

PASTOR

Fr. Damian Richards 785-628-1446 785-621-2699 **Emergency Contact** 

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

785-623-8000 Lilly Binder

FINANCE/PASTORAL COUNCIL

**CHAIRPERSON** 

785-623-1338 John Moeder

**ART & ENVIRONMENT** 

Ann Pfannenstiel 785-628-8458 Jerry & Sylvia Gross 785-342-4183

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**GRAND KNIGHT** 

Donovan Richmeier 785-623-0417

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS PRESIDENT

785-259-3374 Jane Younger

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday - 8:00 am Wednesday - 7:30 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Sunday - 7:30 am

**BAPTISMS** - Preparation class required for first time parents and inactive Catholics. Contact Lilly to schedule.

MARRIAGES - Couples anticipating marriage must contact Lilly at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Family Elementary

785-625-3131

www/hfehays.org

Thomas More Prep-Marian 785-625-6577

www.tmp-m.org

Mass Intentions					
Sun. Dec 1	8:00 am	L/D Tony & Wilma Seib fam			
Wed. Dec 4	7:30 am	+Donna Leiker			
Sun. Dec 8	8:00 am	Special Intention			
Mon. Dec 9	6:00 pm	L/D Benjamin & Diana Dome fam			
Wed. Dec 11	7:30 am	+L/D Tony & Patty Rohr family			

#### **SERVERS**

Sun Dec 1 Hayley Gerstner & Trenton Staley

Sun Dec 8 Jacob Leiker & Logan Leiker

## **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Sun Dec 1 Lilly B, Jenalyn L, Nathan L, Wendy R.

Sun Dec 8 Lauren M, Peggy R, Glenn S, Rhonda S.

	LECTORS	OFFERTORY GIFTS		
Sun Dec 1	Natalie Oborny	Sid & Joanne Steinert		
Sun Dec 8	Brian Pfannenstiel	Alan & Juanita Stecklein		

#### **GREETERS**

Sun Dec 1 Jason & Kacy Gerstner
Sun Dec 8 Jerry & Sylvia Gross

#### **COLLECTION TEAM**

## Sunday, December 1

Aaron Dome, Jeff Richmeier, Josh Waddell, Darold Younker

#### Sunday, December 8

Wilbert Gross, Blake Leiker, David Leiker, John Oborny

TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS				
Sunday, December 1	Ernie & Lilly Binder			
Sunday, December 8	Linda Gross			
Sunday, December 15	Darold & Evelyn Younker			
Sunday, December 22	Jason & Rose Carter			

Tithe ~	Stewardship	of	Treasure

Envelopes \$1,991.00 Loose \$202.00 Total \$2,193.00



#### FROM THE DESK OF CODY MARINTZER

During this Advent season, I would like to focus on the different themes for each week. This week, I am sharing a condensed version of an article by Bishop James Conley on Hope. If you attend our weekly Praise and Adoration on Tuesday night, this may give you an extra reflection while spending time with our Lord.

May God Bless You this Advent and Christmas season!

# Advent: the season of hope **By Bishop James Conley**

Hope is the knowledge that our lives have meaning—that each day that we live matters, and indeed, that we matter, because we are beloved by God and because he has an eternal plan for our lives.

Hope is knowing the Lord, believing in his promises, and trusting that he loves us, transforms us, and sanctifies us.

Hope gives us freedom to live for what really matters. "The one who has hope lives differently," Pope Benedict wrote. "The one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life."

Through hope, we know that God's love for us gives the deepest meaning and purpose to our existence—that how we live in this world can bring us into eternal happiness with God, no matter what happens to us.

In hope, we know that this world is fleeting, and that real and lasting joy awaits in the Lord's promise of our salvation.

During Advent, we are particularly blessed by the witness of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Hope. On December 8, we honor her Immaculate Conception, and on December 12 we remember her appearance as Our Lady of Guadalupe, to the young St. Juan Diego in Mexico nearly 500 years ago.

