

## CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ST. ANN, ST. GABRIEL, IHM, AND ST. ANTHONY

**Fr. Peter Schuster - Pastor**

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### OCIA

**Pat Merrick** c/(507)407-1063

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**Dave Schreiber - Custodian**

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### **St. Gabriel - Fulda - 507-425-2369**

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### **Immaculate Heart of Mary - Currie**

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### **St. Anthony - Westbrook**

P O Box 278 Westbrook MN 56183

**Joyce Vortherms - c/(507) 822-4318**

Faith Formation [joyce117@centurytel.net](mailto:joyce117@centurytel.net)

**Elizabeth Johnson - Bulletin** c/(507)830-0113

Facebook: St. Anthony's Catholic Church

### Websites:

[www.acmcatholic.org](http://www.acmcatholic.org) St. Ann

[www.triparishcfw.org](http://www.triparishcfw.org) Currie/Fulda/Westbrook

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## PARISH SERVICES

**NEW PARISHIONERS** We warmly welcome you to our Catholic parishes of St. Ann, St. Gabriel, Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Anthony! Contact the office to register.

**MARRIAGE** Recently engaged? Before setting up any other arrangements, call Father to start your preparation for this beautiful sacrament! Preparation must begin at least six months before a wedding.

**BAPTISM** Call Dana at St. Ann to make arrangements to have your child baptized as soon as possible! Those who have not had a child baptized before will also schedule a preparation session.

## ADORATION AND RECONCILIATION

**St. Ann** Adoration and Confessions every Thursday from 5:00-6:00 pm.

**St Gabriel** Confessions-Before the 8:00 am Mass Sunday. (7:30 - 7:45 am) Adoration and Confession the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month after the 8:30 Mass.

**IHM** Adoration and Confession the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month after the 8:30 Mass.

**St. Anthony** Confessions-Before the 4:00 pm Saturday Mass. (3:30 - 3:45pm)

## MASS INTENTIONS – NOV 24 - NOV 30

Mon 24	<i>Father's Day Off</i>	<i>No Mass</i>
Tues 25	8:30 am St. Gabriel	†Alice Knutson
Wed 26	8:30 am St. Ann	†Bernice Stoderl
Thur 27	8:30 am IHM	†Barb Surprenant
Fri 28	8:30 am St. Anthony	†Pete & Betty Schoborg
Sat 29	<b>4:00 pm</b> St. Anthony	†Steve Jacox
Sat 29	<b>6:00 pm</b> IHM	†Gerald, Eric & Tim Schreier
Sun 30	<b>8:00 am</b> St. Gabriel	For The People
Sun 30	<b>10:00 am</b> St. Ann	†Esther Schmidt

## CHURCH SUPPORT - NOV 15 & NOV 16

	Envelopes	Plate/Childrens	Online/ACH
St. Ann	\$3,955.00	\$141.00/43.00	\$485.15
St. Gabriel	\$1,190.00	\$208.00/2.00	\$ 76.88
IHM-Currie	\$2,515.00	\$294.00/22.00	\$ 71.00
St. Anthony	\$ 225.00	\$78.00	\$171.75

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL - 2025 GOALS

St. Ann	Goal \$17,016	Pledged	<b>\$38,259</b>
St. Gabriel	Goal \$11,065	Pledged	<b>\$14,970</b>
IHM-Currie	Goal \$ 9,991	Pledged	<b>\$12,375</b>
St. Anthony	Goal \$ 4,872	Pledged	<b>\$ 6,000</b>

## ST. ANN

**OUR SYMPATHY** goes out to the family of Duane Kirchner. Duane passed away on Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. May he rest in peace. **DURING NOVEMBER** we remember all the dearly departed, especially members of our parish: Jean Rice, Jack Sweely, Robert Robinson, Gay Metz, Mert Brown, Rosie York, Eleene Gorman, Donna Bertrand, David Herrig, Alice Knutson, Virgil Halbur, Doug Anderson, Tom Fitzgerald, Babe Schoo, Bernice Stoderl, and Esther Schmidt.

