

SECOND SUNDAY OF

Advent

DECEMBER 4, 2022



John the Baptist appeared,
preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

MATTHEW 3:1



This week’s gospel introduces one of the Advent’ main characters: John the Baptist. And he is treated as a character here, given a more vivid description than many biblical figures. We are meant to picture him; we know what he wears and what he eats. He is rough. He is unkempt. He is blunt. He is, in a word, weird. And yet, people are drawn to him, listening to his preaching and going to be baptized. Throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons, we hear stories of God coming in ways we didn’t expect, from this bizarre desert preacher to a literal infant born into poverty. In John the Baptist, holiness could have been overlooked because of his oddities. But the season insists on reminding us to keep our eyes open to the truth that God often comes disguised in interruption and inconvenience.

Imagine a world in which the words of God through the prophet Isaiah ring true: “There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountains.” Imagine living this way now. Many days, our world seems far from God’s vision of peace and justice: Black people lie dying in the streets, refugees flee violence only to be turned away at the border, young people face bullying online. There is much work to be done to end harm and ruin. We need the prayer for endurance and encouragement from today’s second reading. The work of justice is grueling and slow. It can take years to see the wolves and lambs of our time graze together - if we ever see it at all. Yet, imbued with the spirit of the Lord we are called to keep working toward God’s glorious vision.

John the Baptist displays a wildness that we would do well to embrace this Advent season. The Christian way is rarely neat and tidy. The Spirit of God blows where it wills, wildly with no constraints. Enlivened by this Spirit, how can you tap into your own wild side this Advent? What would it look like for you to drop the things constraining you from loving God with your whole heart?

The image of a root appears in the first reading and the gospel. The writers of Scripture often draw on images of plants to signify spiritual growth and connectedness to Christ. As we prepare for the birth of Christ, reflect on the roots of your faith. Who or what keeps you grounded?



Started Saturday, December 3: 1st Saturday Devotion: 9am, Mass/Confession/Fatima Devotion - Following Saturdays: 9am Mass/Rosary/Confessions

Starting Sunday, December 4: 3pm, Divine Mercy Chaplet/Exposition/4pm, Confessions/5pm, Benediction (continuing on Sunday afternoon)

What is Awaken?

Awaken is a video-based parish evangelization system that’s designed to provide people with a personal encounter with Jesus and His Church. It is a, step-by-step process with participants over a series of 12 sessions that present the kerygma - the basic gospel message - through engaging videos, personal testimonies, and small groups. Beginning Monday, January 16, 2023 and going for 12 weeks.



Light of the World
EVANGELIZATION MINISTRIES

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy-womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Readings for the Week

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

Tue: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

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

Thu: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

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 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



St. Anastasia Catholic Church
460 Lake St SW Hutchinson, MN 55350

Office Hours: M-Fr 7:30am-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
<i>Eucharistic Adoration: 6am on Mondays until Noon on Friday.</i>		
MONDAY, December 5		
5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Dick & Marie Richards
TUESDAY, December 6		
7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Donald & Irene Vorbeck
WEDNESDAY, December 7		
5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Dolores Shimanski
7pm, Mass	St. Boniface	+ Joel Kleinschmidt
THURSDAY, December 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception		
7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Genny Lhotka
9am, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Bob & Carol Cogley
5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Ron Jonas, Anna Maria Jakob
FRIDAY, December 9		
7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	All Souls in Purgatory
SATURDAY, December 10		
9am, Mass/Rosary/Confession	St. Anastasia	+ Robert Shamla
3pm, Confessions	St. Anastasia	Day Chapel
4:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Dale Douglas
SUNDAY, December 11 Third Sunday of Advent		
7:30am, Mass	St. Anastasia	All Souls in Purgatory
9:00am, Mass	St. Boniface	+ Margie Navara
10:30am, Mass	St. Anastasia	All Souls in Purgatory
7:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	For our Area Faith Community

