

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 15—DEC 21

Mon 15	<i>Father's Day Off</i>	<i>No Mass</i>
Tues 16	10:00 am Maple Lawn	†Desc'd of Miller Family
Wed 17	9:00 am Lindenwood	†Norbert Schmitz
Thur 18	8:30 am IHM	†Wayne & Irma Carlson
Fri 19	8:30 am St. Anthony	†Nancy Burns
Sat 20	4:00 pm St. Anthony	†Bernice Kirchner
Sat 20	6:00 pm IHM	†Mitchell Jarmer Norbert& Onie Schmitz
Sun 21	8:00 am St. Gabriel	Parishioners
Sun 21	10:00 am St. Ann	†Bob Schreurs

CHURCH SUPPORT - DEC 6 & DEC 7

	Envelopes	Plate/Childrens	Online/ACH
St. Ann	\$3,790.00	\$255.00/42.00	\$3,244.95
St. Gabriel	\$1,655.00	\$127.00/19.00	\$1,195.00
IHM-Currie	\$3,525.00	\$206.00/13.00	\$ 122.25
St. Anthony	\$ 621.00	\$55.00	\$ 171.75

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL - 2025 GOALS

St. Ann	Goal \$17,016	Pledged	\$41,379
St. Gabriel	Goal \$11,065	Pledged	\$14,970
IHM-Currie	Goal \$ 9,991	Pledged	\$13,475
St. Anthony	Goal \$ 4,872	Pledged	\$ 6,000

ST. ANN

CHURCH DECORATING for Christmas will take place on Sun, Dec 21st starting at 1pm. Help is needed to set up trees, nativity, flowers, and other decorations. Any help would be appreciated. Meet at the church - 1pm. *Thank you!*

BULLETIN ADVERTISING is renewing. Letters have been sent to current advertisers. If you are interested in placing an ad on the back of the bulletin, pending openings, call 507-836-8030 and talk to Dana. Please patronize those who advertise and help support our bulletin printing.

JAN & FEB LITURGY SCHEDULE copies can be found on the wooden table, in Divine Mercy Hall, in a white folder. Copies also hang on the bulletin board. Please help yourself. Since the number of people with duties is much less than the number of bulletins printed, please pick up a copy to save on expenses. Schedules are also emailed. *Thank you!*

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.

ALL YEAR END contributions must be in the office by Dec 30th (or postmarked by Dec 31st) to count towards the 2025 calendar year. Thank you for your generous support!

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 you are attending and how many.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES 2025-2026

Faith Formation will be having a Nativity Prayer Service on Weds, Dec 17th. This will be led by the Confirmation students. All families are invited to attend. This 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!

Students in Grades 9 & 10 will be attending a High School Youth Festival Retreat on January 11th in Worthington. Please watch for an email with additional details.

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 Faith Formation classes on December 24th or December 31st 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.

ADDITIONAL FINANCES-Flower Fund \$50.00; Atrium donations \$250.00

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

YEAR END contributions must be in the office by Dec 30th or postmarked by Dec 31st to be counted towards the 2025 calendar year.

MEALS ON WHEELS - Mike & Suzi Zins are scheduled to deliver meals December 29-January 2.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE FOR OUR CLUSTER

Dec. 24 4:00 pm St. Ann, Slayton

Dec. 24 6:00 pm St. Gabriel, Fulda

Dec. 25 8:00 am IHM, Currie

Dec. 25 10:00 am St. Anthony, Westbrook

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES will be winding down this week in anticipation of the Christmas break. We will have classes on the 15th and 18th yet. Classes will resume in January.

FRIDAY MORNING YOUTH ROSARY

All students are invited to join us 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!

Upcoming training for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

This coming June, there will be a level 1 training for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at St. Joseph parish in Lakefield (June 5-7 and June 14-17). St. Gabriel's presently has three people trained to teach level 1. These training sessions are a wonderful, retreat-like experience that assists participants in understanding deeper the core teachings of our faith. If you'd like to know more contact Jamie Opdahl, Stephanie Funk or Peg Olsem. For an overview of the CGS program visit www.cgsusa.org

LITURGICAL DUTIES DEC 21

St. Ann - 10:00 am

Min of Hosp	Bill & Jan B, Joe & Renee G
Servers	Kyra B, Kenadie H
Reader	Kate H
Gifts	Paul Johnson Family
EMHC	Judy C, Dave S, Kathy S
Comm to HB	Dave & Kathy S
Music	Paula, Dana

LITURGICAL DUTIES DEC 21

St. Gabriel - 8:00 am

Min of Hosp	Steve & Donna C, Doug, Katie, Mara C
Server	Ivan O, Evelyn O
Lector	Mary L
Comm	Don O
EHMC	Torri Z, Suzi Z, Ted W
Sacristan	Edie T
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: December 8th Holy Day: \$86; Christmas \$100; Thanksgiving: \$70; Religious Retirement: \$50; Donations: \$10. Plate Collection of \$206 for Cemetery.

