



# Church of the Assumption

464 State Street North  
PO Box 9  
Eden Valley, MN 55329

201 Central Ave South  
PO Box 409  
Watkins, MN 55389

# Church of St. Anthony



December 25th, 2022 • The Nativity of Our Lord



## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord." - Lk 2:10-11

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

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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

 Church of St. Anthony, Watkins / Assumption Church, Eden Valley  
Assumption St. Anthony Catholics

### Assumption Church

[www.churchoftheassumptionedenvalley.org](http://www.churchoftheassumptionedenvalley.org)

Parish Office.....453-2788  
[assumptionev@meltel.net](mailto:assumptionev@meltel.net)  
Father Aaron Nett.....453-2785  
Religion Office.....453-5765  
[evwcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:evwcatholic@gmail.com)

Youth Ministry  
[evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com)

#### Mass Times

Wednesdays.....5:15 PM  
Fridays.....7:00 AM  
Saturday.....4:00 PM  
Sunday.....8:00 AM

#### Reconciliation

Wed: 4:45 PM, Fri: 8:00 AM  
Sat: 3:30 PM & Sun 7:30 AM

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Mondays 8:00 AM- Fridays 5:00 PM

#### Office Hours

Mon: 12:30-4:30, Wed: 8-4  
Fri: 8-12:00 (hours may vary)

### Church of St. Anthony

[www.stanthonywatkins.com](http://www.stanthonywatkins.com)

Parish Office.....764-2755  
[stanthony@meltel.net](mailto:stanthony@meltel.net)  
Father Aaron Nett.....764-2758  
Religion Office.....453-5765  
[evwcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:evwcatholic@gmail.com)

Youth Ministry  
[evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com)

#### Mass Times

Tuesdays .....9:30 AM  
Thursdays.....8:30 AM  
Sunday.....10:00 AM

#### Reconciliation

Tuesdays: 9:00 AM, Thursdays: 8:00 AM,  
Sundays: 9:45 AM

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 9:00 AM-Fridays 9:00 AM

#### Office Hours

Mon: 8-12, Tues: 8-4  
Thurs: 8-4 (hours may vary)

#### Twinned Parish Contacts

Pastor	Father Aaron Nett
Secretary	Jessica Teicher
DRE	Nancy Jans
RE Assistant	Bonnie Meyer
Youth Minister	Sam Mettler

## **A Message from Father Aaron**

### **The Good News of Great Joy**

Dear Friends,

We celebrate the most wonderful Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ today, Christmas Day! This celebration is the Good News of great joy because Our God has come down to earth to dwell with the people He loves and show them the way to love and fulfillment. As God had foretold through the prophets, He sent us the sign of His care for the world, sinful and lost. "And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." (Lk 2:12) As we take time to gaze in wonder at the beautiful manger scene, we might ponder how Our Almighty God chose to become the most weak and vulnerable, so that we might learn to love Him in return. The Good News is that God spares nothing in order to offer salvation to His people, not even His own Son.

The Good News is that God is the light for the darkness of the world. Christ came to be a light in the darkness of division, conflict, sadness, anxiety, addiction, grief and anger. He came not just to bring light to the darkness but to defeat it and offer all people a bright hope and new life in Himself. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." (Isa 9:1) Our Savior Jesus is the light for all nations and people of the world.

My heart is filled with gratitude for this great celebration of Christ's birth and the spirit that it brings. I believe the Holy Spirit is very active during the days of the Christmas Octave, as He warms the hearts of believers and non-believers alike. Let us also hold in prayer those are heavy-hearted or grieving souls who find the holiday season difficult.

I am so grateful for the spirit of generosity that is displayed by so many people. Although I will never cover them all, I would like to thank all the musicians, cantors and choirs for their extra preparation, as they give glory to God through song. A great thank you to our dedicated sacristans, church decorators, the sharp-dressed ushers, lectors, servers and ministers at Mass. Also, a great thank you goes out to our dedicated parish staff, and my brother priests who offered themselves for extra confessions. Finally, a great word of thanks goes out to all who have given their time, talents and treasure. Thank you all, and may God bless you abundantly with Christ's peace and joy!

Merry Christmas!  
Father Aaron



## **Twinned Parish New**

### **Parish Open House**

Join us for some Christmas cheer at the parishes' Christmas open house! This will be at the Assumption Church rectory on Thursday, December 29, 4-7PM. Come and go anytime during these hours. No need to bring anything!

