

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“May he not come suddenly
and find you sleeping.”
- Mk 13:36

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPi

Advent is a time for big, bold hope - the kind showcased in today's first reading. The Hebrews return from exile to a city in ruins. Conquerors destroyed their temple. Current residents shooed them away. They compare themselves to “polluted rags” and withering leaves. Such hardships left the returned exiles at their wits' ends - and they let God know it. The people recognize God's anger and disappointment. But they never lose hope in the promise of God's redemption. With audacity, the people demand of God: “Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you.” They long to see God's awesome deeds. In the face of such destruction, the people never stop hoping that God will make something new. We too are called to keep big, bold hope alive. Like our ancestors in faith, God calls us to trust in God's saving power even - especially - in our lowest moments.

Like a potter, God continually shapes and molds God's people. Like a potter, God is ready to get messy for the sake of our formation. God carefully crafts God's people in the divine image. How might we recognize our callings to be vessels of the divine more fully this Advent season?

Jesus offers the summons to “Be watchful! Be alert!” in the thirteenth chapter of Mark's Gospel, in the days before he is crucified. Birth, life, death, resurrection - these are parts of one narrative. As we prepare for Christmas these next few weeks, let us always be mindful of great transformations still to come. *Living Liturgy, p. 3*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

“What could happen next?” How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don't seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, “God with us.” He is the expected in all things unexpected. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Readings for the Week

Mon: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tue: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wed: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thu: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Fri: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sun: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8



St. Anastasia Catholic Church
 460 Lake St SW Hutchinson, MN 55350
 Office Hours: M-Fr 7:30am-4:00pm
 Phone: 320-587-6507
 Emergencies: 507-829-0965
 E-mail: stanastasia@stanastasia.net

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 4 5pm, Mass	St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor St. Anastasia	+ Tom Callier
TUESDAY, December 5 7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Fr. Mike Byron
WEDNESDAY, December 6 5pm, Mass	St. Nicolas, Bishop St. Anastasia	+ Clarence Juncewski
THURSDAY, December 7 7am, Mass	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor St. Anastasia	++ Leo & Betty Cogley
THURSDAY, Dec 7	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Mark Madson
7pm, Mass	St. Anastasia B?	Phyllis & Allan Maiers
FRIDAY, Dec 8	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	William Hicks
9am, School Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Bob & Carol Cogley
5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Anna Jakob
SATURDAY, December 9	St. Juan Diego, Cuauhtlatatzin	
9am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Tom Whalen
3pm, Confessions	St. Anastasia	Day Chapel
4:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	++Bernard Funk, Donald Hartwig
SUNDAY, December 10	Second Sunday of Advent	
7:30am, Mass	St. Anastasia	l & d Herman Griep Family
9:00am, Mass	St. Boniface	+Ruth Wangen
10:30am, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Mark & James Madson
7:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	For our Area Faith Community

Calendar of Events

MONDAY, December 4 5:30pm, GriefShare	St. Anastasia	Youth Room
TUESDAY, December 5 6:30pm, Education Advisory	St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area
Wednesday, December 6 5:30pm, KC Squires	St. Anastasia	Cafeteria
6:30pm, Religious Education	St. Anastasia	School & Church
7:30pm, Youth Groups	St. Anastasia	Youth Room
8pm, Knights of Columbus	St. Anastasia	Cafeteria
THURSDAY, December 7		
FRIDAY, December 8 6am, TMIY	St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area
9am, Mass	St. Anastasia	Church
SATURDAY, December 9 4:30pm, Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe	- St. Anastasia	
SUNDAY, December 10 8:45am, The Eucharist	St. Anastasia	Youth Room
6pm, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)		



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. We will be collecting gifts from the cards found on the table for residents of Harmony River this year. Please take a card on the table in the gathering area. After selecting a Gift for a Senior, please wrap the gift. Tape the greeting card to the gift and place the gift on the table in the gathering space and we will get them over to Harmony River. Please help us make the lives of those in Harmony River a little happier at Christmas. Please have the gifts here at the church by December 17 .

