

**Weekday Readings**

Monday, May 22: ACTS 16:11-15, JN 15:26-16:4A  
 Tuesday, May 23: ACTS 16:22-34; JN 16:5-11  
 Wednesday, May 24: ACTS 17:15, 22-18:1; JN 16:12-15  
 Thursday, May 25: ACTS 18:1-8; JN 16:16-20  
 Friday, May 26: ACTS 18:9-18; JN 16:20-23  
 Saturday, May 27: ACTS 18:23-28; JN 16:23B-28  
 Sunday, May 28: ACTS 1:1-11; EPH 1:17-23; MT 28:16-20

**Prayer List**



Please pray for: Bishop John Kinney, Lori Crozon, Jane Anderson, Lucille Lahr, Tim Eder, Jackie Boulton Family, Theresa Welle, Jeff Pauls, Elwood Hurley, the Ertl Family, Alexis Vossen, Jerry Weinmann Jr., Joe Hines and Leonard Nistler.

**May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

*6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

**Fr. Aaron Nett,  
 Pastor/Parochial Administrator**



**Church of the Assumption**  
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[www.churchoftheassumptionedenvally.org](http://www.churchoftheassumptionedenvally.org)



**Church of St. Anthony**  
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 Parish Contacts: Michelle Brutger, Secretary, Becky Haag, DRE  
 Bonnie Meyer, Faith Formation Assistant  
 Religion Office: 320-453-5765, [assumptionre@meltel.net](mailto:assumptionre@meltel.net)

Parish Office: 320-764-2755, [stanthony@meltel.net](mailto:stanthony@meltel.net)  
 Parish Contacts: Jessica Teicher, Secretary, DRE  
 Arliss Stenger, Coordinator of Faith Formation (Grades 1-6)

**Youth Opportunities!!**

**Valleyfair** June 28<sup>th</sup>, Grades 8-12 (as of fall 2017).  
 The youth of both parishes are invited. Discount available to those willing to work at the Kraut-n-Wurst kids games. Permission slips available on St. Anthony's website on the "Youth Ministry" page. You can also call/email the St. Anthony parish office if interested.



**Totus Tuus (Totally Yours) Save the date!** July 9-14. Both parishes are excited to announce the return of Totus Tuus this summer!  
 Grades 1-6: 9:00 AM-2:30 PM, \$25  
 Grades 7-12: 7:00 PM-9:00 PM, \$10  
 More details to come!



**St. Anthony Vacation Bible School**  
 August 7-11, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM  
 Ages 4-10 (older kids are invited to be helpers) \$15, registration forms will be out in June. Register early, spaces are limited. Youth from both parishes are invited to attend!

\*\*Registration for Steubenville (July 28-30) is still ongoing, please contact the Becky or Jessie ASAP if interested!



**Grasshopper Chapel Novena Masses**

Assumption and St. Anthony have been asked to help with the ministries of the Mass for June 8<sup>th</sup>. Please talk to Father or call the office if you are interested in the following roles: a lector, two (2) Eucharistic Ministers, musician, choir/cantor, servers, and one or more people to lead the rosary.

**\*\*Traveling Chalice and Madonna\*\***

A vocation must be nurtured for a lifetime not just until ordination or taking of vows. You can help nurture the vocations of priests, sisters and brothers by praying, listening and expressing appreciation. A life of service needs support from those served. Our gratitude to Marlene Hesse of St. Anthony's Parish and Gene & Donna Bischof of the Assumption parish for hosting the traveling chalice & Madonna to encourage a "Culture of Vocations." Thank you.

\*Next weekend we welcome Fr. Ben Kociemba, the associate vocations director of St. Cloud, to the Masses to speak on vocations.



**Baccalaureate** for the graduating seniors of the class of 2017 is scheduled for Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Church of Our Lady in Manannah. Everyone is invited to attend the Baccalaureate service.

