

## FROM THE PASTOR

Fr. Gilmary Tallman, O.F.M.Cap.



### MASSES & SACRAMENTS

- Saturday:** 6:30 a.m.  
5:00 p.m. (Vigil Mass)  
Liturgy for little ones (Sept - May)  
LifeTeen Mass - 1st & 3rd Sat.
- Sunday:** 7:30 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.  
Choir Mass (Sept - May)  
Liturgy for Little Ones (Sept - May)
- Weekdays:** 6:30 a.m.  
First Fridays - 6:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
- Holy Days:** 6:30 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 5:30 p.m.  
(No Vigil Mass)  
Christmas - 5:00 p.m. (Vigil) Midnight,  
7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.  
New Years Day - 5:00 p.m. (Vigil)  
9:00 a.m.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Saturdays at 3:45 - 4:30 p.m.  
Thurs. before first Fridays at 4:00 p.m.
- Sacrament of Baptism:**  
The third weekend of the month.  
Baptism Class generally first Monday  
of the month.
- Sacrament of Marriage:**  
Please contact Parish office no later  
than six months prior.
- Sacrament of Anointing:**  
Please contact the parish office  
before entering hospital or for any  
emergency anointing.

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach the beginning of the Advent season, we're ready to begin the new church year, the Year of the Lord 2010. And I want to wish all of you a blessed season of preparation.

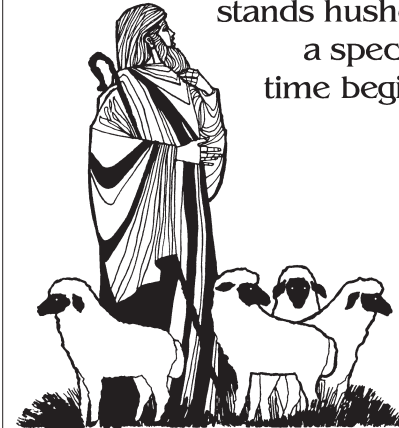
John the Baptist started the first Advent season with the cry, "Prepare the way of the Lord. Make his pathway straight!" Every year the Church tries to heed that call for renewal. If Catholics in every place on earth would try to make their little piece of the world a bit better, we would have a more inviting place for Christ to come and dwell at Christmas.

Advent is not primarily a time for penance like lent, but a quiet and thoughtful time of preparation for the birth of the Lord at Christmas. The first thing that comes to mind as a way to purify our hearts and straighten out our lives is to make a good confession in Advent. This ought to be a priority, especially if we have not been to the Sacrament in a long time. Confessions will be heard the Saturdays before each Sunday of Advent, plus the Thursday before the first Friday of December. The parish penance service will be the Monday before Christmas, December 21, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening. There will be six priests hearing confessions.

Another suggestion I have is attendance at daily Mass. Even if this is done one day a week, it would mean something. On the four Sundays of Advent, there will be the beautiful Vesper Benediction Services at 5:30. Finally, there will be Advent booklets for meditation, "The Word Among Us", available at the beginning of the season.

## Advent

Quietly, in whispered  
softness the curtain of night  
descends. A restless world  
stands hushed,  
a special  
time begins...



He has blessed us beyond our expectations.

With grateful hearts we should be looking for ways to show our appreciation.

Our parish is unique in many ways. We have two Catholic schools to help support. That is our good fortune; it's also our burden. We accept both from God. We have five buildings to maintain. They are beautiful, but their age requires a lot of care. As a church, we are constantly being asked to help the less fortunate. There are tremendous needs even in Hays, and these needs extend to the whole diocese and beyond.

An end-of-the-year gift to the Lord would be a beautiful sign of your gratitude and faith. I am asking you to consider this. Your parish will thank you, and God will bless you.

May you have a prayerful and peaceful season.  
*Fr. Gilmary*



## LOVE NEVER ENDS

by Sister Janet LeDuc, CSJ

In the world about us, a radical distinction is made between joy and sorrow. People tend to say: "When you are glad, you cannot be sad, and when you are sad, you cannot be glad." In fact, our contemporary society does everything possible to keep sadness and gladness separated. Sorrow and pain must be kept away at all cost because they are the opposites of the gladness and happiness we desire.

