

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:

Carol Sebastian
Cody Jacobsen
William Kelley
Ernie Schantz
Blake Kuntz
Ashley Braem
Harper Wetzel
Paul Wehri
Lee Ann Hoff
Jesse and Bud Woeste
Jenny Funk
Peter Remboldt
Lane William Joshua
Rick Wiege
Terry Schantz
Marty Kettering
Mike Hosman
Sharon Ornelas
John Wanner
Zach Dittus
Aaron Morman
Jim Wanner
Ann Kitzan
Julie Petersen
Katie Goetz
Joan Geiger
Christine Lawson

Mass Intentions

Dec 23 rd	6:30 PM	++ Joe & Margaret Tibor & Deceased Family Members
Dec 24 th	Midnight	For the People of the Parish
Dec 25 th	10:30 AM	+ Michelle Duppong
Dec 26 th	9:00 AM	+ Gerard Tibor
Dec 29 th	9:00 AM	+Laurie Hauser
Dec 30 th	6:30 PM	+ For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
Dec 31 st	8:30 AM & 4PM	For the People of the Parish

**** Confessions Half an Hour before Mass****

Ministers

December 23rd- Saturday- 6:30 PM:

Lector: Ty Wehri
Ushers: Kerry & Brenda Richardson
Servers: Addison & Tegan
Rosary: Volunteer

December 24th- Sunday- 8:30 AM:

Lector: Kirk Peterson
Ushers: Volunteer
Servers: Elena
Rosary: Volunteer

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at Midnight

Lectors, Ushers, Servers and Rosary are all volunteer

December 25th- Christmas Day- Monday- 10:30 AM:

Lector: Ken Duppong
Ushers: Don & Deb Wanner
Servers: Ava, Isla & Olivia
Rosary: Ken Duppong

December 26th- Tuesday- 9:00 AM

December 29th- Friday- Mass at 9:00 AM;
Adoration 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

December 30th- Saturday- 6:30 PM:

Lector: Kevin Staiger
Ushers: Kevin & Toni Staiger
Servers: KiAnna & Kinsley
Rosary: Volunteer

December 31st- Sunday- 8:30 AM:

Lector: Kirk Peterson
Ushers: Volunteer
Servers: Elena
Rosary: Ken Duppong

December 31st- Sunday- New Years Eve Mass - 4:00 PM (Father Bruce)

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: 4:00 PM- Sacred Heart
7:00 PM- St. Josephs
Midnight- St. Ann's
Christmas Day: 8:30 AM- Sacred Heart
10:30 AM- St. Ann's

NEW YEARS EVE/DAY SCHEDULE

New Years Eve:
4:00 PM- St. Anns
Adoration 11:00 PM to Midnight -Sacred Heart
New Years Day:
10:30 AM- Sacred Heart

RELIGIOUS CLASS SCHEDULES:

CCD K-6TH: 3:30 PM TO 5PM EVERY WEDNESDAY

CYO 7TH & 8TH: 7PM TO 8PM EVERY WEDNESDAY

POST CONFIRMATION- EVERY 1ST, 3RD & 5TH WEDNESDAY- 7PM TO 8 PM

Mass Schedule – Central Time

Masses at St. Ann's

Saturday 6:30 PM

Sunday 8:30 AM

Tuesday & 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
Tuedays and Fridays**

Stewardship of Treasure

Adult: \$ 1278

Loose: \$ 66

Kids: \$ 2

Poinsettias: \$70

Thank you for your donations!

**FIRST, THIRD AND FIFTH WEDNESDAYS THERE
WILL BE EUCHARTISTIC ADORATION FROM 5
TO 6 FOLLOWED BY MASS.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*** No CCD/CYO OR POST CONFIRMATION
DECEMBER 27TH.**

*** Angel Tree-** Thank you to all that donated to the Angel tree this year!

*** Poinsettias-** Thank you to all that donated in honor of their loved ones!

*** Christian Mothers Raffle-** Thank you to everyone that donated items for the raffle and for those that also bought raffle tickets. The Christian Mothers were able to raise \$755!

*** Bible Study-** Wednesday nights at 7 pm

*** Men's group-** Sundays at 6:30 PM in the resource room at Sacred Heart.

*** Facebook-** There is a new facebook page for our parish- please search for Church of St. Anns- this will be another way to keep up to date on activities going on within the church!

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“Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.’”

When Mary agreed to be the mother of Jesus, the Son of God, her response can essentially be reduced to four words, *“Thy will be done.”* It is a simple response, yet quite profound. It is total submission to the will of God, which Mary then taught her Son Jesus to make. This is the same response Jesus taught us to make in the *Our Father*. It is the same response Jesus made during His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, *“Not my will, but thy will be done.”* With Mary and Jesus as our models of obedience to God’s will, we might take time to prayerfully discern if we readily embrace God’s will. When we pray, do we pray that God’s will be done, or do we pray that He approve ours?

