



"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."

Luke 1:35

ST. ANTHONY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Atkinson
SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Annawan
SHRINE OF ST. MARY, Hooppole

Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor

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Phone 309.936.7900 Fax 309.936.4035

www.theheartandthelily.org <http://stmaryofthefieldsshine.weebly.com>

MASS SCHEDULE . . .

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH THIS WEEK

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 20

4:00 pm @ SA + Elsie Stiner by Ron & Bonnie Obrecht

Sunday, December 21

8:00 am @ SH + Lawrence & Lorraine DeSplinter by the Family

9:30 am @ SA - For the Parishioners by Father Engelbrecht

Monday, December 22

No Mass

Tuesday, December 23

5:30 pm @ SA + Gordon Taber by Ken & Lynette De Smith

Wednesday, December 24

No AM Mass

4:00 pm @ SH - For the Parishioners by Father Engelbrecht

6:00 pm @ SA - Vernon Minnaert by Joyce & Family

Midnight Mass @ SM - John & Jackie Clementz by Steve & Cindy Clementz

Thursday, December 25

9:30 am @ SA - Father Engelbrecht's Intention

Friday, December 26

No Mass

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 27

4:00 pm @ SA - For the Parishioners by Father Engelbrecht

Sunday, December 28

8:00 am @ SH + Jim Van Hyfte by Pat VanHyfte

9:30 am @ SA + Kenny Joe Sturtewagen by Annabelle & Family

St. Anthony Music Ministry Schedule



Wed., Dec 24th - Choir sings at 6:00 pm

Thur., Dec 25th - Choir sings at 9:30 am

Sunday, Dec 28th - Choir sings at 9:30 am



A Prayer for Christmas

Oh, God, our loving Father, help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forging and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen
- Robert Louis Stevenson

Please remember these members of our community who are *sometimes* unable to attend Mass with us on Sunday and those in nursing homes:

Chuck Claeys, Mary Lou DeCausemaker, Ann DeCrane, Katelyn DeRycke, Mary Dobbels, Beatrice DeGeeter, Joe DeGeeter, Mary Frank, Mary Ellen Hoogerwerf, Ruth Lauwagie, Dean Lewis, Jack Marchand, Barry Miller, Vera Minnaert, Cindy Nanninga, Sue Saigh, Gia Samuels, Alice Van Kerrebroeck, Rosella Vandersnick, Joann Vandemore, Rosalin Vandersnick, Joann Verstraete, Betty Zapisek.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PARISH MEETINGS & EVENTS +

Thursday, January 8th 6:30 PM: SA Parish Council Meeting

Reminder there will be no CCD for SH and SA until January

Reminder there will be no Strategic Planning Meetings for December

Serving at Our Lord's Altar

(A new Lector/EMHC list for *December-March* is on the bulletin board at SH for Sacred Heart Servers)
Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to mass.
Thank you.

4:00 pm @ Sacred Heart - Wed., December 24

Lector: Roger Davis

EMHC: Sue Ann Wells

Altar Servers: Need Two Volunteers

Ushers for the month of December: Dean Minnaert & Audie Sturtewagen

6:00 pm @ St. Anthony - Wed., December 24

Lector: Terence Patton

EMHC: Marshall Plumley, David Van De Velde, Mary Kay Franks, Bonnie Obrecht

Altar Servers: Rebecca Clementz, Nicole Haverback, Lauren Plumley and William Plumley

Ushers: Mark Boelens, Bobby Burton, Stephen Mapes, Shane Sturtewagen

9:30 am @ St. Anthony - Thursday, December 25

Lector: Lin VanOpdorp

EMHC: Mary Lou Goebert, Richard Martens, Toot Causemaker, Jean Causemaker

Altar Servers: Need Two Volunteers

Ushers: Keith Causemaker, Ed Coble, Daniel De Smith, Terry Sears

4:00 pm @ St. Anthony - Saturday, December 27

Lector: Robin VanMeenen

EMHC: Toot Causemaker, Jean Causemaker, David Van De Velde

Altar Servers: Rebecca Clementz, Nicole Haverback
Ushers: Lynn Cathelyn, Richard De Smith, Ken De Smith, Blake Haverback

8:00 am @ Sacred Heart - Sunday, December 28

Lector: Eric Ufheil

EMHC: Marlene DeMay

Ushers for month of December: Dean Minnaert and Audie Sturtewagen

Altar Servers: **Need Two Volunteers**

Collection Counters for December: Carolyn Sleaford and Bill & Barb DeRew

9:30 am @ St. Anthony - Sunday, December 28

Lector: Theresa Peterson

EMHC: Jeanne Carton, Loren Jackson, Richard Martens

Altar Servers: Need Two Volunteers

Ushers: Donald Buysse, Gerald Buysse, John Cauwels, Herb Vandersnick

As God has blessed your family during 2014 and the year-end approaches, you might consider making a contribution to our parish or to the ADA. Those age 70 1/2 may also want to have part of their Required Minimum Distribution directed to our parish as well.

