

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

5th Sunday of Easter

April 24, 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

Apr 23	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	5 th Sunday of Easter	+Joseph & Frances Theis Family
Apr 24	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	5 th Sunday of Easter	+Steve Gathje
Apr 25	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	St. Mark	
Apr 26	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday	+Koetter & Rausch Families
Apr 27	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Easter Weekday	
Apr 28	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday	+Donald Molitor
Apr 29	Friday	NO MASS	St. Catherine of Siena	
Apr 30	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	6 th Sunday of Easter	+Alfred Theis
May 1	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	6 th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish

****STARTING SUNDAY, MAY 1ST, MASS TIME WILL CHANGE TO 8:00 AM AND ST. ANNE'S WILL HAVE 10:00 AM****

Weekend Masses at St. Anne's in Kimball are Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 10:00 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
Apr 30 at 7:30 pm	Judi Schreiner Rita Schwartz Rick Utecht	Lauren Johannes Dylan Utecht	Ralph Schreiner Art Faber	Judi Schreiner
May 1 at 8:00 am	Brenda Kraemer Greg Utecht Mary Caskey	Andrew Bautch Michael Bautch	Don Dufner Robert Kraemer	Lee Bautch



Mass Time Change!

Just a friendly reminder that the **Sunday Mass Time** will switch to **8:00 am** NEXT WEEK ON SUNDAY, May 1, 2016. St. Anne's Sunday Mass time will switch to 10:00 am. Saturday Mass times will remain the same.

Stewardship of Treasure April 17, 2016


Adult	\$XXX (38 of 162 envelopes)	Energy Needs	\$XXX (3 gifts)
Youth	XXX (3 of 45 envelopes)	Home Mission	\$XXX (1 gift)
Loose	XXX		
TOTAL	\$XXXXX		



Gospel Connection: "Merge!" the blinking yellow lights shout. "Merge! Go left! Move immediately!" What's a body to do when faced with such clear direction as this? If I merge immediately, I will be obeying the law. Furthermore, I will be safely in the correct lane when only one lane remains. What else can I do but merge? Well, there is, of course, a second option. The alternative is to selfishly speed ahead while leaving those early mergers in my dust. I can pass everybody and sneak into the merge line at the last possible moment. This choice would put me in first place, and isn't first place the best place to be? This is a simple choice if I am thinking only of myself. The decision only becomes complicated when I consider both the actions and the welfare of my fellow mergers. If all drivers merge as soon as possible, everyone will be in the right place when the two lanes become one. No one will be left behind. A perfect merge means that no one is delayed for even a second. But let's face it: if just one individual chooses to speed ahead, a delay will occur for everyone until the entire merge lane must stop to let the speedy one in. And, in that case, he who merged first will wait the longest . . . I am a human being, and therefore I have a choice. I can choose to be selfish and step ahead of everyone else, or I can choose to be generous and accept the risk of being left behind. It is an act of faith to merge early. My faith in making this choice is not the belief that all will merge early and no one will be delayed. Oh, no. As long as there are human beings, there will be those who will fail and fall short, and there will be times when I will be one of the fallen ones. My faith is in the belief that sacrifice for others is inherently good and making the choice to do good is the gift of being human. [Lori Vermuelen, "*The Perfect Merge, This I Believe: Life Lessons.*"]

The love of Christ begins in our attitude and perspective, and then manifested in everything we do - from our care for our families to the way we drive. Such love often asks us to do what is difficult and counter-intuitive: it requires of us a humility that places the needs of others before our own, a respect for others that recognizes the holy dignity of every human being - including the selfish driver. It is a love that grows stronger the more it is tested, a love that endures and remains steadfast the more it is pulled, a love that continues to heal and forgive the more it is engaged. Our very identity as Disciples of Christ is centered in such persistent and constant love; our faithfulness in imitating the compassion and forgiveness of the Risen One is lived in our openness of heart and spirit to love selflessly, completely and unconditionally, as God has loved us in his Christ.


Religious Education: The LAST class will be on April 27th for this school year! There will be a **pizza party** and bingo held in the Church Basement.

 **Our Sympathy:** Our sympathy to the Family and Friends of Jake Foehrenbacher, who was laid to rest this past week. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.


Tootsie Roll Drive: The Knights of Columbus will have their Tootsie Roll Drive after the Masses on April 23rd and 24th. Remember to bring your donation!



Thank you! The Vern & Alverna Hennen Family wish to thank the St. Nicholas Parish. "We appreciated the beautiful plaque and dinner for our family!" The Vern & Alverna Hennen Family.

 **Congratulations!** Congratulations to Nicole Meier and Chad Koopmeiners who exchanged marriage vows on Saturday, April 23rd! May the Lord be with them as they begin their married life!

Catholic Home Mission: Many dioceses right here in the United States do not have enough priests and trained lay ministers to serve their parishes. These dioceses are known as *home missions*. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal supports these dioceses by funding essential ministries, including seminary education and lay ministry training. Please be generous in this appeal and share your resources to strengthen the Church at home. Please use the envelope in your packet. Thank you!

 **Our Sympathy:** Our sympathy to the Family and Friends of Frank Spiczka, Jr., who died April 10th. Frank is the brother of Sally Beckius and originally from the St. Nicholas area. He was from Tyler, MN. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Benefit for Jeff Pauls: Jeff has had quite a journey this last year! In December of 2014, Jeff had knee surgery to replace his artificial knee. Since then, he has had 3 more knee surgeries due to a staph infection from the initial procedure. In January, 2016, Jeff was diagnosed with a rare & advance case of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. The "Burnout Cancer" Car Show & Dinner will be on Saturday, May 21st in Marty, MN. The Car Show is 1 – 4 pm, Silent Auction & Wine Pull from 1 – 8 pm, Pork Chop Dinner from 4 – 8 pm. For more information about the benefit, to donate silent auction items, or tickets to the Dinner, please contact Heather Pauls 320-241-5760, Nicki Holthaus 320-293-0301 or Glen Pauls 320-764-9202.

Readings for the Week: Monday, April 25th: 1 Pt 5:5b-14 / Mk 16:15-20

Tuesday, April 26th: Acts 14:19-28 / Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday, April 27th: Acts 15:1-6 / Jn 15:1-8

Thursday, April 28th: Acts 15:7-21 / Jn 15:9-11

Friday, April 29th: Acts 15:22-31 / Jn 15:12-17

Community Events:

- Sunday, April 24th: Supper at St. Anthony Parish, off of State Hwy 238, in St. Anthony, MN. Serving Swanycake pancakes, sausage, potato salad, relishes, homemade bread, bars, cake & beverage from 3 pm – 8:30 pm. All you can Eat!
- Tuesday, April 26th: Cathedral High School, grades 7 – 12, is hosting an Open House from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Meet teachers, administrators, and current students. Tours are provided. All are invited!
- Friday, April 29th: Paint & Socialize Party at St. Nicholas starting at 6:30 pm. Don't forget!!
- St. Anthony Thrift Store in Watkins has a large variety of clothing, household goods, craft items, books, toys & more. Located in the Church Basement. Open Thursday & Saturday mornings from 9:00 am to Noon. Come and check it out!