

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

The Ascension of the Lord

May 13, 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

May 12	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Ascension of the Lord	+Elmer & Esther Faber
May 13	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	Ascension of the Lord	People of the Parish
May 14	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	St. Matthias	
May 15	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday	+Bernice Larson
May 16	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Easter Weekday	
May 17	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday	+Michael Rausch
May 18	Friday	NO MASS	Easter Weekday	
May 19	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Pentecost Sunday	+Rausch & Koetter Families
May 20	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	Ascension of the Lord	+Fr. Al Ludwig

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
May 19 at 7:30 pm	Elmer Neu	Katelyn Utecht Volunteer	Tom Landwehr Allen Stommes	Anita Neu
May 20 at 8:00 am	Marion Frank Elmer Frank Brenda Kraemer	Sarah Kraemer Kathy Kraemer	Jerry Boeckmann Robert Kraemer	Dave Stang

Mass Intentions: WE ARE IN NEED OF MASS INTENTIONS. 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 had 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 at the parish office. Mass intentions are \$10.



Our Sympathy to the family and friends of **Leona May**, who has died and was buried on Saturday. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

Fr. Tom's Anniversary Mass: Fr. Tom has let us know that he will have a Mass for his 45th Anniversary of Ordination on Sunday, May 20th at St. Paul's Church in St. Cloud. This will be a 10:00 am Mass. He invites any parishioners from St. Nicholas and St. Anne's to attend. St. Paul's Church is located at 1125 11th Ave North, St. Cloud.

Stewardship of Treasure May 6, 2018

Adult \$XXX (33 of 161 envelopes)
Youth XXX (1 of 45 envelopes)
Loose XXX



Votive Stand \$XXX
Energy Needs \$XXX (1 gift)

TOTAL \$XXXXX

Gospel Connection: It was a tragedy that ripped St. Paul, Minnesota, apart: On a summer evening in 2016, 32-year old Philando Castile was pulled over by a police officer for a broken tail light. When Castile reached into his pocket for his license, the officer thought Castile was going for a gun and fatally shot Castile. You may remember the video that was shot by his girlfriend who was in the car with Castile. The episode ignited a storm of angry protests around the country. But the story does not end there.

No one was more devastated by Castile's death than the students at the J.J. Hill Elementary School in St. Paul. Castile, known as "Mr. Phil," supervised the food services program. Castile didn't just work in the cafeteria; he tutored and mentored students, as well. He knew every student's name; he was beloved by the students and staff at J.J. Hill. Castile saw to it that every child had lunch every day, including poorer kids who couldn't afford it. Castile covered many lunches out of his own pocket. So a local university professor and her students created a charity to pay off J.J. Hill's entire student lunch debt. Since September, students in Prof. Pamela Fergus' Diversity and Ethics Class at Montgomery State University launched *Philando Feeds the Children*. The students have raised more than \$130,000 - enough not only to wipe out the lunch room deficit at J.J. Hill but all student lunch debt across St. Paul's 56 public schools. Some 70 percent of St. Paul students qualify for free lunches, but many parents aren't aware of the program or struggle to complete the application; many families earn too much to qualify but still have difficulty paying for their children's lunches. Typically, more than 2,000 students end up owing money for lunch at the end of the school year. The students at Montgomery State would now like to raise enough funds to extend the program beyond St. Paul. The program has the blessing of Philando Castile's mother, Valerie. "No child should go hungry," she says. "And this project helps keep my son alive."

The generosity and compassion that Philando Castile inspired continues, even after his tragic death. On this Solemnity of the Lord's Ascension, Jesus calls his disciples - including us - to continue the work of compassion, mercy and reconciliation that he inspired, the work that has been vindicated and perfected in God's raising him from the dead. We who have seen and heard the story of Jesus are now called to bring that hope into the lives of others and into the life we share as families, as the Church, as the human community. In every kindness we offer, in every word of encouragement and comfort we utter, in every moment we spend listening and supporting, we proclaim the Gospel of the Risen Jesus; every good work - however small or hidden - is a spark of the light of the Risen Christ in our midst.