Pope Benedict asked: "Who more than Mary could be a star of hope for us? With her 'yes' she opened the door of our world to God himself; she became the living Ark of the Covenant, in whom God took flesh, became one of us, and pitched his tent among us."

In a special way, the Blessed Mother reveals hope to us during the holy season of Advent. Meditating on the joyful mysteries of the rosary, especially in our families, gives us witness to that hope. At the annunciation and visitation, she joyfully expected the Lord. At his birth, he came into the world. At his presentation, and as a child in the temple, he gave a foretaste of the hope that he would give the entire world.

At the beginning of that story is Mary, who hoped in the promise of God, and in the promise of an angel, that her son would be the source of hope for the world.

I encourage all families to turn to the Blessed Mother as Advent begins, especially in the rosary, and ask her to reveal to us her hope in the savior of the world, her son, Jesus Christ. I urge you to walk with Mary during these blessed days of Advent, as she leads all of us to the crib in Bethlehem, and to her Son and our Savior.



**Coffee, Rolls and conversation** following Mass this morning, hosted by the Christian Mothers.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception.** As the Feast of the Immaculate Conception normally falls on December 8th, this year December 8th will be celebrated as the Second Sunday of Advent. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception has been moved to Monday, December 9th as a Holy Day of Obligation our Mass is 6:00 p.m.



**2025 CALENDARS** are available at the entrances. Please extend a thank you to Hyle and Ann Hugunin, Hays Memorial Chapel for making these calendars available.



2025 Mass Intentions are now being accepted. Please limit to 3 requests.
Stipends \$10.00 per Mass.
Contact Lilly to schedule ~ 785-623-8000

**Soup Luncheon and Bingo** sponsored by the Gorham Community Development Association will be on Dec. 8, at 11am, at the Gorham Senior Center. Green Bean & Dumpling, Chicken & Noodle, Chili, Cinnamon Rolls, Coffee & Hot Cocoa. \$8 per person, 5 and under free. \$15 per quart, Cinnamon Rolls \$3 each / half dozen \$15. Carry out available. Bingo will start at 1pm and Santa will arrive around 1:30pm. Photos with Santa available. All proceeds will go towards the Gorham splash pad!

FINANCE LEADERSHIP IHM Parish, Hays is accepting resumes for the position of Business/Office Manager. The Business Manager directs and oversees all financial activities for a very busy parish. This role is responsible for monthly financial reporting, providing analysis of reports and data, audits, internal controls, asset management and advising the Pastor and Finance Council in financial matters. Is able to demonstrate knowledge and skills in financial analysis, report preparation, and budgeting. Healthcare contract experience preferred. To submit a resume, request a full job description or to ask questions about this opportunity, please email Kim Hoelting, HR Director at kim.hoelting@salinadiocese.org.

Mike & Bea Suppes, Special Intentions, Becky Robben, Maya Gottschalk, Carla Meier, Terry Hauschel, Theo Leiker, Chris Brull, Carol Carter, Parishioners in Health Care Facilities.

Drop requests in the collection basket or let Lilly know.

Please let Lilly know when the intention can be removed.

#### **EVENTS IN THE HEARTLAND**

**STARS and STRIPES BREAKFAST** at the VFW, 22nd and Vine St, Dec. 8, from 7:30am to noon. Advance tickets sold benefits the St. Nicholas Ladies Guild. For tickets contact Clare Gustin at 785-635-3511. Advance tickets are \$11.50 for Adults, \$6.50 for Children, under 5 are Free

#### **National Night of Prayer**

Asking each of you to pray to the Holy Spirit discerning your degree of involvement in the National Night of Prayer for Life. This is held across our nation on December 8th. The focus of our prayer will be asking Our Blessed Mother to protect Life and the Family, to renew the Church, establish Peace, and inspire Courage in the soul of our nation. This is a tri-parish and Comeau Catholic Campus Center event being held at St. Nicholas this year. It will start with Eucharistic Exposition at 7pm, and continue with prayer and praises, hymns, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary, prayer to St Michael, and more. This event spans all four time zones uniting our country in prayer. The evening will end with Benediction at 10pm.

