April 17, 2016 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter



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

Pastor: Father Aaron Kuhn fatheraaronkuhn@gmail.com Twitter: @FrAaronKuhn Facebook.com/fatheraaronkuhn

Deacon: Jerry Snyder djerry@saintanns.net

Business Mgr SA: Barb Piecek bpiecek@saintanns.net

Business Mgr SJB: Bea Kupfer sjc428@eot.com

Religious Education SA: Bonnie Witthuhn religioused@saintanns.net

Religious Education SJB Sandi Kollar stjohnsre@arvig.net

Youth & Young Adults Victoria Bulcher vbulcher@saintanns.net

Director of Music & Liturgy Madeline McCoy 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 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

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: May 23, Sep 12, Dec 13

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 \$5,218 Easter \$75 Plate \$578.61 Youth \$48.55 Maintenance \$210 Good Samaritan \$126 Cath Home Miss \$25

SAINT JOHN

Adult \$1,919 Plate \$165 Youth \$23 Votive \$25 Easter \$100

GROW IN YOUR FAITH - Questions of the Week

In today's Gospel Jesus refers to Himself as "the Good Shepherd." Thinking of Jesus as the "Good Shepherd" helps us remember Jesus' love for us. Jesus describes the secure and lasting relationship He has with His sheep, those who truly hear Him and believe. Sheep recognize the shepherd's voice. We, as the flock of Jesus, hear and recognize Jesus' voice.

<u>Adults:</u> When do you hear the voice of Jesus? How do you recognize it? What can you do to show that you have truly heard the Good Shepherd's voice?

<u>Children:</u> Jesus promises to care for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. How do you experience the loving care of Jesus in your life?

No one has ever become poor by giving.

-Anna Frank

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, Apr 18

No Mass

Tuesday, Apr 19

8:00 a.m. Mass (SA) † Virginia Malone Sacristan: Duane & Vonnie Moore

Wednesday, Apr 20

8:00 a.m. Mass (SJB) † Engelke Family Members

Sacristan: Marge Harrison

Comm: Marge Harrison, Dick Tougas

Thursday, Apr 21

8:00 a.m. Mass (SJB) † Barbara & William Lennon

Sacristan: Nellie Wegscheid

Friday, Apr 22

9:30 a.m. Mass (Fair Oaks) † Mike Fraune

Saturday, Apr 23

5:00 p.m. Mass (SA) For the People

Sacristan: Mike Pete

Comm: Lorie Baron, Cathy Edinger, Lucille Belch, Mary Drkula, Barb Richter, Therese Pavek, Annamarie Tabery, Sandie

Lector: Mary Drkula

Greeters: Mark & Bonnie Sperling, Deb Uselman

Gifts: Lupkes Family

Servers: Kelly Muckala, Faith Koning, Ben Keppers

Sunday, Apr 24 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Mass (SA) † Don Tabery

Sacristan: Mike Pete

Comm: Phil Thoennes, Donna Haman, Karlene Snyder, Lori Meeks, Shelagh Carlson, Joel Haverkamp, Carmen Pederson, Dorothy Beyer

Lector: Carmen Pederson

Greeters: Dave & Sharon Mertens, Virginia Zeta

Gifts: Mertens Family

Servers: Tiffany, Zachary & Kayla Meeks

10:30 a.m. Mass (SJB) † Harold & Mary Tigges

Sacristan: Don & Brenda Weniger

Comm: Jackie Vandermay, Don & Brenda Weniger, Trudy Irons,

Ellen Wallgren Lector: Jackie Vandermay Ushers: Blaine & Lisa Novak

Servers: Carter Haman, Jackson Weniger

Mon: Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:1-10 Tue: Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30 Wed: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50 Thu: Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20 Fri: Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6

Fri: Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6 Sat: Acts 13:44-52/Jn 14:7-14

Sun: Acts 14:21-27/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Last week at Mass I spoke about the "obedience of the heart" that God desires from us, that we choose God above all in our dealings with the world, even if it means being threatened by others. As Peter stated to the people of his day, "We must obey God, rather than men" (Acts of the Apostles 5:29).

