

# **Assumption Church**

464 State St N, PO Box 9  
Eden Valley, MN 55329

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



June • July • August  
Quarterly Newsletter

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# A LETTER FROM FATHER AARON

OLPS

## **"The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together."**

Dear Friends,

In 2020 the movie "Pray" was released which featured Father Patrick Peyton, a priest from Ireland, who originally came to the United States to sell real estate and eventually entered the seminary at the University of Notre Dame. Father Peyton was ordained in 1941 as priest of the Holy Cross Fathers and he became a renown mission preacher. Venerable Father Peyton, whose cause for canonization to Sainthood has been opened, made a significant impact on the United States. He preached over 550 missions, and in 1961, he drew over a half-million people to Golden State Park in San Francisco for a rosary rally, one of the largest gatherings in San Francisco to this day.



Father Peyton often preached about the importance of family prayer and the rosary. He spoke with passion and often brought people to tears with his sincere and zealous preaching. He coined the famous quote, "The family that prays together stays together."

I am inspired by Father Peyton's passion for God and his desire to bring people to him through prayer. I have used Father Peyton's quote many times as I believe deeply in the power of family prayer. Our world is in a state of disarray in many ways and will only find sanity in Our God, the Creator. We must find our peace in the loving hands of our Good Father who is always present to us.

One reason that our parishes are currently discerning family faith formation is so that parents can lead their children in prayer and catechesis. When a child sees a father or mother praying at home or kneeling in church, it has most profound effect that will last for years. The opposite effect will be had if the child does not see their parent praying and taking their faith seriously. Please pray for the discernment of the faith formation programs.

My friends, I ask that you also please pray for our families, for their salvation and holiness of life, that they would be built up in the peace and love of God. Pope St. John II once said, "As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live." The impact of one family who prays together and lives their faith can be truly amazing. Prayer changes the world.

God bless you,  
Father Aaron

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



GLP

## June

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- 01:** Steubenville Parent/Student Mtg, 7:00 **WAT**
- 03:** Rosary/Potluck, 6:00 PM **Teicher Residence**
- 07:** Youth Bonfire Night, 7:30 PM **WAT**
- 08:** Family Faith Formation Mtg, 6:30 PM **EV**
- 11:** Women's Group, 7AM **WAT**
- 13-17:** Extreme Faith Camp
- 19:** Corpus Christi Procession **EV**
- 24-25:** Valley Daze Youth Booth **EV**
- 25:** Women's Group, 7AM **WAT**
- 26:** Knights of Columbus Breakfast, 8:30-11:30 **EV**
- 26-1:** Totus Tuus, **EV**



## July

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- 01:** Rosary/Potluck, 6:00 PM **Peters Residence**
- 09:** Women's Group, 7AM **WAT**
- 14-17:** Steubenville
- 19:** Youth Bonfire Night, 7:30PM **EV**
- 23:** Women's Group, 7AM **WAT**



## August

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- 1-5:** Vacation Bible School **WAT**
- 05:** Rosary/Potluck, 6:00 PM **Teicher Residence**
- 09:** Youth Bonfire Night, 7:30PM **WAT**
- 7-12:** Adult BWCA Retreat
- 13:** Women's Group, 7AM **WAT**
- 13:** Pro-Life Retreat **EV**
- 15:** Assumption of Mary Mass, 7PM **EV**
- 27:** Women's Group, 7AM **WAT**
- 28:** AssumptionFest **EV**
- 30:** Youth Bonfire Night, 7:30PM **EV**



## Regular Meetings:

-Men's Group meets each Saturday morning, 7:30 rosary,  
8:00 meeting at Assumption

-EV Knights meets each 3rd Wednesday at 7PM at Assumption

-WAT Knights meets on 1st Mondays at 7PM at St. Anthony's (no meetings for July & August)

What does it mean to say that the family is the domestic church? Since the very foundation of the Early Christian Church, fathers have been called the “priests” of their homes. Throughout scripture, over 87 times in fact, we see allusions to this unique role of the father figure within the family. The Church, reflecting on both Scripture and Tradition, describes “the role of parents in education” to be of “such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute” and that “the right and the duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable” (CCC 2221). The role and responsibility of the parents as the primary educators of their children is rooted in God’s vision of the family.



