

# SHEPHERD OF SOULS AREA FAITH COMMUNITY



## DECEMBER 3, 2023

### AFC MASS SCHEDULE

#### Saturday

St. Philip, Litchfield .....4:00pm

#### Sunday

St. Philip, Litchfield .....8:00am

Our Lady, Manannah .....8:00am

St. John, Darwin .....10:00am

St Anthony, Watkins .....10:00am

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](http://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](http://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!



Today is not only the first day of Advent, but also the Feast of St. Francis Xavier. He is one of the greatest Christian missionaries in Church history. Although his life was full of hardships, language barriers and lack of funding to name a few, he remained true to his mission and exemplified what it to be a follower of Jesus. In his travels far and wide, he converted thousands of people by planting simple words of wisdom and faith. This missionary work continues today in our Churches and Catholic Schools. The readings for the first Sunday of Advent remind us to stay focused and not get distracted as we continue to plant the seeds of faith, with hope that one day they will grow into something beautiful. Thank you for your prayers and support!

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

## PASTOR'S LETTER

The Advent Reconciliation schedule in this bulletin.

We have a Holy Day of Obligation this week, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Vigil Masses will be Thursday evening followed by Friday Masses.

Everyone is invited to our first AFC Encounter Night as part of the Eucharistic Revival. On Friday, there will be a Potluck meal from 6-7pm at St. John with Adoration and Reconciliation from 7-8pm.

Once again, 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/>. Either way, your gift will be counted toward our parish goal. Be assured that your gift will only be used to support those ministries designated in the DMA brochure - ministries that are vital to our diocesan church - as well as our own parish project: St. Philip—Outdoor Youth Area; St. Anthony—Capital Campaign; St. John—Education Center new outside doors and new TV and mount in church; Our Lady—Tuition for Our Lady students attending the School of St. Philip.

The Church Interior Committee, on behalf of St. Anthony's Capital Campaign, has organized an additional opportunity for parish families to provide feedback specific to the plans to renovate the interior of our Church. While the continuing priority is to complete the Church's exterior improvements before the interior, it's important to finalize the plans for the total project. If you would like your family's feedback to be included in these decisions, we are providing an opportunity for you to complete a feedback form. The forms are available in the parish center next to the new rendering pictures. If you want your feedback to be included in the final design decision, return your form on or before Sunday, December 10.

By the time you read this, St. Gertrude's church should have been removed. I recognize that this is a difficult thing for many. Be assured of the prayers of our AFC.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jeff Horejsi

**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,**

Friday - 12/8/23

Altar Servers: Avery & Gavin Schmitt

Rosary: Volunteer

EMHC: Jessica Lorentz

Lectors: Chad Dockendorf/Jessie

Teicher

Ushers: TBD

Greeters: Ellen Libbesmeier & Theresa Faber

Sunday - 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



Our Condolences to the  
Family of Audrey Euerle,  
mother of Greg Euerle. May

Audrey rest in eternal peace. The  
obituary can be found at

[www.johnsonhagglund.com](http://www.johnsonhagglund.com)

# MASSES & INTENTIONS

**MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS****Monday, December 4**

No Mass

**Tuesday, December 5**

St Philip, Litchfield 6:00 pm ..... † Casper Nathe

St Anthony, Watkins 6:00 pm ..... † Rebekah Ulm

**Wednesday, December 6**

Hilltop Care Center, Watkins 10:30 am ..... † Donna Mae Loch

**Thursday, December 7**

Bethany, Litchfield 9:00am ..... † Maureen Barthel

St. John, Darwin 7:00 pm Immaculate Conception ..... † Jim Hughes

Our Lady, Manannah 7:00 pm Immaculate Conception ..... † Jerome & Margaret McCarney

**Friday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception**

St. Philip, Litchfield 12:00 pm ..... † Mark Gabrielson

St. Anthony, Watkins 5:30 pm ..... † Richard J. Donnay

**Saturday, December 9**

St. Philip, Litchfield 4:00 pm ..... † Theresa Anderson

**Sunday, December 10**

St. Philip, Litchfield 8:00 am ..... Mass of Thanksgiving (G)

Our Lady, Manannah 8:00 am ..... † Nancy Haag

St. John, Darwin 10:00 am ..... † Chris Hansen

St. Anthony, Watkins 10:00 am ..... † Evelyn Hansen

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 Henricksen 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 19, 2023

