



CHURCH OF

St. Anne

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(507) 665-3811 | 217 NORTH 3RD STREET, LE SUEUR, MN 56058

November 22, 2020

Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Church Mailing Address:

503 N. 4th St., Le Sueur, MN 56058

Parish Staff

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CCW (Council of Catholic Women)

Lisa Swanson507-248-3863

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Carol Iten507-665-2442

MISSION SEWING

Mabel Schweiss.....507-665-3272

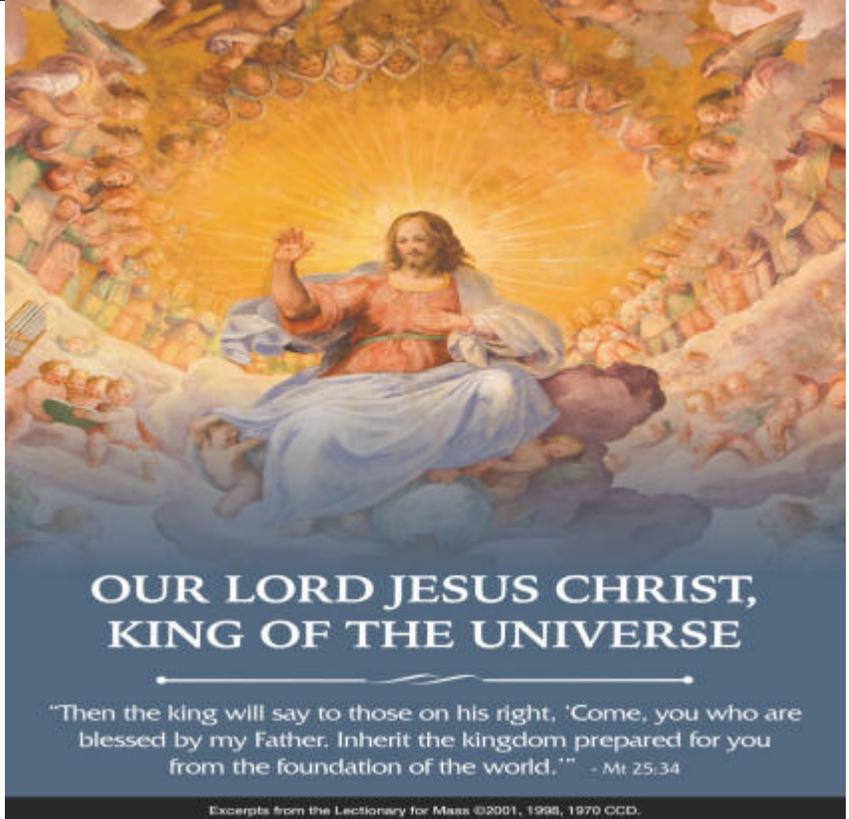
Will resume in September.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jim Sullivan
jamespatrickssullivan@yahoo.com

FINANCE COUNCIL

Brian Pfarr
BrianPfarr@ffmbank.com



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'" - Mt 25:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

MARRIAGES

For information, please contact the pastor, either by telephone or email.

PRAYER CHAIN

To request prayers or to become a member of chain, please contact Yvonne Guckeen at 507-665-2282.

BAPTISM

For information, please contact the pastor, either by telephone or email.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Registration forms are available either in the back of church, at the Parish Center Office or on our web site.

St. Anne's Catholic Church Mass Schedule

MASS SCHEDULE

Public Mass on Saturday at 5:15 pm and Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am will be held at Church with restrictions. Mass will be broadcast on Facebook live Saturday at 5:15 pm. Go to facebook.com/stannescatholicchurchlesueur/ to watch.

You will be able to watch the Saturday, 5:15pm Mass the next day by going online to Youtube.com and search for St. Anne Le Sueur.

HOLY DAY MASSES

See bulletins for date & times

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays:
9:00am to 9:30am
4:00pm to 4:30pm

**FOR UP TO DATE MASS SCHEDULES
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE:**

www.stanneschurchlesueur.org

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This week we celebrate Thanksgiving. While not an official Church feast—and while our celebrations may look a little different this year—the Church still encourages us to foster the act of thanksgiving on this day (and every day), since it is in keeping with the spirit of recognizing God’s providential action in our lives. We take some time to reflect this week on the many gifts that God has bestowed on us as individuals, on our families and friends, our community, our nation and our world.

Thanksgiving is essentially an expression of love for the One that we recognize has been so gracious to us. And that’s the key to real thanksgiving – recognizing not just the *Gift*, but the *Giver*! Very often we tend to attribute good fortune in life to *our efforts alone*. And while many successes come our way due to our persistence and hard work, we also have to recognize that no good thing comes to us unless the Father in Heaven wills it. He opens the door, He presents the opportunity, He blesses our efforts and makes them bear fruit – and for that, we give Him thanks.