Peter's Pence Collection: Next week, we will take the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out this charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. You may use the envelope in your packet.

Cemetery Project: The Cemetery Committee has recommended an update to the Cross area in the cemetery. The split face granite is falling off and the statues are about ready to crumble. *This project will be starting in the next week or two, as the ground is drying out enough to begin.* We will replace the existing cement with exposed aggregate. Also we will be adding granite ledgers with sandblasted pictures on it to replace the angels. The cost of the project is estimated at around \$25,000. This is an enormous project for cemetery. It is important to the committee to maintain a safe and beautiful cemetery. If anyone is interested in donating to this project or have any concerns, please contact Dave Stang. Cell: 320-469-4735 or email: dstang@catholicunited.org

Assumption "Grasshopper" Chapel: This is an invitation to attend the Novena Masses in 2018! The Rosary will be prayed at 7:00 pm with OUTDOOR Mass at 7:30 pm every Thursday from May 3rd to July 19th. Please bring a lawn chair and dress for the weather! If there is inclement weather, the rosary & Mass will be held at St. Boniface in Cold Spring. Area priest will all be helping with Masses. Fr. Statz is scheduled for June 7th.

Ireland Pilgrimage: Explore the most treasured shrines of Ireland as you visit the "Emerald Isle's" scenic lands and cultures of the Catholic faith. Follow in the footsteps of St. Patrick, the Patron saint of Ireland while experiencing some of Ireland's most dramatic scenery which provide perfect settings for peaceful prayer and reflection. This customized tour is being offered by the Catholic Foundation St. Cloud Diocese and departs October 17, 2018 with return of October 29, 2018. Fr. Jeremy Ploof is the spiritual leader accompanying the group. For more information contact the Pastoral Center, Alice Coudron at 320-258-7656.

DCCW: The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will have their 28th "Fun, Food and Fund Day" on Thursday, June 14, 2018 hosted by the Cold Spring Deanery at St. Louis Catholic Church, 505 Burr Street in Paynesville. All women in the St. Cloud Diocese are invited. The theme this year is Angels Among Us. Registration & refreshments are at 8:30 am followed by Mass, silent auction, lunch and entertainment. Registration fee is \$15 by June 4th. For more information contact Lois Wesbur at 320-894-5837.

Nicks Baseball: The St. Nicholas Nicks invite you to come to their next baseball game! Kimball will be at St. Nick on Sunday, May 13th at 2 pm. They also play on Saturday, May 19th in Luxemburg at 2 pm. Come and cheer them on!

Readings for the Week: Monday, May 14th: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 / Jn 15:9-17

Tuesday, May 15th: Acts 20:17-27 / Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday, May 16th: Acts 20:28-38 / Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday, May 17th: Acts 22:30, 23:6-11 / Jn 17:20-26

Friday, May 18th: Acts 25:13b-21 / Jn 21:15-19

Community Events:

- Sunday, May 13th: Mother's Day Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus at St. Boniface in Cold Spring. Serving from 8:30 to 12:30 pm. Menu will be eggs, hash browns, ham sausage, cinnamon bread, fruit, sweet roll & beverage.
- June 5 - 7: Franciscan Girls Camp in Little Falls for girls in grades 6 - 8. For more information visit www.fslf.org.

Happy Mother's Day! A Mother's Prayer: My God, to you my heart is lifted up, as I commend unto your protecting care those dearest on earth to me. Guard well my husband, my children and all the members of my family. Preserve them from sorrow and misfortune; hold suffering and ailment far from us, that we may fear neither the dangers of the day nor the terrors of the night. Bless me and those I love with health and cheerfulness; shield us from temptation and sin. Preserve forever the tranquility of our happy home and the peace that dwells in our hearts. For this I beseech you, for this have set my heart before you, my Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. Amen.