

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

March 25, 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
		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
*Bulletin Deadline is Thursday at 9am *Email: stnicholas@meltel.net *Website: www.churchofsaintnicholas.com *Usual Office Hours of Secretary are Monday and Thursday mornings.			

MASS SCHEDULE

Mar 24	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Palm Sunday	+Esther Faber
Mar 25	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Palm Sunday	+Gregor & Frances Schreiner
		{SN} 4:00 pm	Confessions	
		{SA} 7:00 pm	Confessions	
Mar 26	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Monday of Holy Week	
		{SA} 8:30 am	Confessions	
Mar 27	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Tuesday of Holy Week	+Wilfred Flaschenriem
		{SN} 8:30 am	Confessions	
Mar 28	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Wednesday of Holy Week	
		{SA} 5:00 pm	Confessions	
		{SN} 7:30 pm	Confessions	
Mar 29	Thursday	{SN} 5:30 pm	Holy Thursday	+Steve Gathje
		{SA} 7:30 pm	Holy Thursday	
Mar 30	Friday	{SA} 12:00 pm	Good Friday	
		{SN} 3:00 pm	Good Friday	
Mar 31	Saturday	{SN} 8:00 pm	Holy Saturday	People of the Parishes
Apr 1	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Easter Sunday	Intention of the Celebrant

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
Mar 29 at 5:30 pm Holy Thursday	Judy Schutz Rita Schwartz Dave Stang	Volunteer Volunteer	Art Faber Ralph Schreiner	Joe Decker
Mar 30 at 3:00 pm Good Friday	Brenda Kraemer	Caden Neiman Landon Neiman	Elmer Frank Don Dufner	Dave Stang Shirley Lutgen
Mar 31 at 8:00 pm Holy Saturday		**Religious Education Students**		
Apr 1 at 10:00 am Easter Sunday	Kelly Bautch Lee Bautch Mike Kuechle	Andrew Bautch Michael Bautch	Sy Schreiner John Hopfer	Shirley Lutgen

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 24th 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 18, 2018

Adult \$XXX (43 of 161 envelopes)
Youth XXX (3 of 45 envelopes)
Loose XXX



St. Cloud Visitor \$XXX (2 gifts)
Easter Flowers \$XXX (2 gifts)

TOTAL \$XXXXX

Gospel Connection: When he was in his early thirties, the French painter Georges Rouault was walking through town when he passed a circus caravan. An old clown sitting in a corner of the caravan mending his sparkling and gaudy costume caught his attention. Watching the clown, Rouault began to think about the contrast between the clown's eye-catching costume and props, all designed to amuse, and the clown's own marginal place in society: the man underneath the silly, gaudy costume was a poor, itinerant wayfarer.

"I saw quite clearly that the 'Clown' was me, was us, nearly all of us," wrote Rouault in a letter to a friend. "This rich and glittering costume, it is given to us by life itself; we are all more or less clowns, we all wear a glittering costume." Rouault began to paint clowns - yellow clowns, wounded clowns, a clown with a drum, young clowns and old clowns. Rouault's contemporaries noticed resonances between his paintings of clowns and his paintings of Jesus; Rouault's depictions of costumed harlequins and of the Savior of the world began to resemble each other. Rouault was taking up a long-standing, if quiet, tradition in the church: the idea of Jesus as clown. Arguably, the tradition goes back all the way back to Paul, who reminded the Corinthians that the world deemed "foolish" the things of Christ and that disciples were to indeed be fools for Christ. Rouault's "clowning" Christs expressed two dimensions of the life of the Gospel Jesus: Jesus is the marginal wayfarer, and Jesus specializes, as clowns do, in interruptions, in behavior that violates etiquette and social norms, in impropriety, surprises, and mockery of conventions.

In his crucifixion, Christ the clown is unmasked; he is the object of humiliation and mockery. But humankind is revealed to be the fools. [Adapted from *Wearing God* by Lauren F. Winner.]

The events of Holy Week reveal as much about us as about Jesus. In the sacrifice of Jesus the "clown," we realize the foolishness of our own selfishness, the absurdity of our greed, the senselessness of the injustice and hurt we countenanced to maintain the illusion of our "circuses." May we see in the cross of Holy Week the very worst we fail to see in ourselves: that part of us we deftly justify in order to rationalize the crucifixions we execute. As we journey with Jesus this Holy Week, may we seek to wipe away the deceptive "greasepaint" from our faces and take off the fakery of our "glittery costumes" to put on the spirit of humble servanthood of the Christ of compassion and mercy.

Religious Education: ALL STUDENTS are expected to attend ALL Holy Week Masses! Confirmation practice will be on Wednesday, April 4th at 6:30 pm at St. Boniface Church in Cold Spring. Sponsors should attend, but is not critical if they cannot attend. Just let Brenda know who will not be there. Confirmation will be Sunday, April 8th at 2:00 at St. Boniface. Students and Sponsors should be seated by 1:30 pm. Regular RE Classes have finished for the year! Thank you for a great year! Continue to attend Mass with your family!

Thank you! A belated thank you to Rita Schwartz for making multiple chalice veils for both St. Nicholas and St. Anne's. Also, thank you to Avon Vossen for providing the backdrop for the basement chapel. Thank you to Allen Lutgen for installing 4 new motion lights around the parish house and garage. There are many people that help make this parish run! Even though not all are named, we can all be grateful for all that is done to help out!!

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 28th at 7:00 pm.** 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: Please drop off your Rice bowl during Holy Week. We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? Visit crsricebowl.org for more information.

Annual Parish Dinner: Our Annual Parish Dinner will be held this year on **Sunday, April 15th** 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 26th: Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday, March 27th: Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday, March 28th: Is 50:4-9a / Mt 26:14-25

Thursday, March 29th: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26

Friday, March 30th: Is 52:13 - 53:12 / Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9 / Jn 18:1 - 19:42

Community Events:

- March 30th: Annual Way of the Cross at Lake George: Gather on the steps of St. Mary's Cathedral at approximately 1:15, proceed to walk to Lake George Veterans Memorial for the Way of the Cross.
- April 5, 6 & 7: St. Boniface Christian Women of Cold Spring Annual Clothing Drive and Rummage Sale. April 5th from 2 - 7 pm, April 6th: 8 am to 7 pm and April 7th: 8 am to 10 am. You may also drop off clothing and items. Questions, call Shirlee at 685-8463.
- Sunday, April 8th: 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.