Death, illness, human brokenness...all have to be hidden from our sight because they keep us from the happiness for which we strive. They are obstructions on our way to the goal of life.

Jesus offers us a sharp contrast! He shows, both in his teachings and in his life, that true joy often is hidden in the midst of our sorrow, and the dance of life finds its beginnings in grief. As it was for Christ to suffer and die to enter into his glory, we too are asked to work through the pain of grief in the knowledge that something new will be understood for our loved one to be a part of our life in a new way.

True, this will always be hard to embrace. Nonetheless, there are experiences that show the truth of the way that Jesus shows us. Let us look at one.

Some time ago the husband of a friend of mine died suddenly from a heart attack. My friend decided to keep her young children away from the funeral. She thought, "It will be too hard for them to see their father put in the ground."

For sometime after, the cemetery remained a fearful place for them. Then, one day, my friend asked me to visit the grave with her and invited the children to come along. The elder child was too afraid to go, but the younger decided to come with us. When we came to the place where Bob was buried, the 3 of us sat down on the grass around the stone engraved with words: "A kind and gentle man." As we sat, we reminisced about Bob.

I said, "Maybe one day we should have a picnic here. This is not only a place to

think about death, but also a place to rejoice in our life. I think Bob will be most honored when we find new strength, here, to live." At first it seemed a strange idea: having a meal on top of a tombstone. But isn't that what Jesus told his to do when he asked to share bread and wine in his memory?

A few days later, my friend took the older child to the grave. The younger brother had convinced her that there was nothing to fear.

Now they often go to the cemetery and tell each other stories about Bob. No longer is Bob a stranger. He has become a new friend, and having a picnic at his grave has become something to look forward to.

The tears of grief and tears of joy shouldn't be too far apart. As we befriend our pain and our grief, remember that Jesus invites us to journey through our grief. We will and can discover joy being close at hand. True joy can erupt, right in the middle of sorrow. We embrace the God whose love will heal our pain and bring our loved one to new life in our midst. Together you, God, your loved one and those around you can celebrate new life together!

St Joseph Parish will be offering a series of eight sessions to help understand and embrace **The Journey Through Grief** beginning in February.

The Bereavement Support Group will help those who have lost a loved one. Caring for their needs will help them discover a fullness to living and loving again. The group will meet February 10 and 24, March 10 and 24, April 7 and 21, and May 5 and 19. Watch the bulletin for more further information

### Advent Evening Vespers

Sunday Evenings during Advent

5:30 p.m.



### SCHEDULES GIFT BEARERS - HOMEBOUND

#### November 28 & 29

- 5:00 - GB: Edward & Mary Ann Breit  
7:30 - GB: Joyce & Debbie Dinges  
HB: Doug Marsell / Lila Staab  
10:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Darrin Atherton / Dorothy Fross

#### December 5 & 6

- 5:00 - GB: Alvin & Aletha Denning  
7:30 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Barney Boos/LouAnn Geist  
10:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Herb Deines / Kathy Amrein

#### December 8

- 6:30 - GB: Usher Choice  
12:05 - GB: Usher Choice  
5:30 - GB: Usher Choice

#### December 12 & 13

- 5:00 - GB: Malinda & Hannah Hulse  
7:30 - GB: Cyril & Alice Fisher  
HB: Alan Leiker / Ernie Tallman  
10:00 - GB: Brain & Tina Vitztum  
HB: Frank & Helga Stremel  
Vicki Hawthorne

#### December 19 & 20

- 5:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
7:30 - GB: Usher choice  
HB: Irvin Leiker / Alan Leiker  
10:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Carolyn Herman / Dorothy Fross

#### December 24 & 25

- 5:00 - GB: Jake & Janice Arnold  
Midnight - GB: Velma Giebler Family  
7:30 - GB: Usher Choice  
10:00 - GB: Usher Choice

