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WHERE IS THE NEWBORN KING OF THE JEWS?

”

- THREE WISE MEN



©LPi

Life, death, resurrection: these crucial movements of the paschal mystery are evident throughout Christ's life. Just days after his birth, Jesus is already causing trouble for King Herod. The magi arrive in Jerusalem and ask, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?" These holy people recognize the sacredness of the life that just came into the world. Herod, on the other hand, senses a threat to his power, a threat that eventually leads him to plot the death of Jesus. Still, we know what comes next. Jesus' suffering brings about salvation. His death ushers in new life. The magi were right to pay homage to the babe wrapped in swaddling cloths. Jesus' glory will shine forever.

A star leads the magi to Jesus in today's Epiphany story. Throughout Scripture, God reveals the way to the divine through the natural world. For instance, God promises Abraham that his descendants will be "as numerous as the stars in the sky" (Gen 26:4). The father of many nations learns to trust God by gazing up at the night sky. Next week's gospel tells of Jesus emerging from water to God's Spirit descending upon him in baptism. How is God revealing Godself to you through the natural world?

The magi must make a major decision in today's gospel: obey the powers of the established king, Herod, or risk following the newborn king, Jesus. Knowing the consequences that await, the magi still choose Jesus. They choose the new over the old, the helpless over the powerful. Jesus ushers in a new kingdom. *Living Liturgy, p. 31*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS: Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Readings for the Week

Mon: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Tue: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

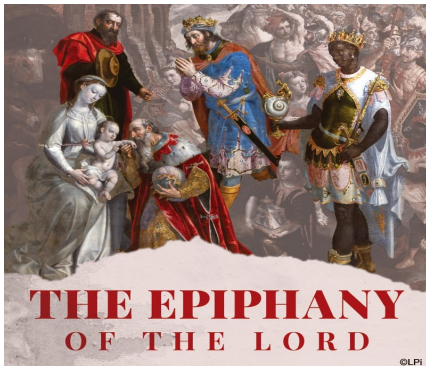
Wed: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thu: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Fri: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Sat: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Sun: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42



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, January 8 5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i> + Bob & Carol Cogley
TUESDAY, January 9 7am, Mass 10am, Mass	St. Anastasia Harmony River	+ Pat Norton Souls in Purgatory
WEDNESDAY, January 10 5pm, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Ron Jonas
THURSDAY, January 11 9am, Mass	St. Anastasia	+ Clayton Pytlesky
FRIDAY, January 12 7am, Mass	St. Anastasia	++ Leo & Betty Cogley
SATURDAY, January 13 9am, Mass 3pm, Confessions 4:30pm, Mass 6pm, Confessions/Rosary 6:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Boniface St. Boniface	<i>Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> ++ John & Kitty Ortmeier Day Chapel + Donald Hartwig Church + Brent Markgraf
SUNDAY, January 14 8am, Confessions/8:30 Rosary 9am, Mass 7:30pm, Mass	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Church ++ Mark & James Madson For Our Area Faith Community

Calendar of Events

MONDAY, January 8 1pm, GriefShare 4pm, A Bible Study on the Joyful Mysteries: The Annunciation 6pm, The Chosen 7pm, A Bible Study on the Joyful Mysteries: The Annunciation	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	Youth Room Youth Room Youth Room Youth Room
TUESDAY, January 9 4:30pm, Gala Committee 5pm, Lectio Bible Study: Mary - The New Eve 6:30pm, Home & School	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	Parish Office Conference Rm Youth Room Library
Wednesday, January 10 6:30pm, ALPHA 6:30pm, Religious Education 7:45pm, Youth Groups	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area School & Church Youth Room
THURSDAY, January 11 12n, Finance Council 5pm, Lectio Bible Study: The Case for Jesus 6pm, Young Adult Gathering	St. Anastasia St. Anastasia St. Anastasia	Parish Office Conference Rm Youth Room Youth Room
FRIDAY January 12 6am, TMIY	St. Anastasia	Hospitality Area
SATURDAY, January 13		
SUNDAY, January 14 6pm, RCIA	St. Anastasia	Youth Room

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

Community News

NEW WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

(began the weekend of January 6/7)

Saturday: 4:30pm - St. Anastasia, 6:30pm - St. Boniface

Sunday: 9am & 7:30pm - St. Anastasia

Ecumenical Prayer Service for Christian Unity—will be held on Sunday, January 21st, 2024 at 3:00pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm. Individuals, and Congregations, representing several different Christian denominations in southwest and west-central Minnesota, will gather together for an Ecumenical Celebration of the Word of God. The Service is held as part of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, There will be a reception to follow.

