

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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MASS SCHEDULE
Celebrating Our Faith This Week

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saturday, December 30

4:00 pm @ SA – For the Parishoners by Fr. Engelbrecht

Sunday, December 31

8:00 am @ SH + Roberta VanDeVoorde by Dan & Erica Anderson

9:30 am @ SA + Herb Vandersnick by Jerry & Mary Buysse

Monday, January 1

No Mass

Tuesday, January 2

No Mass

Wednesday, January 3

No Mass

Thursday, January 4

No Mass

Friday, January 5

No Mass

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 6

4:00 pm @ SA – For the Parishoners by Fr. Engelbrecht

Sunday, January 7

8:00 am @ SH + Pawel Pryzbyla Eric & Lori Ufheil

9:30 am @ SA + Marvin & Florence Croegaert by Mary & Jerry

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 3 SA No CCD

Sunday, January 7 SH CCD 9:00 am

Tuesday, January 9 SA Parish/Finance meeting 6:30pm

**Please remember these parishioners
 who ask for your prayers.**

Katelyn DeRycke, Christine Sand Dunahee, Barry Miller,
 Berniece Cathelyn, Mary Frank, Bernie Weidner

Beautiful Eucharist

Beautiful Eucharist is a stunning collection of life-changing reflections about Jesus truly present in the Eucharist and wonderfully present in our lives.



Some of the most beloved authors of our times have come together to witness to their personal encounters with Jesus in the Eucharist, provide eye-opening insight into the Mass, and inspire every reader to grow closer to God, one step at a time. Father Mike Schmitz, Peter Kreeft, Lisa Hendey, Matthew Kelly, Bishop Andrew Cozzens, Fulton Sheen, Sister Helena Burns, Allen Hunt, Matt Wamer and others have each contributed deeply personal reflections.

Beautiful Eucharist is an invitation to encounter the life-giving presence of Jesus in the Eucharist so you can be a life-giving presence in the world.

Copies of the book *Beautiful Eucharist* are available for free at entrances at St. Anthony's & Sacred Heart.

Serving at Our Lord's Altar - Sacred Heart

8:00 am @ Sacred Heart - January 7

Lector: Wayne Brau

EMHC: Wayne Brau

Ushers: Richard McKibbon & Dennis DeSplinter

Money: Brenda Smith & Sharon Sturtewagen

Serving at Our Lord's Altar St. Anthony's

4:00 pm @ St. Anthony - January 6

Lector: Janice Wyffels

EMHC: Mary Kay Franks

Ushers: Ben Raschke & Kevin Stafford

9:30 am @ St. Anthony - January 7

Lector: Jeanne Carton

Ushers: Keith Causemaker & Gary Olson

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 doles 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)

2023 ADA

Ready To Bring The Love Of Jesus

The 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now underway in both parishes. Thank you to all who have already pledged to the appeal. No gift is too small and the parish is trying to reach 100% participation. If you received your pledge card in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. If you have not, there are pledge cards in each parish. Every dollar raised over the goal will be returned to both parishes to help with parish needs.

O Divine Redeemer Jesus Christ, prostrate before Thy crib, I believe Thou art the God of infinite Majesty, even though I do see Thee here as a helpless babe. I humbly adore and thank Thee for having so humbled Thyself for my salvation as to will to be born in a stable. I thank Thee for all Thou didst wish to suffer for me in Bethlehem, for Thy poverty and humility, for Thy nakedness, tears, cold and sufferings.

Would that I could show Thee that tenderness which Thy Virgin Mother had toward Thee, and love Thee as she did.

Would that I could praise Thee with the joy of the angels, that I could kneel before Thee with the faith of St. Joseph, the simplicity of the shepherds. Uniting myself with these first adorers at the crib, I offer Thee the homage of my heart, and I beg that Thou wouldst be born spiritually in my soul.

Make me reflect in some degree the virtues of Thy admirable nativity. Fill me with that spirit of renunciation, of poverty of humility, which prompted Thee to assume the weakness of our nature, and to be born amid destitution and suffering. Grant that from this day forward, I may in all things seek Thy greater glory, and may enjoy that peace promised to men of good will.

Prayer before the Christmas Crib



**Sharing in the Work of Christ
 through sacrificial giving**

St. Anthony Monthly Financial Support November

Sunday: \$6,967 Candle: \$89.75

Holy Day: \$205 Cemetery \$380

Sacred Heart Monthly Financial Support November

Sunday: \$3,104 Fuel: \$70 Candles: \$162

Holy Day & Mission Sunday: \$89

Dear Parishioners,

I hope all of you had a very Blessed Christmas. Don't forget we celebrate Christmas for the duration of the Christmas Season until 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 that January 1st, Mary Mother of God is NOT a Holy Day of obligation this year since it lands on a Monday. There will not be a Mass on January 1st.

After having surgery on the eighth of December, I am continuing to improve. I still have many Dr. appointments, but have been instructed to stay off my foot as much as possible. I hope to return to full schedule in the weeks to come. Thank you for your prayers and understanding during this time. Many thanks to Father Vien Van Do who has and will continue to assist with Mass.