#### December 26 & 27

- 5:00 - GB: Gene & Rita Gabel  
7:30 - GB: Clarence & Carol Legleiter  
HB: Doug Marsell / Lisa VonFeldt  
10:00 - GB: Randy & Nadine Gottschalk  
HB: Mike & Peggy Moore  
Mary Morgan

#### December 31 & January 1

- 5:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
9:00 - GB: Usher Choice

#### January 2 & 3

- 5:00 - GB: David & Virginia Hertel  
7:30 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Barney Boos / LouAnn Geist  
10:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Herb Deines / Kathy Amrein

#### January 9 & 10

- 5:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
7:30 - GB: Jeff & Angie Sack  
HB: Alan Leiker / Ernie Tallman  
10:00 - GB: Ralph & Rose Schukman  
HB: Frank & Helga Stremel  
Vicki Hawthorne



## SCHEDULES

### GIFT BEARERS - HOMEBOUND

#### January 16 & 17

- 5:00 - GB: Matt & Anne Schulte
- 7:30 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Irvin Leiker / Liz Schmeidler
- 10:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Carolyn Herman / Mike Gnad

#### January 23 & 24

- 5:00 - GB: Usher Choice
- 7:30 - GB: Gib & Rosalyn Schippers  
HB: Doug Marsell / Lisa VonFeldt
- 10:00 - GB: Cletus & Mildred Klaus  
HB: Treva Benoit / Mary Morgan

#### January 30 & 31

- 5:00 - GB: Randy & Nadine Gottschalk
- 7:30 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Doug Marsell / Lila Staab
- 10:00 - GB: Usher Choice  
HB: Darrin Atherton / Dorothy Fross

#### February 6 & 7

- 5:00 - GB: Usher Choice
- 7:30 - GB: Doug & Adele Rich  
HB: Barney Boos / LouAnn Geist
- 10:00 - GB: Boy Scouts  
HB: Herb Deines / Kathy Amrein

#### February 13 & 14

- 5:00 - GB: Usher Choice
- 7:30 - GB: Jerry & Luetta Kaiser  
HB: Alan Leiker / Ernie Tallman
- 10:00 - GB: Tim & Gail Staab Family  
HB: Dorothy Fross / Vicki Hawthorne

*Would you like to take up the gifts at Mass? You are welcomed to approach the ushers for those Masses that have "Usher's Choice" and request to take up the gifts. In January you should be receiving your Stewardship Renewal Forms please indicate that you would like to take up the gifts at Mass and you will be placed on the Spring or Summer schedule.*

### Stewardship Opportunity

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has written a pastoral letter entitled "Stewardship - A Disciple's Response." The Stewardship Office of the Salina Diocese has asked that the parishes set up opportunities for small group study and sharing beginning on January 10 during the four weeks before Stewardship Sunday.

Watch the bulletin for further information.

### Going Up?

Tony Dreiling, Assistant Business Administrator



No doubt most parishioners are now familiar with the plans to install an elevator in the St. Joseph Parish Service Center. I'd like to take just a few minutes of your time to tell you more about the plan, and how it will benefit the parish.

The Parish Service Center building has served us well over the years; it has housed Girls' Catholic High, St. Joseph Grade School, and now the Parish Service Center. It is a large building, with approximately 5600 square feet on each of its three floors. The first floor houses parish offices and a large conference room. The second and third floors house meeting rooms and facilities for organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, Youth Activities, Food Pantry, Cup-A-Joe, and the Sacred Heart Library. The Parish Service Center and St. Joseph Church are both listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Kansas Register of Historic Places.

Access to the space on the second and third floors has always been a problem for those parishioners and guests who may have trouble climbing stairs. For those volunteering with the Food Pantry, imagine the amount of legwork, energy and precaution necessary in climbing up and down the stairs with cases of food!

For those parishioners who have been unable to attend meetings and programs or volunteer for projects due to the stairs, the elevator would eliminate that roadblock to their participation. It would enable *everyone* to participate, regardless of their level of mobility.

