

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://stmaryofthefieldsshrine.weebly.com



MASS SCHEDULE
Celebrating Our Faith This Week

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saturday, December 26

4:00 pm @ SA – Herb & Maribeth Vandersnick 60th Ann.

Sunday, December 27

8:00 am @ SH – For the Parishioners by Fr. Engelbrecht

9:30 am @ SA + Reuben DeSmith by His Family

Monday, December 28

No Mass

Tuesday, December 29

5:30 pm @ SA + Joan Coughan by Jim & Audrey Gentry

Wednesday, December 30

8:00 am @ SH + Marybeth Gorden by Bernie Weidner

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31

4:00 pm @ SA + Justin Nelson by Deacon Marshall & Valerie Plumley

Friday, January 1

9:00 am @ SH – For the Parishioners by Fr. Engelbrecht

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 2

4:00 pm @ SA + Vera Minnaert by Her Family

Sunday, January 3

8:00 am @ SH + Dean Minnaert by Marlene

9:30 am @ SA – For the Parishioners by Fr. Engelbrecht

Please remember these parishioners who ask for your prayers.

Connie Altman, Katelyn DeRycke, Christine Sand Dunahee, Dan Longeville, Barry Miller, Nick Schebler, Alice Van Kerrebroeck, Dick Martens, Berniece Cathelyn, Elsie Van Vooren, Bill Rambo, Denise Haverback, Rosella Vandersnick, Pat Gentry, Mary Frank

Prayers of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.—St. Alphonsus Ligouri.

At Your feet, O my Jesus, I prostrate myself and I offer You repentance of my contrite heart, which is humbled in its nothingness and in Your holy presence. I adore You in the Sacrament of Your love, the ineffable Eucharist. I desire to receive You into the poor dwelling that my heart offers You. While waiting for the happiness of sacramental communion, I wish to possess You in spirit. Come to me, O my Jesus, since I, for my part, am coming to You! May Your love embrace my whole being in life and in death. I believe in You, I hope in You, I love You. Amen.
 —Raphael Cardinal Merry del Val

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATE

Due to the continued increasing local cases of Covid-19 our parish office is not going to be open to the public **until further notice**. We will continue to be checking emails, phone messages, working on the bulletin and other office work. If you have business to attend to we ask that you call the office at 309-936-7900 and leave a message or email the office at office@stanthonyatkinson.org. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible. We would like to remind everyone that making financial contributions, inquiring about or paying for Mass intentions, bulletin announcements etc. can be placed in the collection basket at either St. Anthony's or Sacred Heart or mailed into the office.

Prayer to Blessed Virgin Mary

God our Father, may we always profit by the prayers of the Virgin Mother Mary, for you bring us life and salvation through Jesus Christ her Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

Reflections on the New Year

"The beginning of a new year is an opportunity for improvement. It makes little difference what the past has been, for we are not to look back to see if the furrow be crooked. What matters most is the sanctification of the now moment. Time is so precious that God does it out second by second. If life in the past has been evil, the new year is an opportunity for penance. In such a way is time redeemed. If life, however, has been virtuous, the new year is an opportunity for greater self-perfection."

— Archbishop Fulton Sheen (On Being Human)

Sharing in the Work of Christ
through sacrificial giving

St. Anthony Monthly Financial Support Nov. 2020

Sunday Collections:	\$9,081.59
Candle:	\$ 78.00
Holy Day:	\$115
Cemetery:	\$70
Memorial (Savings):	\$1,375

Sacred Heart Monthly Financial Support Nov. 2020

Sunday Collections:	\$3,217
Improvement:	\$1,260
Fuel:	\$200
Flowers:	\$40
Holy Day:	\$46
Initial Offering:	\$20
Cemetery:	\$255

WARNING ABOUT RISK ASSUMED BY PARISHIONERS

While our parish staffs will attempt to take appropriate precautions consistent with the advice of public health authorities, parishioners and guests should understand that they assume the risk of contracting COVID-19 anytime they enter a public space since such precautions do not eliminate the risk of infection.

