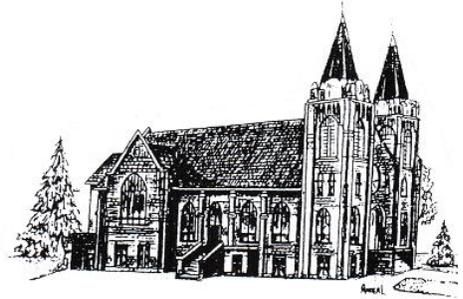


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

15862 Co Rd 165, Watkins, MN 55389

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 8, 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 Cell 320-493-3957	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 7	Saturday	{SN} 7:30 pm	23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Joan Meyer
Sept 8	Sunday	{SN} 8:00 am	23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Alfred & Dolores Braegelmann
Sept 9	Monday	{SA} 8:00 am	St. Peter	
Sept 10	Tuesday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Magnus Konz
Sept 11	Wednesday	{SA} 8:00 am	Weekday	
Sept 12	Thursday	{SN} 8:00 am	Weekday	+Alverna Hennen
Sept 13	Friday	NO MASS	St. John	
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

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 14 at 7:30 pm	Art Faber	Dylan Utecht Volunteer	Robert Kraemer Laverne Ludwig	Joe Decker
Sept 15 at 8:00 am	Trish Ludwig Marion Frank Elmer Frank	Michael Bautch volunteer	Paul Ludwig Sy Schreiner	Shirley Lutgen



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. The trustees will meet at 6:30 pm. If there is anything that you would like to add to the agenda, please contact Brenda.

Donut Sunday: The Christian Women will host a Donut Sunday on Sunday, September 8th after Mass. Come have a donut and spend a bit of time with friends and neighbors!

CW Mandatory Chair/Co-Chair Meeting: There will be a MANDATORY Chair and Co-Chair meeting on Wednesday, September 11th at 7:00 pm in the Church basement. You can pick up your group packet; they are on the back table in Church. If you have any questions, please contact Anita Neu at 685-3287.

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.

Stewardship of Treasure September 1, 2019

Adult \$XXX (30 of 162 envelopes)
Youth XXX (0 of 45 envelopes)
Loose XXX



Votive Stand \$XXX
Assumption of Mary \$XXX(1 gift)

TOTAL \$XXXXX

Gospel Connection: Just a few years ago, Libby Osgood was sitting in the control room at NASA's Goddard Space Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, monitoring the launch of a new communications satellite. She was 25, the youngest systems engineer on the team. She later went to work for a NASA contractor in Phoenix, but the slower pace made her restless. After two years in Phoenix, she decided to go Kenya to work with a nonprofit group providing medical, dental and vision services to children. Libby fell in love with Kenya and its people. She was done staring at screens of unmoving, metal satellites — Libby wanted to work with people.

She returned from Kenya and starting teaching engineering at the University of Prince Edward Island. She would go back to Kenya every February and bring students with her to show them how their skills could help people who were truly in need.

Libby also became more and more involved in church, especially a new diocesan young adult group. But she considered her religion and profession two distinct parts of her life, not an integrated whole. That changed after a meeting a sister of the Congregation of Notre-Dame during a trip with the young adult group. Libby talked about her quandary and the sister explained that the Notre Dame Sisters are dedicated to what they call "liberating education": the sisters seek to empower and educate in any form that frees the human spirit.

Libby remembers: "For a few exhilarating seconds, I saw my whole life clearly integrated. I realized that I did not have to evangelize or mention God at work, as I was ministering to my students and coworkers simply by loving them as worthy, holy individuals." This summer, Sister Libby Osgood took her first vows as a Sister of the Congregation of Notre-Dame. [From "Aerospace Sister" by Libby Osgood, America, July 22, 2019.]

Whatever our skill set, whatever talents we possess, whatever we feel passionate about can become our "cross": the means God has given us to bring resurrection and hope to our broken world. Whether ours is the world of the stars or actuary tables, whether our skills are in high tech or cookware, to follow Christ means to accept the gift of our crosses and use them, not for our own profit and benefit alone, but for the realization of the kingdom of God here and now.

Religious Education: Happy September! The calendar for this year's RE classes is just being finalized. It will be mailed out to all families this coming week. 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. Watch for your letter with the calendar!

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: Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Appeal. As of last August, the diocese raised \$1,060,440 in gifts and pledges. That is 81.5% of the diocese's goal of \$1,300,000. This is made possible through the donations of 7,188 people throughout the 16 counties of our diocese. Every dollar raised goes directly to ministries that support our Catholic faith 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.

Cemetery Work: The installation of the pavers is tentatively set for September 14th at 9 am. Please contact Doug at 597-2854 if you can come and help out.

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 8th: KC Monthly Breakfast at St. Boniface in Cold Spring. Serving from 8:30 to 12:30 pm.
- September 13, 14, & 15th: Albany Pioneer Days. Gates open at 7am each day. Featuring Case Tractors and International Harvester.
- 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!
- 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.