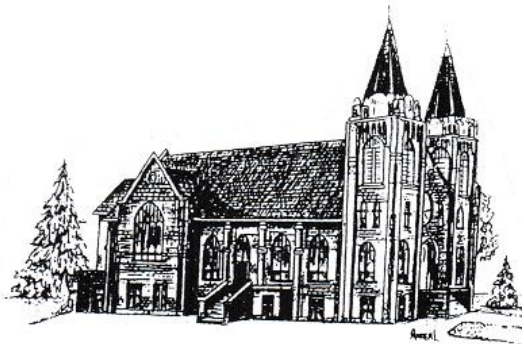


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 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	
*Bulletin Deadline is Thursday at 9am *Email: stnicholas@meltel.net *Website: www.churchofsaintnicholas.com *Usual Office Hours of Secretary are Monday and Thursday mornings.	685-3715	(H)	Parish Council, Paul Ludwig	764-2336	
			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

Sept 16	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Amanda Stommes
Sept 17	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Ben & Mary Neu Family
Sept 18	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Sept 19	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Jungels & Hoffmann Families
Sept 20	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Sts Andrew & Paul	
Sept 21	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	St. Matthew	+Ken Nohner
Sept 22	Friday	{SA} NO MASS	Weekday	
Sept 23	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Theis Family
Sept 24	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Ron Stommes

Mass at St. Anne’s on Sunday, September 17th is at 9:00 am for their Annual Fall Festival.

Fr. Eb Schefers will be here on Saturday, September 16th for the 7:30 pm Mass and Fr. Gerald Mischke will be here for the Sunday, September 17th Mass at 8:00 am.

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 23 at 7:30 pm	Elmer Neu	Lauren Johannes	Art Faber	Anita Neu
		Volunteer	Robert Wehseler	
Sept 24 at 8:00 am	Dave Stang	Andrew Bautch	Jerry Boeckmann	Lee Bautch
	Marion Frank	Michael Bautch	Phil Vossen	
	Elmer Frank			

Bible Study Class: The last Bible Study Class will be held on Sunday, October 8th at 6:30 pm in the Parish House. This will be the last class for this series and be about the New Testament.

Beginning Experience Weekend: BE is providing a weekend program for divorced, widowed or separated adults on October 6 – 8, 2017 at Luther Crest, Alexandria, MN BE is a program designed to facilitate the grief resolution process for adults thereby enabling them to again love themselves, others, and God. Those who attend the weekend should be beyond the initial feelings of anger and despair. To receive an application, or for more information, call 888-565-0178 or visit www.beginningexperiencemn.com, or information at the back of Church.

Stewardship of Treasure September 10, 2017

Adult	\$XXX	(29 of 161 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(0 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	



Human Development	\$XXX (1 gift)
Hurricane Harvey Relief	\$XXX

Gospel Connection: On a busy New York City street, a long line of cars had backed up behind a sanitation truck picking up the week's garbage lined up on the curb. At one point, a woman got out of her car and marched indignantly up to one of the sanitation workers to complain that she needed to be somewhere soon. Before he could reply, a rat jumped through a hole in the bag he was holding and ran up his arm, perching momentarily on his shoulder while considering its next move. With a visible shiver of disgust and loathing, he smacked the rat off his shoulder. Turning to the woman, who stood there stunned, her mouth agape, the sanitation worker said, "Lady, you see what we gotta contend with here." Chastened, she spun around without uttering a word and returned to her car, where she waited patiently for the truck to finish its stop. [*The New York Times*.]

Forgiveness begins with empathy: being able to see a situation from the perspective of the other. The woman's self-importance shatters when she realizes what the sanitation workers must contend with. As the story of the unforgiving servant makes clear, such empathy is not easy: it means overcoming our own anger and outrage at the hurt we have suffered and focusing our concern, instead, on the person who wronged us; such empathy means possessing the humility to face the hurt we have inflicted on others as a result of our insensitivity and self-centeredness. But only in such forgiving and seeking forgiveness are we able to realize the possibility of bringing healing and new life to a pained and grieving situation. Christ calls us to create within our families and communities that kind of environment in which forgiveness is joyfully offered and humbly but confidently sought - and the foundation of such a place is empathy that sees beyond our own hurt and disappointment in order to understand the plight of the other.

