



CHURCH OF

# St. Anne

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

December 26, 2021

### 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

#### PASTOR

Fr. Chris Shofner 507-665-3811  
emergency 612-227-7985  
fr.chris@hotmail.com

#### PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Tess Miller 507-665-3811  
stanneschurchoffice@gmail.com

#### TRUSTEES

Bob Wagner & Carol Ward

#### DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Emily Sunderman 507-665-3811  
esunderman@stanneslesueur.org

#### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Meghan Roby 507-351-6605  
mrobby@stanneslesueur.org

#### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Anne Lewis 507-665-2489  
annelewis@stanneslesueur.org

#### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Jan Biehler 507-665-2489  
jbiehler@stanneslesueur.org

#### PRAYER CHAIN

Yvonne Guckeen .....507-665-2282

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Ruth Vortherms .....507-665-3963  
ruthvort@mchsi.com

#### GREETERS

Mary Hammer.....507-665-3627

#### LECTORS

Tom Rabaey .....507-381-3877

#### FUNERAL HELP

Barb Iten .....612-968-9800

#### CCW (Council of Catholic Women)

Lisa Swanson .....507-248-3863

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Carol Iten .....507-665-2442

#### 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



## 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

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

GLPI

#### MARRIAGES

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

#### BAPTISM

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.

#### 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. Mass will be broadcast on Facebook Live on Saturday at 5:15 pm. To watch, go to Facebook.com/stannescatholicchurchlesueur/.

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 10:00am  
4:00pm to 4:45pm

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

[www.stanneschurchlesueur.org](http://www.stanneschurchlesueur.org)

# From Father Shofner

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I pray that your Christmas was very blessed, that you enjoyed the presence of loved ones, and that the joy of Christ's birth may remain with you always! We are now in the Christmas Season, a period of time that extends from Christmas (December 25) through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 9). It is a time to continue to celebrate our Lord's Nativity with open and loving hearts.

This weekend, the Sunday following Christmas, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, a time to look to the life and love shared among Jesus, Mary and Joseph as the model for our own family life. The holiness and love that was present in their home is what our own families strive for, as challenging as it may be. These days families face many threats to its integrity—alcohol and drug addiction, pornography and infidelity, domestic abuse, divorce, neglect, and busy schedules that don't allow families to spend time together. What is the remedy for strengthening the family once again? Following the example of the Holy Family and calling upon the grace of God through prayer to help families in their specific struggles. It requires a family to be attentive to one another's needs and contribute their gifts and efforts to building up the home. Pope John II once observed that "the future of the world and of the Church passes through the family", which plays a vital role in the world by raising children well and being a model to others of mutual love, service and respect.

On September 26, 2015, when Pope Francis was in Philadelphia for the Festival of Families as part of the World Meeting of Families, he gave a beautiful catechesis on the family that opens our eyes to the beauty of family life:

"All the love God has in Himself, all the beauty God has in Himself, all the truth God has in Himself, He entrusts to the family. A family is truly a family when it is capable of opening its arms to receive all that love... God came into the world in a family. And He could do this because that family was a family with a heart open to love, a family whose doors were open. We can think of Mary, a young woman. She couldn't believe it: 'How can this be?' But once it was explained to her, she obeyed. We think of Joseph, full of dreams for making a home; then along comes this surprise that he doesn't understand. He accepts, he obeys. And in the loving obedience of this woman, Mary, and this man, Joseph, we have a family into which God comes. God always knocks on the doors of our hearts. He likes to do that. He goes out from within. But do you know what He likes best of all? To knock on the doors of families. And to see families that are united, families that love, families that bring up their children, educating them and helping them to grow, families that build a society of goodness, truth and beauty."

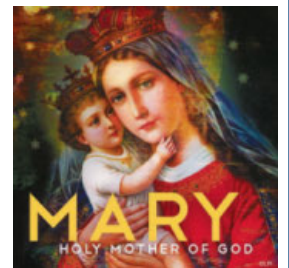
I pray that the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph may be an inspiration and a model for you as you strive to deepen in the love expressed in your own family. Recognize that God wants to be present in the home in an explicit way – make room for Him. And remember that, for all the needs that each of your family members has, nothing is more powerful than entrusting those needs to our Father in Heaven through prayer. He can work wonders. He is in control. Happy Feast of the Holy Family!

God bless,  
Fr. Chris Shofner  
Fr.Chris@hotmail.com



## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Holy day of obligation

Friday, December 31 – 5:00 pm  
Saturday, January 1 – 9:00 am



Please note that the remainder of the weekend will follow our regular weekend Mass schedule:

Saturday, 5:15 pm  
Sunday, 8:00 am and 10:30 am.



