

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

November 24, 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 320-293-2788	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
(Cell) 493-3957	Parish Council, Sue Stommes 597-3454
*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, 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

Nov 23	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King	People of the Parish
Nov 24	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King	Dec & Living Romie Kraemer Family
Nov 25	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Nov 26	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Richard Schmitt & Family
Nov 27	Wednesday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Weekday/Thanksgiving	Parents who have lost a child
Nov 28	Thursday	{SA} 9:00 am	Weekday/Thanksgiving	
Nov 29	Friday	NO MASS	Weekday	
Nov 30	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	1 st Sunday of Advent	+John Decker
Dec 1	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	1 st Sunday of Advent	+Leonard Koenig

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
Nov 27 at 7:30 pm Thanksgiving	Brenda Kraemer Volunteer Volunteer	Jonathan Gathje Volunteer	Volunteer Volunteer	Katelyn Utecht Kathy Kraemer
Nov 30 at 7:30 pm	Judi Schreiner	Dylan Utecht Volunteer	Ralph Schreiner Robert Wehseler	Judi Schreiner
Dec 1 at 10:00 am	Mike Kuechle Lee Bautch Trish Ludwig	Michael Bautch Volunteer	Elmer Frank Paul Ludwig	Dave Stang

Thanksgiving Mass Schedule: The Thanksgiving Mass schedule will be set for St. Nicholas on Wednesday, November 27th at 7:30 pm. St. Anne's Mass will be on Thursday, November 28th at 9:00 am.



Annual Thanksgiving Soup & Sandwich Supper: The Parish Volunteer Team will once again host the Annual Thanksgiving Soup and Sandwich Supper before the Thanksgiving Mass on Wednesday, November 27th. The Mass will be at 7:30 pm. Supper will be served from 5:00pm to 7:15 pm. The cost of the Supper is a free will offering that will benefit. If any parishioner would like to donate a crock pot of soup, please contact Betty Lutgen at 764-2043. Each Religious Education family is asked to bring a pan of desserts.



2020 Calendars: Dave Stang, our Catholic United Financial representative here at St. Nicholas, has generously donated 2020 calendars for parishioners to take home! They will be blessed this weekend at Mass and will be available for you after Mass. Please thank Dave when you see him!

Stewardship of Treasure November 17, 2019

Adult	\$XXX	(31 of 162 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(1 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	



All Saints Day	\$XXX (1 gift)
Energy Needs	\$XXX (5 gifts)

Gospel Connection: November, 1984: Margaret was a graduate student in Philadelphia. Winter break came so early that year that it made no sense to travel home to Alabama for Thanksgiving. As the dark nights grew longer and the winds blew colder, she began to waver. *Was it too late? Could I still change my mind?* The Sunday before Thanksgiving, on her weekly call home to her parents, she admitted, "I don't think I can stand it here. I don't know if I can do this." "Just come home," her father said. "It's too late." She was crying. "It's way too late." "You can always come home, Sweet," her dad said. "Even if you marry a [scoundrel], you can always leave him and come home."

Thirty-five years later, she cherishes the memory of that phone call. Margaret Renkl writes in her book *Late Migrations: A Natural History of Love and Loss*: "These were words of loving reassurance from a father to his child, a reminder that as long as he and my mother were alive, there would always be a place in the world for me, a place where I would always belong, even if I didn't always believe that I belonged there. . . I gave no thought to it then, but I think of it all the time now. I think of my father's words that reached my homesick heart in cold Philadelphia. I think of the twenty-six-hour bus ride into the heart of Greyhound darkness that followed, a desperate journey that got me home in time for the squash casserole and cranberry relish. I think most of my own happiness, of all the years with a good man and family we have made together and the absorbing work — everything that followed a single season of loss, and only because I listened to my father. Because I came home."

This is the domain of Christ's reign: home, the place where we are always welcomed, loved, forgiven, care for and about. Christ's love "reigns" in our ordinary, simple, well-lived-in houses. It is into that kingdom, that paradise, that the crucified Jesus welcomes the good thief. On this last Sunday of the Church year, we honor Christ the King whose rule is one of humble service; Christ the King whose power is compassion, whose scepter is humility, whose coin is forgiveness and reconciliation; Christ the King whose court welcomes the poor, the forgotten, the lost, the despairing. May we make our simple homes and dwellings places of humble welcome and grateful care, where the love of Christ joyfully reigns.