So too, God also wants the obedience of our hearts above what we want for ourselves. This week, we hear about Jesus the good shepherd calling us to communion with the Father. "The works I do in my Father's name testify to me ... My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me ... The Father and I are one" (John 10:25, 27, 30). Jesus' whole life on earth was lived with perfect obedience to the Father's will for him. It is this union of Father and Son into which we are invited. It is where the shepherd's voice leads us "to life-giving water" in heaven. "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress ... they stand before God's throne and worship him ... The Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water" (Revelation 7:14, 15, 17).

Our culture today in the US is focused on the deity of self. It holds above all laws and mores the narcissistic tome, "do whatever you want, as long as it doesn't bother anyone else. If what you do does bother someone, tell them not to be so judgmental." In other words, the culture rejects the notion of "sin" against God and neighbor. It prefers to see sins as "difficulties" or "struggles" to be tolerated. It justifies any action that brings pleasure as welcome and forbids labeling anything as taboo. And although this pleasure stream of caffeinated sugar-water is sweet at first, we know as Christians that it only brings diabetes of the soul and eventual decay of all that was once good. As oppressive as our Catholic faith may seem to the soul who has "freed himself from the tyranny of religion," the truth is that radically submitting our intellect and will to the way of Jesus brings life to our soul, not oppression and death. It is the choosing of a healthy lifestyle, free from sin, by the taming of our inordinate desires of pleasure, power, and wealth, by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, that we learn this obedience of heart. The obedience of our heart to whatever the Father asks of us—even if it means accepting sacrifices and sufferings. persecutions and misunderstandings from those around us—is the narrow way. "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few" (Matthew 7:13-14).

Having seen and conversed with the resurrected Jesus, the first disciples knew that they could no longer live the same way in the world. The world had rejected Jesus and would continue to do so. The disciples—because they now understood Jesus was waiting in heaven for them and would some day judge each of them much more than any judgement they may receive from the world—were convinced of Jesus' way.

We have perhaps, as Americans, been conditioned to avoid conflict by keeping our faith private and subdued, so as not to seem "holier than thou" or "judgmental" by the world. But a Catholic life, when lived according to the commandments and teachings of Jesus in his Church, is going to be counter-cultural. Read these, and ask yourself, Am I ready to testify to the world why Jesus matters? Don't they deserve to hear the good news from me? Matthew 6:19-34 & 7:12-23 & 10:16-42; Acts 3-5.

NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Ann's & St. John's: Apr 20 Classes as usual **Confirmation** is scheduled for May 12th in Browerville. **SA Religious Education Students** raised \$233.12 for the CRS Rice Bowl. Thank you.

YOUTH MINISTRY (K-12)

Ditch Cleaning: Friday, Apr 29 at 5 p.m. for all 7-12 graders and their families. Meet at St. Ann's parish hall and we will return for pizza and ice cream. RSVP Victoria 320-360-5193 or vbulcher @saintanns.net

Do you want to be a Disciple? I am looking for young people 6th -12th grade that want to learn what it means to be a Catholic! We will meet once a week for about an hour, small groups. Contact Victoria for more information.

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.

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: May 6, Jun 3.

SAINT ANN'S NEWS

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

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

Family Potluck: Early Childhood Family Life (ECFL) group is hosting a family potluck on Sunday, May 1st from 4-6 p.m. at Tapley Park (617 Lincoln Ave SW) or the parish hall if inclement weather. Everyone is invited. Please bring young children.

Bible Study: Monday

Springfest Set-up Tuesday, Apr 19 after morning Mass, Wednesday, April 20 starting late afternoon and evening in the parish hall. Volunteers are welcome to join us. Tickets are available at St. Ann's business office, Thrifty White Drug and Weber's Hardware, and after weekend Masses \$25 each. Thank you for your continued support.

Mass will be in the parish hall for the next two months.

