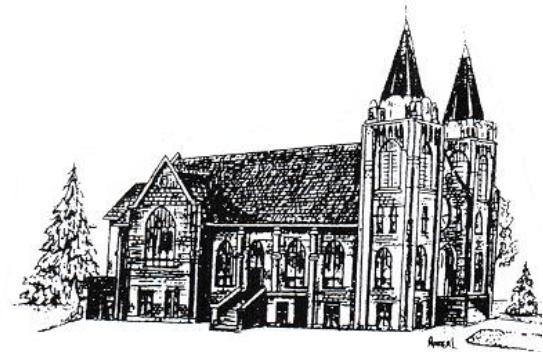


# CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

July 16, 2017



PARISH STAFF			PARISH ORGANIZATION LEADERS		
Fr. James Statz	398-2229		Christian Women, Anita Neu	685-3287	
Brenda Kraemer, Secretary	(Office)	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	534-8658		Ministry Scheduler, Annette Stang	764-5339	
Brenda Kraemer, Rel. Ed Coordinator	(H)	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 mornings.</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

July 15	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Int. of E & A Neu
July 16	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Theresa Theis
July 17	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
July 18	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Alois Stommes
July 19	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Weekday	
July 20	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Ewald Johannes
July 21	Friday	{SA} NO MASS	Weekday	
July 22	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Eugene Stommes
July 23	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Alfred & Dolores Braegelmann

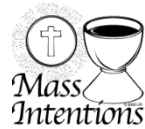
**\*\*Fr. Mark Willenbring will be here for Masses on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and July 23<sup>rd</sup> \*\***

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


LITURGICAL MINISTRIES				
	Eucharistic Ministers	Servers	Ushers	Lector
July 22 at 7:30 pm	Anita Neu	Nathan Utecht Derek Utecht	Allen Stommes Laverne Ludwig	Elmer Neu
July 23 at 8:00 am	Lee Bautch Mary Caskey Don Dufner	Caden Neiman Landon Neiman	Dean Dufner Phil Vossen	Doug Caskey

**Mass Intentions:** We are in need of additional Mass Intentions! Please consider adding some today! 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.



**Fr. Statz Retreat:** Fr. Statz will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of his retreat from Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Fr. Mark Willenbring will be here for Masses on Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please welcome him!

**Parish Council Meeting:** The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the Church basement. If there are any items for the agenda, please email or leave a message at the Parish Office.

Stewardship of Treasure July 9, 2017			
Adult	\$XXX	(39 of 161 envelopes)	
Youth	XXX	(0 of 45 envelopes)	
Loose	XXX		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$XXXXX</b>		
		Basement Rental	\$XXX (1 gift)
		Energy Needs	\$XXX (1 gift)

**Gospel Connection:** Every farmer and gardener knows that good soil is broken soil: soil that is tilled and turned to break through the winter cold and hardness so that the spring rain can nourish it; soil that has cracks and ridges into which seeds can take root in the rich nutrients of the wet, dark earth.

The mother who has experienced the death of a child now serves as an advocate and support for other moms and dads living that same nightmare. *Good soil is broken soil.*

The high school student who has been homeless, who has been the object of ridicule because of his religion or culture, who has endured the pain and indignity of racism, helps younger kids at his school cope with those same issues in their lives. *Good soil is broken soil.*

The retired business professional who remembers all too well the risks and near-catastrophes of launching a company gives his time mentoring a new generation of small business owners: helping them negotiate the perils of arranging financing, managing a work force, and effectively marketing their products and services. *Good soil is broken soil.*

As happens, their paths crossed. Her grace and kindness transformed his often-cynical outlook into an optimism that uncovered his own generosity and openness of heart; his "we can fix this" attitude lifted her out of the sadness and fear rooted in her difficult childhood and family life. Theirs is a love of story of *broken soil that is good soil.*

Each of us, in our own way, is broken soil, ploughed and turned over in all kinds of ways. We see our brokenness as something that diminishes us, that we try to hide, that somehow makes us unlovable or incapable of loving. But, if we embrace the faith and trust of the Gospel sower, our brokenness becomes the very means through which the seed of God's love takes root and grows and is harvested in the midst of family, friends, community and church. In Christ, no one is "bad soil" - whatever has broken us can be the means to realizing the harvest of the resurrection. We are called to follow Jesus and his example of loving others regardless of the hardness or barrenness of their "soil," trusting in the power of God's Word and Holy Spirit to reap the life of his compassion and peace in everyone's "ground."

**Bible Study:** The Bible Study sessions will continue on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Parish House. Everyone is welcome to attend!! The reading assignment for this session is Joshua 2, Joshua 6, Judges 1:1—3:6, Judges 13-16, 1 Samuel 8, 2 Samuel 7, 1 Kings 9; 11:1-13. This “Quick Journey through the Bible,” will take readers through the narrative story of the Bible in a timeline fashion by reading selected sections of the Bible. Each session of study will include a DVD section about the readings, then a discussion. Come try it!

**St. Nicholas Nicks:** St. Nick’s next game will be against Eden Valley on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. They will also play in Richmond on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:15 pm. Come and cheer on the team!!

**Readings for the Week:** Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup>: Ex 1:8-14, 22 / Mt 10:34 – 11:1  
 Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>: Ex 2:1-15a / Mt 11:20-24  
 Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>: Ex 3:13-20 / Mt 11:28-30  
 Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12 / Mt 11:25-27  
 Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>: Ex 11:10 – 12:14 / Mt 12:1-8

**Community Events:**

- Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>: Healing Mass in Honor of the Solemnity of St. Odilia at Holy Cross Priory Church in Onamia at 9:30 am. All are welcome to this celebration of Mass with the Anointing of the Sick and a ritual Blessing with the Relic of St. Odilia. A brunch will follow Mass – please make reservations by calling 320-532-3103. There is a \$9 per person suggested offering for brunch.
- Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>: Annual Summer Festival at Church of Seven Dolors in Albany, MN. Polka Mass in Church at 10:30 am. Homemade chicken & ham dinner from 11 to 1:30pm. Food, beverages, & games all day. Quilt auction at 3 pm. Raffle at 6 pm.

# The Parable of the Sower

