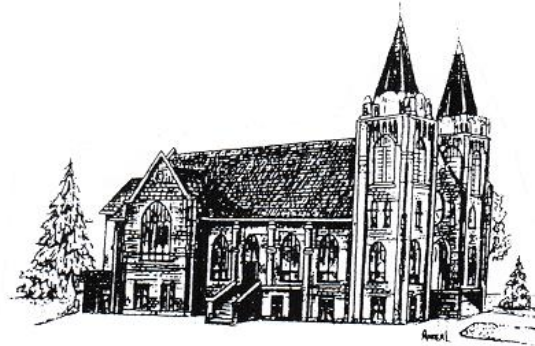


# CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 12, 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, Paul Ludwig	764-2336
<b>*Bulletin Deadline is Thursday at 9am</b> <b>*Email: stnicholas@meltel.net</b> <b>*Website: www.churchofsaintnicholas.com</b> <b>*Usual Office Hours of Secretary are Monday and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:30 am.</b>		Parish Council, Angie Spitzley	453-2091
		Parish Council, Roger Utecht	253-9547
		Parish Council, Sandy Stang	764-2030
		Parish Council, Don Dufner	764-9105
		Parish Council, Sue Stommes	597-3454
		Trustee, Mike Kuechle	685-3225
		Trustee, Mary Caskey	597-2854

MASS SCHEDULE

Feb 11	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Dec. Rel. Ken & Betty Lutgen
Feb 12	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Dec. Rel. Kraemer Family
Feb 13	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Feb 14	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	St. Cyril	+Fr. Alvin Quade
Feb 15	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Weekday	
Feb 16	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Cremers Family
Feb 17	Friday	NO MASS	Weekday	
Feb 18	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Feb 19	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Vocations

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](http://www.churchofsaintnicholas.com)

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES				
	Eucharistic Ministers	Servers	Ushers	Lector
Feb 18 at 7:30 pm	Louise Schutz	Nathan Utecht Derek Utecht	Art Faber Jack Rausch	Joe Decker
Feb 19 at 10:00 am	Brenda Kraemer Shirley Lutgen Mary Caskey	Sarah Kraemer Kathy Kraemer	Robert Kraemer John Hopfer	Doug Caskey

**Breakfast at St. Nicholas February 19<sup>th</sup>:** Groups 3 and 4 are planning and serving breakfast on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to Noon. The menu will include waffles with toppings, pork sausage, scrambled eggs, fruit cups, Danishes, and beverages. This sounds like a delicious breakfast so mark your calendar so you are there that day!! Group 3 should report for duty from 7:30 am to 10:30 and Group 4 should be working from 10:30 to clean up. **\*\*Members of Groups 3 and 4 should bring something for the raffle and bake sale.**



**Listening Session:** Due to pending lawsuits involving alleged sexual misconduct by monks and/or priest who might have served in various parishes in the Diocese of St. Cloud, Bishop Kettler has asked a Diocesan Response Team to hold listening sessions for the people in those parishes. Our session has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 8:00 pm at St. Louis Parish in Paynesville (505 Burr Street in Paynesville). This listening session will not be open to the news media. If you are not able to attend this meeting, there are other listening sessions scheduled around the Diocese and can be found at the Diocesan website or in *The Visitor*.

Stewardship of Treasure February 5, 2017				
Adult	\$XXX	(45 of 162 envelopes)	Retired Religious Fund	\$25.00 (1 gift)
Youth	XXX	(3 of 45 envelopes)	Easter Flowers	\$50.00 (1 gift)
Loose	XXX		Energy Needs	\$180.00 (3 gifts)
TOTAL	\$XXXXX		St. Cloud Visitor	\$292.00 (17 gifts)
			Catholic Relief Services	\$100.00 ( 1 gift)

**Gospel Connection:** Two stories about unsuccessful attempts to get people to do the right thing: A group of day-care centers was having a problem with parents arriving late to pick up their children. Teachers, who had family responsibilities of their own, had to stay with the children until their parents arrived. So the school began to impose a fine on parents who were late picking up their kids at the end of the day. Did it solve the problem? No - in fact, the problem became worse. Before the fine, picking up their children on time was an act of being considerate to the teachers. But after the fines were imposed, showing up to pick up their kids became an economic transaction. Parents no longer felt it necessary to be kind.

