



Church of the Assumption Church of St. Anthony



December 31, 2017 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



May God's peace be upon you and remain with you throughout the year.

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All Visitors and Guests Welcome to the Assumption and St. Anthony parishes. Thank you for joining us for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. *If you would like to become a member of either parish please call or email the parish offices. ***"May the Lord guard your coming and going both now and forever."*** -Psalm 121

Assumption Church

464 State Street North

PO Box 9

Eden Valley, MN 55329

www.churchoftheassumptionedenvalley.org



Assumption Parish
Eden Valley

Parish Office.....453-2788

assumptionev@meltel.net

Religion Office.....453-5765

assumptionre@meltel.net

Contacts

Pastor

Father Aaron Nett

Secretary

Michelle Brutger

DRE

Becky Haag

RE Assistant

Bonnie Meyer

Mass Times

Wednesdays.....5:45 PM

Fridays.....7:00 AM

Saturday.....5:30 PM

Sunday.....8:00 AM

Reconciliation

Wed: 5:15 PM, Fri: 8:00 AM

Sat: 4:30 PM & Sun 7:30 AM

Church of St. Anthony

201 Central Ave South

PO Box 409

Watkins, MN 55389

www.stanthonywatkins.com



Church of St. Anthony
Watkins

Parish Office.....764-2755

stanthony@meltel.net

Contacts

Pastor

Father Aaron Nett

Secretary/DRE

Jessica Teicher

Mass Times

Tuesdays (at Nursing Home).....9:30 AM

Thursdays.....8:30 AM

Sunday.....10:00 AM

Reconciliation

Thursdays: 8:00 AM

Sundays: 9:45 AM

A Message from Father Aaron Mary and a New Year

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we complete the Christmas Octave (the 8 day celebration) of the Birth of Christ the Lord, the Word made flesh, we celebrate two wonderful feasts in the Catholic Church; the Solemnity of the Holy Family and the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. You may ask, what is the Octave? I'm glad you asked.... In the Old Testament, circumcision was sign of the covenant between God and Abraham, and thus between God and the Jewish people. The oath of this covenant was sealed by the act and sign of circumcision. It was on the eighth day that this important event took place. This tradition was carried over into the New Testament. As Catholics we love Christmas so much we celebrate it not just one day, but all week long!

This Sunday is the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Nazareth, as our focus now turns to the life of the Child Jesus cared for by mother Mary and father Joseph. What a powerful model of obedience to the Father and prayerfulness the Holy Family is for all. The "yes" of Mary and Joseph truly changed the course of history. May all families earnestly seek out their heavenly assistance in all circumstances to be victorious over the many challenges of our day.

Then, on Monday January 1st we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. This liturgical celebration is key to our belief in Christ's Divinity. Christ, as we know, was truly God and truly man. Mary, therefore, must be the Mother of God. Fittingly, we begin a new year with Mother Mary, the humble virgin woman who whose singular cooperation with God's plan changed time forever.

As many of us seek to make New Year's resolutions for 2018 we will hopefully make spiritual resolutions as well. What are the ways that we can grow closer to God this year? What are spiritual practices that could help us to be better Christians and servants of those in need? Here are some suggestions:

1. Pray to a Patron Saint daily
2. Pray more (or at least 10-15 minutes a day)
3. Practice random acts of kindness
4. Pray the rosary (simple yet powerful!!)
5. Attend daily Mass
6. Go to monthly confession
7. Visit the elderly frequently
8. Listen to Catholic radio (1180 AM)
9. Read a good Catholic book

New Year's Blessings to all,
Father Aaron

Twinned Parish News

Solemnity of Mary Masses

There will be Masses at both parishes for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God on Monday, January 1st. Mass will be at 8:00 AM at Assumption and 10:00 AM at St. Anthony's.

