

PASTOR

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

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

623-8000 Lilly Binder

FINANCE/PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Tina Waddell 650-3833

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

259-2762 Joseph Pfannenstiel

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Peggy Richmeier 656-0033

ART & ENVIRONMENT

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

Kevin Stramel 623-7107

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS PRESIDENT 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 625-3131 www/hfehays.org

Thomas More Prep-Marian 625-6577 www.tmp-m.org



Sun. Dec 12 8:00 am +Tony Seib

Wed. Dec 15 7:30 am L/D Danny & Lorine Pfeifer family

Sun. Dec 19 8:00 am +Benjamin & Diana Dome

Wed. Dec 22 7:30 am +Colton Lane

SERVERS

Sunday, Dec 12 Benjamin Dome & Makailyn Leiker Sunday, Dec 19 Cali Richmeier & Rafe Richmeier

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, Dec 12 Jenalyn Leiker & Deacon Steve Sunday, Dec 19 Nathan Leiker & Lauren Moeder

LECTORS OFFERTORY GIFTS

Sun. Dec 12 Brian Pfannenstiel Brandon & Brandi Z.
Sun. Dec 19 Valerie Dome Darold & Evelyn Younker

GREETERS

Sunday, Dec 12 David & Claudia Leiker Sunday, Dec 19 Nathan & Jenalyn Leiker

COLLECTION TEAM

Sunday, December 12

Mark Leiker, John Moeder, Greg Pfannenstiel, Jeff Richmeier Sunday, December 19

Wilbert Gross, Larry Koirth. Donovan Richmeier, Neal Younger

TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday, Dec 12 Linda Gross
Sunday, Dec 19 Tony & Patty Rohr
Sunday, Dec 26 Ernie & Lilly Binder
Sunday, Jan 2 Herman & Rosie Leiker

Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure

Envelopes \$2,185.00 Holy Day
Loose \$32.00 Env. \$360.00
Poinsettias \$60.00 Loose \$86.00

Total \$2,277.00 Total \$446.00

REFLECTION FROM DEACON STEVE URBAN

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18

"I've got that joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart...down in my heart...down in my heart...down in my heart today!" You might remember this refrain from the campfire and children's song written in 1925 by George Willis Cooke. I remember Fr. Daryl Olmstead, former pastor, using this song in his homily on this Third Sunday of Advent called Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday. Marking the midway point through Advent, Gaudete Sunday features several readings that are filled with this emphasis on joy. In the first reading, the prophet Zephaniah exclaims, "Shout for joy", and St. Paul exhorts his readers to "rejoice in the Lord always". As Catholic Christians, we are to fill the world with joy. Yet our hearts are often heavy with fear, worry, and the anxieties of daily life. And we might think joy, the fruit of the Spirit, is some contrived, over-the-top campfire enthusiasm. Instead, joy comes from the realization, as Zephaniah exclaims, that God is in our midst and is our savior. We rejoice that God has indeed loved us and redeemed us through his Son in the power of the Spirit.

For what reason does the prophet Zephaniah proclaim this oracle of joy in today's first reading. Throughout most of the book of Zephaniah, the prophet's message is one of doom and gloom. The prophet warns the people that because of their pride, rebellious spirit, and lack of trust in God, these would lead to social, political, and economic woes. Judah was in the midst of political turmoil. As a vassal under Assyria, tiny Judah was caught in the middle between the Assyrians, whose power was waning, and the Babylonians who were beginning to assert their dominance. In his writings, Zephaniah references the "Day of the Lord" which instead of bringing victory and vindication will bring judgment and gloom. Zephaniah singles out a faithful remnant marked by humility and lowliness who will know God's saving power. This remnant can "be glad and exult" because God will indeed save them and bring them hope. As Christians, we believe the fulfillment of this passage was the incarnation of Christ on earth.

Christ's coming as Savior into the world was indeed a source of great joy and hope. And so, St. Paul, in the letter to the Philippians, references the term joy at least eleven times in his writing. This context for Paul's encouragement in today's reading was Paul's attempt to solve a conflict between two women ministers, Evodian and Syntyche. While Paul does not identify the issue behind the conflict, he reminds them that "the Lord is near". Believing that Jesus' second coming was imminent, Paul seems to say, "get ahold of yourself".