St. Paul wrote: **“In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)**. It is certainly easy to give thanks when things are going well and life is comfortable, but how do you give thanks in times of hardship? There are plenty who face difficult situations in their personal, family and work lives, and find it hard to be thankful for a lot. How do we encourage others to be thankful in these situations? We tell others to look for things to be thankful for, to focus on the positive. But that’s often only a momentary consolation for those who might be struggling with marital problems, health concerns, the loss of a loved one, or financial troubles. We want to encourage others to see the gift of God in the midst of hardship. I encourage people to think about two things:

1. **The difficulties in life have a purpose.** While the Lord certainly doesn’t gain pleasure in watching us suffer, He does have a plan when suffering is unavoidable. He wants us to grow through the hard times and recognize our dependence on His power rather than on our own. Origen of Alexandria presented an image in the 3rd century that has been repeated often throughout the centuries: *The sun has the power to harden mud or to soften wax*. Just so, the difficulties of life can harden or soften our hearts, depending on our choice. In times of hardship, we can open ourselves up to the grace of God, or we can close ourselves off. We can choose to grow or to wither. We can learn a lesson and be strengthened through it, or we can be weakened. We can be a shining example to others of the virtue of long-suffering, or we can be an example of what it means to be broken. In the midst of hardships, we call upon God to be our strength and to see us through.

2. **Thanksgiving is not always an expression of what we have already received. Thanksgiving can also be offered as an expression of hope for the future.** Pray to the Lord in thanksgiving for the work that He is currently doing in your life, even if that work is not yet complete. It’s an expression of faith in the God who is at work and will come through in our time of need. I always think of the prophet Habakkuk in this respect, who lamented the problems that he saw all around him, but after spending time venting his sorrows to the Lord, he says, “Yet will I rejoice in the Lord and exult in my saving God. God, my Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet swift as those of those of hinds and enables me to go upon the heights” (Habakkuk 3:18-19). His words express the hope of one who thanks God for the work He is doing, trusting that the plan is being worked out and eventually there will be a resolution and healing.

Thanksgiving says to God: “I see You at work in my life, and for that, I am thankful!” May that be the attitude of our heart this Thanksgiving and every day! However you choose to spend this Thanksgiving holiday, I pray that it is safe, restful, enjoyable and blessed!

God bless,

Fr. Chris Shofner

Fr.Chris@hotmail.com



2020 Catholic Campaign for Human Development

This weekend, November 21st and 22nd and next weekend November 28th and 29th we will be accepting donations for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. When you join with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, you are helping community development projects led by low income groups to make a difference in their communities. The CCHD works with community groups to find solutions to local problems, to create businesses, and to find ways to improve their lives.

Envelopes will be available at the doors of the church. You can pick one up and put it in the collection basket, drop it off at the Parish Office or mail it in to the Parish Office at 503 N. 4th St., Le Sueur, MN 56058.

St. Anne's Happenings



Anne Lewis, Principal

annelewis@stanneslesueur.org

St. Anne's School 5th Graders attended Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center Camp November 11th through November 13th. They had three days of amazing adventures and learning, lots of fresh air, exercise and making memories. Their classes were the Root River Hike, Karst Geology and a Naturalist Program called Unhuggables, which was about pests. The kids got to see and touch a live fox snake. They also got to see a live skunk and vulture. The second Naturalist Program was about Raptors. Their other classes were Settler's Life, Animal Signs, Tree Tops Ropes Course and the Winter Survival Class. The students ended their last night at camp with a night hike. We are so thankful that the students were able to attend the camp and for all the parents who attended to chaperone the event.



The students gather around a brick dedicated in memory of Brogan Schaefer.

Grade 5



Emily Sunderman

Director of Religious Education
esunderman@stanneslesueur.org

Happy Feast of Christ the King!

Our Faith Formation Families and Catechists have continued to do a wonderful job of working through the various challenges and recognizing the many blessings this fall has presented us.

Starting on Wednesday, November 11th, all of our middle school and confirmation classes switched to meeting via Zoom for two weeks. Despite a few technical difficulties, everyone seems to be adjusting to this format. We do not have class this week with the Thanksgiving holiday. We will see what our situation allows for in-person or online class when we return from break.

Please keep all our families in your prayers! We all have so much to be thankful for!



SCRIP Black Friday Event

November 1st through November 24th

For every \$100 of Scrip you purchase during the event, your name will be entered into a drawing. The more Scrip you buy, the more chances you have to win! Winners will be drawn on Facebook Live by Principal Lewis on Wednesday, November 25th.

Prizes are: 1 - \$100 gift card & 1 - \$50 gift card

Remember, there are over 750 retailers available. Make sure to check out www.ShopWithScrip.com to see them all! Orders for cards that we do not have on hand will be placed on Monday mornings and we will get them by Friday of the same week.

