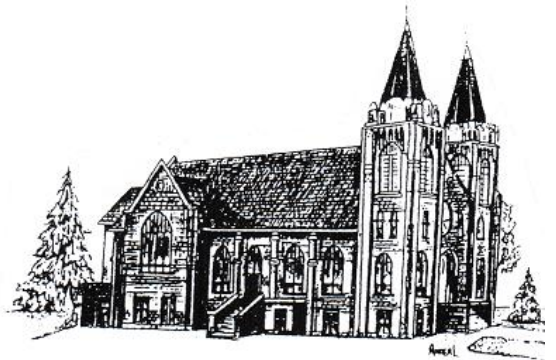


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

The 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 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

| | | | | |
|--------|-----------|---------------|---|-----------------------|
| Feb 3 | Saturday | {SN} 7:30 pm | 5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | People of the Parish |
| Feb 4 | Sunday | {SN} 10:00 am | 5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | +Steve Gathje |
| Feb 5 | Monday | {SA} 8:00 am | St. Agatha | |
| Feb 6 | Tuesday | {SN} 8:00 am | St. Paul Miki | +Elmer Boeckmann |
| Feb 7 | Wednesday | {SA} 8:30 am | Weekday | |
| Feb 8 | Thursday | {SN} 8:00 am | Weekday | +Lee & Rita Ludwig |
| Feb 9 | Friday | {SA} NO MASS | Weekday | |
| Feb 10 | Saturday | {SN} 7:30 pm | 6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | +Ernest & Mary Decker |
| Feb 11 | Sunday | {SN} 10:00 am | 6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | +Ewald Johannes |

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 |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Feb 10 at 7:30 pm | Judi Schreiner | Mitchell Utecht Volunteer | Ralph Schreiner Art Faber | Judi Schreiner |
| Feb 11 at 10:00 am | Kelly Bautch Trish Ludwig | Andrew Bautch Michael Bautch | Steve Stang Paul Ludwig | Lee Bautch |

Stations of the Cross during Lent: The Men's Society will be hosting Stations of the Cross during Lent. There will be every Wednesday at 7:00 pm, except on Tuesday, March 6th and Tuesday, March 13th. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend!

Annual Parish Dinner – Save the Date! 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. More information will come out closer to the date.

Save the Date for St. Nicholas Breakfast! St. Nicholas Christian Women will host a breakfast on Sunday, February 18th. Groups 1 and 2 will be working for this breakfast; expect a call from your chair or co-chair to come and help! There will also be an MCCL Bake Sale and a Raffle.

Ash Wednesday Masses: Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, February 14 this year. Masses will be held at St. Anne's at 5:30 pm with NO 8:30 am Mass that day. St. Nicholas will have a Mass at 7:30 pm. Please plan on attending!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be at both parishes this coming week. Adoration will be held on Tuesday, February 6th at St. Nicholas from 5 to 8 pm and on Wednesday, February 7th from 9 am to 7 pm at St. Anne's. Won't you come and spend some time with the Lord?



Stewardship of Treasure January 28, 2018

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



Energy Needs \$XXX (3 gifts)
St. Cloud Visitor \$XXX(3 gifts)

TOTAL \$XXXXX

Gospel Connection: We would all like a deserted place of our own, an out-of-the way escape from the constant demands on our time and energy to be alone with ourselves and God. Sadly, few of us can possess a "desert" of our own - even setting aside a small room in our own homes is a non-starter for most of us. So make your "deserted place" a basket. Or a box. Put in it whatever things give you peace: a photograph of your beloved, a small icon of Christ or Mary, a rosary, a few of your favorite prayers.

Or maybe your "out-of-the-way place" can be a photograph album: pictures of the people you love; landscapes you've visited; tranquil, peaceful places. All the better if you've taken the photos yourself. When you need to get "away," spend a few minutes flipping through your photos.

Your deserted place may not even be a place but something tangible - like a recipe. Bread or soup is best. Pray as you knead the dough, retreat into the cutting of the vegetables. Make your prayer complete by giving away what you've made.

