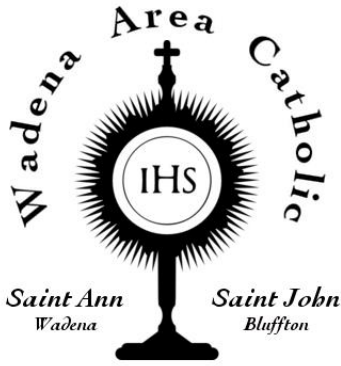


WadenaAreaCatholic.org



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](https://www.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: 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 \$4,285.46
Plate \$945
Youth \$39
Maintenance \$35
Good Samaritan \$107.54
Votive \$15.10
Visitor \$218
Bishop's \$100
Rel Ret \$1,000

SAINT JOHN

Adult \$1,435
Plate \$161
Youth \$17.10
Votive \$23
Visitor \$136
Rice Bowl \$172

GROW IN YOUR FAITH – Questions of the Week

In this week's gospel, while Peter, James, and John are up on a mountain with Jesus, they have a splendid vision of him in his glorified body. The disciples are awed when the voice of God confirms Jesus' identity: "This is my Son, my Chosen One." Sometimes we can see Christ with clear eyes, as the disciples did on that mountain.

Adults: How will you honor Jesus as the "Chosen One" of God during Lent? Three traditional Lenten practices are: daily prayer, fasting, and sharing with the poor (almsgiving). How will you include these three Lenten practices into your daily life?

Children: Jesus invites you to be close to him, to see him with clear eyes. What is Jesus like as a friend?

Corporal Works of Mercy: Feed the Hungry; Give Drink to the Thirsty; Shelter the Homeless; Visit the Sick; Visit The Prisoners; Bury the Dead; and Give Alms to the Poor.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, Feb 22 – The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle
No Mass

Tuesday, Feb 23

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

Wednesday, Feb 24

8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Communion (SJB)
Sacristan & Comm: Hank Soenneker

Thursday, Feb 25

8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Communion (SA)
Sacristan: Nellie Wegscheid

Friday, Feb 26

9:30 a.m. Mass (Fair Oaks) † *Amy Malone*

Saturday, Feb 27

4:00 p.m. Confessions (SA)
5:00 p.m. Mass (SA) *For the People*
Sacristan: Mike Pete
Comm: Sandie Rentz, Annamarie Tabery, Carol Osborn, Carmen Pederson, Duane Moore, Vonnie Moore, Cathy Edinger, Mary Drkula
Lector: Mary Drkula
Greeters: Bruce & Joyce Boyne, Dan & Carol Osborn, Bernadine Reece
Gifts: Moore Family
Servers: Dawson Lupkes, Colby Schmid, Joshua Tabery

Sunday, Feb 28 – Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Mass (SA) *Living & Deceased Members of the Rose & Peter Goeden and Margaret & Peter Richter Families*
Sacristan: Mike Pete
Comm: Lucille Belch, Barb Richter, Mary Jane Malone, Tom Malone, Phil Thoennes, Donna Haman, Karlene Snyder, Marilou Heltemes
Lector: Martha Ray
Greeters: Mertens Family, Maladene Heinen, Marilou Heltemes
Gifts: Mertens Family
Servers: Daniel, Robert & Ryan Ismil

10:30 a.m. Mass (SJB) † *Mona Kempe*

Sacristan: Don & Brenda Weniger
Comm: Trudy Irons, Don & Brenda Weniger, Ellen Wallgren, Sharon Heinen
Lector: Nicole Hessig
Ushers: Randy Hoffman Family
Servers: Haley Hoffman, Kyndall Haman

Mon: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19

Tue: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12

Wed: Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28

Thu: Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31

Fri: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Sat: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sun: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

Be Merciful, Just as Your Father is Merciful

Excerpts from Bishop Donald Kettler's letter

As pastor and teacher of the diocese, I offer this pastoral letter as part of our participation in this Holy Year of Mercy.

The ultimate source of our understanding of mercy is Scripture. At the center of the Bible's revelation of God is the experience of God's merciful love. ... mercy, love, is God's essence. "God is love" [1 John 4:8, 16].