Calendar of Events

MONDAY, December 5		
5:30pm, GriefShare	St. Anastasia	Youth Room
TUESDAY, December 6		
6:30pm, Education Advisory	St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area
WEDNESDAY, December 7		
3:15-4pm, Open Gym	St. Anastasia	Gym
6:30pm, Faith Formation	6th-8th St. Anastasia	School
7:30pm, Youth Group	St. Anastasia	Youth Room/Gym/Church
7:30pm, Knights of Columbus	St. Anastasia	Cafeteria
THURSDAY, December 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception		
9am, School Mass	St. Anastasia	Church
12n, Finance Council	St. Anastasia	Office
FRIDAY, December 9		
6am, That Man Is You (TMIY)	St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area
SATURDAY, December 10		
4:30pm, Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe		Church/Gym
SUNDAY, December 11 Third Sunday of Advent		
9:00am, Faith Formation 1st-5th grade	St. Anastasia	
9:00am, Bible Timeline	St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area
10:30am, 3yo-2nd grade, Sunday School	St. Anastasia	
3pm, Divine Mercy Chaplet/Exposition/4pm Confessions/5pm Benediction		

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

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

Community News

CHAP MINISTRIES ADOPT A SENIOR FOR CHRISTMAS

Adopt a Senior is a Program designed to bring Smiles & Joy to Residents of Long Term Care Facilities in McLeod County. Many of these Residents were placed “suddenly” in a position where they needed help instead of helping themselves, as they were accustomed to for so many years.

It is our Current Mission to purchase a Christmas gift for each of the dear Residents in McLeod County Nursing Homes. Please see the cards on the table with what they would like and wrap it and attach the card to the gift and drop it off on the table at the church by Sunday, December 11th. We will pick them up from the church on December 12th at 10am. Merry Christmas & Thank You!

CHAP MINISTRIES 928-792-3100

St. Anastasia CCW info:

We have two new Shepherds of the Field -
Fr. Dennis Labat- 502 Elaine Ave. Marshall, MN 56258 Birthday Feb. 17th

Fr. Anthony Hesse- PO Box 383 Redwood Falls, MN56283-0383 Birthday Oct. 23

Please remember them in your prayers, send them a card telling them you are from St. Anastasia, say the Rosary for them, send them a card on their birthdays. They are busy with their parishes, they will appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing and praying for them.



We are doing the **Christmas Market** fundraiser -- December 17th, 9 am to 1pm - all proceeds go to the "LEAST" project... to feed 120 elderly in

Guatemala for a year! LEAST = Loving the Elderly And Satiating His Thirst. We will need lots of baked goods for our Bake Sale! So please start looking up those recipes! There will also be Breakfast by the KC's, Quilt raffle, and gifts - you may still be looking for that special gift for someone or have a special gift you would like to

donate! And we can sure use your help that day! Questions -- call, text or email Lori Dahlberg 583-3422 - dahlberg@hutchtel.net or Betty Nielsen 320-455-1125 - nielsen.betty@mediacombb.net

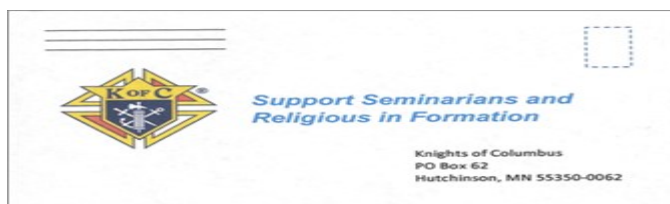
Common Cup

Collecting Ramen Noodles, Personal Care items, Laundry soap, dryer sheets.



Faith in Action – Support Vocations Program

Our Knights of Columbus council would like to provide a \$1000 match to parish donations in support of the Vocations Program. We will provide some donation envelopes that can be found in the back of church for the congregation to send in their donation or place in the collection basket. A donation given in a plain envelope marked “Support Religious Vocations” and placed in the collection basket will also work.



Through this program, we will raise funds to support seminarians or religious in formation in our diocese. We will collect through December. As of 11/14/22 we have collected **\$1,503.00. Thank you!**

Advent Prayer Service: All parishioners especially those with children, are invited to attend an Advent Prayer Service with Bishop Chad W. Zielinski on Sunday, December 18. The service is at 1:30 p.m. at the Church of St. Philip, Litchfield. This service is designed to help us focus on Advent and prepare for the true meaning of Christmas, centered on the birth of Jesus. Families are encouraged to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their home nativity set. The figure will be blessed by Bishop Zielinski individually as families come forward in procession. There will be a blessing on families and expectant mothers as they prepare for Jesus’ birth in their hearts. A “swaddling clothes” collection (blankets, sleepers, layette items, etc.) and cash donations will be taken for babies in need. For more information, contact the diocesan Office of Schools at 507-233-5302.

