attend you can view the program here:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StAnastasiaHutchinson>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1q97Hzg2NA1kqWeu-eiklw>

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 Sheldon Nies

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.

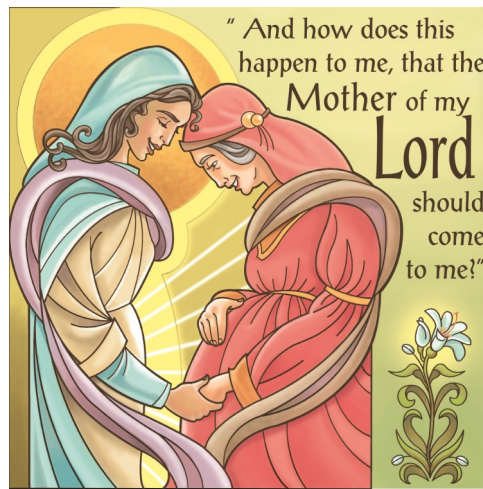
*For all those in the military, serving our country at home and abroad. All those suffering with illness, loneliness, mental illness and those who are helping them. For a clear path in our troubled times.*



### 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.



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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 & St. Boniface

During the holiday season our bulletin publisher gives us very advanced printing deadlines. This makes having accurate, timely financial updates impossible. We will do an update to the finance numbers after the New Year when the schedule returns to normal and we can give you a more accurate picture of the finances for St Boniface and St Anastasia.

### 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!

### 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.

## 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	Jan 11, 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	mnavara@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.