

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

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Facebook: St. Anthony's Catholic Church

Websites:

www.acmcatholic.org St. Ann

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 2nd Tuesday of every month after the 8:30 Mass.

IHM Adoration and Confession the 2nd 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 – DEC 8—DEC 14

Mon 8	9:00 am	IHM	† Kathy Zens
Mon 8	5:30 pm	St. Ann	Parishioners
Tues 9	8:30 am	St. Gabriel	†Clara & Frank Voss
Wed 10	8:30 am	St. Ann	†Babe Schoo
Thur 11	8:30 am	IHM	†Wayne Jensen
Fri 12	8:30 am	St. Anthony	†Carolyn Krick
Sat 13	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	†William Baxter
Sat 13	6:00 pm	IHM	Parishioners
Sun 14	8:00 am	St. Gabriel	†Dean Lanners
Sun 14	10:00 am	St. Ann	†June Schreiber

CHURCH SUPPORT - NOV 29 & NOV 30

	Envelopes	Plate/Childrens	Online/ACH
St. Ann	\$ 900.00	\$196.00/48.00	\$1,398.50
St. Gabriel	\$1,045.00	\$132.00/18.00	\$ 35.00
IHM-Currie	\$1,035.00	\$235.00/9.00	\$ 196.00
St. Anthony	\$1,170.00	\$21.00	\$ 171.75

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL - 2025 GOALS

St. Ann	Goal \$17,016	Pledged	\$39,069
St. Gabriel	Goal \$11,065	Pledged	\$14,970
IHM-Currie	Goal \$ 9,991	Pledged	\$12,875
St. Anthony	Goal \$ 4,872	Pledged	\$ 6,000

ST. ANN

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Mass times:

9:00 am Mon, Dec 8th Ihm, Currie

5:30 pm Mon, Dec 8th St. Ann, Slayton

(See Liturgical duties, page 5, additional information page.)

COMMUNAL PENANCE will be held at St. Ann Sun, Dec 7 starting at 2pm until all are heard. This will be the **only** penance service held in our cluster. Several priests will be available.

OUR SYMPATHY goes out to the family of Ken Knuth. Ken passed away on Sun, Nov 30. His funeral will be Sat, Dec 20th, at St. Ann. May he rest in peace.

THANKS GO OUT TO Jeanette Halbur for donating the hymnal display screen in memory of Jerry Halbur.

2ND COLLECTION next weekend - see add'l info. page.

COFFEE & COOKIES will be served by the CCW in the hall following the Youth Mass on December 7th.

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.

ANNUAL CDA collection of cookies, candy, breads, & gift cards begin next weekend. Please bring donations, clearly marked CDA, to St. Ann kitchen by 11am Sun, Dec 14. We will be gifting baskets to those families in need or having experienced hardship this year.

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.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES 2025-2026

Faith Formation will be having a Nativity Prayer Service on Weds, Dec 17. This will be led by the Confirmation students. ALL families are invited to attend. Night will begin @ 5:45 pm and will end with cocoa and cookies. Faith Formation Families should watch for an email with additional information. Please join us for this event!

We are still in need of additional substitute Catechists. We would like to avoid cancelling individual class nights due to lack of teachers. If you are interested/available, please contact Diann Timmerman.

NO FF classes Dec 24 or Dec 31 for Christmas break.

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.

HARVEST FESTIVAL DONATIONS-I'm sure many of you are wondering how we came out this year with it being the first time we haven't had our actual Fall Harvest Dinner. So far we have received \$10,575.00 from our letter. We will be using these funds to replace the 2 doors on the north side of the church. Those doors were in need of replacement and with these funds we can now do it. They are on order and should be here in 4-5 weeks. The cost to replace the doors is \$10,392.24 so not a whole lot extra. So a big **THANK YOU** to all who donated!!!

