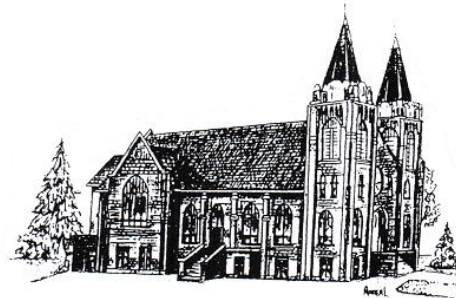


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 18, 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 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

Aug 17	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Aug 18	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+MCCL – Pro Life
Aug 19	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Aug 20	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	St. Bernard	+Ardella Flaschenriem
Aug 21	Wednesday	{SA} 8:00 am	St. Pius	
Aug 22	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	+Alverna Hennen
Aug 23	Friday	NO MASS	Weekday	
Aug 24	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	+ Dec Spiczka & Beckius Families
Aug 25	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Katherine Caskey

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
Aug 24 at 7:30 pm	Rick Utecht	Dylan Utecht Volunteer	Ron Steil Volunteer	Lucy Schreiner
Aug 25 at 8:00 am	Judy Schutz Annette Stang Dave Stang	Caden Neiman Landon Neiman	Joe Gathje Gregory Gathje	Dave Stang



THERE ARE ONLY A FEW TICKETS REMAINING!! TICKETS ARE \$20 EACH. If you would like a ticket, please contact Brenda at 493-3957. Each ticket will get you a commemorative mug, a meal and 2 drink tickets. Nicktober Fest will be on Saturday, September 28th beginning with Mass at 4 pm behind the Lutgen Store in St. Nicholas. There will be live music, a German-style meal, beverages and activities!

Mass at Old St. Nick Chapel: Mass will be held on Sunday, August 18th at 8:00 am at the Old St. Nick Chapel on 200th Street.
 **Please bring a lawn chair. Just as an FYI: 200th Street is under construction. Please be vigilant in driving through the construction. Donuts will be served after Mass!

Stewardship of Treasure August 11, 2019

Adult	\$XXX	(31 of 161 envelopes)
Youth	XXX	(2 of 45 envelopes)
Loose	XXX	
TOTAL	\$XXXXX	



Energy Needs	\$XXX (1 gift)
Assumption of Mary	\$XXX (1 gift)

Gospel Connection: The elusive answer to “Why?” It’s becoming more and more of a challenge for parents of young children today: talking to them about God.

When children show an interest in God or start asking questions about their faith, many parents feel conflicted between their faith in God and the controversies surrounding religious institutions and the failures of many of its leaders. While their children’s spiritual imaginations are growing, their parents’ anxieties and sadness about the inevitable disappointments the world would serve up make those conversations difficult — especially among parents who feel insecure about their own grasp of faith, whose own childhood religious formation was largely a negative experience.

Parents experience similar feelings of loss and inadequacy when struggling to answer their children’s “how come?” regarding violence, sexism and racism. How do white parents explain that what is “normal” for their children isn’t always normal for families of color? How do you reassure children that the places that should be safe — like their schools — sometimes are not?

Meghan Murphy-Gill is the mother of a five-year-old. In an essay in U.S. Catholic [July 2019], the Chicago writer reflects on her own experience of trying to explain life’s painful truths to her own son: “I don’t try to protect my son’s innocence. That might seem counterintuitive to some parents, but in my experience going to lengths to shield him from the cruel realities of the world only makes my own anxieties worse — and his. Our children do active shooter drills in elementary schools, after all. They want to know why. But they also want our assurances that we will do everything to protect them . . . One of the reasons my husband and I decided to baptize our son was because the Christian story was not only the story we had been raised with but also one we believe is holy and filled with truth. It reminds us that, yes, the world can be a terrible place and do terrible things, but those terrible things don’t have the last word.”

