

# CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

First Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2015



PARISH STAFF		PARISH ORGANIZATION LEADERS	
Fr. Thomas Olson	398-2229	Christian Women, Anita Neu	685-3287
Brenda Kraemer, Secretary	764-7345	Men’s Society, David Stang	764-5339
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, John Schutz	764-6171
Cell phone	320-217-4531	Parish Council, Vicki Landwehr	764-6603
<b>*Bulletin Deadline is Thursday at 9am</b> <b>*Email: stnicholas@meltel.net</b> <b>*Website: www.churchofsaintnicholas.com</b> <b>*Usual Office Hours of Secretary are Monday and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:30am.</b>		Parish Council, Robert Kraemer	685-3715
		Parish Council, Marion Frank	764-9111
		Parish Council, Paul Ludwig	764-2336
		Parish Council, Angie Spitzley	453-2091
		Trustee, Mike Kuechle	685-3225
		Trustee, Mary Caskey	597-2854

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Feb 21	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	First Sunday of Lent	+Ervin Linn
Feb 22	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	First Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish
Feb 23	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	
Feb 24	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Fr. Richard Walz
Feb 25	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Lenten Weekday	
		{SA} 9:00 am	Stations of the Cross	
		{SN} 7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Feb 26	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Dolores Braegelmann
		{SN} 8:30 am	Stations of the Cross	
Feb 27	Friday	NO MASS	Lenten Weekday	
Feb 28	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Second Sunday of Lent	+Harold & Leona Hemmesch
Mar 1	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Second Sunday of Lent	+Romie & Irene Kraemer

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
Feb 28 at 7:30 pm	Avon Vossen Art Faber Rick Utecht	Nathan Utecht Derek Utecht	Tom Landwehr Robert Wehseler	Lucy Schreiner
Mar 1 at 7:30 pm	Don Dufner Stacy Dufner Trish Ludwig	Caden Neiman Landon Neiman	Paul Ludwig Elmer Frank	Betty Johannes

## Repent & Believe

**The First Week of Lent: Points to Ponder:** Read Mark 1:12-15, Jesus in the Desert, it is the Gospel reading this Sunday.  
What will I do this Lent as an outward sign of my repentance? What would I like to accomplish spiritually over the next six weeks? What is one thing I will do daily during this Lenten season?

**Lent:** Fasting is only one full meal for adults between the ages of 19 & 60. Abstinence is abstaining from all meat for all person 14 years and older). All Fridays during Lent are days of Abstinence. Good Friday is a Fast & Abstinence day. **A good Lenten practice** would be attending daily Mass.

**Thank you!** Thank you to everyone who helped make the Parish Breakfast last Sunday a huge success! Thanks to all who brought items for the raffle and bake sale! Thanks to those who help cook and clean in the kitchen and those that came to eat! A special thank you to the group chairs and co-chairs for all the pre-planning and organizing!

**2015 Annual Diocesan Appeal:** We are blessed with wonderful Priests, who minister to us in times of joy or sorrow; feed us at the Lord’s Table; and forgive our sins in Jesus’ name. Imagine life in the faith without them. Your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal supports, among other ministries, the Office of Vocations. Thank you for giving to the Appeal!

Stewardship of Treasure Feb. 15, 2015

Adult	\$XXX	(43 of 193 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(3 gifts)
Loose	XXX	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$XXXXXX</b>	
Energy Needs	\$XXX (1 gift)	Easter \$XXX (1 gift)
St. Cloud Visitor	\$XXX (9 gifts)	

**Stewardship Thought:** Father, may I glorify you with my offerings today. Search me and know me – see that I am giving with a joyful heart. Guide me to be ever more faithful in managing your gifts, dear Lord. Amen.



**Gospel Connection:** So what happens *after* "happily ever after"? What do you do when your wishes come true - and the nightmares begin? *Into the Woods*, the new movie based on the Broadway musical by composer Stephen Sondheim and playwright James Lapine, uncovers the darker realities of the fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm. *Into the Woods* re-imagines the familiar stories of Jack in the Beanstalk, Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, and an original tale about a baker and his wife who are childless. In the beginning of the story, all of the characters express their wishes for happiness: a handsome prince to marry, a warm home and enough to eat, a child to love. But in order to realize those dreams, the characters have to travel "into the woods" to confront the wolves and witches and giants and charlatans that thwart their dreams. This is not a child's book of fairy tales but a "grown up" take on these stories. In their journeys through the woods, the characters discover that life is not a fairy tale: some characters die; others see their fairy-tale lives disintegrate: Cinderella discovers that her prince isn't so charming; Jack's encounter with the giant has unexpected consequences; the baker and his wife understand the true cost of parenthood. What they thought would make them happy has made them anxious and afraid; reality has cruelly crushed their romantic images. They discover that the line between dreams and nightmares is a fine one. They realize that the real monsters we must defeat are selfishness and greed, that the most potent "spells" we have to break are our own fear and self-deception. The woods are a dangerous place, the little company of travelers discovers, but the way of happiness is marked by humility and generosity. As one of the characters sings at the end, wishes do come true - not they are not free.