We, as a church community, must come to recognize that, despite the *whole-hearted* efforts of our CCD teachers, the *most effective* means of passing on the faith does not happen in the classroom. Pope Paul VI reminds the faithful that “...the first means of evangelization is the witness of an authentically Christian life... modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses” (Evangelization in the Modern World 45). As we have stated, it is the role of parents to be the primary educators and thus, the primary witnesses to the faith such that they lead their children to become fully mature and intentional disciples of Jesus Christ. However, is only when parents *themselves* become mature disciples, leading lives as authentic *witnesses* of Christ, that they are truly able fulfill their educational role. Being a disciple is the vocation of every baptized person and no educational method or model can offer more success in making disciples of our children than parents modeling discipleship as living witnesses of the faith.

The family catechesis model of faith formation we are considering for our parishes in the upcoming year is designed to uphold the Church’s vision of education primarily through encouraging and equipping parents to be the spiritual leaders of their homes. In practice, this model is for K-6th graders and their parents. It entails a once-a-month in person session and 3 brief monthly family home lessons. More details on this model are yet to come. An informational meeting for parents, teachers, and any interested parishioners will take place on Wednesday, June 8th at 6:30pm at Assumption.



**Totus Tuus** (Latin for "Totally Yours") is a program which takes four young adult missionaries who tour the diocese and spread the love of God to all they encounter. The Totus Tuus team will be coming to Assumption June 27-July 1.

**-During the day, youth in grades 1-6** participate in games, Mass, skits, and class. They are given opportunities to go to Confession, ask questions, pray, and of course, have a blast!

**-In the evening, youth in grades 7-12** experience the joy of a parish youth group. Games, adoration, a talk from one of the missionaries and small groups all add up to an engaging, meaningful, and enjoyable experience.



**Vacation Bible School** At Monumental VBS, kids celebrate God's greatness! Monumental is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Sciency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life.

**What** - Vacation Bible School

**Where** - St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Watkins

**When** - August 1st-5th, 9am-12pm.

**For** - Next year's preK-4th, 5th and up can help!

**\*To register for Totus Tuus or Vacation Bible School email Sam at [evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com) or follow the links on the parish websites.**

**Bonfire Nights** Bonfire nights June 7th at St. Anthony's, July 19th at Assumption, August 9th at St. Anthony's, and August 30th at Assumption. 7:30pm-9:00pm for anyone 7th-12th grade. There will be games and s'mores!



# Valley Daze Youth Booth



Come out to support the Assumption Food Booth! Assumption Church will be hosting a stand at Valley Daze. Profits help to off-set costs for youth activities. We will be serving Brats, Hot Dogs, Nachos, Soft Pretzels, Popcorn, Pop and Water.

We are also looking for volunteers (adults, families and students) to help out in the booth. Friday, June 24th (noon-10:30pm) and Saturday, June 25th (10am-10:30pm). A shift consists of a 2 hour commitment.

Contact Bonnie at 282-1468 or at [evwcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:evwcatholic@gmail.com).

## —SAVE—THE—DATE—

**Save the dates for our parish festivals!**

Assumption Fest: Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>

St. Anthony Parish Festival: Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

*Please Consider if God is Calling You to the*

### **2022 BWCA Wilderness Canoe Retreat**

**Spiritual Director: Father Aaron**



**When: August 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Where: Brule Lake**

**Who: St. Anthony/Assumption Church Wilderness Adventurers**

We are still looking for a few brave souls looking for adventure this summer! Contact the office or Molly Zimmerman if interested!

## February-March-April-May

# LOOK WHO'S NEW!

Bruce Schoenecker  
Tom & Diane McMahon

*\*Invite others to join the parishes! Do you have grown children that haven't registered as adults?*

# SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Oakley John Schlangen, son of Travis & Liz  
Philip Polycarp Mettler, son of Sam & Andi  
Oliver Wayne Wells, son of Aaron & Nickole  
Emilia Lou Schreifels, daughter of Jacob & Bethany

# MARRIED IN CHRIST

## Preparing for Marriage

Rachel Stommes and Nick Koltes  
Marissa Willenbring & Mark Thelen  
Jordan Unterberger & Carson Keefauver  
Corine Schlangen & Alex Tullis  
Teresa Kneip & Perry Philippi

*Please remember in your prayers our newlyweds  
and those preparing for marriage*