**SEE CHRISTMAS** Mass times for parish cluster on **page 3**.

**THERE WILL BE NO** Holy Hour Adoration or confessions offered at St. Ann Thur, Nov 27. Happy Thanksgiving!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR** for the Communal Penance service for our parish cluster. Confessions will be heard at St. Ann Church on Sunday, December 7, starting at 2:00pm until all are heard. This will be the only Penance service held for the Advent season. All are invited!

**SPECIAL Thank You** to the following volunteers for cutting trees down at St. Columba Cemetery: Chuck Platt, Bryon Platt, Bernie Platt, Paul Platt, Pat Kremer, Ronnie Kremer, Scott Nelson, Todd Thraen, Guthrie Claus, Mindy Janssen, Dean McClintock, and Ella Claus.

**COFFEE & COOKIES** will be served by the CCW in the hall following the Youth Mass on December 7<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to stay for snacks and fellowship.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER** donations are being accepted. Envelopes can be dropped into the collection baskets. If you give in honor/memory of – please list names. Extra envelopes are available at the church entrances.

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER** will be held on Thur, Dec 25 in St. Ann Hall. Serving begins at noon. Don't Spend Christmas alone, call 507-760-0090 or 507-760-1303 and let them know if you are attending and how many. All are welcome!

### FAITH FORMATION CLASSES 2025-2026

There will be no classes on Weds, Nov 26 for Thanksgiving break.

Advent season is just around the corner. If your family would like any additional prayer materials, please contact Diann Timmerman.

## ST. GABRIEL

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**-If you would like to donate to the flower fund, please use the envelopes that are available on the table at the back of church. They can be put in the collection basket.

**ADDITIONAL FINANCES**-Campaign For Human Development \$658.00

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**-After Mass is over, please make sure all the lights are off in the entries and the church basement.

**THE LITURGICAL SCHEDULE** copies for November and December are in the red folder by the elevator entrance, posted on our website and on the bulletin boards.

**DURING NOVEMBER** we continue to remember the departed from our parish: Leona Gieselman, Joanne Klein, Betty Abrahamson, Caroline Odenbrett, Gene Voss, Betty Olsem and Judy Holden. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls rest in peace.

### **FRIDAY MORNING YOUTH ROSARY**

All students are invited to join us beginning this week every Friday morning for the Rosary. We will begin at 7:15 (with donuts and juice to follow). Students will be up to school well before the first bell rings! Please consider joining us. Parents and parishioners most welcome!

**CHILDREN'S MASS KITS - Attention Parents of Small Children!** There are now Mass Kits available in back of church to keep your little ones happy and entertained during Mass. These kits are awesome and include things like coloring pages; Mass-related children's cardboard books and other nice resources to help engage your little ones. Feel free to take one from the back table when you come into church and return it after Mass.

### LITURGICAL DUTIES NOV 30

#### St. Ann - 10:00 am

<b>Min of Hosp Servers</b>	Darwin J, Brian & Angie F, Jill M
<b>Reader</b>	Garret R, Renee R
<b>Reader</b>	Karen B
<b>Gifts</b>	Dave Kathman Family
<b>EMHC</b>	Sarah B, Katie H, Trish K
<b>Comm to HB</b>	Sarah B
<b>Music</b>	Judy, Dana

### LITURGICAL DUTIES NOV 30

#### St. Gabriel - 8:00 am

<b>Min of Hosp Server</b>	Mark V, Dave T, Mike & Sue Z
<b>Lector</b>	Grace S, Mara C
<b>Lector</b>	Sharon F
<b>Comm</b>	Katie C
<b>EHMC</b>	Mary L, Levi Z, Lenore W
<b>Sacristan</b>	Linda C
<b>Money Counters</b>	Barb K, Linda C

## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

**THANKSGIVING DAY LITURGICAL DUTIES-Servers:** Levi K, Asher K; **Lector**-Matt K; **Gift Bearers**-Blake & Marie Heronimus Family; **EMHC**-Lori M, Dawn K, Jon W; **Song Leader**-Alyssa O

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Contact Lita Schreier (507-227-8844) to add someone in need of prayers.

