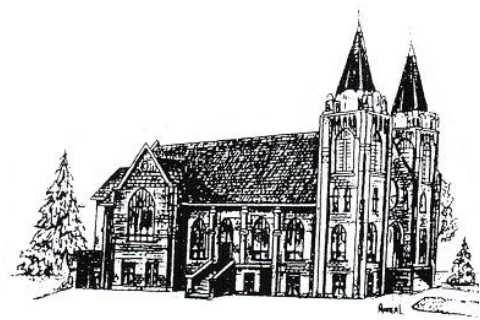


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 14, 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	stfrank@meltel.net OR 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: www.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

Sept 13	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Exaltation of the Holy Cross	+Andrew Stang
Sept 14	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	Exaltation of the Holy Cross	+Marcellus & Randy Hansen
Sept 15	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Our Lady of Sorrows	
Sept 16	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	St. Cornelius	+Loren Linn
Sept 17	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Weekday	
Sept 18	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	Poor & Forgotten Souls
Sept 19	Friday	NO MASS	Weekday	
Sept 20	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parishes
Sept 21	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Linn Family

****St. Anne’s Mass on Sunday, September 21st will be at 9:00 am for the Fall Festival. Please welcome Fr. Schefers to St. Nicholas at 8:00 am that day.****

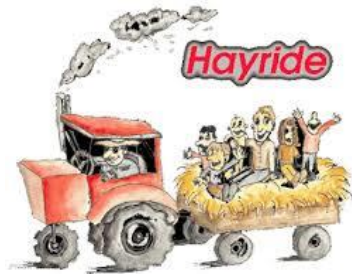
Weekend Masses at St. Anne’s in Kimball are Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am.

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
Sept 20 at 7:30 pm	Mat Walz Anita Neu Elmer Neu	Lauren Johannes Volunteer	Allen Stommes Ron Steil	Elmer Neu
Sept 21 at 8:00 am	Brenda Kraemer Jeff Theis Mike Kuechle	Sarah Kraemer Kathy Kraemer	Don Dufner Robert Kraemer	Shirley Kuechle

Fall Hayride: On Sunday, Sept. 14th the Parish Life Committee is sponsoring another hayride immediately following the 8:00 am mass. This year we will tour the northwest side of St. Nicholas. After the hayride, lunch will be served in the church basement. The hayride usually lasts about 1 ½ hours. We stop at one place enroute for a bathroom break. We will come back to St. Nicholas around 11:00 for lunch. Please consider spending the morning with fellow parishioners. It is a great time and a history lesson. If you can come and stay for lunch, all we ask you can bring along a dish to share. We will have hotdogs/buns and beverages. Bring along a **travel COFFEE MUG** that you can fill up with coffee to take along on the hayride. See you there!



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New Life in Baptism: Levi Ryan Ludwig, son of Ryan & Megan Ludwig, was brought into God’s family through the waters of Baptism. Through the witness of his parents and God Parents, may Levi keep the flame of faith alive in his heart.

Stewardship of Treasure Sept. 7, 2014

Adult	\$XXX	(38 of 199 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	

Energy Needs \$XXX (3 gifts)

Stewardship Thought: May each offering given be a sacrifice that honors you. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to glorify you with our finances. May we hold all of our gifts with an open hand of generosity in faith that you will never stop providing what we need.



Gospel Connection: After God created the heavens and the earth over six days and rested on the seventh, God look around and found that everything was good - maybe too good, he realized. So, on the eighth day, it is said, God created one of the greatest of divine gifts: *rust*. Without some kind of rust, the world would be a cosmic junk pile of stuff that would never decay, never change, never cease to exist. Not only physical stuff, but mental stuff. Stuff like anger, resentment, disappointment. Stuff like sin. Every time we pray we ask God to remember us and take care of us. But at the same time, we ask God to "forget" our sins. And, strangely, God promises to do both. Divine rust sets in and God forgets, so the story goes. God-made rust enables us to forget, as well. Over time, old angers and arguments corrode in the oxidation of forgiveness; painful encounters and embarrassing moments disintegrate in the fresh air of reconciliation. Oh, sometimes we fight the rust and cling to those hurts and refuse to forgive and move beyond them - and all we have as a result it just a growing pile of pain. But God's gift of rust enables change and newness - what our spirits and souls desperately need to live life to the full. Let God's rust do its work. If rust is good enough for God, it's a blessing for us all. [Adapted from "F is for Forgetting" by Martin E. Marty, *The Christian Century*, July 13, 2010.]