Saint of the Week: Saint Anastasia (d. 310 A.D)

Feast day: December 25th

Patron: people suffering from poison; martyrs; and weavers

Saint Anastasia was born into a wealthy and prestigious Roman family. Her Father, Praetextatus, was a follower of the Roman pagan religion and her mother, Saint Fausta of Sirmium, was a Christian. Because her mother was a Christian, Saint Anastasia was baptized as an infant and secretly raised in the Catholic Faith. When her mother died, her father gave Saint Anastasia in marriage to a pagan, Publius, but she begged her husband to allow her to maintain her virginity in marriage, out of love for Jesus Christ. Publius loved his wife dearly and consented to her request.

During the last great persecution of Christians, with the reign of Diocletian, Saint Anastasia visited prisons and brought food, medicine, and clothing to Christians who were languishing there, because of their confession of faith in Jesus Christ. She would feed them, attend to their wounds, and even offer ransoms for the release of those who were near death. Her husband, concerned that she would soon be imprisoned if her Christian faith became known, forbade Saint Anastasia to continue her prison ministry and locked her up in their home for her safety. Saint Anastasia was greatly dismayed by her inability to continue her ministry, but in a secret correspondence with her spiritual advisor, Saint Chrysogonus, he told her to be brave and to accept the Lord’s will. She obeyed and devoted her time to prayer and fasting on behalf of persecuted Christians, that the Lord would bring an end to the persecution of His Church.

After her husband died while on embassy to Persia, Saint Anastasia distributed her property to the poor and followed her spiritual advisor, Saint Chrysogonus, in his ministry of support to persecuted Christians. But he was arrested, beheaded, and cast into the sea. After his death, Saint Chrysogonus appeared to a priest, Zolius, and he foretold the martyrdoms of three Christian virgins: Saints Agape; Chione; and Irene. He asked Zolius to send Saint Anastasia to the three sisters to speak to them of their impending martyrdoms, because with her prayerful nature and kind disposition, she would provide comfort and encouragement as they prepared to die for Christ. The three virgins were tortured and then executed; after their martyrdoms, Saint Anastasia had them secretly buried according to the rites of the Church.

Saint Anastasia spent her life traveling from city to city, caring for Christian prisoners. With great charity and compassion, she ministered to their wounds and relieved their sufferings. Many Christian prisoners, as a form of torture, had been forced to drink poison, resulting in great internal suffering. Through prayer and medical skills, Saint Anastasia was able to heal many Christian prisoners from the effects of these harmful substances, thus gaining for herself the affectionate title, “Deliverer from poisons.”

In time, Saint Anastasia herself was arrested and was brought before the prefect of the Province of Illyricum and commanded to renounce her Christian Faith. She refused. He tried to persuade her and threatened her with torture and death, but she could not be swayed. So, he turned Saint Anastasia over to the pagan priest, Ulpian, with the hope that he could convince her of the errors of her way. He presented her with the choice of riches or sufferings, luxuries or devices of torture. She chose suffering and torture. Ulpian, aware of her personal vow of virginity, decided that he would torment her by defiling her purity. However, as he tried to touch Saint Anastasia, he was struck blind and his head was racked with extreme pain; he died as he made his way to the pagan temple.

Saint Anastasia, now free, set out once again on her ministry to caring for imprisoned Christians. But she was soon arrested and sentenced to death by starvation. She was denied all food and water, but after sixty days, was still alive! Well, it turns out that Saint Theodota, a Christian martyr, came from heaven daily to Saint

Anastasia's prison cell to provide her with food and water. So, the judge sentenced Saint Anastasia to death by drowning, placing her in a boat with holes in the base, which would sink quickly. But Saint Theodota appeared and steered the boat to shore. Once the boat landed, Saint Anastasia baptized 120 pagans who were converted on the spot, because of their amazement of the one true God who had protected her in her time of trial. The local prefect was furious and had Saint Anastasia taken to the island of Palmaria, where she was staked to the ground with her arms and legs stretched out; she was then burned alive, dying as a martyr for Christ.

The martyrdom of Saint Anastasia took place on Christmas day, which is now her feast day. It was fitting that she died on the day of Christ's birth, because Jesus came into our world to die on the Cross and rise again from the dead, offering all His faithful disciples the hope of eternal life in His Kingdom. As Anastasia means "resurrection," she has risen to glory and continues to pray for her Christian brothers and sisters on earth, that one day, we may also share in this great gift.

[NB: This ends our year-long series on the lives of the saints. I hope their holy examples have moved us to seek greater holiness in our own Christian lives . Next week, we will begin a series on the Eucharistic Miracles in the life of the Church, a fitting way to continue growing in our love for the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in this Year of the Eucharist].

Christ is Born: Blessings to all of you and your families as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Be assured of my daily prayers for you before the Creche and the Blessed Sacrament.