

SHEPHERD OF SOULS AREA FAITH COMMUNITY



DECEMBER 10, 2023

AFC MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

St. Philip, Litchfield4:00pm

Sunday

St. Philip, Litchfield8:00am

Our Lady, Manannah8:00am

St. John, Darwin10:00am

St Anthony, Watkins10:00am

St. Philip, Litchfield (Spanish)...12:00pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday

St. Philip 3:15pm-3:45pm

Thursday

St. John After 8:00am Mass

St. Anthony After 8:30am Mass
(3rd, 4th & 5th Thursday)

Friday

Our Lady After 8:00am Mass

Or Please call A Priest for an Appointment



NEW MEMBER REGISTRATION

To register as members of any of our four parishes go to www.shepherdofsouls.org and click on "I'm new". If you prefer, you may call the office of the church you wish to register at.

AFC Mission Statement

Our Mission is to proclaim and celebrate Jesus Christ as the center of our lives and to make disciples for Jesus through building community, serving our Brothers and Sisters, sharing our faith and celebrating sacraments.

WATKINS CHURCH OF ST ANTHONY

201 Central Ave S | Watkins, MN 55389 | 320-764-2755

LITCHFIELD CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP

821 East 5th Street | Litchfield, MN 55355 | 320-693-3313

DARWIN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

106 N. 4th Street | Darwin, MN 55324
320-693-9496 | 320-275-2915

MANANNAH CHURCH OF OUR LADY

57482 CSAH 3 | Grove City, MN 56243
320-693-8900 | 320-453-7526

WWW.SHEPHERDOFSOULS.ORG

WELCOME!

©LPI

OUR STAFF

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Jeff Horejsi, Pastor AFC, 693-3313, ext. 101 Office
320-221-4120 Cell Phone

Fr. Mike Doyle, Sr Associate Pastor AFC, 693-3313, ext 108 Office
320-808-6847 Cell Phone

Deacon Roger Osborne 320-894-8618
Deacon John Hansen 320-221-4987
Deacon Phil Henneman 763-220-2549

PARISH STAFF ST. PHILIP'S

Brenda Grates, Parish Administrator, 693-3313 Ext. 100
Andrea Dietrich, School Principal 693-6283
Mary Roers, School Secretary 693-6283
Karen Kulzer, DRE: Preschool - Grade 5 693-3313 Ext. 104
Nathan Stewart, Gr 6-11, AFC Confirmation 693-3313 Ext 109
Dave Eischens, Maintenance 320-221-1045
Julie Schmitz, Secretary (Wed) 693-3313 ext. 107
Monica Schreiber, Event Coordinator 693-3313 Ext 106
Church Kitchen 693-3313 Ext. 102

PARISH STAFF ST. JOHN'S

Julie Schmitz Secretary (Tue & Thu) 693-9496/275-2915
Karin Colberg, Bookkeeper 320-221-0267
Deacon John Hansen, Religious Ed Coordinator 320-221-4987
St. John's Education Center 320-286-2800

PARISH STAFF CHURCH OF OUR LADY

Julie Schmitz, Parish Secretary (Mon & Fri) 693-8900/453-7526
Deb McCann, Faith Formation Coordinator 693-8900/453-7526
Jerry Moudry, Custodian/Maintenance 693-8900/453-7526

Parish Staff Church of St. Anthony

Jessica Teicher, Secretary/Bookkeeper 764-2755
Bonnie Meyer, Faith Formation Coordinator 453-5765
Stephani Donnay-Peters, Asst Faith Formation Coor 453-5765
Sam Mettler, Youth Ministry 764-2755

Greetings from the School of St. Philip!



Singing is an important part of the Christmas celebration. The past few weeks the students have been practicing and preparing songs to share with others. I have been enjoying these days immensely since my office is near the music room. As we listen and sing the words of the Christmas carols, it allows us to reflect on their meaning in our lives today. We are reminded of God's love for us and how we are to love others. It is said that singing is praying twice, and I can't think of a better way to add more daily prayer! Our Christmas Program will take place this coming Thursday, the 14th. We have shows at 1:00pm and 6:30pm at the Church of St. Philip. If you are able, please join us and let a little peaceful prayer into your life during this second week of Advent.

