

# CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 6, 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	764-5339
Brenda Kraemer, Rel. Ed Coordinator (H)	685-3715	Parish Council, Don Dufner	764-9105
		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
*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

Jan 5	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Epiphany of the Lord	People of the Parish
Jan 6	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Epiphany of the Lord	Spec.Int. of Jerry & Bertie Weinmann
Jan 7	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Christmas Weekday	
Jan 8	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am {SN} 5 – 8 pm	Christmas Weekday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	+Elmer Boeckmann
Jan 9	Wednesday	{SA} 8:30 am	Christmas Weekday	
Jan 10	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Christmas Weekday	+A & C Schreiner
Jan 11	Friday	NO MASS	Christmas Weekday	
Jan 12	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	The Baptism of the Lord	+John Decker
Jan 13	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	The Baptism of the Lord	+Rosie Gathje

\*\*Adoration for St. Nicholas will be held on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 8 pm.\*\*

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](http://www.churchofsaintnicholas.com)

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

	Eucharistic Ministers	Servers	Ushers	Lector
Jan 12 at 7:30 pm	Rita Schwartz	Dylan Utecht Volunteer	Tom Landwehr Art Faber	Lucy Schreiner
Jan 13 at 10:00 am	Shirley Lutgen Mary Caskey Trish Ludwig	Caden Neiman Landon Neiman	Paul Ludwig Don Dufner	Doug Caskey



**Happy Birthday!** Happy Birthday to Fr. Statz on January 5<sup>th</sup>. May God continue to bless you with all the wonderful things in life!

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held at St. Nicholas on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 8 pm. Won't you come and spend some time with the Lord?

**Parish Council Meeting:** The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Parish House. We will welcome new members Tom Frank & Judi Schreiner. If you would like to add something to the agenda, please email it to Brenda. An email has been sent to Council Member with the bylaws and constitution that are up for review. Please review these for the meeting.

## Stewardship of Treasure December 30, 2018

Adult	\$XXX	(28 of 161 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(2 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$XXXXX</b>	



Votive Stand	\$XXX
Christmas	\$XXX (8 gifts)

**Gospel Connection:** In her book *Einstein and the Rabbi: Searching for the Soul*, Rabbi Naomi Levy shares this encounter with a congregant: "Pray for me, Rabbi," is probably the most common request people have made of me over my years in the rabbinate. I am always honored to pray for people. But of course I worry when people ask me to pray for them. Are they asking because they don't think God will listen to them? Do they think prayer requires a correct formula and if they don't know the magical incantation that their cries won't be heard?

"Once, about twenty years ago, I went to visit a man in the hospital. He said, 'Pray for me, Rabbi. I don't know how to pray.' I said, 'Of course I will pray for you. But first, tell me, what is it you want me to say to God?' He thought for a moment and then began trembling as he spoke: 'God, I am Yours, I know that. But I belong here with my family. My heart is aching. I've never let myself love like this before. Give me time. I pray to You, God, give me time.'

"These words flowed from the soul of a man who felt he didn't know how to pray. When he was done he sighed deeply, and I could see the worry and tension depart from his face. A calm overtook him, a light, a grace. I witnessed with my own eyes how prayer heals.

"From that moment on, any time someone asks me to pray for them I always ask the same question, *What do you want me to say to God?* And it never fails. People astound themselves with words they didn't know existed inside of them. The soul speaks of its own accord."

Rabbi Levy's question and the thoughtful answer it elicits is an experience of "epiphany": the manifestation of God's light and presence in our midst. As the magi undertake a long and arduous journey searching for the newborn king by the light of the mysterious star (encountering, among other things, a murderous tyrant along the way), a congregant in pain and despair finds the peace of God within himself, thanks to the sensitivity and wisdom of a wise rabbi. We all experience such "epiphanies" in our lives: moments of revelation and understanding, discoveries of possibility and potential, new appreciations of the love of God in our homes and hearts. In times of great joy and accomplishment and in times of turmoil and disappointment, the love of God is manifested to us in the most hidden kindnesses, in the barely visible light of everyday compassion. May we follow the star of God's reconciliation and justice, enabling us to behold Emmanuel — "God in our midst" — in every experience of charity, consolation and forgiveness, whether given or received.

**Religious Education Information:** The confirmation retreat for students in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> will be Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> beginning with 8 am Mass at St. Anne's. It will go until about 3:00. Lunch will be provided, there is nothing you will need to bring. Regular classes will resume after a short break on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Parish House.

**Parish Council Elections:** THANK YOU to those who accepted your nomination to the Parish Council! Men are: Tom Frank, Jeff Theis, Jerry Boeckman, Paul Ludwig, Scott Gathje, and Ryan Ludwig. Women are: Trish Ludwig, Judi Schreiner, Denise Gathje, Shirley Lutgen and Megan Ludwig. New Members were drawn on Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. **New members will be Judi Schreiner and Tom Frank.** The Parish Council welcomes you! Thank you! to outgoing members Roger Utecht and Sandy Stang for your 3 years of service on the Council!

**Christmas Flowers:** Thank you for the generous donations for Christmas Flowers to make our church beautiful!

Donations are in memory of:

Deceased members of the Hansen & Krueger Families  
Alfred Theis  
Amanda Stommes  
Ron Stommes



**MCCL March for Life:** There will be a march in front of the State Capital at Noon on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. There will be a Prayer Service for Life before that at 10:30 am at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Your presence will send a clear message to state lawmakers and public officials that Minnesotans want to protect the right to life of unborn children. There will be a bus available to ride together with people from the area. To ride the bus to the rally, please call for reservations to Linda at 320-267-6268. She will let you know where the bus will be stopping.

**Readings for the Week:** Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>: 1 Jn 3:22 – 4:6 / Mk 4:12-17, 23-35

Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>: 1 Jn 4:7-10 / Mk 6:34-44

Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: 1 Jn 4:19 – 5:4 / Lk 4:14-22

Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>: 1 Jn 4:11-18 / Mk 6:45-52

Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>: 1 Jn 5:5-13 / Lk 5:12-16

### Community Events:

- Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>: Breakfast at St. Boniface in Cold Spring. Sponsored by the St. Boniface Christian Women. Serving sausage & liver sausage, scrambled eggs, fried potatoes, fruit, baked goods & beverages from 9 am to Noon.
- Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>: Breakfast at St. Anthony Parish in St. Cloud (25<sup>th</sup> Ave & 1<sup>st</sup> St. North) from 8 am to Noon. Serving fresh & smoked sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, pancakes with fruit toppings, hash browns and more!

**Blessed Chalk for Home Blessing:** There will be some blessed chalk available for you to bless your home for 2018. This prayer will also be available for you to pick up.

**20 + C + M + B + 19**

The inscription contains the initial of the Three Wise Men: Casper, Melchior and Balthazar within our new year of 2010. Here is the Blessing: "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen. As we mark this lintel, send the angel of mercy to guard our home and repel all the powers of darkness. Fill all who live here with a love of the gospel life and warm them with the fullness of your grace. And so Farther, may all who dwell here or grace its portals with their presence, find the joy and thoughtfulness of Mary, the God-bearing together with Jesus, the light of nations, in the unity of the Holy Spirit and the Church, now and forever, Amen." All who enter your home this year and pass under that chalked blessing are blessed with peace and all that is good.