School families - Scrip orders can be sent to school in backpacks. If you do not have a student, please call or email Jan at the School Office at 507-665-2489 or jbiehler@stanneslesueur.org to place your order. She will let you know when you can pick it up.

Scrip is an important fundraiser for both St. Anne's Church and School. If you are interested in learning more about the Scrip program or the RaiseRight App (the Scrip online app), please email the Patrons Board at stannespatronsboard@gmail.com or contact the School Office.

Flocknote is a free, secure service available for all parishioners age 18 and over. Once you register, you will get important Parish announcements and messages via text or email. It is easy to connect. Text the word Anne (not case sensitive) to 84576 from your mobile phone. Click on the link sent to your phone to register. Once on the Flocknote sign up page, enter your name, email and mobile phone number. Click on the Login tab and create a password. Then you are in the Flock! There is no charge for this service but data rates may apply.

Questions: please contact Jim Sullivan at 507-327-5362 or email jamespatrickssullivan@yahoo.com.

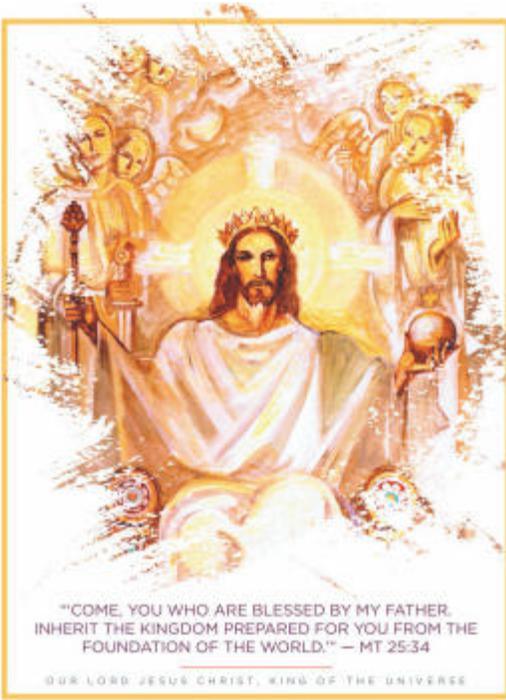


INSTAGRAM

St. Anne's Church is now on Instagram!

Please follow us
@stanneschurchLS for all the latest updates, photos, and fellowship news.

Solemnity of Christ the King



On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas Primas* ("In the first") to respond to growing nationalism and secularism. He recognized that these related societal ills would breed increasing hostility against the Church. His encyclical reminds the faithful that while governments and philosophies come and go, Christ reigns as king forever.

"The kingdom, already present and growing in our midst, engages us at every level of our being and reminds us of the principle of discernment which Pope Paul VI applied to true development: it must be directed to 'all men and the whole man'."

Pope Francis

Evangelii Gaudium, 181

The Kingdom is Holistic

Secularism divides our public selves from our private selves. When governments limit the rights of religious ministries, secularists claim that religious freedom is not harmed because we still have freedom of worship - we are free in private but not public. But the **kingdom of God calls us to a whole life** of worship and service in the public square. We cannot worship on Sunday and then deny Christ's teaching in the way we run our ministries throughout the week.

Nationalism, on the other hand, divides our loyalties. It is good to love one's country, but ultimate loyalty is due only to Christ and his kingdom. Ideologies that ask us to put our nation above Christ and his Church are incompatible with service to the kingdom.

"Jesus is the center of creation; and so the attitude demanded of us as true believers is that of recognizing and accepting in our lives the centrality of Jesus Christ, in our thoughts, in our words and in our works."

***- Homily of Pope Francis
Solemnity of Christ the King
November 24, 2013***

The Kingdom Demands Discipleship

We must work everyday, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to draw closer to Jesus. In our own increasingly "post-Christian" society, we cannot be complacent in our spiritual lives. To acknowledge the kingship of Christ means that we should dedicate ourselves to prayer, to building up our families and our parish communities, and to bringing healing to a broken world.

The Kingdom is Humble

Jesus inaugurates a kingdom that grows through humble acts of service. Even as her freedom to carry out her ministries is threatened, the Church must patiently continue to serve the poor, educate the young, welcome the migrant, visit the prisoner, heal the sick, bury the dead, and love others.

"The kingdoms of this world at times are sustained by arrogance, rivalries and oppression; the reign of Christ is a 'kingdom of justice, love and peace.'"

For a Christian, speaking of power and strength means referring to the power of the Cross, and the strength of Jesus' love: a love which remains steadfast and complete, even when faced with rejection, and it is shown as the fulfillment of a life expended in the total surrender of oneself for the benefit of humanity."

***- Angelus Address of Pope Francis
Solemnity of Christ the King,
November 22, 2015***

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