

# CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 7, 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

Apr 6	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	Elmer & Anita Neu Family
Apr 7	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	Laverne & Darlene Ludwig Familiy
Apr 8	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Apr 9	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Lenten Weekday	+Martha Hopfer
Apr 10	Wednesday	{SA} 8:00 am SN 7:00 PM	Lenten Weekday Stations of the Cross	
Apr 11	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	<b>NO MASS</b>	+Elmer Boeckmann
Apr 12	Friday	NO MASS	Lenten Weekday	
Apr 13	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	Palm Sunday	People of the Parish
Apr 14	Sunday	{SN} 10:00 am	Palm Sunday	+Jake Foehrenbacher

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
Apr 13 at 7:30 pm	Art Faber	Katelyn Utecht Volunteer	Ron Steil Allen Stommes	Anita Neu Elmer Neu
Apr 14 at 10:00 am	Kelly Bautch Lee Bautch Greg Utecht	Michael Bautch Volunteer	Steve Stang Don Dufner	Shirley Lutgen Mike Kuechle

## Confessions During Holy Week:

Sunday, April 14 Penance Service:	4:00 pm	St. Nicholas
Sunday, April 14 Penance Service:	7:00 pm	St. Anne
Monday, April 15	9:00 am	St. Anne
Tuesday, April 16	8:30 am	St. Nicholas
Wednesday, April 17	5:00 pm	St. Anne
Wednesday, April 17	7:30 pm	St. Nicholas

## Mass Schedule for Holy Week

	St. Nicholas	St. Anne
Holy Thursday, April 18:	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
Adorations until	8:00 pm	10:00 pm
Good Friday, April 19	3:00 pm	12:00 pm
Holy Saturday, April 20	-----	8:30 pm
Easter Sunday, April 21	10:00 am	8:00 am

\*\*\*FYI: There will be incense used on Holy Thursday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday.

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

April 10<sup>th</sup>: 7:00 pm  
April 17<sup>th</sup>: 7:00 pm (Holy Week)

**Lenten Thoughts to Ponder:** Have you ever considered that Jesus might have been "troubled" about what was going to happen to him? How can the way he dealt with his anxiety help you deal with your own worries and fears? Is there someone in my life that I need to forgive? Do I keep in mind that it is as we forgive that we are forgiven? How am I doing on keeping my Lenten discipline?

## Stewardship of Treasure March 24, 2019

Adult	\$XXX	(41 of 161 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(2 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$XXXXX</b>	



Votive Stand	\$XXX
Chaplet Donations	\$XXX
St. Cloud Visitor	\$XXX (1 gift)
CRS	\$XXX (1 gift)
Easter Flowers	\$XXX (1 gift)

**Gospel Connection:** For 27 years, Walter Jones represented eastern North Carolina in Congress. He died this past February 10 on his 76th birthday, after a long illness. His colleagues in the House remembered him for his courage, his integrity and his kindness. And his letters. And not just any letters. For the last 14 years, Jones made it a point to write letters to Americans whose spouse, daughter or son was killed in Iraq or Afghanistan. Many of them included personal handwritten notes he wrote in his Greenville office late at night. "My heart aches as I write this letter for I realize you are suffering a great loss," most letters would begin.

Jones' letter-writing began in 2003 after he attended the funeral of Marine Sgt. Michael Bitz, who was killed that March, not long after the Iraq war began. During the ceremony, the sergeant's two-year old son, Joshua, dropped a toy. A young Marine in dress uniform reached down to pick it up and hand it back to Joshua. "And the boy looked up at him, and the Marine looked down, and then it hit me," the congressman would remember. "This little boy would never know his daddy."

Before writing to a family, Jones would obtain permission from a military liaison who makes sure that family members want condolences from a congressman they likely never heard of. Then, from a desk drawer in his office in Greenville, he retrieved the same black ink fountain pen that he used since he began this ritual. In some cases, he sent letters to multiple relatives of a single soldier.

At the time of his death in February, Walter Jones had written 11,266 such letters. Janina Bitz-Vasquez, the widow of the Marine whose funeral triggered Jones' epiphany, said she's honored that Jones continued to honor the families of dead service members. More importantly, she said, it "sets a standard for taking personal responsibility and accountability" for other political and military leaders. [The Associated Press, October 29, 2017; *The (Raleigh) News and Observer*, February 13, 2019; *The New York Times*, February 16, 2019.]

Congressman Jones was not alone in voting for the war in Iraq and his vote would not have changed the course of the war, but in holding himself accountable to families, the late congressman mirrors the integrity and sense of personal responsibility that Jesus demands from those who have brought the adulteress before him. True conversion begins by taking ownership of our mistakes and shortcomings and the impact they have on those around us. We cannot take on the demons of the world until we confront the demons in our own hearts; we cannot pass sentence on others until we judge our own lives; we cannot change what is beyond us until we change what is within us; we cannot lift up the fallen until we realize that we, too, are fallen; we cannot raise others to health and hope until we seek our own healing.

**Religious Education Information:** The LAST religion CLASS for this school year will be next week, Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. We will meet in the Church basement for pizza. Just because this is the last class, there will still be things that we will do as a group. There is Holy Week participation, Ditch clean up in early May, and a few other odds and ends. \*\*I would like to especially thank the people that have committed to teaching our young parishioners. We would not have a program without your talents and help! Thank you to Rosie Hennen, Jeff Theis, Karen Lincoln, Joe Decker and Kelly Bautch and with Christmas assistance from Trish Ludwig, Betty Lutgen, Annette Stang and Jeanne Theis. Thank you to all parents of students for your help in getting your student where they needed to be!

**Divine Mercy Sunday:** Divine Mercy Sunday is the first Sunday after Easter. Leading up to that day, short, different prayers can be prayed each day, called the Divine Mercy Novena. This Novena starts on Good Friday and ends on Holy Saturday. If you are interested in learning how to pray it, or if you would like to pray it as a group along with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, contact Ken Lutgen at 764-2043. There are also pamphlets on the table in the back of Church.

**Rice Bowls:** Rice Bowls will be available to pick up at the back of Church. Encounter Ona: We encounter Ona in Gaza, where, despite lack of economic opportunity, people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How do your daily choices impact others throughout the world? How can your choices support the dignity of workers? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more information.

**Readings for the Week:** Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 / Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>: Nm 21:4-9 / Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 / Jn 8:31-42

Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>: Gn 17:3-9 / Jn 8:51-59

Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>: Jer 20:10-13 / Jn 10:31-42

## Community Events:

- April 12: St. Anthony Parish in St. Cloud (2410 1<sup>st</sup> St N) Lenten Fish Fry. Serving fried fish, au gratin potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, dinner rolls, beverages from 4 to 7 pm. March 29<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am at the National Shrine of St. Odilia, Onamia. Solemn Vespers Sundays at 5 pm in Onamia.
- Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>: 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.
- Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>: 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Way of the Cross at Lake George, St. Cloud. Gather at 1:30 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral and walk to Lake George. Way of the Cross service will begin at 2 pm at the Lake George Vietnam Memorial and walk around the lake.
- Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>: Rummage Sale at St. Anthony Gym at 2410 1<sup>st</sup> Street N in St. Cloud from 8 am to 1 pm.
- Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>: Breakfast at St. Anthony – St. Cloud (2410 1<sup>st</sup> Street N) Serving sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, pancakes with topping, fruit, rolls, hash browns, and beverages for 8 am to Noon.
- Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>: 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.
- Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>: Divine Mercy Sunday at St. Mary's Cathedral from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. There will be 3 speakers. There will be a light reception to follow.