The elevator that we are considering for installation is from the Kone Eco-Space Company. It is the latest in elevator technology, and it uses less energy to operate. Installation requires much less space, both above and below the elevator as well as the width and depth of the elevator shaft itself. The model that we are considering has a maximum weight load of 2500 pounds.

The location of the elevator would also be a terrific advantage to parishioners and guests. Located on the east side of the main entryway between the outer and inner doors, the elevator would provide access to the second and third floors after regular business hours and on weekends, eliminating the need to open the main floor for access.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be approximately \$250,000.00. It is also important to note that the project has already been pre-approved for Kansas Tax Credits. If you are interested in making a donation towards the elevator project or have any questions, please contact Tony Dreiling or Glenn Pfortmiller in the parish business office.

### AN INVITATION TO A DINNER...

When you receive an invitation to a special dinner, it just makes your day.

Dinner for Eight, a new program at St. Joseph's beginning in 2010, is that invitation. Parishioners as individuals or couples will receive an invitation for dinner. Each group will have something in common which will give them the opportunity to share experiences with each other.

Babysitting will be provided when needed.



...FOR EIGHT



## Members of the Body of Christ

By Carol Brull

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10)

"So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." (Romans 12:5)

These verses from the Bible speak directly to the purpose of the various commissions which fall under the umbrella of the Pastoral Council. While the council's purpose is to form a leadership group which fosters pastoral activity, various areas of responsibility are divided among the commissions, each of which addresses a specific area of parish life and mission. Each identifies the needs of the parish in their area; plans activities to meet these needs; and, with the approval of the council, puts these plans into action. They also inform the parish about these needs and activities.

There are five parish commissions: education, parish activities, liturgy, family life and social concerns, and stewardship. Any parishioner can be a member of any commission they have an interest in. They can either sign up for a commission on the Stewardship Renewal Form or join by receiving a personal invitation from current commission members or by contacting the parish office. Each commission also has a member of the Pastoral Council who acts as a liaison between the commission and the council. Most commissions meet about four times a year.

The Education Commission deals with the religious educational needs of the entire parish. Members are to be "knowledgeable about the educational programs and policies of the local public and private schools, in particular the local Catholic schools ...."\* They work on such activities as religious education for children enrolled in public schools, preparing children to receive the sacraments, Life Teen for middle and high school students, Liturgy for Little Ones, Cup a Joe as an avenue for informal adult education, and formal adult educational opportunities such as classes or missions.

The Parish Activities Commission has the responsibility of "planning and coordinating all the other commissions and volunteers to enable the parish to sponsor social gatherings for fellowship, to celebrate special events, to recognize distinguished service, to raise funds, and to enhance the social life of this faith community."\* These types of activities include the Thanksgiving dinner, parish picnic, the Palm Sunday breakfast and monthly card parties. They also plan receptions for those receiving the sacraments of Reconciliation and Confirmation and for those students from the parish who are graduating from high school. This commission is called on for other special occasions and celebrations that might arise.

The Liturgy Commission includes the pastor and "monitors all parish programs and ministries that directly affect the spiritual life of the parish...."\* These include such things as Advent and Lenten services, Benedictions, the Pet Blessing, training for such ministers as lectors, cantors and servers, and writing wedding and funeral guidelines. They also receive reports from members concerning RCIA, choir, Life Teen Band and ushers.

The Family Life and Social Concerns Commission has a wide scope of things they are concerned about. They are to "help all the members of the parish recognize that working for community needs is as essential to the life of the parish as is preaching the Word of God and celebrating the Eucharist" and "should emphasize the role of awareness and involvement of all the members of the parish."\* This commission should not only work on the pro-life issue but should also help the poor through avenues such as the Food Pantry and working to provide affordable housing. They should also help families and individuals deal with their problems through education and support such as the Health and End of Life Issues forum held in November and the Journey through Grief support group and Dinner for Eight scheduled to begin in 2010. Working to change government policies which are not in the best interests of all

people is another concern of this commission. Even here in Hays, Kansas, at St. Joseph Parish, there are many people who need the help and guidance this commission can provide.