Be-Blommin Weekend: Apr 16 &17. A Be-Blommin rep will be here to help you get signed up.

Sunday, Apr 17: There will be a short meeting after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the church basement, for all who are interested in organizing a one day pilgrimage. See Sharon Heinen for more information.

KC Breakfast: Sunday, Apr 17 after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting aluminum cans for our "Pennies for Seminaries Fund" Saturday and Sunday, April 16-17. A two-wheel trailer will be parked in St. Ann's parking lot.

Need a ride to Mass, Adoration or Afternoon Religious Education? The

Friendly Rider is available weekly during regular business hours and Sunday morning for Mass. Please call (631-5730). Saint Ann's will pick up the cost.

The daily Mass Thursday, April 21 will be at St. John the Baptist Church in Bluffton.

Baptism: We warmly welcome into our Christian family

Conner Harold McManigle, baptized here. May the Heavenly Father fill him with the Holy Spirit, so that he may always walk in the way of Christ Jesus.

SAINT JOHN'S NEWS

Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday, Apr 19, 6:30 p.m. in the church meeting room.

We are asking members of the parish to help out by donating bars for the **Ken Theisen Benefit** which will be held Apr 29, 4-8 p.m. at the Bluffton Community Center. Bars can be dropped off prior to the benefit.

NEWS FOR ALL

Vocations Camp: For Young Men Grades 7-10: June 13-15, Battle Lake Area; June 20-22, Avon area; July 11-13, Big Lake Area. Cost \$25-Scholarships available. For more information or to register contact Office of Vocations, P.O. Box 1248, St. Cloud, MN 56302-1248 or call 320-251-5001

WDC students are planning a "Day of Caring" on April 27 to help members of the Wadena, Deer Creek and Bluffton communities with outdoor yard work tasks. If you have an outdoor project you would like help with, please call 632-2444 by April 20. There is no charge. In event of severe weather the date will be changed to May 4.

Visit the Shrines of Italy October 18 – 28, 2016 with the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Saint Cloud and Fr. Aaron Nett. Daily Mass, confession, and guided tours of the sites will make this a trip of a lifetime! Book before April 20th for a \$200 discount.

Fr. Omar is leading a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wisconsin on Saturday May 28th. The cost per person is \$50 (\$25 children under 15). I'd like to invite you

to come with. The bus will leave at 5:00 A.M. from Long Prairie Church Parking Lot at St. Mary's Church and we'll return by 9:00 P.M. If you haven't been there, you should come. It is a beautiful Marian site! We hope to fill up the bus! Come and see Jill, our parish secretary, during office hours 9-12 or 1-4:30 for registrations, or call Jill at 320-357-0815 for any other questions.

St. Lawrence Church, Rush Lake is having a Beef Bingo Sunday, Apr 17, 1:30p.m. Prizes: 1-quarter beef, 4-half hogs, 5-turkeys and 10 additional locker certificates. Proceeds go to Catholic Education. A Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Relay for Life will be held from 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. prior to bingo.

The Wadena Community Outreach Ministry (WCOM) is an informal project that provides furniture and basic household items to families in need, at no cost. It has operated out of a donated warehouse in Wadena since 2006. The warehouse is empty and are in desperate need of donations. If you have usable furniture, kitchen utensils, small kitchen appliances and other small household items like blankets, towels, etc. that you want to donate call Sue Holzer at 218-640-2164 or sholzer4@gmail.com.

Pastors Appreciation Breakfast: Mayor George Deiss has declared the week of May 1st - 7th to be Pastors Appreciation Week. In honor of our churches, the Wadena Chamber of Commerce invites you to attend a Pastors Appreciation Breakfast Thursday, May 5 at Wadena United Methodist Church, 23 Dayton Ave SE. Breakfast will commence at 7:30 a.m. with the program concluding at 8:30 a.m. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to the Wadena Chamber office at 632-7704 by Monday, May 2. Tickets will be paid for at the

door for \$8.50 per person.