Religious Education: The next Class will be on Wednesday, November 27th at 7:00 pm. Each family is asked to bring a pan of dessert to share for the Soup & Sandwich Supper, which will start at 5:00 pm. Please have your dessert there by then! Mass will begin at 7:30 pm, so this will be a short class, but students are expect to attend Mass.

Parish Council Nominations/Elections: Parish Council Nominations will take place at next weekend's Masses. We THANK Don Dufner and Sue Stommes for their service on the Council! Their terms are now completed. They are both eligible to be nominated again. The current members of the council are Elmer Frank, Kelly Bautch, Tom Frank, Judi Schreiner, Ken Lutgen – trustee, Mary Caskey – trustee, Anita Neu – Christian Women, and Dave Stang – Men's Society. THESE MEMBERS, THEIR SPOUSES, AND THE PARISH SECRETARY are NOT eligible to be nominated. Prayerfully consider who you would like to nominate.

Area Catholic Community: Representatives from all 5 parishes met on Tuesday, October 29. They have started on one of the stated goals of developing our ACC identity. Last week there was a flyer with instructions for you to submit your choice for a name for our ACC. You can find that form on the website now and in the back of church. Please submit your entries in the collection basket, by mail or by email to the parish office. If you have any questions, please contact Dave Stang at 320-469-4735 or Mary Caskey at 320-597-2854.

Honoring Marriage Day: Honoring Marriage Day will be held on May 2, 2020 at the Cathedral of St. Mary in St. Cloud. This will be for couples celebrating 5, 25, 40, 50 or 60 plus years of marriage ANYTIME in 2020. If you are one of those couples celebrating one of these anniversaries, please let me know. You will then receive an invitation for this Day at the Cathedral. You may email, call or tell Brenda this information!

Foster Grandparent Opportunity: Would you like to become a Foster Grandparent? The Foster Grandparent Program provides the opportunity for volunteers age 55 and better to make a lasting difference in the lives of our Minnesota children and youth. There are a variety of settings to volunteer at, including elementary schools, preschools, shelters, childcare centers and juvenile detention centers. For more information contact Sara Heurung, area supervisor, at sheurung@ccstcloud.org or 320-229-4589.

Sharing Tree: The 5/7th Grade Religious Education class is sponsoring our Sharing Tree. This year our Church will focus on donating toys for children ages birth to 12 years old for the Toys for Tots program sponsored by the Area Cold Spring Food shelf. The toys will be given to local families in need the week of December 16th. Check out the tags on the tree and take 1, 2 or more! Cash received will be used to purchase additional toys. **All items need to be brought back to the tree by December 8th. We will be boxing up the toys after the 10am Mass on December 8th. All are welcome to help with the packing up of toys – especially all of the RE Students!** We appreciate any help you can give to make Christmas special this year for area families! If you have any questions, please contact Mary Caskey at 597-2854.



Readings for the Week: Monday, Nov. 25th: Dn 1:1-6, 8 / Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday, Nov. 26th: Dn 2:31-45 / Lk 21:5-11

Thursday, Nov. 28th: Dn 6:12 / Lk 21:20-28

Wednesday, Nov 27th: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 / Lk 21:12-19

Friday, Nov. 29th: Dn 7:2-14 / Lk 21:29-33

Community Events:

- Sunday, November 24th: Breakfast at St. Wendelin's in Luxemburg from 8:30 to Noon. Serving all you can eat Pep's pork, ham, pancakes, scrambled eggs, fruit and more. There will also be a craft sale, a bake sale, and a raffle. Free blood pressure checks.
- Sunday, November 24th: Breakfast at the Church of St. Anthony in St. Anthony, MN (6 miles North of Albany). Serving ham, scrambled eggs, fried potatoes, and more from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Catholic United Financial Matching Grant Breakfast.
- Sunday, December 8th: Sts. Peter & Paul Holiday Extravaganza in the school gym from 9 am to Noon. Breakfast of ham & cheese omelets, hash browns, sausage, applesauce and more. Also a Cookie & Candy walk and silent auction.
- Monday, December 9th: Women's Night of Worship at St. Mary's Church, Upsala, MN Mass at 6:30 pm and Worship Hour from 7:30 – 8:30 pm. Join us for a prayerful night of adoration, music and fellowship. Refreshments to follow. Childcare available.