

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 2019

The
Season
of
Lent



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
		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

Mar 30	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	4 th Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish
Mar 31	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	4 th Sunday of Lent	First Communicants & Families
Apr 1	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	
Apr 2	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	Hunter Klaers
		{SN} 5 – 8 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Apr 3	Wednesday	{SA} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	
		{SA} 9 am – 4 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Apr 4	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Rosie Gathje
Apr 5	Friday	NO MASS	Lenten Weekday	
Apr 6	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	5 th Sunday of Lent	Elmer & Anita Neu Family
Apr 7	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	5 th Sunday of Lent	Laverne & Darlene Ludwig Familiy

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
Apr 6 at 7:30 pm	Louise Schutz	Dylan Utecht Volunteer	Tom Landwehr Robert Wehseler	Lucy Schreiner
Apr 7 at 10:00 am	Annette Stang Marion Frank Elmer Frank	Caden Neiman Landon Neiman	Joe Gathje Gregory Gathje	Dave Stang

Annual Parish Dinner: the Annual Parish Dinner will be held on Sunday, April 7th after the 10:00 Mass. This weekend is the LAST day to sign up! Please sign up at the back of Church, or call or email the parish office.

Stations of the Cross, led by the Men's Society:

- April 2nd: 7:00 pm
- April 10th: 7:00 pm
- April 17th: 7:00 pm (Holy Week)

Lenten Thoughts to Ponder: Do the people I work with, go to school with, and spend free time with know that I am Catholic? Who encourages me most in my faith? Who can I encourage? "But whoever lives the truth comes to the light" (Jn 3:21) How can I come more closely to the light of Jesus this Lent?

Stewardship of Treasure March 24, 2019

Adult	\$XXX	(29 of 161 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(2 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	



Chaplet Donations	\$XXX
St. Cloud Visitor	\$XXX (1 gift)
CRS	\$XXX (1 gift)

Gospel Connection: In every life there are defining moments when we (finally) grow up. The witty and wise Brian Doyle recalls one such moment in an essay in *The Christian Century* [February 19, 2014]. It was a summer afternoon. His father announced that cousins were coming from Connecticut for dinner the following Sunday to their New York home. Young Brian had plans and made clear his unhappiness at having to change them. His dad said something calm and reasonable; Brian responded rudely. His mother responded quietly but sharply; Brian said something “breathtakingly selfish.” His sister said something gentle and kind; Brian said something cutting and sneering and angry. And in that moment, facing his dad, mom and sister, young Brian “realized I was being a fool.”

The middle-age, more mature and considerably wiser Brian remembers: “It wasn’t that I was embarrassed, though I was embarrassed, later. It was more like for a second I saw who I actually was rather than who I thought I was, or wanted to be, or wanted other people to think I was. I understood, dimly, for an instant — I believe for the first time in my life — that I was being a fool. I kept on being a fool, of course. You cannot escape yourself that quickly, not as a teenager, or later either, it turns out. Often you keep playing a bad hand even when you know it’s a terrible hand and you should laugh and throw down your cards and say something self-deprecating and apologize and tiptoe into the next moment. Often you stay inside the prison of your confidence and ostensible dignity even as you peer through the bars, mortified.

“As I remember I stormed off and the world spun on relentlessly through the stars and the cousins came over and we all grew much older,” he writes. His family moved from their New York house a long time ago. But Brian Doyle imagines that there may be living in their old house, “at this very moment, a seething teenager, sitting at [our old table], facing the yew hedge, seeing a hint of who he might grow up to be, if he can stop being a fool. With all my heart, I wish him well.”

For the young Brian Doyle, that moment of recognition of his selfishness and rudeness is his moment in the “pig sty.” The prodigal (probably no older than Brian) finally realizes how irresponsible and foolish he has been when he’s finally reduced to feeding another man’s pigs. We all have those “pig sty” epiphanies: when we finally face the mess our selfishness, our insensitivity, our dishonesty have made of our lives and the lives of those we love. Lent calls us to embrace God’s grace: grace that enables us to lift ourselves out of the mud of our sins to reconnect again with family and friends, grace that empowers us to jettison our selfishness and deceptions and re-create our broken lives in the healing peace of the Risen Christ.

Religious Education Information: The next class will be Wednesday, April 3rd at 7:00 pm.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Tuesday, April 2nd at St. Nicholas from 5 to 8 pm and on Wednesday, April 3rd at St. Anne’s from 9 am to 4 pm. Won’t you come and spend some time with the Lord?



Rice Bowls: Rice Bowls will be available to pick up at the back of Church. Encounter Kumba: We encounter Kumba from Sierra Leone, who, through her education, is providing hope for her family and community. How has education given you opportunities in life? How do you use your education for the common good? Visit crsricebowl.org for more information.

Readings for the Week: Monday, April 1st: Is 65:17-21 / Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday, April 2nd: Ez 47:1-9, 12 / Jn 5:1-16

Thursday, April 4th: Ex 32:7-14 / Jn 5:31-47

Wednesday, April 3rd: Is 49:8-15 / Jn 5:17-30

Friday, April 5th: Wis 2:1a, 12-22 / Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Community Events:

- April 12: St. Anthony Parish in St. Cloud (2410 1st St N) Lenten Fish Fry. Serving fried fish, au gratin potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, dinner rolls, beverages from 4 to 7 pm. March 29th is Matching Grant with Catholic United!
- Fridays of Lent: Crosier Fathers & Brothers of Onamia. Taize Prayer Fridays at 7 pm at the Cathedral of St. Mary in St. Cloud. Healing Mass on Sunday, March 31st at 9:00 am at the National Shrine of St. Odilia, Onamia. Solemn Vespers Sundays at 5 pm in Onamia.
- Sunday, April 7th: Breakfast at the Church of St. Joseph in St. Joseph Catholic School dining room. Serving all you can eat Pep’s pork, & St. Joe Meat market sausages, scrambled eggs, hash browns, pancakes, & more from 8:30 am to Noon.
- Sunday, April 28th: St. Wendelin’s of Luxemburg, All you can eat breakfast from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. Serving ham & cheese omelets, sausage, potatoes, applesauce, rolls, toast & beverages. Bake sale and raffle too. Mass is at 9:30 am.

Congratulations to our First Communicants!!

Congratulations to Lillian Ludwig and Lincoln Lutgen as they make their First Holy Communion this Sunday, March 31st. May Jesus bless you, care for you and always love you!

