

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“I baptize with water;
but there is one among you
whom you do not recognize,
the one who is coming after
me, whose sandal strap I
am not worthy to untie.”
- Jn 1:26-27

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

The prophet Isaiah announces a year of the Lord’s favor in today’s first reading and it could not have come at a better time for the Israelites. Still reeling from their experience of exile the Israelites longed for signs of the steadfast love promised by God. Isaiah declares that God’s vindication will shine forth in a time of jubilee. The poor will receive glad tidings. The brokenhearted will be healed. Liberty will go to the captives and release to the prisoners. God’s generosity blooms in the face of sorrow. God’s justice grows before all nations. Such is cause for great rejoicing, for the Israelites then and for us now.

Imagine a jubilee happening today. We need not wait passively for a jubilee to happen. The prophet Isaiah paves a way for dreaming of a year of favor from the Lord. We too can imagine the freedom of jubilee time and work to make it happen. In ways big and small, we can be people of jubilee. We can tend to the needs of people who are vulnerable and hurting. Through our words and actions, we can bring about rejoicing in the name of God.

Much of the northern hemisphere is in a time of extended darkness due to movements of the sun. Communities all over are also facing the darkness of injustice and sin. John comes to testify to the light. We too are called to reflect the light of Christ to the world. Where will you shine in these days leading p to Christmas. *Living Liturgy, p. 15*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.” This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Readings for the Week

Mon: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tue: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wed: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

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

Fri: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Sat: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Sun: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



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 18		
5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	++Dale Douglas, Norbert Messer
TUESDAY, December 19		
7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	++Ann Lewandowski, David Troska
WEDNESDAY, December 20		
5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Tom Callier
THURSDAY, December 21		
9am, Mass	<i>St. Peter Canisius, priest and doctor of Church</i> St. Anastasia	+ Clarence Juncewski
FRIDAY, December 22		
7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	Diane Kostecka
SATURDAY, December 23		
9am, Mass	<i>St. John of Kanty, priest</i> St. Anastasia	+Paul Folsom
3pm, Confessions	St. Anastasia	Day Chapel
4:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Wayne & Barb Scott
SUNDAY, December 24		
7:30am, Mass	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> St. Anastasia +++ Nies Brothers (Joe, Royce, Sheldon)	
9:00am, Mass	St. Boniface	+ Anna Burge
10:30am, Mass	St. Anastasia	For our Area Faith Community
SUNDAY, December 24		
4pm, Mass	<i>Christmas Eve</i> St. Anastasia 1 & d John Griep family	
7pm, Mass	St. Boniface	+ Richard Navara
10pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Leonard & Dolores Lewandowski
MONDAY, December 25		
7:30am, Mass	<i>Christmas Day</i> St. Anastasia Diane Kostecka	
10:30am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Ann Lewandowski

Calendar of Events

MONDAY, December 18		
6:30pm, Pre-School Program	St. Anastasia	Church
TUESDAY, December 19		
7pm, Administrative Council	St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area
Wednesday, December 20		
6:30pm, Religious Education	St. Anastasia	School & Church
7:30pm, Youth Groups	St. Anastasia	Youth Room
THURSDAY, December 21		
FRIDAY-MONDAY, December 22-January 1 NO SCHOOL: Christmas Break		
MONDAY, December 25		
Parish Office Closed	St. Anastasia	



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

Community News

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve (Sunday,
December 24)
4pm - St. Anastasia
7pm - St. Boniface
10pm - St. Anastasia



Christmas Day (Monday, December 25)
7:30 am - St. Anastasia
10:30 am - St. Anastasia

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and
Joseph (Weekend of December 30/31)
Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Sunday, December 31: 4:30pm - St. Anastasia
Monday, January 1: 8am - St. Boniface
10am - St. Anastasia

**Scrip~ Joann Fabrics & Qdoba gift cards are
not available at the present time.**



March for Life

The area Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a
bus to the March for Life rally in St. Paul on
Monday, January 22nd.

The bus will depart:

- 7:53 St. Philip's Church - Litchfield
- 8:15 St. St. John's Church - Darwin
- 8:38 St. John's Education Center - Cokato

The bus will arrive at the Cathedral in time for the
prayer service, then to the Capitol for the
rally. Return time will be approximately 3:30.
Please bring your own food and drinks.

To reserve a seat on the bus, call or text Tony
Lorber at 320-248-6863.



Thank you to all who donated to the food shelf. We
took in 44 pounds of food on December 5.