# ETERNAL REST

† Alan Loch (65)	† George N Ruhland (77)
† Dorothy Brixius (96)	† Carol Braun (70)
† Burgetta Nistler (93)	† Jerry Weimann (87)
† Loretta Stenger (93)	† Patricia Strohmeier (75)

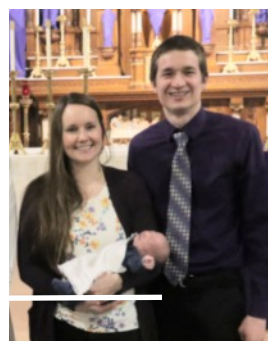
*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*



## First Holy Communion



## Confirmation



## Baptisms



## Appreciation Dinner



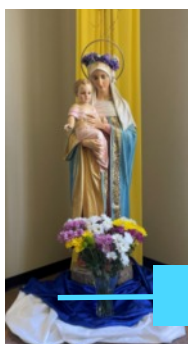
**Congratulations  
Graduates!**



**Lenten Mission**



**A Walk To Mary**



**May Crowning**



**Pro-Life**



**Brat Cookout**



**Cabin Fever Reliever**



## Pro-Life Efforts!

Have you noticed 63 Pink and Blue crosses displayed in front of Assumption Catholic Church on "some Friday's" or lately "some Saturday's"? And men, women and children walking back & forth on the sidewalk praying and carrying signs that say "CHOOSE LIFE", "FAST & PRAY FOR AN END TO ABORTION", "MOM'S FOR LIFE", "DAD'S FOR LIFE", etc, etc? Why are we doing this? Let me explain...

We are exercising our Constitutional Right to "speak up" to "save the unborn babies". Unborn Human babies "in their mother's womb" are not protected in our country! They cannot in any way "speak up" for themselves. So we "speak up" for them by our presence and our Prayers! We make a statement that we want them protected just like we are protected once we are born.

The crosses each represent 1 million unborn babies killed by abortion---that is 63 million babies since the Supreme Court "Roe vs Wade" ruling which basically took away the "safe womb" that every baby should have for 9 months. So now, we have a chance to change this with our current Supreme Court. We are excited about this, finally looking like it will happen! But, now we have destructive protestors coming after pro-life centers, Catholic Churches, Supreme Court Justices, etc, etc. So we will intensify our PRAYER, FASTING, and PEACEFUL VIGIL OUTREACH putting this challenge in God's hands. If you would like to join in this mission, contact Joe Loch [joecarpenter10@yahoo.com](mailto:joecarpenter10@yahoo.com), 763-438-9362 or Judy Haag [judy4life@meltel.net](mailto:judy4life@meltel.net), 320-453-7592 or the parish office.

**SAVE THIS DATE!** for the annual all-day Pro-Life Retreat at Assumption Parish on Saturday, August 13, 2022

\*Article written by Judy Haag (coor) for 40 days For Life-St Cloud Reverence Life (coor) for Our Lady of Manannah and Deanery 3 CCW NUD



# GETTING TO KNOW OUR STAFF

GLPI

Hello, I am Deacon Phil Henneman, my beautiful bride Mindy and I have 8 children. I was born in St Cloud and raised in Champlin until I joined the Navy. I was raised Lutheran and had a deep relationship with The Lord and always felt a call to serve Him, I just didn't know what that was. I was attending Mass as Mindy was raised



Catholic and started to question why it was that I shouldn't receive The Holy Eucharist, why in this "service" as it appeared similar with the same words as my Lutheran pastor am I not able to take this thing that I had before? I poured into many prolific writers and some contemporary ones as well. This led me to see and understand that what I was searching for was true communion with God in His Church. April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010, I was received into the Church, praise God! Coming into the Church was the beginning of feeding a hunger in my soul, I poured into many Catholic writers old and new to understand more and live out our Faith more fully. This path led to greater devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist, and a realization that I need to be clean of any mortal sins to receive Him. I heard Father Mendez say that if your marriage isn't recognized by the Church you are living in sin and need to live as brother and sister until it can be and get to confession as soon as possible. Having our marriage blessed and now doing all the things that one can in the work of service I still felt a draw to something more, this through daily Mass, frequent confession and many hours spent in Adoration I could then discern was a call to the diaconate. I attended formation at St John's in Collegeville, upon Ordination on June 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 I began to serve Mary of the Visitation parish community. We felt called by God to make a drastic change which brought us into this new parish family. We now live in Litchfield and have significantly felt the presence of God with our move. We are elated to be where God has brought us and excited to meet all of you! May God Bless you and your family!