So make or find your own "deserted place," where you can get away from the busyness of your days and re-connect with God. One important element of any good "deserted place:" it requires that you unplug, turn off, and not answer. There are no screens in a good deserted place. [Suggested by the article "Prayer Basket" by Virginia Ann Froehle, Spirituality & Health, September-October 2008.]

Our spirits need quiet places and sacred time where and when we can escape the clamor of the marketplace and the tyranny of our calendars and things-to-do lists to experience the peace of being alone with God, to re-connect with God in the quiet of our hearts, to know the joy of doing simple, humble things for others. Jesus invites us to find spaces for prayer and make quiet time in our days to re-center our lives in the life and love of God, to hear again the voice of God calling us to lives of joyful gratitude and fulfilling service to others.

Religious Education: The next class will be on Wednesday, February 7 at 6:45 pm. We will be having the "Sweetheart Dinner" and students should meet in the Church basement. We are asking for parents' help to cook and serve this dinner for us. Please see the email that was sent or call Brenda for more information! Everyone is invited to attend Mass for Ash Wednesday on February 14th.

Catholic Schools Week: This past week, Catholic Schools celebrated Catholic Schools Week with special events. In particular, Sts. Peter and Paul in Richmond and Holy Cross in Pearl Lake are hosting the Catholic United Raffle. If you would like to purchase tickets at \$5 each, please contact Julene Faber-Andrusick at the Saturday Mass here. If you have any questions about attending a Catholic School, especially St. Boniface in Cold Spring, please contact Angie Spitzley at 453-2091.

Catholic Women's Conference: The Catholic Women's Conference will be held on Saturday, March 10th at the Church of St. Anthony in St. Cloud from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. The theme for this year's meeting will be "Why the Pope was Right: A Day of Reflection." For registration information, please visit www.stcdio.org/womensconference18 or call 255-4721.

Retrouvaille: Save a marriage! Are you or someone you know, living in the pain of a marriage in trouble? Retrouvaille can help. The next program start on February 16, 2018 at the Country Inn & Suites in St. Cloud. Please call 320-255-5314 or check the website www.helpourmarriage.org for more information and to register.

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2018: The Bishop's Annual Appeal Commitment Weekend is February 17-18. Please support our Diocesan Mission to be Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice.

Lenten Chaplet: At the Ash Wednesday Mass, there will be a Chaplet available for you to pick up. The purpose of this Chaplet is to pray for a particular person; the first person that comes to mind when you start to pray. It is meant to be prayed each day during Lent and sometime after Good Friday, you should give your Chaplet to the person that you prayed for. We are asking for a free will donation for the Chaplet with the money being used for Religious Education. There will be a prayer card with instructions included with the Chaplet. This is a simple, easy way to both pray for someone and it is a great Lenten activity! It "counts" as both Lenten prayer and Almsgiving! The crucifix that is on the Chaplet came from Rome and was Blessed by Pope Frances!

Readings for the Week: Monday, February 5th: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 / Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 6th: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 / Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 7th: 1 Kgs 10:1-10 / Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, February 8th: 1 Kgs 11:4-13 / Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 9th: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 / Mk 7:31-37

Community Events:

- Sunday, February 4th: Breakfast at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Opole from 8:30 to 12:30. Serving scrambled eggs, French toast, cheesy hash browns, beverages. Coffee cake & quilt raffle. Sponsored by OLMC Christian Women.
- Sunday, February 4th: Breakfast at Church of St. Joseph in St. Joseph from 8:30 am to Noon. Menu will be Pep's Pork & St. Joseph Meat Market sausages, scrambled eggs, hash browns, pancakes and more!
- Sunday, February 11th: Monthly Breakfast sponsored by Knights of Columbus at St. Boniface Parish Center in Cold Spring. Serving from 8:30 to 12:30. Proceeds will go to Diocesan Tea Party of High School girls and other youth activities.
- Saturday, February 17th: Men's Retreat at the Assumption Church in Eden Valley from 8 am to 5:30 pm. Free will offerings will be accepted. Open to all men, confirmation students or 16 & older. More info at www.ecclesiadomestica.net
- Saturday, February 17th: Men's Retreat
- Sunday, February 25th: Knights of Columbus Roast Beef & Ham Dinner at Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Rockville. Serving from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. Proceeds to support KC Sponsored vocation scholarships and other religious activities.