Christmas Party at the Rectory

A great "thank you" to Janice Stommes and all who helped to plan, arrange and host the Open House Christmas Party at the rectory. It was wonderful to see friendly faces from St. Anthony's and Assumption parishes come together and spend time and sharing in the Christmas Spirit united in our faith in Christ Child. Also, I thank many for all the special Christmas prayers, cards, food and gifts given. I am humbled by this and certainly appreciate your kindness. May God bless you and your families abundantly in this New Year.

I will be away on my annual spiritual retreat and days away starting this January 2nd and returning on the 11th. I ask for your prayers in a particular way while I am on retreat. Thank you and Happy New Year! Father Aaron

Sacristan Needed

We are in need of sacristans at each parish. The main role of a sacristan is to help set up for Mass. This is a great way to help serve the needs of the parish. Contact the office or talk to Father Aaron if interested.

Cross Catholic Outreach

Father John P. Fischer of Cross Catholic Outreach will be visiting our parish next weekend to speak at all the Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. This ministry was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

Epiphany House Blessing

Next weekend marks the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. There will be blessed chalk and a prayer for the blessing your own homes available at the main entrances of both churches next weekend.



Mass Intentions

Monday, January 1:

8:00 am Mass: People of the Parish

Wednesday, January 2:

No Mass

Friday, January 5:

No Mass

Saturday, January 6:

5:30 pm Mass: People of the Parish

Sunday, January 7:

8:00 am Mass: † Larry & Jason Ruhland

Mondays, Tuesdays &

Thursdays @ 3:00

Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Rosary

Ministry Schedule

-January 6, 5:30 PM

Lectors: Sarah Magedanz

Ushers: To be determined.

Ministers of Communion:

Ellen Stenger, Karen Becker
& Michelle Brutger

Servers: Sidney Kuechle, Sawyer Kuechle,
Porter Kuechle & Nathan Lang

Music: Lisa Thielen

Rosary Leader: Lona Brutger

-January 7, 8:00 AM

Lectors: Sarah Kneip & Steve Ries

Ushers: To be determined.

Ministers of Communion:

Donna Bischof, Jenni Evens
& Kris Gruenes

Homebound: Beth Hesse & Rita Haan

Servers: Ashley & Andy Gruenes,

Ethan Nohner & Ruby Hesse

Music: Guitar Group

Rosary Leader: Nick & Sheri Blonigen

***Weekday Rosary:** Helen Theis

Financial Blessings

Parish Income 12/17/17

Loose Plate 218.66

Adult Env. 2997.00

Youth Env. 8.50

Christmas 250.00

Votive 39.00

Bazaar 425.00

Total \$3938.16

*Please note: the collection totals from the Christmas weekend were not available due to an early bulletin deadline and will be included in next weekend's bulletin.

Bazaar YTD: \$16,988

Monthly Auto Drafts: \$1755

STEWARDSHIP

Count your blessings, acknowledge God's gifts to you and express thanks to Him in praise.

Mass Servers

Are there any students (4th grade or older) that are interested in becoming a Mass server? We will be setting up two new Mass server training meetings in January. If interested, please contact Sheri Blonigen: nsblonigen03@lakedalelink.net or 320-248-4617.

Junior High Youth Rally

The 19th annual rally for 6th-8th graders will be on Sunday, January 7th. Students were invited during class and registration forms were handed out. The registration forms were due Wednesday, December 27th.

Adoration Announcements

-The Adoration Chapel will be closed on New Years day and open on Tuesday at 8 a.m.

-There is still an open hour on Tuesday mornings at 1-2 a.m. Please call Rita Haan at 453-7865 or Rose Becker at 453-7496 if interested.

Lector Schedule Announcement

There was a misprint on the lector schedule, please note that Lona Brutger's phone number is 453-5271.