Real love is impossible without such spiritual "rust," rust that enables us to forget and let the hurts and injustices inflicted on us - and that we inflict on others - corrode. In all his parables on forgiveness and reconciliation, Jesus calls anyone and everyone who would be his disciples to be committed to the work of reconciliation, to be always ready and willing to make the first move toward forgiveness, to be actively engaged in the work of creating community. Forgiveness is not easy: it means overcoming our own anger and outrage at the injustice waged against us and focusing our concern, instead, on the person who wronged us and ruptured our relationship with him/her; it means possessing the humility to face the hurt we have inflicted on others as a result of our insensitivity and self-centeredness. Life is too fleeting and precious to allow hatred and vengeance to destroy our lives in needless recriminations, pointless anger and stifling guilt. Christ calls us to create a sense of community in which forgiveness is joyfully offered and humbly but confidently sought - all because of God's gift of spiritual "rust."

Religious Education News: Class will be held on Wednesday, September 17th in the Parish House at 7 pm. If you have not turned in your registration form and payment, please bring to it to class!

Special Collection: We have received a letter from Bishop Kettler requesting us to have a special collection. To show our solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are suffering as a result of the persecution of many Christians in the Middle East, Bishop Kettler is asking every parish of the Diocese of St. Cloud to take up a special collection during the weekend of September 13 & 14. The proceeds from this collection will be sent to Catholic Relief Services to meet the urgent humanitarian needs facing the people of Iraq, Gaza, Syria and surrounding countries where refugees have fled. Here at St. Nicholas, we will just use all the loose collection from this weekend to send to the Diocese. Please be generous in your efforts!

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: The CCHD provides funding for groups that make lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. CCHD grants improve education, support economic development, and help communities provide housing in low-income neighborhoods. Help us continue to defend human dignity and aid those living on the margins of society. Please use the envelope in your packet.

Speaker Matthew Kelly: Living Every Day with Passion & Purpose: Matthew Kelly will be at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell on Saturday, November 8th from 9 am to 1:30 pm. Most of his dates are already sold out, but there are still tickets left for this date! To purchase tickets, visit www.DynamicCatholic.com. Tickets are \$39.00 and will be well worth the ticket price!

Gather 4 Good: Gather 4 Good is a free community service and fellowship event that is open to all. At Gather 4 Good events, people of all ages can assemble care kits for victims of poverty, homelessness and natural disasters. All supplies are provided. Volunteers can enjoy refreshments, snacks, and free tours of Hemker Park and Zoo. The event is all provided free of charge, by Catholic United Financial. All we need is volunteers. The next Gather 4 Good event will be held September 28th 2014 in Freeport, MN at Hemker Park and Zoo, at 10:30 a.m. Mass will be at 9 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church. Anyone wishing to help volunteer at this event, should call Jeff Theis by September 22nd so that we can get our parish volunteers registered. Please call with any questions, or to volunteer, 320-597-2417 or e-mail jjtheis1204@meltel.net Thank you.

Community Events:

- Sunday, Sept 14th: All Widowed Persons are invited to the Support Group Session at St. Boniface in Cold Spring from 9:30 – 10:30 in the Adult Faith Formation Room. Call Laura Theisen with questions at 685-3986.
- Thursday, Sept 18th: St. John’s School of Theology & Seminary Benefit Dinner from 6 – 7 pm held in the Founder’s Room # 170 on the St. John’s University campus. Space is limited & registration is required. Call 363-3570.
- September 20th: St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Annual Fall Conference at St. Marcus Church, Clear Lake, MN. For more information contact Julie Moorhead-Miller at 320-243-3891.
- Sunday, September 21st: Annual Fall Festival at St. Anne’s in Kimball. Polka Mass at 9 am. Fritter Bread French Toast Breakfast from 9 am to noon. Hamburger & Beer stand starting at 10 am. Quilt Raffle Drawing at 3 pm. Activities all day.
- Saturday, Sept. 27th: Diocesan Barn Dance held at the Frank & Peggy Inholte Ranch, 8158 Co Rd 138, St. Cloud (not too far from Fleet Farm). Mass with Bishop Kettler at 5 pm, followed by a meal & 4 live music groups. There will be a free will donation at door.
- Mondays October 6 – November 24th: St. Boniface Parish in Cold Spring invites you to “A Quick Journey Through the Bible” sessions. An excellent intro & overview of the Bible from 7 – 9 pm. Call Molly Olivier at 320-290-3088 with questions.
- October 11th: Catholic Women’s 2014 Conference at Holy Angels Performing Arts Center in St. Cloud. For more information, you may contact the Office of Marriage & Family at 252-4721.

Readings for the Week:

Monday, Sept 15 th : 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33 / Jn 19:25-27	Tuesday, Sept 16 th : 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a / Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday, Sept. 17 th : 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 / Lk 7:31-35	Thursday, Sept 18 th : 1 Cor 15:1-11 / Lk 7:36-50
Friday, Sept 19 th : 1 Cor 15:12-20 / Lk 8:1-3	