

# Church of the Assumption

464 State Street North PO Box 9 Eden Valley, MN 55329 201 Central Ave South PO Box 409 Watkins, MN 55389

*Church of St. Anthony* 



#### December 25th, 2021 • The Nativity of the Lord / December 26th • The Holy Family



## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

And the Word became flesh among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

### THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

All Visitors and Guests Welcome to the Assumption and St. Anthony parishes! Thank you for joining us for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. If you would like to become a member of either parish please call or email the parish offices. "May the Lord guard your coming and going both now and forever." -Psalm 121

Church of St. Anthony, Watkins / Assumption Church, Eden Valley **Assumption St. Anthony Catholics** 

#### Assumption Church

www.churchoftheassumptionedenvalley.org Parish Office.....453-2788 assumptionev@meltel.net Father Aaron Nett......453-2785 Religion Office.....453-5765 evwcatholic@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

evwyouthministry@gmail.com	1
Mass Times	

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Wednesdays	5:45 PM
Fridays	
Saturday	4:00 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM

**Reconciliation** 

Wed: 5:15 PM, Fri: 8:00 AM Sat: 3:30 PM & Sun 7:30 AM

**Eucharistic Adoration** Mondays 8:00 AM- Fridays 5:00 PM **Office Hours** 

Mon: 12:30-4:30, Wed: 8-4 Fri: 8-12:00 (hours may vary)

#### Church of St. Anthony www.stanthonywatkins.com

	nony watkins.com
Parish Office	
	<u>stanthony@meltel.net</u>
Father Aaron Nett	
Religion Office	
0	evwcatholic@gmail.com
Youth Ministry	

evwyouthministry@gmail.com

#### **Mass Times**

Tuesdays	9:30 AM
Thursdays	8:30 AM
Sunday	10:00 AM

Reconciliation

Tuesdays: 9:00 AM, Thursdays: 8:00 AM, Sundays: 9:45 AM

**Eucharistic Adoration** Thursdays 9:00 AM-Fridays 9:00 AM

**Office Hours** Mon: 8-12, Tues: 8-4 Thurs: 8-4 (hours may vary)

#### **Twinned Parish Contacts**

Pastor		Father Aaron Nett
Secretar	y	Jessica Teicher
DRE	-	Nancy Bury
RE Assis	stant	Bonnie Meyer
Sacrame	ental Assistant	Becky Haag
Youth M	linister	Sam Mettler

#### A Message from Father Aaron The Good News of Great Joy

Dear Friends,

We celebrate the most wonderful Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ today, Christmas Day! This celebration is the Good News of great joy because Our God has come down to earth to dwell with the people He loves to show them the way back to their Heavenly Homeland. As God had foretold through the prophets, He sent us the sign of His care for the world, sinful and wandering as it was. "And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." (Lk 2:12) As we take time to gaze in wonder at the beautiful manger scene, we might ponder how Our Almighty God chose to become the most weak and vulnerable of us all so that we might learn to love the Him in return. The Good News is that God spares nothing in order to offer salvation to His people, not even His own Son.

The Good News is that God is the light for the darkness of the world. Christ came to be a light in the darkness of division, conflict, oppression, addiction, despair, anger and sin. He came not just to contrast the darkness but to defeat it, and offer all people bright hope and new life in Himself. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." (Is 9:1) Our Savior Jesus is the light for all nations and people of the world.

My heart is filled with gratitude for this great celebration of Christ's birth and the spirit that it brings. I believe the Holy Spirit is very active during the days of the Christmas Octave, as He warms the hearts of believers as well as non-believers. Let us also keep in prayer those are heavyhearted or grieving souls who find the Holiday Season difficult.

I am ever grateful, as well, for the spirit of generosity that is displayed in the works of many people. Although I will never cover it all, I would like to thank all the musicians, cantors and both choirs for their extra preparation, giving glory to God through song. A great thank you, as well, to our dedicated sacristans, decorators, the sharp-dressed ushers, lectors and ministers at Mass. Also, a great thank you goes out to our dedicated parish staff, and my brother priests who offer themselves for extra confessions. Finally, a great word of thanks goes out to all volunteers who have given their time, talents and treasure! Thank you all, and may God bless you abundantly in Christmas peace and joy!

> Merry Christmas! Father Aaron

#### **Twinned Parish News**

**Solemnity of Mary Mass** There will be Mass on Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> for the Solemnity of Mary at 9AM at Assumption.

#### **No 4PM Saturday Mass**

Due to the Christmas Holiday there will be no 4PM Mass at Assumption on Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.

Are interested in the you **Hospitality** Ministry? Are you interested in welcoming people and building community in our parishes? Do you like to meet many people? Hospitality is a powerful healing ministry! If you'd like to be part of this ministry, please contact the office or Becky Haag. Both parishes' groups will be meeting on Thursday, January 13th at 7:30PM in Assumption Church.

## Life, Relationships, and the Pursuit of Authentic Love

Wednesday February 2nd from 6:30-8:30pm the Church of St. Anthony will be hosting a speaker event for teens and adults. The event is free and anyone is welcome to attend. However, attendance is required for 7th-11th graders in the St. Anthony/Assumption Faith Formation programs and their parents.

