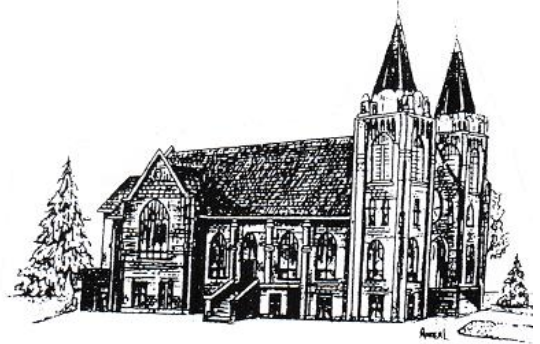


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 15, 2017



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

Jan 14	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Alfred Theis Family
Jan 15	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Joseph W. Theis
Jan 16	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Jan 17	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	St. Anthony	+Donald Lutgen
Jan 18	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Weekday	
Jan 19	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Eugene Schwartz
Jan 20	Friday	NO MASS	Weekday	
Jan 21	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Jan 22	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Steve Gathje

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
Jan 21 at 7:30 pm	Anita Neu	Nathan Utecht Derek Utecht	Jack Rausch Art Faber	Elmer Neu
Jan 22 at 10:00 am	Kelly Bautch Jeff Theis Judy Schutz	Andrew Bautch Michael Bautch	Jerry Boeckman Phil Vossen	Lee Bautch

Stewardship of Treasure January 8, 2017

Adult	\$XXX	(38 of 162 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(4 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	

Religious Retirement	\$XXX (1 gift)
Christmas	\$XXX (3 gifts)
Energy Needs	\$XXX (4 gifts)
Adult 2016	\$XXX (2 gifts)
Solemnity of Mary	\$XXX (1 gift)



Gospel Connection: Among the many gifts Brandon and Kathy Gunn received at their wedding was a white box from Kathy's Aunt Alison. The card on the box read, *Do not open until first argument*. So they dutifully placed the unwrapped gift on the top shelf of their kitchen pantry. Sure enough, there were moments of tension and disagreement, but Brandon and Kathy refused to open the gift. Despite the hard words and slammed doors, the couple saw opening the box as a sign of failure - they believed that their love for one another could handle whatever life threw at them. The white box became a challenge. In May, the couple, now the parents of two children, celebrated their ninth anniversary. That's when they decided to open Aunt Alison's box. Not because they needed to but because they were convinced they would never have to. What they found in Aunt Alison's box was remarkably unremarkable: some money for flowers, pizza and take-out, a bottle of wine, some bath salts - nothing that could really end a fight at all, just bring a moment to stop and regroup. And that's when it hit them, that the real gift wasn't anything in the box - that the real gift, the priceless gift, had been staring at them all along. By not turning to the box, Brandon and Kathy were forced to learn tolerance, compromise and patience. That was the real gift. And they possessed it all along. [From *CBS Sunday Morning*, November 13, 2016.]

Through the tiffs and tumbles of their life together, a young couple comes to realize what John proclaims in today's Gospel: that "the Lamb of God" is in our midst. The challenge of our lives is to see and hear the compassion of God, to uncover and lift up God's grace that goes largely unnoticed in the busyness of our days. We often find ourselves rushing through our lives, too preoccupied and distracted in the pursuit of "riches" to "behold" the real "treasure" of our lives in all its joy and fulfillment; in our "dreams" of what we do not have we overlook the reality of what we do have. May we behold, with eyes of faith and spirits of hope, the Lamb of God among us, here and now, in our kitchens and classrooms, in our work places and playing fields.

Religious Education: The next class will be held on January 18th at 7:00 pm.



Baptismal Class: The next Baptismal Class will be held on January 19th at 7:00 pm at St. Anne's Church. This class is for all expectant parents who have never taken this class OR you have not taken this class in our parish before. It should be taken BEFORE the birth of your child. BOTH parents are expected to attend. Call St. Anne's to register at 398-2211. If you know of someone who should take this class, please tell them!

March for Life: The March for Life is scheduled at State Capital on Sunday January 22. There will be no prayer service beforehand because it's a Sunday. The march starts at 2 pm. Speakers and presentation at 2:30pm. The bus is scheduled to leave Richmond at noon and pick up at Rockville 12:15. To reserve your seat or more information call Linda at 320-597-4667.

Readings for the Week: Monday, Jan. 16th: Heb 5:1-10 / Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday, Jan. 17th: Heb 6:10-20 / Mk 2:23-28

Thursday, Jan. 19th: Heb 7:25 - 8:6 / Mk 2:7-12

Wednesday, Jan. 18th: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17 / Mk 3:1-6

Friday, Jan. 20th: Heb 8:6-13 / Mk 3:13-19

Community Events:

- Sunday, January 15: Bouja & chicken Noodle Soup Sale at St. Anthony's Church in Watkins for 8:30 am to Noon. You may pre-order by calling Larry Flaschenriem at 320-764-2965.
- January 14 - 15, 2017: St. Benedict's Monastery hosting a *Come and See Weekend*. Inviting single women between the ages of 22 and 45 to spend some time with them to experience community life. Time spent in prayer, conversation & meals with the sisters. For more information, contact Sister Lisa Rose at 363-7180 or email at lrose@csbsju.edu.
- Saturday, January 28th: Knights of Columbus & Holy Cross School Pearl Lake hosting a Spaghetti Supper from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Serving pasta, marinara with beef and/or Alfredo sauce, salad, garlic bread & beverages. Held at Holy Cross School in Marty.



Jesus the Lamb of God