Solemnity of Mary Ministries

January 1, 8:00 PM

Lectors: Eileen Reiter

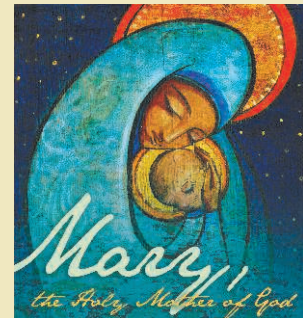
Ushers: Jeff Magedanz, Vern Becker,
Dan Thielen & Ernie Heinen

Ministers of Communion:

Kris Gruenes, Jeanne Schmitz & Volunteer

Servers: Ashley & Andy Gruenes,
Alex & Carmen Haag

Music: Marlene Fischer



January 7: Junior High Youth Rally, 9:00-4:00

Confirmation Retreat Team Meeting 9am

January 11: 5th-8th Grade Bible Study, 3:00-5:00

January 13: First Communion Parent Meeting, 4:30pm

January 14: Rite of Acceptance, 8:00

January 18: Bible Study, grades 5-8

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK



Families face many challenges. All of the demands of work, school, and society can easily put a strain on even the best intentioned of families. Hurt, anger, and bitterness can grow in our families especially when conflicts are not properly resolved or relationships nurtured. Human beings require time, patience, love, and nurturing. We need to take time to celebrate the gift of family and not allow other demands to rob us of the time we need to spend together. Life is short. The Holy Family stands before us today showing us that love, commitment, and perseverance can see us through any difficulty or challenge life can bring. May we learn from their example!

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 1:

10:00 am Mass: † Lisa Heinen

Tuesday, January 2:

No Mass (Communion Service at Hilltop)

Thursday, January 4:

No Mass

Friday, January 5:

9:30 am (Communion Service at Hilltop)

Sunday, January 7:

10:00 am Mass: † Kathleen Mathies

Ministry Schedule

January 7, 10:00 AM

Lectors: Holly Geislinger & Paula Schlangen

Ushers: Ralph Vossen, Maynard Walz,

Mike Erpelding/Brooke Geislinger

Stan Welle/Gavin Klocker

Ministers of Communion:

Precious Body: Kathy Erpelding

Precious Blood: Earl Dockendorf

& Mary Dockendorf

Homebound: Ruth Geislinger, 764-6431

Servers: Devin & Alison Waldorf,

Reyse & Cambel Hesse

Rosary Leader: Betty Donnay

Children's Liturgy: Sharon Simmons &

Jaylah Umana

Financial Blessings

Parish Income

12/17/17

Adult Env. 1556.00

Loose 171.25

Youth 45.00

Christmas 200.00

Imm. Con. 15.00

Weekly Auto 310.00

Votive 4.00

Building Auto 35.00

Building Fund 3100.00

Total \$5436.25

*Please note: the collection totals from the Christmas weekend were not available due to an early bulletin deadline and will be included in next weekend's bulletin.

New Parish Center 12/21/17

Total Project Goal 1,896,954.00

Expenses Paid (\$1,740,802.27)

Remaining Bills (est.) 50,000.00

Loan \$113,000.00

Unpaid Pledges \$78,799.23

Weekly Schedule

Mondays: Mary's Cenacle, 2:00

Mission Quilting, 11:30-3:00

Thursday: Thrift Shop, 9-12

Saturday: Thrift Shop, 9-12

Church Cleaners

December 31 - January 13:

Mark Stommes, Tim Stommes, Dave Strohmeier and Adam Teicher & families.

*Please call Theresia at 764-7251 to unlock.

Remembering Your Loved Ones



The family members of the parishioners that have passed away this past year that were remembered on All Souls Day, are invited into the handicap addition of the church to pick out an angel of their choice and a candle in remembrance of their loved ones after the Christmas Masses. Please keep these dearly departed and their families in your prayers during this holiday season.

Food Shelf Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who gave food shelf items during our November food drive. We had a food drive for the students at faith formation classes as well as for parishioners to donate in church. With everyone's generosity we were able to donate 380 pounds of food to the food shelf. Thank you also to Joe & Doris Rathmann for tirelessly collecting and delivering the food shelf items all these years!