The Stewardship Commission is to "assist the faithful...in understanding stewardship as a way of life".\* They spearhead the stewardship renewal process for our parish and provide educational opportunities which enable the members of our parish to understand that it's all about time, talent, and treasure.

And so, it is the fervent hope of the members of the Pastoral Council that many more parishioners will step up and take on the challenge of serving on one of these commissions as a member of the body of Christ because...

"Christ has no body now on earth  
but yours;

Yours are the only hands with which  
He can do His work,  
Yours are the only feet with which  
He can go about the world,  
Yours are the only eyes through which  
his compassion can shine  
upon a troubled world,  
Christ has no body now but yours."  
-Teresa of Avila

\*Parish Pastoral Council Constitution for St. Joseph Church, Hays, Kansas, approved February 11, 2008.

### St. Joseph's Communal Penance Service

**Monday, December 21  
7:00 p.m.**



## Religious Education Catechists

By Martha Brungardt, DRE

Each year there are people who quietly perform a very vital and important service to this parish. You see them in the pews on Sunday often volunteering for one of the ministries at Mass. However, one of their ministries goes unnoticed. This is the ministry of Religious Education catechist. Each week they take time from their schedules to share a very important message with the young people of our parish. This is the story and teaching of our Roman Catholic faith. With the creative, interesting, and life giving lessons they prepare, they help form the development of the young Catholics of our parish. Below are the names of each of these Catechists, the grade they currently teach, their years of service as catechist to the parish, and a statement as to what they like best about this ministry to St. Joseph's Parish. In future issues we will feature each of these persons and you will see just how dedicated and involved these persons are in the life of our parish.

**Ann Weber** teaches kindergarten. She has given ten years of service. "I love being around young children and their eagerness to learn and participate. It's so rewarding hearing children sing and talk about Jesus as they perceive him at their age."

**Dan and Tina Kohl** teach first grade and have given five years of service. Tina said, "Since I was not born Catholic, I learn with the children." Dan said, "I volunteer to support my wife."

**Ila Mae Ruder** teaches second grade. She has given twenty years of service. "I like teaching at St. Joseph's Parish because they are very supportive of their teachers. They are very good about providing me with the right tools to be a good teacher."

**Lisa Vonfeldt** teaches third grade and has given eleven years of service. What she likes best are the children and the Religious Education program itself. "I like seeing the fun the children have learning about their faith."

**Sr. Mary Louis Pfannenstiel** teaches fourth grade. She has given twenty years

of service and likes teaching the children about God.

**Mary Kay Schmidt** teaches fifth grade and has given 46 years of service. She said, "The children are remarkable. I want to share my faith that I have been given."

**Katie Weigel** teaches sixth grade and has given three years of service. The kids and the teachers who she learns from are what she likes best.

**Sara Vonfeldt** teaches seventh grade. She has given 18 years of service and said, "I like seeing the children become excited about their faith."

**Sr. Alice Ann Pfeifer** teaches eighth grade and has given four years of service. "I like being with the kids because they do not have the imperfections often found in adults."

**Tim Hageman** is a small group catechist for Confirmation who has given 13 years of service. He likes interacting with the youth and sharing his faith.

**Elizabeth Schmeidler** is a small group catechist for Confirmation. She is a returning Catechist having taught two years in the Daily Program. She likes the opportunity to make an impact of faith in the students.

**Michelle Flax** is also a small group catechist for Confirmation. In her first year teaching in the program, she is just happy to serve and finds the eighth grade to be a great group.

**Treva Benoit** is our building coordinator and substitute catechist. This is her sixth year of helping with the program. She stated that it is rewarding to give her time to the church and the children

You will get to know more about each of our catechists in future issues of **The Carpenter**. As can be seen, the faithfulness and dedication of these catechists are a gift and blessing to our parish. God has been generous in giving us these people.

## St. Joseph's Cemetery Management Goes Digital

Thanks to the foresight and wisdom of parish leadership, the St. Joseph Cemetery has embarked on a new path of data management. With the installation of custom software created for St. Joseph Cemetery by Ramaker & Associates of Sauk City, Wisconsin, our management and historical data relating to the cemetery will all be compiled in a secure, efficient system.

