



CHURCH OF *St. Anne*

A LIVING PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR COMMUNITY

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Greetings from the Pastor..... | 2 |
| Current Leadership | 3 |
| St. Anne’s by the Numbers | 4 |
| Finance Council | 5 |
| Pastoral Council | 6 |
| Stewardship Committee | 7 |
| Parish Leadership Team | 8 |
| St. Anne’s School | 9 |
| St. Anne’s Faith Formation | 10 |
| Altar Ministries | 11-12 |
| Council of Catholic Women | 12 |
| Knights of Columbus | 13 |
| Synod Evangelization Team | 13 |



ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

Church of St. Anne | 503 N. 4th St., LeSueur, MN 56058 | 507-665-3811
www.stanneschurchlesueur.org

Greetings from the Pastor

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blessings to you and yours! This past year, St. Anne's has seen a deepening of faith in so many ways. I am amazed at how God has worked in the hearts of our people. To help you see how He has been present to us, we offer this year-end snapshot, including a summary of the good work being done in our parish and school, so that you may share in the same excitement.

I am grateful to our parish and school staff who work so hard every day to minister to others with their enthusiasm, faith and love. I am grateful for the work of the leaders who serve on our committees and councils. Each member is dedicated to the building up of St. Anne's parish and school. They have met regularly throughout the year to ensure that the work that they are doing bears good fruit. I continue to meet regularly with these leadership groups, as well as with our parish trustees, Carol Ward and Bob Wagner. I am thankful for their insight and counsel on matters affecting the governance of St. Anne's.

In the summer of 2022, St. Anne's accepted the resignation of our Music Director Meghan Roby and our Maintenance team John Knobbe and Jackson Knobbe. We are grateful for the talent and dedication that each of them offered during their time at St. Anne's, and we wish them well in their current pursuits. We continue to search for a new Music Director.

In the summer of 2022, St. Anne's welcomed two new staff members. We are excited to have them on board!

- ❖ Dave Maczkowicz, our new Maintenance Director
- ❖ Ann Gindt, our new part-time Faith Formation Director in the parish and part-time Religion Teacher at St. Anne's School

One of the efforts of this past year that I believe has had a significant impact on our parish is a greater focus on mission and vision, with a particular emphasis on growing in discipleship. In addition, we have held regular gatherings with members of our committees and councils. Since January 2022 we have met quarterly to foster greater communication and collaboration among our leaders and to be strengthened in mission and vision. These meetings are helping us to discuss the direction that we are taking as a parish and school and to ensure that we are on the same track. We are seeing good fruit from these efforts.

We continue to be in a good position financially. After last year's effort to eliminate outstanding debts, we continue to remain current on all our payables. We are grateful to all the benefactors that have given so generously to our parish and school, ensuring that we can address repairs that need our attention. For example, we were able to replace the boiler at the church (the old one was in need of constant repair, so we opted to replace it). We entered this fall in a healthy financial position. Our Finance Council continues to work with our Pastoral Council to prioritize future needs and develop a plan for future repairs and replacements. Please note that the financial report included here covers the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Each day we strive to grow in faith. My prayer and my hope is that we will continue to support one another in that, that we may see the fruit in a stronger community, that we may be the light of Christ in LeSueur and surrounding communities. Let us pray for one another.

God bless,
Fr. Chris Shofner

Current Parish & School Leadership (Fall 2023)

Parish Staff:

Fr. Chris Shofner, Pastor
Tess Miller, Admin Asst / Bookkeeper
Ann Gindt, Faith Formation Director
Dave Maczkowicz, Maintenance Director

Parish Trustees:

Bob Wagner
Carol Ward

Parish Leadership Team (PLT):

Lukas Loose
Tess Miller
Ruth Vortherms

Finance Council:

Brian Pfarr, Chair
Henry Endres
Tom Rabaey
Jack Roberts
Ron Schaffler

Pastoral Council:

