



# St. Michael's & St. Anthony's Parishes



## St. Michael's Parish

524 W. Church Street  
Albion, NE 68620

## St. Anthony's Parish

508 W. Main Street/P.O. Box 56  
Cedar Rapids, NE 68627

January 9, 2022

### St. Michael's

**Fr. Mark Tomasiewicz, Pastor**

Rectory: 402-395-2393

**Jeni Porter, Business Manager**

Parish Office: 402-395-2332

Email: [jlporter@archomaha.org](mailto:jlporter@archomaha.org)

**Deacon Tim Preister** 402-741-9296

**Deacon James Schindel** 402-741-1255

**Deacon Paul Weeder** 402-395-6105

**Lisa Wagner, Director of Religious Ed**

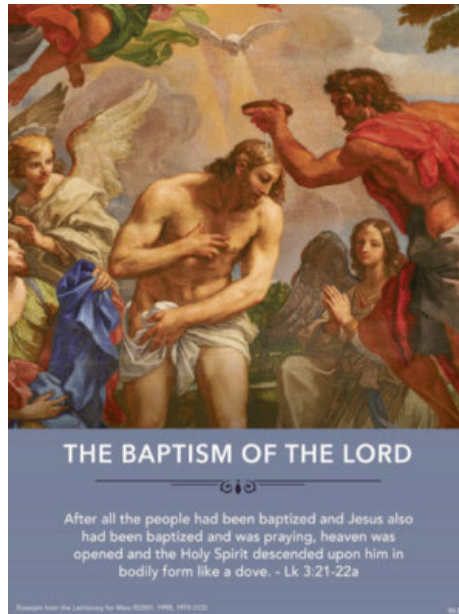
Cell phone: 308-750-0423

**Kathy Salber, School Office Manager**

**Tina Thiele-Blecher, Principal**

School Office: 402-395-2926

**Parish web site:** [stmichaelalbion.com](http://stmichaelalbion.com)



### St. Anthony's

**Fr. Mark Tomasiewicz, Pastor**

St. Michael's rectory: 402-395-2393

**Linda Braun, Business Manager**

Parish Office: 308-358-0773

Email: [imb Braun@archomaha.org](mailto:imb Braun@archomaha.org)

**To rent St. Anthony's Parish Center**

**contact:** Leona VanDeWalle

308-750-6569 or 308-358-0394

**Andi Moseman, Director of Religious Ed**

308-550-1549

**Tracy Paulsen, Director of Religious Ed**

308-550-0097

**To schedule Masses at either parish:**

Contact Fr. Mark by phone, 402-395-2393, or mail to the rectory.

“Who is this Christ? Is he like you?”

Perhaps you've heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

“He is nothing like me,” the saint is said to have answered. “But I hope I am like him.”

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. “One worthier than I is coming,” he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God's will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let's examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God's plan?

*-Tracy Earl Welliver*

**Sacrament of Penance:** St. Michael's 4:30-5:00 p.m. on Saturday; St. Anthony's 10:00-10:20 a.m. on Sunday.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** First-time parents are required to attend a baptism preparation class. Please contact Fr. Mark or Deacon Tim Preister to arrange for the class and for the baptism.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Archdiocesan policy requires an 8-12 month preparation. Please make arrangements by contacting Fr. Mark.

**Holy Communion for the Homebound:** Communion is taken to the shut-ins at both parishes. Please contact Jodi Krohn in Albion, 402-741-9161, or Linda Braun in Cedar Rapids, 308-358-0554, to get put on the list.

