

St. Joseph Catholic Church

215 West 13th - Hays, Ks. 67601

Comeau Catholic Campus Center

506 W. 6th - Hays, Ks. 67601



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2019

St. Joseph Mass Times

Saturday: 8:00am & 5:00pm Sunday: 7:30am & 10:30am Monday - Friday: 6:30am Holy Days Masses:

5:30pm (Vigil) 6:30am. 12:05pm, 5:30pm

Rosary before each Mass. Confession: Sat. 3:30pm

Comeau Campus Center Mass Times

Sunday: 9:00am & 6:00pm Monday & Tuesday: 5:45pm

Wednesday: 9:15pm Thursday: 5:45pm Friday: 12:10pm

Holy Day Masses 4:45pm

Confession - Monday - Thursday, 5:15pm Sunday, 5:00-5:30pm

(All Year)

Adoration - Begins after Mass, Tues, 5:45 ends Wed. with Benediction before the 5:45pm Mass.

(When FHSU is in Session)

St. Joseph Parish Service Center

215 West 13th Street Hays, Kansas 67601

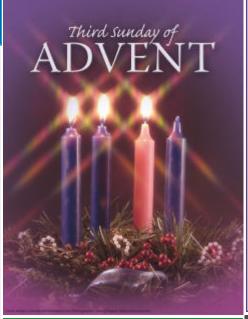
Phone (785)-625-7356 Fax (785) 625-7394

Email: **stjoseph@stjoehays.com**Web Page: www.stj-church.com

Office Hours

Mon.- Thurs. 8:00am - 5:00pm Fri. 8:00 a.m. - noon Office Closed Saturday, Sunday, Holy Days/Holidays





Today we have two mothers meeting; they are related, and one carries in her womb John the Baptist and the other woman, Mary, carries in her womb Jesus.

The Gospel account says that John, who would cry out in the desert the message that everyone needs to "prepare the way of the Lord," leapt with joy in the womb of his mother upon hearing Mary's greeting.

John's message in the desert is the message that we all need to heed as we get closer to the Christmas celebration. May our faith leap with joy at the chance to proclaim our Lord and to prepare the way!

Our hearts are aglow with the joy of Christmas! Our senses are alive with the season, from the rich smells of evergreen and gingerbread to the feel of crisp air on our skin and the warmth of a loved one's embrace. At some point in the holiday hustle and bustle, take a few moments of quiet. In the silence, reflect on the other senses of the season. Imagine the cool damp of an animal stable, the earthy smell of hay and feed, and the crisp night air blowing in softly.

Imagine kneeling beside an exhausted, joyful mother and a relieved, protective father. Imagine an infant wrapped in cloth scraps held out to your open arms. Imagine holding the infant Jesus. As his eyes meet yours, welcome into your heart the greatest gift of Christmas.



St. Joseph Parish is a Stewardship Parish. A Catholic Steward actively participates and is involved with parish ministries, each according to their time and talents. Continue to regularly pray the stewardship prayer. Help us to place You, our loving Creator, first in our lives by becoming more prayerful and more focused on loving and caring for our families and our neighbors in need. Help us to hear Your call to be good stewards of all Your gifts by sharing them to accomplish Your will, that is the coming of Your kingdom here on earth.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT - "Under the protection of St. Joseph, and ever grateful to the Capuchin Franciscan Friars, we strive to foster a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, worship and the celebration of the Sacraments. We are dedicated to love and care for all God's people in their physical, educational and spiritual needs through the stewardship of time, talent and treasure."



Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019 - Fourth Sunday of Advent Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

7:30 a.m. L/D Mem Allen Dinkel Family

9:00 a.m.C +Kathleen Leikam 10:30 a.m. For the Parish

Liturgy for Little Ones

6:00 p.m.C +Rosie Giesick

7:00 p.m. Advent Vespers/Benediction/Confessions

Monday, Dec. 23, 2019 - St. John of Kanty

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

6:30 a.m. L/D Mem Adam & Cecilia Kisner Family

5:00 p.m. Confessions (St. Joseph)

7:00 p.m. **Pageant Practice**

Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79

6:30 a.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory

5:00 p.m. L/D Mem Robert & Sally Frank Family

10:00 p.m. C +Robert L. Maxwell

11:30 p.m. Choir Prelude with Christmas Carols L/D Mem Norbert R. Dreiling Family 12:00 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019 - Nativity of the Lord

Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

L/D Mem Aloys & Cecilia Kreutzer Family

NO Campus Masses Today

10:30 a.m. L/D Mem Hedy Allen Family

Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019 - Saint Stephen, The First Martyr Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

No Masses Today

Friday, Dec. 27, 2019 - St. John, Apostle

1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

No Masses Today

Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019 - The Holy Innocents

1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18

No 8:00am Mass Today

3:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:00 p.m. For the Parish

Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 - The Holy Family

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

7:30 a.m. +Mary Ann Gabel

9:00 a.m.C +Eloise "Frenchie" Newell

10:30 a.m. +Lawrence F. Oelkers

Liturgy for Little Ones

6:00 p.m.C +Rose Giesick



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CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULES

5:00pm Mass, Dec. 24

Altar Servers: Kenton Ginther, Carson Pinkney, Elena Herl. Noah Flynn. / Cantor: Hannah Michaud / EXHC: Melissa Ginther, Jim Walters, Angie Sack, Barb Bieker, Jeanne Riedel / Readers: Tucker Mall, Randy Walker / Sacristan: Sara Vonfeldt / Ushers: Usher Needed, Usher Needed, Jeff Sack, Mark Herl.

Midnight Mass Mass, Dec. 25

Altar Servers: Luke Rome, Trent Rome, Creighton Newell, Carter Newell, Joel Johnson, Andrew Schwartz, Peyton Schwartz, Jace Wentling/ Cantor: Jackie Maxwell/ EXHC Carolyn Herman, Laura Allen, Andy Mattison, Becky Newell, Sub Needed, Sub Needed/ Readers: Dustin Roths, Brenda Lager/ Sacristan: Sherry Feltis/ Ushers: Steve Dreiling, Jim Dinkel, Sub Needed, Sub Needed.

7:30am Mass, Dec. 25

Altar Servers: Kyzer Foz, Izaac Fox/ Cantor: Katy Walters/ **EXHC**: Donna Augustine, Diane Gottschalk. Allen Schmidt, Judy Schuler, Terry Leiker/ Readers: Anthony Walters, Sub Needed/ Sacristan: Kevin Augustine/ Ushers Bruce Goetz, Vern Gross, Leon Richmeier, Jerry Rome

10:30am Mass, Dec. 25

Altar Servers: Blaise Staab, Evan Staab, Sub Needed, Sub Needed/ Cantor: Liz Schmeidler/ EXHC: Terry Lenser, Barb Beran, Sub Needed, Nathan Staab, Vicky Walker/ Readers: Tom Haas, Troy Haas/ Sacristan: Shiely Dinkel/ Ushers: Usher Needed, Usher Needed, Usher Needed, Usher Needed.

	5:00 pm Sat Dec. 28	7:30am Sun. Dec. 29	7:30am Sun. Dec. 29	
Sacristan	Sara Vonfeldt	Doug Marsell	Nicole Linenberger	
Altar Servers	Abby Hugunin Janet Hugunin Carson Pinkney Drew Wellbrock	Sam Allen	Will Linenberger Parker Linenberger Brogan Zimmerman Madox Zimmerman	
Cantor	Liz Schmeidler	Lisa Eisimibnger	Abby Staab	
EXHC	Michelle Beyer Rachel Wentling Barb Bieker Mary Stoecklein Jim Walters	Linda Goetz Judy Schuler Diane Gottschalk Kevin Augustine Donna Augustine	Bard Beran Sub Needed Laytha Gnad Shirley Dinkel Troy Haas Sam Allen	
ЕМ НВ		Ann Hugunin Karen Marsell	Troy Haas Mike Hnad	
Reader	Martha Brungardt Ruth Firestone	Bill Dowling Anthony Taylor	Ken Beran Sub Needed	
Usher	Joseph Billinger Eric Haas Cletus Knipp Law. Kreutzer	Jeff Sack Zach Stadelman Joe Desch Mike brull	Eric Augustine Jim Dinkel Mark Herl Usher Needed	

Pastor's Notes

From an article by Philip Kosloski

We now turn to the liturgy and examine its capacity to lead souls to God through its beauty. Closely connected to the beauty of Christian art, the liturgy possesses great splendor, but is different in that it is a divine action.