**Assumption Mass Intentions**

Monday, May 22: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service  
 Tuesday, May 23: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service  
 Wednesday, May 24: 5:45 p.m. Mass - † Alphonse Thielen  
 Thursday, May 25: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service  
 Friday, May 26: 8:00 a.m. Mass - † Henry & Ida Schaefer  
 Saturday, May 27: 7:00 p.m. Mass - † Paul Kerzman  
 Sunday, May 28: 10:00 a.m. Mass - People of the Parish

**St. Anthony Mass Intentions**

Tuesday, May 23: 9:30 a.m. Mass at Hilltop - † Ben Plantenberg  
 Thursday, May 25: 5:45 p.m. † Mike & Arletta Turner  
 Friday, May 26: 9:30 a.m. Communion Service at Hilltop  
 Saturday, May 27: 4:00 p.m. Mass - † Sally Kramer  
 Sunday, May 28: 8:00 a.m. Mass - People of the Parish

**Reconciliation: Saturdays at 3:30 p.m. at St. Anthony & 6:30 p.m. at Assumption**

**A Message from Father Aaron**

**A Reason for Hope and a Call to Action**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

St. Peter tells us in the second reading, "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." It was with hope that I prayed before the joint parish council meeting this past Tuesday that we would be able to move forward in agreement with a plan for three Masses each weekend. I had been praying and thinking about this arrangement since the time I was assigned last spring and was told of the four-Mass schedule.

This spring alone there have been four Saturday funerals, which adds up to five total Masses on a weekend, and the danger of the eventual burnt-out of a priest. I wish that things could be different but I, firstly, must manage my own health, energy and availability as the Spiritual Father of two parishes in a variety of settings and responsibilities. I realize this will mean inconvenience and sacrifice on your part, but I hope for your understanding and prayers through this transition, realizing that there will never be a schedule that pleases all people.

In collaboration with the both parish councils, as well as Tom Keaveny, director of Pastoral Planning the New Ulm diocese, (who is implementing the Fourth Planning Process at parishes in the diocese) it was decided that the new Mass schedule will be as follows: **Saturday Mass: 5:30 at Assumption Parish, Sunday Mass: 8am at Assumption Parish, and Sunday Mass: 10:00am at St. Anthony's parish. This schedule will initiate on the July 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Masses.** After one year the councils will review the current schedule and discuss possible adjustments.

The current schedule leaves St. Anthony with one Mass simply because all worshipers can be easily contained in the Church during a single Mass. Whereas the size of worship space at the Assumption Church would be too small on many Sundays. This change will hopefully aid needed ministries during Mass that can be difficult to fill such as; music, servers and ushers. It will also fill many empty spaces in the pews and make for fuller responses, singing and hopefully more spiritual energy, instead of a dispersed and empty environment. Keep in mind that 46 of the 75 parishes in the New Ulm diocese have a single Mass each weekend. Also, note that for those who fear this to be a move toward closure, St. Anthony's PVI (parish vitality rate) is amongst the higher group of parishes in the diocese, and so those fears would be groundless. There has been no discussion of this happening.

The days we live in are concerning and, in fact, there is a crisis of faith across the globe! We have seen a great decrease in the number of priests (37 priests for 75 parishes in New Ulm, 65 priests for 130 parishes in St. Cloud) and we have also seen a severe drop in the practice of the faith and Mass attendance. So the question is, what are we going to do about it?

Hope in Christ calls us forward to renew our efforts to firstly pray for an increase in vocations and an increase of faith. We must double our efforts of prayer. We know our communities and our world needs it! Also, we are called to invite others back to faith and participate in the salvation of souls for Christ. As Bishop LeVoir has said, "Active parishioners are being asked to invite back home those who have left the practice of the faith. It is clear. It is not possible to continue operating as we have been."

I will continue to pray each day for all of you and our parishes of St. Anthony's and Assumption. I know you will do the same. May the Holy Spirit open our hearts to God's plan of love and salvation in Jesus, and may the Blessed Mother guide and protect us always.

