

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Second Sunday of Lent

March 1, 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
*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, 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 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
Mar 2	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	
Mar 3	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Ed Weismann
		{SN} 5 – 8 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Mar 4	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Lenten Weekday	
		{SA} 9:00 am	Stations of the Cross	
		{SA} 9:30 – 7 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
		{SN} 7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Mar 5	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Ron Stommes
		{SN} 8:30 am	Stations of the Cross	
Mar 6	Friday	NO MASS	Lenten Weekday	
Mar 7	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Third Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish
Mar 8	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Third Sunday of Lent	+Dec. Rel. of K & J Lahr

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.

<u>LITURGICAL MINISTRIES</u>				
	Eucharistic Ministers	Servers	Ushers	Lector
Mar 7 at 7:30 pm	Mat Walz	Lauren Johannes	Laverne Ludwig	Avon Vossen
	Avon Vossen	Dylan Utecht	Robert Wehseler	
	Louise Schutz			
Mar 8 at 10:00 am	Leo Klaers	Katherine Gathje	Peter Stang-Walz	Doug Caskey
	Mary Caskey	Jonathan Gathje	Orville Cremers	
	Greg Utecht			

Repent & Believe

The Second Week of Lent: Points to Ponder: Read Mark 9:2-10, He Was Transformed Before Them. What would I like transformed in my life by Easter? As I look over my life, what are some areas where God has already transformed me? Give thanks for those transformations and for those yet to come. What is one sacrificial action I can perform this week?

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.

2015 Annual Diocesan Appeal: Many of our ill and homebound sisters and brothers in Christ, across the Diocese of St. Cloud, celebrate Sunday Mass as a broadcast on TV. Getting to a parish is simply too difficult for them. The Annual Diocesan appeal supports the important ministry of the TV Mass. Thank you for giving to the Appeal!

Stewardship of Treasure Feb. 15, 2015

Adult	\$XXX	(45 of 193 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(3 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	
Energy Needs	\$XXX	(2 gifts)
St. Cloud Visitor	\$XXX	(4 gifts)

Stewardship Thought: Lord, we humbly ask you to search our hearts as we worship you in our giving. May you find us filled with joy and contentment, giving freely as you freely gave.



Gospel Connection: In all her years of teaching, she had never encountered a high school class like this one. The spitballs and practical jokes were one thing, but the disruptions had a disturbing way of snowballing into uglier confrontations. When the students began calling each other names, she called a halt to it all with an unusual assignment. She directed the students to write the names of their classmates on a sheet of paper and leave space between each name. Then she instructed each student to write something good and positive about the individual in the space next to his or her name. This assignment was to be taken seriously, she warned: what they wrote would be turned in for her review - and a grade. The students went to work and their papers collected. The next day she surprised the students by giving each of them a copy of the nice things their classmates had written about them. Not a word was said - a first for this group - as each student read and re-read their lists. At the end of the class, one of the students handed the teacher a piece of paper. Her name was at the top of the page, and below it every student had written what they admired about her and signed their names to it. [Maureen King.]

This simple exercise was a moment of transfiguration for this high school class: the good, the positive, the grace each student possessed finally came to the surface. What remained unsaid was finally spoken; the hidden was revealed - much as the divine character of Jesus was revealed to Peter, James and John on the mount of the Transfiguration. That same sense of the holy dwells within each one of us, calling us to "transfigure" our lives and our world in God's compassion, justice and reconciliation. In realizing that sense of God's life and love within ourselves, we can become, like these students, a means of "transfiguration," enabling others to realize the holiness and grace that exists within them, enabling all of us to transform despair into hope, sadness into joy, anguish into healing, estrangement into community.

Religious Education News: The next class will be on Wednesday, March 4, 2015. Class will be held at 7 pm. Class confessions are coming up for Grades 2 – 7 on Wednesday, March 11th and for Grades 8 – 11 on Wednesday, March 18th. First Holy Eucharist is coming up fast! We have 2 students making their First Communion; Jack Metzger and Ben Theis on Sunday, March 15th. The Palm Sunday Breakfast sponsored by the Confirmation class and Religious Education students, along with Catholic United Financial will be held on Sunday, March 29th from 8:30 am to Noon. Students are expected to help out at this event!



World Marriage Day/Cana Dinner: World Marriage Day honors husband & wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. We are going to celebrate & honor our married parish couples at our Cana Dinner on Saturday, April 11th. 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. "Let marriage be held in honor by all." Hebrews 13:1-4, 5-6b.

Quarterly Meetings: Quarterly Meetings for the Men's Society, Christian Women, and Catholic United Financial will take place on **Sunday, March 1st** 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.

Palm Sunday Breakfast at St. Nicholas: Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 29th from 8:30 am to Noon. This breakfast is sponsored by the Confirmation class and the Religious Education students, along with Catholic United Financial. The menu is pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, applesauce, fresh cinnamon rolls and drinks. The proceeds will go toward the Religious Education Program.

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 Better Life. Our journey with CRS Rice Bowl for this week is Tanzania, where a simple soybean is changing lives! What actions can you take this Lent to change lives – at home and around the world?

Annual Parish Dinner: St. Nicholas will hold the Annual Parish Dinner on **Sunday, March 22nd** after the 10 am Mass. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served, along with Dinner at no charge. Please use the sign-up sheets at the back of Church by Sunday, March 15th for an accurate meal count.

Readings for the Week: Monday, Mar. 2nd: Dn 9:4b-10 / Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday, Mar. 3rd: Is 1:10, 16-20 / Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday, Mar. 4th: Jer 18:18-20 / Mt 20:17-28
Thursday, Mar. 5th: Jer 17:5-10 / Lk 16:19-31
Friday, Mar. 6th: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a / Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Community Events:

- Every Tuesday of Lent at 6:30 pm at St. Boniface of Cold Spring Parish Center Game Night. Euchre, 500, Carbles and other kid's games. Cost is \$3 for Euchre prizes – others at no cost. Lunch will follow. All are welcome!
- Sunday, February 28th: 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 14th: "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.
- Sunday, March 15th: Wat-Kim-Valley VFW Benefit Breakfast. All proceeds to to American Cancer Society – Meeker County Relay for Life. Will be held at the Watkins Village Hall from 8 am to Noon.
- Sunday, March 15th: Roast Beef & Ham Dinner at Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Rockville, MN. Serving from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. Proceeds to support K of C vocation scholarships & other activities.
- 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!