Blessing on your week, Andrea Dietrich
School of St. Philip - Principal
320-593-4774/adietrich@schoolofstphilip.org

PASTOR'S LETTER

Please take note that the weekend Mass schedule is different for Dec. 23/24. Saturday will have two Masses at 4:30pm at St. John and Our Lady, and Sunday will have 8am at St. Philip and 10am at St. Anthony.

The Advent Reconciliation schedule in this bulletin.

Everyone in our AFC is invited to the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Philip Sunday, Dec. 10 with a Noon Mass in Spanish, and a bilingual homily. We will have a Mariachi Band for Mass and to play at the Potluck meal following in the Social Hall.

Thank you to all who have given to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Your contributions to the DMA reach individuals and families across the diocese, providing family and crisis counseling, emergency assistance, religious and spiritual formation, and supporting our seminarians. If you have not had the opportunity to make your pledge or gift yet, envelopes are available in the back of church. You may return your pledge in the collection basket or simply drop it in the mail. You may also make your pledge or gift online at <https://www.dnu.org/dma/>.

St. Anthony's Church Interior Committee reminds all: If you want your feedback to be included in the final design decision, return your form on or before Sunday, December 10.

The most asked question about St. Gertrude's church being removed is, "What happened to the stained-glass windows." Former parishioners purchased most of them. The windows with the four evangelists and the window of Jesus in Gethsemane are being stored in the St. Philip rectory basement until it is decided what to do with them.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jeff Horejsi

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism - Call a Priest & Complete Baptism Program
First Eucharist & Confirmation - Complete Preparation Program

Marriage - Call a Priest or Parish Office 6 months prior to proposed wedding date.

RCIA - Call the Parish Office

St Anthony Church Cleaners:

Church Cleaners: December 3-16:
 Jeff & Connie Hesse, Kevin & Cara Hesse and Scott & Kayla Hesse and families.

Call Theresa at 764-7251 to unlock.

St Anthony Mass Ministries,

Sun 10:00 am 12/10/23

Altar Servers: Charlie Teicher & Miles Hesse

Rosary: Knights of Columbus

Ushers: Chad Huberty, Ryan

Steichen, Jason Louwagie & Ralph Vossen

EMHC: Emily Piccerillo

Lectors: Heidi Schoenecker/Andy Hesse

Children's Liturgy: Amanda & Misty

Coffee & Rolls: Rich & Mary Ann Hesse

Greeters: Margi Schreifels & Emily Piccerillo

**Baptized in Christ .**

Congratulations to Kayla Henderson on the baptism of her child Zeanna Whitney-Marie Schultz at the Church of Our Lady.

Congratulations to Andrew & Dawn DeCock as they baptize their child Weston Andrew DeCock at the Church of St. John.

MASSES & INTENTIONS

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS**Monday, December 11**

No Mass

Tuesday, December 12

St Philip, Litchfield 6:00 pm † Bill Peltier

St Anthony, Watkins 6:00 pm † Mary Kay Kielty

Wednesday, December 13

Hilltop Care Center, Watkins 10:30 am † Joe Nistler

Thursday, December 14

St. John, Darwin 8:00 am † Mike Ackerman

Meeker Manor, Litchfield 10:00 am † Cletus Sterner

Friday, December 15

Our Lady, Manannah 8:00 am † Meinrad Wiechmann

St. Philip, Litchfield 8:30 am † Joan Johnson

Saturday, December 16

St. Philip, Litchfield 4:00 pm † Mark Gabrielson

Sunday, December 17

St. Philip, Litchfield 8:00 am † Janice Nowak

Our Lady, Manannah 8:00 am † Frank & Tillie Poepping

St. John, Darwin 10:00 am † Irene Matousek

St. Anthony, Watkins 10:00 am † Lorraine Heinen

St. Philip, Litchfield 12:00 pm (Spanish) People of the Parish

Mass live streaming on our website using Facebook Live every Saturday at 4:00 pm St. Philip, Sunday at 8:00 am at St. Philip & Our Lady, Sunday 10:00 am at St. John. You can follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069068800296> The video will remain on our website after the mass is over.

