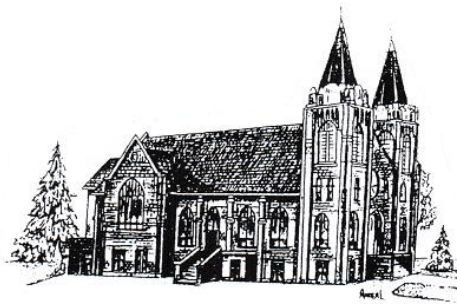


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 7, 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

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
Feb 8	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Feb 9	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Health of C.K.
Feb 10	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Ash Wednesday	
		{SA} 5:30 pm	Ash Wednesday	
		{SN} 7:30 pm	Ash Wednesday	Thanksgiving – LMS
		{SN} 8:30 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Feb 11	Thursday	{SN} 8:30 am	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	+Al Pung
		{SN} 9:00 am	Stations of the Cross	
Feb 12	Friday	{SA} NO MASS	Friday after Ash Wednesday	
Feb 13	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	First Sunday of Lent	+Eugene Mueller
Feb 14	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	First Sunday of Lent	+Esther Schutz

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 10 at 7:30 pm	Rick Utecht	Katherine Gathje	Adam Kraemer	Andrew Bautch
Ash Wednesday	Trish Ludwig	Nathan Utecht	Patrick Schreiner	Lauren Johannes
	Kelly Bautch	Gifts: Derek, Dylan & Jonathan Ashes: Lee Bautch & Mat Walz		
Feb 13 at 7:30 pm	Rick Utecht	Lauren Johannes	Ron Steil	Joe Decker
	Avon Vossen	Dylan Utecht	Tom Landwehr	
	Mat Walz			
Feb 14 at 10:00 am	Mary Caskey	Sarah Kraemer	Don Dufner	Doug Caskey
	Brenda Kraemer	Kathy Kraemer	Robert Kraemer	
	Greg Utecht			

Ash Wednesday: the Beginning of Lent: LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR FASTING AND ABSTINENCE: The Church teaches that Catholics in good health are to observe the following practices during Lent, unless for some serious reason, they are unable to do so: Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition, all Catholic 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting, as explained by the U.S. bishops, means partaking of only one full meal and two smaller meals that do not equal the main meal. Abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, milk products or condiments made of animal fat.

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!



Stewardship of Treasure January 31, 2016					
Adult	\$XXX	(34 of 162 envelopes)	Energy Needs	\$XXX (3 gifts)	
Youth	XXX	(1 of 45 envelopes)	St. Cloud Visitor	\$XXX (1 gift)	
Loose	XXX		Votive Stand	\$XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX				

Gospel Connection: The newspaper comic strip *Dilbert* is cartoonist Scott Adams' take on the absurdities of the work place. In a recent episode, the slow-witted, incompetent, "pointy-haired" boss is trying - unsuccessfully - to give a pep talk to his cynical engineers: "I want you to think like entrepreneurs," the boss coaches. "Should we take huge risks?" the engineers ask. "No, the stockholders would hate that," the boss responds. "Should we act as though we have no boss?" one engineer suggests. "No," the boss warns, "that would be chaos." "Will we become billionaires if we succeed?" the engineers want to know. The boss shakes his head. "Raises are capped at 3% this year." Trying to regroup, the boss says, "I'm just saying you should be more creative." "And then we should act?" the engineers counter. "No," the boss warns. "That's when the problems happen." [*Dilbert*, August 30, 2015.]

We often operate that way: thinking big, but acting small - if we act at all. Following the conventional wisdom, we avoid the "deep water": we recoil at the thought that we might be capable of doing something great or even something different. But only by risking our nets in the unknown "deep water" can we transform our lives and our world in the Gospel values of compassion, justice and reconciliation. The "deep water" is the risking of our own security and comfort and the putting aside of our discouragement and exhaustion, continuing to "fish" despite the ridicule and doubts of those discouraged souls who have returned to shore. Confident of God's grace and wisdom, we can transform our own Gennesarets by setting our small boats and fishing nets - despite the long night already - to the work of bringing in the "catch" of God's forgiveness and peace.

Religious Education: The next class will be on Wednesday, February 10th at 7:00 pm. We will then be going to Mass at 7:30 pm for Ash Wednesday. Students will be taking part in this Mass.

Bishop’s Annual Appeal begins today, on this “Announcement Weekend.” Please be prepared to help Bishop Kettler fulfill his pastoral duties by making a generous gift to his Appeal on **Commitment Weekend (February 13-14)**. An “IN-PEW” solicitation for Bishop’s Appeal will take place in the parish next weekend. If you have completed the pledge envelope sent to you by mail, please bring it to Mass next weekend, **Commitment Weekend**. Thank you!

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!!

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!

CRS Rice Bowl: Hungering for the Journey: Join our parish community again this year – and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States – in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family’s rice bowl in the back of church and return it on Holy Thursday. Remember, what you give up for Lent changes lives!

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.

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!

Winter Fest Leap Year Party: The Parish Life Committee is hosting a Winter Fest Leap Year Party on Sunday, February 28th in the Church Basement after Mass. Jimmy’s Pizza, salad & desserts will be served. The committee is asking for a free will donation to cover expenses. Everyone is invited to play games of all kinds and to just visit!!

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 8th: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 / Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday, Feb. 9th: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 / Mk 7:1-13
Thursday, Feb. 11th: Dt 30:15-20 / Lk 9:22-25
Wednesday, Feb. 10th: Jl 2:12-18 / 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 / Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Friday, Feb. 12th: Is 58:1-9a / Mt 9:14-15

Community Events:

- Fridays of Lent: (Feb. 12, 19, 26, Mar. 4 & 11): Taize Prayer with the Crosiers held at the Cathedral of St. Mary in St. Cloud at 7 pm.
- Sunday, February 14: Knights of Columbus Breakfast held at St. Boniface Church in Cold Spring from 9:30 to 12:30. Serving eggs, has browns, ham, fruit cocktail, bread, sweet rolls. Adult ladies will receive a free carnation. Proceeds benefit charitable activities.
- 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
- Sunday, Feb. 28th: Knight of Columbus Roast Beef & Ham Dinner from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm at Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church in Rockville. Real Mashed potatoes, vegetables, coleslaw, and dessert. Proceeds to Vocation Scholarships.