**FUNERAL LUNCHEONS:** To help with food or working, please contact Marie Heronimus (507-360-2307) or Sandy Anderson (507-227-7063)

**ADDITIONAL FINANCES:** Collection for Military Chaplains: \$750; Donations: \$115

**FAITH FORMATION:** Faith Formation: No Class Thanksgiving Break; Confirmation: YOU Class #4 Nov 30th - in Parish Center; Confirmation Class is Dec. 10th 7 pm at St. Ann-Saint Report is due. Dec 6: Youth need to sign up-lasagna dinner

**GREENERY PICKUP:** Nov. 22 from 4:30-5:30 pm in IHM Parking Lot. Each family should pick up their family order or make arrangements to have someone else pick up their order!!

### ST. MARY'S RAFFLE WINNERS:

11/14 \$100 Brittany Peterson; 11/21 \$100 Ruth Sanders

**CHOIR PRACTICE:** As we prepare for Advent, please join us at practice on **Tues., November 25th at 7:00 p.** Contact Patty LeClaire at 507-227-9965. Hope to see you there!

**IHM MEETINGS:** The IHM Pastoral Council will meet at 5:45 pm on Tues. Nov. 25 in the church basement and IHM Finance Council will meet after at 6:45 pm. Please try to attend.

**SACRISTAN NEEDED:** IHM could use another man or woman sacristan (or two) for back-up or regular scheduling. It only takes a few minutes of your time for Thursday morning or for Saturday mass. Please consider being a part of this wonderful ministry of preparing the sacred vessels for the celebration of Mass. Don't think you are 'not worthy'...you can do it. Please call/text Romane Dold at 507-221-0189.

**FALL FESTIVAL UPDATE:** The Fall dinner was a huge success once again and we appreciate all of the people that organized and donated time, pies, and hands for helping!. Meals served included 306 takeout and 225 sit down, with profit of \$7,240.26. We are currently working on reviewing the donation list along with investigating the addition of an industrial dishwasher in the kitchen. More to come...we will keep you posted! .

**LASAGNA MEAL-SW MEN'S CHORUS:** SW MN Men's Christmas Concert is back again this year. IHM Youth will be having annual Lasagna Supper on Sat., Dec. 6th before Mass in the church at 5 pm. Concert will start at 7:30 pm. Freewill donations. The youth would love your support and don't miss the Christmas concert.

## LITURGICAL DUTIES - NOV 29

### IHM - 6:00 PM

**Server** Teddy K, Levi K  
**Lector** Marcia S  
**Gift Bearers** Brett & Karlie Swenhaugen Family  
**EMHC** Jon W, Lori M, Shari S  
**CANTOR** Alyssa O  
**Ushers** Dave L, Jon O, Dan S, Blake S

## ST. ANTHONY

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** If anyone would like to donate money toward the Poinsettias to decorate for Christmas, please place a donation in the collection basket. Please label it for Christmas flowers.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Mass intentions are \$10 now. Please place them in the collection basket.

**MAGNIFIKID:** St. Anthony has this weekly Mass aid for children. They are available for anyone who thinks their child/children would enjoy it. Contact Joyce Vortherms (507-822-4318) for a monthly supply. Arrangements for delivery can be made.

**LIVING NATIVITY:** The American Lutheran Church of Windom is presenting a living nativity on Wednesday December 10th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Soup and Chili supper in the fellowship hall for \$8.00. All are welcome.

**OUR SYMPATHY:** Please keep in your prayers the family of Leo Vortherms who passed away November 17th. His funeral will be Tuesday 11/25 at 10:30 am. Visitation will be Monday 11/24 at the Westbrook Funeral Home.