#### "Joy of the Gospel"

Tune into Divine Mercy Radio's Care-a-thon December3 – December 6 where we will discover Joy in the Gospel. Of particular interest for (KMDG/Parish/Area) *is* or *are*:

#### Tuesday, December 3

7am - Ethan Lang – Faith Driven Finance 8am – Bill Meagher 9am – Rick Binder and TMP Students 10am - Cory Munsch & Christian Lutz 2pm – Fr. Damian Richards 4pm - Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

#### Wednesday, December 4

7am – Donetta Robben – The Virtues of Mary
8am – Fr. Brian McCaffery
9am – Fr. Curtis Carlson
10am – Fr. Joshua Werth
1pm -Leonard Schoenberger
2pm – Jeanne Riedel & Cindy Schulte
4pm – Fr. Andy Hammeke

## Thursday, December 5

7am – Dr. Abe Fisher 1pm – Fr. Nick Parker 5pm – Molly Boll

## Friday, December 6

7am – Maggie Baalman 8am – Annie Sandmeier 9am – Dr. Christine Mugridge 10am - Fr. Gary Selin – Archdiocese of Denver 1pm – Katie Hamel 2pm – Bishop Gerald Vincke 4pm – Father Fred Gatschet

Full schedule at dvmercy.com. For trivia and pledges call 785.621.4110. Listen on radio, computer, phone app or Alexa. Live on Rumble, Facebook and YouTube.





FHSU Cathedral Christmas Concert Sunday, December 8th 3:30 p.m. in the "Cathedral of the Plains" The Basilica of St. Fidelis. The concert is free and open to the public.

CHRISTMAS BANQUET - The Sunflower Chapter of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia will be having their annual Christmas Banquet on Sunday, Dec. 15, at Noon at the Kennedy Cafeteria. Tickets are \$20.00 a plate for a traditional German meal. This fundraiser helps the local chapter in various ways. The guest speaker is Dr. Eric Schmaltz from Northwestern Oklahoma State University, professor of History and Social Studies Department Chair. His talk will be on "Germans from Russia Holiday Traditions." To purchase a meal ticket, contact Kevin at the St. Joseph Parish office, or text at 785-656-0329. Tickets must be purchased no later than Dec. 9.

#### BIBLE REFLECTION ~ STEWARDSHIP GOAL

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (LUKE 21:28) We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those that are closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

The end of the calendar year is fast approaching. If you are considering a year-end donation, please keep St. Francis of Assisi Parish in mind. These unexpected donations and your ongoing support are greatly appreciated. May the Lord bless you abundantly for your generosity.

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**



## HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Mandy Meagher Principal (785) 625-3131

Dec 2 Candy Gram Sales Begin

Christmas Program K-5th 6:30 pm in church

Dec 3 iGive Catholic Giving Tuesday

Dec 5 June Birthday Mass & Lunch

You can support HFE by recycling your aluminum cans in our trailer across the street North of the school/church in the small gravel parking lot on 19th! Simply bring by a trash bag of them to drop off anytime!



## **THOMAS MORE PREP-MARIAN**

Chad Meitner, Principal

Melissa Schoepf, Jr. High Assistant Principal (785) 625-6577

Dec 3 4 pm - Alumni Black Tie Dinner (JH Cove)

Dec 4 3:30 pm (HS) Winter Sports Pictures

Dec 5 - 7 Hays City Shootout

Hays Catholic Financial Advisory Committee wants to update our stakeholders on the financial position of the Catholic Schools.

Our Catholic education system is self-funded and graciously relies on the Catholic community to provide a faith-based learning environment.

Our Catholic Schools are unique in how we are funded. Nearly half of the school's funding comes directly from your stewardship. Each parish in the Heartland Parishes contributes a percentage of their ordinary income to help fund the schools. Roughly 70% of the school's funding comes from annual donations.