### **Mission Trip Youth Breakfast at St. Anthony, January 8th, 8:30am-12:30pm**

Come join the St. Anthony/Assumption youth as they fund raise for the Puerto Rico Mission Trip by serving you a delicious breakfast! Chow down on caramel rolls, scrambled eggs, and pancakes! All free-will donations will reduce the cost of the mission trip.

### **Wednesday Religion**

There will be no Wednesday religion classes on December 28th due to Christmas break. May the spirit of Christ shine brightly in your heart this Christmas!

### **Upcoming Mass Time Change**

The daily Mass on Wednesday, December 28th, will be moved to 8:30 AM with confessions at 8:00AM.

### **10th Grade Student & Parent Meeting**

We will be holding an informational meeting on Saturday, January 7th, from 2-3pm for 10th grade Parents AND Students from both parishes. The meeting will take place at Assumption Church in Eden Valley in the upstairs Dining Room.

### **10th Grade NET Retreat**

The 10th Grade NET Retreat for both parishes will take place from noon-8pm at Assumption Church on Monday Jan 16th.

### **First Reconciliation**

The First Reconciliation Sacrament for second graders and their parents will take place on Saturday, January 14th 9am-Noon at the Church of St. Anthony. Please keep these students and families from Assumption and St. Anthony's in your prayers as they look forward to receiving this Sacrament.



## Assumption Parish News

### Mass Intentions

**Wednesday, December 28:**

**8:30 AM Mass:** † Adrian Nohner

**Friday, December 30:**

7:00 AM Mass: † David Schoenecker

**Saturday, December 31:**

4:00 PM Mass: People of the Parishes

**Sunday, December 25:**

8:00 AM Mass: † Tom Ruhland

### Mass Ministries

**-Saturday, December 31, 4PM:**

**Lector:** Deb Huschle

**Extraordinary Minister of**

**Communion:** Dean Lemke

**Rosary:** Perry Lemke

**Hospitality:** Reuben Stommes & Jerry Arnold

**-Sunday, January 1, 8AM:**

**Lector:** Linda Thielen

**Extraordinary Minister of**

**Communion:** Chad Field

**Rosary:** Jim & Linda Thielen

**Homebound:** TBD

**Hospitality:** Jamie Ries & Joel Braun

### Financial Blessings

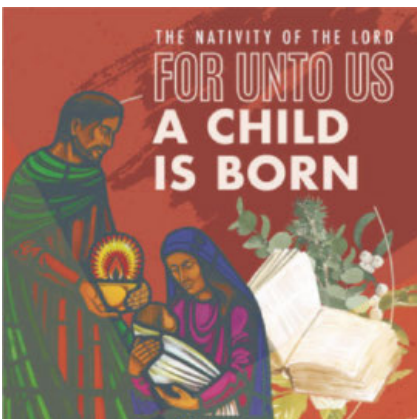
**December 4, 2022**

Adult Env	2408.00
Loose	275.00
Christmas	250.00
Youth	0.00
Votive	52.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2985.50</b>

Monthly Auto Transfers: \$2815

The financial information for this past weekend was not available due to the early bulletin deadline and will be published next week.

**THANK YOU**  
for your generosity



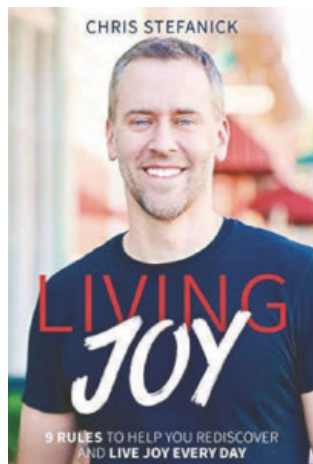
**Organ Lessons** If you would be interested in learning how to play the organ, there are lessons available! Times are flexible and there is no charge for at least three lessons, possibly more. Contact Becky or the parish office to get started!

**Adoration Announcements** The Adoration chapel will be closed on January 2nd, and will open at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday.

### Traveling Chalice & Madonna



**Dan Ruprecht will be headed** on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from December 29th to January 20th with his seminary class and three priests. They will be visiting the sites where our Lord and His disciples lived, prayed and ministered. This will truly be a trip of a lifetime. It will be a spiritual experience that will carry with him for the rest of his life and his future ministry. You are welcome to send special intentions with Dan on his trip. You can tell him in person or email them to at [rupr8827@stthomas.edu](mailto:rupr8827@stthomas.edu). Please say a prayer for him for the successful completion of his exams and for a good pilgrimage.



