

# ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 14<sup>th</sup>  
2025  
Third Sunday  
of Advent

## STAFF

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Wendy Krein, Church Janitor

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jackie Staiger, David Johnson, Sara Hauser,  
KaSondra Staiger, Nicole Vogle & Ty Wehri

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# Prayers for the Sick

Please help us keep the list of the sick updated.

If you would like to be on the email prayer chain or want to submit a prayer request of any kind please email [joanconlon59@yahoo.com](mailto:joanconlon59@yahoo.com):

Blake Kuntz

Jenny Funk

Ann Kitzan

Shane Focht

Father James Kilzer OSB

Natalie Sutto

Lyndsey Gasper

Torin Hedley

Jamie Kouba

Daryl Wanner

Gail Walls

LuAnn Woeste

Ashley Braem

David Berger

Ardie Krueger

Heather Woroneicki

Mitch Moszer

Antonio (baby from St. Gianna's)

## Mass Intentions

Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	+ Norma Berg by Harvey & Sandi Tibor
Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 AM	For the People of the Parish
Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	+ Bob Tibor
Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	+ Gloria Diede
Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	+ Holy Souls in Purgatory by the Jacobson Family
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	+ Francis Tibor by Lance & Anisa Gartner
Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>	8:30 AM	For the People of the Parish

## Ministers

### December 13<sup>th</sup>-Saturday- 6:30 PM:

Lector: Kevin Staiger

Ushers: Kevin & Toni Staiger

Servers: Ava, Isla & Olivia

Rosary: Volunteer

### December 14<sup>th</sup>- Sunday- 8:30 AM:

Lector: Kathy Sardelli

Ushers: David & Kathy Sardelli

Servers: Simon & Ambrose

Rosary: Ken Duppong

December 16<sup>th</sup>-Tuesday- Mass at 9:00 AM

December 17<sup>th</sup>- Wednesday- Adoration 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM; Mass at 6:00 PM

December 19<sup>th</sup>-Friday- Mass at 9:00 AM; Adoration 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

### December 20<sup>th</sup> Saturday- 6:30 PM:

Lector: Nicole Vogle

Ushers: Kerry & Brenda Richardson

Servers: Cambri, Brynlee & Cade

Rosary: Volunteer

### December 21<sup>st</sup> - Sunday- 8:30 AM:

Lector: David Wanner

Ushers: David & Cheryl Wanner

Servers: Addison, Tegan & Talon

Rosary: Ken Duppong

\*\* Confessions 30 minutes before Mass\*\*

First, third and fifth Wednesdays  
there will be Eucharistic Adoration  
from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
followed by Mass

### Mass Schedule - Central Time

#### Masses at St. Ann's

Saturday 6:30 PM  
Sunday 8:30 AM  
Tuesday 9:00 AM  
Friday 9:00 AM

#### Masses at Sacred Heart:

Saturday 9:00 AM & 4:00 PM  
Sunday 10:30 AM  
Thursday 9:00 AM

#### Parish Office Hours are 10 AM TO 1PM

#### Tuesdays and Fridays

The Church is open from  
7:30 AM TO 7:30 PM Everyday

ST. ANNS IS AN EMERGENCY STORM SHELTER  
FOR THOSE IN NEED DOORS WILL REMAIN OPEN  
DURING STORMS

### Daily Readings

Dec 14 *Isaiah 35:1-6, 10*  
*Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10*  
*Matthew 11:2-11*  
*James 5:7-10*

Dec 15 *Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17*  
*Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9*  
*Matthew 21:23-27*

Dec 16 *Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13*  
*Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23*  
*Matthew 21:28-32*

Dec 17 *Genesis 49:2, 8-10*  
*Psalm 72:3-4, 7-8, 17*  
*Matthew 1:1-17*

Dec 18 *Jeremiah 23:5-8*  
*Psalm 72:1, 12-13, 18-19*  
*Matthew 1:18-24*

Dec 19 *Judges 13:2-7, 24-25*  
*Psalm 71:3-4, 5-6, 16-17*  
*Luke 1:5-25*

Dec 20 *Isaiah 7:10-14*  
*Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6*  
*Luke 1:26-38*

### Upcoming Events

\*Bible Study- Monday nights at 7:00 PM

\* Flower Offering envelopes are available in the gathering space to those who wish to donate in the memory of a loved one.

\*Giving Tree- Angel/Giving tree this year will benefit needy students and families at the Hebron Public School. We will be putting together Hebron community bucks for these families, so that they can utilize them for some of the necessities of life offered by our local businesses. To make it easy for those wishing to donate, the bulbs on the Giving Tree will have a dollar amount that you can donate toward this cause. You can prepare a check (made out to St. Ann's) or some cash and place it in an envelope marked *Giving Tree*, and then we will pool these monetary resources and purchase the necessary Hebron community bucks for the given families.

\*December 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM: Knights of Columbus will be caroling at Marion Manor in Glen Ullin.

\*December 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>- Collection for the Retirement for Religious- envelopes available in the gathering space

\*Children's Thanksgiving books, Advent and Christmas items available in the St. Ann's bookstore!

\*Christmas Schedule and Volunteer sign up sheets are in the gathering space.

#### Christmas Mass Schedule

#### Christmas Eve:

4:00 PM at Sacred Heart.  
6:30 PM at St. Joseph's  
9:30 PM at St. Ann's  
Midnight at Sacred Heart

#### Christmas Day:

10:30 AM at St. Ann's  
2:00 PM at Marian Manor

### Stewardship of Treasure

Adult: \$1190

Loose: \$140

Fall Collection: \$400

Thank you for your donations!

