

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

ST. PATRICK ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Sheffield
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MASS SCHEDULE
Celebrating Our Faith This Week

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 21
 4:00 pm @ SA + Rich Vyneman
 4:00 pm @ SP - Carl Pucunas (Living)
Sunday, December 22
 7:30 am @ SP - For Parishioners of St. Patrick
 8:00 am @ SH + William Rambo
 9:30 am @ SA - For Parishioners of St. Anthony & Sacred Heart
 10:00 am @ SP - For The Souls That Have Died While In Despair
Monday, December 23, No Mass

The Nativity of the Lord

Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)
 4:00 pm @ SA + Mary Martens
 5:30 pm @ SP - Cliff Johnson (Birthday)
 11:00 pm @ SM - For Parishioners
Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
 7:30 am @ SP - For Generous Hearts This Christmas Season
 9:00 am @ SH + Larry & Owen Plumley
 10:00 pm @ SP + For Parishioners of St. Patrick
Thursday, December 26 St. Stephen, the First Martyr
 7:30 am + Kaitlyn McLain
SA No Mass
Friday, December 27 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
 7:30 am @ SP + Rosemary Owens
SA No Mass

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 28
 4:00 pm @ SA + Peggy King & Kelly Liedtke
 4:00 pm @ SP + Kathy Lanham
Sunday, December 29
 7:30 am @ SP - For Parishioners of St. Patrick
 8:00 am @ SH - For Parishioners of Sacred Heart & St. Anthony
 9:30 am @ SA + Herb Vandernick
 10:00 am @ SP + Deceased Members of the Maas Family

Serving at Our Lord's Altar

Tuesday December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 pm @ St. Anthony Lector: Jeanne Carton EMHC: Cindy Raschke Ushers: Steve Mapes & Ken Taber	5:30 pm @ St. Patrick Lector: Pat Corwin Usher: Al Corwin
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Tuesday December 25 Christmas Day

9:am @ Sacred Heart Lector: Volunteer, EMHC: Volunteer	7:30 am @ St Patrick Lector: Jim Owens Usher: Rich Brummel
	10:00 am @ St. Patrick Lector: Andrew Fisher Usher: Rick Cernovich

Saturday, December 28

4:00 pm @ St. Anthony Lector: EMHC: Ben Raschke Usher: Lynn Cathelyn & Richard DeSmith	4:00 pm @ St. Patrick Lector: Pat Corwin Usher: Al Corwin
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Sunday, December 29

8:00 am @ Sacred Heart Lector: Eric Ufheil EMHC: Gene VandeVoorde Ushers: Volunteers Money Counters: Renee Jackson & Joline Sierens	7:30 am @ St Patrick Lector: Lisa Wilson Usher: Rich Brummel
9:30 am @ St. Anthony Lector: EMHC: Dave VanDeVelde Ushers: Ed Coble & Gary Olson	10:00 am @ St. Patrick Lector: Mary Jane Rios Usher: Rick Cernovich St. Patrick Altar Servers Elizabeth and Ryan Pratt when available; Trained EMHC ask

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SA CCD class: No CCD until Jan. 8th
 SH CCD classes No CCD until Jan. 12th
 SP CCD classes Sunday , Dec. 22 @ 8:30-9:15 am

ADVENT CONFESSION AT ST. PATRICK

MONDAY DEC. 23, 2024 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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

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



Upcoming Cursillo Weekends

Men's: Feb. 20-23, 2025
 Women's: March 21-24, 2025
 Mens: October 16-19, 2025

For More information visit:
<https://nwcurisillo.com>

Upcoming TEC Weekends

March 1-3, 2025 (Girls)
 April 5-7, 2025 (Boys)
 June 14-16, 2025 (Girls)
 August 9-11, 2025 (Boys)
 October 4-6, 2025 (Girls)
 For information visit
www.northwest-tec.com

Sunday Memo FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishoners,
I hope that you have a very Blessed Christmas. Don't forget we celebrate Christmas Day for Eight days (until New Year's Day), then comes Epiphany, followed by the Baptism of the Lord. So there is plenty of cheer to be had these days. This is because the church realizes 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 our families wishes for God's blessings for the 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

Thank you for the warm Christmas wishes and gifts that you have been so gracious in giving. May the Joy of Jesus Christ, the true Joy of Christmas, fill your heart and home in this new Christmas Season beginning this week. God Bless your family and home in the New Year.
Father Albert Mung'aho

The Church Office will be closed the week of December 23rd and January 2nd. The office will reopen on January 9th.

St. Patrick parish will be having the Angel Tree again. This giving season will continue through January. The donations go to support St. Louis Magi project. This mission provides clothing and basic needs for children. Please pick up an angel and help a child. The tree will be ready by December 13th and will run through January 20th. There are plenty of price points to pick from. Items do not need the angel with it or wrapped. Please return you item to the back of the church. Thank you for your giving hearts.

The Knights of Columbus is hosting a blood drive at St. Patrick's Hall on Monday, December 30, 2024 from 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm.

For an appointment call 1-800-Red CROSS (1800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Please see the flyer in the vestibule for more information.

