

## CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ST. ANN, ST. GABRIEL, IHM, AND ST. ANTHONY

**Fr. Peter Schuster - Pastor**

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### **OCIA**

**Pat Merrick** c/(507)407-1063

### **St. Ann - Slayton - 507-836-8030**

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**Dave Schreiber - Custodian**

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### **St. Gabriel - Fulda - 507-425-2369**

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### **Immaculate Heart of Mary - Currie**

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### **St. Anthony - Westbrook**

P O Box 278 Westbrook MN 56183

**Joyce Vortherms - c/(507) 822-4318**

Faith Formation [joyce117@centurytel.net](mailto:joyce117@centurytel.net)

**Elizabeth Johnson - Bulletin** c/(507)830-0113

Facebook: St. Anthony's Catholic Church

### **Websites:**

[www.acmcatholic.org](http://www.acmcatholic.org) St. Ann

[www.triparishcfw.org](http://www.triparishcfw.org) Currie/Fulda/Westbrook

### PARISH SERVICES

**NEW PARISHIONERS** We warmly welcome you to our Catholic parishes of St. Ann, St. Gabriel, Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Anthony! Contact the office to register.

**MARRIAGE** Recently engaged? Before setting up any other arrangements, call Father to start your preparation for this beautiful sacrament! Preparation must begin at least six months before a wedding.

**BAPTISM** Call Dana at St. Ann to make arrangements to have your child baptized as soon as possible! Those who have not had a child baptized before will also schedule a preparation session.

### ADORATION AND RECONCILIATION

**St. Ann** Adoration and Confessions every Thursday from 5:00-6:00 pm.

**St Gabriel** Confessions-Before the 8:00 am Mass Sunday. (7:30 - 7:45 am) Adoration and Confession the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month after the 8:30 Mass.

**IHM** Adoration and Confession the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month after the 8:30 Mass.

**St. Anthony** Confessions-Before the 4:00 pm Saturday Mass. (3:30 - 3:45pm)

### MASS INTENTIONS – FEB 17 - FEB 23

Mon 17	<i>Father's Day Off</i>	<i>No Mass</i>
Tues 18	8:30am St. Gabriel	†Midge Johlfs
Wed 19	9:00am Lindenwood	†Sylvan Gaul
Thur 20	8:30am IHM	†Wilford & Mildred Wendorff
Thur 20	10:30am St. Ann	†Funeral Mass-Mert Brown
Fri 21	8:30am St. Anthony	Jerry Gruenwald-for healing
Sat 22	<b>4:00 pm</b> St. Anthony	†Craig Olsem
Sat 22	<b>6:00 pm</b> IHM	†Barb Surprenant
Sun 23	<b>8:00 am</b> St. Gabriel	†Bill & Joan Sauer
Sun 23	<b>10:00 am</b> St. Ann	For Our Parishioners

### CHURCH SUPPORT - FEB 8 - 9

	Envelopes	Plate/Childrens	Online/ACH
St. Ann	\$ 3,055.00	\$233.00/52.10	\$1,024.00
St. Gabriel	\$ 1,975.00	\$251.00/44.00	\$1,270.00
IHM-Currie	\$ 5,475.00	\$129.00/25.61	\$
St. Anthony	\$ 438.00	\$78.00	\$

### CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL - 2025 GOALS

St. Ann	Goal \$	Pledged \$
St. Gabriel	Goal \$	Pledged \$
IHM-Currie	Goal \$	Pledged \$
St. Anthony	Goal \$	Pledged \$

## ST. ANN

**OUR SYMPATHY** goes out to the family of Esther “Gay” Metz. Gay passed away Feb 7. Her funeral will be Feb 15 at St. Ann Church. May she rest in peace.

**OUR SYMPATHY** goes out to the family of Marlene “Mert” Brown. Mert passed away Feb 8. Her funeral will be Feb 20 at St. Ann Church. May she rest in peace

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE:** *March 5*

St. Gabriel, Fulda 9:00am

IHM, Currie 5:30pm

St. Ann, Slayton 7:00pm

**OTHER Donations & YTD Cemetery Donations:**

St. Ann Cemetery - \$2,727

St. Columba Cemetery - \$3,685

St. Rose of Lima Cemetery - \$7,800

IRA/Grain Donations - \$2,611

YTD Children Donations - \$1,198.84

Latin Amer/Cath Comm Appeal - \$660

St. Ann Bell Project - \$4,600

**THANK YOU** everyone, who supported the Pancake Breakfast on Feb 2! Bell Project will receive \$1,500 from your generosity. Special thanks go out to Almich’s Market and Murray County Wheel Herald for their donations!