In fact, "Liturgy is not what man does, but is a divine work. The faithful need to be helped to perceive that the act of worship is not the fruit of activity...but is the expression of a mystery." (*The Via Pulchritudinis*, §III.2)

It is this mystery, this transcendent act of God in the mundane world of man that has captured the hearts of men and women from all ages and times. Even Saint Augustine was enraptured by the beauty of the liturgy and led closer to the heavenly mystery of God. He recounts, "How I wept during your hymns and songs! I was deeply moved by the music of the sweet chants of your Church. The sounds flowed into my ears and the truth was distilled into my heart. This caused the feelings of devotion to overflow. Tears ran, and it was good for me to have that experience." (Saint Augustine, *On Christian Teaching*, trans. R.P.H. Green, (New Work: Oxford University Press, 1997), 164.)

For Augustine, the beauty of the Church's liturgy reached the depths of his soul and even moved him to tears. More importantly, it caused the "feelings of devotion to overflow" and "the truth was distilled" in his heart.

Beauty and truth embraced and facilitated an experience with God. The liturgy contains within itself "gestures, symbols, words, images and melodies that touch the heart and the spirit and raise marvel and the desire to meet the resurrected Lord, He who is the *Door of Beauty*." (The Via Pulchritudinis, §III.3)

Yet, Augustine knew and realized that the beauty he heard must be put into proper context. In conversing with God, he recognized that it was "your hymns and songs" and "the sweet chants of your Church." In other words, the beauty he experienced was united with the fact that it was God's action and not man's.

It is only in this context that the beauty of the liturgy can be used to lead people to God, for taken by itself it can lead to idolatry. The Second Vatican Council gave us a fundamental principle to follow in the document *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, "1. Regulation of the sacred liturgy depends solely on the authority of the Church, that is, on the Apostolic See and, as laws may determine, on the bishop.... Therefore no other person, even if he be a priest, may add, remove, or change anything in the liturgy on his own authority." (22.1,3)

The liturgy is an action of God and is governed by the Holy See. Any other innovations or subtractions made by priests, done without the permission of the Vatican or proper authority, are not in accord with what God has ordained.

The maxim, "say the black, do the red," holds true and is what allows the beauty of the liturgy to shine forth. This

means that all priests, even the most "traditional" of priests, can neither add nor subtract from the liturgy.

Without a foundation in the truth, the liturgy can easily become an idol that is worshipped. This holds true on both sides of the spectrum. The liturgy then become a spectacle, a performance, used by priests and laity to place emphasis not on God, but either the people involved or on the things used. The focus turns inward instead of outward towards God.

In summary, the beauty of the liturgy has great power and can be utilized by catechists, both to teach others about the divine mystery hidden in the liturgy as well as to foster beautiful encounters with God in Holy Mass and other liturgical events. However, its beauty can never be divorced from the truth, lest it be worshipped for its own sake.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

215 West 13th, Hays, Ks. 67601 Most Reverend Gerald "Jerry" Vincke Bishop of Salina

Parish office: 785-625-7356 - Fax: 785-625-7394 E-mail: stjoseph@stjoehays.com Web Site: www.stj-church.com

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Director of Religious Education

Becky Newell 785-625-7356 stjdreks@gmail.com

Business ManagerTony Dreiling

Tony Dreiling 785-625-7356 stjoffice@stjoehays.com

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Renee Michaud 785-628-8434 michauds@ruraltel.net

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Randy Gottschalk 785-625-7356 stjoffice@stjoehays.com

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Finance Council Chairperson

Gary Schmeidler 785-625-4593 gaschmeid@gmail.com

Choir Director

Carol Brull 785-625-9707 rcbrull@ruraltel.net

ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEWS

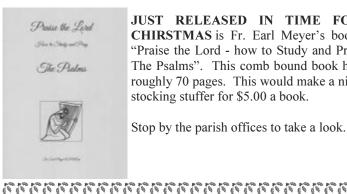


St. Joseph Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. Mass **Annual Christmas Pageant**

We need children ages K-6 to portray Mary, Jesus, angels, shepherds, and

kings. If you are interested please call Kevin at the parish office at 785-625-7356. Practice will be on Monday evening, December 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the church. The pageant will take place before Mass begins this year.