Jim Sullivan, Chair
Terri Kirby
George Riviere
Jeff Schulz
Diann Wiederich

Stewardship Committee:

Kathy Ramey, Chair
Cindy Maczkowicz, Vice-Chair
Rhonda Guertin, Secretary
Kris Berger
Karen Monahan
Sandy Pinney

St. Anne's Cemetery Board:

LeRoy Pfarr, President
Shawn Kirby, Treasurer
Terry Genelin
Julie Rabaey
Ron Schaffler
Kevin Skelly

Council of Catholic Women:

Yvonne Guckeen
Janice Winters

School Staff:

Anne Lewis, Principal
Jan Biehler, Administrative Assistant
Emberlie Tellijohn (PreK4)
Amanda Sasse (PreK Aide)
Sue McPartland (Student Aide)
Mary Grieves (PreK3 / Library)
Katie Wangenstein (Kindergarten)
Haley Madson (Grade 1)
Rachael Kunkel (Grade 2)
Bailey Schwope (Grade 3)
Brittanee Simonson (Grade 4)
Sarah Adams (Grade 5)
Jerad Harder (Phy Ed)
Ann Gindt (Religion)
Marla Mueller (Lunch Coordinator)
Christi Wood (Asst Lunch Coordinator)
Nicole Aune (School Nurse)
Chelsea Morgan (Marketing)

St. Anne's School Advisory Board:

Stacy Lawrence, Chair
Megan Coryell
Jackie Fahey
Nick Feser
Ambria Hutton
Matt Lewis
Dana Schaefer
Anne Lewis, Principal

St. Anne's School Patrons:

Nicole Boelter
Megan Doherty
Jayme Greenig
Jeanette Karels
Lexi Meyer
Jenny Miller
Kara Olson
Chelsea Petzel
Megan Rodriguez
Emily Wentzlaff

Knights of Columbus:

Dale Winters, Grand Knight
Frank Weber, Deputy Grand Knight

For more information about any of the above ministries, contact any of the individuals listed above or the Parish Office.

St. Anne's by the Numbers

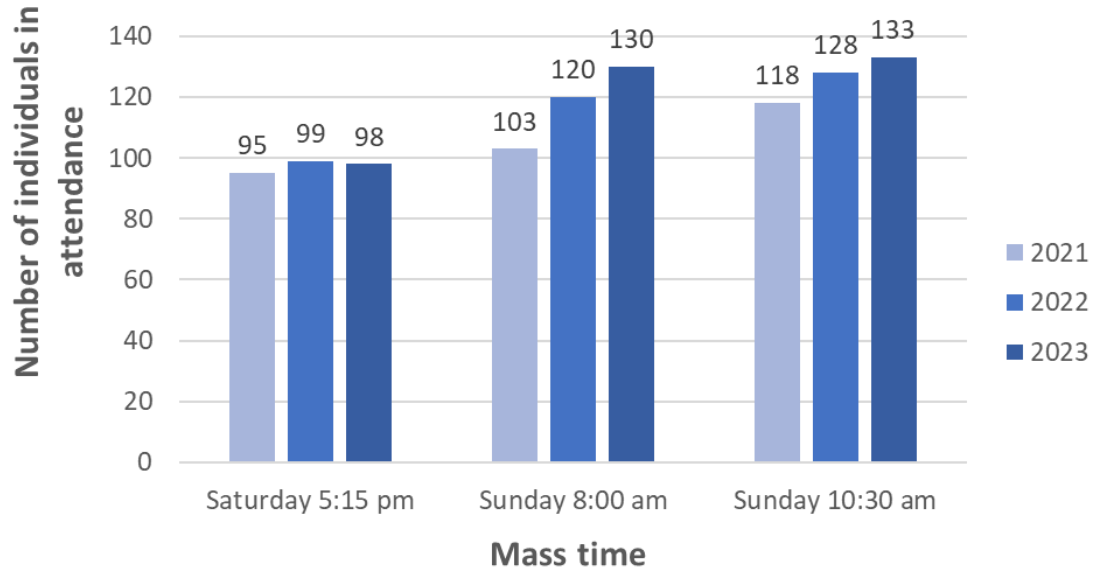
Registered Households: 484

Registered members: 1434

Sacraments (3-year comparison)