**CDA**, Court Queen of Peace will meet on Sat, Feb 22 at 9:30am in Divine Mercy Hall.

**FF SUPPER SCHEDULE: FEBRUARY 19**

K-5 Karen Hurd 30-35 people 4:45 to church

6-9 Julie Dahlhoff 25 people 6pm to church

**LETTERS TO SEMINARIANS** grades 2 & 6 writing on Feb 19.

**MARDI GRAS**—Mar 1 6-8pm, Iona Township Hall.

Donations needed-copy and paste the link into your browser for the sign up, or contact Marcie. Cash donations also welcome to cover expenses of items not donated.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E48ACA72AA4F49-54817896-mardi>

**ASH WEDNESDAY**-Mar 5 NO faith formation-attend Mass 7 pm St. Ann

**SHADOW STATIONS OF THE CROSS** Wed Mar 12 7pm St. Ann Church.

## ST. GABRIEL

**QUILTERS WELCOME**—St. Gabriel quilters are meeting on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in the school. Feel free to stop in and check us out. All are welcome!

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING:** Attention parents: All students in grades 4-9 received Altar Server training this past week during Release Time classes. Contact the parish office to put your student on the list, or text Peg at (507)329-2103. THANKS to Edie Troje for her good work training the youth!

**RELEASE TIME NOTES:** There is **no school on Monday, so no Elementary Release classes.** The Senior Class on Thursday will be treated to a Passover/Seder Meal with Renee Dorpinghaus.

**SENIORS:** *Save the date! Baccalaureate Mass will be Sun., May 11/ Retreat Sat., May 10 at 9:30 a.m.*

**LENT IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING!** *What will you do to draw closer to Christ during this most Holy season? Begin praying on that question now. Next week, there will be daily Lenten reflection booklets on the back table you may take home with you. The following week, there will be a variety of great spiritual books you are welcome to borrow and take home with you. Also, check out the Bible Study & Discipleship Quad opportunities within our cluster. Consider how you will spend more time with the Lord during Lent. Remember, the church is open M-F from about 7:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Stop by and spend a little time with Jesus, truly present in the Holy Tabernacle.*

**COFFEE & CATECHISM:** Is there a topic that interests you? Something about Catholicism you don’t understand or would like to learn more about? Write down your ideas and suggestions on the sheet in back of church for possible future topics of conversation! Coffee & Catechism sessions.

### LITURGICAL DUTIES FEB 23

#### St. Ann - 10:00 am

**Min of Hosp Servers** Joe & Renee G, Paul L, Jill M  
**Reader** Eli B, Brynn B  
**Reader** Kelly N  
**Gifts** Joe Biren Family  
**EMHC** Marti E, Trish K, Daryl J  
**Comm to HB** Jill M  
**Music** Dana C, Paula H

### LITURGICAL DUTIES FEB 23

#### St. Gabriel - 8:00 am

**Min of Hosp Servers** Ken & Cathy S, Steve & Lori T  
**Servers** Ivan & Owen O  
**Lector** Mary L  
**Comm** Randy K  
**EHMC** Mark V, Sue (J) Z, Ted W  
**Sacristan** Linda C  
**Money** Mike & Suzi Z, Tom & Mary A

## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Contact Lita Schreier (507-227-8844) to add someone in need of prayers.

**FAITH FORMATION:** Faith Formation: Feb 19 Class 6:30-7:30; reconciliation for grades 3,5,8 and 9; Confirmation: Feb 16 YOU #8 IHM Church basement At 6pm

**SMS CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS:**  
2/7 Mark LaVoy - \$100 winner;  
2/14 Monica Anderson - \$100 Winner

**2025 CALENDARS:** There are still some left.....even if you already have one, take one for a friend, or for another room in your home.

**THE COURIER:** Copies of our diocesan paper are in both entries.....please take one, unless you already receive them in the mail.

**CHOIR PRACTICE:** Please consider sharing your time and talent this Lent and Easter season. Practices will start Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. New voices are always welcome!

**FREE:** Check out various items, including booklets, pamphlets, rosary, and hard-cover history books of the Winona Diocese. All are there for the taking, please do so.

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**GRIEFSHARE** If you have experienced the death of a love one and are journeying toward grief healing you are invited to the GriefShare 13-week session. The DVD seminar features experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion. The first session will be held Feb 24 from 6:30-8 pm in the gathering area at Holy Redeemer Church. GriefShare material is designed so that you can begin attending on any week, even if you missed prior sessions. Contact Dorothy at 507-401-0601, the Parish Office at 507-532-5711 or go to [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

## ST. ANTHONY

**Save The Dates:** For the Holy Family Retreat and Pilgrimage Events. They will take place at various locations in Minnesota and Wisconsin from February to May. See the back bulletin board or contact Joyce for more information. This is an Adult Faith and Lay Formation Event.