If you have a fever or flu-like symptoms, recently traveled out of the country or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should stay home. All attendees must wear a face mask, or face covering, and keep proper distancing from each other.

- St. Anthony attendees must enter only through the middle front doors or the handicapped entrance.
- Sacred Heart attendees may enter through all of the three main entrances. We ask that you arrive early because of the new safety protocol.
- Everyone will be met at the door by an usher who will direct them to their seats and remain there until dismissed by an usher after Mass ends in order to keep the required spacing. This is a firm requirement necessary for us to keep our certification for Public Mass from the Diocese.

- Collection baskets will not be passed during the offertory. Your contributions can be left in the places indicated.
- There will be no gift procession during the offertory; There will be no sign of peace before there Lamb of God.
- You will remain at your place as communion is brought to you by the ministers. the Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- The faithful are encouraged to receive Communion in the hand and to carefully avoid any physical contact with the minister's hand when receiving. (If incidental hand contact occurs, the minister is to use sanitizer before proceeding).
- For now there will be no congregational singing. Missalettes & Hymnals have been removed so there are fewer things to be handled by multiple persons and therefore become a possible source of contagion. If you would like a missalette to carry back and forth to Mass please ask an usher.

We rejoice that we can come together as members of Christ's Body to worship and help each other get to heaven. May God continue to Bless our parishes and all the faithful of St. Anthony and Sacred Heart Parishes.

Sunday Memo FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,
I trust all of you had a very Blessed Christmas. Don't forget we celebrate Christmas Day for an Octave of eight Days (til New Years Day), then comes Epiphany. So there is plenty of Christmas cheer to be had these days. This is because the Church realizes that when celebrating a mystery such as the Incarnation we need to take time to "soak in" its meaning. Part of Incarnation is that God became part of a family—the Holy Family which we celebrate next Sunday. So I extend to all of our families wishes for God's blessings for this upcoming year.

I am so thankful to those who have sent me Christmas cards and gifts, as we remember the greatest gift ever received—Christ the Lord. All God's blessings to you and yours in this New Year!

- Father Engelbrecht

Please Note! 2020 Financial Contributions deadline is Tuesday, January 5th. Any contributions, received after this date, will be marked for the 2021 fiscal year. Thank you!

A sincere **thank you to those who decorated the churches for Christmas.** Both Churches are beautiful and set the mood for the lovely celebration of our Lord's Nativity and the Christmas Season.

St. Anthony's wishes to **thank the volunteers who donated their time and equipment to trim trees at the cemetery** last Saturday. Those helping were Blake Haverback, Jerry DeSmith, Kenny DeSmith, Jackson & Emma Frank, Gary & Gretchen Olson, Cameron Minnaert, Dick & Ron DeSmith, Dave VanDeVelde, and Sue Mochel

Please note that incense will be used on Christmas Eve at St. Mary's, Christmas Day at St. Anthony's and Sundays at 9:30 am Mass during the Christmas Season. Incense was used in the worship of God 2,000 years ago and is employed in the Church's Sacred Liturgy today. The sweet smelling incense rising up to God. At Christmas we celebrate our God who so loves us that he sent his only son down to us. This perfectly represents what happens at Mass—God comes to us and we are taken up to God.. There might be some that would prefer to avoid Mass with incense, so I inform you presently.

2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)- Know, Love, Serve is underway! The ADA pledge card, a self addressed envelope and an instructional letter from Father Engelbrecht was mailed to every household for each parish. Each family is asked to fill out the card and mail your pledge card to the parish office or return it in the collection basket. The 2020 parish goals are St. Anthony's \$30,527 and Sacred Heart \$13,071. Please prayerfully consider your contribution in helping our parishes reach our goals. Thank you to those who have given to the ADA. We greatly appreciate your generosity.