| | <u>2020-21</u> | <u>2021-22</u> | <u>2022-23</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Baptism | 17 | 22 | 16 |
| First Communion | 14 | 21 | 19 |
| Confirmation | 13 | 14 | 13 |
| Marriage | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| Anointing of the Sick | 6 | 16 | 27 |
| Deaths | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| RCIA (entering Church) | 4 | 0 | 1 |

Average Mass Attendance (October counts)



Finance Council

The Finance Council is comprised of five members appointed by the Pastor to oversee the finances of the parish and school. The Finance Council meets monthly to monitor monthly financial statements, discuss issues, and prepare an annual budget.

The parish ended the fiscal year on June 30, 2023 with a positive balance of \$273,997. There were several contributing factors to this.

- ERC government grant \$ 202,014
- Patrons \$ 40,000
- Scrip \$ 13,845
- Knights of Columbus \$ 37,000
- St. Anne's Gala \$ 10,597
- Applefest \$ 27,511
- St. Anne's School Endowment \$ 40,518

St. Anne's Church 2022-2023 Financial Report

| St. Anne's Parish income | | St. Anne's Parish expenses | |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Envelopes (Sundays & holy days) | \$ 507,398 | General Operations | \$ 124,918 |
| Ministry income | \$ 37,399 | Building expense | \$ 283,641 |
| St. Anne's School | \$ 715,196 | Ministry expense | \$ 132,883 |
| Grants | \$ 76,664 | School expense | \$ 834,490 |
| Donations for specified projects | \$ 111,258 | | |
| ERC government grant | \$ 202,014 | | |
| Total parish income | \$ 1,649,929 | Total parish expense | \$ 1,375,932 |
| | Total income parish & school | | \$ 1,649,929 |
| | Total expense parish & school | | \$ 1,375,932 |
| | NET (total income less expense) | | <u>\$ 273,997</u> |

The Finance Council continues to monitor the finances of the church, and our parish is blessed to have the support of our parishioners. We thank you for your support and pray that your continued contributions will enable us to continue our mission.

Pastoral Council

The role of the Pastoral Council is to establish, maintain and strengthen the underlying structures of St. Anne's so that all ministries within the parish and school have what is needed to effectively accomplish their tasks. The Pastoral Council has identified two primary areas that are crucial in accomplishing this:

Facilities & Maintenance: Having facilities and grounds that are well-kept and maintained is crucial for any events or activities to take place. The Pastoral Council works with the parish Head of Maintenance and the Parish Finance Council to identify and address areas of concern.

Communication & Collaboration: Having proper lines of communication among all of our councils, committees and ministries is crucial for clarity and efficiency.

Facilities, Grounds & Maintenance

- The Pastoral Council has appointed a representative to be a liaison to the Finance Council. In this role, maintenance issues can be addressed for the Finance Council for consideration.
- The Pastoral Council has worked with the Finance Council to ensure smooth and timely completion of projects.
- In the past year, the Pastoral Council has coordinated replacement of sidewalks at St. Anne's School, repairs on the church roof, and replacement of the church boiler.

Communication & Collaboration

- Members of the Pastoral Council have attended meetings of the Stewardship Committee and the Council of Catholic Women (CCW) to open up lines of communication.
- The Pastoral Council has invited representatives of other parish committees to attend one of their meetings in order to facilitate a discussion of how best to support their work.

Pastoral Council members are chosen by election. Elections are held each year in June. Information and applications are found in the bulletin during that time. We are very fortunate to have a lot of interest and applicants the last few years.

Stewardship Committee

The Purpose of the Stewardship Committee is to serve the mission of the parish to make disciples by planning activities and events that bring people together to build relationship with one another and with God.