We welcome through the waters of Baptism:

- Hattie Jo Savage, daughter of Kyle and Lindsay, who was baptized last Saturday, December 18
- Alivia Dolores Rodriguez, daughter of Adolfo and Megan, who was baptized last Sunday, December 19

May God bestow upon these little ones  
an abundance of His grace!

# Weekly Parish Notes

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Tuesday, December 28th - 8:00 am

Living and deceased members  
of the Leinonen and Hermel families †

### Wednesday, December 29th - 8:00 am

Tom O'Brien † and family

### Thursday, December 30th - 8:00 am

Nancy Stocker †

### Friday, December 31st - 5:00 pm

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Vigil Mass)

David Bach †

### Saturday, January 1st - 9:00 am

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

David Bach †

### Saturday, January 1st - 5:15 pm

John and Maggie Skelly †

### Sunday, January 2nd - 8:00 am

Parish of St. Anne ❤️

### Sunday, January 2nd - 10:30 am

Jake Schwartz †

† Deceased Individuals      ❤️ Special Intention

## AltarMinistry

### FRIDAY, December 31st - 5:00 pm

Altar Servers: Gabby Bemmels, Bella Bemmels

Music: Art and Barb Straub

Lector: Ruth Vortherms

### SATURDAY, January 1st - 9:00 am

Altar Servers: [2 volunteers needed]

Music: Art and Barb Straub

Lector: Kathy Ramey

### SATURDAY, January 1st - 5:15 pm

Altar Servers: [2 volunteers needed]

Music: Art and Barb Straub

Lector: Joanne Smith

### SUNDAY, January 2nd - 8:00 am

Altar Servers: Michael Rodriguez, [volunteer]

Music: Halle Bemmels

Lector: Cory Genelin

### SUNDAY, January 2nd - 10:30 am

Altar Servers: Amelia Miller, Stella Nelson

Music: Halle Bemmels

Lector: Tom Rabaey

### December Giving

Amount Needed Weekly \$7,480.00

Weekend of	Amount Received
December 5, 2021	\$ 7,774.03
December 8, 2021 Immaculate Conception	\$ 1,101.00
December 12, 2021	\$ 12,182.00
December 19, 2021	* See note below*
December 24-25, 2021 Christmas	* See note below*
December 26, 2021	

Due to the Christmas holiday, our bulletin deadline dates changed, so last weekend's giving was not available at the time of bulletin publication. Please see next week's bulletin for updated giving. THANK YOU for your ongoing support! May God bless you for your generous spirit!

### \*\*\* Altar Server scheduling \*\*\*

To sign up your child for altar serving on the weekends of January 2022, please visit our SignUp Genius page:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FAEAA29A5F5C25-stannes>

Choose the Mass times that work best for your family's schedule. Please note that at times we may be in need of volunteers for a given weekend. If you are willing to be present and serve, please sign up at the link above.

### Sunday Giving – Online Giving with WeShare

Thank you to all of you who have already signed up for **WeShare** giving online. The WeShare service is for electronic giving (from a bank account) and / or by credit card. To sign up for WeShare giving, go online to: [stanneslesueur.weshareonline.org](https://stanneslesueur.weshareonline.org)

# St. Anne's Happenings



Students listened to the story, *The Legend of the Poinsettia*, by Tomie dePaola. This Mexican legend tells how the poinsettia came to be an unselfish gift to the Christ Child.



We had a special visitor, Larry Pfarr. Larry is a St. Anne's School graduate who now hosts a segment on KSTP called "Get Growing with Larry Pfarr!" Larry came to teach us more about poinsettias. Some of the things we learned are:

- \* A man with the last name "Poinsett" brought the plant to America.
- \* The yellow center of the plant is the flower, not the colored leaves.
- \* Contrary to popular belief, poinsettias are not poisonous.
- \* Nearly 40 million poinsettias are sold each year in the United States alone!
- \* Many of the plants we see here began growing in July in order to bloom in December.
- \* In their natural setting in Mexico, they can grow as tall as our basketball hoop!

Thank you, Larry, for taking time to teach us and give back to your alma mater. We appreciate you!

Anne Lewis, Principal

[annelewis@stanneslesueur.org](mailto:annelewis@stanneslesueur.org)

St. Anne's students had the pleasure of learning more about Christmas trees from Scott and Luke Wilson, of Brewery Hill Christmas Tree Farm. To the Wilson family, a Christmas tree is a centerpiece of the home this time of year, representing hope and love.



Scott Wilson loves nature and says it gives him great satisfaction to watch trees grow.

