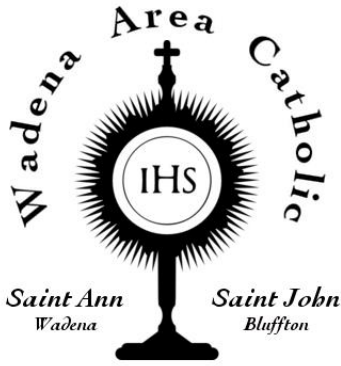


# WadenaAreaCatholic.org



**Church of St. Ann**  
 514 First St. SE  
 Wadena, MN 56482  
 218-631-1593 Office  
 218-631-7149 Fax  
 Monday thru Friday  
 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Church of St. John the Baptist**  
 P.O.Box 36  
 Bluffton, MN 56518  
 218-385-2608 Office  
 218-385-2808 Fax  
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Facebook.com/saintsAandJ

Live-stream video of all services: [Bebloomin.com](http://Bebloomin.com)

Pastor: Father Aaron Kuhn  
[fatheraaronkuhn@gmail.com](mailto:fatheraaronkuhn@gmail.com)  
 Twitter: @FrAaronKuhn  
[Facebook.com/fatheraaronkuhn](https://www.facebook.com/fatheraaronkuhn)

Deacon: Jerry Snyder  
[djerry@saintanns.net](mailto:djerry@saintanns.net)

Business Mgr SA: Barb Piecek  
[bpiecek@saintanns.net](mailto:bpiecek@saintanns.net)

Business Mgr SJB: Bea Kupfer  
[sjc428@eot.com](mailto:sjc428@eot.com)

Religious Education SA:  
 Bonnie Witthuhn  
[religioused@saintanns.net](mailto:religioused@saintanns.net)

Religious Education SJB  
 Sandi Kollar  
[stjohnsre@arvig.net](mailto:stjohnsre@arvig.net)

Youth & Young Adults  
 Victoria Bulcher  
[vbulcher@saintanns.net](mailto:vbulcher@saintanns.net)

Director of Music & Liturgy  
 Madeline McCoy  
[mmccoy@saintanns.net](mailto:mmccoy@saintanns.net)

### New to the Parish?

Please introduce yourself to our pastor, Fr. Aaron Kuhn, after Mass. Register as a parishioner by calling our parish offices.

### Adoration of the Eucharist

Monday 8 a.m. to Saturday 8 a.m. in our Adoration Chapel, at St. Ann

### Join the Choir

Our parishes are always looking for new musicians and singers. Contact the church office for details.

### Wadena Area Family Counseling

Paula Johnson, MS, MA, and is available for counseling Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at St. Ann's Church Offices in Wadena. Paula views struggles as opportunities to grow and heal and is grateful to be part of the resulting freedom. Christian counseling provided, if desired. Call toll free 844-816-1847 or 320-253-3540 to schedule an appointment.

### Homebound Ministry

Please call the office and let us know if you are homebound and would like a Minister of Holy Communion to visit you.

### Watch Mass Live at St. Ann

The City of Wadena and the Church of St. Ann are working together via [Bebloomin.com](http://Bebloomin.com) to maintain a live-stream video of the church space. Anyone with internet access can now watch any Mass or service when it happens.

### Anointing of the Sick

If you or someone you know is in need of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please notify the pastor as soon as possible.

### Bulletin Deadline

If you would like something announced in the bulletin it must be submitted to St. Ann's Church Office no later than noon on the Tuesday before publication. Announcements may be delivered by leaving a note in the collection basket, by fax, or by email to [bpiecek@saintanns.net](mailto:bpiecek@saintanns.net)

### Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday at 4:00 PM at St. Ann's Church, or upon request w/ Fr. Aaron Kuhn

### Baptism Preparation

Those seeking baptism for their child should call Deacon Jerry Snyder at St. Ann's Office to sign up for the Baptism Course Schedule: Feb 23, May 23, Sep 12

### Marriage Preparation

In the Diocese of St. Cloud, newly engaged couples must contact their pastor at least six months before the proposed wedding date. In our parishes, all couples must meet in person with the pastor before a date can be set.

### Looking to volunteer?

We need your talents. There are ongoing activities at our parishes that require help from volunteers. Call your church office or watch the bulletin for details.