Solemnity of Mary Ministries

January 1, 10:00 AM

Lectors: Tammy Winter & Pam Loch

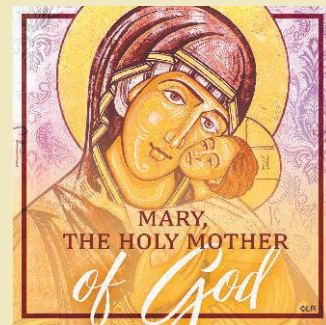
Ushers: Joe Rathmann, Ralph Linn,
Ralph Vossen & Maynard Walz

Ministers of Communion:

Precious Body: Ethel Donnay

Precious Blood: Maynard & Jeanette Walz

Servers: To be determined



January 1: Solemnity of Mary Mass, 10 AM

January 3: Faith Formation Classes, 6:30-7:30

Parish Adoration, 6:30-7:30

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question: What can I do to help our family practice our faith each day?

Answer: Some families practice their religion together as just another event on their schedule: go to church, observe Lent, help at the parish picnic, go to a meeting, volunteer time, make your confession, use your envelope... But the focus needs to be on who we are--God's people, in relationship with him, loved, forgiven, and redeemed, and called to live and proclaim the Gospel. Our awareness of God's presence and our sense of mission are supported by the daily rituals, celebrations, and traditions that help us stay focused. Sharing our faith strengthens us and clarifies the beliefs and values of Christian living.

Daily family practices include time for prayer--before meals, before bed, before important meetings and activities. Attend Sunday Mass together and discuss the homily afterward. Create family celebrations for holy days and holidays. Make religion a regular part of your discussions. Include others, especially the elderly and the less fortunate, in your activities and charitable efforts. By applying the virtues of faith, hope, and love to each day, faith becomes part of who your family is. It influences how you act towards others, what you value, and how mindful of God you are. Faith is the leaven of life that helps all of us rise to our calling and dignity as God's people.

Youth Activities!

High School Girls, Save the Date!

On Saturday, February 24th the high school girls (grades 9-12) are invited to a semi-formal "tea party" at the St. Louis Church in Paynesville. Invitations to the girls of each parish will be sent out in January.

Manannah Speaker

Announcing a TALK ON **WED, JANUARY 10th at 7pm at The Church of Our Lady in Manannah.**

It started out as a speaker for our Faith Formation Wednesday classes and we are extending this evening to other parishes' students and parents. Titled "The TRUTH of LIFE", it is for everyone, but is geared to students & parents of grades 7-12. The speaker is Tracie Rademacher, a beautiful young mother of 4. Tracie is a gifted speaker, who speaks from her own difficult life experiences. Please consider joining us & pass the word. You can find her story on her website titled www.Juliastruth.com -Judy Haag (7th grade TOB teacher from Assumption & Manannah)

Did you Know?

Did you know that you can find the bulletin on either parishes' website? Check it out each week to keep up with the happenings at the parishes! Each parish also has a Facebook page. Check out the front cover for the website and Facebook page information.

Please Pray For

Bishop John Kinney, Lori Crozon, Jane Anderson, Tim Eder, Jackie Boulton Family, Theresa Welle, Jeff Pauls, the Ertl Family, Alexis Vossen, Jerry Weinmann Jr., and Laura Miller.

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

Daily Readings

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Sacraments

Marriage- Couples should contact the parish at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

Baptism- Parents/expecting parents should contact the parish office to sign up for a baptismal prep class and to schedule a meeting with Father. The next class is scheduled for January 6th at 9:30. Call either parish office to schedule.

Anointing of the Sick - contact the parish office when anointing is needed.

Bulletin Deadline

Bulletin announcements are due by noon on Tuesdays.

Traveling Chalice and Madonna

IT DOES NOT MATTER WHEN Jesus was aware of His mission, it's what He did when He became aware of it. Think of what HE did in THREE Years!! What can you do for the Body of Christ? Sincere thanks to Gene and Donna Bischof of the Assumption parish for hosting the Traveling Chalice & Madonna this week. St. Anthony needs more individuals and families to sign up! The signup sheet is on the table in the back of church. May the coming year of 2018 be fruitful in drawing many new vocations. Thank you for your prayers for Vocations; every prayer matters.



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