Christmas Book from Father Aaron:

### Living Joy by Chris Stefanick

Joy isn't a luxury. It's a necessity. But how do we find joy—and hold onto it—when so much in our life stands in the way? *Living Joy: 9 Rules to Help You Rediscover and Live Joy Every Day* equips you with the wisdom you need to experience joy to the fullest. With evidence, experience, and common sense, Chris Stefanick presents nine rules that will empower you to overcome the obstacles that are keeping you from unspeakable joy. \*Find your copy today in either church!

### Puerto Rico Mission Trip Update & Fundraising Opportunities!

The Puerto Rico mission trip comes at a considerable cost to the participants and we can use your help! Please see below for an opportunity to help us raise needed funds for the trip:



• **We currently have 29 people registered and just 4 spots left!** If anyone has any questions about still joining the mission trip or if you would like to support the mission trip in any way, please contact Sam at [evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com).

• Each parish has a money wall pledge board set up. Each numbered envelope corresponds with a specific dollar amount. If someone takes an envelope, they would be responsible with donating the number of dollars to either parish. The proceeds go towards lowering the total cost of the Puerto Rico Trip. A check would be written out to St. Anthony or Assumption. Please consider donating in this simple and fun way!

## St. Anthony Parish News

### Mass Intentions

**Tuesday, December 27:**

9:30 AM Mass: † Joan Loch

**Thursday, December 29:**

8:30 AM Mass: † Chantell Arceneau

**Sunday, January 1:**

10:00 AM Mass: † Daniel Dockendorf

### Mass Ministries

🎵 **Carols at 9:40 AM** 🎵

**Sunday, January 1, 10AM:**

**Lectors:** Kelly Meierhofer & Mary Ann Hesse

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy**

**Communion:** Emily Piccerillo

**Mass Servers:** Elizabeth & Ryan Donnay

**Children's Liturgy:** Kaila & Rosie

**Rosary:** Kevin & Erin Donnay Family

**Hospitality:** Nettie Holtz & Margi Schreifels

**Coffee & Rolls:** Emily Piccerillo

### Financial Blessings

**December 11, 2022**

Adult Env 2410.00

Loose 288.05

Christmas 300.00

Youth 6.00

Votive 42.00

Wkly Auto 770.00

**Total \$3816.05**

**THANK YOU**  
for your generosity

The financial information for this past weekend was not available due to the early bulletin deadline and will be published next week.

### Church Cleaners

**December 18-31 :** Dan & Heather

Twardy, Chad & Jen Unterberger,

Doreen Unterberger, Tracy

Unterberger and Jason & Melody

Unterberger and families.

Call Theresia at 764-7251 to unlock.

## REST IN PEACE

**Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family and friends of:**

† Mary Kielty, 74, who passed away on December 11th. A service will be held at a later date. Please remember Mary and her family and friends in your prayers during this time.

**K-6th Faith Formation Families** If you have not yet picked up your December home lesson packet please pick it up from the table just outside the parish office.

**2023 Cabin Fever Reliever \*Tickets are for sale now!** Our next Cabin Fever Reliever fundraiser is set for Saturday, February 11th. Tickets are now for sale and will make great Christmas gifts! Each ticket includes dinner, the dueling pianos show and lots of fun! You can get your tickets after Sunday Masses or at the parish office. Also, if you find some good deals Christmas shopping, we are looking for donations of high-end auction items, items for the bucket ticket drop and bottles of wine. Thank you!

**Blood Drive** The holiday season is a time for giving. Giving the gift of blood can help people who are going through a tough time. You have the opportunity to donate blood on Tuesday, December 27 from 1-7 pm at the Red Cross Drive at St. Anthony's. To make an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or redcrossblood.org or download the Blood Donor App.

**Frozen Bouja Sale** The Catholic Order of Foresters have some left over frozen Bouja for sale for \$12 a gallon. Call Larry at 320-764-2965.

**Holiday Food Shelf Drive** Hunger is an ongoing concern year round, but can especially be felt during the holidays. Please consider a donation to our local food shelves this season. A donation container can be found in the handicapped addition for food donations and monetary donations can be written out to the Church of St. Anthony and given in the collection.



### Our Historic Church Renovation Needs Your Help



Church of St. Anthony  
Yesterday • Today • For Eternity

We have now raised 23% of our goal, or nearly \$252,000 in financial commitments to help us repair the exterior and renovate the interior of our historic church. This leaves us with \$852,000 to raise and collect in funds over the next three years.

For 133 years, we have stood on the shoulders of those who built our beautiful church for our benefit. Now we invite you to join those members, visitors and former parishioners who have offered their financial support to care for our grand facility.