Please note that incense will be used on Sundays at 9:30 am Mass at St. Anthony parish during Advent and 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 heaven reminds us of our prayers rising up to God. At Christmas we celebrate our God who so loved 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 Masses with incense, so I inform you presently.

2024 financial contributions for St. Anthony, Sacred Heart, St. Patrick and St. Mary of the Fields must be turned into the parish office by December 31st in order to be included on your 2024 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.

There is good news if you have reached 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 laws allows you to donate this amount directly to your parish and have it distributed free of federal income tax. What a wonderful opportunity to help your parish. Please call your tax advisor or contact the Diocesan Office of Development at 309-671-1550 ext. 7093

St. Malachy Church, Geneseo is hosting a **Joy to the World Nativity Display**. From December 26, 2024 to January 1, 2025 from 2 pm - 8 pm there will be over 350 Nativities displayed in the parish hall. The hall is


handicapped accessible and donations will be accepted but not required. The display is sponsored by the St. Malachy Altar and Rosary Society.

Pope Francis has declared that 2025 will be celebrated as a **Jubilee Year of Pilgrims of Hope**. He has invited local Bishops to open that Year of Jubilee in their Diocese on December 29, 2024, the Feast of the Holy Family. Bishop Tylka invites you to join him as he celebrates the 10:30 am Mass at the Cathedral of St. Mary, Peoria to open the Year of Jubilee. There will be a pre-Mass ritual that will begin at 10 am at the Spalding Pastoral Center in Peoria. This will include a Gospel reading for the Papal Bull for the Jubilee year, and a procession to the Cathedral. The ritual will continue at the beginning of Mass with a showing of the relic of the True Cross and a Sprinkling Rite. All who wish are invited to join us for that ritual.

Young Adult Epiphany Party January 10th 2025 7-9:30 PM St. Pius X Catholic Church, Rock Island McCarthy Hall. We will begin the evening by adoring Jesus, as the Magi did, with Adoration from 7-7:45 pm After Adoration we will gather in McCarthy Hall for an evening of fellowship, food and fun! O COME, LET US ADORE HIM For Ages 18-35 are welcome ... Join Us this Epiphany.

The Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry is open Mondays 9:00 am to 7:00 pm and Tuesdays and Thursdays and 9:00 am to 4:00 pm; and Fridays 9:00am to 12:00pm. Food is distributed, and donations are gratefully accepted during business hours. The food Pantry will be closed December 23 and 24 and December 30 and 31.

Thank you to all Parishoners of St. Patrick, Sacred Heart, and St. Anthony's for Their help in decorating and cleaning our Churches for the Christmas Season. We deeply appreciate your help!



2024 ADA

The 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now Underway in our parishes. Thank you to all who have already pledged to the appeal. No gift is too small, and each parish is trying to reach 100% participation. If you have not given yet, **please consider filling out a pledge card today and mail it to the Diocese of Peoria or place your card/along with a check made out the Diocese of Peoria in the collection basket. It is helpful to send donations directly to the Diocese. The goals for each parish are as follows:**

St. Anthony's	Sacred Heart	St. Patrick's
Goal: \$32,418	Goal: \$13,450	Goal: \$19,202
Pledged: \$16,000	Pledged: \$2,220	Pledged: \$4,075
# of Donors: 48	# of Donors: 16	# of Donors: 11

Parish Staff

Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor
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Deacon Nicholas Simon
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(309) 945-2436

Deacon Marshall Plumley
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(309) 944-2219

Bonnie VanDeVelde, Parish Secretary
Valerie Plumley, Finance Bookkeeper
office@stanthonyatkinson.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
Saturday: 3:30 to 3:50 pm at St. Patrick's
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. at Sacred Heart or by appointment with priest.

Adoration

St. Patrick's, Sheffield
First Friday of every Month
7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

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

St. Louis (Princeton)
Sat. 4:00pm, Sunday 7:30, 9:00 & 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.

Sharing in the Work of Christ Through Sacrificial Giving

St. Anthony Monthly Financial Support November

Sunday: \$7,474.30 Candle:\$87.55 Cemetery \$415, Holy Day: \$260
Human Development: \$120 Circle 3: \$1,140

Sacred Heart Financial Support November

Sunday: \$3,396 Fuel: \$140 Holy Day: \$135 Candle: \$104 Cemetery: \$2,005 Improvement: \$255 CCD: \$250

St. Patrick Financial Support November

Sunday:\$9,421.15 Candle:\$117 Improvement:\$704.85 Cemetery:\$335
CCD: \$250 Holy Day: \$142 Flowers: \$110

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:
Sue Mochel at (309)944-7289.

Sacred Heart Cemetery:
Adam DeRycke at (309) 935-6080
St. Mary's of the Field Shrine Cemetery:
Steve Clementz at (309) 936-7142
St. Patrick's Cemetery:
Dave Hahne at (815) 252-2798

Parish Hall Rental

St. Anthony's parish hall, St. Patrick's parish hall and St. Mary's of the Fields parish hall 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@stanthonyatkinson.org or mailing to PO Box 210, Atkinson, IL 61235