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## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE

*(Holy Day of Obligation)*

**9:00AM** - Dec 8 - IHM, Currie

**5:30PM**—Dec 8 - St. Ann, Slayton

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

**4:00PM** - Dec. 24 - St. Ann, Slayton

**6:00PM** - Dec. 24 - St. Gabriel, Fulda

**8:00AM** - Dec. 25 - IHM, Currie

**10:00AM** - Dec. 25 - St. Anthony, Westbrook

## LITURGICAL DUTIES - NOV 29

### ST. ANTHONY - 4:00 PM

**Greet/Gifts** Dean & Elizabeth J  
**Lector** Gene O  
**Servers** Sydney & Lucas  
**EMHC** Ethan J  
**Cleaners** Joan O, Elizabeth J

## WEEKLY WORDS FROM THE ROCK:

### Physically Present at Church versus Watching Mass on Television

With the Covid pandemic, churches tried to provide Mass to people via electronic means. The purpose was that while people could not attend Mass in person, the connection with the parish still remained. With the restrictions of the Covid pandemic lifted, the numbers of people attending Mass declined, in some parishes drastically. Watching Mass on television for many became the norm. I want to share an article written by Monsignor Charles Pope on the topic of television Mass and one's obligation in attending Mass. I hope you find it helpful in understanding the Church's theology on the importance of attending Mass in person. (Note: Some are not physically able to attend Mass and that is also addressed in this article).

**Question:** Our parish family is fairly large, and during certain times of the year, usually Christmas and Easter, more people show up for Mass than we have room for in the church. As a result, the overflow crowd goes to the parish center for Mass. Another priest would celebrate that Mass there. However, in the past year, they just put up a few television screens and streamed the Mass from the church to the parish center. This was done even though we had two priests available to say Mass. But they chose not to. I wonder if I fulfilled my obligation to attend Mass since you wrote, "watching Mass on television does not fulfill the obligation." Why does it fulfill the obligation if I watch it on television in a parish center instead of my house across the street? If we have an obligation to attend Mass, I think the church has an obligation to provide a priest to say Mass in person, especially when a priest is available.

**Answer:** You fulfilled your obligation by attending the overflow room. Ideally, the parish should have another priest at the parish center. But, there is a difference between watching Mass on a screen in an overflow room at a parish and watching the Mass on television at home. The most significant difference is that one is able to receive holy Communion in the overflow room, whereas, at home, this is not possible. Further, while the actual church may be full, one is still on-site where the Mass is taking place, and one is with the people of God who are gathered together in the house of the Lord.

This leads us to an important consideration of the sacraments and the human person. As human beings, we are not our soul and body alone, we are a composite of body and soul. Hence, there is a physical component to the celebration of all the sacraments. In baptism, water is poured upon the body to bring cleansing to the person, body and soul. In several of the sacraments, holy oils are used to anoint the body and bring healing to the soul. Other sacraments involve the laying on of hands or, in the case of holy matrimony, the joining of hands. In all cases, the body is touched. Even in confession, celebrated behind a screen, still involves the priest laying hands on the person by extending his hands over or near him or her. In holy Communion, Christ Jesus is received into the body to nourish body and soul. Hence, physical presence is essential for Catholics in the celebration of the sacraments and the holy liturgy.

In cases where one cannot come to the Church for a serious reason, they are dispensed from the obligation to attend holy Mass. A "TV" Mass has long been offered for such occasions, which supplies some connection to the holy liturgy, but this is not the same as going to holy Mass at a church. Holy Communion cannot be received on TV and must be brought to the home-bound in some real and physical way. Confessions cannot be heard over the phone, baptism cannot be conferred online, and so forth. It is lamentable that one cannot physically attend holy Mass, and for this reason the Church has long made efforts in such situations to bring the sacraments to the home-bound.

During the pandemic of 2020, the closing of churches impacted Catholics greatly since the reception of the sacraments requires physical presence. Some began to like recorded or streamed Masses and spoke of them as being the same or even better than going to Church since it was so convenient. But this offends against sacramental theology for the reasons stated above. We have bodies, and notions of "virtual" (electronic) presence are simply not adequate... In Jesus' parable about the wedding feast of the king, declining the invitation to attend in person drew some severe punishments, promises that "I will be with you in spirit" notwithstanding (cf. Matthew 22:1-14).