Today we begin our Lenten journey "into the words." Lent calls us into the "woods" and wildernesses and deserts of our hearts to turn away from the attitudes and behaviors that mire our lives in selfishness, unhappiness and disappointment, and turn toward the values of God we seek to embrace. As Jesus was led by the Spirit to the desert to confront the mission before him, that same Spirit calls is "into the woods" of our own hearts to confront what we are making of this time we have been given, what we want our lives to stand for, what we want to leave to those we love. Lent challenges us to ask ourselves what we really believe in, what and who are most important to us, what we are willing to sacrifice for. In confronting these questions honestly, sincerely and faithfully, we complete our trek "into the woods" with a new realization of God as the center of our hopes and dreams and a new yearning for the fulfillment of the Easter promise in our own lives.

**Religious Education News:** The next class will be on Wednesday, February 25, 2015. Class will be held at 7 pm.

**World Marriage Day/Cana Dinner:** World Marriage Day honors husband & wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life. It was established in 1983 to be celebrated on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in February. We are going to celebrate & honor our married parish couples at our Cana Dinner on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. The Cana Dinner will be at Powder Ridge after 5 pm Mass at St. Anne's. St. Nicholas and St. Anne will join together to celebrate marriage with this social get-together. Anyone is welcome attend. If you have any questions, contact Kathy Roos at 398-3006.

**Quarterly Meetings:** Quarterly Meetings for the Men's Society, Christian Women, and Catholic United Financial will take place on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 7:30 pm – starting with Catholic United. Christian Women & the Men's Society will be at 8 pm. The Lunch Committee will be Judy Rausch and Shirley Kuechle bringing bars/cake.

**40 Days for Life:** 40 Days begins February 18 and ends March 29. To focus of this pro-life effort consists of: 40 days for prayer & fasting, 40 days of peaceful vigil, 40 days of community outreach. We are praying, that with God's help, this will mark the beginning of the end of abortion. While all aspects of 40 Days for Life are crucial in our effort to end abortion, the most visible component is the peaceful prayer vigil outside the local Planned Parenthood facility. There is a Daily Devotional Calendar to keep track of readings you have done at the back of church.



**CRS Rice Bowl:** Hungering for a Bountiful Earth. This week CRS Rice Bowl takes us to the coffee highland of Nicaragua, where we're called to protect both the goodness of creation and the livelihoods of struggling families. How will this week's fast remind us of the sacredness of God's creation and our duty to protect it?

**Euchre Tournament & Game night:** St. Boniface Parish of Cold Spring will be having a Euchre tournament & game night on Tuesday evenings during lent, starting at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. Cost is \$3 for Euchre for prizes. Carbles & 500 will also be offered; lunch will follow. Dates are: Tuesday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. All are welcome – men, women & kids!

**Readings for the Week:** Monday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 / Mt 25:31-46  
Tuesday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>: Is 55:10-11 / Mt 6:7-15  
Wednesday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>: Jon 3:1-10 / Lk 11:29-32  
Thursday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>: Est C:12, 14-16 / Mt 7:7-12  
Friday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>: Ez 18:21-28 / Mt 5:20-26

**Community Events:**

- Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Breakfast at St. Anne's in Kimball. Serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, hash browns, etc. from 8 am to Noon. Half of proceeds go to the Rel. Ed. Program, half to the Kimball Food Shelf. Matching grant with the K of C.
- Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>: Chili & Soup Cook Off at Holy Cross School from 5 – 8 pm at the school. Prizes for best chili, soup & decorated booth. Euchre tournament & games. To enter or for more info contact 320-398-7885 or info@holycrossmn.org.
- Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>: "Power of Light for Women" retreat for women from 8:30 am to 2 pm at Sacred Heart Church in Staples, MN. Sponsored by the DCCW. For registration, call Julie Moorhead-Miller at 320-453-3891.
- March 20-22, 2015 is the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in Baxter, MN. For registration contract Alan & Missy at applications@northmnwwme.org or 888-455-3496. Learn how to renew your marriage & draw closer to God!

*Happy Birthday to Fr. Tom!*  
*His Birthday is Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>!*