Greg St. Hilaire~ Founding Director of CHAP Ministries 928-792-3100



Wednesday, December 6, 2023,
the Red Cross is hosting a Blood

Drive at the Stewart Community Center, 551 Prior St, Stewart, MN from 1:00 to 6:00 PM. Please make appointments online at redcrossblood.org or you can call or text Eileen @ 320-583-8378.

Flower Memorials



If you would like to enhance the environment of St Boniface or St Anastasia by donating money for flowers 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. We would need the names for the bulletin by December 11th due to early bulletin deadlines.

Retirement Fund for Religious- You can help. "Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious next week. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.



Common Cup will be collecting Ramen Noodles for the Backpack program.

Diocesan Ministries Appeal 2023 (DMA): Thank you to all who have given to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Your contributions to the DMA reach individuals and families across the diocese, providing family and crisis counseling, emergency assistance, religious and spiritual formation, and supporting our seminarians. If you have not had the opportunity to make your pledge or gift yet, envelopes are available in the back of church. 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, those ministries designated in the DMA brochure– ministries that are vital to our diocesan church– as well as our own project– **additional funds for the cemetery.**



Christmas Market coming up Dec. 16th 9 am to noon. This is St. Anastasia's 10th Annual Fundraiser. We will need baked goods. Anyone want to have a vendor booth? KC's are doing their wonderful breakfast, there will be a Quilt raffle, an "Odds & Ends" table and Santa is coming too. All proceeds go to the "LEAST" project in Guatemala. Questions - contact Lori Dahlberg 583-3422 or dahlberg@hutchtel.net

St. Anastasia CCW have delivered poinsettias to the 31 Catholics at Harmony River. Thank you for making their lives brighter.

BASICS (Brothers And Sisters In Christ Singers)- want to invite you to join them for an afternoon of Christmas music, fellowship and a lite lunch following the concert on December 3 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stewart, MN. The concert begins at 3pm. The free-will donation lunch will be served until 6pm. Proceeds from the concert and lunch will be used to further the BASICS music ministry.



Religious Education/Youth/Adult Formation

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. For more information about giving gifts of cash, please contact the parish office.

Gifts of Cash. The most popular way to give to charity is still by cash or check. Gifts completed by December 31st will qualify for tax deductibility for the current tax year. Gifts of cash qualify for up to one-half of your adjusted gross income (AGI). You must receive an acknowledgement for gifts of \$250 or more.

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.

Securities and Appreciated Assets. Gifts of stock, bonds, mutual funds, and certain other property that have increased in value can result in even greater tax savings than gifts of cash. If you have owned such investments for longer than one year you can generally donate them to your parish and deduct their full current value, even if it far exceeds your original cost. Congress has provided that in addition to regular tax savings, you also do not have to pay capital gains tax when these assets are given to a qualifying charity. You can also give assets to your parish that have decreased in value. You may receive a tax deduction of the incurred loss. The total amount of your loss and the charitable deduction may actually be more than the current value of the donated asset.

Donor Advised Fund. Did you have an event that resulted in higher taxable income this year? Maybe it was the sale of a business, company stock, or other appreciated asset. Or maybe your income is just higher this year. A donor advised fund can allow you to receive a charitable deduction for your giving this year, while providing you the flexibility to use it for charitable giving over time.

Gifts from Retirement Plans. Retirement plan assets can be a practical source from which to make charitable gifts to your parish. If you are over 70 1/2 and are required to take withdrawals from a Traditional IRA, you may want to consider making a charitable gift using all or a portion of your mandatory withdrawal amount. This way of giving may result in little or no tax impact when you report the amount withdrawn along with an offsetting charitable deduction. A Charitable Remainder Trust is designed for individuals with highly appreciated assets like farm land or stock.

Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRTs) offer donors extra tax advantages while allowing the donor to set the life income rate they would like to receive (generally 5% to 7%). As a donor, you can designate your parish to benefit from your gift after your lifetime. There are many variations of these trusts, and we work with Catholic charitable foundations that can walk you through various alternatives. These foundations also offer the expertise of attorneys who work with every day to insure competent investment advice. A Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) provides an immediate tax deduction while providing a predictable stream of income during your life or other period of time you choose. You can name your parish to be the beneficiary of your CGA after your lifetime.

Life Insurance. If you own life insurance policies that you no longer need, the cash value of these policies may be another source from which to make gifts to your parish, and they may result in significant state and/or federal estate tax savings. You can also name your parish as beneficiary of your life insurance or annuity.

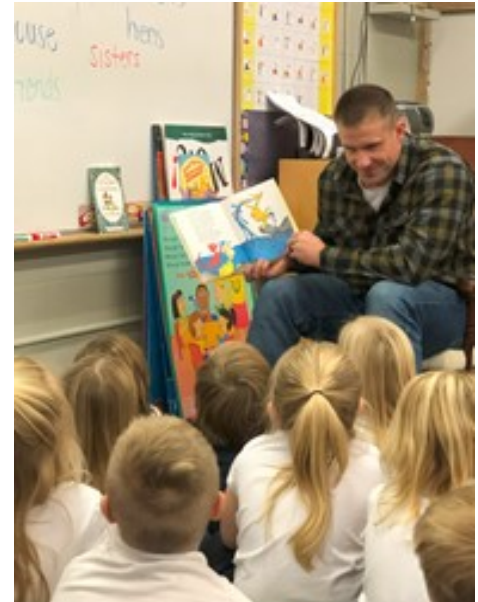
As announced last weekend, the first weekend in 2024, January 6 & 7, we will have a new mass schedule: St. Anastasia will have Mass Saturday afternoon at 4:30 pm, Sunday morning at 9 am, and Sunday evening at 7:30 pm. St. Boniface will need to determine when it will have Mass: 6:30 pm or after on Saturday evening, or 7 am or 11 am on Sunday morning.

Ministers (Lectors, ushers, servers, Eucharistic Minister), what Mass will you prefer as we make these changes: 4:30pm (Saturday) or 9am or 7:30pm (Sunday).

School News

Trimester 2 started on November 27. Students have settled into their routines quite well. They continue to dive into their learning and enjoy their work.

The month of December goes by quickly with many activities scheduled. Our Christmas program is December 14th and the holiday season will be in full swing. Please remember to have quiet prayer time and give thanks to our God. He is so good.



PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel.

WATCH
READY
TIME

COME
MASTER
EVENING

MIDNIGHT
DAWN
MORNING

U W A T H O W Y S W U
M O R N I N G T I E L
A T Y U T K U A G V P
S U N H A Y C O M E Y
T I M E W I H P A N D
E C B W U E W I E I A
R E A D Y L A N O N L
Y H O A E I T E H G E
S A R W L S C P Y H W
M I D N I G H T W O R
A T E K U A O U S F I



MISSION

Play a quick game of baseball. Cheer for one another. End the game with a prayer that you will keep your eyes on Jesus.



Adoration Moments

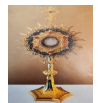
Please Come~ Quiet your Heart and Mind.

Whether you are praising God, giving thanks, asking for forgiveness or seeking an answer, try meditating– using Passages from Scripture...Pray the Rosary... Read the life of a saint & pray with him or her...Many, many choices!!! Or just sit quietly and just “be” in the presence of Jesus!