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 indi-
viduals 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 minis-
tries designated in the DMA brochure– ministries
that are vital to our diocesan church– as well as our
own project– **additional funds for the cemetery.**

Retirement Fund for Religious

Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sis-
ter shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't
think we would make it without them." Thank you
for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last
week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives
of elderly women and men religious. To learn more
about how your gift helps, visit **retiredreli-
gious.org**.



**Calling all Liturgical Ministers to a:
Eucharistic Retreat: A Biblical walk through the
mass.**

There are 3 opportunities:

January 13th at St. Mary, Sleepy Eye

March 16th at Holy Family, Silver Lake

April 13th at St. Joseph, Montevideo

The days each start at 8am– 4:30pm

For more information contact the Office of Worship
at worship@dnu.org or by calling 507-233-5320.

Religious Education/Youth/Adult Formation

Adult Gatherings with Hospitality and Formation.

Our parish is ever changing and welcoming new members and saying good-bye to friends. We would like to address some of these changes with gatherings. We are not exactly sure what these gatherings will look like as they develop but it is an opportunity for us to become more aware of the changing dynamic of our parish. To this end, we are proposing a number of gatherings: “Young Adult: Single and Married,” “New Parishioners,” and expanding our “GriefShare” group, which meets weekly for thirteen week to include a “GriefShare” social to include all who have lost a loved one recently to many years.

Young Adult: Single and Married. Pizza and Beverage. Ages: 18 to 35. Youth Room of the Church. 2nd Thursday of the Month at 6pm, starting January 11. Social activities, formational understandings of the church, support to live a Christian life, and prayer.

New Parishioner. Potluck, bring a dish to pass or serve, desserts are always welcomed! All ages and families, new and old parishioners. Hospitality Area. 3rd Thursdays of the Month at 6pm, starting January 18. Informal gathering of new and old parishioners, with introductions so we can get to know each other and support the new members in our community. Social activities, formational understandings of the church, support to live a Christian life, and prayer.

GriefShare Social. Potluck, bring a dish to pass or serve, desserts are always welcomed! All ages, anyone who has lost a loved one (spouse, child, parent, or friend). Hospitality Area. 4th Thursday of the Month at 6pm, starting January 25. Social gatherings and support for one another.

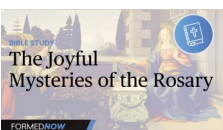
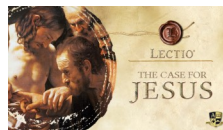
Our hope is to form some kind of leadership in each group that will help steer the activities and support the group. Please consider joining a group and taking the opportunity to help and support our faith community grow.

ALPHA coming in January –
Wednesday, January 3 at 6:30pm.



Lectio: Mary with Dr. Brant Pitre – Tuesdays at 5pm, starting January 9.

Lectio: The Case for Jesus with Dr. Brant Pitre – Thursdays at 5pm, starting January 11.



A Bible Study on the Mysteries of the Rosary. Mondays at 4 & 7pm, starting January 8.

GriefShare, those who have lost a Loved One Support Group. Mondays at 1pm, starting January 8.



The Chosen, Mondays 6pm, starting January 8.

That Man Is You - TMIY, Fridays 6am, starting January 12



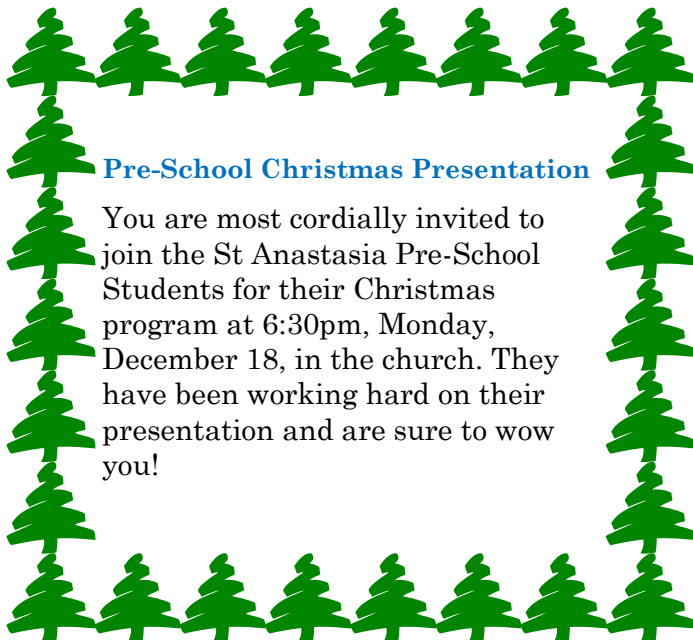
Capital Campaign Update

Thanks to those parishioners who have offered their financial support for our capital campaign. We have now received enough commitments and payments to complete our Priority One project – the school and church kitchen remodeling. We are now well on our way toward the Priority Two project – the school and church office remodeling. As we approach the year end on December 31, please consider offering your financial support to help us move closer to raising enough commitments to begin planning for the second priority. Every commitment, no matter the size, will move us closer to achieving that objective. Thank you!