Please pray for those who are sick in the Parish especially...

St.P: Todd Wheeler, Isaac Buhr, Beckie Schaefer, Dan Curran, Jasper Kargas, Antonio Franco, Sylvia Johnson, Jon Laney, Jan Paulson, Jordan Munson, Robin, Caitlin Pitts, Karen Marsh, Shirley Buck, Mary Knutson, Tim Kapperman, Kay Grams, Philip Johnson, Dale Andersen, Darlene Putney, Addie Fairbairn, Carol Huhner, Peg Shaw, Roberta Meyer, Jeremy Munson, Carole Becker, Jim Knott, Virginia Ourada, Marge Hanson, Pat Aaker, Jodi Henriksen Winkles, Summer Franco, Florence Rezek, Cordelia Lewandoski, Julie Eck, Pat Munson, Larry Hoffman. Prayer Line phone number 593-8944.

OL: Prayer Line: Mary Kalkbrenner, George Pfeffer, Dolores Wiechmann, McKenzie Knisley Family, Mary Hansen, Josephine Valiant, Berkley Johnson, Rosie Boyer, Art Haag. Prayer line phone number 693-8900.

St.J: Ednel Diedrich, Alec McLean, Marlys Roehl, Luis Larios, Troy Kotila, Kim (Elke) Jack, Kathy Thissen, Patrick Ecklund, Jacob Schmitz, Kathy Eggert, Mary Jo Edwards, Janice Crowe, Lori Ficker, Judy Haverkamp, Wes Edwards, Jessee Steuck, Clarence Vorlicek, Mary Levinski, Phyllis Levno, Dale LaPlante, Reiden Cichoska, Tony & Lena Marelic, Betsy Wright, Helana Posusta, David & Margaret Backus, Jeff Peller. Prayer Line Phone Number 693-9496.

St.A: The Jackie Boulton Family, Ron Welle, the Ley Family, Ellen Libbesmeier, Carol Huberty, Tom Huberty and Patrice Canfield, Joyce Manske. Prayer Line phone number 764-2755.

And all those who have asked for our prayers of healing of their friends and relatives.

Stewardship

Due to early bulletin deadlines over the Holidays we will not have current weekend collection numbers each week.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS and OFFERINGS FROM THE WEEKEND OF: November 26, 2023

OFFERINGS	St. John	Our Lady	St. Philip	St. Anthony
Youth & Children Envelope	\$0.00	\$32.00	\$0.00	\$12.00
Adult Envelope	\$2,240.00	\$1,630.00	\$6,523.24	\$2,398
ACH (Auto payment)	\$168.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$705.00
Loose Plate Collection	\$192.50	\$26.00	\$774.00	\$379.00
TOTAL SUNDAY OFFERING	\$2600.50	\$1,688.00	\$7,297.24	\$3,494.00
Weekly Amount needed for budget	\$3,726.00	\$2,216.00	\$8,365.33	\$3,077.00
This Week's Difference	(\$1,125.50)	(\$528.00)	(\$1,068.09)	\$417.00
YEAR TO DATE SUNDAY OFFERING	\$65,402.45	\$45,307.00	\$199,834.64	\$78,809.00
Year to Date Budget Needs	\$81,972.00	\$48,752.00	\$184,037.26	\$67,694.00
YEAR TO DATE DIFFERENCE	(\$16,569.55)	(\$3,445.00)	\$15,797.38	\$11,115.00

Every Parishioner is a Gift to the Parish and the Church. Your Financial Contributions and the Gift of your time and talents in serving the needs of our Parish and Area Faith Community is a Blessing!