USHER ARE NEEDED for the 10:30am Christmas Day Mass. If you can help please contact the parish office.



JUST RELEASED IN TIME FOR CHIRSTMAS is Fr. Earl Meyer's book, "Praise the Lord - how to Study and Pray The Psalms". This comb bound book has roughly 70 pages. This would make a nice stocking stuffer for \$5.00 a book.

Stop by the parish offices to take a look.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISMAS

We will need the help of the parish again this year to help decorate our church for Christmas after the 10:30am Mass this Sunday, December 22. Please come to the sanctuary area for instruction after Mass. The Art and Environment Committee greatly appreciates this help.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Christmas: The offices will be closed on Tuesday, December 24th and reopen Friday, December 27th for business.

New Years: The offices will be closed on Tuesday, December 31st and reopen on Thursday, Jan 2nd for business.

QUESTION & ANSWER

Question: With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

Answer: Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.

Stewardship of Treasure report is not available this week due to the bulletin deadline.

December 22 Counters - Jeff Pinkney & Vicky Walker



Join us for

ADVENT VESPERS

Sunday evenings of Advent 7:00 p.m. - St. Joseph Church Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Readings/Hymns/Adoration /Confession/Benediction

ST. JOSEPH'S WEEK IN A GLANCE: Dec 22 - 28, 2019			C = Catholic Campus Center; KB=Kennedy Building; PO = Parish Office; SJ=St. Joe Church				
SUN 22	MON 23	TUES 24 Office Closed	WED 25	THURS 26	FRI 27	SAT 2	8
7:30am Mass - SJ 9:00am Mass - CCC 10:30am	6:30am Mass - SJ 5:00pm	6:30am Mass - SJ	Office Closed 7:30am Mass - SJ	Office Closed No Masses Today	Office OPEN No Masses Today	No Morning Mass	
Mass - SJ Liturgy for Little Ones Decorate Church after Mass 6:00pm Mass - CCC 7:00pm Advent Vespers/ Adoration/Confessions	Confessions 7:00pm Pageant Practice In Church	5:00pm Pageant/Mass 11:30pm Choir Music Prelude With Congregation Caroling followed by Mass at Midnight	NO CAMPUS MASSES 10:30am Mass - SJ			3:30pm Confessions - SJ 5:00pm Mass - SJ	

Reflections on Stewardship in light of the Gospel of Matthew

"Jesus said to his disciples, 'No one can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." (Mt 6:24)

"Mammon" was not a pagan god. Nor was mammon in itself a negative word. It simply meant "assets" – cash, savings, investments, property – any and all possessions. "Mammon" only took on negative connotations for Christians when people make their assets a god. "Above all else, I have to protect my assets." If I literally mean "above all else," then it is idolatry. In this Gospel passage, Jesus raises the question of whether my assets are a god: "No servant can serve two masters... You cannot serve God and mammon." In other words, I cannot have the same devotion to both. I can have both. But I ultimately serve one or the other. It depends on which one is my bottom line. There is an old formula that gives me the true measure of the bottom line in my life: "Tell me how you spend your time, your money, and your thoughts, and I will tell you what is most important in your life."

It's the strangest thing. When I apply that formula to myself I often leave out the "thoughts" – the preoccupations, the consuming interests, the daydreams. They are important indicators of what I truly worship in life. It is a good formula. Try it now. It is just between me and God. This past week…how did I spend my time, my money and my thoughts?

Stewardship is a leap of faith in real-life situations. Spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Stewardship Reflection

As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do except offer our lives as gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give?