This mercy is present from the very beginning, for creation itself is an act of mercy. But we were not satisfied. We disobeyed, wanting to be our own god. When we did, we were expelled from the garden. But God did not destroy or abandon us. After generations of increasing sinfulness, God calls Abraham into a covenant relation, which is later confirmed and elaborated with Moses. God articulates the essence of this covenant: "Ever present in your midst, I will be your God and you will be my people" [Lev 26:12].

In God's patient mercy towards Israel, God shows what it is to be God. Despite the presence of sin, betrayal, and brokenness in the world, God does not react in anger but remains a God of unconditional love and acts according to his own loving kindness. In this bountiful mercy, God is true to himself. By being merciful, God does not allow the sin of the world to change his basic character or essence. God is free to be God, to be merciful.

The history of Israel, like the history of each of us, is the story of God's mercy in seeking out a loving relation with us. Sadly, it is also the story of our unfaithfulness in repeatedly breaking that covenant, betraying that love from the golden calf, through the kings and prophets, the crucifixion, right down to our own day.

The story of God's mercy, of course, continues in the New Testament.

As Pope Francis writes in the opening lines of *Misericordiae Vultus: Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him. [B]y his words, his actions, and his entire person [he] reveals the mercy of God [MV, 1].*

The life and teaching of Jesus show us what that Reign of God is like. What he makes clear over and over is that the God who reigns is a God of mercy and that the Reign of this God is one where loving mercy shapes our lives and interactions. That is how the citizens of the Kingdom of God live. More locally, this is how the members of the Diocese of Saint Cloud are to live. Jesus also shows that the way of life in which God reigns, is different than our usual way of relating, the usual ways of the world.

Our lives as Christians, as disciples of Jesus, begin in gratitude for the mercy we have received from God, the love that is the very foundation of our lives. We are called to live out of that mercy in our relations with others. What we have received, we are to give. "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" [Lk 6:36]. This is not only the motto of the Holy Year; it is the beating heart of the Christian life.

(Full text can be found at Diocese of St. Cloud web site stdio.org)

NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Ann's & St. John's: Feb 24
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

Confirmation

As we make our final
preparations to receive the
Sacrament of Confirmation on
May 12th we ask the
parishioners of St. John's to
remember our Confirmation
students and their catechists in
prayer. You will find the names
of the Confirmation students in
baskets at the church
entrances of St. John's. Please
choose one or more names to
pray for during these final
months of preparation. Thank
you.

YOUTH MINISTRY (K-12)

Wadena Youth Rally: 7th-12th
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

Knights of Columbus

Breakfast: today after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

Springfest Panning Meeting:

Tuesday, Feb 23 at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room. Springfest is scheduled for Friday, April 22, 2016.

Catholic United Financial, St. Joseph Council Annual

Breakfast: for members and guests. Sunday, Feb 28 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. – 4 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.

SAINT JOHN'S NEWS

Contact Cheryl Kerzman at 385-3591 if you wish to attend the Women's Retreat on Saturday, Feb 27 in Richmond, MN.

New **Usher and Greeter** schedules are on 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.

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, get well wishes and the parishioners who are taking care of the snow. I am doing well. Leroy Haman

If you are interested in becoming a Mass server, lector, Eucharistic minister or usher, please contact the parish office 385-2608.

NEWS FOR ALL

St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Annual

Retreat: Saturday, Feb 27 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Richmond, MN. Fr. Don Wagner will be the speaker. \$15 registration fee. Mail registrations to: Irene Burg, 27212 County Rd 32, Paynesville, MN 56362 or call 320-548-3539

Thanks to everyone who participated in the **Bishop's Annual Appeal**, both in heartfelt prayer and in the sharing of your resources. If you haven't yet made your gift, there's still time! May God bless you for supporting the Church in our St. Cloud Diocese, spread wide across its 16 counties in Central Minnesota!

Free Community Dinner:

Tuesday, Feb 23 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, serving 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Birthday Card Campaign: Fr. Aaron's Birthday is March 10th 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 10th 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 as hosts and hostesses available 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.

St. Edward Parish, Henning will be hosting a Tri-parish Mission beginning on Sunday, Feb 28 thru March 3. Fr. Jim Costigan from the Fathers of Mercy in Kentucky will be coming to speak about "Fight the Fight: Engaging in Spiritual Combat" each evening beginning at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments after the presentation. Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available each evening.

Stations of the Cross: Wednesdays

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