#### **11th Gr. Confirmation Class**

The next Confirmation Class for 11th graders with their parent/s is on Wednesday, Jan. 19th, 6:30 pm-7:45 pm at Assumption.

#### **From Father:**

I would like to thank all those who sent Christmas cards, gifts, prayers or well wishes to me. May God bless you for your kindness. I wish that I could thank each one of you in a more personal way, but know that I am very grateful and you will be in my prayers in a special way. Christmas blessings, Father Aaron

#### **Dual Bulletin**

The bulletin for this weekend covers both the Christmas Masses and the Sunday Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family. In other words, the bulletin on Sunday will be the same as the Christmas bulletin.

#### **Mass Intentions**

Wednesday, December 29: 5:45 PM Mass: † Adrian Nohner Friday, December 31: 7:00 AM Mass: † Dolores Braun Saturday, January 1: 9:00 AM Mass: People of the Parishes 4:00 PM Mass: † Peter Gruenes Sunday, January 2: 8:00 AM Mass: People of the Parishes

#### **Mass Ministries**

-Saturday, January 1, 4PM: Lector: Deb Huschle Extraordinary Minister of Communion: Jody Bauer Rosary Leader: Helen Theis Hospitality: Jerry Arnold & Molly Zimmerman

-Sunday, January 2 8AM: Lector: Linda Thielen Extraordinary Minister of Communion: Donna Bischof Rosary Leader: Theresa Branstner Homebound: Colleen & Gary Sogge Hospitality: Dan & Kim Mead

#### **Financial Blessings**

December 12, 2021	
Adult Env	1719.00
Loose	45.00
Christmas	100.00
Bazaar	125.00
Votive	38.49
Total	\$2027.49

Total Monthly Auto Transfers: \$2305



#### Faithfully Building Our Future Building Project (as of 12/6/21)

Revised Total Project Cost	\$2,149,606.98
Total Expenses Paid	<u>-\$2,091,654.40</u>
Remaining Expenses	\$57,952.57
Current Loan Amount	+ \$82,849.80
Total Outstanding Expenses	s \$140,802.37
Less Cash on Hand	- \$41,888.51
Additional Funds Needed	\$98,913.86
Outstanding Pledges	\$82,911.77

#### **Assumption Parish News**

**Adoration Announcement** The Eucharistic Adoration chapel will close at 7 a.m on Friday on the 24th, and it will close again at 7 a.m. on Friday the 31st.

**Annual Guild Meeting** On January 2nd, 7 pm we will have the year end Guild meeting. This is a meeting for all members of the Guild in Assumption parish to be more involved and learn more about the church. We will be reviewing several topics, assigning new chiars/co-chairs for each group if that hasn't already been done and also nominating our new vice president and secretary. Please consider attending. May God fill your life with love, joy and peace this holiday season. Jenni Scherer Guild President.

**Lector & Eucharistic Ministers Schedules** The next lector and Eucharistic ministers schedules are now available in the back of church and on the parish website under "schedules". Thank you to everyone who helps out with all these ministries!

**Bake Sale Thank You** Thank you to everyone who stepped up to help with the Christmas Bake Sale last weekend. It was a joy-filled time coming together and making Christmas goodies to support our cause. Thank you to those who helped prep ahead of time, those that brought items ready to sell, those that helped after the Masses selling, to the youth that helped assemble, decorate, package and set up, and to all those who bought a tasty treat! All proceeds will be used to support Alejandro (our sponsored Mexican Orphan), the food shelf, and other local needs in the community.

**Homebound Ministry** If anyone would like the Eucharist brought to them please call Rose Becker at 453-7496 or 223-3696.

**Looking for Religious Education Subs** Are you 'sometimes' available to sub in for teachers and teacher's aides in the religion program? We need subs for Tuesdays during the day, Wednesday nights, and Thursdays during the day. Please call or email Bonnie in the Faith Formation office at 453-5765 / evwcatholic@gmail.com if interested.





Join Us For Our Christmas Open House!

Open House! There will be an open house Christmas celebration on December 30th from

4-8 PM at the Assumption rectory. Please come and go anytime during these hours. No gifts please, just come an enjoy the Christmas season together! All are welcome! **Mass Intention** 

**Tuesday, December 28:** 9:30 AM Mass: † Wilbert Walz Thursday, December 30: 8:30 AM Mass: † Leo Huberty Sunday, January 2: 10:00 AM Mass: † Alvin & Bernice Meierhofer

#### **Mass Ministries**

#### -Sunday, January 2, 10AM:

Lectors: Chad Dockendorf & Jessie Teicher **Extraordinary Minister of Holy** Communion: TBD Mass Servers: TBD Children's Liturgy: TBD Rosary Leader: Ethel Donnay Hospitality: TBD Coffee & Rolls: Emily Donnay

#### **Financial Blessings**

December	12, 2021
Adult Env	2710.00
Loose Plate	60.00
Youth Env	6.00
Votive	65.00
Weekly Auto	595.00
Total	\$3436.00
THAN	K YOU
- for your	generosity -

#### **Church Cleaners**



Dec. 26 - Jan. 8: Rich & Mary Ann Hesse, Andy & Erin Hesse, Gerald & Luann Hesse and Scott & Kayla Hesse and families.

