

Lent and Easter 2019

St. Anastasia and St. Boniface Newsletter



Lent/Easter Liturgy Schedule

Ash Wednesday

March 6 7am—A, 10:50am—A, 5:00pm—A, 7pm—B

Soup & Sandwich Dinners

Thursdays Following 5:00pm Mass—Hospitality Area

Mass/Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 5:00pm/6:00pm Stations in Spanish

TRIDUUM:

April 18	Holy Thursday	5 pm—B, 7 pm—A
19	Good Friday	3 pm—A, 7 pm—B
20	Easter Vigil	8:30 pm—A (eight adults and five children will join the Catholic Church this evening)
21	Easter Sunday	7:30 am—A, 9:15 am—B, 11 am—A

Communal Penance Services:

March 17—2pm
March 31st—2pm
April 7th—2pm

Weekends During Lent

March 9/10	First Sunday of Lent
March 16/17	Second Sunday of Lent
March 23/24	Third Sunday of Lent
March 30/31	Fourth Sunday of Lent
April 6/7	Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 13/14	Palm Sunday

Mass Schedule for all weekend Masses:

Saturday	4:30pm—A
Sunday	7:30am—A, 9:15am—B, 11am—A, 7:30pm—A

Parish Mission

March 23-27th More info on Page 4

Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent presents families with an opportunity to examine our family life and to re-commit ourselves to the Christian practices of almsgiving, prayer, and fasting. Each of us is invited to do these things as individuals, but we can also do one or more actions as a family. Ash Wednesday is a good time for families to pray together and to plan the family's Lenten practices.

Gather as a family and read today's Gospel. Remind yourselves that Jesus expected that his disciples would give alms, pray, and fast and that he gave instructions that when we do those things, they should not be done for show. Determine one way that your family will give alms during Lent to share what you have with people in need. Decide upon one way that your family will pray together during Lent and choose one thing that your family will give up during Lent as a reminder of your love for God. Agree to encourage one another in whatever Lenten promises each has made individually. Pray together that God will bless your family's Lenten promises by praying together today's psalm, Psalm 51, and/or praying the Lord's Prayer.

ASH
WEDNESDAY



Remember that
you are dust, and to
dust you shall return.

Message from Father Paul



Father Paul Wolf
Pastor

Lent is a period of forty days preparing us for the celebration of Easter. This is a period of renewal and *metanoia*, a change of heart and focus. Catholics use this period of Lent to prepare catechumens for baptism and candidates for entrance into the Church.

During Lent, we will reflect on issues of: temptation, sin, repentance, God's grace, God's will and the cost of following it or not. We have heard how Jesus was triumphant over the temptations he confronted while fasting for 40 days and nights in the wilderness, in contrast to the people of Israel who were unfaithful to God as they were tempted in the desert while wandering there for forty years.

We will read how Jesus tells his disciples that he would suffer, be rejected, and killed, but on the third day will resurrect, and warns them that if anyone wants to be his disciple they must take up their own cross and follow him. From here comes the idea and practice of sacrificing or giving up something during Lent, for it helps us to recall the

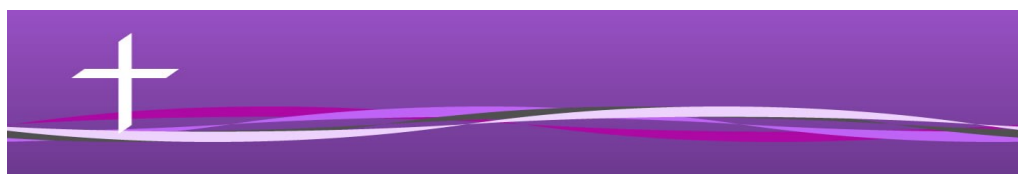
great sacrifice Christ made for us and our need to take up our own cross to follow him.

