



CHURCH OF

St. Anne

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

January 2, 2022

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 Guckeen507-665-2282

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Ruth Vortherms507-665-3963
ruthvort@mchsi.com

GREETERS

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

LECTORS

Tom Rabaey507-381-3877

FUNERAL HELP

Barb Iten612-968-9800

CCW (Council of Catholic Women)

Lisa Swanson507-248-3863

ALTAR SERVERS

Carol Iten507-665-2442

MISSION SEWING

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

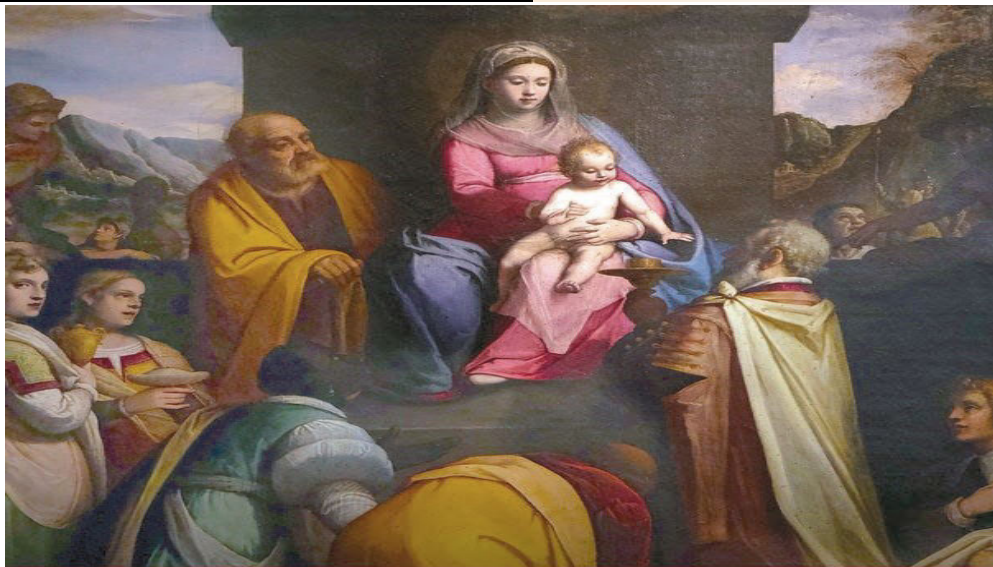
Will resume in September.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jim Sullivan
jamespatrickssullivan@yahoo.com

FINANCE COUNCIL

Brian Pfarr
BrianPfarr@ffmbank.com



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

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

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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. 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

From Father Shofner

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you to all who gave so generously to St. Anne's Parish and School throughout 2021! Through your gifts, we were able to provide for our ongoing ministry needs and address regular administrative and maintenance issues, in addition to making significant headway on introducing new ministry opportunities. We are looking forward to what 2022 will bring!

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, on which we commemorate the visit of the Magi to the manger. Most of us are familiar with the story, either from images we have seen or from Christmas hymns. It's an interesting story, the details of which we remember may or may not be completely accurate. For example, while the Scriptures don't actually tell how many Magi visited the manger, we assume there were three—and in fact, tradition has given them the names of Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. We assume there were three because the story tells of three gifts being offered to the baby Jesus—gold, frankincense and myrrh. Likewise, we tend to think that the visit of the Magi took place shortly after Jesus' birth, following soon after the shepherds made their visit. But scholars suggest that the Magi may have visited much later, perhaps even when Jesus was as old as two years. They suggest this because it would still have Jesus within the age range of those boys that Herod was seeking to slaughter, and because Scripture states that they entered into a house, not a manger. Mary and Joseph would have taken time to find a more permanent shelter after the birth of Jesus.

Regardless of the details of the story, the purpose of the Magi's visit is the same – they came to adore the newborn King of the Jews and to offer Him gifts (interesting, since the Magi were not Jews and thus did not have a vested interest in the Messiah). They knew that there was something special about this child – even the stars in the heavens were attesting to this. So the Magi traveled from their countries in the east, thus representing the manifestation of the Christ-child to the nations. When Jesus was born, He was given to all nations and all peoples – no one is excluded from His grace. And all peoples are invited to seek Him out, adore Him, and receive from His abundant gifts and blessings.

It seems this year, more than any other, one particular image has popped up time and time again. I have found lots of variations of this simple image, but the main image is the same – the Magi traveling by camel, guided by the light of the star, as they make their way to the manger to see the newborn Jesus. A single phrase tells the entire story: "Wise men still seek Him".