The Stewardship Committee consists of two primary subcommittees that sponsored several events throughout the year.

| Hospitality | Prayer & Evangelization |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinated 4 “Come to the Table” events to provide meals for Faith Formation families and the community• Hosted 2 Donut Sundays• Welcomed 10 new parishioners with a visit and welcome basket• Provided baptism gifts to families of newly baptized infants• Hosted a running club that met throughout the summer of 2023• Planned “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” in the fall of 2023 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led 5 successful book studies, with 8-13 participants in each• Contributed articles to the parish bulletin• Further established a card ministry to reach out to parishioners for special occasions• Organized a parish picnic in July 2023, which hosted 160 parishioners• Hosted dinners and lodging for 4 visiting priests and 1 religious sister |

Parish Leadership Team (PLT)

The Parish Leadership Team (PLT) meets weekly to discuss with the Pastor strategies and tactics to implement our parish Mission and Vision. The PLT has worked to articulate this Mission and Vision, that has become the lens through which work in the parish is accomplished.

Mission: To make disciples

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

“He gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-12)

Vision: St. Anne’s is a community who:

- Builds community through welcoming, hospitality, and connecting people
- Builds a culture of prayer by sharing and inviting others into prayer
- Collaborates and communicates actively at all levels
- Lives out an active, living discipleship

This past year, the PLT has placed particular focus on building our leaders by hosting 4 quarterly all-leadership sessions, where we gathered members of all parish and school councils and committees to work toward more effective leadership, better communication and collaboration, and greater clarity on Mission and Vision. The PLT has been working to help councils and committees better align their work to our stated Mission and Vision.

The PLT has begun to address the communication in the parish, and has made progress in making updates to our parish website.

St. Anne's School

St. Anne's School is a PreK3 thru Grade 5 school that strives to integrate excellent academic preparation with the Catholic Tradition. We have a staff of 18 teachers and administrative staff who share in the mission.

The 2022-2023 St. Anne's school year was marked by the following major accomplishments:

- Enrollment: 140 students in Grades PreK3 thru 5
- Tuition paid: \$380,000
- Endowment: \$31,300

Our students consistently score high on all standardized tests in Mathematics, Reading and Language Usage.

Other notable accomplishments:

- New playground installed Summer 2022
- Sport Court installed Spring 2023
- Purchased new reading curriculum for Grades 3-5
- Purchased iPads for Grades K-1

St. Anne's School is under the daily leadership of Anne Lewis as Principal, in collaboration with Fr. Chris Shofner as Pastor. In addition, counsel and support are given for the administration of the school by two separate bodies:

- **St. Anne's School Advisory Board:** To serve in an advisory and consultative capacity to the Pastor and Principal of St. Anne's School.
- **St. Anne's School Patrons:** To maintain and increase the status of St. Anne's School as a Catholic Christian educational institution through financial and personal support.

St. Anne's School continues to strive for excellence by setting the following objectives for the current year:

- Provide a facility that provides quality education into the future
- Guarantee financial viability and sustainability
- Promote and enhance academics for all learners
- Continue to provide and enhance spiritual growth and Catholic identity

St. Anne's Faith Formation

St. Anne's Faith Formation Program is currently offered for students in Grades 1-10. Classes meet weekly on Wednesday evenings and focus on lessons to deepen faith and promote discussion about the matters of faith.