Diocese of New Ulm National Eucharistic Preacher— The Eucharist: Leading us to the Sacred Heart with Fr. Joe Laramie. There will be a talk, Adoration with prayer teams & confession and a reception. There will be three opportunities :

Friday, February 23, 2024 from 6:30pm-8:30pm at St. Peter, St. Peter, MN

Saturday, February 24, 2024 from 10am-Noon at St. Anastasia, Hutchinson, MN

Sunday, February 25, 2024 from 2pm, 4pm at St. Edward, Minneota.

Christmas Market

The 10th Annual Market for the poor, elderly in San Lucas, Guatemala was a success again. Many thanks to Diane Baumann, quilter extraordinaire, who donated 3 handmade beautiful quilts! Also to the awesome KC's who put on a delicious breakfast and to all the women of our parish who baked delicious goodies. Most of all , thanks to Lori Dahlberg & Rosie Jonas who organized it all. Here is the breakdown:

Bakesale- \$1257 Donations- \$4215 Quilt Raffle- \$236 KC Breakfast \$706 for a total of \$6414.

Then over \$4000 in donations came in so it was over \$10,000 we raised for the "LEAST". This is half of what Katie needs each year to feed them which is a huge success. Our hearts are full! Katie Wallyn Rodriguez & Cathie Wallyn

Mass Intentions for the weekday Masses:

We are in need of more Mass Intentions for the week day Masses starting in January. Please either stop by the office or put it in the collection. Masses are \$10.



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.**



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.



Baptismal Congratulations to:

Regan Rae Kosters

Daughter of:

Colton & Madeleine

St. Boniface Poinsettias in honor of: Keller & Navara Families, John & Helen Tanata, Hillard Kaufmann, Alfred & Flora Schaufler, Ed Altrichter, Lorraine Altrichter, Isiah Altrichter, Jacquelyn Natha, Art Burge, Anna Burge, Lyle Burge, Herb & Ruth Kalenberg, Dan Kalenberg, Grace & Dennis Kosek, Mary Osterfeld, Paul & Margaret Maiers, Herman & Margaret Schiroo.

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: All young adults in their 20’s and 30’s, single and married, are welcome to join us for pizza and beverages at Main Street Sports Bar from 6pm-8pm on Thursday, January 18. We will continue gathering once a month for fun social events and activities, further spiritual growth as a community, and prayerful support to live a Christian life. Please contact Elli Burmis (faithformation@stanastasia.net) or Jake Burmis (youthmin@stanastasia.net) for more information. We hope to see you there!

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.

ALPHA started 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



On December 20, the St. Anastasia Faith Formation program hosted a Christmas party with root beer floats and ugly sweaters. Over 50 students and family members attended! This same evening, the middle school students completed the last tie blankets of our Advent blanket drive. A special thank you to all of the Faith Formation students and families who donated to the food shelf and contributed to our tie-blankets as part of this year’s Christmas service projects.

This Christmas season, high school youth group students as well as college alumni also joined in celebrating together for two exciting Christmas parties on December 21 (youth group) and December 22 (alumni). It was so wonderful to have everyone together!

Students are back to school after the Christmas break and energized for the New Year. As we return, our focus turns to NWEA testing for K-2nd grade and registration planning for the 2024-2025 school year (yes, I know – already?!). We continue to search for teachers. Please send referrals to Mrs. Kloss, Principal. Blessings for a bountiful new year!

Facility Improvements Impact Church and School Ministries

When making decisions we often hear “which comes first, the chicken or the egg?” In a healthy and sustaining Catholic Community, comprised of both worship activity and education programs, all decisions start with the mission of the community.

Next comes the programs and services (the ministries) that support the children, youth, adults and seniors who choose to join in the many activities. The final step is to provide secure, comfortable and functional facilities that support the ministries driven by the parish mission.

As we begin the new year, many programs and services will continue to serve our church and school community as they always have. In addition, there are several new programs that will be launched based on the needs parishioners have expressed. This is why our Facilities Master Plan Phase Two Capital Campaign is so important as we strategically work to complete improvements and expansion to support, as we said, the ministries driven by our mission statement.