**Sick Call:** Please call Fr. Mark if you or someone in your family is sick or in the hospital and would like a visit.

**Prayer Chain at St. Michael's:** Please call Nancy Morton, 402-395-6294.

**Prayer Chain at St. Anthony's:** Please call Betty Nelson, 402-805-0393.

## FROM THE PASTOR

Everyday a lot of people have the chance to bathe or shower with clean water, brush their teeth and get dressed in clean clothes, yet not all have that gift or simple necessity. This weekend we celebrate the **Baptism of the Lord**, which officially ends the glorious Christmas season. We must acknowledge that Jesus was not baptized as an infant, for he was a young man willing and ready to embrace the incredible mission he came to fulfill as desired by the Heavenly Father. We believe that as God's Son, Jesus, was born without sin and came to save us. We might ponder, why do we need to be baptized? The Church's explanation might be that while an infant or a very young child is not yet capable of personal sin, by virtue of his or her human nature, the child's life unfortunately has been tainted by original sin. Hence, baptism as a sacrament is an opportunity to be welcomed into the Christian community, cleansed from original sin, claimed as a child of God, anointed with sacred chrism and the Holy Spirit. The child or recipient is blessed with God's grace and love to grow as a disciple of Jesus in the ways of virtue by the example of the parents and godparents along with the support of the community. Hence, that is why sacraments, even baptism, are not a private celebration! The journey of faith begins and the child is recognized by a name, attains a new Christian identity, and belongs to God. When listening to the Scriptures, they highlight the desire of God, who will bless his servant, whom he has chosen. In a more focused way, Luke's gospel account tells us that the people were excited and wondering if John the Baptist was Jesus, but he told them that he was not, as he baptized Jesus and other people. John, knowing he was unworthy but humbly obeyed the command of Jesus, baptized the Savior with water and assured the people that one greater than he would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. In addition, we are mindful that Jesus did not need to be baptized, yet he was baptized to make the waters holy and desired to be in solidarity with repentant sinners. However, the final act of awesome power was revealed following the baptism of the Lord, as we read: **"Heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."** With great emphasis, God the Father offers us one more image of the Incarnation—a place where Jesus is Lord and Son of God, Savior and Redeemer, revealed fully human and divine, that we might become recipients of salvation. Even though most of us can't remember our baptism, we might still praise God for this beginning of faith and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit that enables us to be also beloved children of God, because Jesus came to dwell with us and help us on the faith journey. Bless yourself with holy water and renew your pledge to follow Christ, as the Priest, Prophet, and King, who hopes we can flourish as holy people in the world!

**Thank you** for supporting the Seminarian Collection and for your prayers for all the men studying for the Archdiocese of Omaha!

Fr. Mark

**One Church: *Encountering Jesus, Equipping Disciples and Living Mercy***

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Monday, January 10	(SM)	NO MASS (Pastor's day off)
Tuesday, January 11	(SM) 8:00 a.m.	† Mary Lloyd
Wednesday, January 12	(SM) 8:10 a.m.	† Louis & June Orleans
	(SA) 10:30 a.m.	† Rosella Braun
Thursday, January 13	(SM) 8:00 a.m.	† Mark Bode
Friday, January 14	(SM) 8:00 a.m.	† Michael Beierman
Saturday, January 15	(SM) 5:30 p.m.	† Jane Hamling
Sunday, January 16	(SM) <b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Parishioners of St. Michael's & St. Anthony's
	(SA) <b>10:30 a.m.</b>	† Patricia Beister

Please note place designations: (SM) = St. Michael's in Albion, (SA) = St. Anthony's in Cedar Rapids, (SE) = Samaritan Estates Assisted Living in Albion, (WM) = Wolf Memorial in Albion

# St. Michael's Parish

## Liturgical Ministries Next Week

### Altar Servers

Sat., January 15 Taryn & Tresdyn Stephens  
Sun., January 16 Madeline Kuta & Bethany Preister

### Ushers

Sat., January 15 Pat Baum, Kent Beierman,  
Tom Brugman  
Sun., January 16 Roger Gentrup, Mike Kuta, Bill Ketteler

### Lectors

Sat., January 15 Kevin Nelson  
Sun., January 16 Laura Carder

### Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion

Sat., January 15 Kayberly Nelson  
Sun., January 16 Rachelle Spence

### Music

Sat., January 15 Kay Nelson/Taylor Beierman  
Sun., January 16 Jill Nore

### Collection Recorders

Sun., January 16 Andy Roberts & Rachelle Spence

### This Week at St. Michael's:

Tues., Jan. 11 \*KC's meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Wed., Jan. 12 \*Musical Vibes practice 5:15 p.m.  
\*PRE resumes (see below)

### This Week at St. Michael's School:

Wed., Jan. 12 \*Mass at 8:10 a.m. led by 4th grade

### Parish Religious Education Calendar:

Wed., Jan. 12 \*PRE movie grades K-8  
(drop off & pick up at theater, 6:00-7:25 p.m.)  
\*Regular class grades 9-12  
Wed., Jan. 19 \*PRE grades K-1, 3-6  
\*2nd grade 1st Holy Communion meeting for  
students & parents  
\*No class for grades 7-8  
\*Regular class grades 9-12  
Wed., Jan. 26 \*PRE

### Please remember our parishioners in prayer:

Donald Appelmann, Myron Benes, Pauline Pelster,  
Tiffany Preister & baby Elijah, John & Joan Smith,  
Scott Nelson (Mitch Nelson's brother),  
Adalynn Bouska (daughter of Jeff & Alex)

(If there is someone that you want to remember in prayer on this bulletin list,  
please call or email Jeni Porter at 395-2332 or jlporter@archomaha.org.)