This commitment on behalf of the Heartland Parishes and local individuals shows the value our community places on Catholic education

Shells Partially Donated by Northwestern Printers.

## Mission Statement:

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is built on a foundation of faith. We continue that spirit by welcoming all people to participate in our spiritual growth. As we are called to love God and and be examples of his teachings, we strive for unity through fellowship and participation in all areas of the Catholic faith.

## 2024 - Advent/Christmas Schedule - 2025

Our Lady Help of Christians - Antonino St. Anthony - Schoenchen St. Catherine - Catharine

St. Joseph - Hays Immaculate Heart of Mary - Hays St. Nicholas of Myra - Hays

St. Francis of Assisi - Munjor Comeau Catholic Campus Center

## December 3, 2024 - (Tues.)

St. Nicholas - Advent Adoration/Confessions, 7:00pm

#### December 8, 2024 - (Sun.)

St. Nicholas - National Night of Prayer 7pm - 10pm

#### December 9, 2024 - (Mon), Immaculate Conception

CCC - Confessions 8:30-9:00, Mass 9:15pm

Catherine - 7:00pm

IHM - 6:45am, 8:00am HFE

IHM - 5:30pm (English), 7:30pm Spanish

Munjor - 6:00pm

Schoenchen - 7:00pm

St. Joseph - 6:30am, 12:05pm, 5:30pm

St. Nicholas - 7:00am, 12:10pm

## December 10, 2024 - (Tues.)

St. Nicholas - Advent Adoration/Confessions, 7:00pm

#### December 11, 2024 - (Wed.)

IHM - 10:00pm rosary/Rosario, 11:00pm. Danza & 12:00am Mananitas following with bread and chocolate.

#### December 12, 2024 - (Thurs.), Our Lady of Guadalupe

IHM - 5:00pm Carava/Vehicle Procession, 5:00pm Danza,

IHM - 6:30pm Mass/Misa with Fiesta following in the Parih Hall in the church basement.

#### December 15, 2024 - Third Sunday of Advent

IHM - Communal Reconciliation Service, 3:00pm Munjor - Holy Hour/Confessions, 2:00pm

## December 16, 2024 - (Mon.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

#### December 17, 2024 - (Tues.)

St. Nicholas - Advent Adoration/Confessions, 7:00pm IHM - Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

#### December 18, 2024 - (Wed.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

#### December 19, 2024 - (Thur.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

St. Joseph - Adoration 7:00m - 7:30pm St. Joseph - Confessions 12:00 - 1:00pm

St. Joseph - Confessions 4:30pm - 7:30pm

#### December 20, 2024 - (Fri.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

## December 21, 2024 - (Sat.)

IHM -- Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

#### December 22, 2024 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

#### December 23, 2024 - (Mon.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 p.m. in the HFE Activity Center

#### December 24, 2024 - (Tues.) Christmas Eve

Antonino - 4:00pm

IHM - 4:00pm & 10:00pm (Bilingual)

Munjor - 7:00pm

Schoenchen - 6:00pm

St. Joseph - 5:00pm, 11:30pm Choir Music, Mass at Midnight

St. Nicholas - 5:00pm

#### December 25, 2024 - (Wed.) Christmas Day

CCC - 9:00am

IHM - 9:00am, & 12:00pm Spanish (No evening Mass)

St. Catharine - 9:00am

St. Joseph - 7;30am, 10:30am

St. Nicholas - 9:30am

#### December 26, 2024 - (Thurs.)

IHM - No Masses or Confessions

## December 31, 2024, (Tues.) Vigil - Solemnity of Mary

IHM - 5:30pm English, 7:30pm Spanish

St. Joseph - 5:00pm

St. Nicholas - 5:00pm

## January 1, 2025, (Wed.) Solemnity of Mary

Antonino - 7:00pm

Catherine - 9:00am

IHM - 5:30pm English

Munjor - 8:00am

St. Joseph - 8:00am

St. Nicholas - 9:30am

