

Weekday Readings

Monday, February 20: SIR 1:1-10; MK 9:14-29
 Tuesday, February 21: SIR 2:1-11; MK 9:30-37
 Wednesday, February 22: 1 PT 5:1-4; MT 16:13-19
 Thursday, February 23: SIR 5:1-8; MK 9:41-50
 Friday, February 24: SIR 6:5-17; MK 10:1-12
 Saturday, February 25: SIR 17:1-15; MK 10:13-16
 Sunday, February 26: IS 49:14-15; 1 COR 4:1-5; MT 6:24-34

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 and Jerry Weinmann Jr..

Local Events

February 26: Church of Our Lady - Manannah Sausage & Pancake Supper, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Adults \$8.00, Kids 6-12 \$4.00 5 & under - free
February 26: Knights of Columbus Smoked Roast Beef Dinner, Rockville Catholic Church Parish Center, 10:30-1:30, benefiting religious activities and vocations.

March 3 & 10: St. John the Baptist Parish, Collegetown: FISH FRY. Menu: Fried Fish, Macaroni and Cheese, Baked Potatoes, Beans, Coleslaw, bread, Desserts and beverages-serving from 4:00-7:00PM. Adults \$10 and children (ages 5-10) \$5, children under 5 eat free. Our dining room is handicap accessible and Take-Outs will be available. St. John's Parish Center 14241 Fruit Farm Road St. Joseph, MN 56374 (320-363-2569).

Parish Office hours

Assumption:	St. Anthony:
Monday: 8:30-11:30	Monday: 7:30-4:00
Tuesday: 12:30-3:30	Tuesday: 7:30-3:30
Wednesday: 8:30-11:30	Wednesday: 7:30-4:00
Thursday: 12:30-3:30	Thursday: 7:30-3:30
Friday: 8:30-11:30	Friday: 7:30-varies

THANK
SPRING



St. Cloud Diocese Bishop's Appeal

Thank you to all who participated in Bishop's Annual Appeal! Thanks for your prayers, and thanks for your generosity. If you haven't yet made a gift, THERE IS STILL TIME! May God bless you and those you love, for supporting the Church throughout the sixteen counties of out Saint Cloud Diocese.

Youth Activities

Steubenville Update** Steubenville is a 3-day personal encounter with Jesus for youth who will be completing grades 8-12 this spring. Steubenville will be July 28-30 and is held at the St. Thomas University in St. Paul. Please contact Jessie or Becky to sign up. Adult chaperones will also be needed. Any youth interested in Franciscan LEAD should also contact Jessie or Becky.



February 19th, 2017

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Aaron Nett,
Pastor/Parochial Administrator



Church of the Assumption

P.O. Box 9, Eden Valley, MN 55329
www.churchoftheassumptionedenvalley.org

Church of St. Anthony

P.O. Box 409, Watkins, MN 55389
www.stanthonywatkins.com

Parish Office: 320-453-2788 **Email:** assumptionev@meltel.net
Parish Contacts: Michelle Brutger, Secretary, Becky Haag, Director of Faith Formation, Bonnie Meyer, Faith Formation Assistant
Religion Office: 320-453-5765, email: assumptionre@meltel.net

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



Traveling Chalice and Madonna

During this whole next year Assumption and St. Anthony families and individuals will have the chance to host a "Traveling Chalice" and Madonna Prayer in their homes, for a week each, to help pray for vocations. More information can be found in the bulletin insert.

Ash Wednesday Mass (March 1st)

5:00 PM Assumption, 7:00 PM St. Anthony

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during lent at 5:30 PM
 (alternating between the parishes)

March 3- St. Anthony, March 10- Assumption, etc.



Assumption Mass Intentions

Monday, February 20: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 Tuesday, February 21: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 Wednesday, February 22: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 Thursday, February 23: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 Friday, February 24: 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 Saturday, February 25: 7:00 p.m. Mass - † Gertrude Lenz
 Sunday, February 26: 10:00 a.m. Mass - † Aurelia Christle

St. Anthony Mass Intentions

Tuesday, February 21: 9:30 a.m. **No Mass at Hilltop** - Communion Service
 Thursday, February 23: **No Mass at Church**
 Friday, February 24: 9:30 a.m. Communion Service at Hilltop
 Saturday, February 25: 4:00 p.m. Mass - † Richard Neu
 Sunday, February 26: 8:00 a.m. Mass - † Mary Lou Kuechle
Reconciliation: Saturdays at 3:30 p.m. at St. Anthony, 6:30 p.m. at Assumption

A Message from Father Aaron

"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Our Catholic Church and her people are experiencing unprecedented persecution in various forms today. The Church is the most persecuted Church because it is the Church Christ established and he was greatly persecuted. Venerable Fulton Sheen once said, "Wherever you find the persecuted Church you find the true Church." So, in sense it comes along with being Catholic. However, we must remember that after the cross comes the glory of resurrection.

Our day's persecution is not so much a physical one but a silent one. This persecution holds bound those who want to speak and live out their beliefs with a claim of discrimination against anyone who chooses to not support a lifestyle that is against the moral teachings of the Church. For instance, on unborn life, same-sex attraction, gender dysphoria or contraception. Of course we are always called to respect, love and be patient with those who may struggle to accept God's truth, knowing that all people are welcome to Christ's merciful redemption.

