

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

April 16, 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
*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, 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

Apr 15	Saturday	{SA} 7:30 pm	Holy Saturday	
Apr 16	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Easter Sunday	Intention of the Celebrant
Apr 17	Monday	NO MASS TODAY	Monday of Easter	
Apr 18	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Tuesday of Easter	Vocations
Apr 19	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Wednesday of Easter	
Apr 20	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Thursday of Easter	+Ewald Johannes
Apr 21	Friday	NO MASS	Friday of Easter	
Apr 22	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Divine Mercy Sunday	Int. of E & A Neu
Apr 23	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Divine Mercy Sunday	+Virginia Pozorski

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
April 22 at 7:30 pm	Anita Neu	Nathan Utecht Derek Utecht	Art Faber Tom Landwehr	Elmer Neu
April 23 at 10:00 am	Marion Frank Elmer Frank Brenda Kraemer	Sarah Kraemer Kathy Kraemer	Ron Stang Robert Kraemer	Betty Johannes


Dear Parishioners,

Christ is risen! He is truly risen! Alleluia! Once again we are celebrating the most important feast in the lives of all Christians – the feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord. This is the time for us to rejoice in the meaning of the Resurrection – the knowledge that Christ has risen and has promised that we, too, will share in His glorious Resurrection.

In this spirit of faith and hope, I wish you a Holy and Happy Easter.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Tom



Stewardship of Treasure April 9, 2017					
Adult	\$1,589.00	(40 of 162 envelopes)		Easter Flowers	\$145.00 (3 gifts)
Youth	9.35	(4 of 45 envelopes)		Energy Needs	\$225.00 (2 gifts)
Loose	193.00			Good Friday – Holy Land	\$10.00 (1 gift)
TOTAL	\$1,791.35			Easter	\$25.00 (1 gift)

Gospel Connection: We've all beheld that dawn. A sudden ray of light breaks through the darkness of our hopelessness, our fear, our grief. And we're able to put the night behind us and face the new day. We've all been stopped in our tracks by that bolt of lightning. We freeze in terror. But in that moment when we stopped, we saw in the light the danger we did not realize or the path forward we did not see. We've all experienced that earthquake when a new understanding, a new revelation, rocked our world and released us from the "tomb" we didn't realized we had dug for ourselves. We've all confronted that stone: all the regret and grief, all the fear and anxiety that blocks where we need to go or what we need to do. But our compassion, our caring, our mercy somehow dislodges that mass of rock and we find a way around it. At those dawns, in the flash of lightening that stopped us in our tracks, in the broken earth of those quakes, in the stones that we manage to roll away, we find ourselves standing before Easter's empty tomb. It's a little unsettling at first - maybe terrifying. But Easter is never about safety; it's about freedom. Because of the Risen Christ in the faithfulness of the friend who stayed with us, we made through the night. Because of the Risen Christ in the wise teacher or counselor who reached out to us, our world broke open and set us on a new path. Because of the Risen Christ in the generosity and support of some angel, we managed to roll the stone away. Easter is not about the past in Jerusalem but the hope that awaits us in Galilee.

The darkness before dawn, the terrifying lightening, the trembling of the ground under us, the insurmountable stone we find a way to move - all bring us to Easter. Easter is filled with the promise of new things that can be realized only through love, compassion, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice and peace. The empty tomb is the sign of perfect hope: that in Christ all things are possible, that we can live our lives with meaning and purpose, that we can become the people God created us to be. May we not fear or shrink from Easter morning's first light and broken stones but embrace that light and the hope it promises in the Risen One who is forever in our midst.

Religious Education: The LAST CLASS will be held on Wednesday, April 19th with a pizza party and some fun activities. Confirmation takes place at St. Boniface in Cold Spring on Sunday, May 21st at 2:00 pm. Confirmation will have some classes before that date!

Easter Flowers: Thank you for the Easter Flower donations! They were made in memory of:

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| +Ervin, Louise & Loren Linn | +Christian Women |
| +Hansen & Krueger Families | +Joseph W. Theis |
| +Theresa & William Theis | +Anton & Anna Prozarski |
| +Audrey, Jim & Phil | |



Thank you!! Thank you to EVERYONE who assisted with Masses during Holy Week! *Thank you!* To those who prepared the palms on Palm Sunday, the Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, servers, ushers, the Choir and musicians and those that decorated the Church! Also, another *Thank you!* to the Men’s Society for hosting Stations of the Cross during Lent! This was a great addition to our Lenten practice. You have all made Holy Week and Easter special at St. Nicholas!

Mass Time Change! It is that time of year again when St. Anne and St. Nicholas SUNDAY Mass times switch. Beginning *on Sunday, May 7th* St. Nicholas’s Mass time will switch to 8:00 am and St. Anne will have the 10:00 am Mass. Saturday Masses remain the same.

Bible Study: The Bible Study sessions will begin on Wednesday, April 26th at 6:30 pm in the Parish House. Everyone is invited to come and see how the program works.

Rice Bowl: Encounter the Risen Christ. We prayed, fasted and gave alms – and now we celebrate Easter Joy! Our Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl ends as we encounter our risen Lord. We reflect on our brothers and sisters whom we have walked with in India, Zambia, El Salvador, Mexico, Ethiopia and Hawaii. And we commit to bring Easter Joy to each person we meet in our daily lives. Thank you!

Readings for the Week: Monday, April 17th: Acts 2:14, 22-23 / Mt 28:8-15
 Tuesday, April 18th: Acts 2:36-41 / Jn 20:11-18
 Thursday, April 20th: Acts 3:11-26 / Lk 24:35-48
 Wednesday, April 19th: Acts 3:1-10 / Lk 24:13-35
 Friday, April 21st: Acts 4:1-12 / Jn 21:1-14

Community Events:

- Sunday, April 23rd: Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration at St. Boniface, Cold Spring. Opening at 2:30 pm with Fr. Todd Schneider. Opportunity for reconciliation 4:30 – 5:30 with a closing at 5:30 pm. Soup & fellowship to follow.
- Sunday, April 30th: Annual Swanycake & Sausage Supper at St. Anthony Parish, St. Anthony on Hwy 238, Albany. Serving from 3 pm to 8:30 pm. Menu: Swany White pancakes, sausage from Pep’s Pork, potato salad, relishes, applesauce, bread, dessert, beverages.
- Thursdays from May 4 to June 29: Annual Novena of Masses at the Assumption (Grasshopper) Chapel in Cold Spring. Rosary at 7:00 pm with Mass at 7:30 pm. Mass is outdoors, so bring a chair. In case of rain, Mass will be at St. Boniface.
- June 6 – 8: Faith & Fun with the Franciscans – a Summer camp for girls completing grades 6 – 8 in Little Falls. Register by May 1st. There is a brochure on the Parish House Bulletin board with more information.