Saint Partner Families

One of the ways we build community within our school is by having Saint Partner Families. We divide all the students up between grades into mixed groups. We plan activities to get together and learn and grow with each other. It is wonderful to see the leadership among the students. Relationships and friendships are created that last for years. Students from years past remember their Saint partners and the fun they had. It is a “take-away” that is unique to St. Anastasia School. This activity is a Christmas ornament that they hung on our lobby Christmas trees.



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 18, in the church. They have been working hard on their presentation and are sure to wow you!

*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 !

For Christmas and New Years Adoration we will be closing on Friday, December 22 at Noon. We will remain closed between Christmas and New Years. We will re-open again on Tuesday, January 2nd after the 7am Mass. Thank you for your commitment to Adoration.

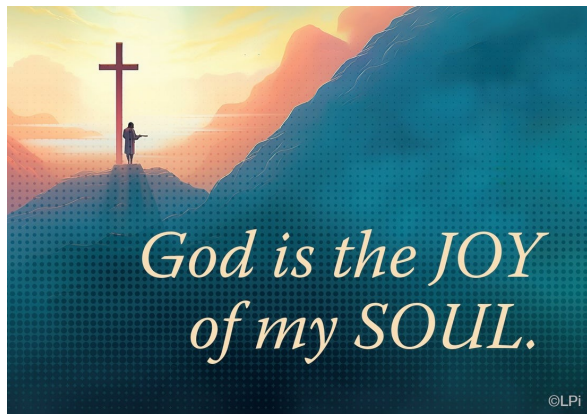
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! The Adoration Committee

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 Deb Kalenberg Virgil Voigt Deb Mundt
 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

December 3 Contributions \$ 17, 657.00

Current Capital Campaign

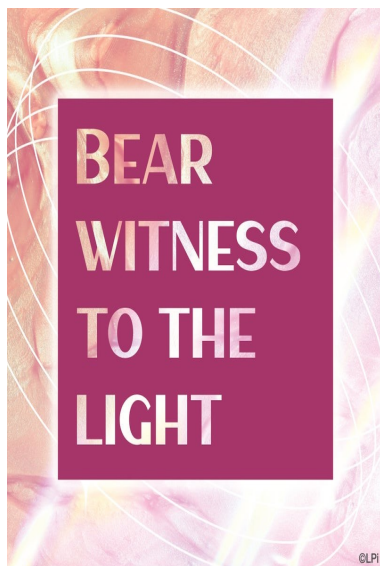
Pledges	\$ 1,083,240.00
Pledge Amount received	\$ 320,462.43
Unpledged amount received	\$ 72,554.00
Actual Money	\$ 393,016.43
Pledges Need	\$ 1,916,760.00
Actuals Need	\$ 2,606,983.57

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

December 3 Contributions \$ 1,595.00



**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

usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month
January 16, 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

usually meets on the 1st Tuesday each month
January 2, 6:30pm St Anastasia hospitality area

Home & School Association

Co-Chairs: Nicole Tanata
Denise Schewecke

usually meets on the 2nd Tuesday each month
January 9, 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
usually meets on the 2nd Thursday each month

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

January 3, 7:30pm St Anastasia cafeteria

Knights of Columbus Squires

January 3, 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

Cindy Meier, Administrative Assistant
Bobbi Ludewig, Secretary
Jon Skoog, Facilities Manager

320-587-6507

Admin@stanastasia.net
bludewig@stanastasia.net
jon.skoog@stanastasia.net

St. Boniface Staff

LaMae Maiers, Administration
Merri Schaufler, Contributions/Admin.

320-583-1302
320-562-2245

St. Anastasia Worship & Music

Kirk Hendrickson

320-587-6507

music@stanastasia.net

St. Anastasia School

Betty Kloss, Principal
Marilyn Schreiner, Secretary

320-587-2490
320-587-2490

principal@stanastasia.net
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
Karen Maiers, RE Dir, St Boniface
Jake Burmis, YM Director

320-587-6507
320-833-6020
320-587-6507

faithformation@stanastasia.net
karenmaiers1@gmail.com
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
Adam Tanata, Co-Manager

1 mile south of Stewart on City Rd 7
320-894-8758
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.