



# Saint Andrew

Anchored in Faith  Catholic Church and School

March 2023

Dear New Member,

Welcome to Saint Andrew Catholic Church and School!

It is my pleasure to tell you about our community of faith and to invite you into our mission to build the Kingdom of God, here and now, through our witness of a lived faith, as Disciples of Christ. I have committed to meeting with every new family or member of our church. I look forward to setting up a time to meet with you.

We have many opportunities to serve God and our neighbor. Please take a moment to look through our stewardship book, if you have not done so already, to see where you might want to share your gifts and become involved in one of our current ministries.

As we walk this path of life together toward the fullness of God, we have been given the sacraments to help us along the way. The sacraments give us grace to help us in different places, situations, and stages of our life. Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation initiate us into full membership of the Body of Christ. Confession and the Anointing of the Sick are sacraments of healing, which Jesus has given us for the forgiveness of sins and strength in sickness. Marriage and Holy Orders are sacraments of service that afford us grace in our families and for the ministry of the priesthood and diaconate.

It is my pleasure to minister these sacraments to you and the families of our church. As you enter our church for membership, we need to review together this sacramental order, so I can help you, with the grace of God, to be best served for your call from Jesus in discipleship. If you have already received all of the sacraments, that is great. However, sometimes children have not been baptized, sometimes marriages are not blessed in the Catholic Faith, or sometimes we have not completed Confirmation to be full members of the Body of Christ. If this applies to you, my staff and I will help you receive these sacraments, which are necessary for a life of discipleship, and necessary to be working toward for membership in our parish.

We are a worshipping community in the liturgy of the Eucharist. We share in God's desire for the salvation of all and He has given us the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in which we listen to His Word and receive Him Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Eucharist. God wants us to worship Him once a week at our weekend Masses for the salvation of the world. Please join us for our 5:00 PM Saturday evening Mass or on Sunday morning at the 8:30 AM or 10:30 AM Masses, and a 1:30 PM Mass in Spanish.

Also, we have a wonderful Catholic school. We take pride in our school as it has been voted the "Best Private School" in Elk River for the last 7 years in a row. But we are blessed most of all, in that, besides the great teaching of reading, writing, and arithmetic, we can talk about and learn about the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ.

Please set up a time to meet with me if you have not done so already.

In Christ,

Fr. Mark