The old system of record keeping, which involved thousands of information cards in an alphabetical filing system, was cumbersome, time consuming and subject to deterioration over time. If you can imagine data cards and documents that in some cases are nearly 100 years old, the paper becomes worn and fragile. With the new system, the old data documents will be preserved for historical and research purposes but will no longer need to be accessed on a day to day basis.

All of the information that we have in regards to the cemetery will be contained in the computer program in an easy to use system that will enable us to maintain an in-depth historical record. The program includes an interactive digital mapping system which enables us to immediately pinpoint a multitude of information such as existing burials, grave easement ownerships, burial permissions and available graves along with many other options.

No doubt many of you may have seen me walking through the cemetery with clipboard in hand and a camera around my neck. I've walked the entire cemetery, verifying burial information and photographing every marker. Our software allows us to attach photos, scanned information and documents to each burial record. We will be able to include such things as obituaries, life histories, photographs and any other documents of interest concerning the deceased and their families. I would encourage families to provide the parish with such items to scan in the future so that we may include more information in compiling a complete historical record for our parish. *Tony Dreiling, Assistant Business Administrator*



## CAPUCHIN NEWS

### ~Becoming a Capuchin Friar~

Provincial Fr. Charles Polifka, O.F.M.Cap.



Some of you who are as old as me (or older) will remember the days when the Capuchins ran two high schools in Ellis County. St. Joseph's Military Academy (and the early days of Thomas More Prep and Thomas More Prep-Marian) and St. Francis Seminary in Victoria were both staffed and administrated by the friars. St. Francis Seminary was the western counterpart of St. Fidelis Seminary in Herman, Pennsylvania. It was the first stage in training for becoming a Capuchin priest or brother. Fr. Fidelis and Fr. Paulinus were recruiters who combed the grade schools for candidates for the high school program in Victoria. They were quite successful.

After completion of high school, the candidates went on to college seminary programs or training programs for brothers. For the Capuchins, this college program was at St. Fidelis College in Herman, PA. The first two years of college were really a preparation for the novitiate year which took place at Annapolis, MD. Then, after the year of novitiate, it was back to Herman to complete college before going on to theology studies in Washington, D.C.

Times changed and so did the Capuchin formation programs. When St. Francis Seminary closed its doors, a vocation program was incorporated into Thomas More Prep and later into Thomas More Prep-Marian. The program is still in existence as a kind of recruitment program to promote vocations to religious life and priesthood. It is no longer any kind of "seminary" or "formation" program.

Today the formation program for Capuchins has three parts: the postulancy, the novitiate, and the post-novitiate. Anything prior to postulancy is part of "recruitment" and is done by Fr. John Lager. Fr. John scours college campuses, follows up on inquiries from the web, promotes vocations through the Fellowship of College University Students (FOCUS), and generally searches wherever possible for young men of college age or at least under 40 who might be interested in the Capuchin life.

He brings them together for weekend retreats and for visits to our friaries, and if they so decide, he leads them through an application process for what we call "Postulancy."

Postulancy is the first stage of formation for Capuchin life. It is a time of more intense discernment and a time of living in a Capuchin community and learning about St. Francis, the Capuchins, and just generally about the Capuchin spirit and life. The postulancy involves a lot of prayer. It also involves work with the down and out. Postulants live at a friary in Denver and spend three days a week ministering to the homeless at either the Samaritan House or at St. Francis Center or at Fr. Woody's Haven of Hope. They learn what it means to be down and out, just like St. Francis learned that when he began his spiritual journey. St. Francis worked with lepers to discover what humility and service was all about.

The postulancy is a two-year program that can be finished in less than two years if the postulant has achieved the fundamental goals of living a simple life, unselfish service, and contemplative prayer. Other goals must be met, too, such as being able to live and pray in fraternity and showing a grasp of Catholic teaching and worship. When he is ready to move on, the postulant, after being evaluated by his director and the other friars in the community, makes application for the next stage of formation, the "novitiate." As a postulant he wears the "Tau" cross. Upon entry into the novitiate, he receives a modified form of the Capuchin habit and joins candidates from all over North America, Australia, & Guam in a one-year journey that leads to temporary vows.