Your decision, received in the parish office no later than Friday December 30, ensures that you will benefit from year-end tax savings whether your support is an initial cash/check contribution, a stock or mutual fund gift, commodities, or a retirement distribution from your IRA account. Thank you.

# YOUTH MINISTRY

**God's Girls** Our next God's Girls meeting will be on Sunday, January 15th at Assumption for 2-3:30 p.m. We will read a bible story and play board games.

**Youth Nights** The next Sr. High night is Jan. 4th at St. Anthony and the next Jr. High night is Jan 11th at Assumption. Confirmation students may help out at JH nights to obtain service hours. If any adult or parent would like found out how they can help with these nights you can contact Sam at [evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com).

**Mission Trip Update!** Mission trip to Puerto Rico from July 23rd-28th. The estimated cost around \$1500 per person. This trip is for current 8th graders to adults. Due to interest we have decreased our reserved spots and left just 5 spots remaining! If you are interested, please contact Sam at 320-630-7590 or [evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com).

**Extreme Faith Camp** This year EFC will be held at Camp Courage in Maple Lake, MN June 12th-16th. Camp is for current 6th-8th graders. EFC will have activities such as wacky olympics, zip-lining, lakeside swimming, fishing, boating, rock climbing, archery, and much much more! And most importantly, Camp will have Jesus as He comes to us through the Sacraments. EFC is led by high schoolers and adults from our parish and other parishes. Current 9th-12th graders are encouraged to register as leaders. The dates for leaders are June 10th-16th. Contact Nancy Jans ([evwcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:evwcatholic@gmail.com)) with questions or to register.

**Update on March for Life** Unfortunately, due to low registration numbers, we will no longer be attending the March for Life in Washington D.C. this January. Please continue to keep the pro-life movement in your prayers!

**Early Bulletin Deadlines** In preparation for the Christmas and New Year's holidays, the bulletin printing company is requesting these early bulletin deadlines:  
-The January 1 bulletin was due on December 22

## Thank You!

I would like to take the opportunity in this Christmas bulletin to thank all the volunteers that help me with random office work and odd jobs around the parishes throughout the year. Sometimes, I bet, you're not quite sure what you're getting into! It really is a joy to have parish members come together to help out and I very much appreciate you all! May God bless you all abundantly & Merry Christmas!!! -Jessie

## Sacraments

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

**Baptism-** Baptism classes are for parents and expecting parents who are seeking baptism that haven't already taken a class. Contact the parish office to sign up.

**Confession-** times on cover & by appointment  
**Anointing of the Sick** - contact the parish office when anointing is needed.

**Looking to Become Catholic?** (RCIA)- The length of time will be suitable to have a significant experience of the parish community and to have a greater knowledge and love of the Catholic faith. Contact the parish office.

**Bulletin Deadline** Bulletin announcements are due on Tuesdays by noon.

**Women's Group:** Women's group meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month. We will next meet on January 14th at 8:00-9:30 AM at St. Anthony's. We will not meet on December 24.

**Community Rosary Night/Potluck:** Friday, January 6th at 6:00PM at St. Anthony's. We will start with the rosary in church with the potluck to follow! We will also have an Advent craft for anyone who wants to take part!

**Assumption Knights of Columbus:** The 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8PM at the Assumption Church.

**Men's Group:** Saturdays, 7:30 AM Rosary, 8-9 AM meeting, at Assumption.

**Christian Mothers' Prayers:** Christian Mothers' prayers on the 1st Saturday & Sunday of each month after Mass.



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

The Jackie Boulton Family, Ron Welle, Joyce Manske, the

Ley Family, Ellen Libbesmeier, Carol Huberty, Tom Huberty, Jennifer Gruenes and Larry Flaschenriem.

## Christ our Hope ACC Weekend Mass Schedule

### Saturdays:

5:00PM St. Agnes, Roscoe  
(confessions @ 4:00-4:30)

### Sundays:

8:00AM St. Margaret, Lake Henry  
9:30AM St. Louis, Paynesville

[www.saintalm.org](http://www.saintalm.org)



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	 <b>RON'S EXCAVATING SERVICE</b> Ron Yanish (320) 764-2811	<b>Eden Valley</b> VETERINARY CLINIC, LLC Compassionate Care Since 2007 Perry Burros-Lemke, DVM 320-453-2293 248 Park Ave E, Eden Valley	 <b>AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE</b> Thomas Ehlinger, Agent Ehlinger & Associates, Inc. Kimball 320-398-3645 Waite Park 320-251-9141	 <b>Citizens</b> BANK MINNESOTA 170 Meeker Ave. N. (320) 764-2600 citizensmn.bank	
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