# PARISHIONER SPOTLIGHT

## Ruth Geislinger

**Which Parish/How Long:** Ruth has been a member of St. Anthony's since 1963.

**Family:** She was married to Gerald in 1959 and widowed in 2003. She has 5 grown children (Dale, Pam, Sandy, Mark and David).

**Where do you live and for how long:** Ruth grew up in the St. Nicholas area, moved to the cities for a short time after getting married and has called Watkins home ever since.



**Spare Time & Hobbies:** She likes to spend her time volunteering, putting together puzzles, sewing, playing cards, listening to EWTN and going on bus trips.

**Parish Involvement:** Ruth has been involved in the parish in many different ways, including at one time being the vice president and president of the CCW, part of the mission sewing group, choir member, Eucharistic Minister, money counter, a volunteer with the faith formation program, Adoration committee member and steering committee member for the upcoming church project. She was even the secretary for the parish and school for 13 years.

**Community Involvement?** Ruth is also very involved in her community. She's a member of the Senior Citizens organization and spends much of her time at the nursing home helping with Mass and Communion services, activities, crafts and much more!

**Favorite thing about being Catholic?** Ruth loves everything about being Catholic with a strong belief and trust in Jesus, knowing that He takes care of her. She has also a devotion to the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph.

**What does your faith mean to you?** Ruth's faith means a lot to her and she always enjoys coming to Mass and participating in church activities, even as a child.

**What do you like best about St. Anthony's?** Ruth appreciates seeing things get accomplished at the parish and is looking forward to the new project in the church.

**How was the pilgrimage?** She had a wonderful time on the parish pilgrimage to Our Lady of Good Help. She had always wanted to go and enjoyed her time at the Masses and in prayer and meditation. She said it was really a peaceful time.



## **We are in search of your contact information!**

Due to the growing trend of people using their cell phone as their main phone and canceling their landlines, our parish contact lists are sorely out-of-date! We are also missing many people's email addresses. Please help us by filling out the form below and updating your contact information!

\*Please know that your information won't be used for anything other than parish use.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Opt in! I would would like to be included in a future email/text list to stay current with parish news and events!

### **Ways to return your information:**

-In the Sunday Collection

-At the Offices (under St. Anthony's office door, Drop-Box at Assumption)

-By Mail (St. Anthony: PO Box 409, Assumption: PO Box 9)

In order to encourage everyone to return their slips, each returned slip will be part of a drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate from Lost & Found! There will be one drawing for each parish. **Return your slips by June 30<sup>th</sup> to be included in the drawing.**

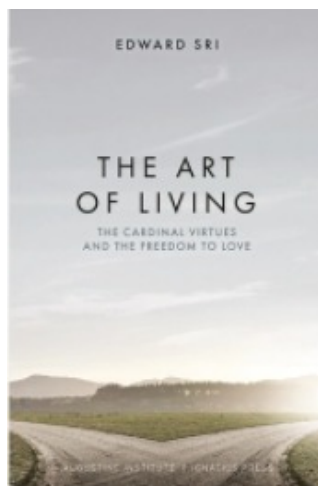
# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Hello, my name is Amber Scherer my parents are Tom and Jenni Scherer. I belong to Assumption Parish and have always been a member of the church. I am a junior at Eden Valley Watkins High School. I enjoy camping, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, hanging out with my friends and family, traveling, and being at the lake. In school I am involved in Volleyball, Softball, Student Council, Aquila, and NHS. I have three older sisters, and one older brother. I also have two nieces, and one dog. I am blessed to have so many great things in my life-



God, family, and friends. The day I received the gift of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation was a big milestone in my faith journey. By growing closer with God. For my chosen saint name I chose Saint Elizabeth of Hungary. She devoted her life to feeding the hungry and helping the poor. She was royalty yet still took the time to help others. That is why she stood out to me when I was searching for a saint. Although I plan to go to college I have not yet totally decided on a major nor a campus.

