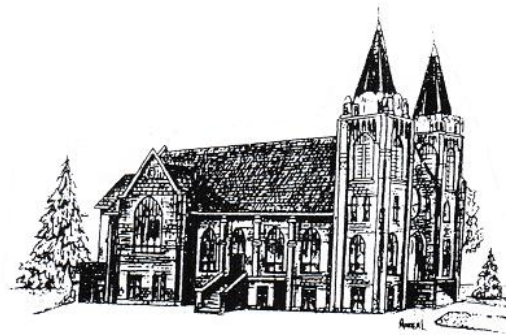


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 23, 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	469-4735
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, Ken Lutgen	764-2043
		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

Sept 22	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Sue Flaschenriem
Sept 23	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Ignatius Lutgen
Sept 24	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Sept 25	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Loren Linn
Sept 26	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Weekday	
Sept 27	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul	+Edwin & Adeline Theis
Sept 28	Friday	NO MASS	Weekday	
Sept 29	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Sept 30	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Intentions of the Stang Family

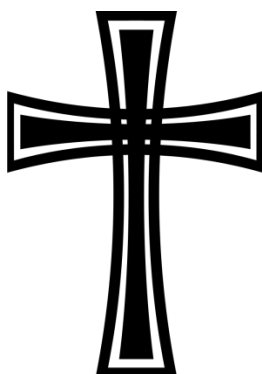
Weekend Masses at St. Anne's in Kimball are Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am.

- 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 29 at 7:30 pm	Anita Neu	Derek Utecht Volunteer	Allen Stommes Art Faber	Elmer Neu
Sept 30 at 8:00 am	Judy Schutz Greg Utecht Don Dufner	Michael Bautch Volunteer	John Hopfer Elmer Frank	Lee Bautch

Cemetery Blessing: After Mass on Sunday, September 23rd, we will be processing over to the cemetery to do a blessing of the newly finished project – weather permitting! **Donuts will be served** at the cemetery after the blessing. The Cemetery Committee is asking all parishioners to consider donating to the project. The Committee has collected over half of the project cost. The total cost was \$25,582.00. If the project cost is collected by donations, money from our Cemetery Fund can be replaced. This money is used to care for the cemetery for the duration of time. Thank you very much to all who have already contributed to the project. It has been beautifully done! If you have questions about the project or donating, please contact Dave Stang at 320-469-4735 or email him at dstang@catholicunited.org.



Stewardship of Treasure September 16, 2018

Adult	\$XXX	(36 of 161 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(2 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	



Cemetery Donation	\$XXX (4 gifts)
Religious Education	\$XXX (1 gift)
Catholic Campaign	
Human Development	\$XXX (2 gifts)
Assumption	\$XXX (1 gift)

Gospel Connection: One of the most acclaimed movies this year is *Won't You Be My Neighbor*, a documentary about Fred Rogers.

This wonderful film recounts how Mister Rogers Neighborhood began on PBS and how Fred Rogers, an ordained Presbyterian minister, used the show to teach and accompany children on their journeys to adulthood, helping kids through everything from the fear of falling down the bathtub drain to the trauma of divorce. Mister Rogers was once asked to meet a boy with cerebral palsy. The boy was unable to talk or walk - but he not only suffered physically but emotionally. Some of those entrusted with his care made him feel responsible for his illness, that only a very bad little boy would have to live with the things he had to live with. When the boy grew up to be a teenager, he would get so mad at himself that he would hit himself, hard, with his own fists and tell his mother on the computer he used to communicate that he didn't want to live anymore, for he was sure that God didn't like what was inside him any more than he did. The boy had always loved Mister Rogers, and now, even when he was fourteen years old, he watched the Neighborhood whenever it was on; the boy's mother sometimes thought that Mister Rogers was keeping her son alive.