OFFERINGS	St. John	Our Lady	St. Philip	St. Anthony
Youth & Children Envelope	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$6.00
Adult Envelope	\$2,955.00	\$2,121.00	\$7,974.00	\$1,440.00
ACH (Auto payment)	\$140.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$705.00
Loose Plate Collection	\$148.50	\$100.00	\$664.25	\$283.00
<b>TOTAL SUNDAY OFFERING</b>	<b>\$3,243.50</b>	<b>\$2,361.00</b>	<b>\$8,638.25</b>	<b>\$2,434.00</b>
Weekly Amount needed for budget	\$3,726.00	\$2,216.00	\$8,365.33	\$3,077.00
<b>This Week's Difference</b>	<b>(\$482.50)</b>	<b>\$145.00</b>	<b>\$272.92</b>	<b>(\$643.00)</b>
YEAR TO DATE SUNDAY OFFERING	\$62,801.95	\$43,619.00	\$192,537.40	\$75,315.00
Year to Date Budget Needs	\$78,246.00	\$46,536.00	\$175,671.93	\$64,617.00
<b>YEAR TO DATE DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>(\$15,444.05)</b>	<b>(\$2,917.00)</b>	<b>\$16,865.47</b>	<b>\$10,698.00</b>

*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 4

OL 1:00 pm... Quilting  
StP 6:00 pm.... Pietra-Mat

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

StP 8:30 am....Rosary  
StP 9:00 am... Adoration Begins  
StP 9:00 am....Mission Quilters  
StP 9:00 am.... Bible Time  
StP 5:45 pm .....Benediction  
AFC 7:00 pm.... AFC Pastoral Council Meeting  
StJ 7:00 pm ....KC Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

StJ 8:30 am....Quilting  
School 4:00 pm... St. Nick at School  
StA 6:30 pm ....Faith Formation Class Gr 7-10  
StJ 6:30 pm....Faith Formation Class Gr K-11  
StP 6:30 pm....Faith Formation Reconciliation  
OL 6:30 pm... .Faith Formation Meal & Class Gr 3-11

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

AFC 2:00 pm... All Parish Staff Meeting  
AFC 7:00 pm ... Ladies Night Out @StP

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

StP 11:30 am.....Rosary  
AFC 6:00 pm... AFC Potluck @ StJ  
AFC 7:00 pm....Adoration & Reconciliation @ StJ

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

StA 7:30 am....Men's Group @EV  
StA 8:00 am... Women's Group  
StP 8:00 am... Band of Brothers Bible Study

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

OL 8:45 am .... OL Sunday School  
StJ 10:00 am.... Childrens Liturgy  
StP 11:20 am..... Spanish Rosary  
StP 1:00 pm....Our Lady of Guadeloupe Meal



#### 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 5 & 19- St. Philip

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



## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses

### Thursday, December 7

7:00 pm at Our Lady, Manannah  
7:00 pm at St. John, Darwin

### Friday, December 8

12:00 pm at St. Philip, Litchfield  
5:30 pm at St. Anthony, Watkins

# FAITH FORMATION

## Faith Formation Schedule for this week

### St. Philip—Wed, Dec 6

6:30 pm Faith Formation Reconciliation

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

### Our Lady - Wed, Dec 6

6:30 pm Faith Formation Meal

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 6

6:30 pm Faith Formation Class Gr K-11

### St. Anthony - Wed, Dec 6

Dec 6 - Classes for 7th-10th graders 6:30-8pm

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

### AFC Confirmation Class—Sunday, Dec 3

6:30–8:00 PM in the St. Philip Social Hall. This class is for 11<sup>th</sup> grade candidates and sponsors from St. Philip, St. John, and Our Lady parishes. If a sponsor is unavailable, a parent/guardian may attend in their place. Candidates should bring their Mass journals to class!

For more information refer to the AFC Google Calendar at [www.shepherdofsouls.org](http://www.shepherdofsouls.org)

**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.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to help with preparing and serving the retreat meal on Monday night.

\*Please contact Deb McCann at 320-444-2291

([dmccann@shepherdofsouls.org](mailto:dmccann@shepherdofsouls.org)), Nathan Stewart 320-693-3313 Ext 109 ([nstewart@shepherdofsouls.org](mailto:nstewart@shepherdofsouls.org)) or Bonnie Meyer 453-5765 ([evwcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:evwcatholic@gmail.com)) to let us know your interest and availability.

**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 Monday, December 11th 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.

**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.



## Celebrating St. Nicholas

The Man. The Saint. The Legend.

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

4-6 pm School of St. Philip

All Children and families are invited to join us for Crafts, Story Time, Milk & Cookies, and Pictures with St. Nicholas



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](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com)



## 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.





NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**  
DIOCESE OF NEW ULM

### **"The Body of Christ" AMEN!**

The Old Testament prefigured what Christ Jesus fulfilled in the New Testament. All of the Old Testament points to Jesus. "In the Old Covenant bread and wine were offered in sacrifice among the first fruits of the earth as a sign of grateful acknowledgment to the Creator." At Mass, we offer back to God in thanksgiving the gifts He has already given to us. We offer "the fruit of the earth, the work of human hands, the fruit of the vine," the goodness of creation. We offer our best as did the king-priest Melchizedek when he "brought our bread and wine" to God in the Book of Genesis 14:18.