Real Life Catholic host Chris Stefanick is a consultant to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth. He is an internationally acclaimed author and speaker who has devoted his life to inspiring people to live a bold, contagious faith. *Real Life Catholic* takes the viewer on a soul stirring journey that shows how amazing Faith makes everyday life.

Dec. 6, 9	Holy Cranberries! #4
Dec. 13,16	Pilgrims in Poland # 5
Dec 20,23	Cajun Catholic # 6
Dec 27,30	Life in L.A. #7

Faith Formation - ADULT FORMATION

St. Anastasia School Christmas Program

Mark your calendars for the St. A's School Christmas Program on Thursday, December 15, at 1:30 and 6:30pm. *"Archangel Gabriel's Awesome Adventure"*.

Please join our school children in the Christmas program. Everyone is welcome to attend either performance. The programs begin with some student talent performances.



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 gifts to charities like your parish, diocese, schools and other ministries. Remember that only gifts made by December 31st can help reduce the amount of taxes you owe next April. Please consult **your professional tax advisor for tax strategies for your personal situation.**

Gift of Grain

Farmers can qualify for income and self-employment tax savings on raised grain if the unsold grain is gifted to your parish. The grain must be delivered to an elevator and the actual storage ticket should be given to the parish. In order to qualify for the tax savings, it's critical that the parish sells the grain and not the person gifting the grain. To learn more about the benefits of charitable giving of grain, please contact the parish office at 587-6507.

Many blessings for



Leighton Evelyn Syvertson
Daughter of Luke & Ashley Syvertson
who was baptized this weekend.

Welcome to our family of faith—
May the Lord bless you and your family on
this special day and on every day!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

The Immaculate Conception (December 8)

December 8 we celebrate the patronal solemnity of the United States and the greatest of Mary's Advent festivals. On that day we remember Mary's conception in the womb of her mother (and nine months later, on September 8, we celebrate Mary's birth). In this liturgy, we affirm our belief that God prepared Mary to be the mother of the son of God by allowing her a share, from the moment of her conception, in the salvation that would be won for all by Christ.

Five mothers make their presence felt on December 8. The first is Eve, the mother of all the living. The second is Mary's mother, who conceived, brought to birth, and nurtured an "immaculate" daughter who would become the mother of the Word made Flesh. The third is Elizabeth, who conceived her son John "in her old age." The fourth, of course, is Mary herself. Finally, the letter to the Ephesians and the texts of the Mass for this feast remind us that the Church has been "chosen" to be a spiritual mother. We pray: "The image of the Virgin is found in your Church . . . Trace in our actions the lines of her love, in our hearts her readiness of faith."

In this Advent time, we are called, as Mary was, to make room for Christ in our hearts. What will it take, what will be the cost for us to become, as Mary became, real "bearers of the Word?" Let us be open to the intercession of Mary on our behalf, that we may become more and more like her beloved Son.

Flower Memorials

If you would like to enhance the environment of St Boniface or St Anastasia by donating money for flowers, lights, candles, or other decorative materials, please put your contribution in an envelope 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 and the church you want it to go to.



Thank you to all who donated food for the food shelf.
We took in 23 pounds on November 16.

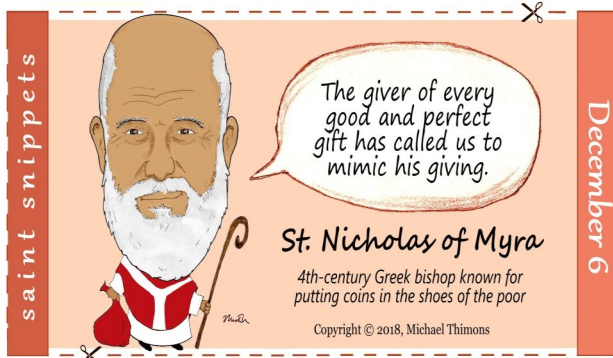


School News

St. Anastasia School Christmas Program

Mark your calendars for the St. A's School Christmas Program on Thursday, December 15, at 1:30 and 6:30pm. **"Archangel Gabriel's Awesome Adventure"**.