St. Anthony's ADA	Sacred Heart ADA
Goal: \$30,527	Goal: \$13,071
Pledged: \$24,420	Pledged: \$8,135
Balance: \$6,107	Balance: \$4,936
Families: 75	Families: 42

There is good news if you have reached age 70 1/2 and you would like to help your parish. If you have an IRA, the government requires you to take out a certain amount each year and be subject to federal tax. However, the law allows you to donate this amount directly to

your parish during 2020 and have it distributed free of federal income tax.! What a wonderful opportunity to help their parish. Please call your tax advisor or call Bill Engelbrecht at the Diocesan Office of Development at (309) 671-1550 ext. 7093

Project Pride Food Pantry in Annawan wishes to say "Thank you so much for your generosity:.. Your contributions make such a difference. You have proven that Christmas is truly the season of love! In January our normal distribution days are changed to one week later because of New Years Day. We will be open on Saturday, January 9: 8:30-10:30 am. Check us out again on Friday, January 22: 3:00 -5:00 pm. For more information, or a special need, please call 309-945-2337,

Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry continues to take food donations on Mondays from 9-12 and 1-4. Please leave food donations in the carts located outside. Monetary donations can be made online or mailed to 620 W. Main St. Geneseo 61254. Curbside food pickup is every Tuesday from 9 - 11:30 am for clients. If you need assistance please call 944-3165. Thank you.

St. Anthony's Prayer Shawl Ministry is accepting requests for those suffering critical or serious health issues. Need not be a member of our parish, but one suffering and needing our prayers for comfort. We now have several completed and available. Please contact Verna May at 309-269-3772.

Reflection for the Feast of the Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, Colossians 3:12-21, Luke 2:22-40

Why did Jesus choose to become a baby born of a mother and father and to spend all but His last years living in an ordinary human family? In part, to reveal God's plan to make all people live as one "holy family" in His Church (see [2 Corinthians 6:16-18](#)). In the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, God reveals our true home. We're to live as His children, "chosen ones, holy and beloved," as the First Reading puts it. The family advice we hear in today's readings—for mothers, fathers, and children—is all solid and practical. Happy homes are the fruit of our faithfulness to the Lord, we sing in today's Psalm. But the Liturgy is inviting us to see more, to see how, through our family obligations and relationships, our families become heralds of the family of God that He wants to create on earth. Jesus shows us this in today's Gospel. His obedience to His earthly parents flows directly from His obedience to the will of His heavenly Father. Joseph and Mary aren't identified by name, but three times are called "his parents" and are referred to separately as his "mother" and "father." The emphasis is all on their their familial ties to Jesus. But these ties are emphasized only so that Jesus, in the first words He speaks in Luke's Gospel, can point us beyond that earthly relationship to the Fatherhood of God.n what Jesus calls "My Father's house," every family finds its true meaning and purpose (see [Ephesians 3:15](#)). The Temple we read about in the Gospel today is God's house, His dwelling (see [Luke 19:46](#)). But it's also an image of the family of God, the Church (see [Ephesians 2:19-22](#); [Hebrews 3:3-6](#); [10:21](#)).n our families we're to build up this household, this family, this living temple of God. Until He reveals His new dwelling among us and says of every person: "I shall be his God and he will be My son" (see [Revelation 21:3](#), [7](#)).

Dr. Scott Hahn

Parish Staff

Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor
fengelbrecht@stanthonysatkinson.org
(309) 936-7900

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

Deacon Marshall Plumley
mvlplum@gmail.com
(309) 944-2219

Bonnie VanDeVelde, Parish Secretary
Valerie Plumley, Finance Bookkeeper
office@stanthonysatkinson.org
(309) 936-7900
Office Hours: Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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 5:00pm, Sunday: 7:00, 9:00 am;
11:30pm Spanish

St. John Vianney (Cambridge)
Sunday at 8:00 am and 4:00 pm

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 Adam DeRycke at
(309) 935-6080

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