

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 26, 2019



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	250-0681	
Brenda Kraemer, Rel. Ed Coordinator	(H)	685-3715	Parish Council, Don Dufner	764-9105	
*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, Sue Stommes	597-3454	
			Parish Council, Elmer Frank	764-9111	
			Parish Council, Kelly Bautch	597-3255	
			Parish Council, Tom Frank	764-9112	
			Parish Council, Judi Schreiner	764-9080	
			Trustee, Ken Lutgen	764-2043	
			Trustee, Mary Caskey	597-2854	

MASS SCHEDULE

May 25	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	6 th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish
May 26	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	6 th Sunday of Easter	+Family of L & D Ludwig
May 27	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday (Memorial Day)	
May 28	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday	+Kevin Kraemer
May 29	Wednesday	{SA} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday	
May 30	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Easter Weekday	+Alfred Theis
May 31	Friday	NO MASS	Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
June 1	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	The Ascension of the Lord	+Dec Members of Decker Family
June 2	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	The Ascension of the Lord	+Ardella Flaschenriem

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
June 1 at 7:30 pm	Brenda Kraemer	Mitchell Utecht Volunteer	Allen Stommes Robert Kraemer	Brenda Kraemer
June 2 at 8:00 am	Mike Kuechle Kelly Bautch Trish Ludwig	Michael Bautch Volunteer	John Hopfer Paul Ludwig	Lee Bautch

Grasshopper Chapel Mass: Due to a scheduling error, Father Statz will preside at the **Thursday, JUNE 6TH** Novena Mass at the Cold Spring Assumption “Grasshopper” Chapel. The Mass will begin at 7 pm with a Rosary following Mass at 7:30 pm. Please bring a lawn chair, a friend and dress for the weather. If it is raining, the Mass and Rosary will be held at St. Boniface Church in Cold Spring.

Donut Sunday: The Christian Women will host a Donut Sunday on Sunday, June 9th after the 8:00 am Mass. Everyone is welcome to stay after Mass for some coffee and donuts!!



Area Catholic Communities: The committees from all the parishes met at Dave Stang’s home on May 22nd. All parishes were represented. The committee members introduced themselves to each other and then each parish spoke about events that were upcoming for their parish. The next meeting for the ACC is set for August 13th in Luxemburg. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dave Stang or Mary Caskey.



Memorial Day: The American Legion will be making their rounds of area cemeteries to do a short presentation for Memorial Day. They will be at St. Nicholas Cemetery at approximately 10:00 am.

Stewardship of Treasure May 19, 2019

Adult	\$XXX	(25 of 161 envelopes)
	XXX	(0 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	



Peter's Pence	\$XXX (1 gift)
Basement Rent	\$XXX (1 gift)
Rice Bowl	\$XXX

Gospel Connection: In an essay in *The Boston Globe* [March 24, 2019], Sandra Ebejer writes about her five-year-old son Nate’s short-lived baseball career. It’s a hot summer day and Nate’s team is playing. While kids as young as three are hitting and catching like mini-pros, Nate is in the outfield watching a worm in the dirt. Instead of running to third, Nate is spinning like a top. Nate is into everything that’s going on in the field — except the game. And that’s been Nate’s whole approach to team sports.

Time and again, his parents have talked about pulling him out of sports altogether, but they believe that athletic activities are critical to a child’s development physically and socially. So they endure long afternoons like this one, including the annoyance of other parents as Nate screws up another play or becomes the predictable third out to kill a rally. Mom keeps repeating to herself the mantra *He’s just a kid, he’s having fun*, but it’s not helping. She’s embarrassed for him — and *by* him. She wants Nate to stop fooling around and do what the coach tells him.