Any donations can be mailed or made online at <https://www.shepherdofsouls.org/donate> Please specify the name of the parish or fund you are donating to in the comments area.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

StA 6:45 pm.... Youth Night @Assumption

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

StP 8:30 am....Rosary

StP 9:00 am....Mission Quilters

StP 9:00 am.... Bible Time

StP 7:00 pmKC Meeting

StA 7:00 pm...Church Project Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

StJ 8:30 am....Quilting

School 5:00 pm.... School Committee

StP 5:00 pm...Faith Formation Class Gr 4-6

StA 5:45 pm .Faith Formation Class Gr K-6 w/parents

StJ 6:30 pm....Faith Formation Class &

Reconciliation @ the Church

StP 6:30 pm....Faith Formation Class Gr 7-11

OL 6:45 pm... .Faith Formation Class Gr 3-11

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

StP 12:00 pm... Gaming Committee Meeting

School 1:00 pm ... Christmas Concert

School 6:30 pmChristmas Concert

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

StP 8:00 am.....Rosary

AFC 6:00 pm... Staff Christmas Party

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

StA 7:30 am....Men's Group @EV

StP 9:30 am... Women at the Well

StA 3:00 pm... Youth Baking @StA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

OL 9:00 am ... OL Sunday School Christmas Program

StJ 10:00 am.... Christmas Program

StJ 10:00 am....Children Liturgy

StJ 11:00 am... Faith Formation Breakfast

StP 11:20 am..... Spanish Rosary

StA 3:00 pm Christmas Pageant

AFC 4:00 pm... Advent Reconciliation @ St. Anthony

StA 7:00 pmBona Fide @ Assumption



Eucharistic Adoration

He is waiting for you to come spend time praying. Eucharistic Adoration will be

St. Anthony, Every Thursday -Friday

Thursday 9:00 am to Friday 9:00 am

Tuesday, December 19- St. Philip

9:00 am Adoration Begins, 5:45 pm Benediction
Everyone is welcome to come and pray!

National Eucharistic Congress Youth Trip -

This summer, July 16th-22nd, St. Anthony/Assumption along with the Diocese of New Ulm are taking a group of current 8th-12th grade students to Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis for an opportunity of a lifetime! The first Eucharistic Congress in 50 years is bringing Jesus in the Eucharist to thousands of people from around the world! The youth track will be very similar to Steubenville. There will be great music, speakers like Fr. Mike Schmitz, and so much more! The overall cost is estimated to be \$1,000 to \$1,500 before any fundraising is done. Jesus is waiting for you; come, see and let your life be changed! Spots are limited! Contact Sam evwyouthministry@gmail.com for any questions and to register.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Schedule for this week

St. Philip—Wed, Dec 13

5:00 pm Faith Formation Class Gr 4-6

6:00 pm Meal & Fellowship

6:30 pm Faith Formation Class Gr 7-11

Sunday School—for Preschool– Gr 3 meet every other Sunday 9:15-10:15

Our Lady - Wed, Dec 13

6:45 pm Faith Formation Class for Gr 3-11

Sunday School—Preschool to Gr 2 after Communion until 9:45 am

St. John - Wed, Dec 13

6:30 pm Faith Formation Reconciliation at the Church. **Please Note we will gather at the Church instead of the Ed Center.**

Sunday, Dec 17th is Faith Formation Class Mass with breakfast to follow. Families N-Z will serve.

St. Anthony - Wed, Dec 13

Dec 13 - Family Faith Formation (K-6th Grade w/ parents) 5:45-7:45pm

Dec 20: 7th-10th graders 6:30-8pm

Class for 11th grade w/parent(s) hosted in Watkins 6:30-8pm

Dec 27 - No Classes

Jan 3 - 7th-10th graders 6:30-8pm

For more information refer to the AFC Google Calendar at www.shepherdofsouls.org

Catechist Needed - St. Philip's is looking for a long-term substitute catechist for our 6th grade faith formation class, beginning in January and continuing through the first week of April. Catechists receive detailed lesson plans and materials well in advance of class dates, and all set-up needs are taken care of prior to arrival. If you are interested, or would like more information, contact Nathan Stewart, Parish Catechetical Leader, Gr. 6-11.