A few years ago, the fire commissioner in a major city ended his department's policy of unlimited sick days and imposed a limit of 15 per year. Those who exceeded the limit had their pay docked. Suddenly what had been an ethic to serve the city was replaced by a utilitarian paid arrangement. The number of firefighters who called in sick on Christmas and New Year's increased by tenfold over the previous year. [From *The Moral Economy* by Samuel Bowles.]

Throughout the Gospel, Jesus appeals to our sense of righteousness and altruism - that God's Spirit of justice and compassion is a more creative and effective force in our lives than any self-centered cost-benefit calculation. Faith begins in the heart, Jesus says. What we say, what we do, what we decide, are all responses to the God who speaks to us in the depths of our hearts, the God in whose image and likeness we have been created. While the scribes and Pharisees were obsessed with the meticulous keeping of the letter of the Law, Jesus taught the importance of the more difficult task of embracing the Spirit of love and humility that endows all just laws with their purpose and meaning. Christ speaks not of rules and regulations but the much deeper and profound values of the human heart. "What else are the laws of God," St. Augustine said, "but the very presence of the Holy Spirit."

**Religious Education:** The next class will be held on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 pm in the Church Basement. You should have received a letter from your student about Class on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. This class will be in the Church basement with a spaghetti supper starting at 6:45 pm. If you did not receive a letter from your student last week, please check the website for a copy!

Notice of Safe Environment Training: Each year the Diocese of St. Cloud requires us to provide this training for the protection of children and young people for their personal safety. This year we will use the video “What Tadoo” for grade 1, “Time to Tell” for grades 2 – 5, and “Called to Protect for Youth” for grades 6 to 11. This training will take place in each class over the next month. Parents are welcomed to view the video prior to showing or join us for class. If you would like to decline this training for your child, please contact Brenda.

**Parish Custodian:** St. Nicholas Church is looking for a custodian for the Church. This can be a single person or a couple and will be for the Church only. It will be approximately 2 to 3 hours per week and is flexible as to when works for you! If you have questions, please contact Mike Kuechle at 685-3225.

**Mass with Healing Prayers:** Fr. Ubald from Rwanda will be returning to St Michael’s Parish in St Cloud (1036 County Road 4) on Mon, Feb 27: 5pm confessions and 7pm Mass. His family was killed in the genocide and God has bestowed upon him a ministry of healing. He writes, *“Healing begins with forgiveness. Forgiveness makes you free. Freedom is joy. Joy is Jesus. This is the Secret of Peace.”* Any questions, please call our parish office: 320-251-6923 or Mary Gustafson: 320-266-2954.

**Readings for the Week:** Monday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>: Gn 4:1-15 / Mk 8:11-13  
Tuesday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>: Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10 / Mk 8:14-21  
Wednesday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22 / Mk 8:22-26  
Thursday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>: Gn 9:1-13 / Mk 8:27-33  
Friday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>: Gn 11:1-9 / Mk 8:34 – 9:1

**Community Events:**

- Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>: Service of Healing at 7:00 pm at Holy Angels Performing Arts Center in St. Cloud. Bishop Donald Kettler will preside over a healing service for anyone who has been wounded in any way by the Church. This service provides a time to pray for healing and for the Church to seek the forgiveness of those whom it has hurt. For more information call 251-0558.
- Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>: St. Nicholas Parish Breakfast serving from 9 to Noon. See details above!
- Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>: Assumption Church in Eden Valley Christian Women’s Benefit For Life Luncheon. Serving pulled pork sandwiches, salad, chips, baked beans, and desserts from 9 am to 1 pm.