In 2014 an executive order from the President, barring federal contractors from engaging in practices deemed to be discriminatory against LGBT employees, with no religious exemptions attached for organizations that have religious objections to gay marriage or adoption.

Now, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops are trying to gather signatures asking the President to sign a religious freedom executive order as they site "unprecedented" threats to religious freedom. "Religious freedom in America has suffered years of unprecedented erosion. Our President can correct some of this within the executive branch," a USCCB action alert stated.

Along with a religious exemption to the LGBT executive order for federal contractors, the petition asks for "relief" from the HHS contraception mandate for the Little Sisters of the Poor, protections for religious schools to publicly affirm their beliefs on marriage, the continuance of the tax-exempt status for religious organizations that support traditional marriage, and conscience protections for doctors and hospitals refusing to perform abortions.

The challenges before us now are not greater than the grace God is willing to give those who stand firm in the truth of Jesus Christ. "Where sin abounds grace abounds all the more." May we continue to pray for precious religious freedom and also pray for the freedom gained by forgiving.

God bless you,
 Father Aaron

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248 Park Avenue East
drperry@meltel.net
320-453-2293

Church of the Assumption Bulletin Notes

Upcoming Events

February 19: Christian Women Benefit for Life, 9-1
March 1: Faith & Fun, 3:15-4:45
March 5: Sunday Inspiration, 11:15-11:35
March 10: Living Stations, 5:30
March 17: Fish Fry, 4:00-8:00 PM
March 17-18: 30 Hour Famine
March 19: Youth Mass

Ministry Schedule: February 25 & 26

Greeters: 7 p.m. Jennifer Schreifels & Olivia Schleper
 10 a.m. Tucker Maas
Gift Bearers: 7 p.m. Michael Schumacher, Tom & Ann
Lectors: 7 p.m. Denise Nohner
 10 a.m. PJ Connors & Cyrilla Nohner
Ushers: 7 p.m. Volunteers
 10 a.m. Volunteers
Ministers of Communion: H.M.: Rita Haan & Beth Hesse
 7 p.m. Joyce Gertken, Ron Ruhland & Volunteer
 10 a.m. Becky Haag, Deb Huschle & Jenny Evens
Servers: 7 p.m. Thomas Binsfeld & Tyler Brutger
 10 a.m. Amber Scherer, Nathan Brutger,
 Macey Brutger & Alison Brutger
Rosary Leaders: February 20-24, Rose Becker
 7 p.m. Ron Ruhland Family
 10 a.m. George & Mary Lou Ruhland
Music: 7 p.m. Jeanette Becker
 10 a.m. Lisa Thielen
Collection Counters: Sheila Laudenbach & Becky Haag
Children's Liturgy: 10 a.m. Helen Theis & Shirley Jacklitch

Financial Blessings

Parish Income	2/12/17	2/14/16
Loose Plate	506.25	151.46
Adult Envelopes	2713.00	3060.00
Youth Envelopes	16.75	5.00
Votive	67.00	44.20
Bazaar	250.00	0.00
Total	\$3553.00	\$3260.66

2016 Bazaar:	Mass Attendance:
\$20,185	Feb 11, 7:00 p.m. 109
Monthly Auto Drafts:	Feb 12, 10:00 a.m. 204
\$1699	Total: 313

Security/Maintenance Collection:
 Goal: \$24,000 Received: \$18,980

Catholic Men's Conference

The St. Cloud Diocese Men's Conference, "Men of Integrity: Men of Life, Men for Life" will be held on March 4, 8:00am-5:00pm at St. John's University. Any men interested in going should contact Tom Mathias (453-7943) or George Ruhland (453-3695)

Christian Women Benefit

The Assumption Christian Women Benefit for Life and Family Ministries, Sunday, Feb. 19th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Silent auction, craft and bake sale, and luncheon serving pulled pork sandwiches, salads, chips, pies, desserts, and beverages.

Sunday Inspiration

More gripping than the pull of professional sports, the call to the priesthood reveals the great plans God has for those he has called. In this session, the story of Fr. Burke Masters, "the baseball priest," will be shared. His story begins with baseball, goes through Catholicism, and eventually ends in the priesthood. This last Sunday Inspiration session will be on March 5th after the 10:00 Mass. All are welcome!

Faith & Fun

The next Faith & Fun afternoon will be on March 1st (Ash Wednesday) from after school until the 5:00 Mass. All students in grades k-6 are invited. Permission slips were sent home or e-mailed this week. Students can bring a friend!

Belated Thank You

Sincere appreciation to all who donated to the Winter Clothing Drive for Sharing and Caring Hands. Your generosity provided many people in need of warm clothing during these winter months. Thanks to Emily Sieben who spearheaded the project, to Joe and Anna Mae Gruenes and family who loaded and delivered the donations to Sharing and Caring Hands. May God Bless you all.