**PRAYER CARDS:** There are prayer cards in the back of church with names of our confirmation students. Please pick up one or more and pray for our students. St. Anthony students are Hadley Jenniges, Jackson Jenniges, Ian Knakmuhs, Sydney Swenson.

**THE COURIER:** Copies are available for pick up in the back of church.

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### **Saint of the Day - Our Lady of Lourdes**

**On December 8, 1854,** Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in the apostolic constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*. A little more than three years later, on February 11, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 25, the lady identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

**Bernadette** was a sickly child of poor parents. Their practice of the Catholic faith was scarcely more than lukewarm. Bernadette could pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Creed. She also knew the prayer of the Miraculous Medal: "O Mary conceived without sin."

**During** interrogations Bernadette gave an account of what she saw. It was "something white in the shape of a girl." She used the word *aquero*, a dialect term meaning "this thing." It was "a pretty young girl with a rosary over her arm." Her white robe was encircled by a blue girdle. She wore a white veil. There was a yellow rose on each foot. A rosary was in her hand. Bernadette was also impressed by the fact that the lady did not use the informal form of address (*tu*), but the polite form (*vous*). The humble virgin appeared to a humble girl and treated her with dignity.

**Through** that humble girl, Mary revitalized and continues to revitalize the faith of millions of people. People began to flock to Lourdes from other parts of France and from all over the world. In 1862 Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions and authorized the cult of Our Lady of Lourdes for the diocese. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became worldwide in 1907. Taken from [FranciscanMedia.org/saint](http://FranciscanMedia.org/saint) of the day calendar

## LITURGICAL DUTIES - FEB 22

### **IHM - 6:00 PM**

**Server** Evan S, Christian H  
**Lector** Kelli K  
**Gift Bearers** Matt Hansen Family  
**EMHC** Jon W, Lori M, Becky L  
**Cantor** Linnea S  
**Ushers** Jerry F, Jon O, Mike S, Jason S

## LITURGICAL DUTIES - FEB 22

### **ST. ANTHONY - 4:00 PM**

**Greet/Gifts** Jan J & volunteer  
**Lector** Pat M  
**Servers** No Server Available  
**EMHC** Shelly M, Joan O  
**Cleaners** Dean & Elizabeth J

## WEEKLY WORDS FROM THE ROCK:

### So, What Is It Like?

Last week's gospel is one of my favorite gospel stories. It is titled "The Call of the Fisherman." The name of the fisherman was Peter. In Peter's story, I have come to appreciate how much Jesus understood human nature. Let me explain. You have the opportunity to go fishing one day per week. The last two opportunities have been met by rain and lightning. No fishing! This is your chance. You look over your boat and marvel at all that you have.

1. Three tackle boxes full of lures.
2. Six rods, each having a different lure for a different presentation of fishing.
3. Rod holders on each side of the boat.
4. Two nets – one for smaller fish and one for larger fish.
5. Enough fuel in the engine with the capacity to troll all night.

With everything in order, it is time to hook onto to the trailer and head to the lake.

You arrive at the lake and everything is perfect. Perfect breeze, perfect weather. A few clouds and eighty-five degrees. You get underway and within five minutes of trolling you have your first 17-inch walleye. Perfect size for a fish fry. You continue trolling and within two hours have five walleyes in the livewell. You decide to try something a little different. You pitch a jig up towards shore and after five casts net your sixth and final walleye for the livewell. You can't believe how well the boat has run and equipment worked. It was a day you could only dream possible.

You drive towards the dock and see someone standing at the landing. As you step onto the dock, the man approaches and says, "Leave it all behind and come follow me." In that situation, after such a perfect day, what might be your response? Why would I want to leave all of this? I want to give this another opportunity next week.

Picture the same scenario only a week later. Another perfect day for fishing. You are optimistic that you will have your limit of walleyes in under three hours. After two hours of trolling, you haven't had a single bite. You change it up, pitch a jig towards shore, and catch nothing. You try every possible presentation imaginable and never catch a fish. You can't believe it. Frustrated, you head towards the dock. As you step onto the dock, the same man approaches and asks, "Will you leave all behind and follow me?" You might take seriously his offer. After all, what good is all of this (boat, lures, rods, nets, etc.), if you can't catch a fish which has the brain the size of a marble.

Such is the story of St. Peter. Did Jesus call Peter to follow him after one of Peter's best nights fishing? Of course not. He approaches Peter after he had fished all night and caught nothing. Down and frustrated, Jesus has Peter where he wants him. Open to an offer after a horrible night's fishing, we learn that Jesus is more than a "super psychologist." Having ordered Peter to lower the nets, the haul is so great that it is beyond anything one could imagine. And that is when it happens, Peter leaves it all and follows Jesus.