As we move closer to reaching the financial commitments needed for our second priority project, namely remodeling/combining the school and church office, we continue to invite your financial support through a pledge or one-time contribution. Every commitment and contribution will bring us one step closer to providing the facilities to support our mission and ministries. Thank you for your generosity!



The **2024 Catholic Schools Raffle** sponsored by **Catholic United**

Financial will begin next weekend. This is a wonderful opportunity for St. Anastasia School because **100% of the proceeds go directly back to our school**, our goal this year is **\$17,000**. There are over \$45,000 in prizes with the grand prize being a 2024 CHEVY TRAX or \$20,000 cash. Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased at each weekend Mass starting next weekend and from all St. Anastasia School and Kids' Depot Preschool students. Thank you for supporting our school.



Thank you to all who donated food to the food shelf they took in 122 pounds of food and \$200 cash.

Adoration Moments

ADORATION MOMENT “To pray is not to escape from history and the problems that it presents. On the contrary, it is to choose to face reality, not on our own, but with the strength that comes from on high, the strength of truth and love, which have their ultimate source in God. Prayer not only helps people to find solutions, it makes even situations of suffering humanly bearable, so that in these situations, people will not become lost or forget their dignity and purpose in life.” . . . Pope John Paul II PLEASE STOP BY THE CHAPEL FOR A VISIT/ TO PRAY . . . JESUS WILL HELP YOU! . . . HE LOVES US.

MONDAY: 7:00 A.M sub– Jan, Feb-March/ NOON/8:00pm sub –Jan, Feb-March
WEDNESDAY: 4:00 P.M.
THURSDAY: 1:00 A.M. /11:00 P.M.
FRIDAY: Midnight



PARISH OFFICE 320-587-6507

ADORATION HOTLINE 320-484-7126

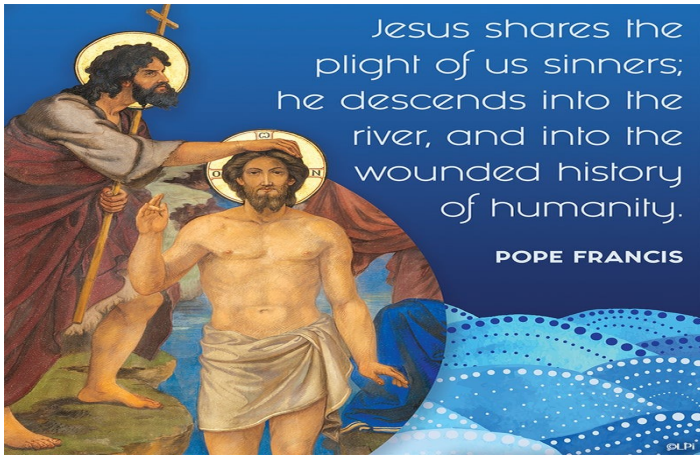
ADORATION HOURS: Mon. 6:00AM to Fri. Noon

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 Deb Mundt Colleen Loe
 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 24 Contributions	\$27,699.00
Christmas Contributions	\$28,646.00
December 31 Contributions	\$13,352.00

Current Capital Campaign

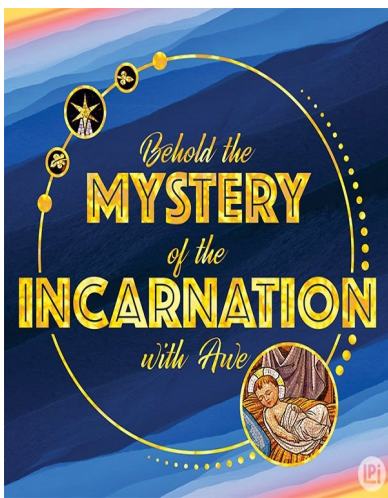
Pledges	\$ 1,325,562.18
Actual Money	\$ 488,063.27
Pledges Need	\$ 1,674,437.82
Actuals Need	\$ 2,511,936.73

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 24 Contributions	\$2,929.00
Christmas Contributions	\$2,106.00
December 31 Contributions	\$2,703.01



**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> 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	<i>usually meets on the 1st Tuesday each month</i> February 6, 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> 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 <i>usually meets on the 2nd Thursday each month</i>	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	February 7, 7:30pm	St Anastasia	cafeteria
Knights of Columbus Squires	February 7, 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.