What about bread at the Exodus?

\*\*\*\*\*

### **REVIVAL STARTS IN YOUR OWN HEART**

You are invited to spend some time with Jesus!

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at St.

Philip's December dates Dec 5 & 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!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Eucharist Encounter**

Join us on Friday, December 8th at St. John's Church for an evening of Encountering Jesus. We begin with a 6:00 pm Potluck supper (bring a side dish to share) followed by 6:45 pm Reconciliation and 7:00 pm Adoration, music and talk.

### **St. John KC Pancake Breakfast** -The

James A. Hansen Knights of Columbus invite you to a pancake breakfast at St. John's following the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, December 3.

St. John Quilters will have a quilt Raffle.



**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.

**Our Lady Coffee & Rolls**— Please join us on Sunday, Dec 3 for Coffee & Rolls after Mass in the Parish Center. Come enjoy some fellowship! St. Margaret's Circle will be serving - if you belong to this circle we ask that you help with serving & clean up.

## **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

Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00pm at St. Philip

Wednesday, December 6th at 6:30pm at St. Philip

Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30pm at St. John Ed Center

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

Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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!

**St. Philip's Silent Auction is now open.** Please come and place a bid. Every bid helps support Love2Hope-fighting human trafficking, A'Kala-missions in Guatemala and Ladies Night Out.

**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

**Advent Study at St. Anthony's:** Prepare Your Heart: A Guided Advent Journal for Prayer and Meditation. We will meet on Sundays during Advent after the 10AM Mass at St. Anthony's. The cost for the book is \$10, rsvp to Jessie in the St. Anthony's office if you want a book and/or will be joining in.

**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.

**St. Anthony CCW Pro-Works Christmas gifts:** We will be collecting gifts for the Pro-Works clients from Litchfield. You can bring them to our Christmas party or place them in the box in the handicapped addition of church. They would like personal hygiene items, easy puzzles, games or word searches, notebooks and pens. They really appreciate gift cards so the clients can pick out what they like or need. (No clothing, food or blankets.) All gifts should be in a gift bag. Cash or gift cards can be placed in an envelope marked Pro-Works and put in the collection basket. Last day to donate is Sunday, December 10th. Thanks for your generosity.—St. Anthony CCW officers.

**St. Anthony CCW Christmas party:** Come join us on Dec. 5 for 6:00 p.m. Mass followed by our Christmas party in the social hall. There will be a short meeting followed by a light lunch, fun and games. We will be collecting the Pro-Works gifts. Hope you can come, Kathy Erpelding, CCW co-president

**St. John/St. Philip CCW** - Hello Dear Ladies! What could we do to enliven and enrich our CCW here at St. John's and St. Philip's? Join in the discussion on Thurs, Nov 30th at 9:15am, at St. John's in Darwin. Bring your good ideas and let's have some fun!

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage- December 16, 2023**

#### **"The Shrine of Our Lady Guadalupe"**

One day pilgrimage from New Ulm to La Crosse, WI  
Cost: \$50 covers travel & food (light breakfast, lunch, dinner) Limited Space For tentative schedule & to register please visit: [www.dnu.org/2023-Pilgrimage-To-the-Shrine-of-Our-Lady-of-Guadalupe](http://www.dnu.org/2023-Pilgrimage-To-the-Shrine-of-Our-Lady-of-Guadalupe)

**Early Bulletin Deadlines** - With the Holidays coming up we will be having early bulletin deadlines. The deadline for the **December 10th** bulletin deadline was on December 1 @ noon. The deadline for the **December 17th** bulletin will be on Thursday, December 7th @ 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.

**Discipleship Quads:** "When first asked to join a Discipleship Quad I had many reservations. I was concerned where I would find the time for these weekly sessions and the tasks that went with it...My group was so inspiring and I learned so much about myself and my faith during these meetings. It was a learning process guided by the Holy Spirit." -Kelly Meierhofer. 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 Kelly'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.

**2024 Cabin Fever Reliever:** Save the date for this years' Cabin Fever Reliever at St. Anthony's for February 10th, 2024. Tickets go on sale this Sunday, December 3rd. \$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.

**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 Droegge (320-275-9148) Have a blessed day!

**Thank you** - The Litchfield KC Council has wrapped up their Coats for Kids drive. Thanks to many generous people, we were able to deliver 196 coats, plus some accessories, to United Community Action Partnership (UCAP). Thank you to all who donated.

**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

**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](http://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.

### **Job Opportunity in Shepherd of Souls AFC**

**Job Opening:** Maintenance and or Cleaner for the Church of St. Anthony. This could be a combined position or separated into two. Part-time. Apply on [www.shepherdofsouls.org](http://www.shepherdofsouls.org) or contact Jessie at the church office 320-764-2755.