\*Call Theresia at 764-7251 to unlock.

#### **Thrift Store**

#### **St. Anthony Parish News**

#### 2022 Cabin Fever Reliever

Tickets for the next Cabin Fever Reliever on February 12th are now on sale! The cost is \$50 per person, which includes a dinner and show. Tickets will be sold after Sunday Masses and are also available at Citizens Bank, the parish office, or by calling/texting Kathy Kramer at 320-224-6858. We are also looking for donations of high-end auction items and also desserts for the meal, wine, gift cards or scratch offs for raffle. The proceeds from this event will go to church improvements.

Knights of Columbus Thank You Thank you to the Knights of Columbus St. Damien Council for their recent donation of \$350 to the religious education program at St. Anthony's. These funds were raised by the Knights at their July hamburger stand. Thank you to the Knights and to those who supported them in their hamburger stand this past summer!

#### **New CCW Circle Officers**

If you were unable to come to our meeting, you can pick up your information on the table in the new addition by the lift. Thank You, Kathy Erpelding, CCW co-president

#### Give the Gift of Food this Christmas Season!

There is a basket in the back of church (where the giving tree would normally be) with envelopes for giving to the food shelf. Thank you for helping keep our food shelves available for our local community members in need!

#### Watkins Community Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is having a blood drive on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 from 1:00 to 7:00 pm at the St. Anthony's. To schedule an appointment call 1-800-RedCross (1-800-733-2767) or register on-line at redcrossblood.org or use the Blood Donor App. Please bring your donor card or a photo ID. Masks will be required.

#### Looking for Religious Education Subs

Are you 'sometimes' available to sub in for teachers and teacher's aides in the religion program? We need subs on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:45pm. Please call or email Nancy in the Faith Formation office at 453-5765 / evwcatholic@gmail.com if interested.



Need some help getting some good Catholic content from the radio? Ready to try something different? You can listen live on the radio or download the mobile







## YOUTH

apps!

#### **Youth Night Help**

Looking for an easy way to help with the youth nights? We have recently started supplying our youth with meals during these nights and are looking for

individuals who would like to help serve, cook, or simply bring dessert. Please contact Theresa Branstner @ (320) 492-1796 if interested.

**Steubenville Registration Open!** Steubenville is a retreat for this year's current 8th-12th graders. We have set aside a day before to provide a service project for the youth. We are also looking for chaperones as well. Contact Sam at evwyouthministry@gmail.com for more information.

#### **Extreme Faith Camp**

Calling all current 5th-8th graders!!! This summer our parishes will have the opportunity to attend Extreme Faith Camp, a Catholic summer camp with high adventure activities such as zip-lining, swimming, rock climbing, archery, etc. along with the Sacraments. Camp will take place June 13th-17th and registration will be open Jan 1st - Feb 1st. The cost will be \$350 per camper with the opportunity to eliminate some of this cost through participation in Youth Ministry fundraising opportunities. Reach out to Nancy in the Faith Formation office (evwcatholic@gmail.com) with questions.

#### Youth Christmas Party!

Christmas party for 9-12 graders at Assumption starting at 6:30 till 8:30 pm on Wednesday, December 29th. Snacks and drinks will be provided!

#### Sacraments

**Marriage-** Couples should contact the parish at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

**Baptism**-Baptism classes are for parents and expecting parents who are seeking baptism that haven't already taken a class. Contact the parish office to sign up.

Confession- times on cover & by appointment

**Anointing of the Sick -** contact the parish office when anointing is needed.

**RCIA-** The length of time will be suitable to have a significant experience of the parish community and to have a greater knowledge and love of the Catholic faith. Contact the parish office to sign up.

**Bulletin Deadline** Bulletin announcements are due on Tuesdays by noon.

**Community Rosary Night/Potluck:** Join us for a group rosary on <u>Friday</u>, January 7th <u>at 6:00PM</u> at St. Anthony's. <u>The rosary in church</u> <u>will be followed by a potluck! Please bring a dish</u> <u>to share!</u>

**Women's Group:** We will next meet on January 8th & 22nd at 7:00-8:30 at St. Anthony's. **Assumption Knights of Columbus:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7PM at the Assumption Church

**Men's Group:** Saturdays, 7:30 AM Rosary, 8-9 AM meeting, at Assumption. Join us for a morning of reflection & fellowship.

#### Remember in Your Prayers...

Jackie Boulton Family, Theresa Welle, Jeff Pauls, the Ertl Family, Alexis Vossen, Alizabeth Ludwig, Grace Hohenstein, June Berg., Makayla Kammermeir, Michelle C. Isaacs and Carol Braun, the Ley Family, Ellen Libbesmeier, the Schindler Family, Darcy Erickson, Ron Welle, Jeannie Klehr and Gordy.

Christ the Savior is Born



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St. Anthony, Watkins, MN

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