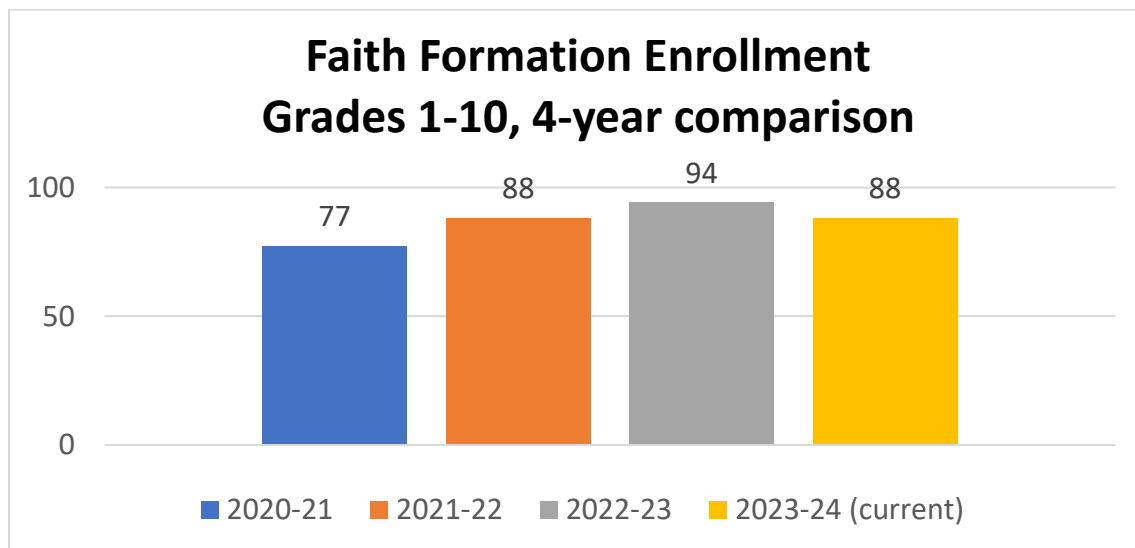
A particular emphasis of the Faith Formation Program is sacramental preparation.

- Grade 2: **First Reconciliation & First Communion**
- Grades 9-10: **Confirmation**

We are continually blessed by our volunteer catechists and aides, who give generously of their time each week to prepare lessons and teach. During the 2022-23 academic year, we were blessed with 18 individuals who served as catechists, aides, subs or hall monitors.

Faith Formation Curriculum

- Grades 1 and 3-5 used "Word of Life", published by Augustine Institute & Ignatius Press.
- Grade 2 used the "Blessed" curriculum for sacramental preparation, published by Dynamic Catholic.
- Grades 6-8 used "The Catholic Connections Handbook for Middle Schoolers" to strengthen foundational teachings of our faith.
- Grade 9 used the YDisciple series that focuses on applying our faith to daily life.
- Grade 10 used "The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth" to foster further discussion about the foundational teachings of our faith.



St. Anne's Church Altar Ministries

The Mass is the central celebration of our lives as Catholics. It is our weekly invitation to gather as a community of faith to worship God, learn about our faith, lay our needs before God, and connect with others in the community. It takes many individuals taking on various roles within the liturgy to make this happen. We are thankful for all who have stepped forward to serve in these important roles.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Laypeople who assist in the distribution of Communion. At St. Anne's this is a group of 30 individuals who distribute Communion at our 3 weekend Masses and at Holy Day Masses. They are scheduled in 1-month blocks every 6 months.

We also have 2-4 individuals who distribute Communion to homebound Catholics and those in local care facilities after the 8:00 am Sunday Mass.

Any confirmed Catholic may be a Eucharistic Minister.

Lectors

The Lector is not simply a public reader of the Bible. At Mass, the Lord used the Lector as the instrument through which He proclaims His Word to the people. We have 26 individuals who serve as Lectors at weekend and Holy Day Masses throughout the year. They proclaim the Scriptures and voice the petitions of the people at Mass.

Lectors choose the Masses that best fit their schedules.

Music Ministry

Our Music Ministers have a special place in the liturgy. By leading the congregation in song, they help them to enter more fully into relationship with God.

St. Anne's Music Ministry provides music for all liturgies at the parish (Masses, weddings, funerals) and for other parish events.

We have been blessed in recent years with Adult and Children's Choirs, which sang at Masses and other events. We have a number of very talented instrumentalists and cantors who lend their gifts to the community. We especially are excited to have some youth of our parish involved in these capacities.