Religious Education: Religious Education is just right around the corner with school having already started! More information will be sent to each family with the schedule for the year this coming week. Classes will begin on Wednesday, October 4th with a Mass at 7:00 pm at St. Nicholas. All students and Parents should attend this Mass. If there are any new students that would like to attend class, please contact Brenda at the Parish House, home or by email!

St. Anne’s Fall Festival: St. Anne’s Annual Fall Festival will be held on Sunday, September 17th. Mass will be a **9 am** that day with live polka music by Laverne & the Starlights. Breakfast will be served from 9 am to Noon and be Nelson Bros. Fritter Bread French Toast, Knaus Sausage, scrambled eggs, fresh fruit and beverages. There will be a hamburger and beer stand from 10 am to the end of Festival. All kinds of activities are held, including a raffle at 3 pm. Come and join in on the fun!!

Diocesan Blue Mass: Once again, the Diocese will host a celebration of First Responders Mass on Thursday, September 21st at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Mary in St. Cloud. Family and Friends are welcome! This Mass will honor police, fire & emergency medical service personnel who serve in the Diocese of St. Cloud. There will be a reception immediately following Mass.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: Over 46 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs to empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to lift themselves out of poverty. By supporting this collection, you give people a hand up, not a hand out. Learn more about the Campaign at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

Diocesan Barn Dance: Everyone is invited to join Bishop Kettler and the Mission Office for the 4th Annual Partnership Barn Dance on Saturday, September 30th at the Wadena Fairgrounds in Wadena, MN. Mass with Bishop Kettler will begin at 4 pm followed by a meal, live music groups, live auction, door prizes and more. Contact the Mission Office at 320-251-1100 with questions.

World Mission Rosary Day: Friday, October 6th is the Annual Diocesan World Mission Rosary Day. This is a day when Catholic children all around the world commit to praying for one another. Our religious education students will be participating in a living rosary later in October.

Act-Oberfest Variety Show: Join the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of St. Cloud on Sunday, October 15th from 2 – 4 pm at the Falls Ballroom in Little Falls as Bishop Keller, Diocesan priest, and community members showcase their unique talents to benefit Diocesan youth. All proceeds go to Generation Next, a fund which supports retreats, mission trips and other faith-building activities. There is no ticket needed, but asking for a free-will offering. Food will be available for purchase. For questions, please call 320-258-7653.

Readings for the Week: Monday, September 18th: 1 Tm 2:1-8 / Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday, September 19th: 1 Tm 3:1-13 / Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday, September 20th: 1 Tm 3:14-16 / Lk 7:31-35
Thursday, September 21st: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 / Mt 9:9-13
Friday, September 22nd: 1 Tm 6:2c-12 / Lk 8:1-3

- Community Events:**
- Sunday, September 16th: Faith, Family and Fatima 64th Annual Fall Conference held at Our Lady of Lourdes in Little Falls. Cost is \$15 by September 19th, after that it will be \$20 at the door. Mail check to Lora Knafla, 11719 16th Ave NW, Rice, MN 56367.
 - September 15, 16 & 17: 43rd Annual Albany Pioneer Days Threshing Show held at the Stearns County Pioneer Club Showgrounds just north of Albany. This year featuring Minneapolis Moline, Twin City and Avery tractors & equipment. Great fun for everyone, young, old and in between! For details, visit the website: www.albanypioneerdays.com or call 320-393-2542.
 - September 22-24, 2017: Koinonia Retreat at the TEC center in Little Falls. Find more information at centralmnkoinonia.org.