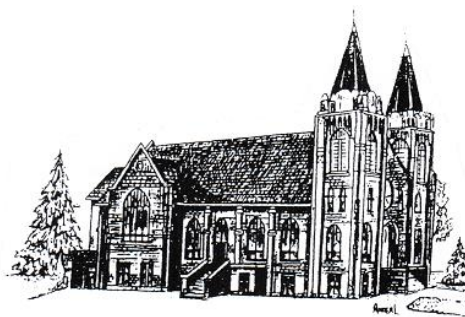


# CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 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 20	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parishes
Sept 21	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Linn Family
Sept 22	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Sept 23	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	St. Pius	+Carol Fuchs
Sept 24	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Weekday	
Sept 25	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Ed Weismann
Sept 26	Friday	NO MASS	Weekday	
Sept 27	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Rel. of E & A Neu
Sept 28	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Michael Rausch

**\*\*St. Anne's Mass on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 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 27 at 7:30 pm	Judi Schreiner Louise Schutz Rita Schwartz	Emily Utecht Rachel Utecht	Art Faber Ralph Schreiner	Judi Schreiner
Sept 28 at 8:00 am	Gene Schutz Trish Ludwig Mary Caskey	Luke Ludwig Maggie Ludwig	John Hopfer Paul Ludwig	Doug Caskey



**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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## Stewardship of Treasure Sept. 14, 2014

Adult	\$XXX	(47 of 199 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	
Loose	XXX	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$XXXXX</b>	

Religious Education	\$XXX (15 gifts)
Special Collection for the Middle East	\$XXX

**Stewardship Thought:** Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.



**Gospel Connection:** It seemed like a good idea at the time . . . One year, when Valentine's Day fell on a Sunday, the pastor of a small parish had an idea to mark the occasion. As couples came into church, ushers would present each wife with a rose. During Mass, a special intention for couples would be included as part of the Prayer of the Faithful. And, at the end of Mass, the priest would invite all the couples to come up around the altar for a special blessing. Everyone loved the idea. Some parishioners got together and procured the flowers - they got a great deal on small roses from a wholesaler. The choir rehearsed a special song for the blessing. The ushers met during the week so that they would know exactly what to do. Come the weekend, everything was in place and everyone was excited about what seemed like a great idea. But the day after Valentine's Sunday, they wondered. It turned out that the flowers and blessing were very painful for one woman whose husband had died just a few months before. An engaged couple who were to be married that summer felt they should have been included. At one Mass, some couples took extra flowers and the ushers ran out. Single parishioners felt excluded and divorced parishioners sat quietly. And several parishioners were furious that more advanced notice had not been given so they would have made sure to have been at Mass that weekend. One spouse demanded - *demande* - that flowers be available the following weekend for those couples who were not at Mass the previous weekend. The pastor was crestfallen. What he hoped would have been a moment of celebration and prayer for the married couples in his parish turned out to be a cause for hurt and resentment. The parish's simple little Valentine's Day ritual was not repeated the next year.

Today's Gospel strikes at our tendency to judge everything and everyone in terms of how it affects *me*. How someone else benefits or is lifted up doesn't matter - *my* hurt feelings trump their joy. Christ calls us to embrace the vision of the generous vineyard owner: to rejoice in the good fortune of others and their being enabled to realize their dreams, instead of lamenting our own losses and slights. Frankly, God's sense of generosity, love and forgiveness strikes us as extravagant and offensive to our own sense of "fair play." But discipleship is to trust in the goodness of God and free ourselves from what our time clocks, scales, yardsticks and computer print-outs dictate what is "fair." To trust in the mercy of God enables us to appreciate all that we have received and how much God has blessed us, and compels us to experience the joy of sharing all that we have been given with those who have not realized such blessings in their lives.

**Religious Education News:** Class will be held on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> 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 collected \$622.75 that we will be sending to the St. Cloud Diocese for the needs facing the people of Iraq, Gaza, Syria and surrounding countries where refugees have fled. **Thank you for your generosity!**

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.DynamicCatholic.com). Tickets are \$39.00 and will be well worth the ticket price!

## Community Events:

- Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>: 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. 27<sup>th</sup>: 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.
- Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>: All are welcome to a new interpretation for the Gospel of Mark by Dr. Charles Bobertz, professor at St. John's School of Theology. Free event, but need to register at [www.csbsju.edu/sot](http://www.csbsju.edu/sot) or 363-3570.
- Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>: Discover Day at St. John's Prep School. Spend a day in our classrooms with students from around the world. Contact the admissions office for more information at 363-3315.
- Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>: annual Bazaar at Church of the Holy Family in Silver Lake, MN. Polka Mass at 10 am, Chicken & Ham dinner from 11 to 2 pm. Afternoon filled with activities for everyone!
- Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>: St. John's Prep event Colledgeville Colors. Come & hike among the spectacular colors of St. John's woods while enjoying art, music, theatre & nature activities along the trail. Fee includes bouja & other treats. Register at 363-3315.
- Mondays October 6 – November 24<sup>th</sup>: 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.
- Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>: Fall Mission Forum & Prayer with Sr. Mary Dumonceaux at 12:05 pm Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral. Followed by a presentation and light reception.
- October 11<sup>th</sup>: 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 22<sup>nd</sup>: Prv 3:27-34 / Lk 8:16-18  
Wednesday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>: Prv 30:5-9 / Lk 9:1-6  
Friday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>: Eccl 3:1-11 / Lk 9:18-22

Tuesday, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13 / Lk 8:19-21  
Thursday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>: Eccl 1:2-11 / Lk 9:7-9