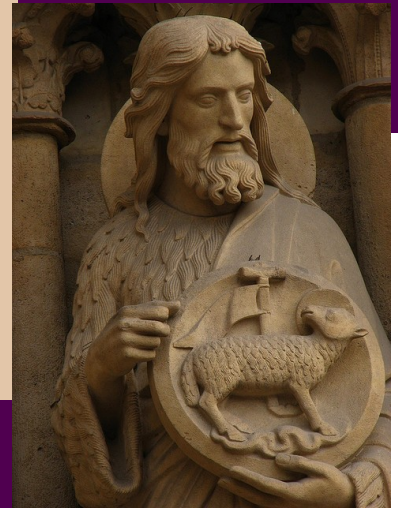


ST. ANTHONY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Atkinson
SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Annawan
SHRINE OF ST. MARY, Hooppole
Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor
 204 W Main Street Post Office Box 210 Atkinson, IL 61235
 Phone 309.936.7900 Fax 309.936.4035
www.theheartandthelily.org
<http://stmaryofthefieldsshine.weebly.com>



MASS SCHEDULE . . .
CELEBRATING OUR FAITH THIS WEEK

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 3
 4:00 pm @ SA - For the Parishioners by Father Engelbrecht
Sunday, December 4
 8:00 am @ SH + Fred & Florence VanVooren by Chuck & Marlene DeMay
 9:30 am @ SA + Joie Verstraete by the Family
Monday, December 5
 No Mass
Tuesday, December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop
 5:30 pm @ SA + Raymond & Edna Schopp by Vince & Judy Schopp
Wednesday, December 7 Saint Ambrose, Bishop
 7:30 am @ SH + Donovan Kleckner by Adrianna

Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)

Wednesday, December 7 Vigil Mass of the Immaculate Conception
 6:00 pm @ SA For the Parishioners
Thursday, December 8 Immaculate Conception
 8:00 am @ SA + Barney VanDeRostyne by The Family
 6:00 pm @ SH+ Herb & JoAnne Ufheil by Michelle & Family
Friday, December 9
 8:00 am @ SA + Carol Longeville by Bill & Bev Freddy

Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 10
 4:00 pm @ SA + Fr. Verhoye by Gerald & Mary Kay Franks
Sunday, December 11
 8:00 am @ SH + Grove Killelea by Sue and Family
 9:30 am @ SA - For the Parishioners by Father Engelbrecht

Serving at Our Lord's Altar

6:00 pm @ St. Anthony - December 7
 Lector: Janice Wyffels
 EMHC: Marshall Plumley, Valerie Plumley, Terry Sears
 Altar Servers: Lauren Plumley, William Plumley
 Ushers: Gerald Buysse, Keith Carton, Keith Causemaker, John Cauwels
8:00 am @ St. Anthony - December 8
 Lector: Dustin Specht
 EMHC: Jean Causemaker, Toot Causemaker, David Vandevelde
 Altar Servers: 2 **Volunteers needed**
 Ushers: Gary Olson, Shane Sturtewagen, Ken Taber, Herb Vandersnick
6:00 pm @ Sacred Heart - December 8
 Lector: Roger Davis
 EMHC: Eunice Rambo
4:00 pm @ St. Anthony - December 10
 Lector: Janice Wyffels
 EMHC: Mary Kay Franks, Susan Mochel, David Vandevelde
 Altar Servers: 2 **Volunteers needed**
 Ushers: Mark Boelens, Lynn Cathelyn, Ken DeSmith, Richard DeSmith
8:00 am @ Sacred Heart - December 11
 Lector: Tara Gripp
 EMHC: Wayne Brau
 Ushers for December: Chuck DeMay, Kenny Sierens
 Collection Counters for December Marlene Minnaert, Sue Ann Wells
9:30 am @ St. Anthony - December 11
 Lector: Terry Sears
 EMHC: Marshall Plumley, Valerie Plumley, Patti Sears
 Altar Servers: Lauren Plumley and William Plumley
 Ushers: Brett Hultman, Steven Mapes, Mark Murphy, Terence Patton

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
PARISH UPDATES

December 4, 9:00 am: SH CCD
 December 6, 6:30 pm: SA Parish Council Meeting
 December 6, 7:30 pm: SH Youth Ministry
 December 7, 6:00 pm: SA CCD (Mass)

St. Anthony's Music Ministry

Sunday, December 4 - Choir sings at 9:30 am
 Sunday, December 11 - Choir sings at 9:30 am
 Saturday, December 17 - Choir sings at 4:00 pm
 Saturday, December 24 - Choir sings at 4:00 pm
 Sunday, December 25 - Choir sings at 9:30 am

Time to Decorate!

Both Sacred Heart & St. Anthony Churches will be decorated for Christmas after each respective Mass on Sunday December 18th. If you can spare some time, your help would be appreciated! Our churches look so lovely each year, but it takes a lot of work. Please consider helping.