### Stewardship Last Week

#### SAINT ANN

Adult \$3,330.45  
 Plate \$461  
 Youth \$20.83  
 Maintenance \$110  
 Good Samaritan \$77.80  
 Votive \$17.91  
 Visitor \$126

#### SAINT JOHN

Adult \$2,208  
 Plate \$261  
 Youth \$30  
 Votive \$24  
 Visitor \$134  
 Rice Bowl \$116

### GROW IN YOUR FAITH – Questions of the Week

In this week's Gospel Jesus tells a parable about a fig tree. The fig tree in Jesus' parable isn't producing figs. The owner wants to cut it down but the gardener is willing to give the tree extra help so it can grow and produce fruit. Jesus wants us to see that God is like the gardener. God in His mercy wants to care for us and give us another chance. This Gospel calls us to turn toward God and be fruitful by showing love for one another.

**Adults:** What steps are you taking this Lent to make sure that your faith bears fruit in good works?

**Children:** God wants your faith to result in good living. What steps can you take during Lent to make sure that happens?

**Spiritual Works of Mercy: Counseling the Doubtful, Instructing the Ignorant, Admonishing the Sinner, Comforting the Sorrowful, Forgiving Injuries, Bearing Wrongs Patiently, Praying for the Living and the Dead**

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### **Monday, Feb 29**

No Mass

### **Tuesday, Mar 1**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Communion (SA)  
Sacristan: Duane & Vonnie Moore

### **Wednesday, Mar 2**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Communion (SJB)  
Sacristan & Comm: Peter Van Erp

### **Thursday, Mar 3**

8:00 a.m. Mass (SA) † *David Houle*  
Sacristan: Nellie Wegscheid

### **Friday, Mar 4**

9:30 a.m. Mass (Fair Oaks) † *Loretta Brauch*

### **Saturday, Mar 5**

4:00 p.m. Confessions (SA)  
5:00 p.m. Mass (SA) *For the People*  
Sacristan: Mike Pete  
Comm: Kathy Angus, Carol Osborn, Annamarie Tabery, Mary Dee  
Weber, Carmen Pederson, Cathy Edinger, Lucille Belch, Barb  
Richter  
Lector: Sue Rebeschke  
Greeters: Carmen Pederson, Dave & Kim Schissel  
Gifts: Carol & Dan Osborn  
Servers: Ella Stroeing, Joshua Tabery, Colby Schmid

### **Sunday, Mar 6 – Fourth Sunday of Lent**

8:30 a.m. Mass (SA) † *Charles Goeden*  
Sacristan: Mike Pete  
Comm: Mary Drkula, Joel Haverkamp, Mary Jane Malone, Tom  
Malone, Dorothy Beyer, Jeanette Baymler, Donna Haman,  
Karlene Snyder  
Lector: Gail Vittetoe  
Greeters: Ray & Dorothy Beyer, Marilou Heltemes  
Servers: Ben Keppers, Abigail Haman, Jayson Young

### **10:30 a.m. Mass (SJB) † *Catherine Vorderbruggen***

Sacristan: LeRoy Keppers  
Comm: Marty Irons, Sue Theisen, LeRoy Keppers, Marty & Carol  
Wegscheid  
Lector: Debbie Anderson  
Ushers: LeRoy & Karen Haman  
Servers: Ashley & Nathan Kassa

Mon: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Lk 4:24-30  
Tue: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35  
Wed: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19  
Thu: Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23  
Fri: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34  
Sat: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14  
Sun: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

## **Be Merciful, Just as Your Father is Merciful**

*Excerpts from Bishop Donald Kettler's letter, part 2*

*The Holy Father makes clear that this work of mercy goes to the very heart of what it means to be church and of our identity, our mission, as Christians. (He says:)*

*Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. [Misericordiae Vultus, 10...hereafter MV].*

*It is absolutely essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she herself live and testify to mercy. [MV, 12]. The Church is called above all to be a credible witness to mercy professing it and living it as the core of the revelation of Jesus Christ" [MV, 25].*

*There are three things I would like to highlight in these compelling passages. First, we as church, both individually and collectively, are called to "announce," "proclaim" and bear "witness" to the mercy of God. However, this witnessing involves more than words.*

*We are not just witnesses to God's loving mercy; we are agents of that mercy in the world. Our call, our vocation and privilege as followers of Christ, is to participate in God's merciful love for the world — for all God's children. Our mercy is the concrete form of God's mercy in the world.*

