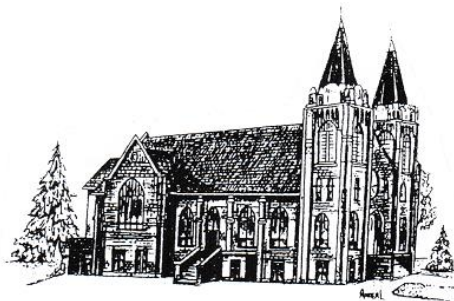


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 2016



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	764-5339
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 Walz, Rel. Ed Coordinator	685-7376	Parish Council, Robert Kraemer	685-3715
Cell phone	320-217-4531	Parish Council, Marion Frank	764-9111
*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 11:30 am.		Parish Council, Paul Ludwig	764-2336
		Parish Council, Angie Spitzley	453-2091
		Parish Council, Roger Utecht	253-9547
		Parish Council, Sandy Stang	764-2030
		Trustee, Mike Kuechle	685-3225
		Trustee, Mary Caskey	597-2854

MASS SCHEDULE

Jan 30	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Joseph W. Theis
Jan 31	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	M & J Lynch Family
Feb 1	Monday	{SA} NO MASS	Weekday	
Feb 2	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	The Presentation of the Lord	+Val Dufner
		{SN} 5 – 8 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Feb 3	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Weekday	
		{SA} 9 am – 7 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Feb 4	Thursday	{SN} NO MASS	Weekday	
Feb 5	Friday	{SA} NO MASS	St. Agatha	
Feb 6	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Feb 7	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Vocations – K of C

**** Fr. Tom will be on vacation from Wednesday, January 20th to Thursday, February 4th. Please welcome Fr. Ben Kociemba, who will be here for Mass on January 30 & 31st. Fr. Jerry Mischke will be here for Mass on Feb. 2nd. If issues come up while Fr. Tom is away, please call Brenda at the Parish Office or at her home number (685-3715).****

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 visits.

Our website has important information, including the weekly bulletin! www.churchofsaintnicholas.com

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

	Eucharistic Ministers	Servers	Ushers	Lector
Feb 6 at 7:30 pm	Art Faber Louise Schutz Rita Schwartz	Nathan Utecht Derek Utecht	Laverne Ludwig Robert Wehseler	Lucy Schreiner
Feb 7 at 10:00 am	Mike Kuechle Jeff Theis Trish Ludwig	Luke Ludwig Maggie Ludwig	Paul Ludwig Orville Cremer	Shirley Kuechle

Breakfast at St. Nicholas: The Christian Women will have a breakfast at St. Nicholas on **Sunday, February 21st**.



Groups 4 and 5 will be hosting this event. The menu will be pancakes with toppings, scrambled eggs, pork sausage, fried potatoes, caramel rolls & Danishes, applesauce, milk, coffee and juice. There will also be a bake sale and raffle. Members are asked to please bring items for the bake sale and raffle. They will be serving from 9 am to Noon. Please mark your calendars to come and enjoy it!



Christian Women Project: The Christian Women are participating in a service project that will benefit the Sisters of the Ministry of the Poor and St. Jude's Ranch for Children. They are asking everyone to collect postage stamps from their mail. Stamps should be trimmed with ¼ to ½ inch boarder and should not be removed from the paper envelope. They are also asking for you to collect greeting card fronts of any Birthday, Valentines, Thanksgiving, Anniversary, Get Well or Christmas cards – any card you would receive. St. Jude's will make new cards from your used cards and add a greeting to them! Boxes for collection will be in the back of Church. Thanks for your help!

Stewardship of Treasure January 24, 2016

Adult	\$XXX	(47 of 162 envelopes)	Energy Needs	\$XXX (2 gifts)
Youth	XXX	(1 of 45 envelopes)	Easter/Thanksgiving/Christmas	\$XXX (1 gift)
Loose	XXX			
TOTAL	\$XXXXX			



Gospel Connection: A first-year high school English teacher caught a student in an act of blatant plagiarism. The teacher was stunned - she was an excellent student: inquisitive, thoughtful, and responsible student. But her final paper was a mishmash of her own work with that of someone more famous. The teacher had to report her and let the school's disciplinary process do its work. The teacher, not all that much older than her teenage students, hated playing the big, bad grown-up, but she had no choice. The student was suspended. The student then came to see the teacher in her office. The teacher braced herself for recriminations and tears. But, instead, what she got was gratitude: "Thanks for caring enough to notice that I did something wrong," the student said. "I appreciate it. I'm glad you were paying attention." The student's words were exactly what the young teacher wanted to hear and she has carried them down through the years when she struggles to stand firm - especially now that she is a parent herself, the mother of a two-year old. She writes: "My son is at the age where the world is a grand experiment and each hypothesis must be tested, again and again, to be sure it still holds true. Often, he will reach for stove, knives, or scissors and shout 'No!' as he does so. Then, hand hovering near the forbidden object, he'll look up at me to see what I do. When I say 'No' along with him, he looks pleased. The pleasure, I'm sure, comes not from the boundary, but from the sense that he has figured out something about how the world works. But when there's something new he wants and I say 'No,' his response is not what you might call positive. It's intense, frustrated, and primal. He definitely does not thank me for establishing boundaries." At those moments, she remembers her student of a few years ago and what she learned about having to be the big, bad grown-up: "[it] isn't how good it feels to be thanked by a child, but how thankless it must be, sometimes, to try to be good for a child." [From "Being the Big, Bad Grown-Up" by Alison Lobron, *The Boston Sunday Globe Magazine*, April 7, 2013.]