Shepherd of Souls Youth Nights - Come join us each month at **6:45 – 8:15 PM St. Philip Social Hall Grades 5-12** for games, social time, snacks, fellowship, and prayer! It's a wonderful opportunity to spend time with friends, make new ones, and have fun as a youth community! Open to all AFC middle school and high school youth (grades 5-12). There is no cost to attend these nights. Bring a friend! Upcoming dates: Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19, Mar. 18, Apr. 15 & May 20

Confirmation NET Retreat - The Confirmation NET retreat, for St. Philip, St. Anthony, St. John, Our Lady, and Assumption 10th graders, will be hosted at the Parish Center at Our Lady in Manannah on Monday, January 29th, 2024 from 4-9 pm.

We are looking for volunteers to host/provide housing for the NET team for the nights of Jan. 28th and Jan 29th. Housing needs to be within a 10-15 minute drive from Manannah.

Please contact Deb McCann at 320-444-2291 (dmccann@shepherdofsouls.org), Nathan Stewart 320-693-3313 Ext 109 (nstewart@shepherdofsouls.org) or Bonnie Meyer 453-5765 (evwcatholic@gmail.com) to let us know your interest and availability.

December Family Faith Formation Speaker—You are invited to join our Family Formation Program Night on Wednesday, December 13th. This month's Speaker is Melaine Myklebust: Melaine is a wife and mother of five. She is a member of Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Rockville. She will be speaking in Watkins on the topic "Water and Fire" (Baptism and Confirmation). The speaker portion of the night begins at roughly 6:15pm and lasts roughly 25 minutes. After the speaker there may be time for Q&A or small group discussion which you are welcome to stay for as well. If you have any questions you may call the office at 453-5765.

Faith Formation Christmas Project - The Our Lady Faith Formation classes will be adopting a family in need for Christmas. The family are members of our parish and have run on hard times. Instead of gifts for teachers and students we ask families to donate money or gift cards to stores around Litchfield. Any money given will be put into gift cards for groceries and household supplies. You can bring the donations to Faith Formation and give to their teachers or put in the offering plate marked Deb: Faith Formation. We need all donations by December 20. Thank you for your help with this project.

YOUTH
Bake Sale

Let us do the baking for you!

December 17th
After 10 Masses
St. Anthony and Assumption

Proceeds
benefit the EVW
Youth Ministry Program

If you would like to
donate baked goods
contact Sam at
evwyouthministry@gmail.com

Youth Night Recap - Thanks to all parents for bringing their 41 students to the last youth night! We learned about the dignity of our names, the power of God's name, along with the misuse of His name. The Knights of Columbus treated the students to ham and waffles. We also had a Kahoot quiz about Saints and played Glow-in-the-dark games outside. The next youth night will be Mon, Dec 11 at Assumption in Eden Valley from 6:45-8:15pm. We are looking for more safe environment trained parents to stay and help supervise. If interested, let Sam know.

Is Respect Earned? 7th-12th Grade Youth Night December 11th

- Assumption Church in Eden Valley
- 6:45pm-8:15pm
- Guest Speaker Heidi Dollerschell
- Food, Games, and Adoration with Praise and Worship Music



Contact Sam at evwyouthministry@gmail.com with any questions



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**
DIOCESE OF NEW ULM

"The Body of Christ "AMEN!"

The New Testament is hidden in the Old, and the Old Testament is unveiled in the New." "The unleavened bread that Israel eats every year at Pass-over, commemorates the haste of the departure that liberated them from Egypt; the remembrance of the manna in the desert will always recall to Israel that it lives by the bread of the Word of God; their daily bread is the fruit of the promised land, the pledge of God's faithfulness to His promises."

When is wine mentioned in the Old Testament?

REVIVAL STARTS IN YOUR OWN HEART

You are invited to spend some time with Jesus!

The 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at St.

Philip's December date Dec 19

All are invited to "**Encounter Jesus**"

The day begins with the **Rosary** at 8:30 a.m.