Lent ends during Holy Week. Even during that last week when Jesus was at the garden of Gethsemane, he struggles with and overcomes the temptation of avoiding the path of the cross when he says, "Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

Jesus knew that his journey from Galilee to Jerusalem would place him in direct confrontation with the authorities. His passion in life was to preach and teach by example the reality of God's Kingdom on earth, which showed how life would be if God and not Caesar were sitting on the throne of our lives.

On Easter Sunday God vindicates Jesus demonstrating that Jesus was right and Rome was wrong.

Our journey through Lent to Easter teaches us that God has the last word. It teaches us that God has the power to transform death into life, to transform an apparent end into a new beginning, and a hopeless situation into unlimited possibilities. Jesus said, "I have come to give you life and to give it abundantly." Let's keep the faith, for the Lord has risen! He has risen indeed!



"Our journey through Lent to Easter teaches us that ... God has the power to transform death into life, to transform an apparent end into a new beginning, and a hopeless situation into unlimited possibilities."

Parishioner News

Baptisms

Noah Richard Blom,
Child of Maxwell & Emily

Newly-Registered

Jerome & Ann Altemus
Tim Cleveland
Anthony Hoerner
Patrick Morris

Funerals

Dolores Lewandowski
Mark Larson
Isaac Erickson
Theresa Hatten
John Magee



St. Anastasia Catholic School

Kindergarten 2019-20: We are offering a discounted rate of \$1000 for the 2019-20 school year. A \$100 registration fee is required. We are very excited to partner with our families to form the students' faith and provide excellent academic growth. K- 6th grade registration for 2019-20 is now open. Please contact the school office for information.

Reaccreditation: St. Anastasia is accredited by the Minnesota Nonpublic School Accreditation Association (MNSAA). The purpose of accreditation is to ensure that our school is maintaining a positive and productive learning environment. The accreditation process



offers objective outside validation that our schools meet high standards. We completed our process in December and we be officially accredited until 2026.

Catholic Schools Week 2019

January 27 – February 2

Catholic education fosters a sense of community and an abiding understanding of the importance of service to others. With a focus on actively living one's faith and providing an example of character to others in daily life, Catholic



Schools assist students in realizing their own personal gifts and learning to value the contribution of others. Catholic Schools invite students to strive for excellence in all that they do, to challenge their perceptions of limitations, and to exceed them. Students enjoyed a variety of dress up days during the week.

We went ice skating, took a field trip to The Big Thrill Factory, learning about different countries, enjoyed muffins with parents and an afternoon of movies and popcorn.



Julie Shelby
Principal



"I was very fortunate to be able to attend St. Anastasia growing up. Many of the values that I lean on now I learned from my teachers. I also made lifelong relationships that I am so thankful for today."

-Lindsay Whalen

Kids Depot Childcare Center

Kids Depot Daycare provides care for children ages 33 months through Kindergarten. The daycare is open Monday-Friday between 6:45 AM – 6:00 PM. The daycare is open 12 months of the year.

Please join us on Saturday, March 23 from 8:00am-11:30am for our Preschool Open House! Come see what it would be like to be a Kids Depot Family!



atmosphere, awesome staff and fun learning activities. I am proud to be a Kids Depot parent and I am thrilled with the care my daughter receives."

– Sarah, Kids Depot Parent

"Kids Depot has been wonderful for my daughter. We chose Kids Depot because of the Christian



Michelle Nies
Kids' Depot Director

First Sunday of Lent

This Gospel highlights for us one of the central themes of the Season of Lent. We are dependent upon God for all that we have and all that we are. Anything that leads us to reject this dependency or to distrust its sufficiency, is a temptation from the devil.

Luke ends his report of Jesus' temptation in the desert by noting that the devil departs for a time. The implication is that the devil will return. Jesus knows that he will be tempted again in the Garden of Gethsemane. The depth of Jesus' trust in God is shown most fully when Jesus rejects the temptation to turn away from the task God has given to him. Jesus' final rebuke of the devil is his sacrifice on the Cross.