This problem is minor in light of Jesus' coming and what really matters. So, put aside your bickering and rejoice in what Jesus has done by his life, death, and resurrection. So, are we people of joy? Does the world see in us people who are filled with this inner happiness and light? Sometimes, when you look at our faces, we seem to be filled instead with gloom and doom. The world should recognize in us, Christian men and women, who because of God's presence among us and in us, are filled with joy, hope, and encouragement. Because God is love and has loved us, we should radiate to the world a power and spirit that others would want to imitate. Let's try this Advent season to put a smile on our faces and radiate that "joy, joy, joy down in my heart...down in my heart today".

~ Deacon Steve

Anointing of the Sick will take place following Mass this morning.

Religious Education: Wednesday, 7 - 8 p.m.



Sacrament of Reconciliation Communal Penance Service, SERVICE Wednesday, December 15th, 7:00 p.m.



We are once again accepting donations for Poinsettias for church decorating. If you would like to make a monetary donation in POINSETTIAS memory of a loved one, for your family, or to

donation, please make a check or envelope 'Flowers' and include the name(s) of those you are remembering, (optional). Note: If after the Christmas season you would like to take a plant you made a donation for, you are welcome to do so. Thank you!

Christmas Choir Practice: Tuesday, December 21st 7:30 p.m.

2022 Mass Intentions are being scheduled. At this time, please limit to 3 intention requests. Stipends \$10.00 per Mass. Contact Lilly to schedule ~ 623-8000

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection. Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your donation helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.



2022 Boxed offering envelopes are at the entrances. Please do not begin using these until January.

36th Annual Cathedral Christmas Concert Sun, Dec. 12th at 3:30pm The Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria.

The "Little Town of Bethlehem" nativity at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Vincent will be open for visitation on Sundays, Dec. 12th and 19th, as well as Christmas Day. All times are 1 to 5pm. Other appointment times can be made to visit the nativity by calling Carol Freitag at 785-735-9282. Begun in 1927, the nativity has become a worldwide representation of Christmas featuring rocks and figurines from all 50 states and 105 countries and much more.

St. Boniface Catholic Church is located 5.5 miles south of Victoria and two miles east.

"Healing After Loss of Suicide" Support Group will be on Dec. 15 (in-person) from 6pm, Special Holiday Meeting. Hosted by: Center for Life Experience 103C E. 27th St., Oak Plaza, Hays. *RSVP by email- info@cflehope.org or call for information 785-259-6859

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

May the Lord bless you abundantly for your generosity.



Special Intentions, Mike Suppes, Chris Brull. Matt Shorman. Carole Carter. Parishioners in Health Care Facilities.

Drop requests in the collection basket or let Lilly know. Let Lilly know when the intention can be removed.

Runnin Rev's Winter Game Please join us December 18th at the Sacred Heart High School Gymnasium in Salina at 6:00 p.m. for the Winter Runnin' Revs game! Our priests and seminarians will play against local High School and middle school students! It will be fun evening! Pizza will be provided following the game. We hope to see you there! Continue to pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life.



Beyond Damascus with Dan DeMatte and Aaron Richards brings young adults the lifechanging testimonies of ordinary people that launch them into lives of extraordinary

mission for Christ and His Church. Tune in to 105.7 FM

A Family Perspectiveby Bud Ozar

Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give NESSITITIES to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the point of Christmas.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel Notice: Please consider and pray to commit to one hour of Adoration or be a substitute for those who have an hour.

Bob & Carol Feauto (12:00am to 6:00am) 628-1429

Lorraine Brungardt (6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) 625-3021

Yvonne Demuth (12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) 259-0650

Geri Rupp (6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.) 639-5588

3 HOURS OPEN: Saturdays 10AM 12PM 5PM

St. Joseph's Food Pantry Distribution Days: Saturday's December 18, 2021 & January 1, 2022

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Room at (St. Joseph Parish Office) is open during regular office hours. For your holiday shopping. For those of you looking to a place to dispose of religious items, we take rosaries, statues, catholic bibles and prayer books. Religious books and art. We will take broken rosaries and old palms to discard in a proper manner. We do not take, The Magnificat, Word Among Us or other monthly periodicals.

Prayer For Moisture

O God, in whom we live and move and have our being, grant us sufficient rain/snow, so that, being supplied with what sustains us in this present life, we may seek more confidently what sustains us for eternity.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS



HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Rachel Wentling, Principal 625-3131

Dec. 13 - Reconciliation for grades 3rd-6th!

