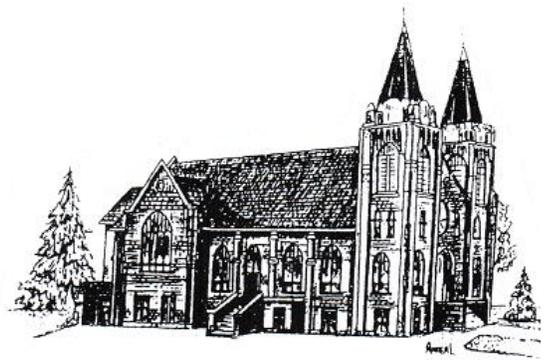


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 11, 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 |
| Brenda Kraemer, Rel. Ed Coordinator | 685-3715 | Parish Council, Robert Kraemer | 685-3715 |
| | | Parish Council, Marion Frank | 764-9111 |
| | | 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 |
| *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. | | | |

MASS SCHEDULE

| | | | | |
|---------|-----------|--------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Sept 10 | Saturday | {SN} 7:30 pm | 24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Special Intention – Decker Family |
| Sept 11 | Sunday | {SN} 8:00 am | 24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | +Marcellus & Randy Hansen |
| Sept 12 | Monday | {SA} 8:00 am | Weekday | |
| Sept 13 | Tuesday | {SN} 8:00 am | St. John Chrysostom | +Faithful Departed |
| Sept 14 | Wednesday | {SA} 8:30 am | Exaltation of the Holy Cross | |
| Sept 15 | Thursday | {SN} 8:00 am | Our Lady of Sorrows | +Joseph Schwartz |
| Sept 16 | Friday | NO MASS | Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian | |
| Sept 17 | Saturday | {SN} 7:30 pm | 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | People of the Parish |
| Sept 18 | Sunday | {SN} 8:00 am | 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | +Ewald Johannes |

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 |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Sept 17 at 7:30 pm | Anita Neu | Lauren Johannes Dylan Utecht | Allen Stommes Ron Steil | Elmer Neu |
| Sept 18 at 8:00 am | Trish Ludwig Jeff Theis Mike Kuechle | Maggie Ludwig Volunteer | Don Dufner Paul Ludwig | Shirley Kuechle |

Mass Intentions: An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit one's soul. If you would like to schedule a Mass Intention, please drop it in the collection in an envelope marked "Mass Intention" or contact Brenda in the Parish Office. Mass intentions are \$10.



Catholic Campaign for Human Development: The collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development provides funding for groups that make lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. CCHD's grants improve education, support economic development, and create affordable housing in low-income neighborhoods. Help us continue to defend human dignity and build communities of solidarity. Please use the envelope in your packet; THANK YOU!

Stewardship of Treasure September 4, 2016

Adult \$1,630.00 (33 of 162 envelopes)
Youth 0.00 (0 of 45 envelopes)
Loose 78.00

Votive Stand

\$101.25



TOTAL \$1,708.00

Gospel Connection: Best-selling author Barbara Brown Taylor and her husband, Ed, live on small farm in the foothills of the Appalachians. In her book *An Altar in the World*, she writes about the first time she harvested the farm's potato crop. "I was reluctant to be in the garden. I did not want to sweat. I wanted to be indoors doing something that involved books or at least newsprint. But Ed was so excited by the prospect that I might be excited by digging potatoes that I relented just to shut him up, complaining bitterly all the way to the garden . . . I stuck my hands in the dirt and started to feel around. The dirt was damp and cool. It smelled fresh and mysterious. I broke clods apart with my fingers, waiting for something that felt like a potato . . . My first potato was the size of a marble - a big one, a shooter - still attached to its mother by a root no thicker than a broom straw. 'It's just a baby,' I said to Ed. 'Should I leave it alone?'