Jesus' responses to the temptations of the devil teach us how we can respond to temptation. As we start our journey through Lent, this Sunday's Gospel calls us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice, God's promise of protection can be trusted, and God alone is God.



Second Sunday of Lent

The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples—Peter, James and John. These are among the first disciples that Jesus called in Luke's Gospel. We recently heard this Gospel at Mass, on the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Only Luke's Gospel, which often describes Jesus at prayer, indicates that Jesus is praying as his appearance changes to bright white. Luke indicates that the three disciples were sleeping while Jesus prayed. They will be sleeping again as Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before his Passion and death.

As they awake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present with Jesus. Elijah and Moses, both significant figures in the history of Israel, represent Jesus' continuity with the Law and the Prophets. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospels, there is reference to conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel explains that this conversation is about Jesus' later accomplishments in Jerusalem. Luke describes this as his exodus, connecting Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection with the Israel's Exodus from Egypt.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, the disciples keep secret what they have seen. Not until they also witness his Passion and death will the disciples understand Jesus' Transfiguration. We hear this story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection even as we prepare to remember Jesus' Passion and death.

Area Calendar

March

- 6 Faith Formation—The Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 10 Rite of Election—New Ulm
- 10 Second Sunday Social
- 11-15 Spring Break
- 19 Kindergarten Info Meeting
- 23-27 Parish Mission
- 30 Women's Retreat, 8:30am-Noon

April

- 14 Faith Formation—Holy Week
- 14 Second Sunday Social
- 15 RCIA Retreat, 6-9pm—A
- 21 Easter Sunday
- 22 Parish Office Closed
- 27/28 DUCCW Conference

May

- 1 Faith Formation—The Church and Year End Celebration
- 3 Grandparents Day
- 5 First Communion

- 11/12 Mother Day
- 12 Second Sunday Social
- 18 WOW Meeting
- 19 High School Baccalaureate
- 26 Cemetery Visit 1pm—A, 3pm—B
- 27 Memorial Day 5:00pm—A
- 30 6th Grade Graduation Mass-9am

June

- 1/2 Ascension Sunday Schedule
- 3-6 Vacation Bible School
- 8/9 Pentecost Sunday Schedule
- 9 Second Sunday Social
- 15/16 Trinity Sunday/Father's Day Sunday Schedule
- 22/23 Body and Blood of Christ Sunday Schedule

Weekly Events

- S—RCIA, 4:30-6:30pm
- S—STB RE Class, 9am
- M—STA Atrium, 5:30pm
- W—STA Faith Formation, 6:30pm
- W—Youth Group, 7:30pm

Parish Mission

Join us Monday March 25th-Wednesday March 27th at 6:30pm each evening at St. Anastasia Church for our parish mission!

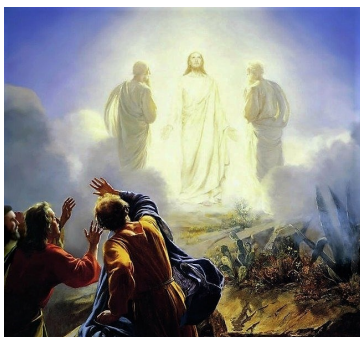
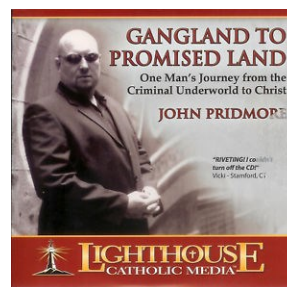
"A great opportunity to find meaning in our lives"

John Pridmore ex-gangster and international bestselling Author of book 'From Gangland to Promised Land' will be joining us to share his amazing story throughout the week.