**Summer Book Study!** Recently the parishes gave out copies of the book, *The Art of Living: The Cardinal Virtues and the Freedom to Love*. In this new book by Edward Sri, we discover the close connection between growing in the virtues and growing in friendship and community with others. Dr. Sri shows us in an easy-to-read style that the virtues are the basic life skills we need to give the best of ourselves to God and to the people in our lives. Join us for a summer book study using this book on Wednesdays at 6:30PM, starting on June 15th. The location is TBD. Contact the office to sign up!



## Would Jesus Watch TV With You?

There were many great take-a-ways from Dcn Poyo's Lenten Mission, but one that keeps coming to mind is ways that evil can sneak into our lives to knock us off our narrow path to heaven. One question that he was asked us was, "would Jesus sit on the couch next to you and watch TV with you?" Are we watching inappropriate things? Are we risking our minds being darkened and dulling our sense of sin? You might think it's harmless, but is it really?



A few years ago, I listened to a talk on a Lighthouse Catholic Media CD (you can now find it on FORMED!) called "What's on Your iPod?". It's a bit dated now, but I recently listened to it again and the truth of it still rings out. Unless you make a concerted effort to keep unsavory things out of your life, things will creep in. What's popular and catchy can be hard to resist. I used to fall into the trap of liking an artist or the tune of a song without actually taking in the meaning of the words. It's a real eye opener when you read the lyrics and realize what you've been singing along to!

What is there to do about it? Become aware and learn your options! There are good alternatives out there. Relevant Radio, Spirit 92.9 and FORMED are all great options. As a parent, I like to make sure to read the parent's guides for movies that put in detail the number and kind of swear words, sexual scenes and violence that a movie has. There is PureFlix that is essentially a "Christian Netflix". There is also a movie filtering service called VidAngel that will link up with your other streaming services and filter out certain content that is set by you. That way you can watch a movie without the extra, unnecessary swear words or other unsettling content.

So next time you sit down with your bowl of popcorn to watch a movie, ask yourself, "would Jesus watch this with me?"

*"The lamp of the body is the eye. If your eye is sound, your whole body will be filled with light; but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be in darkness. And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be."*

-Matthew 6:22-23:

## Assumption Church

464 State Street North, PO Box 9  
Eden Valley, MN 55329

[churchoftheassumptionedenvalley.org](http://churchoftheassumptionedenvalley.org)

**Parish Office:** 453-2788

[assumptionev@metel.net](mailto:assumptionev@metel.net)

**Father Aaron Nett:** 453-2785

**Religion Office:** 453-5765

[ewcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:ewcatholic@gmail.com)

**Youth Ministry:**

[evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com)

### Reconciliation

Wed: 5:15 PM, Fri: 8:00 AM

Sat: 3:30 PM & Sun 7:30 AM

### Eucharistic Adoration

Mondays 8:00 AM- Fridays 5:00 PM

### Office Hours

Mon: 12:30-4:30, Wed: 8-4

Fri: 8-12:00 (hours may vary)

## Church of St. Anthony

201 Central Ave South, PO Box 409  
Watkins, MN 55389

[www.stanthonywatkins.com](http://www.stanthonywatkins.com)

**Parish Office:** 764-2755

[stanthony@metel.net](mailto:stanthony@metel.net)

**Father Aaron Nett:** 764-2758

**Religion Office:** 453-5765

[ewcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:ewcatholic@gmail.com)

**Youth Ministry:**

[evwyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:evwyouthministry@gmail.com)

### Reconciliation

Tuesdays: 9:00 AM, Thursdays: 8:00 AM,

Sundays: 9:45 AM

### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 9:00 AM-Fridays 9:00 AM

### Office Hours

Mon: 8-12, Tues: 8-4,

Thurs: 8-4 (hours may vary)

### Twinned Parish Contacts:

Pastor: Father Aaron Nett • Secretary: Jessica Teicher • DRE: Nancy Jans •

RE Assistant: Bonnie Meyer • Youth Minister: Sam Mettler

**Mass Times:** Saturday: 4PM at Assumption • Sunday: 8AM at Assumption, 10AM at St. Anthony

Tuesday: 9:30 AM at St. Anthony • Wednesday: 5:45 PM at Assumption

Thursday: 8:30 AM at St. Anthony • Friday: 7:00 AM at Assumption



**Page:** Church of St. Anthony, Watkins/ Assumption Church, Eden Valley  
**Group:** Assumption St. Anthony Catholics