How true this is! Even though over 2000 years have passed since the birth of Jesus, we still seek Him. If we are wise enough to recognize our need for Him, then we will seek Him. We will even go to great lengths, as the

Magi did, to find Him. We may not have to travel hundreds or thousands of miles over hills and valleys, but we may have to traverse the ups and downs of our doubts and fears. We may have to go through rough patches of not feeling that we're making any progress in our faith journey. But if we are wise and recognize that our journey is guided by the light of a star that will lead us to Jesus, then we will reach our destination. The journey is never in vain. Yes, wise men still seek Him.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus and adore Him with our lives, we renew our efforts to seek Him out at all times, confident that we will find Him, so that we can adore Him and offer Him the gift of our life. May 2022 bring you many blessings, and may Christ act powerfully in your lives this year!

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

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.

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.
- ◆ Listen through all 73 books of the Bible in just 20 minutes a day with their exclusive audio version of the Augustine Institute's popular *Bible in a Year*, featuring the ESV® Catholic Edition.
- ◆ Enter into prayer with the Angelus, Rosary, Litanies, and Stations of the Cross.
- ◆ Draw your mind, body, and soul to rest in God in the midst of life's busyness with our Meditations, Evening Psalms, and Sleep Stories.
- ◆ Play meditations that help you with courage, anxiety, mercy, healing, spiritual growth and comfort.
- ◆ Journal your daily thoughts and prayers

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

Weekly Parish Notes

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 4th - 10:00 am

SCHOOL MASS

Francis O'Brien †

Wednesday, January 5th - 8:00 am

Jack and Winnie Powers †

Thursday, January 6th - 8:00 am

Leon Glazier †

Friday, January 7th - 8:00 am

FIRST FRIDAY

Robert and Veronica Graham †

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Saturday, January 8th - 5:15 pm

Howard Schweiss †

Sunday, January 9th - 8:00 am

Mike Powers †

Sunday, January 9th - 10:30 am

Parish of Saint Anne ♥

† Deceased Individuals ♥ Special Intention



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	\$ 11,140.50
December 24-25, 2021 Christmas	* See note below*
December 26, 2021	* See note below*

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!

AltarMinistry

SATURDAY, January 8th - 5:15 pm

Altar Servers: William Sunderman, [*volunteer*]

Music: Art and Barb Straub

Lector: Bob Millard

SUNDAY, January 9th - 8:00 am

Altar Servers: Teagan Graham, Grady Graham

Music: Sarah Schwartz

Lector: Bob Wagner

SUNDAY, January 9th - 10:30 am

Altar Servers: Rachel Ammann, [*volunteer*]

Music: Sarah Schwartz

Lector: Jack Ammann



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.

***** 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



Anne Lewis, Principal

annelewis@stanneslesueur.org

On Friday, December 17th, St. Anne's students Pre-school through Grade 5 performed "Christmas Kid in the City!" Mrs. Truran and students had been working hard to be their best and it showed! What a wonderful performance for us all to see and be reminded of the reason for the season.



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.

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

After our Christmas break, Scrip sales will once again resume after Masses and at St. Anne's School office:

January 1 – no sales after Masses
January 2 – sales resume after Masses
January 4 – sales resume at school office

** A reminder that eGift cards are available 24/7 when using the RaiseRight app or www.shopwithscrip.com to order. Our enrollment code is **285B39BC4829** ***

THANK YOU to all who have used the Scrip program for their holiday needs!

~Patrons Board

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, LeeAnn Ziegler, Tess Miller, Bev Prenevost

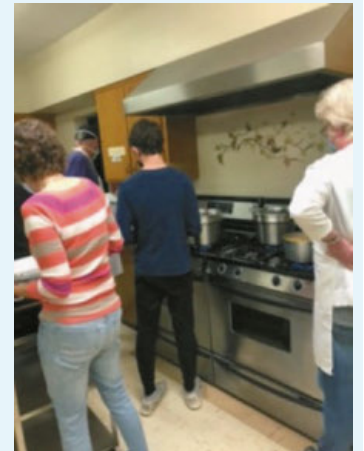


Emily Sunderman
Director of Religious Education
esunderman@stanneslesueur.org

(2022...YIKES!)

For the last two years, we have changed our model of the service requirement for our Confirmation program. Instead of needing to complete a certain number of hours, students are asked to focus on completing an act of service in each of the following areas: Spiritual Work of Mercy, Corporal Work of Mercy, Catholic Social Teaching, and serving at a Parish Event.

We are striving to make strong soldiers and disciples for Christ, and helping our students recognize how they are living their lives in ways that fulfill this goal is an important element! Thank you to the 30 Confirmation Students who are living their vocation to become confirmed in our Catholic Faith and living a life of service!



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