

ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY NEWSLETTER, 2022

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and peace.

Beginning January 16th, we will be offering an introduction to the Theology of the Body. This understanding was brought to the church by Pope John Paul II. It will be offered to all adults and mature young adults of the parish on Sundays, in the hall, during the CCD hour at 10 am for eight weeks. Special thanks to Janet Grider for providing this important topic to our parish. For more information, please contact her at 814-360-4292 or janetgrider@gmail.com.

Besides Janet, there are some others I want to recognize for their goodness to us. I want to thank Kermit Strackbein for donating and installing a drop box on the outside front entrance of the rectory. Now we have a safe place where items may be dropped off when the office is closed. Special thanks to Catholic Life for helping us help the needy of our community. May God bless them for all the good work they do. Thanks also to the Altar Society ladies and the men who helped out with our liturgical decorations during Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. And a very special thank you to the outgoing members of our Pastoral Council, Art Hansen, and Wes Hollis. These men were faithful in their commitment to the parish. May God bless them and their families for the leadership they gave. Please keep the new council members in your prayers. They are, Gloria Valdez, Paul Urban, John Seargeant, and Gary Pariseau. Congratulations to Mary Krebs who is the new Pastoral Council chairperson.

Pope Francis has called for all the churches in the world to participate in a Synod. Synodality is a call to journey together in faith. The foundations of synodality can be traced in the early Church to the first great crisis recorded in the Acts of the Apostles: How should gentiles, that is, non-Jews, be incorporated into the Body of Christ? In the first phase of Synodality broad consultation will be conducted to collect data from all levels of the Church on a theme chosen by the pope. We will soon be participating in this process. The Archdiocese wants to hear our thoughts and opinions. As more information on this becomes available it will be provided to you in the bulletin and newsletter.

Thank you to all those who pre-registered for our new year parish gathering dinner in the hall on January 6, from 6 pm to 8 pm. I know this will be a special time for all of us and hopefully we will be able to have one every year. The Saturday bilingual mass will be evaluated by the Pastoral Council at its next meeting. In the meantime, please continue to give it your full support.

Our condolences are extended to the family of Theresa Carolina Hatmann. Theresa was born in Harper on March 29th, 1930 and married Max Hartmann in our church in 1952. She passed away on December 10th. She was a generous person and gave some of her land to the church so that its cemetery could be bigger. We will always be grateful to her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

As we begin a new year, I want to thank all of you for your support and friendship. Let us all do our part to make our community a place where everyone feels welcome and special. May the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, watch over us and protect us. Remember, God loves you and so do I.

Fr. Rudy T. Carrola, Jr.