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP

Regular Collection December 26, 2021 & January 2, 2022

Envelopes	\$6,203.00
Children	0
December Online Donations	3,235.10
Plate	206.00
<b>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP</b>	<b>\$9,644.10</b>
Christmas total	\$36,951.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$685.00
First Offering	\$155.00

St. Michael's Parish family would like to welcome  
Tate Darrell Christo, son of Dustin & Karissa Christo, who  
was baptized on December 11; Olive Elizabeth Johnson,  
daughter of Alex Johnson & Sydney Weidner, who was  
baptized on December 18; and Mila Jean Luettel, daughter of  
Greg & Mandy Luettel, who was baptized on December 20.

**Part-time help wanted:** Cafeteria assistant to help  
prepare school lunches at St. Michael's School. Hours are  
from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. every school day from  
August-May. Hourly wage is negotiable. Contact  
Tina Thiele-Blecher, 402-395-2926, to apply.

In order to keep St. Michael's Cemetery aesthetically acceptable and maintenance friendly, we are asking that family members, friends  
and fellow parishioners take the responsibility to see that the decorations you place on the graves are kept respectful in honor of our  
loved ones and also to avoid mowing hazards.

The Cemetery Committee shall, at their discretion, remove any decorations on any plot that are broken and unsightly or that may  
create a mowing hazard or interfere with up-keep.

Thank you for your support as we try to keep these consecrated grounds a beautiful place for our loved ones' earthly remains and keep  
the maintenance costs to a minimum.

# St. Anthony's Parish

## Liturgical Ministries Next Week

### Altar Servers

Sun., January 16 Caleb Fulton & Santiago Beltran

### Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion

Sun., January 16 Jim Langan

### Ushers

Sun., January 16 Bill Armatys & Tom Schuele

### Music

Sun., January 16 Becky Scott

### Lector

Sun., January 16 Bev Schuele

### Collection Recorders

Sun., January 16 Bill Armatys & Tom Schuele

***“John answered them all, ‘I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming. . .he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. . .’” Luke 3:16***

The Catholic Catechism states that “Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.” In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus - the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

### **This Week at St. Anthony’s:**

Wed., Jan 12 \*PRE  
Sun., Jan. 16 \*KC’s meet after Mass

### **Parish Religious Education Calendar:**

Wed., Jan. 12 \*PRE  
Wed., Jan. 19 \*PRE  
Wed., Jan. 26 \*PRE

### **Please remember our parishioners in prayer:**

Ted Sauser

(If there is someone that you want to remember in prayer on this bulletin list, please call or email Jeni Porter at 395-2332 or [jlporter@archomaha.org](mailto:jlporter@archomaha.org).)

Thank you to all who donated to the Advent Baby Shower!

Thank you to all who donated to St. Anthony’s Altar Society Bazaar & Parish Party. Thanks, too, to the PRE students and teachers for the program at the party.

St. Anthony’s welcomes two new member to our parish family!  
Harlen Ann Watts, daughter of Lee & Christine Watts, and  
Sadie James Zentner, daughter of Zachary & Robin Zentner, who were  
baptized on December 5.

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP**

Regular Collection December 26, 2021 & January 2, 2022

Envelopes	\$2,770.00
Children	0
Plate	488.00
<b>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP</b>	<b>\$3,258.00</b>
Christmas total	\$11,681.00
God’s Gift	\$945.00
Endowment interest	\$243.72
Solemnity of Mary	\$182.00
First Offering	\$699.00

To rent St. Anthony’s Parish Center, please contact  
Leona VanDeWalle, 308-750-6569 or 308-358-0394.

If you are new to our parish or you have never registered to be members of St. Anthony’s, please see Fr. Mark to register.

Volunteers are needed for Altar Society chairladies! Please donate your time to help with funeral dinners, church cleaning, alumni meal, and making phone calls. Please contact Leona VanDeWalle, 358-0394, Diane Buettner, 358-0192, or Linda Braun, 358-0554, to volunteer. Your help is greatly needed and appreciated.