On a trip to California, Fred Rogers made time to meet the boy. At first, the boy was very anxious about meeting Mister Rogers. He was so nervous, in fact, that when Mister Rogers arrived, he got mad at himself and began hating himself and hitting himself. His mother had to take him to another room and calm him down. But Mister Rogers didn't leave. He just waited patiently, and when the boy came back, Mister Rogers talked to him, and made this request: "I would like you to do something for me. Would you do something for me?" On his computer, the boy answered yes, of course, he would do anything for Mister Rogers, so then Mister Rogers said, "I would like you to pray for me. Will you pray for me?" The boy was thunderstruck. Nobody had ever asked him for something like that, ever. The boy had always been prayed for, and now he was being asked to pray for Mister Rogers. At first he didn't know if he could do it, but he said he would, he said he'd try, and ever since that day he kept Mister Rogers in his prayers and didn't talk about wanting to die anymore, because he figured Mister Rogers is close to God, and if Mister Rogers liked him, then that must mean God liked him, too. When a reporter who was there complimented Mister Rogers on how beautifully he boosted the boy's self-esteem, Fred Rogers saw the situation much differently.

"Oh, heavens no, Tom! I didn't ask him for his prayers for *him*; I asked for me. I asked him because I think that anyone who has gone through challenges like that must be very close to God. I asked him because I wanted his intercession." [From "Can You Say . . . Hero?" by Tom Junod, Esquire, November 1998.]

For the disciples of Jesus, every child represents the vulnerabilities, fears, and doubts that every one of us experiences in our lives; every child mirrors Jesus' call to us in baptism to take up his work of reaching out to those overwhelmed by pain, anxiety and hopelessness. In the service we give and respect we afford to others, Jesus says, we welcome into our midst the very presence of God. As Fred Rogers understood by requesting this suffering boy's prayers, only in putting ourselves in the humble service of the poorest and neediest, of the forgotten and the rejected, can we come to know the love of God in our lives.

Religious Education Information: Religion classes are right around the corner! Classes will begin October 3rd at 7:00 pm with a Mass. You will then find your teacher and walk over to the Parish House so you can see which room you will be in.

Current Teachers will need to complete the Safe Environment Training before the beginning of classes. It is new this year and will involve doing the "mini class" online. If you have any trouble with it, please let Brenda know.

We are looking for some adults to step up and become involved in teaching our young people our faith. The class size is very small and materials will be provided for you to use. Please consider this great opportunity! If you are interested in ANY WAY, please contact Brenda Kraemer.

Maintenance Committee: The Maintenance Committee met and came up with a list of projects that are in need of being completed for the Church and Parish House. You will find the list on the parish website and copies in the back of Church. Any help would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to tackle any of these projects or are willing to offer your help, please contact Ken Lutgen at 764-2043 or Mary Caskey at 597-2854. Thank you to the people who have completed some of the projects already!!

Readings for the Week: Monday, September 24th: Prv 3:27-34 / Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday, September 25th: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13 / Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday, September 26th: Prv 30:5-9 / Lk 9:1-6

Thursday, September 27th: Eccl 1:2-11 / Lk 9:7-9

Friday, September 28th: Eccl 3:1-11 / Lk 9:18-22

Community Events:

- Tuesday, October 2nd: Pro-Life Gathering at the Great River Regional Library in St. Cloud at 7:00 pm.
- Saturday, October 6th: 34th Annual Craft Sale for 9 am to 3 pm at the Swanville High School Gym in Swanville, MN.
- Saturday, October 6th: Partnership Barn Dance at the Shooting Sports Center in Parkers Prairie. Mass with Bishop Kettler at 4 pm, followed by a meal, live music, dancing, live auction, fun for kids and more.
- Sunday, October 7th: Harvest Sunday Celebration at the Church of St. Augustine in St. Cloud. Breakfast from 7:30 am to Noon with sausage, eggs, hash browns, & homemade donuts. There will be a bake sale, jewelry sale, & gardener's market.
- October 12-14: Beginning Experience at Luther Crest in Alexandria. BE is providing a program for divorced, widowed, or separated adults designed to facilitate the grief resolution process. Call 888-565-0178 or visit www.beginningexperiencemn.com for info.
- Saturday, October 13th: St. Anthony Church in St. Cloud Rummage Sale from 8 am to 1 pm.
- Sunday, October 14th: ACT-OBERFEST Variety Show at the Freeport Community Center from 2 – 4 pm. Food available for purchase, free refreshments. No tickets needed, but can donate to *Generation Next* a fund for diocesan youth retreats and faith activities.