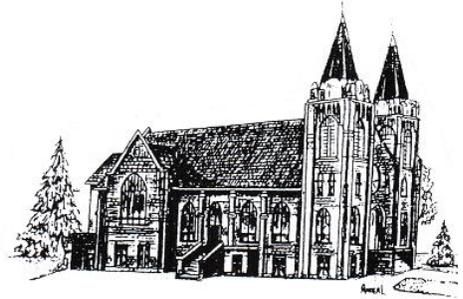


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 15, 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 320-293-2788	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

Sept 14	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Sept 15	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Edith Stang
Sept 16	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	Sts Cornelius & Cyprian	
		{SN} 7:00 pm	Parish Council Meeting	
Sept 17	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	Special Int for Hansen Family
Sept 18	Wednesday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Sept 19	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Alfred Theis Family
Sept 20	Friday	NO MASS	Sts. Andrew & Paul	
Sept 21	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Elmer & Esther Faber
Sept 22	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Erma Bautch

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
Sept 21 at 7:30 pm	Elmer Neu	Derek Utecht Volunteer	Tom Landwehr Ron Steil	Anita Neu
Sept 22 at 8:00 am	Kelly Bautch Judy Schutz Don Dufner	Caden Neiman Landon Neiman	Joe Gathje Gregory Gathje	Lee Bautch



Tickets have been sold out for this year's Nicktober Fest. A list will be kept just in case someone who purchased a ticket cannot attend. If you purchased a ticket and are unable to use it, please contact Brenda at the parish office.

Parish Council Meeting: The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Monday, September 16th at 7 pm at the Parish House.**

2019 Annual Directory & Financial Report Booklet: the Annual Financial Statement and Parish Directory booklet is available for pick up on the back table at Church. Please take one per family. If there are any questions, please contact Brenda in the Parish Office.



Our Sympathy: Our Sympathy to the Family and Friends of Elmer Vossen, who died and was buried this past week. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him!

Stewardship of Treasure September 8, 2019

Adult \$XXX (37 of 162 envelopes)
Youth XXX (0 of 45 envelopes)
Loose XXX



Special Donation \$XXX (1 gift)

TOTAL \$XXXXX

Gospel Connection: In an essay in the *National Catholic Reporter* [January 2014], the late writer and poet Brian Doyle lamented a “sin” he committed that had a sobering and lasting effect on him. His ten-year-old son had been fighting with his brother for what seemed like an eternity. Dad’s demands that he cool it were met with either indifference or snark. Finally, Dad had had enough.

“I roared at my son, I grabbed him by the shirt collar, I frightened him so badly that he cowered and wept, and when he turned to run, I grabbed him by the arm so roughly that he flinched, and it was that flicker of fear and pain across his face, the bright, eager, holy-riveting face I have loved for ten years, that stopped me then and haunts me [still] for I am the father of his fear, I sent it snarling into his heart, and I can never get it out now, which torments me.”

As soon as Brian let go of his arm, the boy “sprinted away and slammed the door and flew off the porch and down the street, and I stood there simmering in shame. Then I walked down the hill into the laurel thicket as dense and silent as the dawn of the world and found him there huddled and sobbing. We sat in the moist, green dark for a long time, not saying anything, the branches burly and patient. Finally, I asked quietly for his forgiveness and he asked for mine and we walked out of the woods, hand-in-hand, changed men.”

Most of our struggles to forgive are the stumbles we make in hurting those we love most. In the same awkward situation, we can be both the aggrieved father whose discipline is more than justified and the self-centered son who hurts deeply the ones who love him the most. As Brian Doyle learned in his encounter with his son, we all possess the grace to forgive; the love of God empowers us to seek forgiveness and make right what our selfishness has broken or shattered.

Religious Education: The calendar for this year’s RE classes has been mailed this Thursday. Please watch for it in the mail. Classes will begin on Wednesday, October 2nd with the first class in the Parish House. There will not be a “First Mass” this year, due to Father will be out of town for a couple of days that week. Parents are welcome to come with students this first day, especially first and second grade students. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Brenda!

Area Catholic Community Meeting: Members of our Area Catholic Communities (hereafter ACC) met on Tuesday, August 20th at St. Wendelin’s Mary Hall. A warm welcome to Fr. Matthew Crane (newly assigned to St. Mary Help of Christian Parish) in absentia. Fr. Crane was unable to attend due to his installation Mass at St. Mary Help of Christian.

As it currently stands, our ACC will be shepherded by our current pastors. There is no plan to change Mass times. It is possible that the three pastors may rotate among the parishes for weekend Masses. Discussion did take place regarding a possible Mass schedule, in the event our ACC had only two priests. There was a good discussion and agreement that St. Mary Help of Christian would have two weekend Masses and the other parishes one weekend Mass. No future Mass times were established and remember, no change in Mass times are expected currently.

Fruitful discussion followed on Faith Formation and Youth Ministry. The council saw this as an area where we could collaborate, since St. Mary Help of Christian is looking at hiring a Faith Formation Director and possibly a Youth Minister. One idea which surfaced is to hire a degreed person in Religious Education for the ACC. This person would develop a program to deepen the faith life of children, youth, and adults. This person would seek volunteers and stipend persons to work in our various parishes. A similar model could be used for Youth Ministry.

Next steps in regard to Faith Formation and Youth Ministry:

- *Present idea to Parish Councils for approval
- *Have Finance Councils determine what funds are available in their budget.
- *Create a Task Force to study options and create job descriptions.

The next meeting is set for September 26, 7pm, at St. Anne’s in Kimball

Bishop’s Annual Appeal: Your appeal gifts are at work supporting parishes! Technology support through Catholic Education Ministries helps parishes in many ways: answering questions, formatting bulletins, making forms and documents more user-friendly, facilitating an online support network, and other technology-related support services. Every dollar raised goes directly to diocesan ministries and is not used for any other purpose. Join others around the diocese in making a gift. To donate: visit www.stcdio.org/annualappeal, or mail to PO Box 1538, St. Cloud, MN 56302.

Campaign for Human Development: In the United States, one in six people live in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for people across the country who struggle. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect will remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. Please use the envelope in your packet.

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.

Readings for the Week: Monday, Sept 9th: Col 1:24-2:3 / Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday, Sept 10th: Col 2:6-15 / Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday, Sept 11th: Col 3:1-11 / Lk 6:20-26

Thursday, Sept 12th: Col 3:12-17 / Lk 6:27-38

Friday, Sept 13th: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14 / Lk 6:39-42

Community Events:

- September 13, 14, & 15th: Albany Pioneer Days. Gates open at 7am each day. Featuring Case Tractors and International Harvester.
- **Sunday, September 15th: St. Anne’s of Kimball Annual Fall Festival. Polka Mass at 9 am with music by Lavern & The Starlights. Breakfast served from 9 am to noon. Hamburgers and food stands open from 10 am to 3 pm. Fun for Everyone!**
- Sunday, Sept 15th: St. Anthony of St. Cloud Sunday Breakfast from 8 am to Noon. Sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, pancakes and more.