The vulnerability and fragileness of our lives are at the heart of today’s difficult passage from Luke’s Gospel. In the divisions we suffer, in the contradictions we encounter, in the disconnect between our faith and values and the demands and expectations of our world and culture, the love of God is the one constant that brings us back to one another, that heals the rifts, that bridges what divides between us. The compassion, the selflessness, the humility, the justice that Jesus demands of those who would be his disciples are the “fire” and “baptism” through which we transform our world in the sacredness of God. Discipleship is not without cost; balancing the Gospel’s ethical and moral imperatives with the day-to-day practical realities of our lives is difficult. The challenge of discipleship, Jesus teaches, is not to let God’s word of justice and mercy divide us but to realize how that word can bring all humanity together as God’s holy people.

Bishop’s Annual Appeal: Diocesan Ministries are here for YOU! Visit our webpage for updates about how the Appeal supports ministries at the very core of our Church’s mission. To donate: visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal, or mail to PO Box 1538, St. Cloud, MN 56302.

Cemetery Help Needed: The Cemetery Board Meeting will be held on August 21st at 6:30 at Mike Lutgen’s place. Some volunteers will be required to come and help with the ground preparation work for the cemetery pavers that will be laid. This is scheduled for September 7th at 9 am. You should bring a shovel with you. Please contact Doug Caskey if you have any questions. Doug’s number is 597-2854. The installation of the pavers is tentatively set for September 14th at 9 am. Please contact Doug if you can come and help out!

Diocesan Ministry Day 2019: Message from Bishop Kettler: “Please join me and other Catholics from throughout the diocese at Diocesan Ministry Day Sept. 30 at St. John’s University. Keynoter and local author Laura Kelly Fanucci will share her message on ‘Our Baptismal Call to be Priest, Prophet and King.’ There will be learning sessions - and lunchtime conversations - on prayer, spirituality, family life, liturgy, parish planning, Catholic social teaching, youth ministry and much more. Don’t miss the optional retreat the night before - and join me afterward for “Beer, Brats and Bishop.” Come relax and have fun with ministry colleagues from around the diocese. Learn more and register at www.stcdio.org/dmd2019. I look forward to seeing you!”

DCCW: The 66th Annual Fall Conference of the Council of Catholic Women will be held at St. Boniface in Cold Spring on Saturday, September 21st starting at 8:30 am. The theme this year is “Servants of God, Guiding Our Youth.” Register by 9/11/19 with a \$15 check payable to Cold Spring Deanery and send to Marlene Statz 27586 Co Rd 9, Richmond, MN 56368.

Mass & Anointing: There will be a Mass with Anointing of the Sick in honor of St. Peregrine on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at 5:30 held at St. Anthony’s Church in St. Cloud. Each year, St. Anthony’s Church asks St. Peregrine for his intercession for those who are sick and those who care for them. All are welcome, especially those affected by cancer or other illnesses and chronic conditions. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Center following Mass.

Readings for the Week: Monday, August 19th: Jgs 2:11-19 / Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday, August 20th: Jgs 6:11-24a / Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday, August 21st: Jgs 9:6-15 / Mt 20:1-16

Thursday, August 22nd: Jgs 11:29-39a / Mt 22:1-14

Friday, August 23rd: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22 / Mt 22:34-40

Community Events:

- Saturday & Sunday, August 17-18: “Boni-Fest” Parish Festival at St. Boniface in Cold Spring. Saturday Polka Mass at 5 pm, food & beverage stands open at 6 pm with fireworks at 10pm. Sunday: Parade at 10 am, festival opens at 11 am, raffle at 4:15pm.
- Monday, Sept 2nd: Labor Day St. Stephen Parish Festival. All stands/food begins at 11 am to 7 pm in St. Stephen, MN.
- Saturday, September 7th: St. Mary’s Cathedral Block Party. Outdoor Mass at 4 pm, live music, food, raffles, bingo, festival games for everyone! Diamond Back will play at 7 pm.
- Saturday, September 14th: Fall Crawl at Powder Ridge in Kimball. 5 K’ish Course so you can run, walk, or crawl to taste beer and wine from breweries of the area. Pre-purchase your tickets online at Powder Ridge!