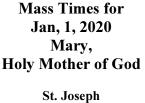
In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced this way of life in St. Joseph, as he obeys God's call to him through the message of an angel. We never hear St. Joseph speak, but the Scriptures tell us he was always listening, attentive to the leading of the Holy Spirit for his family. It was Joseph who found the stable where the baby Jesus would be born. No doubt it was Joseph who cleaned it up and prepared it for Mary and Jesus since we know that Mary was about to give birth. Joseph protected the family, guarded them, tended to their safety, their comfort, and their well-being at the expense of his own plans and preferences. Though we do not hear any words from St. Joseph his actions clearly show that he offered himself, his whole life, as a gift to his family through his strong guidance, protection and service.

Let us imitate St. Joseph then as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ.

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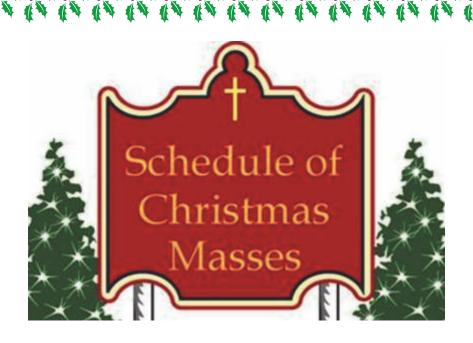


St. Joseph Tues, Dec. 31st - 5:00pm Wed. Jan. 1st - 9:00am

No Masses at the Campus

Jan 1st is a Holyday of Obligation





December 24, 2019

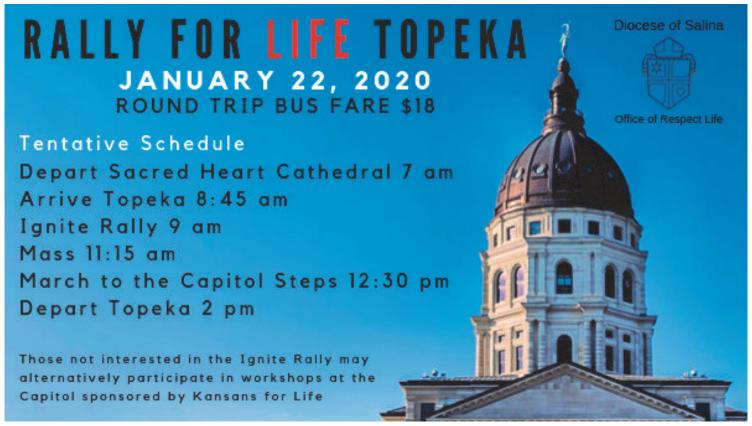
5:00 Christmas Pageant & Mass 10:00pm - Campus Center Mass 11:30pm Choir Prelude with Mass at Midnight

December 25, 2019

7:30am Christmas Day 10:30am Christmas Day NO 6:00pm Mass at the Campus

December 26, 2019

NO Masses at St. Joseph or Campus



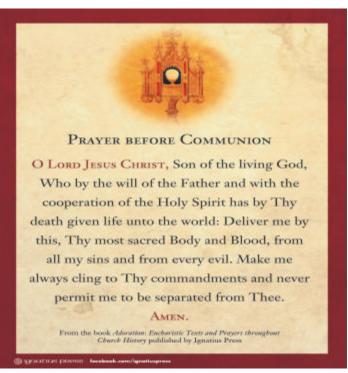
January 22, 2019 \$18 Roundtrip Bus Ticket Ignite Youth Rally & More

The Diocese of Salina Respect Life Office is organizing a bus trip to the Rally for Life in Topeka on January 22, 2020. Cost of the trip will be \$18. The bus will depart from the parking lot West of Sacred Heart Cathedral at 7 am. Those riding the bus may attend the Ignite Rally at the Topeka Performing Arts Center beginning at 9 am featuring Catholic speaker DJ Hueneman and music by Wichita Adore Ministries. Mass will be offered at approximately 11:15 am followed by a 0.5 mile walk to the Topeka Capitol Building for the Rally. Those not interested in attending the Ignite Rally may attend presentations offered at the Capitol Building sponsored by Kansans For Life. The information on presenters and topics is not yet available. The bus will depart Topeka at 2 pm to return to Salina. To register call the Respect Life Office at 785.827.8746.



