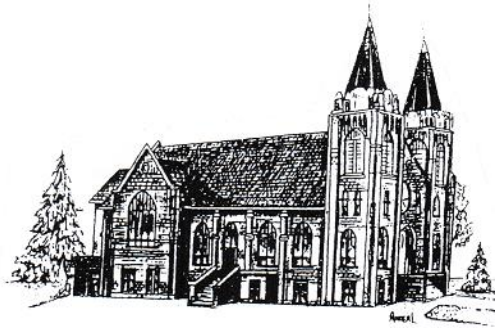


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Palm Sunday

April 13, 2014



PARISH STAFF		PARISH ORGANIZATION LEADERS	
Fr. Thomas Olson	398-2229	Christian Women, Anita Neu	685-3287
Brenda Kraemer, Secretary	764-7345	Men’s Society, Lee Bautch	597-3255
Sandy Stang, Parish Nurse	764-2030	Catholic United, Barb Walz	685-7376
Julene Faber, Musician	685-7211	Prayer Line, Sue Frank	764-9112
Melanie Pauls, Musician	309-5043	Ministry Scheduler, Annette Stang	764-5339
Mat & Barb Walz, Rel. Ed Coordinators	685-7376	Parish Council, Don Kuechle	453-3120
	Cell phone 320-217-4531	Parish Council, Sue Stommes	597-3454
*Bulletin Deadline is Thursday at 9am *Email: stnicholas@meltel.net *Website: churchofsaintnicholas.com *Usual Office Hours of Secretary are Monday and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:30am.		Parish Council, John Schutz	764-6171
		Parish Council, Vicki Landwehr	764-6603
		Parish Council, Robert Kraemer	685-3715
		Parish Council, Marion Frank	764-9111
		Trustee, Mike Kuechle	685-3225
		Trustee, Mary Caskey	597-2854

MASS SCHEDULE

Apr 12	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Palm Sunday	+Tom Decker
Apr 13	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Palm Sunday	+Andrew Stang
Apr 14	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Monday of Holy Week	
Apr 15	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Tuesday of Holy Week	+Duane Dufner
Apr 16	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Wednesday of Holy Week	
Apr 17	Thursday	{SN} 5:30 pm	Thursday of Holy Week	+Amanda Stommes
		{SA} 7:30 pm		
Apr 18	Friday	{SA} 12:00 pm	Good Friday	
		{SN} 3:00 pm	Good Friday	
Apr 19	Saturday	{SA} 7:30 pm	Holy Saturday	
Apr 20	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Easter Sunday	Intention of the Celebrant

Weekend Masses at St. Anne’s in Kimball are Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday at 7:00 pm at St. Nicholas.
Weddings: Engaged couples should see the pastor at least 6 months before the planned wedding date.
Anointing of the Sick: Call the parish office for homebound or hospitalized.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES				
	Eucharistic Ministers	Servers	Ushers	Lector
Apr 17 at 5:30 pm Holy Thursday	Judi Schreiner Elmer Neu Anita Neu	Mitchell Utecht Dylan Utecht Derek Utecht	Jack Rausch Elmer Vossen	Lucy Schreiner
Apr 18 at 10:00 am Good Friday	Trish Ludwig	James Gathje Katherine Gathje	Art Faber Sy Schreiner	Mike Kuechle Dave Stang
Apr 20 at 10:00 am Easter Sunday	Kelly Bautch Don Dufner Stacy Dufner	Andrew Bautch Michael Bautch	Lavern Ludwig John Hopfer	Lee Bautch

Confession Schedule: Mark your calendars and plan on attending one of the Confession times!
Sunday, April 13th: Communal Penance Service with 2 priest available: SN at 4:00 pm and SA at 7:00 pm
Monday, April 14th: SA at 8:30 am and SA at 6:30 pm.
Tuesday, April 15th: SN at 8:30 am and SN at 7:00 pm.
Wednesday, April 16th: SA at 6:30 pm.