FAITH FORMATION:

Faith Formation: On Christmas Break

Confirmation: On Christmas Break

ST. MARY'S RAFFLE WINNERS:

12/12/25 \$100 winner Greg Kiley

CHOIR PRACTICE: As we prepare for Advent, please join us at practice on **Tues., Dec. 16th at 7:00 p.** Contact Patty LeClaire at 507-227-9965. Hope to see you there!

MEETINGS: IHM Pastoral Council will meet at 5:45 pm on Tuesday, December 16, followed by the IHM Finance Council at about 6:45pm.

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.

GIVING ENVELOPES: The 2026 giving envelopes are available in the back of church. Please pick up at your earliest convenience. Let Joyce know (507-822-4318) if you would like them mailed.

ADDITIONAL FINANCES: Baby Bottle Campaign \$300

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS: We will send out a text if Mass has been cancelled due to weather. Visitors are welcome to give a cell phone number if you would like to be notified. Please contact Joyce Vortherms (507-822-4318) or Sophie Jenniges (507-828-4029)

FREE BOOKS: Matthew Kelly's book "Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy" is available in the back of church for anyone to take, read, share. This is an excellent read for Advent and Christmas.

2026 CALENDARS: The 2026 Church Calendars are available in the back of church. Please take and share.

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 20

IHM - 6:00 PM

Server Mallory S, Christian H
Lector Joe S
Gift Bearers Josh & Andrea Schreier Family
EMHC Dawn K, Lori M, Jo E
CANTOR Choir
Ushers Mark G, Matt H, Neil K, Tim R

LITURGICAL DUTIES - DEC 20

ST. ANTHONY - 4:00 PM

Greet/Gifts Evelyn B, Diane R
Lector Joan O
Servers Easton & Hadley
EMHC Ann J
Cleaners Nate & Crystal K

WEEKLY WORDS FROM THE ROCK:

How to Play the Game of Life

While I don't know the author, giving credit where it is due, I want to share the goal of the spiritual life in terms of football.

Buddy, this is your game. When you get in there, you are the quarterback and captain of your life. The north end zone is Heaven and eternal life...that's your goal. The south end zone is Hell...stay out of it at all costs. The football is your immortal soul. If you carry it over the north end zone, you win. If you carry it over the south end zone, you lose for all eternity.

Take a look at the opposition on the offensive front. The offensive line from end to end is sin and it is mortal/deadly. At right end is pride and if you don't watch out, he will mow you down like grass. Right tackle is envy. Right guard is sloth. Center is gluttony. Left guard is avarice/greed. Left tackle is anger/wrath. Left end is lust. The backfield is composed of three running backs – Desire of the Flesh, Desire of the Eyes, Desire of the Mind. At quarterback, calling the plays himself is the most cunning of all – the devil. It is a good outfit, and they have been playing together for a long time. They know all the tricks, aren't afraid to deploy them, and have won a lot of games.

If you want, you can field an all-star team. The only team that has even beaten Satan and his gang, a team that has a record of all wins and no losses, is composed of the following offensive players. In the line you have seven champions – the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. There are wisdom, courage, understanding, counsel, piety, fortitude, and fear of the Lord. In the backfield, besides yourself as quarterback and captain, you have the best backs – Faith, Hope and Charity.

As for the referee, no dirty playing. The referee is Almighty God Himself, and nothing gets by Him.

You can't win the game without the ball, and the ball is your immortal soul. If you lost it, you're stuck. God has given it to you for your safe keeping. As captain and quarterback of the team, run the team well. Keep in condition by being faithful to your religion. Don't forget the practice sessions every Sunday in your church. Have and use the surefire play that always works, PRAYER. Keep a trick play up your sleeve – the Beatitudes. The devil hates the Beatitudes. You've had a lot of previous playing experience so get out there and play ball for all it's worth. You have only this one game. It is the Super Bowl. Everything depends upon it.

Just remember, you don't know what quarter it is. Only God knows. You may be in the final closing minutes of your life so play to win.

One last word, there are no ties! You either win or lose. Good luck to you!

A Wise Thought

If God brings you to it, He will get you through it.

In happy moments, praise God.

In difficult moments, seek God.

In quiet moments, worship God.

In painful moments, trust God.

In every moment, thank God.

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

2ND COLLECTION THIS 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.

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—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!

SOLEMNITY OF MARY HOLY DAY MASS JANUARY 1ST - Mass will be celebrated at St. Gabriel at 9:00 am.

SEXUAL ABUSE: The Diocese of Winona-Rochester will provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reports of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (employees, volunteers, vendors, religious or clergy). Anyone wishing to report an allegation of sexual abuse should call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 507-454-2270, Ext 255. Caller will be asked to provide name and phone number. **Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities.** The DOW-R is committed to protecting children, young people and other vulnerable people in our schools, parishes and ministries. Questions about the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, contact Michael Gerard: 507-361-3377, or mgerard@dowr.org.

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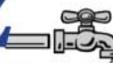
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