*A second dimension of this witness and agency emerges when we think of the Church as a sacrament of mercy. Rooted in the Incarnation, sacrament refers to a material reality that makes present — really present — the immaterial reality of God's grace, the Spirit of God with us. So if the Church is a sacrament of mercy, what are the concrete, material forms or elements in which mercy is present in our parishes, in the diocese as a whole, and in our lives outside the parish? How are we making the mercy of God really present in the world? How do we experience this mercy? How do we share it? Moreover, the ministers of this sacrament are not a particular group ordained for the work of mercy but all of the baptized. All of us as disciples are called to make the mercy of God present in our lives and the world in which we live. This is what it means to be church.*

*Third,..This practice of mercy must be evident in our actions as individual members of the Church and in the activities of the institutional Church at all levels: parish, diocese, global. (Pope Francis states:) *Throughout history, some have been tempted to say that the Church is the Church of only the pure and the perfectly consistent, and it expels all the rest. This is not true! This is heresy! The Church, which is holy, does not reject sinners; she does not reject us all; she does not reject us because she calls everyone, welcomes them, is open to those furthest from her.... The Lord wants us to belong to a Church that knows how to open her arms and welcome everyone, that is not a house for the few, but a house for everyone, where all can be renewed, transformed, sanctified by his love — the strongest and the weakest, sinners, the indifferent, those who feel discouraged or lost" [Church of Mercy, 31].**

*After his instructions about the Year of Mercy, drawn much from Pope Francis, Bishop Kettler suggests the ways we, the members of his flock, can carry out mercy during this year. We might visit a Holy Door and pass through it.....make a Pilgrimage (the bishop offers particular sites to visit)....receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.....seek an indulgence during the Holy Year...practice the Works of Mercy ...and care for the earth on which we live...*

*Look for these suggestions explained in the full text of his Pastoral Letter on-line at [www.stcdio.com](http://www.stcdio.com).*

# NEWS

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Ann's & St. John's: Mar 2  
Classes as usual  
SJB: **Tuesday, March 1:**  
Education Committee Meeting  
– 6:30PM (SJB Learning  
Center)

**Wednesday, March 2:** Family  
Night Soup Supper at 6:15PM/  
Sharon Heinen presentation at  
6:45PM

**Saturday, March 5:**  
Confirmation Learning Centers  
at St. John's Church basement  
(9:00AM-Noon)

**Sunday, March 6:**  
Confirmation  
Candidate/Sponsor Meeting  
for St. John students-after the  
10:30AM Mass

## **Notice of Safe Environment Training for St. Ann's**

Each year the United States  
Catholic Conference of  
bishops in the Charter for the  
Protection of Children and  
Young People require that our  
faith formation programs offer  
training for all children about  
personal safety. This year we  
will be using *Router's Birthday  
Surprise* for students in  
Grades 1-5 and students in  
grades 6-11 will be viewing  
*Survivor Diaries* and *Meeting  
Online*. We will be showing  
this Wednesday, Mar 2.  
Parents are welcomed to join  
us for class.

## YOUTH MINISTRY (K-12)

**Wadena Youth Rally:** 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>  
graders. Every second Sunday  
of the month, 7 p.m. at St.  
Ann's Parish Hall, with  
Vespers at 7:45 and games to  
follow. Next Up: Mar 13, Apr  
10

Mission Trip: **Alive In You  
WorkCamp** in Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin, July 9-17 (\$540) for  
grades 7-12. Alive in You is  
part conference, part service  
camp and 100% Catholic.  
Experience the love of Christ  
through the Eucharist,  
Reconciliation, Mass, service,  
high-energy praise and  
worship, prayer, talented  
speakers, team building,  
games, activities, and small  
faith groups.

**Parents:** Part of the grant that  
we received from the Catholic  
Foundation this year allowed  
us to purchase a copy of  
"Raising Pure Teens" for each  
family. Victoria would like to  
hand deliver these to each  
family and if possible at your  
home. If you would be  
interested in having Victoria  
over one Thursday or Friday  
afternoon or evening for a  
short visit please let her know.  
We are in need of adults (18+)  
that would like to go to  
Castaway and work on the  
work-crew. The workers will  
help with all of the behind the  
scenes work from cooking to  
helping in the coffee shop.  
Contact Victoria if you are  
interested.