FRONT ROW CENTER SEATS STILL AVAILABLE

PLEASE HELP FILL THESE OPEN TIMES IN THE CHAPEL FOR ADORATION:

MONDAY: 7:00 A.M sub- Jan, Feb-March/
NOON
WEDNESDAY: 9:00AM/ 4:00 P.M. /9:00P.M.
THURSDAY: 1:00 A.M. /11:00 P.M.
FRIDAY: Midnight



PARISH OFFICE 320-587-6507

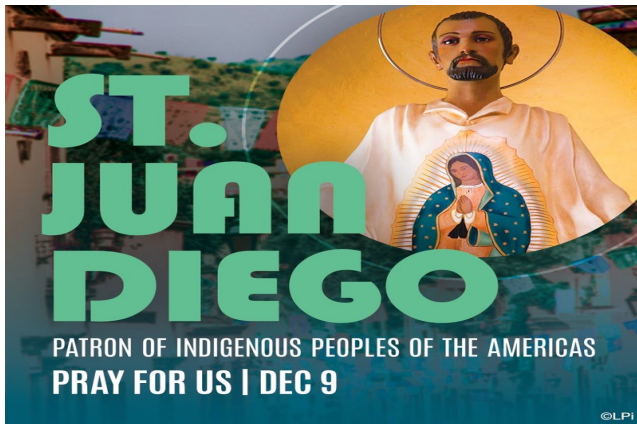
ADORATION HOTLINE 320-484-7126

Please Keep In Your Prayers

*Nicole Glesener Jenny Trettin Bonita Quast
 Brenda Popp Robyn Chrast Lois Pollei
 Donna Conrad Marilyn Stevens Phyllis van der Hagen
 Nellie Czech Gladys Homan Cathy Plath
 Tom Donohoo For peace in our world
 For those who serve our country*



Names will be listed for one month unless we are told otherwise. If you would like to continue your prayer request after that time please contact the office and ask for reinstating.



Stewardship

St. Anastasia

November 19 Contributions \$ 12,915.00
 November 26 Contributions \$ 12,433.00

Current Capital Campaign

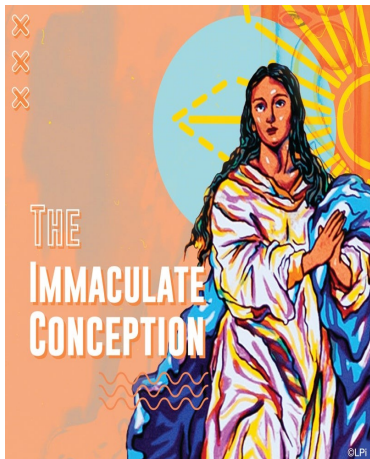
Pledges \$ 1,044,560.00
 Pledge Amount received \$ 301,374.38
 Unpledged amount received \$ 64,919.00
 Actual Money \$ 366,293.38
 Pledges Need \$ 1,955,440.00
 Actuals Need \$ 2,663,706.62

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 19 Contributions \$ 318.00
 November 26 Contributions \$2,615.00



**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: _____



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-4:00pm 320-587-6507.

Area Faith Community Leadership

STA Administrative Council Chair: Jim Fahey	<i>usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month</i> November 21, 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> December 5, 6:30pm St Anastasia	hospitality area
Home & School Association Co-Chairs: Nicole Tanata Denise Schwecke	<i>usually meets on the 2nd Tuesday each month</i> November 14, 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 <i>usually meets on the 2nd Thursday each month</i>
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	December 6, 7:30pm St Anastasia	cafeteria
Knights of Columbus Squires	December 6, 5:30pm St Anastasia	hospitality area

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	jon.skoog@stanastasia.net
St. Boniface Staff		
LaMae Maiers, Administration	320-583-1302	
Merri Schaufler, Contributions/Admin.	320-562-2245	
St. Anastasia Worship & Music		
Kirk Hendrickson	320-587-6507	music@stanastasia.net
St. Anastasia School		
Betty Kloss, 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		
Elli Burmis, RE Dir, St Anastasia	320-587-6507	faithformation@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		
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.