ADDITIONAL FINANCES-Flower Fund \$290.00

2026 CHURCH ENVELOPES are on the table at the back of church. Please take yours so we don't have to mail them out.

CMA25 - We met our goal quite a while ago and we *thank* all who have given so far. If you have not given yet, donations can still be sent in until the end of the year. You can send it directly to Catholic Ministries Appeal (envelopes are available on the table at the back of church, put in the collection basket (marked CMA25), or through online giving. *It is a benefit for the parish to meet and exceed the goal! Thank you to all who participate and support this appeal!!*

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!

LITURGICAL DUTIES DEC 14

St. Ann - 10:00 am

Min of Hosp	Bill & Jan B, Joe & Renee G
Servers	Noah F, Alondra C
Reader	Judy P
Gifts	Blaine Jacobson Family
EMHC	Marti E, Daryl J, Katie H
Comm to HB	JoAnn B
Music	Sue, Judy

LITURGICAL DUTIES DEC 14

St. Gabriel - 8:00 am

Min of Hosp	Ken & Cathy S, Mike & Suzi Z
Server	Kole A, Aiden A
Lector	Loy W
Comm	Linda C
EHMC	Barry H, Randy K, Steve C
Sacristan	Shelby S
Money Counters	Charlotte A, Steve & Donna C

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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: Campaign for Human Development: \$50; Thanksgiving: \$890; Donations: \$50

FAITH FORMATION:

Faith Formation: No class Christmas Break
Confirmation: YOU Class #5 Dec 7th-in Parish Center
Dec 10th Session 7pm at St Ann's -Saint report due!

ST. MARY'S RAFFLE WINNERS:

12/5/2025. \$100 winner Reid Kimball

CHOIR PRACTICE: As we prepare for Advent, please join us at practice on **Tues., Dec.9th at 7:00 p.** Contact Patty LeClaire at 507-227-9965. Hope to see you there!

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.

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.

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.

ADDITIONAL FINANCES-Thanksgiving \$51.00

MAGNIFIKID: St. Anthony has this weekly Mass aid for children 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 the family of Dorothy Kuehl in your prayers. She passed away November 21st and her Mass of Christian Burial was held at St Anthony's on Wednesday 11/26.

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 - DEC 13

IHM - 6:00 PM

Server Nolan G, Mason G
Lector Jim G
Gift Bearers Mark & Lexi Gervais Family
EMHC Shari S, Jon W, Loretta G
CANTOR Choir
Ushers Mark G, Matt H, Neil K, Tim R

LITURGICAL DUTIES - DEC 13

ST. ANTHONY - 4:00 PM

Greet/Gifts Angie & Eric B
Lector Gene O
Servers None Available
EMHC Nicki P
Cleaners Nicki P, Amy S

WEEKLY WORDS FROM THE ROCK:

John the Baptist and the Salted Nut Roll

You may find the headline a bit strange. What does a Salted Nut Roll have to do with John the Baptist? Fair enough. Let me explain.

When it comes to candy bars, I have sunk my teeth into many different varieties. Here is a non-exhaustive list:

- M&Ms
- Snickers
- Milky Way
- 3 Musketeers
- Almond Joy and Mounds
- Carmello
- Twix
- Crunch
- Butterfinger
- 100 Grand
- Baby Ruth
- Kit Kats

While enjoying most on the list, I am not a fan of Almond Joy and Mounds because of the coconut element; although, if presented with one, I would sink my teeth into it.

And now we turn our attention to the Salted Nut Roll. I am struck by the similarities between the Payday candy bar and Salted Nut Roll. Without the wrapper, I don't know if I could discern the difference. However, growing up, I don't recall seeing a Payday candy bar. Salted Nut Roll was the name of the game. If you were to ask me my favorite candy bar as a child, the Salted Nut Roll was not at the top of the heap still this story revolves around the Salted Nut Roll and Thanksgiving vacation.

I was home from college for Thanksgiving and my father had a Salted Nut Roll in his pickup. I was hungry so quickly devoured the candy bar. What happened next was something out of a horror movie. I got sick and I mean sick. My stomach started to churn and items from my stomach came pouring out of me (I won't use the word of what happened hoping you get the picture). I was sick all of Thanksgiving break.