## YOUNG ADULTS (18+)

**First Friday Devotion:**  
7 pm at the first Friday of every  
month, Eucharistic adoration  
w/ some silence and music,  
followed by a social at the  
rectory. Next up: Mar 4, Apr 1,  
May 6.

## SAINT ANN'S NEWS

**Incense** will be used at the  
8:30 a.m. Mass throughout  
Lent.

**Early Catholic Family Life  
(ECFL):** For families with  
children 0-5 years old. First  
Sunday of the month after 8:30  
a.m. Mass. **Mar 6, Apr 3.**

**Choir Practice:** Wednesdays  
at 7 p.m. in the music room.

**Women's Bible Study:**  
Thursday and Friday

**Springfest Panning Meeting:**  
Tuesday, March 1 at 5:30 p.m.  
in the conference room.

**Catholic United Financial, St.  
Joseph Council Annual  
Breakfast:** for members and  
guests today after the 8:30  
a.m. Mass in the parish center.

**Moving Day Volunteers:** We  
are in need of volunteers to  
help with moving day  
Saturday, March 5 from 8 a.m.  
– 3 p.m. Young and old, we

need you. We will not only be  
moving pews and statues, but  
little things as well. Call the  
office (631-1593) to sign up.

**Stewardship Meeting:**  
Tuesday, March 1 at 1 p.m. in  
the conference room.

## **St. Ann's Planning Committee Panel**

**Discussion:** Saturday, March  
5 after the 5:00 p.m. Mass in  
the parish hall. Potluck dinner.  
Bring a dish to share and your  
questions.

**Bible Study:** Monday and  
Thursday.

Breakfast after the 8:30 a.m.  
Mass Sunday, March 6 in the  
parish hall.

On Saturday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, at the  
Valentine Dinner, the sixth  
grade religious education class  
held a collection for the  
Wadena Area Food Shelf and  
they collected \$212 as well as  
23 pounds of food. Thank you  
to those who contributed to  
this worthy cause.

**Minnesota Food Share  
March Campaign:** Food shelf  
donation boxes are at the  
church entrances. Monetary  
donations may be sent to:  
Wadena Area Food Shelf, PO  
Box 383, Wadena MN 56482.

**Free Blood Pressure and  
Blood Glucose checks:**  
Saturday, Mar 5 and Sunday,  
Mar 6 after Mass.

## SAINT JOHN'S NEWS

Please pick up your new  
**Usher and Greeter** schedules  
from the table in the church  
entry.

**St. John's Catholic United  
Council** will hold their  
quarterly meeting on Tuesday,  
March 1 at 7 p.m. at the Billy &  
Elizabeth Schwartz residence.

**St. Mary's Mission Group** will  
meet Tuesday afternoon,  
March 1, in the church  
basement.

The next **Parish Council  
Meeting** will be Tuesday,  
March 15, 6:30 p.m. in the  
church meeting room.

March is Food Share Month.  
You can leave your non-  
perishable food items in the  
church entry. Monetary  
donations should be sent to  
your local food shelf.

## NEWS FOR ALL

**Birthday Card Campaign:** Fr.  
Aaron's Birthday is March 10<sup>th</sup>  
and we need your help to  
celebrate! Please send a  
birthday wish to Fr. Aaron and  
mail it back (514 First Street  
SE, Wadena MN 56482) as  
close to March 10<sup>th</sup> as  
possible. We know Father will  
be thrilled to get his mail and  
see so many birthday cards  
from friends and family.  
Thanks in advance for your  
help in making Father Aaron's  
birthday extra-special!

**Festival of Forgiveness:** we  
will need volunteers to serve  
as greeters throughout the  
day. Please call St. Ann's  
office (631-1593) to sign up.

St. Edward Catholic Church in  
Henning will be serving Lenten  
Fish Fry Suppers: March 4 and  
March 18 –serving 5 p.m. – 7  
p.m. Adults: \$8.50; Children 6-  
12: \$5; 5 and under Free. Take  
outs available.

Catholic United Financial,  
Butler will be serving Fish Fry  
on Friday, Mar 4 and Mar 11,  
5-7 p.m. at St. Henry's church  
basement in Perham.

St. Lawrence Church, Rush  
Lake, is presenting Holocaust  
survivor and author, Anita  
Dittman, Sunday, Mar 6, 2  
p.m. Free will offering.

## **Stations of the Cross: Wednesdays**

SJB: 7:30 p.m.  
SA: 8:00 p.m.