Monday Night: God's Love—The Amazing Story of John Pridmore

Tuesday Night: God's Mercy—A Chance to Meet Jesus Personally

Wednesday Night: God's Healing—Healing Service (Miracles Abound)



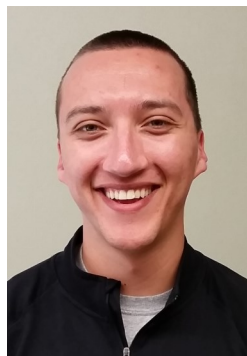
This is a great opportunity to get to know the love of God in a new way. One man in his seventies said that he was going to Mass every Sunday since he was seven but at the Mission he attended his life changed when he personally met Jesus. A fifteen year old girl who attended a mission said for the first time in her life she not only knew God was real but that he loved her.

Youth Ministry

The St. Anastasia youth are heading to Portland, OR this summer from July 26th-August 4th for a mission trip! According to the YouthWorks organization, "Our group will come alongside local organizations and service partners to address issues Portlanders face, including



struggles of homelessness, gentrification, historic and current racism, and concern over environmental issues. Our service will aid existing social service organizations in helping the most vulnerable populations of the city."



Jake Burmis
Director of
Youth Ministry

We have thirty-two spaces reserved for this journey of service, prayer, fun and devotion. If you or anyone you know may have an interest, there are still spots available for current 8th-12th grade students. Please, don't hesitate to contact me! More information, as well as fundraising, for this trip is still to come!



"When one realizes that life, even in the middle of so many contradictions, is a gift, that love is the source and the meaning of life, how can they withhold their urge to do good to another fellow being?"

-Pope Francis

We Are So Blessed!

St. Anastasia Catholic Community is very blessed to have several employees who have served the community for extended lengths of time. Our longest standing employee is Merrienne Miller, who has been the bookkeeper at St. Anastasia for 43 years. Our second longest standing employee is Donna Conrad, who has been the parish secretary for 30 years. Between the two of them, we are so blessed to have a wealth of knowledge and history of St. Anastasia. We also have several other employees who will celebrate 10+ years with St. Anastasia in 2019. They include: Kevin Scott, Facilities Manager; Linda Evenson, Second Grade Teacher; Holly Gregor, Third Grade Teacher; Laura Salmela, Fifth Grade Teacher; Stacy Crosby, Daycare Teacher; Michelle Denman, Daycare Aide; Lynn Gifferson, Daycare Teacher; and Jennifer Maiers, Daycare Aide. Thank you to all of these employees for their commitment to continue to serve our community. Thank you also, to each of our employees here at St. Anastasia Catholic Community. Without their dedication, our community would not be able to serve its members in the way we do. God Bless each and every one of them.



Third Sunday of Lent

The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us.



Fourth Sunday of Lent

"Hey, that's not fair!" How many times have we heard this spoken in our family? Family members challenge one another's generosity, operating from the perspective of limited resources. If we have given to one, perhaps there won't be enough for the other. Jesus wants us to understand that this is not how it is with God's mercy and forgiveness. God offers his love to all of us in abundance. The forgiveness of the father in the parable is an image of God's love for us, generous beyond measure in his love for both of his sons. Can we truly believe that God acts this way towards us and accept his mercy without jealousy, knowing that God's love for another does not diminish his love for us?

As you gather as a family, talk about the words and phrases you speak to one another when angry. Identify words or phrases that reflect jealousy towards one another. Talk about why we sometimes feel jealousy towards one another. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. Talk about why the older brother is jealous of the younger brother. Identify words that the family members in the parable might say to one another to begin to heal their broken relationships. Make a family commitment to say these types of words and phrases to one another with greater frequency. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.



Special Events

Second Sunday Socials

This March we are starting a new ministry to bring the people in our parish together in community. Second Sunday Socials are a time to gather together to intentionally get to know each other better. On March 10th after the Saturday 4:30 Mass we would have Pop and Pizza, after the Sunday 7:30 am Mass we will have Coffee, Juice and Rolls; after the 11:00



Mass we would have Pop and Pizza; and after the 7:30 pm Mass Ice Cream. A free will offering basket would be available to cover cost.