Father Engelbrecht

2023 financial contributions for St. Anthony's, Sacred Heart and St. Mary's of the Field must be turned into the parish office by December 31st in order to be included on your 2023 tax contribution statement. If you are mailing your contribution please make sure you plan

accordingly and mail in advance. Any contributions received after this deadline will be included in your 2024 financial giving. Thank you.

St. Malachy's Church, Geneseo is hosting a **Joy to the World Nativity Display** Over 250 Nativities will be on display in the Parish Hall. December 26, 2023 - January 1, 2024 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm Fee will donations will be accepted Handicap Accessible Sponsored by St. Malachy Altar & Rosary.

It's Time to COME TOGETHER, **New Year's Eve "Pre Party", Let's Celebrate....** December 31st 2023 Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Hall, Silvis. 11:30 am-12:00pm—Mocktails 12:00pm Lunch 1:00 - 3:00 pm music entertainment and games . \$20 per adult; \$10 per child K-12th grade; 0 yrs-Pre-School Free; FAMILY Price is \$50 (2 adults and up to 3 kids) Menu: Signature Pleasure Party Sandwiches, Chicken Wings, Soup, Veggie Charcuterie Boards, Fruit Charcuterie Boards, Potato Bar, and Dessert is Ice Cream Sundae Bar Drinks included in ticket price. Games and Prizes for adults and kids alike. New Years Eve Pre Party goodie bags for all children. Tickets on sale in the OLG office during normal business hours and after Masses at Our Lady of Guadalupe the month of December with last tickets sold December 22nd. Questions call Katrina at 309-796-3867 ext 3

ATTENTION ALL CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS (ages 18-35) in the QCA! We cordially invite you to join us Friday, January 5th, 7-9:30 p.m. at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Rock Island, IL as we come together to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany! The evening begins by adoring Jesus, as the Magi did, with Adoration in the church 7-7:45 p.m. After Adoration we gather in McCarthy Hall for an evening of fellowship, food, and fun! Feel free to come for as much or as little of the evening as you are able - we look

forward to seeing you there! RSVP is appreciated, but not required—it just helps us to estimate food, etc. Please RSVP by January 1st, if possible.

The Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry is open: Mon. 9:00am to 7:00 pm, Tues. and Thurs. from 9:00am to 4:00 pm; and Fri. 9:00 am to noon. Any resident of Geneseo or Atkinson may shop once a week in the clothing room on Mon., Tues., and Thurs. We also have collection boxes in the vestibule of Fareway, NOSH and Inspire Continuing Care for donations. The food pantry will be closed on January 1 for New Year's and January 15th in observance of Martin Luther King day.

Sixty four families received Christmas gifts from donors through the Food Pantry's Holiday Gifts Program. The joy of giving was seen on the faces of the donors, and grateful smiles on the faces of the families picking up their gifts. Thank you to the Geneseo Communications and Atkinson Fire Department toy drives, we are so thankful for their donations.

The food pantry provided food baskets for Christmas dinner to 150 guests! More individuals and families are struggling this year due to rising costs..

Food needs: Tea, low sodium soup, cereal, crackers, 100% juice.

Non-food needs: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, household cleaners, and dish soap. Clothing room needs: Smaller sizes men's and women's clothing..

St. Anthony's is currently working on updated Circle lists. Circle Chairmen letters and lists will be printed and distributed as soon as possible,

Did you know? The Twelve days of Christmas

Aside from the fact that Epiphany—which comes twelve days after Christmas—used to mark the end of the Christmas Season, the song “Twelve Days of Christmas” is not really any part of Catholic liturgy.

The song of that name actually derives from a time in England from 1558 to 1829 when it was illegal to be a Catholic, and so the song contains a hidden catechism of Catholic theology.

- A Partridge in a Pear Tree: Jesus Christ
- Two Turtle Doves: The Old and New Testaments
- Three French Hens: The Theological Virtues (Faith, Hope, and Charity)
- Four Calling birds: The Four Gospels/The Four Evangelists
- Five Golden Rings: The first Five Books of the Old Testament, the “Pentateuch”
- Six Geese a-Laying: The Six Days of Creation
- Seven Swans a-Swimming: The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit/The Seven Sacraments
- Eight Maids a-Milking: The Eight Beatitudes
- Nine Ladies Dancing: The Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Ten Lords a-Leaping: The Ten Commandments
- Eleven Pipers Piping: The Eleven Faithful Apostles
- Twelve Drummers Drumming: The Twelve Points of Doctrine in the Apostles' Creed

Parish Staff

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Deacon Marshall Plumley
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Bonnie VanDeVelde, Parish Secretary
Valerie Plumley, Finance Bookkeeper
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(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 5:00pm, Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 am

St. John Paul II (Kewanee)
Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 am;
12:00pm Spanish

St. John Vianney (Cambridge)
Sunday at 8:00 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 our parishes! Please call the church office to register or if you have questions about our community.

Parish Cemeteries

St. Anthony Cemetery: Contact Sue Mochel, contact at (309)944-7289. Sacred Heart Cemetery: Contact Adam DeRycke at (309) 935-6080

Parish Hall Rental

St. Anthony's parish hall is 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