Adoration from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. **Mass** at 6:00 p.m. **Supper, Film Clip and Discussion** from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

You and your family are welcome to take part in any or all activities throughout the day! Children are welcome!

Jesus is waiting to spend time with you!

Save the Date: for the next Eucharistic Encounter Night at St. Anthony's on January 12th at 7PM. More details to follow.

Rosary Night & Potluck: Join us for the next rosary night on January 5th at 6PM at YOUR HOUSE?? Contact Jessie in the St. Anthony's office to volunteer to host!

New St. Anthony Circle officers: if you were unable to attend our Christmas party, your information is in your folder on the table in the handicapped addition entrance.

Choir Members Wanted - We invite you to join the St. Philip Christmas Eve Christmas Choir at the 4:00 mass! All ages welcome. Practices: December 10, 17 and 24 (if needed) after 8:00 mass

Handmade Quilts - The St. Philip mission quilters have many handmade items available for purchase. If you are interested in purchasing or shopping. Please stop by any Tuesday at St. Philip church from 9:00am – 3:00pm or give Carol Kerr a call at 612.308.8552 to take a look at what is available.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Sacrament of Reconciliation Advent is a time for all of us to open our hearts to the coming of Christ. One special way we can do this is by taking time to examine our lives and turn to God for help and assistance. The following is a schedule of times when the sacrament will be offered in our Area Faith Community.

Communal Reconciliation Services

Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30pm at St. John Church-
Please Note change of location to the Church.

Sunday, December 17 at 4:00pm at St. Anthony

Wednesday December 20th at 6:30 at St. Anthony

In addition to these times, we offer the sacrament 45 minutes before the Saturday evening liturgies, and during the week as listed in the bulletin.

Shepherd of Souls AFC Christmas Programs

St. Anthony Christmas Pageant - Join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus at the St. Anthony annual Christmas pageant. The Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 17th, at 3:00pm in the church of St. Anthony (followed by a penance service at 4PM). Join us afterward in the social hall for fellowship, cookies, and hot chocolate!

St. John Christmas Program - Join us Sunday, December 17 at the 10:00 am Mass.

Our Lady Christmas Programs—Join us Sunday, December 17 at the 8:00 am Mass for the Sunday School Program and Wednesday, December 20 at 7:00 pm for the Faith Formation Christmas Program with a lite lunch & fellowship after.



Christmas Flower Memorials - Remember your loved ones this Christmas season by giving to the Christmas Flower Funds. Donation envelopes can be found in your envelope packets or you can submit your donation in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" and include the names of those to be remembered and who the memorial is from. Thank you!

Scrip Program at the School of St. Philip - It is holiday shopping time, so I thought I would share with a couple of programs that would help out the school while you take care of your shopping needs.

Scrip - Like many Catholic schools, the School of St. Philip takes part in the Scrip program. For those who may be unfamiliar with this program - It allows people to purchase gift cards from local and national retailers that can be used in the same way as a gift card. They are purchased at face value with a small percentage donated to our school by the participating retailers. You will find gift cards for restaurants, department stores (i.e. Walmart), gas, and even online retailers like Amazon.

We included an order form in your bulletin last week. There are extra forms available at each church. You can fill it out and return to the Parish Offices. If you did not receive one you can call Brenda at the St. Philip office to place an order.

St. Anthony Money Counters- We are seeking a few more individuals to help count the Sunday collection. This counting is typically done on Monday mornings and takes about an hour. Frequency would depend on the number of volunteers but would likely be no more than 1-2 times a month. Contact the St. Anthony office if interested. Thank you!

Frozen Bouja For Sale - St. Anthony's Catholic Order of Foresters has some frozen bouja for sale. To purchase, contact Kevin Donnay at 320-398-6370.

Prayer Shawl - The Shepherd of Souls AFC Prayer Shawl Ministry creates prayerfully made and blessed shawls to be distributed to anyone who needs a God hug. Any knitters/crocheters who are interested in joining this Ministry should contact Mary Bolek (507-828-1586) or Karla Wolter (320-693-9262). If you would like to receive a shawl, you may also contact Diane Springer (320-266-3112) Ann Konietzko (320-693-6036), Pat Droege (320-275-9148) Have a blessed day!