- \* During the third week of April each year, they plant about 3,000 trees.
- \* They can plant between 1,000 and 1,200 per acre.
- \* What kind of trees they plant where, depends on what type of soil the tree needs.
- \* The trees they plant are 5 years old when they are put in the ground. They need to grow for at least 8 years, which means the trees we have in our homes are likely at least 13 years old!
- \* During the growing years, these trees need to be fertilized, mowed around, and sheared to create an optimal shape.
- \* The Wilson's are currently growing about 20,000 trees.
- \* This year, they sold 1200 trees in 5 days!

Students also heard the book, *The Legend of the Christmas Tree*, by Rick Osborne. "Boniface explained to the people that just as the tree had three corners but was still one tree, so God is one God who exists in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."

## Patrons of St. Anne's School & SCRIP

**The Scrip box is back at the School Office weekdays during school hours.**

SCRIP Sales have resumed after weekend Masses. You can now stop by the Scrip table after Mass and purchase Scrip.

A reminder that EVERYONE who purchases Scrip should complete a Scrip Agreement Form. The form can be completed online on the church website. Just click on the Scrip tab. If you have questions, please call the school or email [stannespatronsboard@gmail.com](mailto:stannespatronsboard@gmail.com).

Thank you for supporting our Scrip Program and earning money for our church and school!

## Prayers for the Sick & Recovering

Please remember in your prayers friends and members of our parish family who are sick, recovering from illness, and also for those who care for them. To add or remove a name, please contact the Parish Office at 507-665-3811.

*Rick Almich, Mary Ann Bauer, Emma Jane Burns, Andy Conroy, Richard Doherty, Theresa Doherty, Beverley Foskett, Denise Hogan, Kathy Lang, Bob Meyer, Birdy Morsching, Mary Ann O'Rourke, Vicki Plonske, Rebecca Popowski, Brina Powers, David Powers, John Roby, Anna Mae Scheiber, Joann Schwartz, Lori Steffens, Lee-Ann Ziegler, Tess Miller, Bev Prenevost*

# St. Anne's Happenings

## 'MUSICIANS WANTED'

Our Music Ministry is in search of additional keyboard players to help cover music at Masses. If you are a pianist or organist and are willing to help out, please contact Music Director Meghan Roby at 507-351-6605 or [mroby@stanneslesueur.org](mailto:mroby@stanneslesueur.org).

### Year-End Donations

If you are planning your year-end donations, please be aware that in order to be posted to 2021, all donations must be received in the parish office by December 31, 2021. The parish office will be open until 12:00 Noon on December 31, 2021.

### Giving – Tax Planning

The 2021 year is quickly coming to an end, and so it's time to plan for any year-end donations.

The strategy of donating to the church directly from an IRA after age 72 is still available. The donation allows those age 72 and over to give money to the church directly from their IRAs in a tax-advantageous manner. This allows IRA owners who have attained age 72 to distribute money directly from the IRA to the church and not have to pay the income tax on those dollars. The amount of the contribution is not counted as income, thus it does not get included in Gross Income when determining the amount of your Social Security that is taxed. In addition, the qualified charitable contribution (QCD) counts toward the required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.

To take advantage of this tax-saving donation, please talk with your financial planner about donating your distribution from your IRA to St. Anne's Church.



Emily Sunderman  
Director of Religious Education  
[esunderman@stanneslesueur.org](mailto:esunderman@stanneslesueur.org)

We are thankful for the return of the Come to the Table program! This year our Come to the Table meals are being hosted by various groups in our parish and our Knights of Columbus are hosting our next one. Please join us for a delicious meal, good conversation, and growing fellowship on Wednesday, January 12th from 5-6:30 PM in the school gym. Free will offerings will be accepted, but not required.



### **Minnesota Valley Action Council grants for energy assistance**

Many local families and individuals find it difficult to pay their monthly energy bills. The Energy Assistance Program provides a grant for income-eligible households that can help defray some of these costs, leaving more of the family resources available for other expenses. The Program can also assist households in crisis situations with disconnect notices or when they are almost out of heating fuel. Grants are paid directly to the vendor on their behalf.

For an application: Call 507-345-6822 or (800) 767-7139, or visit [www.mnvac.org](http://www.mnvac.org).

## Amen™

An invitation to download the new **Amen Catholic Prayer App** by Augustine Institute. In it, you are invited to:

- ◆ Delve deeply into Sacred Scripture by listening to the Mass readings each day.
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- ◆ Journal your daily thoughts and prayers

We hope this free app will help you to enter more fully into the peace of Christ!

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