

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 18, 2018



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, Roger Utecht	253-9547	
*Bulletin Deadline is Thursday at 9am *Email: stnicholas@meltel.net *Website: www.churchofsaintnicholas.com *Usual Office Hours of Secretary are Monday and Thursday mornings.			Parish Council, Sandy Stang	764-2030	
			Parish Council, Don Dufner	764-9105	
			Parish Council, Sue Stommes	597-3454	
			Parish Council, Elmer Frank	764-9111	
			Parish Council, Kelly Bautch	597-3255	
			Trustee, Mike Kuechle	685-3225	
			Trustee, Mary Caskey	597-2854	

MASS SCHEDULE

Mar 17	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	+Jean Stang-Malone & Andrew Stang
Mar 18	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish
Mar 19	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	St Joseph	
Mar 20	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Eugene Schutz
Mar 21	Wednesday	{SA} 5:30 pm	Lenten Weekday	
		{SN} 7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Mar 22	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Wilfred Flaschenreim
Mar 23	Friday	{SA} NO MASS	Lenten Weekday	
Mar 24	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Palm Sunday	+Esther Faber
Mar 25	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Palm Sunday	+Gregor & Frances Schreiner

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
Mar 24 at 7:30 pm	Louise Schutz	Katelyn Utecht	Allen Stommes	Lucy Schreiner
		Volunteer	Laverne Ludwig	Judi Schreiner
Mar 25 at 10:00 am	Mary Caskey	Sarah Kraemer	Ron Stang	Doug Caskey
	Sandy Stang	Kathy Kraemer	Jerry Boeckmann	Mike Kuechle
	Steve Stang			

Holy Week MASS SCHEDULE: Palm Sunday (Regular Sunday Masses at both parishes.)

Holy Thursday: 5:30 pm at SN with Adoration until 8:00 pm / 7:30 pm at SA with Adoration until 10:00 pm  
Good Friday: Noon at SA / 3:00 pm at SN  
Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil Mass: 8:00 pm at St. Nicholas  
Easter: regular Sunday Mass Schedule with SA at 8:00 am and SN at 10:00 am

Confession Schedule:

Sunday, March 25: 4:00 pm at SN and 7:00 pm at SA: Communal Penance Service with 2 Priests available for Confessions.  
Monday, March 26: 8:30 am at SA  
Tuesday, March 27: 8:30 am at SN  
Wednesday, March 28: 5:00 pm at SA, and 7:30 pm at SN

**Confirmation Students Practice Schedule:** Here is a reminder for the Confirmation Students! There will be a practice/rehearsal for Palm Sunday Masses on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at St. Anne’s. There are 2 Palm Sunday Masses (Saturday night and Sunday morning). There is no practice for Holy Thursday, just come to Mass! Practice for Good Friday will be at 9:00 am at St. Anne’s. Good Friday Mass at SN is at 3:00 pm. Practice for Holy Saturday will be Saturday morning at SN at 9:00 am. Mass will be at 8 pm. Plan on attending ALL practices and Masses!

Stewardship of Treasure March 4, 2018

Adult	\$XXX	(35 of 161 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(3 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL \$XXXXX		



St. Cloud Visitor	\$XXX (2 gifts)
Catholic Relief	\$XXX (2 gifts)

**Gospel Connection:** In 1966, the United States was deep in the quagmire of the war in Vietnam. The Secretary of the Defense, Robert McNamara, sent a Marine-turned-researcher named Daniel Ellsberg in-country to assess the war and the chances for success. After accompanying American units fighting and dying in the jungle, he realized that the war was all but lost. Privately, McNamara concurred with Ellsberg's assessment - but, publicly, the secretary continued to grossly mischaracterize American progress. Ellsberg was so appalled at the carnage taking place because of such dishonesty that he secretly turned over to *The New York Times* the official reports he and other analysts had compiled - what became known as "The Pentagon Papers." The 4,000 pages were a detailed history of America's ill-conceived and disastrously managed war in Southeast Asia over 23 years. The Nixon Administration obtained a court injunction stopping the publication of the documents by *The Times*.

The editor of *The Washington Post*, Ben Bradlee, and one of his reporters, Ben Bagdikian, then came into possession of the papers. They desperately wanted to publish them. To do so could lead to imprisonment - and, in all likelihood, the end of *The Post*. Bradlee went to the publisher, Katharine Graham, for permission to publish. The story of what happens next is told in Steven Spielberg's acclaimed movie *The Post*.