The above pericope is found in Luke 5:1-11. Move ahead a chapter in Luke's work and we come to the gospel of today – Luke 6:17, 20-26. Moving away from water, we now find ourselves on a plain, on land. Here we are met not by a call, not by a miracle catch, rather by a teaching. We come face to face with Luke's version of the Beatitudes. When Jesus addresses "the blessed", our world today would incorporate the following:

1. Those with wealth.
2. Those with power.
3. Those with strength and might.
4. Those who have it all.

This isn't the language of Jesus Christ. To such, his words are woe – woe to you who are rich, filled with plenty, those who laugh, and those who are always filled with praise. The "blessed" for Jesus Christ are the following:

- A. The poor.
- B. The hungry.
- C. The weeping.
- D. Those who are hated on account of Jesus Christ.

Why these people? They are the ones who rely on God. When we have it all, we tend to leave God out of the picture. When times are difficult, it is much easier to keep God in the picture, to turn to God. Let us be clear. God doesn't desire life to be difficult and full of drudgery, every moment of a person's life. He wants us to be filled with joy and peace. The trick to life is that wherever we find ourselves – the good or bad – we keep God at the center of our lives. To the task, let us be faithful. Peace be to you! ~Father Peter Schuster

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### ***FOR OUR PARISH YOUTH ...***

**Camp Summit 2025 (July 21-24):** *Informational meeting* Want to learn more about this fantastic Middle School Youth Adventure Camp? Held in the bluffs of eastern Minnesota (Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center/ Lanesboro) each summer, this camp offers adventure (high ropes & rock walls anyone?) and great Catholic experiences like Mass & Adoration. Students entering grades 5-8 are encouraged to consider attending. To learn more about this camp, join us **Sun., Feb. 23** at 11:30 at St. Ann, Divine Mercy Hall in Slayton. High School Youth can serve as camp leaders/counselors; but applications must be filled out. Talk with your Faith Formation director to learn more!

**High School Youth Retreat** (LIVING OUR FAITH IN LOVE): **Mar. 16** (1-7 p.m.), Jackson, MN. This is for all HS students in grades 9-12 and will include an afternoon of great speakers, music, food as well as Mass/Adoration & Confessions! There will be a bus to transport students from Slayton and Fulda. Pick up times to be announced soon – Stay tuned and mark your calendars today! (Contact your Faith Formation director to register).

### **Confirmation Notes:**

STUDENT PRAY CARDS CAN BE FOUND IN THE BACK OF CHURCH.

***Please take one home and pray especially for a candidate (or two!) in the months ahead.***

SAVE-THE-DATES/Confirmation Candidates:

***The Shadow Stations of The Cross:*** Mar. 11 (*practice*) and Mar. 12 (*performance*) at St. Ann in Slayton. *All Confirmation candidates are required to be attend.*

PARISHIONERS: Mark your calendars & plan to attend this special presentation!

***The Banquet in Sioux Falls*** on Mar. 29 – Bus will transport students over. Time TBD.

### ***ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES ...***

#### **LENTEN STUDIES**

**St. Ann, Slayton:** A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE: This study will take you on a journey beginning with the foretelling of John the Baptist's birth and culminating with Jesus' ascension into Heaven. Along the way, you will witness key moments in salvation history. The Gospel of Luke continually reveals how Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. Join us for '*Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled*' at St. Ann School-Social Room in Slayton beginning Mondays, March 3rd to April 14th, ***For more information or to register for the study, contact Marcie Cowan at (507)360-1885 or by email at [faith@acmcatholic.org](mailto:faith@acmcatholic.org).***

**St. Gabriel, Fulda:** NO GREATER LOVE: *A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion*: This is a five week 'Biblical pilgrimage' that will reveal Christ's amazing love for us with a step by step walk with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Calvary. If interested in learning more about this study visit [Ascension Press.com](http://AscensionPress.com) or tap on the link the St. Gabriel Facebook page. We would meet Sunday mornings after 8 a.m. Mass beginning the first Sunday in Lent, March 9 and concluding on Sunday, April 6. ***If interested, contact Peg (507)329-2103 by Feb. 16 so we can order materials.*** Cost for study guide & book is \$25.

**Discipleship Quads/ Bible Study Groups for Men & Women:** 'Discipleship Quads' are a group of four men or women who meet together over the course of a year to study Scripture, dig deeply into the Faith and grow together in fellowship. We are opening this opportunity up to all our area parishes to connect likeminded Catholic men and women in order to build and create new relationships. There is a guided program used in a Quad group. If being involved in a study group like this is something you may enjoy doing, contact Marcie Cowan from St. Ann (507)360-1885 or Peg Olsem from St. Gabriel (507-329-2103) and we will get your name on a list for new Quad groups. ALL are most welcome! Once we have enough people to create a "Quad" group, we will connect you with one another, and your group, together, can determine the best meeting times/locations. ***(Learn more at <https://steubenvilleconferences.net/discipleship-quads/>).***

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