NO CONFESSIONS ON HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY OR HOLY SATURDAY.


Holy Week Mass Schedule:
Holy Thursday, April 17th: St. Nicholas at 5:30 pm and St. Anne at 7:30 pm
Good Friday, April 18th: St. Nicholas at 3:00 pm and St. Anne at 12:00 noon.
Holy Saturday, April 19th: St. Anne’s only at 7:30 pm.
Easter Sunday, April 20th: St. Nicholas at 10:00 am and St. Anne at 8:00 am.

Stewardship of Treasure April 6, 2014

Adult	\$XXX	(54 of 201 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(5 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	
Catholic Relief Services	\$XXX (3 gifts)	
St. Cloud Visitor	\$XXX (1 gift)	

Stewardship Thought:

Receive, Lord Jesus, our praise and honor as we dedicate these gifts to you and to your kingly rule in our world.



Gospel Connection: Today the crowds welcome Jesus with waving palm branches and laying their cloaks on the road he walks. But by the end of the week Jesus will be hanging on a tree, alone and abandoned. The question today's Palm Sunday liturgy asks each one of us is this: *When do **we** walk away from Jesus? At what point do we and Jesus part company?* We welcome Jesus into our own Jerusalems today. We see hope in him. He speaks of a "kingdom of God" in which we are forgiven, we are healed, we are loved. So when does that hope die? When do we drop the palm branches, pick up our cloaks, and walk away: When Jesus asks us to take up our own crosses? When he insists that we sell all we have and give to the poor? When he spends too much of his time with the pitiful, the incorrigible, the nobodies - and holds them up as the "model" of God's kingdom? When he tries to drag us out of the safe little "tombs" we have dug for ourselves where we feel safe and isolated from the evil of the world? When he makes us embrace a faith that is centered on more than words but on selfless and humble works of charity? Or do we make ourselves scarce when the heat is on: Do we try and diminish our knowing Jesus when someone starts to ask too many questions? Do we finally walk away at that last moment on the cross, admiring Jesus but disappointed in him and sorry for ourselves? One more nice guy finishing last. One more deluded Savior who fails. One more martyr for a cause we don't quite get.

To this day, Jesus disappoints many who would be his followers. He is not the political icon that some try to use to condemn beliefs, attitudes and lifestyles that conflict with the conventional, the accepted, the norm; he is not the scourge of an angry God sent to comfort the self-righteous and destroy the heathen; Jesus enters human history neither to revolutionize politics nor topple temples. Jesus comes to transform human hearts, to re-ignite spirits in the love of the God who yearns for creation to realize his original dream for a world of peace and justice. May these palms help us understand what our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus demands of us. As we welcome the Christ of victory this Sunday, may we be just as welcoming of the Christ of suffering; as we embrace the Gospel of the Jesus of love, may we also embrace the Jesus of justice, of humility, of selflessness; as we try to imitate Jesus' compassion, may we be willing to imitate his limitless reconciliation and unconditional forgiveness, as well.

Religious Education News: The next class will be Wednesday, April 23rd. There **will be NO CLASS during Holy Week**. Instead of class, please attend Masses during Holy Week!

Easter Flowers & Easter Decorating: People wishing to make donations for the purchase of Easter Flowers may do so by adding your donation in a specially marked envelope and dropping it in the collection. The Liturgical Committee will be setting up for Easter after the Good Friday Mass (at 3:00 pm). Please stay to help with this task! The more people that are helping, the quicker it will go! Thank you for helping with both of these jobs; they make the Church look beautiful!

Annual Diocesan Appeal: Among the many responsibilities of the Office of Catholic Education Ministries, is to ensure that all staff and volunteers of the Diocese receive Safe Environment training and are current with background checks. For several years this has been a priority of the Diocese. We cannot overstate the importance of safety, especially for the most vulnerable among us. Your gift helps support this. **So far, St. Nicholas has collected \$3,220 of our \$5,000 goal. This is only 64%. Please make an effort to contribute so we can reach our goal!**

Tootsie Rolls: The Knights of Columbus will be having their Tootsie Roll Fundraiser after the Masses on Saturday, April 26th and Sunday, April 27th. Please support this worthy cause!