God bless you, Fr. Aaron

**Reasons for Going Down to Three Masses**

•Canon Law only allows for one weekend Mass on Saturday • Bishop LeVoir and Kettler both desire their priests be at three Masses per weekend • Health and energy of the priest • Ability to minister in other needed areas in the two parishes • There is not a need for four Masses

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# Church of the Assumption Bulletin Notes

## Upcoming Events

**May 21:** EV-W Baccalaureate, in Manannah, 7:00  
Pizza Pick-Up, 9:00-12:00

## Ministry Schedule: May 27 & 28

**Lectors:** 7 p.m. Anna Mae Gruenes

10 a.m. Shelly Kern & PJ Connors

**Ushers:** 7 p.m. Leander Thielen, Chad Kuechle,

Tom Lenz & Josh Bischof

10 a.m. Kevin Nohner, Brian Nohner,

Ron Molitor & Chad Field

**Ministers of Communion: H.M:** Donna Bischof & Marge Kuechle

7 p.m. Denise Nohner, Ron Ruhland & Volunteer

10 a.m. Tom Ruhland, Marge Kuechle & Becky Haag

**Servers:** 7 p.m. Rylan Schueller & Tyler Brutger

10 a.m. Cory Zimmerman, Amy Zimmerman,

Ellie Field & Skyler Field

**Rosary Leaders:** May 22-26, Helen Theis

7 p.m. Ron Ruhland Family

10 a.m. Marge Kuechle

**Music:** 7 p.m. Joanne Bischof

10 a.m. Becky Haag

**Collection Counters:** Sheri Ziegmeier & Pat Schlangen

## Financial Blessings

Parish Income	5/14/17	5/15/16
Loose Plate	290.20	413.50
Adult Envelopes	2953.00	2999.00
Youth Envelopes	14.50	14.75
Votive	70.00	36.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3327.70</b>	<b>\$3464.15</b>

Thank you for  
your donations!

Monthly Auto  
Drafts: \$1739

### St. Isidore the Farmer Prayer

Almighty God and Father of all, you give to man the opportunity to harvest the good things of Your creation and to build up Your Kingdom. By the prayers and holy example of Saint Isidore, inspire us to be diligent in our laboring and to have trustful hearts that rely totally on your loving providence. Help us to care for creation and use it for its highest good; to bring true charity to those around us. Through the intercession of your faithful servant St. Isidore, help all who sow and reap to abound in rich harvests. May all who work the land be treated fairly and be allowed to share in the fruits of their labor. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



### St. Isidore the Farmer

May 15<sup>th</sup> marked the feast day of St. Isidore the Farmer, the patron saint of farmers. Isidore was born in Spain and was a farmer his whole life. While he walked the fields, plowing, planting, and harvesting, he also prayed. As a hardworking man, Isidore had three great loves: God, his family, and the soil. Let us all ask for St. Isidore's intercession to keep our farmers safe and their harvests bountiful.



## Baptized in Christ

The Assumption Church welcomes its newest member through the waters of baptism, Whitney Leigh Holdvogt. Whitney is the daughter of Gail & Paul Holdvogt and was baptized on May 21<sup>st</sup>. May the blessings of the Lord be upon Whitney and her family!

## Adoration News

-The Adoration Chapel will be closed on Memorial Day and open on Tuesday at 8:30 AM.

-The Friday morning 3-4 AM adoration hour has been filled for the 1<sup>st</sup> two weeks of the month. We still need someone to fill in for the last two weeks of the month. There are great graces to be had from the Lord at this hour for the extra sacrifice. It is a power hour! If you are interested, call Rose Becker at 453-7496 or Rita Haan at 453-7865.



## Pizza Weekend

All pre-ordered pizza's need to be picked up Sunday, May 21 between 9 am and NOON. Thank you to all who have participated!

## Cemetery Lots

It was decided at the last cemetery board meeting on 1/26/2017 that the price of parishioner lots will be increased from \$300-\$400 effective June 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Memorial Weekend

The gates to Assumption Cemetery will be opened starting on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> through Memorial Day May, 29<sup>th</sup>. Visitors should feel free to drive into the cemetery for easy access to burial sites they'd like to visit. All flowers and articles at grave sites must be placed as not to interfere with grass cutting.

## Cemetery Special Envelope

There is a special envelope in your collection packets for the parish cemeteries to help with operating costs. Be sure to indicate which cemetery you are donating to and make your checks payable to the corresponding cemetery. Thank you!

