

ST. ANTHONY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Atkinson
ST. PATRICK ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Sheffield
SHRINE OF ST. MARY OF THE FIELDS, Hooppole
Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 210 Atkinson, IL 61235
Phone 309.936.7900 Fax 309.936.4035
www.theheartandthelily.org
http://stmaryofthefieldsshrine.weebly.com

St. Anthony Location: 204 W Main Street, Atkinson IL
St. Patrick Location: 233 W Atkinson Street, Sheffield IL



MASS SCHEDULE

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, November 29
4:00 pm @ SA + Kip Sleaford
Sunday, November 30
8:00 am @ SA - For the Parishoners
10:00 am @ SP - Families of St. Patrick Parish

Monday, December 1 No Mass
Tuesday, December 2
5:30 pm @ SA + Jim Holevoet
Wednesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest
5:30 pm @ SP + VanVooren/VanCauwenberge Families
Thursday, December 4 St. John Damascene. Pr. & Dr. of Ch.
8:00 am @ SA + Elsie Simon
Friday, December 5
8:00 am @ SA + Gerald Thompson, Mary Scranton & Mary Marguccio
5:30 pm @ SP + Jack Genster

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 6
4:00 pm @ SA + Ron Manthe
Sunday, December 7
8:00 am @ SA + Barney VanDeRostyne
10:00 am @ SP - For the Parishoners

Serving at Our Lord’s Altar St. Anthony

4:00 pm @ St. Anthony – December 6
Lector:
Ushers: Richard De Smith, Vince Schopp
8:00 am @ St. Anthony – December 7
Lector: Terence Patton
Ushers: Eric Ufheil, Jon Hamer
EMHC: Loren Jackson
5:30 pm @ St. Anthony - December 8 (Immaculate Conception)
Lector: Wayne Brau
Ushers: Keith Causemaker, Stephen Mapes
EMHC Cindy Raschke

Serving at Our Lord’s Altar - St. Patrick

10:00 am @ St. Patrick - December 7
Lector: Lisa Wilson
Ushers: Rich Brummel, Shawn LeRette
Altar Servers: Marcus, Caroline
Money Counters: Kevin & Lisa Wilson, Jon & Gail Pickering
7:00 pm @ St. Patrick - December 8 (Immaculate Conception)
Lector: Kristal LeRette
Ushers: Rich Brummel, Shawn LeRette

Please remember these parishioners who ask for your prayers.

Christine Sand Dunahee, Barry Miller, Mary Frank, Tom Morse, Abby Hahne Brokaw, Mike Curran, Jay DeBruyn, Barb Wagner, Joan Miller, Joan Glubzinski, Kelly Hennigh, Joe Hoenschied, Chris Johnson, Elaine Kelm, Cleo Lanham, Dan Woods, Megan Lanham, Julie Marley, Hudson McCook, Aaron Stetson, Barb Wagner, Marietta Andrews, Nick Welgat, Spike Hubbs, Lorraine Happach. Shelley Church, Cindy Roseman, Alan Dietz, Gaye Abrhams, John & Wink Barry

Thank you to those who attended the combined church family thanksgiving potluck. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship. Thank you to those who helped clean up and those who donated a toy/winter clothing item for local charities. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. .

Sharing in the Work of Christ Through Sacrificial Giving
(Weekly Sunday Contribution collected at Mass Nov. 23rd)

St. Anthony Sunday Collection: \$1,688; Human Development: \$30
St. Patrick Sunday Collection: \$1,167; Improvement: \$10

Online Contribution totals for the previous month will be reported starting in January and will be posted on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sun. Nov 30th: NO CCD FOR BOTH PARISHES



Angel Tree

This year our church family at St. Patrick & St. Anthony will combine to provide coats for families in need through the Angel Tree Project. All of the Angels have been distributed. Thank you to everyone who has picked up an angel. Please attach the angel to the coat when returned. You will NOT need to wrap the coat. All items should be returned by December 15th to be handed out. Your generosity lifts others and strengthens our own Christian purpose. Thank you!

St. Anthony Religious Education Food Drive

Please help support our community by donating to the Annawan Food Pantry!

Our collection will take place between now and Sunday December 14th . Donations can be dropped off during office hours or during CCD from 9 am - 10 am on Dec. 7th & Dec. 14th (No CCD on Nov. 30th). There is a donation box by the angel tree in the entryway. Thank you for helping with the Religious Education Food Drive!

Items Needed Include: Canned Goods, Paper Goods, Plates & Napkins, Pasta. Every item makes a difference - Thank you for your kindness this season!

Christmas Prayer

Beginning on St. Andrew the Apostle’s feast day, November 30, the following beautiful prayer is traditionally recited fifteen times a day until Christmas. This special prayer is powerful to obtain favors if one’s requests are in accordance with God’s will. It is believed that whoever recites the following prayer with a pious heart the traditional 15 times a day from November 30 to December 25, will obtain whatever is asked. This Christmas prayer carries an *Imprimatur* from Archbishop Michael Augustine of New York on 6 February 1897. This is a very meditative prayer that helps us increase our awareness of the real focus of Christmas and helps us prepare ourselves spiritually for His coming.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.



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.

Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule
Holy Day of Obligation:
December 8: 5:30 pm @ SA
December 8: 7:00 pm @ SP
Christmas Mass Schedule:
Christmas Eve, December 24
4 pm @ SA (Father Haake)
4 pm @ SP (Father Engelbrecht)
11 pm @ St. Mary's of the Fields
Christmas Day, December 25
9:00 am @ SA

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:
December 31st: 4:00 @ SA
December 31st: 5:30 @ PM

Please note that **incense** will be used on Sundays at 8:00 am & 10 am Mass 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.
2026 Catholic Calendars

Thank you to Vandemore Funeral Home for providing the beautiful Catholic Calendars for 2026. Calendars may be picked up at the entrances of both churches.

Thank you to those who volunteered to help clean up & maintain St. Patrick Cemetery last week. Many hands made for lighter work. We appreciate your time and dedication in helping with the upkeep of the cemetery.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
If you would like to donate towards the Altar Christmas flowers in honor of a loved one, please send in your donation using the parish Christmas flower envelope, or in an envelope marked Christmas Flowers. **Please make sure your loved one's name(s) is/are spelled and written clearly on the envelope.** Envelopes can be dropped in the collection basket or mailed it to the parish office at PO Box 210, Atkinson IL 61235. Make the check out to the parish in which you are a member. Each parish will have a separate list with ONLY the name of whom the donation is being given for. **Deadline for contributions & loved ones names, that will be honored on the list, is Thursday, December 18th.**

Geneseo/Atkinson Food Pantry needs for December: The pantry is in need of Spaghetti sauce, sweet potatoes, stuffing, flour, sugar, vanilla, chocolate chips, juices, water. Non-food items: toilet paper, paper towels, men's body wash, toothpaste, toothbrush, cleaning supplies, baby wipes, diapers, shampoo, conditioner and deodorant.

Sheffield (Western Bureau County) Food Pantry * please note there is a basket in the entrance of SP for food donations. The pantry is in need of pancake mix and syrup. Items always needed: Mac & Cheese, Noodles, Peanut Butter, Soup, Tuna Fish, Cereal, Instant Potatoes, Rice, Canned Fruit, Jell-O, Canned Vegetables, Sugar, Spaghetti Sauce, Coffee, Hamburger Helper, Crackers. We also accept paper products (toilet paper, paper towels) and personal care products (toothpaste, shampoo, bar soap, deodorant, etc).

Advent talk series "Heart of the Holy Family" at Divine Mercy Parish in Silvis. Monday—December 1: HEART OF ST. JOSEPH. No talk on Monday, December 8th due to Holy Day. Monday, December 15th: Heart of The Blessed Virgin Mary. Monday, December 22 Heart of Jesus. Doors open each night at 6:00 pm. Talk with Father Peter Zorjan is at 6:30 pm. 7 pm - 8 pm is Holy Hour/ Rosary/Benediction. 7pm - last person, Confession.

Since our parishes have deep Flemish and Dutch roots, I offer the following. Maybe some of you will recognize it. - Father Engelbrecht	
Sinterklaasje, kom maar binnen met je knecht St. Nicholas Day Song (Flemish)	Saint-Nicolas, Come in with Your Servant St. Nicholas Day Song (English)
Sinterklaasje, kom maar binnen met je knecht, Want we zitten allemaal even recht. Misschien heeft u wel even tijd, Voordat u weer naar Spanje rijdt.	Saint-Nicolas, come in with your servant Because we are all sitting up straight Maybe you have a little time to spare Before you go back to Spain.
Sinterklaasje, klop maar even bij ons aan, En laat uw paardje maar buiten staan. En we zingen en we springen en we zijn zo blij, Want er zijn geen stoute kindren bij. En we zingen en we springen en we zijn zo blij, Want er zijn geen stoute kind'ren bij!	Saint-Nicolas, do knock on our door And leave your horse outside And we sing and we jump and we are so happy Because there are no naughty children here And we sing and we jump and we are so happy Because there are no naughty children here!

Blessing of the Advent Wreath: Use this simple ritual to help prepare your heart for Christmas. As you light the candle of your Advent wreath, reflect on the many gifts Jesus brings to our lives—including hope, faith, joy and peace—and on our Gospel call to share them with others to build a more just and peaceful world. Together, let's prepare our hearts for a Christmas filled with love and purpose! On or before November 30, create an Advent wreath and use this blessing prayer:

God of goodness, Bless our Advent wreath. May its circle remind us of your infinite love, and to live as one human family. May its evergreen branches awaken our hope to share with people who need it most. May its candles illuminate peace in our hearts to touch the world with compassion. May we receive the joy of your word and bring it to life in all corners of the earth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

2025 ADA

Thank you to those who have already made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Your support, in prayer and through your sacrificial gift to the ADA, makes it possible to provide services throughout the Diocese which support our parishes. If you have not made your pledge by mail please take a pledge card located at the entrances of both parishes. The goals for each parish are as follows: St. Anthony's: \$46,563 St. Patrick's: \$20,875 Please make all checks out to Diocese of Peoria and send donations directly to the Diocese. Thank you.

St. Anthony Goal: \$46,563	St. Patrick Goal: \$20,875
Pledged: \$22,410	Pledged: \$1,837
Balance: \$24,153	Balance: \$19,038

Parish Staff
Rev. S. Stephen Engelbrecht, Pastor
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(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: 9:30 to 9:50 am at St. Patrick
or by appointment with priest.

Adoration
St. Patrick's, Sheffield
First Friday of every Month 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Area Parishes
St. Malachy (Geneseo)
Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 am
St. John Paul II (Kewanee)
Saturday 4:30pm, Sunday: 8:30
11:15am Spanish
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.

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@stanthonysatkinson.org or mailing to PO x 210, Atkinson, IL 61235