We often find ourselves in that difficult position of having to be the "big, bad grown up" for our children - or for adults who are acting like children. Such "prophetic" actions stretch our patience and cause us anxious second-guessing - but to follow Jesus is to speak and act with integrity, to do what is right and just no matter how unpopular we become. In baptism, we are all called to be prophets of what is good, regardless of the cost such prophesy exacts from us. May we possess the grace to act prophetically with compassion and forgiveness; may we possess the wisdom to respond faithfully to God speaking to us in the example of integrity and faithfulness of the prophets in our lives.

Religious Education: The next class will be on Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00 pm.

Mug Collection: The Christian Women are starting to collect your extra coffee mugs! If you have extra, unused, clean and undamaged coffee mugs in your cupboard, bring them to church! They will be used in our kitchen in addition to the current cups. Some of our coffee mugs are in need of replacement and this idea was brought up to reuse some mugs that are just sitting around! We don't care what they have printed on them, as long as they are "Church Appropriate." There will be a box in the back of Church. Thank you!!

Prayer Line: As always, if you have a request for prayers, please call Sue Frank at 764-9112. You can request prayers for yourself or someone that you know that is in need! Your request can have as much or as little information as you want to provide. If you would like to be added to the list to receive these prayers, please let the Parish Office or Sue Frank know!

Catholic Men's Conference: Men of Integrity, Men of Mercy will be held at the Humphrey Auditorium at St. John's University from 8 am to 5 pm on Saturday, February 13, 2016. For more information, please visit www.stcdio.org/mensconference or see the poster in the back of church.

Women's Lenten Retreat: The St. Cloud Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is hosting a Lenten Retreat at Sts. Peter & Paul's Catholic Church in Richmond, MN on Saturday, February 27 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Pre-registration is preferred by February 17th with a cost of \$15 that will include a lunch. Registration at the door will be \$20. Please contact Judi Schreiner at 764-9080.

Liturgical Ministers Retreat: A retreat for liturgical ministers will be held on Saturday, February 20th from 9 to noon at Sacred Heart in Sauk Rapids. For more information, please visit worship.stcdio.org/th_event/liturgical-minister-retreat or poster in Church.

2nd Annual Cana Dinner: St. Nicholas and St. Anne's will once again hold a Cana Dinner. It will be held after 5 pm Mass on Saturday, April 2nd at Powder Ridge in Kimball. The cost will be the same as last year - \$20 per person or \$40 per couple. All are welcome to attend this celebration of marriage. More information will be coming about ticket sales; please watch the bulletin, but get the date on your calendar!

St. Boniface Euchre Tournaments: The St. Boniface Christian Women will host Euchre Tournaments during lent on Thursdays at 6:30 pm in the St. Boniface Parish Center. Everyone is welcome. Cost is \$3, which is given out in prizes. Lunch will be served after cards. Euchre will be held on these dates: Feb 11, Feb 18, Feb 25, March 3, 10, and 17th.

Readings for the Week: Monday, February 1st: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:6-13 / Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday, Feb. 2nd: Mal 3:1-4 / Heb 2:14-18

Wednesday, Feb. 3rd: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 / Mk 6:1-6

Thursday, Feb. 4th: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 / Mk 6:7-13

Friday, Feb. 5th: Sir 47:2-11 / Mk 6:14-29

Community Events:

- Sunday, January 31st: Knights of Columbus Breakfast held at Holy Cross School in Pearl Lake. Serving Scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, etc. from 8 am to Noon. Proceeds benefit Holy Cross School.
- Sunday, January 31st: Catholic Order of Foresters Matching Grant Breakfast held at Sts. Peter & Paul School, Richmond from 9 am to Noon. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, donuts, etc. Proceeds to benefit Sts. Peter & Paul School.
- Saturday, February 6th: Holy Cross School Chili & Soup Cook Off. Serving begins after the 4:00 pm Mass until 8:00 pm. There will be awards for "People's Choice" and "Judges Choice." There is still time to enter - call 320-398-7885.
- February 19-21: Koinonia Retreat held in Belle Prairie, MN TEC Center. Cost of the weekend is \$60. Check the website for more information at centralmnkoinonia.org or by calling Dorie Reiter at 320-217-2476.
- Sunday, February 21st: **Breakfast at St. Nicholas!** See details in the bulletin!
- Sunday, February 21st: Benefit for Life bake sale, Luncheon and Silent Auction at Assumption Church Eden Valley from 9 am to 1:00 pm. Menu includes pulled pork sandwiches, salad, baked beans, pies & dessert. Proceeds donated to Pro-Life/Family organizations