Perhaps in the next Carpenter, I can visit with you about the next stages of Capuchin formation. Contact Fr. John Lager, or any of the Capuchins, if you find someone who is interested in our way of life.

## BAPTISMS

Jack Caleb Stoecklein  
*Son of Chad & Kimberly Stoecklein*

Jackson Matthew Gillespie  
*Son of Aaron & Tara Gillespie*

Peyton Lynne Mackey  
*Daughter of Todd & Sarah Mackey*

Avery Madison Montgomery  
*Daughter of David & Angela Montgomery*

Jace Darrell Dreher  
*Son of Dustin & Jamie Dreher*

Anne-Marie Juliana Marsell  
*Daughter of Doug & Karen Marsell*

Marcus John Stahl  
*Son of Kyle Stahl & Danielle Craig*

## MARRIAGES

Edward Gary Feltis &  
Patricia Jane Dean

Michael Rudolph Melendez &  
Amy Danielle VonFeldt

Todd Michael Mackey &  
Sarah A. Bohm

## IN MEMORIAM

Elizabeth C. Dinkel  
Carole Arnhold  
James Francis Schmeidler  
Mary Lou Campbell  
Julius Dinges  
Bridget Werth  
Anthony J. "Tony" Sanders  
Lucille Befort  
Lillian Townsend  
Bridget Diehl

## NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Allen Arnhold  
Norma J. Arnhold  
Mr. & Mrs. Brett Bittel  
Danielle Craig & son Marcus  
Mike & Lesley Hagar  
David & Angela Montgomery  
Michael & Carrie Stecklein



## 2009 Advent/Christmas Schedule

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

**November 29, 2009 - First Sunday of Advent**

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service - 5:30 p.m.

**December 5, 2009 - Saturday**

IHM - Advent Retreat - All Day

**December 6, 2009 - Second Sunday of Advent**

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service - 5:30 p.m.

**December 7, 2009 - Monday - Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil Masses)**

IHM - 7:00 p.m.  
Munjor - 5:30 p.m.  
Schoenchen - 7:00 p.m.  
St. Nicholas of Myra - 7:00 p.m.

**December 8, 2009 - Tuesday - Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)**

Catherine - 7:00 p.m.  
IHM - 6:45 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
IHM National Night of Prayer - 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.  
St. Joseph - 6:30 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 5:30 p.m. (No Vigil Mass)  
St. Nicholas of Myra - 7:00 a.m.

**December 12, 2009 - Saturday - Our Lady of Guadalupe**

IHM - Mananitas - 5:00 a.m. Mass immediately following

**December 13, 2009 - Third Sunday of Advent**

IHM - Communal Penance Service - 3:00 p.m.  
IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.  
St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service - 5:30 p.m.

**December 14, 2009 - Monday**

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

**December 15, 2009 - Tuesday**

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

**December 16, 2009 - Wednesday**

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.  
IHM - Faith Formation Advent Program - 7:00 p.m.  
IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.  
Munjor - Communal Penance Service - 7:00 p.m.

**December 17, 2009 - Thursday**

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.  
IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

**December 18 (Friday) - December 23 (Wednesday), 2009**

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.

**December 20, 2009 - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service - 5:30 p.m.  
St. Nicholas of Myra - Communal Penance - 3:00 p.m.

**December 21, 2009 - Monday**

St. Joseph - Communal Penance Service 7:00 p.m.

**December 24, 2009 - (Thursday) Christmas Eve**

Catherine - 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass  
Comeau Catholic Campus Center - 10:00 p.m.  
IHM - Masses in the Church & Little Theater - 5:00 p.m.  
IHM - 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass; 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass  
Munjor - 9:00 p.m.  
Schoenchen - 5:30 p.m.  
St. Joseph - 5:00 p.m. (Children's Mass),  
11:30 p.m. Choir & Bell Choir, 12:00 a.m. Mass  
St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00 p.m. (Family Mass); 11:00 p.m.