Please join our school children in the Christmas program. Everyone is welcome to attend either performance. The programs begin with some student talent performances.



*It's ADVENT – Please COME
QUIET YOUR HEART AND MIND*

Please come to Praise God, give Thanks to Him, Ask for Forgiveness or seek an answer by: Praying the Rosary / Reading passages from Scripture / Reading the life of a saint & praying with him/herOR just sit quietly and just “be” in the presence of Jesus !

“Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest gift after the Sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us.”...St. Alphonsus Liguori

ADORATION OPEN TIMES AVAILABLE:

Wednesday: 1:00 A.M. / 2:00 AM/ 4:00 PM

Thursday: 1:00 AM

ADORATION: Monday 6:00 AM to Friday Noon



Please Keep In Your Prayers

*Nicole Glesener Barb Olson Jenny Trettin
Clinton Gruett Roger Steintl Terry Bisbee
Delores & Martin Muetzel Cristy Wallstrom
Roseanne Genz Bruce Bjerkelund Tom Donohoo
Jen Schnichels Bev Wangerin Janelle Woller
Bonita Quast Brenda Popp Donna Conrad
Special Intention Robyn Chrast Lois Pollei Irene Beeler
DJ Kirking Cathy Plath Gerald Plath Margaret Seekon
Janet Hall Bob Schmit LeRoy Reinert*



For peace in our world For those who serve our country
Names will be listed for one month. If you would like to continue your prayer request after that time please contact the office and ask for reinstating.



The Capital Campaign is for the remodeling of the church. Please write out a separate check than your weekly offering check as they go into 2 separate accounts, but still write the check out to St. Anastasia not to Capital Campaign. Thanks for your assistance in this process.

Stewardship

St. Anastasia

November 27 Contributions \$9,624.00

Capital Campaign

Pledges Received \$1,509,332.
Contributions Received \$1,315,735.49
CC Fund Balance \$ 258,030.82

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. 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.

St. Boniface

November 20 Contributions \$537.00
November 27 Contributions \$1,447.00

Year End Giving

We ask that you have any contributions you want credited to 2021 be at the parish office no later than December 31, 2021. 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!

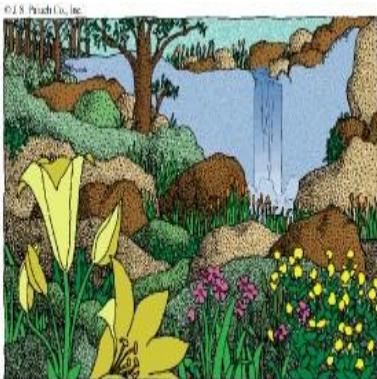
**Are you new to St. Anastasia? Want more information?
Please provide some contact information for us
to reach out to you!**

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____



The Kingdom of Heaven Is at Hand.

I would like more information on:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Classes | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> St. Anastasia School | <input type="checkbox"/> Eucharistic Adoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confession | <input type="checkbox"/> Masses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like a call or visit from Father Paul | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> I'm Updating My Information |

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.

Area Bulletin Deadline

Tuesdays, 11am, 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.

*The Area Faith Office is open Mon-Fri, 7:30am-4:30pm
320-587-6507.*

Area Faith Community Leadership

STA Administrative Council Chair: Jim Fahey	<i>usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month</i> Dec. 20, 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: Berit Spors	<i>usually meets on the 1st Tuesday each month</i> Dec 6, 6:30pm	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	hospitality area
STB Council of Catholic Women	TBA, 6pm	St Boniface	basement
Knights of Columbus Grand Knight: Paul Mraz	Dec 7, 7:30pm	St Anastasia	cafeteria
Knights of Columbus Squires	Dec 7, 5:30pm	St Anastasia	cafeteria

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
Bobbi Ludewig, Secretary		bludewig@stanastasia.net
Jon Skoog, Facilities Manager	320-552-1264	
St. Boniface Staff		
LaMae Maiers, Administration		
Merri Schaufler, Contributions/Admin.	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		
RE Dir, St Anastasia	320-587-6507	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@mediacommb.net
St. Boniface Cemetery		
Terry Maiers, Co-Manager	1 mile south of Stewart on City Rd 7 320-894-8758	
Adam Tanata, Co-Manager	320-583-4345	

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) 233-5313.