In the last year, we have had over 100 musicians share their musical gifts with the parish. We continue to gain new members who are willing to share their musical gifts. Our Music Ministers have become a close-knit group of individuals who share a common love for music and for our Lord.

Altar Servers

Altar Servers assist the presiding priest at Masses throughout the year, allowing the Mass to run smoothly. By being attentive to the Mass, altar servers give a witness to others in the church of faithful, attentive participation in the Mass.

We have about 20 youth active in Altar Server ministry. Any youth who has completed Grade 3 can be trained to be an Altar Server.

Ushers

Ushers are an integral part of the Mass. Not only do they greet parishioners and visitors as they arrive for and leave Mass, they take the Mass collection and ensure the safety and security of all present.

Four ushers serve at each weekend Mass and we are thankful for the dozens of individuals who volunteer for this ministry.

Altar Ministry Coordinators

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| ➤ Altar Servers | Jan Biehler |
| ➤ Lectors | Tom Rabaey |
| ➤ Eucharistic Ministers | Ruth Vortherms |
| ➤ Music Ministry | Parish Office |
| ➤ Ushers | Parish Office |

St. Anne's Council of Catholic Women (CCW)

St. Anne's CCW is organized under the umbrella of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) to support, empower and educate women in their spirituality, leadership and service to Christ, His Church, and modern society. In their responsibilities, the CCW unites the women of our parish in faith, fellowship, and service.

St. Anne's CCW seeks to be attentive to the spiritual needs of our parish and to provide hospitality, comfort, and resources to those in need.

Some of the ministries sponsored by St. Anne's CCW include:

- Funeral luncheon ministry
- Recitation of the Rosary at visitations and funerals
- Altar care (linens and flowers)
- Quilt ministry
- Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Pancake Breakfast
- Regular meetings and annual participation in Deanery events
- Annual Memorial Mass for deceased members
- Financial support of the parish

Knights of Columbus (KC's)

The Knights of Columbus encourage Catholic men to live their faith at home, in the parish, and in the community, and to share their time and effort in different endeavors in the parish, school and community. The work of the Knights of Columbus is built on the four pillars of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

Specifically, St. Anne's Knights of Columbus provides opportunities for men to be witnesses to their faith by regularly gathering together for prayer, service and fellowship.

Some of the ministries sponsored by St. Anne's Knights of Columbus include:

- Monthly meetings to foster fraternity and plan events throughout the year
- Annual clothing drives
- Support of Birthright
- Donations to community events
- Sponsoring the setup of the parish Nativity scene
- Financial support of the parish

Synod Evangelization Team

The Synod Evangelization Team (SET) was formed in January 2023 in response to the Archbishop's desire to have a team in every parish that is solely dedicated to evangelization efforts at the parish level. Their primary goal is to implement the Archbishop's Synod Goals over the next 3 years. The SET consists of 8 individuals that have been formed in the basics of discipleship and evangelization.

Synod Evangelization Team members

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Lori Ammann | Tom Rabaey |
| Yvonne Guckeen | Kathy Ramey |
| Lori Kowaleski | Ruth Vortherms |
| Dave Pfarr | Fr. Chris Shofner |
| Robyn Pfarr | |

In the winter of 2022-23, Synod Evangelization Team attended "Discipleship School" for 6 weeks, in which they gathered with teams from other parishes at St. Wenceslaus Church in New Prague to learn what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

The SET is tasked with implementing **3 Synod Goals** over the next 3 years, as put forth by Archbishop Hebda. Each year will focus on one goal.

- Year 1 (2022-2023) Establish a Small Group Ministry in the parish
- Year 2 (2023-2024) Enhance the Sunday experience (the Mass)
- Year 3 (2024-2025) Strengthen our outreach to youth and young families

The SET is currently focused on the Year 1 goal. In the fall of 2023, they made invitations for those who feel called to be a Small Group Leader take part in a 7-week formation series to learn more. Further formation will take place throughout the winter, with the implementation of Small Groups by Lent 2024.