***"He sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, 'Are you the one who is to come or should we look for another?'"***

John the Baptist was a revered religious figure of his day. We know that a multitude of people came out to the desert to hear him and to be baptized by him. In addition, John the Baptist had his own disciples who joined him in his ministry of preparing for the Messiah. But John was willing to give up his movement and even his disciples, when he understood that Jesus was the Messiah. In fact, he would proclaim that "He must increase and I must decrease," meaning that he was willing to defer to Christ and even encouraged his disciples to follow Him. John was not a religious leader for selfish reasons, unlike so many other religious leaders of his day. Rather, he was willing to deny himself so that all people would give due reverence and honor to Christ alone. In this Advent season, we could imitate this humble deference of Saint John the Baptist. As a pastor, observing the strife and discord in parishes and in families and marriages, the cause is often that people want to serve themselves rather than serve Christ and others. The words "me" and "mine" are too often the center of living, causing much division. We could all benefit from being more like John the Baptist, and even more so like Jesus Christ, who gave their lives completely in the service of others. A life not lived for others is a life not worth living.

### **Difficult Scripture Passages**

***"But whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, in this age or in the age to come" (Matthew 12:32).***

Virtually every Scripture commentary on this passage comes to the same conclusion: this passage is very obscure and difficult to understand. Some commentators believe it applies exclusively to the Pharisees, who earlier in Saint Matthew's Gospel had attributed Jesus' healing power to the work of Satan. The Kingdom of God was indeed in their midst (Matthew 12: 28), but their hardness of heart would not allow them to rejoice in the Holy Spirit's power, so evident in the healing ministry of Jesus. As a result, they renounced eternal life with God; their rejection of Him would not be forgiven.

While this passage does reflect a controversy with the Pharisees, it has a greater application to all people in every time and era. We are to avoid sinning against the Holy Spirit so that we may not forfeit eternal life. The problem is defining the nature of this sin, a subject of great debate among theologians. Some believe it refers to the sin of presumption... the unreasonable expectation that without living a life of faith, hope, love, and good works we can still achieve salvation. The sin against the Holy Spirit may also be the opposite of the sin and presumption... the sin of despair, which is the loss of hope. Despair turns a person completely away from God, doubting His mercy and compassion toward sinners. Other definitions of the sin against the Holy Spirit include apostasy (renouncing one's Catholic faith), final impenitence, and choosing to trust in demonic powers rather than in the power of the Holy Spirit.

There are indeed many definitions for the sin against the Holy Spirit, but a commonly accepted definition for this sin is the persistent and unyielding opposition to the influence of the Holy Spirit in one's life. We are all aware of the areas of our life in need of change and conversion. The Holy Spirit is constantly at work in the hearts of God's people, offering them growth in holiness, virtue, and goodness. Sadly, we reject the work of the Holy Spirit and refuse to change. God will not forgive those who reject the power of the Holy Spirit, who is preparing us for eternal life. Be open to the work of the Holy Spirit... Heaven is too great a gift to lose.

### **A Sad Sign of the Times**

Last Friday, all the pastors and associate pastors of the Diocese of Bismarck were called to a special convocation at the University of Mary. The topic for the day: developing a policy for an active shooter in a Catholic church. How sad that we must be concerned about a shooter wanting to take the lives of people who come to church to worship. What is happening to our world? But rather than lament the current state of affairs, we must be realistic and always prepare for the worst. Therefore, we are in the process of forming a policy in the event, God forbid, that an active shooter should enter our church when we worship. Some of the things being considered are: locking all of the doors in our church building during Mass; installing a security camera system; developing an exit from the church in the event of an active shooter; determining rooms for people to hide in, with objects placed against the doors; and disabling an active shooter as well, namely with parishioners who are willing to carry to Mass a concealed weapon. As we develop this policy, I encourage your input and insights. We all have a common goal... to maintain our parish church as a safe place for prayer

and worship. May God assist us in this process and more importantly, may He move the hearts of all people to never commit such heinous crimes against innocent people. *Mary, Mother of the Church . . . pray for us.*

### ***Christmas Humor, A Christmas Gift***

A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas. After hearing about this extravagant gift, a friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty four-wheel-drive vehicles?" "She did," he replied, "But where was I going to find a fake Jeep?"

**A Christian Point to Ponder:** *"When someone says to you, 'I don't believe in God,' smile and reply, 'But God believes in you.'"*



**Saint Gianna Maternity Home Needs- anything is appreciated- no need to wrap the gifts!**

**Mothers are all in their 20's  
Sizes are M, L and XL**

**Caps, Mittens, Gloves, Socks, Sweatshirts, Hoodies, Winter sweaters, Sweatpants, leggings, hairbrushes and combs, fragrances, lotions, shampoo, anything that a young woman would like.**

**Babies:**

**Boy clothes 6-9 months & 12-18 months, Girls clothes 12-18 months, toys and diapers**

**Gift cards: Walmart, Kohls & JC Penney**

**St. Gianna's is so appreciative for this baby shower,  
that will be held January 11<sup>th</sup> after the Sunday morning Mass.  
Please give generously this Christmas to these wonderful mothers  
who have chosen life for their babies!**