Blood Drive at St. Anthony's - The Red Cross has scheduled a blood drive in Watkins at the St. Anthony Church Parish Center from 12-6 pm on Tuesday, December 26. Yes, the day after Christmas. To make an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767, visit redcrossblood.org, or click on the Blood Donor App. Walk-ins are welcome. This gift will not cost you anything, but will be worth a lot to the ones in need of blood.

March for Life Bus - The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a bus to the March for Life rally in St. Paul on Monday, January 22nd. The bus will depart:

- 7:53 St. Philip's Church
- 8:15 St. St. John's Church
- 8:38 St. John's Education Center

The bus will arrive at the Cathedral in time for the prayer service, then to the Capitol for the rally. Return time will be approximately 3:30. Please bring your own food and drinks. To reserve a seat on the bus, call or text Tony Lorber at 320-248-6863.

Early Bulletin Deadlines - With the Holidays coming up we will be having early bulletin deadlines. The deadline for the **December 17th** bulletin was on Thursday, December 7th @ noon. The Deadline for the **December 24th** bulletin will be on Wednesday, December 13th @ noon. Please have your bulletin announcements to Julie by these deadlines. We will have more for the month of December, so watch for those also.

Mass Times - 4th Sunday of Advent:
Please note the change of Mass times and locations



Saturday, December 23rd

4:30pm - Church of St. John
4:30pm - Church of Our Lady

Sunday, December 24th

8:00am - Church of St. Philip
10:00am - Church of St. Anthony
12:00pm - Church of St. Philip (Spanish Mass)



All are invited to join Bishop Zelinski for an Advent Prayer Service Sunday, December 17 at 1:00 pm Church of St. Peter,

1801W Broadway Ave, Saint Peter, MN

All parishioners, especially those with children, are invited to attend an Advent Prayer Service with Bishop Chad Zielinski. This service is designed to help us focus on Advent and prepare for the true meaning of Christmas, centered on the birth of Jesus. Families are encouraged to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their home nativity set. The figure will be blessed by Bishop Zielinski individually as families come forward in procession. There will be a blessing on families and expectant mothers as they prepare for Jesus' birth in their hearts. A "swaddling clothes" collection (blankets, sleepers, layette items, etc.) and cash donations will be taken for babies in need.

A reception with refreshments will follow the service.

Discipleship Quads - "I didn't grow up Catholic, so I had this wanting to really understand the roots of this beautiful faith... It's like it was exactly what I had been looking for. It seems like a huge commitment, but the year goes so fast every time. If you have been considering doing this, I highly recommend it." -Stephani Donnay-Peter. A discipleship quad is a group of 4 people of the same gender that meet weekly for about a year to learn about the faith, study scripture and to grow in prayer. See the display across from the office in the parish center at St. Anthony's for Stephani's entire quad testimony, sample books and more information about Discipleship Quads. You can also ask Jessie in the St. Anthony office for more information.

January Coffee Talk—The January Coffee Talk will be on Saturday, January 6 at 9:00 am at St. Philip. Speakers will be Jim Watt and Tom Mathias—they will share their experiences with Jail Ministries

2024 Cabin Fever Reliever: Save the date for this years' Cabin Fever Reliever at St. Anthony's for February 10th, 2024. Tickets are now on sale! \$50 will get you a delicious dinner and a fabulous show from the Black & Whyte Dueling Pianos along with opportunities to win cash prizes and auction items! Also, new this year is a 50/50 raffle ticket that you purchase in advance and don't need to be present to win.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec 24th

4:00pm St. Philip's, Litchfield

4:00pm St. Anthony, Watkins

6:00pm St. John, Darwin

6:00pm Our Lady, Manannah

Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec 25th

9:00 am St. Philip, Litchfield

9:00am St. Anthony, Watkins

10:30pm (Spanish) St. Philip, Litchfield

Watch Mass on our Website at

www.shepherdofsouls.org