""The plant is finished,' he said. 'You can have everything you find.' So I popped the root and put the potato in my bucket, plunging my hands back into the earth. There was a whole nest of small potatoes right behind my first find. I dug them out and brushed them off, every one of them a different shape . . . Reaching back into the dirt, I felt something curved poking out from the wall of the hole that Ed had dug. Little by little, I cleared away the earth around it, drawing out handfuls of dirt with earthworms in them. My fingernails were wrecked. I went back in. Gradually the curve became half a sphere. My shoulders were cramping. I kept digging until I had freed a potato as big as my hand. Brushing the dirt off its yellow skin, I understood why the potato was called a Yukon Gold. I had never seen anything so elementally good-looking that passed for food. After that, I was unstoppable. Digging potatoes was like playing slots in Vegas. I hit it big. The gamble was half the fun. The exertion was the other half - the difficult physical labor of drawing food from the ground. That night when Ed and I sat down to a pan of roasted potatoes with Jerusalem artichokes and whole garlic, I hurt so badly that I could hardly lift my fork to my mouth. When I did, I ate the whole day: the fragrant dirt, the blue sky, the dying potato plant, its golden offspring. I had never tasted anything so nourishing in my life."

Barbara Brown Taylor's experience of digging potatoes mirrors the work that Jesus calls us to take on in today's Gospel: the work of finding the lost, of bringing home the broken and desperate, of uncovering the good in others that they may not even realize that they possess. Make no mistake, it's hard work, demanding more "digging" than we may be ready for. But Jesus asks us to keep at it, no matter how much our backs ache and our hearts break. Christ promises us the grace and strength to keep "digging" for the lost among us and to rejoice in their return, their recovery, their being found.

Religious Education: Classes this year will begin on Wednesday, October 5th. Registration material and the schedule for the year will be reaching you soon! We will begin with a regular class, since Fr. Tom will be on retreat that first week in October. We are still in need of one teacher and anyone who would be available to fill in for a few classes during the year. Please contact Brenda in the Parish Office! The teacher's meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 28th at 7:00 pm in the Parish House.

Banns of Marriage II: There is a promise of Marriage between Bridget Gerads and Michael Holbrook here at St. Nicholas on Saturday, September 24th.

Sermon on the Mount: TV star, Frank Runyeon, will be performing "Sermon on the Mount" on Thursday, October 20th at 7:00 pm at the EV-W High School. This is a One-man drama presentation about scripture and faith. It will teach about Jesus's journey of faith and to inspired youth and families. This is a family-friendly event and is open to the public. The cost is a free-will offering to help with the cost.

Readings for the Week: Monday, Sept. 12th: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33 / Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday, Sept. 13th: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a / Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday, Sept. 14th: Nm 21:4b-9 / Phil 2:6-11 / Jn 3:13-17

Thursday, Sept. 15th: 1 Cor 15:1-11 / Jn 19:25-27

Friday, Sept. 16th: 1 Cor 15:12-20 / Lk 8:1-3

St. Anne's Fall Festival: Held on Sunday, September 18th



Mass at 9:00 am with live Polka music by Laverne & the Starlights. **Breakfast** served from 9 am to 12 pm. The menu features Nelson Bros. Fritter Bread French Toast, Knaus sausage, scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, and beverages. **Schiefelbein Hamburgers** and Beer Stand from 10 am to the end. **Bean Bag Tournament** with an 11 am sign up – 11:30 am start. **Raffle Drawing** at 3 pm with the Grand Prize being a 2016 Cub Cadet LX 42" Lawn Tractor. **Many Other Activities throughout the day!**

Community Events:

- The next program begins Sept 23, 2016: Retrouvaille is a program that offers support & help to couples in hurting & strained marriages. Call 320-255-5314 or check the website: www.helpourmarriage.org for more information.
- Saturday, September 24th: 3rd Annual Partnership Barn Dance 4:30 – 9:00 pm held at Mark & Carla Hoelscher Farm: 23942 370th Street in Browerville, MN. Free Will donation. Outdoor Mass at 4:30 with Bishop Kettler. Many activities to follow!
- Sept 30 – Oct 2nd: Beginning Experience Weekend for divorced, widowed or separated adults and young people ages 12 & up. Held in Alexandria, MN. To receive an application or more info: call 888-565-0178 or beginningexperiencecentralmn.org.
- March 24 – 26: Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in Baxter, MN. For more info: northmnwwme.org or call 888-455-3496.