Heading back to college, I cursed at that Salted Nut Roll. For years, whenever I saw a Salted Nut roll, I refused to eat one. Then it happened. It must have been 20 years later before something changed. The Salted Nut Roll didn't look so disgusting, and I sunk my teeth into one. It tasted pretty good, and to this day, while not my first choice, I enjoy its taste.

What happened that Thanksgiving? Food poisoning? Was something already festering? Who knows.

This weekend, our gospel story centers on John the Baptist. His message to the people was to prepare the way of the Lord. How? Through the age-old practice of repentance. Advent is a time of acknowledging our sinfulness. For many people today, the practice of celebrating the Sacrament of Penance has lost its significance. The reasons?

- It could be that we don't like to confess our sins to another person (a priest).
- It could be that we believe ourselves good enough to get into heaven, even despite our sins, discarding the need to seek the sacrament.
- It could be we had a bad experience with a priest.
- It could be we lost an important understanding surrounding Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ established the Sacrament of Penance because of our sins. He wants us to experience his mercy and forgiveness.

To such thoughts, the voice of John the Baptist rains down. We prepare by looking into ourselves and acknowledging the good and the not so good. We all sin. We all need mercy, forgiveness, and grace. That comes through an encounter with God in the Sacrament of Penance.

What if it has been years since someone has celebrated the sacrament? That is the lesson of the Salted Nut Roll. Sinking my teeth into one after 20 years, I expected the worst and was presently surprised. Give the sacrament a try as you might be presently surprised.

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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION LITURGICAL DUTIES: (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION) DECEMBER 8TH

IHM 9:00 AM—Servers-Romane D or Alyssa O; **Gift Bearers** - Ushers (Jon W, Jerry F, Rich L, Jim H); **Song Leader**:-Dave L; **Lector**-Kelly K; **EMHC**-Tim R, Becky L, Kim O.

ST. ANN 5:30 PM Servers-Fabiola C, Alan C; **Reader**-Amy K; **Gifts**-Ushers; **EMHC**-Judy C, Angie F, Pam M, **Music**-Dana, Paula

COMMUNAL PENANCE FOR OUR CLUSTER this Sunday, **December 7**, starting at 2:00 pm at St. Ann until all are heard. This will be the only Penance service held for the Advent season. All are welcome!!

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK supports the Retirement Fund for Religious and Catholic University. Our senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need your help. They have spent decades caring for those in need, but years of service for little or no pay have left many religious communities without sufficient retirement savings. Today, over 20,500 elderly religious depend on the Retirement Fund for Religious to help cover their rising health care costs, medication and daily living expenses. Your gift can help ensure they receive the care they deserve. Please give back to those who have given a lifetime.

CONFIRMATION 2026 STUDENTS will have a large group class on Wednesday, **December 10th @** St. Ann – Slayton. Students should plan to attend with their sponsor or a parent.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: Mark you 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—12th. More details to follow in January 2026.

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.

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS: ALL tax-deductible gifts to the parishes/cemeteries **MUST** be in the office by Dec 30 (or postmarked by Dec 31) if you want the donation to be credited to the 2025 calendar year, **NO** exceptions. *Thank you* for your continued support and generosity towards our parishes and cemeteries! Donations towards the CMA25 will be accepted until the end of the year. Be sure envelopes, that are mailed directly, are postmarked by Dec 31 for a CMA2025 credit or it will be applied to CMA2026. *****Reminder** – If time gets away from you, a donation can be made online, to *any* of the parishes – Sts Ann, Gabriel, Anthony, IHM or the cemeteries. Visit www.acmcatholic.org and click on the green button titled "Slayton Online Giving". Enter the amount of your donation and click on the drop-down arrow to select your choice of parish/fund. Thank you to the MANY parishioners who utilize the online giving portal!

BULLETIN ADVERTISING will be renewing for the 2026 calendar year. If you would like to continue your ad on the back of the bulletin, please submit payment to the office by January 9 with any ad changes. Interested in placing an ad? Call 507-836-8030. Small spaces are \$100; large are \$190. Current advertisers **WILL** have priority. Please patronize those listed on our bulletins back page. Their support of the parish bulletin is greatly appreciated!!

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