Between innings, the coach gives the kids a break to grab a drink. Nate walks toward his mom, then abruptly stops, pivots, and heads to the bleachers. With a cheerful smile, he picks up a dropped toy and hands it to a baby who’s been screaming since the game began. He takes a moment — a moment no one else thought to take — to make a silly face and give a cheerful wave. The baby’s cries turn to giggles and he slurps on his toy, grateful for the attention. Then Nate skips happily over to his mom for a hug and a sip of water. And that’s when it finally hits her: “My son is not screwing up. He’s not doing anything wrong. We have placed him in a setting where he is never going to thrive. He’s not interested in sports and doesn’t care to understand the rules of baseball or hockey or soccer. It’s simply not in his wiring. His priority is to experience life as a five-year-old, to savor each playful, joyful moment and bring happiness to other kids . . . After the exchange between my son and the baby, I feel a twinge of shame. How could I have let his personality embarrass me? How dare I allow strangers’ exasperation to affect my pride in my son? And why did I place the rules of a sport above his desire to be himself? Watching the next inning unfold, I smile as Nate shakes his behind to make a teammate laugh. I clap and give a loud whoop when his team scores, and I allow the warmth of the day to wash over me.”

The good heartedness of Nate reminds us that the peace of God is given on our God’s terms, not ours. Peace, as given by Christ, is a perspective that shapes all our actions, behavior and values; it is peace that is centered in our selfless love for others, comfort that is found in realizing God’s presence in our very midst in the love of others. We want “peace” that makes it possible for us to move forward with our plans for our lives; the “peace” we envision is the result of the world working the way we want it to. But the “peace” of the Risen Christ challenges us to put aside our own self-obsessed agendas and need to control in order to take on the Gospel that places forgiveness and reconciliation, justice and community, before all else. Five-year-old Nate realizes that Christ’s peace is found in the joy of the world around him and revealing that joy for those whose lives are anything but. So maybe Nate isn’t meant to be the next Mike Trout or Mookie Betts — maybe he’s called to be something greater.

Bonfire has been Rescheduled: There will be a Parish Bonfire Night at St. Nicholas in front of the Parish House on Saturday, JUNE 1st after the 7:30 pm Mass. All are welcome! You should bring a chair to sit around the fire. There will be beverages and snakes, but feel free to bring your to share. Hopefully, the weather will be better this time!!



Bishop’s Annual Appeal: Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Appeal. As of April 26, 5,754 parishioners have donated \$849,080 in gifts and pledges. That is 65% of the Diocese’s goal of \$1,300.000. Every dollar raised goes directly to diocesan ministries like respect for life and the diaconate, and is not used for any other purpose. Please consider a donation if you have not already!

DCCW: The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring a Fun, Food and Fund Day, Tuesday, June 25th from 9:00am -2:15 pm at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 442 2nd St. SE, St. Cloud, sponsored by the Foley/Princeton Deanery. Registration (\$15.00) is due by June 17th to Janis Fagin, 14585 31st.St. Clear Lake, MN 55319 . All are welcome!

St. Nick Baseball: The Nicks will play on Sunday, May 26th in St. Nick against St. Augusta at 2 pm. There will be a game on Friday, May 31st at 7:30 pm in Watkins and also Sunday, June 2nd at 2 pm in Eden Valley.

Readings for the Week: Monday, May 27th: Acts 16:11-15 / Jn 15:26-16:4a
Tuesday, May 28th: Acts 16:22-34 / Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday, May 29th: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1
Thursday, May 30th: Acts 18:1-8 / Jn 16:16-20
Friday, May 31st: Zep 3:14-18a / Lk 1:39-56

Community Events:

- Thursday, June 6th: Fr. Statz is presiding at the Assumption Grasshopper Chapel Mass in Cold Spring at 7:00 pm. Bring a chair.
- Sunday, June 9th: St. Nicholas Donut Sunday after the 8:00 am Mass
- Sunday, June 9th: St. James Parish in Jacobs Prairie Parish Bazaar. Breakfast from 8 to 12:30 pm. Outdoor Mass at 9:00 am weather permitting. Most stands open at 10:00 am. Cake walk, Country store, Classic Car Display, beer garden, brats/hamburgers/hot dog, kid’s inflatables, Bingo, live music, silent auction, quilt auction and cash raffle!!