**December 25, 2009 - (Friday) Christmas Day**

Antonino - 9:00 a.m.  
Comeau Catholic Campus Center - **NO MASSES TODAY**  
IHM - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.  
Munjor - 10:30 a.m.  
St. Joseph - 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.  
St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:00 a.m.

**December 31, 2009 - (Thursday) Mary Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil Masses)**

Antonino - 5:00 p.m.  
IHM - 5:00 p.m. (English) & 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)  
Munjor - 7:00 p.m.  
St. Joseph - 5:00 p.m.  
St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00 p.m.

**January 1, 2010 - (Friday) Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)**

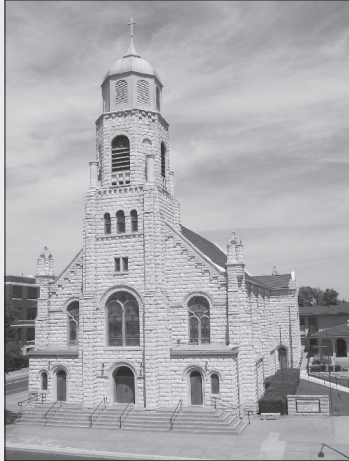
Catherine - 9:00 a.m.  
IHM - 8:00 a.m.  
St. Joseph - 9:00 a.m.  
St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:00 a.m.



**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**210 WEST 13TH**  
**HAYS, KS. 67601**

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**SILENT NIGHT:** How the world's most famous Christmas carol came to be written and set to Music.

In 1818, a roving band of actors was performing in towns throughout the Austrian Alps. On December 23 they arrived at Oberndorf, a village near Salzburg where they were to perform the story of Christ's birth in the small church of St. Nicholas.

Unfortunately, the St. Nicholas' church organ wasn't working and would not be repaired before Christmas. Because the church organ was out of commission, the actors presented their Christmas drama in a private home. Even so, that Christmas presentation put assistant pastor Josef Mohr in a meditative mood. Instead of walking straight to his house that night, Mohr took a longer way home. The longer path took him up over a hill overlooking the village.

From the hilltop, Mohr looked down on the peaceful snow-covered village. Reveling in majestic silence of the wintry night, Mohr gazed down at the glowing scene. His thoughts about the Christmas play suddenly made him remember a poem he had written a couple of years before. It was a poem about the night when angels announced the birth of the long-awaited Messiah to shepherds on a hillside.

Mohr decided those words would make a good carol for his congregation the following evening at their Christmas Eve service. However, he didn't have any music to which that poem could be sung. So, the next day, Mohr went to see the church organist, Franz Xaver Gruber. Gruber only had a few hours to come up with a melody which could be sung with a guitar. However, by that evening, Gruber had managed to compose a musical setting for the poem. It no longer mattered that their church organ was broken. They now had a Christmas carol they could sing without it.

On Christmas Eve, the little Oberndorf congregation heard Gruber and Mohr sing their new composition to the accompaniment of Gruber's guitar.

Weeks later, well-known organ builder Karl Mauracher arrived to fix the St. Nicholas church organ. When he finished, Mauracher stepped back to let Gruber test the instrument. When Gruber sat down, his fingers began playing the simple melody he had written for Mohr's Christmas poem. Deeply impressed, Mauracher took the music and word's of "Silent Night" back to his own Alpine village, Kapfing. There, two well-known families of singers - the Rainers and the Strassers - heard it. Captivated by "Silent Night," both groups put the new song into their Christmas season repertoire.

The Strasser sisters spread the carol throughout northern Europe. In 1834, after they had performed "Silent Night" for King Frederick William IV of Prussia, that king ordered his cathedral choir to sing it every Christmas eve. The Rainers brought the song to the United States in 1839, singing it (in German) at the Alexander Hamilton Monument located outside New York's Trinity Church.

In 1863, nearly fifty years after being sung in German, "Silent Night" was translated into English. In 1871 the English version was published in an American hymnal: Charles Hutchins' Sunday School Hymnal.