The timing could not have been worse for Mrs. Graham. She had just become publisher of the paper, following the death of her husband, and was in the midst of taking the *Post* Company public in order to guarantee the paper's financial survival. She knew she was out of her depth; she was patronized by her executives and bankers - all men - who considered her a wealthy society matron not to be taken seriously. Publishing the Pentagon Papers could kill the stock offering. And further complicating the matter was her long-time friendship with Robert McNamara, who served on the *Post* company board. A particularly moving scene in the film is Katharine's meeting with McNamara himself, when Katharine confronts him not as a newspaper publisher but as the mother of a son who served in Vietnam. How could the government - how could McNamara - lie to her and the mothers and fathers of sons who fought and died in a land so far away, for a cause that they all knew was doomed? Katharine Graham overruled her lawyers and accountants and gave her editors and reporters the go - and took the fight to publish all the way to the Supreme Court. In her courageous stand, Katharine Graham had become one of the major figures in American journalism and in advocating for the freedom of the press.

At a moment of great financial stress and constitutional crisis, Katherine Graham meets her "hour." She takes on the unique challenge confronting her and her newspaper with clear determination and conviction, despite the potentially disastrous consequences for her, personally and professionally. Like Mrs. Graham - like Jesus - every one of us will, at some time, face our own "hour," when our faith must become more than words, when we must profess our convictions in actions that could have devastating consequences. Our "hour" may not mean the death of democracy, but our "hour" may require us to put on the line our safety, our security, our comfort for what is right and just. To follow Jesus in his hour is to trust in the grace of God to find the courage and conviction to meet ours.

**Religious Education:** Congratulations to our 3 students who made their First Holy Communion: Bryce Neiman, Jayden Stang & Sarah Theis. Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm will be the last regular class for grades 1 – 9. We will meet in the Church basement. Grades 10 & 11, please watch the schedule, as there may be extra sessions scheduled to complete your programs before confirmation. ALL STUDENTS are expected to attend ALL Holy Week Masses!

**Stations of the Cross during Lent:** The Men’s Society will be hosting Stations of the Cross during Lent. Stations will be on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend! This is a great Lenten activity!

**Easter Flowers:** Anyone that would like to donate towards Easter Flowers can do so by marking a separate envelope and dropping it in the collection basket during Mass. Please mark your envelope with dedication name. These will also be listed in the bulletin closer to Easter. Thank you!

**Rice Bowl:** We encounter Alefa in Malawi, where seeds are helping her family survive an uncertain climate. How can you care for God’s creation this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more information.

**Annual Parish Dinner:** Our Annual Parish Dinner will be held this year on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> after the 10:00 am Mass. This is a great time for socializing and fellowship with the members of our church! Please make an effort to attend this year if you haven’t in the past! All are invited. The sign-up sheet is now at the back of Church. Please sign-up so we have an accurate meal count! Thank you!

**Good Friday Collection:** Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. When you contribute, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. You may use your envelope in your packet. Thank you!

**Readings for the Week:** Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14 a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16-18  
Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>: Nm 21:4-9 / Jn 8:21-30  
Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 / Jn 8:31-42  
Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Gn 17:3-9 / Jn 8:51-59  
Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Jer 20: 10-13 / Jn 10:31-42

- Community Events:**
- Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>: Breakfast at St. Anthony in St. Cloud from 8:00 am – Noon. Serving fresh & smoked sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, pancakes with fruit toppings, fresh fruit, rolls, hash browns and beverages.
  - March 18<sup>th</sup>: Bouja & Chicken Noodle Soup sale at St. Anthony’s Church in Watkins.
  - March 21 at 7:00 pm, March 23 at 7:30 pm, March 24 at 7:30 pm, March 25 at 1:00 pm: Journey with Jesus to Calvary performed by the parishioners of St. Francis Assisi Church, Albany (10 miles North of Albany on Hwy 238). Free.
  - April 5, 6 & 7: St. Boniface Christian Women of Cold Spring Annual Clothing Drive and Rummage Sale. April 5<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 7 pm, April 6<sup>th</sup>: 8 am to 7 pm and April 7<sup>th</sup>: 8 am to 10 am. You may also drop off clothing and items. Questions, call Shirlee at 685-8463.
  - Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>: Divine Mercy Sunday at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Rockville. Adoration starts at 1:30 pm, Chaplet of Divine Mercy every hour, Confessions from 2 – 3 pm, Speaker Fr. Ron Weyrens at 3:15, Benediction & Song at 4:45 pm.
  - June 5 – 7: Franciscan Girls Camp in Little Falls for girls in grades 6 – 8. For more information visit [www.fslf.org](http://www.fslf.org).