# Church of St. Anthony Bulletin Notes

## Weekly Schedule

**Monday, May 22:** Mary's Cenacle, 2:00 PM

**Tuesday May 23:** Festival Mtg, 6:30 PM, Parish Center

**Thursday, May 25:** Thrift Shop opens 9:00 AM

**Saturday, May 27:** Coffee Talk, 8:30 AM, Parish Center  
Thrift Shop opens 9:00 AM

## Ministry Schedule May 27 & 28

**Servers:** 4 p.m. Olivia Kramer & Max Geislinger  
8 a.m. Devin & Alison Waldorf

**Lectors:** 4 p.m. Kelly Meierhofer  
8 a.m. Heidi Schoenecker

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

4 p.m. Hosts: Rich Stenger

Precious Blood: Arliss Stenger & Theresia Linn

8 a.m. Hosts: Sharon Simmons

Precious Blood: Margi Schreifels & Betty Vossen

**Ushers:** 4 p.m. Eldred Froehling, Leila Froehling,  
Jay Schoenecker & Alan Dockendorf  
8 a.m. Jim Schreifels, Margi Schreifels,  
Joe Rathmann & Leander Salz

**Rosary Leaders:**

4 p.m. Kevin & Erin Donnay & Family

8 a.m. Ethel Donnay

**Homebound:** Jack & Rachel Kinzer, 764-2784

**Children's Liturgy:** Molly & Morgan Schlangen

**Church Cleaning: May 21-June 3**

Brian & Joan Linn, Ralph & Theresia Linn,

Joe & Cindy Lies and Dennis & Pam Loch

and families.

\*Please call Theresia at 764-7251 to unlock the church.

## Financial Blessings

Parish Income	5/14/17	5/15/16
Adult Envelopes	1709.00	3243.00
Loose Plate	392.00	203.00
Youth	0.00	6.25
Weekly Auto Drafts	280.00	175.00
Votive	11.30	51.00
Building Fund Auto Draft	35.00	25.00
Building Fund	150.00	1050.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2577.30</b>	<b>\$4753.25</b>

Thank you for your donations!

New Parish Center	5/17/17
Total Project Goal	1,896,954.00
Expenses Paid	(\$1,523,197.31)
Funds on Hand	\$135,254.97
*Pledges (not paid)*	\$93,530.90 *
<b>Remaining Goal</b>	<b>\$144,970.82</b>

\*the pledges total has been updated after reviewing the current pledges and taking in consideration the Christ our Life campaign pledges/payments.

## Festival Meeting

There will be a meeting at the St. Anthony Parish center on Tuesday, May 23<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 for anyone interested in having any input on this year's festival. We are always in need of more volunteers. The festival is a wonderful time for the parish to come together, have fun and raise needed funds for the church. Your input and help are needed to accomplish this. All are welcome!



## Save the Date!

Coffee Talk on Mary and Motherhood at St. Anthony's Parish Center: Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 8:30-10:00? Coffee & Rolls, Faith & Fellowship.

## Fatima Procession Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Fatima Procession so special. Thank you to Kathy Erpelding and the CCW for arranging for our helpers in the procession as well as the reception afterwards. Thank you to all who had special roles in the procession: our Mass servers, the Fatima children, the Mary "bearers", our musicians, readers, rosary leaders, ushers/greeters and to Tom & Mary Mathies for borrowing us their Our Lady of Fatima statue. Also a big thank you to all who attended from both parishes and our other visitors as well! It was a beautiful way to honor Mary on the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Fatima apparitions.

## MCCL Thank You

I want to thank all the ladies that helped with the flowers and all those who purchased flowers for Mother's Day. I was able to send \$275.00 to M.C.C.L. for them. Thanks again, Ethel

## Anointing of the Sick Service

On Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, there will be an anointing of the sick service after the 9:30 Mass at the Hilltop Nursing Home. All are welcome to receive this sacrament.

## Memorial Day Mass



On Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, a Memorial Day Mass will be held at the St. Anthony Church Cemetery following the service at the Watkins Veteran's Park. The service at

the Veteran's park begins at 9:30 and the Mass will follow immediately after. We encourage everyone to attend. Please bring your own chairs. (In the event of inclement weather, Mass will be held at the St. Anthony Church.)

## Traveling Chalice & Madonna

We have reached the end our list for those who have signed up to bring the chalice and Madonna into their homes to pray for vocations. If you haven't signed-up yet, please do so. Also, please feel free to sign-up again if you've already hosted the chalice in your home and would be willing to host it again.