We want to bring our community together more often than an hour during mass. We are social people who long for community involvement. Please join us at one or all Masses in community and getting to know one another!

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

-Hebrews 10:24-25

Women's Retreat

Women, God has a vision for your life, our Church and these times. Come and Rejoice in Hope: not your typical Women's Lenten Morning of Reflection.

Join us at St. Anastasia Catholic Community on Saturday, March 30th from 8:30 am to 12pm. We will begin with Mass with Fr. Garret Ahlers, followed by a light breakfast. Fr. Ahlers will lead us in a time of reflection, conversation and silent prayer. Registrations are welcomed, but not required, to 320.587.6507. Come be renewed!



Directory Pictures

Have you ever wondered who is sitting in front of you at mass? Best place to look is in our Parish Directory. It's been five years since our last one, so it is a little outdated. This year we are going to take new pictures for our 2019 Picture Directory! When you get your picture taken for FREE, you will receive a FREE 8X10 picture and the option to buy more. Here are the dates available for pictures to be taken:

July 30—Aug. 3	2-9pm at St. Anastasia Church
Aug. 6—Aug. 10	2-9pm at St. Anastasia Church
Aug. 15—Aug. 17	2-9pm at St. Boniface Church
Sept. 3—Sept 7	2-9pm at St. Anastasia Church



There will be more information available as August gets closer, including online sign-ups. It is also important that we have everyone's contact information correct for the directory. Please use the form on page 7 to help us keep accurate information for you and your family. Please think about when you and your family will get your pictures taken!

Thank You!

Here at St. Anastasia and St. Boniface, we are able offer many opportunities and ministries to grow the Kingdom of God. Here are just some of the things we do:

- Weekend and Daily Masses to bring us closer to God
- St. Anastasia Catholic School to Educate our children about life and faith
- Kids Depot Childcare Center to watch over our children and help them grow
- Elementary Faith Formation Classes to teach our Catholic Faith
- Middle School and Confirmation Classes to prepare our youth for being fully part of the Catholic Church
- Youth Ministry to provide a safe loving atmosphere for youth to prosper
- Adult Faith Formation because no matter our age, we will always have something more to learn about our faith
- Spanish Ministry to reach those of different culture
- Social Concerns to help out brothers and sisters in our communities
- 7 Sacraments to encounter God here on earth
- Many, Many more ministries

Between our two parishes, we have amazing things happening. These ministries would be impossible without you. Your gifts of time, talent and treasure are what keep our parishes running and bringing Christ to so many others. We want to thank you very much for all that you have done, continue to do, and will do in the future. If you would like to continue to help our parishes with your gift of treasure, please use the enclosed envelope provided. You can mail this directly to the parish office, or feel free to drop it in the collection basket during Mass. Again, thank so much for all that you do for our parishes and keeping our ministries running.



It is important that we keep all of our member information updated. If any of your information has changed in the past year, please fill out this form with updated information and return it to the parish office by mailing it in the provided envelope, or place it in the collection basket.

Thank you!

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Circle one: Cell Phone Home Phone Work Phone

Email: _____

What is the best way to contact you?

☐ Mail ☐ Phone Number Provided ☐ Email

If you are a new parishioner, please stop by the Parish Office to register.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

In the chapter preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the Temple area. Feeling threatened by his teaching and his actions, the chief priests and the Pharisees are already sending guards to arrest Jesus. The guards return, however, without arresting Jesus because they have been impressed by his words. Even more than this, some among the crowds are considering the possibility that Jesus is the Messiah. The chief priests and the Pharisees change their plan. Before making an arrest, they seek to gather more evidence against Jesus by posing a question intended to trap Jesus.

Jesus avoids the trap, however, by offering an answer that was not anticipated by those who posed the question. Jesus, after writing on the ground with his finger, addresses those who stand before him and suggests that the one without sin cast the first stone. Jesus then returns to his writing.

Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.



St. Anastasia Catholic Community

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