Dec. 14 - Christmas Program Kp-6th Grade @ 6:30p.m.

Dec. 15 - Mary's Baby Shower

Dec. 17 - Half Day of School, Dismissal 11am



THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN

Chad Meitner, Principal Bob Leikam, Jr. High Assistant Principal 625-6577

Dec. 13 – (JH/HS) Christmas Concert, 7pm Dec. 16 – JH Last Day before Christmas Break Dec. 17 – HS Last Day before Christmas Break

Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete means 'rejoice'. This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.

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.

2021 - Advent/Christmas Schedule - 2022

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, 2021 - (Friday)

St. Nicholas - Adoration 8:00am to 4:00pm

December 5 (Sunday) - Thursday, December 9

IHM - CYO Night Prayer at 9:00pm

December 7, 2021 - Monday, Vigil-Immaculate Conception

IHM - 5:30pm (English) Munjor - 5:30pm

St. Joseph - 5:30pm

December 8, 2021-, Immaculate Conception

Catharine - 7:00pm

Catholic Campus Center - 5:45pm

IHM - 8:00am, 5:30p.m., English & 7:30 p.m. Spanish

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

St. Nicholas - 12:10pm, 7:00pm, Confessions 8:00-9:00pm

St. Nicholas - 8:00 - 12:00am National Night of Prayer

December 9, 2021 -, (Thursday)

St. Nicholas - 12am - 7:00am Adoration/Benc. , 7:00am Mass

December 10, 2021 -, (Friday)

St. Nicholas - Adoration 8:00am - 4:00pm

December 11, 2021 -, Our Lady of Guadalupe

IHM - 7:00pm Rosarios for Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 12, 2021 - Third Sunday of Advent

IHM - Communal Penance Service, 3:00pm

December 14, 2021 - (Tuesday)

St. Nicholas - 6:30pm Communal Penance Service

December 15, 2021 - (Wednesday)

Munjor - 7:00pm Communal Penance Service

December 16, 2021 - (Thursday)

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center

December 17, 2021 - (Friday)

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center St. Nicholas - Adoration 8:00am - 4:00pm

December 18, 2021 (Saturday)

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center

December 19, 2021 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center

December 20, 2021 - (Monday)

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center

December 21, 2021 - (Tuesday)

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center

December 22, 2021 - (Wednesday)

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center

December 23, 2021 - (Thursday)

IHM - Posades at 7:00pm in the Activity Center

December 24, 2021 - (Friday) Christmas Eve

Antonino - 4:00pm

Comeau Campus Center - 10:00pm

IHM - 5:00pm, 7:30pm (Spanish), & 10:00pm

Munjor - 7:00pm

Schoenchen - 5:30pm

St. Joseph - 5:00pm

St. Joseph - 11:30pm Choir Christmas Music, Midnight Mass

St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00pm (Family Mass), 9:00pm

December 25, 2021 - (Saturday) Christmas Day

Catholic Campus Center - 9:00am

IHM - 9:00am only (Christmas)

IHM - 5:00pm (Regular Vigil Sunday Mass)

Catharine - 9:00am

St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:30am, 5:00pm

December 26, 2021 - (Sunday) - Holy Family

Catharine - 9;00am

IHM - Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Munjor - 8:00am

St. Joseph - 7:30am & 10:30am

St. Nicholas - 9:30am, 11:00am

December 27 (Monday) & 28 (Tuesday), 2021

IHM - No Masses both days

St. Joseph - 6:30am

St. Nicholas - 7:00am

December 31, 2021 - (Friday) - Solemnity of Mary (Vigil)

IHM - 5:30pm & 7:30pm (Spanish), No norming Mass or Confesdsion

Munjor - 6:30pm

St. Joseph - 5:00pm

St. Nicholas - 5:00pm

January 1, 2022 - , (Saturday) Solemnity of Mary

IHM - 9:00am for the Holy Day; 5:00pm Mass for Vigil

St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:30am, 5:00pm

January 2, 2022 - (Sunday) Epiphany of Our Lord.

Catherine - 9:00am

IHM - Regular Mass Schedule

Munjor - 8:00am

St. Joseph - 7:30am & 10:30am

St. Nicholas - 9:30am, 11:00am