Parishes must, in situations that you describe, make extra Masses available in times of overflow; ideally celebrated by different priests or, less ideally, by the use of a large screen. But it is always best to ensure and enable physical attendance of God's faithful in the holy house of God, which is the church and parishes structures.

(The above article was written by Monsignor Charles Pope, *Our Sunday Visitor*, April 30-May 6, 2023, page 19).

### Electric Motors

Do you have any electric motors that are lying around, and you would like to be rid of? Even with the passing of my father, I would be happy to take any electric motors. You can leave them by the rectory garage in Slayton, or I can pick them up at any of the parishes. Thanks!

Peace be to you!

Father Peter Schuster

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**THANKSGIVING DAY MASS** will be held at IHM on Thursday at 8:30 am

\*\*\*\*\*  
**WINTER NOTICE:** With winter approaching, remember if school is 2 hours late or cancelled, there will be NO weekday Mass.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:** Mark your calendar! The High School Retreat will be held on January 11th in Worthington. All confirmation students will be attending this event.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**SUMMER 2026!** Totus Tuus will be coming to St. Gabriel—Fulda (DAY) and St. Ann-Slayton (NIGHT). Please mark your calendars for June 7th—June 12th. More details to follow.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**CAMP SUMMIT 2026!** We will be registering students to attend week 2, August 3rd-6th. Please mark your calendar. A flyer will be sent with Faith Formation students in January 2026.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**ST. ANN YOUTH FUNDRAISER-ROAST BEEF COMMERCIALS-THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD** from 11 am-1 pm. Put on by the Faith Formation Families. Serving: Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Veggies and Ice Cream, *while supplies last*.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**LASAGNA MEAL-SW MEN'S CHORUS-IHM:** SW MN Men's Christmas Concert will be back again this year. IHM youth will be hosting the annual Lasagna Supper on **Saturday, December 6th** before Mass in the church at 5:00 pm. Concert will start at 7:30 pm. Freewill donations. The youth would love your support and don't miss the Christmas concert.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**ST. MARY'S SOUP & PIE FUNDRAISER (Take out only):** Drive up takeout/delivery are available Sunday, Nov. 23; 11:00 am-12:30 pm - St. Mary's church basement, Tracy. Meal is soup, pie and bread for \$15 or soup only for \$12. Pre-order by calling Andrea Schreier at 605-929-9937. Day of order call church basement at 507-629-3841.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**LETTER FROM MARIA SUMPFF-AHMED, SOCIAL MINISTRY COORDINATOR, CATHOLIC CHARITIES**  
Good Morning,

Can you believe Advent is around the corner? During this time, we are encouraged to spend time with the Holy Family as the Journey through the season leading up to the Birth of Our Lord and Savior.

I will be offering an advent study called, **'Tis the Season of Mercy**, and all are welcome to join via teams. You can stay in your cozy home with hot chocolate and your pet curled up at your feet to discuss the readings of the season, and who we are encouraged to live our faith.

'Tis the Season of Mercy Advent Study will examine each of the Sunday Advent Readings, how this can relate to Works of Mercy, to our Catholic Social Doctrine and Saints that lived the theme for the week. Each week we will begin with prayer and the readings of the week and how does this connect to themes of hope, peace, joy, love, and solidarity. We will contemplate who is our neighbor; who are we called to love; responding with charity and justice to our neighbors; who and how to be a peacemaker; and lastly what are we called to do.

The study will be on Monday nights beginning **December 1st** at 7pm via Teams. Contact Maria at 507-905-8602 or email [mahmed@ccsogn.org](mailto:mahmed@ccsogn.org) to obtain the link for the study and the information that will be discussed!

Please share the information and place it in the bulletin. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. God Bless!

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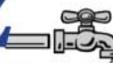
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