St. Anthony's: \$26,182.00, 82% of our goal, leaving us with \$5,437.00

Sacred Heart: \$ 13,660, 90% of our goal, leaving us with \$1,525.00

Thank you to Vandemore Funeral Home for again providing calendars to the church this year. Please pick up your 2015 calendar at the back of church.

Circle One Wreath Sale brought in over \$1,600.00. Thank you once again to the chair people and those who sold and purchased wreaths.

To all the St. Anthony Co-Chairs of the circles for 2014, we appreciate your time and efforts. Due to your hard work, we had a successful year.

- Father Engelbrecht &
Sue Floreani, Circle Ministry Coordinator

Living God's Word...

Dear God, source and giver of joy, open my heart to receive your joy. As the Advent season continues, help me to live in a spirit of anticipation and watchfulness for how Christ continues to come into the world, a spirit of joy rooted in the awareness that you are faithful to your children. Amen.

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REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD...

In today's first reading King David is settled in his cedar palace, no upcoming battles on the horizon, feeling quite content, glass of wine in hand, chatting with Nathan the prophet about how good life is, when he gets this inspiration: "God should have a house! Certainly more than that old tent we have been dragging around. And I will build it!" Nathan approves.

But that night, God weighs in: "Tell David, 'Thanks, but no thanks. I like the tent.' " We don't know why God said no to David. But it seems that God wanted to make clear not only who was building God's dwelling place but also who really was in charge of everything. God was the kingdom builder and God chose to work with very simple material, like a tent. But this was nothing compared to God's decision a millennium later, on the day when the angel Gabriel was sent to a town of Galilee called Nazareth.

God's plan from the beginning was to take up residence among us closer than any building could be, whether it was magnificent as Solomon's temple or as humble as the simplest parish church. What God intended was to dwell with us as one of us, taking on human flesh and blood. And in the fullness of time God came asking if one of us would be willing. We don't know how long it took for Mary to answer. We only remember the important thing: she said yes.

-James A. Wallace C.Ss.R.

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2015 Circle List

The St. Anthony Circle Committee has completed the 2015 Circle List. Every family is a member of a Circle. The Parish is organized into four Circles and each Circle serves for a consecutive three-month period. Christian service of the Circle includes cleaning of the Sacred Spaces used for worship, service to the grieving at funeral luncheons and contributions to the work of building God's kingdom through fundraising successes. The Circle chairmen are picked by the committee. 2015 Chairmen are:

- Circle One: Blake & Denise Haverback, Mat & Katie Orwig, David & Bonnie Van De Velde, Ron & Carolyn VanOpdorp
- Circle Two: Brian Carmichael, Keith & Lynette Causemaker, Jim & Carol Croegaert, Lana Davis
- Circle Three: Doug & Juliette Carter, Bump and Hank DeDecker, Carol Noard, Bridget Real, Jeff & Jean Roman
- Circle Four: John and Carolyn Cauwels, Wayne and Theresa Peterson, Everett and Dawn Schnowske, Marty and Lin VanOpdorp

Complete Circle Lists can be found at the church doors.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00PM: Sacred Heart

6:00PM: St. Anthony

Midnight Mass: St. Mary of the Fields

Christmas Day

9:30 AM: St. Anthony

**ST. ANTHONY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ATKINSON- SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ANNAWAN-
SHRINE OF ST. MARY'S HOOPPOLE**

Parish Staff

Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor
fregelbrecht@stanthonyatkinson.org
(309) 936-7900

Rev. Gerard A. Verhoye,
Pastor Emeritus

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

Valerie Plumley, Finance Bookkeeper
Katie Orwig, Parish Secretary
(309) 936-7900
office@stanthonyatkinson.org
Office Hours: Tue & Thur 9:00 am - Noon

Weekly Liturgy Schedule

Lord's Day Masses @ St. Anthony's
4:00 pm Saturday and 9:30 am Sunday
Lord's Day Masses @ Sacred Heart
8:00 am Sunday

Daily Mass Schedule @ St. Anthony's
5:30 pm Tuesday and 8:00 am Thursday
and Friday

Daily Mass Schedule @ Sacred Heart
7:30 a.m. Wednesday

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.

Parishes In Our Cluster

St. Malachy (Geneseo)
Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 am

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 St. Anthony Parish! Please call
the church office to register or if you have
questions about our community.

Stewardship Parish

Everyone is expected to share their talents
and treasure for the work of building
God's kingdom. Please ask how you can
volunteer.

Parish Cemetery

Located 1 mile south of Interstate 80 on
County Highway 5. Contact Bill
Carmichael, Jr., for information
(309) 936-7651.

Parish Center Rentals

St. Anthony Hall and Parish Center is
available for receptions and other
gatherings. Please contact the office for
further details.

Bulletin Deadline

Copy must be submitted by Monday to:
bulletin@stanthonyatkinson.org or
mailing to P. O. Box 210, Atkinson, IL
61235.