## St. Michael's & St. Anthony's Parish Vision

*One family as God's people, centered on Word and Sacrament, blessed by baptismal grace and Christ's love, called to serve as disciples.*

### Our Parishes' Mission

*We exist to build a faith community, empowered by the Holy Spirit to live our Catholic identity and gospel values, to engage others to be intentional disciples who share their gifts for the glory of God.*

### Rural Central Deanery Scholarship

\$200 scholarship offered to a senior Catholic girl. The winner of the deanery scholarship will be eligible to compete for the \$500 scholarship offered by the Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women. Application forms have been sent to the guidance counselors of the high schools. The applications must be postmarked by January 15, 2022 and need to be sent to: Barb Wurdinger, 84542 564th Ave., Stanton, NE 68779.

### Programs at St. Benedict Center, Schuyler

#### "This is My Beloved Son, Listen to Him!" - January 21-23

A men's retreat open to all ages. We are surrounded by so many voices telling us that our happiness consists in wealth, in pleasure, in power, and in worldly honor. Jesus, however, calls upon us to rid ourselves of those attachments, to anchor ourselves in God's steadfast love, and to will the good of the other person. This retreat will help us listen to Christ throughout the year.

Friday, 7:30 p.m. to Sunday after lunch.

#### Windows Into Heaven: Encountering Jesus in Icons - January 28-30

It has been said what the written word of Scripture is to the ears, icons are to the eyes.

Friday, 7:30 p.m. to Sunday after lunch.

#### Set Your House in Order: A Program to Organize Finances & Plan Estate - February 5

A workshop with James Fehringer. If you have possessions, you have an estate. Their orderly care during your lifetime represents financial management. Their disposition after your lifetime is called estate settlement. Deciding in advance how this will be done is known as estate planning. Capitalize on this opportunity to learn how to plan your estate. Program fee is \$35. Lunch is available for \$12.08.

#### Valentine's Day Dinner - February 6

Mass at 5 p.m. followed by a 4-course dinner at 6 p.m.

Cost is \$70 if registered before January 24

To register for an event, please call the St. Benedict Center, 402-352-8819, or go to their web site, [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com).

**See all of their retreats on their web site!**

### Support Our Catholic Kids

St. Michael's SOCKS Committee joined with the Family Life Committee to become St. Michael's Parish Life Committee.

Committee members will be selling Gragert's and Thriftyway grocery certificates the second weekend of each month after Mass.

Certificates are also available at St. Michael's School office and at the Boone County Bank.

St. Michael's receives 5% back from all grocery certificates purchased.

### "Into The Breach"

Monday, January 10

7:30 p.m.

KC Hall, Albion (old Senior Center room)

It's more important today than ever for every man to gain insight on how to be the "man" of your family, community, and country and our society desperately needs and deserves you. "Into The Breach" is a call to battle for Catholic men which urges them to embrace wholeheartedly masculine virtues in a world in crisis.

All men are invited to attend this study group hosted by the KC's! For more information, please contact Pat Schmitz, 402-608-0430.

### Card Shower for Sister Agatha Sadler's 85th Birthday

Sister Agatha's birthday is on January 25 and her address is:

P.O. Box 271, Albion, NE 68620.

Parishioners & community members are invited to send her a birthday card to brighten her special day!

### Catholic Schools Week Pancake Feed

Sunday, January 30

9:00 a.m. - noon

KC Hall, Albion

Free will donations accepted to help support St. Michael's School.



### Catholic Schools Week

January 30 - February 4

Watch for more details!

### Tour of French Catholic Shrines with Fr. Frank Baumert

October 1-12, 2022

This cross-country pilgrimage will include magnificent shrines and churches and learning about the lives of St. Bernadette, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Veronica and Zaccheus, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Catherine Labourne. There is also a stop at the beaches in Normandy. See all of the details at [www.pilgrimages.com/frbaumert](http://www.pilgrimages.com/frbaumert). This trip is set up by 206Tours. Their web site is [www.206Tours.com](http://www.206Tours.com).

### Readings for the week of January 9, 2022

**Monday:** 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

**Saturday:** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

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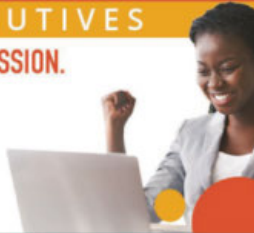


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