Sharing in the Work of Christ
through sacrificial giving

St. Anthony Parish Support

Sunday Collection (Past two weeks)	Weekly	Year to Date (22 weeks)
Amount Needed:	\$4,655.40	\$51,209.40
Income:	\$3,213.15	\$55,679.17
Difference (+ or-):	-\$1,442.25	\$4,469.77

Human Development: \$152.00

Sacred Heart Parish Support

Sunday Collection (Past two weeks)	Weekly	Year to Date (22 weeks)
Amount Needed:	\$2,423.08	\$26,653.88
Income:	\$1536.00	\$19,616.75
Difference (+ or-):	-\$887.08	-\$7,037.13

Improvement Fund: \$170
 Human Development: \$170
 Utilities: \$30

Who is St. Nicholas?

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. At the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. The prisons were so full of bishops, priests, and deacons, there was no room for the real criminals-murderers, thieves and robbers. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died December 6, 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance, said to have healing powers, fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day, December 6th.

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us

understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector and helper of those in need. One story tells of a poor man with three daughters. In those days a young woman's father had to offer prospective husbands something of value-a dowry. The larger the dowry, the better the chance that a young woman would find a good husband. Without a dowry, a woman was unlikely to marry. This poor man's daughters, without dowries, were therefore destined to be sold into slavery. Mysteriously, on three different occasions, a bag of gold appeared in their home-providing the needed dowries. The bags of gold, tossed through an open window, are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. Sometimes the story is told with gold balls instead of bags of gold. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols for St. Nicholas. And so St. Nicholas is a gift-giver.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve:

4:00 pm: St. Anthony's
(celebrated by Father D. Jack)

4:00 pm: Sacred Heart

11:00 pm: St. Mary's Hooppole

Christmas Day:

8:00 am: Sacred Heart

9:30 am: St. Anthony's

The jewels of St. Anthony's Centennial **Ornaments/Keepsakes** and Trivets can be purchased for Christmas gifts in November and December. The ornaments are \$10 each or \$8 a piece if you order 5 or more. Trivets are \$16 each. Order by calling Sue Floreani 309-936-7333, Bonnie Obrecht 309-936-7968 or Mary Lou Goebert 309-936-7564.

Annual Diocesan Appeal Information: St. Anthony Update:

We have pledges of \$27,305.75 toward our goal of \$35,136.00 leaving a balance of \$7,830.24. We have received pledge cards from 119 families (77%).

Sacred Heart Update:

We have pledges of \$10,810, toward our goal of \$15,921 leaving a balance of \$5,111. We have received pledge cards from 69 families (67%).

Please remember these parishioners who ask for your prayers.

Connie Altman, Lucille Buysee, Dave Colgan, Mary Lou DeCausemaker, Joe DeGeeter, Katelyn DeRycke, Evelyn DeSplinter, Mary Dobbels, Annie Eastman, Mary Frank, Mary Ellen Hoogerwerf, Dan Longeville, Dean Lewis, Jack Marchand, Barry Miller, Loretta Minnaert, Vera Minnaert, Gia Samuels, Susan Stontz, Alice Van Kerrebroeck, Joann Vandemore, Bernadine Betcher

Thank you to those who attended the "Life of Mother Teresa" movie, purchased items from the old school or made a donation towards the Improvement Fund for Hall Renovations at Sacred Heart Church. To date we have added \$2,117 to the Improvement Fund. Future donations can be placed in the Sunday Collection baskets marked Hall Renovations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Circle Three Christmas Wreath Pick-Up

Circle Three Christmas Wreaths will be available to pick-up on Saturday December 3rd after mass and on Sunday Dec 4th after mass. Thank you for your support.

Thank you to all of those who donated money or purchased or sold Christmas wreaths for St. Anthony's Circle Three Fundraiser. With your support we raised \$1,565.



Parish Staff

Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor
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(309) 936-7900

Deacon Nicholas Simon
nicksimon@juno.com
(309) 945-2436

Bonnie VandeVelde, Parish Secretary
office@stanthonysatkinson.org
(309) 936-7900
Office Hours: Tue & Thur 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Valerie Plumley, Finance Bookkeeper
(309) 936-7900
office@stanthonysatkinson.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 to 3:30 pm at St. Anthony
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. at Sacred Heart or by appointment with priest.

Area Parishes

St. Malachy (Geneseo)

Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 am

St. John Paul II (Kewanee)

Saturday 4:30pm, Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 am;
1pm Spanish

Baptism for Infants

Please call for an appointment to schedule Baptism preparation for your family.

Holy Matrimony

Please arrange an appointment with a priest at least eight months before the proposed wedding date to allow time for all necessary marriage preparation.

Anointing of the Sick

Call the church anytime someone is dying. If you are unable to attend Mass (hospitalized or at home) please call so Holy Communion and pastoral care can be administered.

New Parishioners

Welcome to our parishes! Please call the church office to register or if you have questions about our community.

Parish Cemeteries

St. Anthony Cemetery: Contact Bill Carmichael, Jr., (309)936-7651. Sacred Heart Cemetery: Contact Ardy Clementz at (309) 935-6704

Parish Halls Rental

The halls of both parishes are available for receptions and other gatherings. Please contact the office for further details.

Bulletin Deadline

Copy must be submitted by Wednesday at 4:00 pm to: office@stanthonysatkinson.org or mailing to PO Box 210, Atkinson, IL 61235