

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Palm Sunday

March 29, 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

Mar 28	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Palm Sunday	+Fr. Richard Walz
Mar 29	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Palm Sunday	+Eldred May
Mar 30	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Monday of Holy Week	
Mar 31	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Tuesday of Holy Week	+Alfred & Ellen Hommerding
Apr 1	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Wednesday of Holy Week	
		{SA} 9 am – 7 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
		{SN} 7 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Apr 2	Thursday	{SN} 5:30 pm	Holy Thursday: Adoration until 8 pm	+Ed Weismann
		{SA} 7:30 pm	Holy Thursday: Adoration until 10 pm	
Apr 3	Friday	{SA} 12:00 Noon	Good Friday	
		{SN} 3:00 pm	Good Friday	
Apr 4	Saturday	{SA} 7:30 pm	Holy Saturday / Easter Vigil	
Apr 5	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Easter	Intention of the Celebrant

****GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE****

****HOLY SATURDAY AT ST. ANNE’S ONLY****

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 2 at 5:30 pm	Judy Schutz	Damian Lincoln	Ron Steil	Judi Schreiner
Holy Thursday	Stacy Dufner	Connor Lincoln	Ralph Schreiner	
	Don Dufner			
Apr 3 at 3:00 pm	Jeff Theis	Emily Utecht	Elmer Frank	Dave Stang
Good Friday		Rachel Utecht	Jerry Boeckmann	Lee Bautch
Apr 5 at 10:00 am	Trish Ludwig	Luke Ludwig	Sy Schreiner	Doug Caskey
Easter	Mike Kuechle	Maggie Ludwig	Paul Ludwig	
	Mary Caskey			

Repent & Believe

Palm Sunday of Lent: Points to Ponder: Read Mark 14:1 – 15:47 “The King of the Jews.” Points to Ponder: What part of the Passion narrative touches you the most deeply? Can I set aside time this week to simply be in the presence of the Lord? As I prepare for Easter, am I spending as much time on spiritual preparations as I am on Easter baskets and a special meal?

Schedule for Reconciliation

Sunday, March 29th: Penance Services: 2 priests available St. Nicholas at 4:00 pm, & St. Anne at 7:00 pm
Monday, March 30th: 8:30 am at St. Anne
Tuesday, March 31st: 8:30 am at St. Nicholas and again at 7:00 pm
Wednesday, April 1st: 7:00 pm at St. Anne


****There will be no confessions on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday.**

Stewardship of Treasure March 22, 2015

Adult	\$XXX	(53 of 193 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(6 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	
Catholic Relief Service	\$XXX (4 gifts)	Old St. Nicholas Chapel \$XXX
Easter Flowers	\$XXX (1 gift)	

Stewardship Thought:


Lord, we use this time now to lay palms and garments before you. We praise and acknowledge your salvation in our lives with gifts of thanksgiving.



Gospel Connection: It's one of the most vicious, hateful statements in all of Scripture: "Crucify him!" As we say it in our communal reading of Mark's passion, we can't help but feel a disturbing sadness. They are painful words to hear and say. From our distance two thousand years away from the event, we realize the injustice of those words. We know the greed and hatred that led the crowds to shout them. What crime could Jesus have possibly committed to warrant such a death? But we have our own variations of "Crucify him": *You couldn't possibly understand . . . She's not one of us . . . He's not worth it . . . Why should I care? That's your problem . . . Tough! That's the way it is. Nobody likes you, you know . . .* And then there are the cruel epithets and vile insults that we barely keep to ourselves, that we might voice when triggered by uncontrollable rage or too much alcohol. The words of the crowd in the passion story haunt us, to be sure. But we have our own versions of that hateful call.

In the events of this Holy Week, in the passion and death of his beloved, God is rejected and humiliated, suffers and dies - just as every human being experiences. But God allows himself to be broken in order that we might understand the fragile, impermanent nature of this life. As we will see as the Gospel unfolds, the brokenness we both suffer and inflict can be healed in the love God - love that is humble, love that is sincere, love that is centered in gratitude and selflessness. In the broken body of Jesus, we are reconciled with God; in the broken body of Jesus, our lives are transformed in the perfect love of Christ; in the broken body of Jesus, God's Spirit of humility and compassion becomes a force of hope and re-creation in our hurting and desperate world.

Religious Education News: The next class will be on Wednesday, **April 8th**. There will not be class during Holy Week. Confirmation practice will be held on Wednesday, April 8th at 7 pm at St. Boniface. A parent or the candidates sponsor should attend with the candidate. Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 12th at 2 pm at St. Boniface in Cold Spring.



Cana Dinner: The Cana Dinner, celebrating marriage, will be held on Saturday, April 11th at Powder Ridge Event Center, Kimball after the 5:00 pm Mass at St. Anne's. Everyone is welcome – married, widowed or widower. This is a social event to get a chance to visit with each other and celebrate marriage. Entertainment will be provided. A grilled chicken dinner will be served. The cost is \$40/couple or \$20/single and are available after each Mass.

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 a matching grant from Catholic United Financial.

Lawn Care Position: There is a paid position for lawn care open at St. Nicholas Church! This position would be responsible for cutting and trimming in the cemetery and around the Parish House. It is open to anyone age 16 or older and will take 7 to 8 hours per week to complete. Please see Fr. Tom if you are interested!

Thank you!! At the Parish Dinner last Sunday, Rita Schwartz and Coletta Boeckmann were recognized for their years of service to St. Nicholas and our community! They wish to thank Fr. Tom, the Parish Trustees; Mike and Mary, and the Parish Council for including them in this special way during the dinner. With their sincere thanks, Rita & Coletta.

Thank you: To those that cut our palms apart and changed the missellettes! We really appreciate your help!!

CRS Rice Bowl: Hungering for Seeds of Home. We follow Jesus this week on our Lenten Journey as he enters into Jerusalem, a community he knew well. CRS Rice Bowl asks us, too, to prayerfully enter into our own communities, to find those who are hungry and thirsty, who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we encounter in our daily lives? **Please return your Rice Bowl on Holy Thursday!**

Incense Will be Used: For your information, incense will be used during Mass on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, and Easter.

Catholic Relief Services Collection: CRS Collection supports 6 Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, those who suffer from unjust laws, and teach valuable skills to those seeking a better life. Through supporting this collection, you help Jesus in disguise. Please use the envelope in your packet and be generous!

Good Friday Collection: Our parish will support Christians in the Holy Land through the Good Friday collection. Please support our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land by giving to this collection. The pontifical collection allows for care of Christianity's holiest sites and for God's people living in the Holy Land. Please be generous in your support and you can use the envelope in your packet.

Breakfast with the Bishop: Breakfast with the Bishop will be held on Wednesday, April 29th at the Gorecki Event Center at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph. Attendance & brunch are free, but attendees will be asked for a free will contribution to the Catholic Schools Student Scholarship Fund of the Catholic Foundation. To attend or host a table, call the Catholic Foundation at 320-258-0390.

Readings for the Week: Monday, March 30th: Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday, March 31st: Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Thursday, Apr 2nd: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26
Wednesday, Apr 1st: Is 50:4-9a / Mt 26:14-25
Friday, Apr 3rd: Is 52:13 – 53:12 / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Community Events:

- April 12th: Diving Mercy Sunday will be celebrated at the Church of Sts. Peter & Paul, Richmond. Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from 1 to 4:30pm. Confession at 2 pm, Benediction and closing at 4:30 pm.