Security/Maintenance Update

The automatic locks for the doors are scheduled to be installed by March 1st. We are in the process of ordering the defibrillator and the date for tuck-pointing for the church will be forthcoming. Thank you to all who have donated towards these important projects!!

Adoration News Update

We still have another Adoration hour open. Friday morning at 3-4 A.M. If you can pick up the hour, call Rose Becker at 453-7496 or Rita Haan at 453-7865.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy of the Word will once again be started for Sundays. Thank you to those who have come forward to help and also thank you to the children and their families for participating! It's not too late to help, please call Becky in the religion office if interested.

Bishop Listening Sessions

The Diocesan Response Team will be holding a listening session for the people in the parishes with lawsuits involving alleged sexual misconduct by monks and/or priests on Wednesday, February 22 at 8:00 pm at the Paynesville Parish. The goals of this session are to assure parishioners of the Bishop's support, offer a process where issues/concerns can be discussed and to allow other potential victims to come forward to receive assistance and healing.

Church of St. Anthony Bulletin Notes

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, February 19: "Rediscover Jesus" discussion, 9:00 AM, Parish Center
Monday, February 20: Mary's Cenacle, 2:00 PM
 Mission Quilting, 12:30-4:00
Wednesday, February 22: Faith Formation Classes 6:30 PM
Thursday, February 23: Thrift Shop open 9:00 AM
Saturday, February 25: Thrift Shop open 9:00 AM
Sunday, February 26: Knights of Columbus Breakfast 8:30-12:00

Ministry Schedule: February 25 & 26

Servers: 4 p.m. Emma & Ellie Donnay
 8 a.m. Ryan Wirz & Olivia Kramer
Lectors: 4 p.m. JaDyn Nohner
 8 a.m. Paula Schlangen
Eucharistic Ministers:
 4 p.m. Bread: Volunteer
 Wine: Ethel Donnay & Lori Dockendorf
 8 a.m. Bread: Kathy Erpelding
 Wine: Dolores Dockendorf & Linda Faber
Ushers: 4 p.m. Joe Rathmann, Chuckie Unterberger,
 Don Schmitt & Doris Rathmann
 8 a.m. Earl Dockendorf, Ralph Huberty,
 Tammy Winter & Joe Rathmann
Rosary Leaders:
 4 p.m. Volunteer
 8 a.m. Betty Donnay
Homebound: Molly Schlangen, 249-8235
Church Cleaning: February 12-25
 Craig & Becky Kipf, Gary & Arliss Klein, Amy Klein,
 and Jason & Jen Klein and families.

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

Financial Blessings

Parish Income	2/12/17	2/14/16
Adult Envelopes	2831.00	1919.00
Loose Plate	192.80	170.37
Weekly Auto Drafts	250.00	125.00
Youth	3.00	5.25
Votive	38.25	45.25
Church Speakers	100.00	0.00
Building Fund Auto Draft	35.00	0.00
Building Fund	6380.00	11,680.00
Total	\$9830.05	\$13,944.87

Thank you for your donations!

Mass Attendance:
 Feb 11, 4:00 p.m. 186
 Feb 12, 8:00 a.m. 208
Total: 394

New Parish Center	2/16/17
Total Project Goal	1,896,954.00
Expenses Paid	(\$1,523,197.31)
Funds on Hand	\$111,074.97
<u>Pledges (not paid)**</u>	<u>\$134,675.90</u>
Remaining Goal	\$128,005.82
*This total has been updated after the addition of interest and the allocation of other funds.	

† Rest in Peace

Rest in peace, Daniel "Butch" Dockendorf, 63, of Watkins who passed away on Tuesday, February 14th. Visitation will be on Thursday, February 23rd from 4-8 PM at the Ertl Funeral home. The funeral Mass will be on Friday at 10:30. Please keep Butch's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this time.



Knights of Columbus Benefit Breakfast

Next Sunday, February 26th the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a breakfast in the new parish center. Proceeds for the breakfast will be going towards St. Anthony's Faith Formation program. Serving from 8:30-12:00. Menu: pancakes, Rieland Locker sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns, fruit cocktail, coffee, milk and orange juice. Please come to support this worthy cause!!

Diocesan Ministry Appeal Update

This year's Diocesan Ministries Appeal is well underway and we are just under halfway towards our goal of \$14,063.09, with a total of \$6910 in donations from 41 donors. If you have not given to the DMA or could give more, please consider giving. There are envelopes available in the back of church or the parish office. Please note that the parish is responsible for paying any unmet portion of our goal!

Lighthouse Catholic Media Kiosk

We are excited to announce that the parish will soon be getting a Lighthouse Catholic Media Kiosk in church. The kiosk will hold a variety of inspiring CDs, books, and booklets that will be available to purchase at reasonable prices. We hope that everyone will take advantage of this great opportunity to grow in their faith!

Automatic Deposits

Tired of searching for your Sunday envelopes every weekend? Or writing checks? Sign up to have your contributions to the church taken out of your bank account automatically every week. It's easy and convenient! You can even pay your parish center pledges this way. Sign up forms are available in the back of church, on the website or at the parish office. Please call if you have any questions.



"Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of the heavenly Father"

-Matthew 5:43-44