Rice Bowl: This week, we pray for people in our own community who struggle with poverty & hunger. Give to your Rice Bowl to support programs that help the poor in our own community; as well as in communities around the world. 25% of contributions remain in our diocese, helping to support local poverty & hunger alleviation programs. **Please bring your Rice Bowl back during Holy Week.**

FYI: Incense will be used during the Masses of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday.



Readings for the Week:

- Monday, April 7th: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 / Jn 8:1-11
- Tuesday, April 8th: Nm 21:4-9 / Jn 8:21-30
- Wednesday, April 9th: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 / Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday, April 10th: Gn 17:3-9 / Jn 8:51-59
- Friday, April 11th: Jer 20:10-13 / Jn 10:31-42

Community Events:

- Friday, April 12, & 13: “Journey With Jesus to Calvary” a play written & performed by 60+ members of St. Francis of Assisi Parish located between Upsala & Albany on Hwy 238. Performance times: 4/12 at 7:30 pm, and 4/13 at 1 pm. FREE.
- Sunday, April 13th: Breakfast at St. Nicholas sponsored by the Confirmation Class with help from the RE students and Catholic United Financial. Serving from 8:30 to Noon. Pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh cinnamon rolls.
- Sunday, April 27th: 43rd Annual Swanycake & Sausage Supper at St. Anthony Parish, St. Anthony (State Highway 238). Serving all you can eat supper of Swan White pancakes, sausage from Pep’s pork, potato salad, etc. from 3 pm – 8:30 pm.
- Wednesday, April 30th: A Walk through Depression: Real Men, Real Stories. Speakers Mike Beardsley, Bill Dehkes, and Mark Meier from the Face It Foundation with stories and an honest discussion about depression & suicide. 7 – 9 pm at Holy Cross Parish. Free.
- Thursday, May 8th: Breakfast with the Bishop at the Gorecki Event Center on the campus of the College of St. Ben’s beginning at 8 am. This event supports the Catholic School Initiative. Guests will be asked for a donation. To attend call 320-258-9390.



The Holy Triduum

Triduum is a 3 day period. Even though it stretches 3 days, it is considered one event. There are 3 crucial battles during the Triduum. The Lord rejects violence, but not struggle. Just as faith adopts a “just war theory,” so does St. Paul endorse “fighting the good fight” for justice, principles and truth. The sacred days of the Triduum represent three battles to bring about God’s reign.

Holy Thursday: The Battle between Gathering and Scattering

So that they may be one as we are one – John 17:22

Jesus made enemies by eating with sinners and telling tales of Good Samaritans. The Lord’s Table symbolized both peace and contention. It is a place where enemies join hands, but also where the blood of the Lamb is poured out. The real holy war is not between the left and right or the haves and have nots, but against our preference for scattering over being one body in Christ.

Masses: St. Nicholas at 5:30 pm and St. Anne at 7:30 pm

Good Friday: The Battle between Love and hate.

Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man? -- Luke 22:48

It is a great mystery why goodness and love inspire such antipathy: “Let us lie in wait for the righteous one, because he is inconvenient to us.” Judas is an unsettling reminder that the war between love and hate must first be waged in each human heart. Good Friday is a day to enlist in the battle against the forces of evil out in the world and deep within ourselves.

Masses: St. Nicholas at 3:00 pm and St. Anne at 12:00 pm

Holy Saturday: The Battle between Life and Death.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live. – John 11:25

Easter is the culmination of the battle between life and death lauded in the Easter sequence: “Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life’s own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.” After the crucifixion, the disciples hide in fear, certain that the battle is lost. The women, however, perhaps unabashed in faith and hope, keep vigil at the tomb and find life victorious.

Mass: Only at St. Anne at 7:30 pm