Now available at Divine Mercy Radio. Supports the station and makes a great gift for Christmas. See Donetta at the Radio Station more information or call, 785-621-4110.

Help support Catholic Radio!



St. Joseph Faith Formation

St. Joseph Parish Faith Formation Calendar 2019-20		
December 25	No Class: Christmas Break	
January 1	No Class: Christmas Break	
January 8	Class, 6:30 - 7:30pm	
January 15	Class, 6:30 - 7:30pm	

FIRST RECONCILIATION & COMMUNION SCHEDULE		
Wed., Mar. 4	St. Joseph First Communion Retreat 6-7:30pm	
Wed., Apr. 15	First Communion Practice St. Joseph 6:30pm	
Sun., April 19	First Communion Mass St. Joseph 10:30am	

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE		
Sun., Feb 9	Confirmation Retreat, St. Joseph Church, 3-5pm	
Sun., Feb. 9	Letter to Bishop/Confirmation Paperwork due	
Sat. Mar. 7	Confirmation Practice 6:00pm, St. Joseph Church	
Sun. Mar 8	St. Joseph Confirmation Mass, 10:30am	

RCIA CLASS

RCIA - Rite for Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA classes have begun. Classes are held on Tuesday evening in the St. Joseph Parish Office.

Dec. 10 - Jan. 14: **NO RCIA** Jan 21: Sacraments: Reconciliation

If you are interested in either of these programs contact Fr. Ryan McCandless at the parish office, 785-625-7356 or e-mail him at stjassociate@stjoehays.com.

ST. JOSEPH FOOD PANTRY

LOCATION TO PLACE YOUR FOOD ITEMS - Nonperishable food items as well as medium sized boxes may be brought to the parish school building, formerly Kennedy, doors 25 & 26, near the gym, **from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m**. Monday through Friday.

- ♦ Food Pantry dates are January 4 & 18.
- Item of the month Tuna, Canned Pumpkin & Evaporated Milk.
- Monetary donations can be sent through the weekend collection, left at the Parish Service Center or you may donate on line by going to https://stjchurch.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunitiesSt.JosephFoodPantry
- ◆ To volunteer to help at the St. Joseph Food Pantry contact Renee Michaud at 785-628-8434 or michauds@ruraltel.net

COMEAU CATHOLIC CAMPUS CENTER

506 w. 6TH, Hays, Ks. 67601 Most Reverend Gerald "Jerry" Vincke Bishop of Salina

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Assistant Chaplain

Fr. Ryan McCandless stjassociate@stjoehays.com

785-625-7397 (Campus) 785-625-7356 (Church)

Music, Art & Environment

Jackie Maxwell jmaxwell@fhsu.edu

K of C Council 10211 Grand Knight

Josh Becker jnbecker2@mail.fhsu.edu

Catholic Disciples President

Reese Leiker

Crossroads Retreat Director

Julia Sanders jmsanders5@mail.fhsu.edu

Maintenance

Vacant

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

1st Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 pm in the lounge.

CATHOLIC DISCIPLES

Wednesdays at 8:00 pm in the lounge.

Campus Center collection for 12/8/2019 - \$1903.00

- ♦ Mon. Confessions at 5:00pm, Mass at 5:45pm
- ◆ Tues. Adoration begins at 9:00am Confessions at 5:00pm, Mass at 5:45pm
- ♦ Wed. Adoration concludes at 5:00pm Catholic Disciples meeting at 8:00pm Speaker this week: Mr & Mrs Evan Burke NO Mass at 9:15pm on December 18th.
- ◆ Thurs. Confessions at 5:00pm, Mass at 5:45pm
- Fri. NO Confessions Today, Mass at 12:10pm
- FHSU Knights of Columbus Council #10211 meets every Tuesday at 7:30pm in the Campus Center lounge, All members should be in attendance. If you are a member from your parish back home, you are more then welcome to attend our K of C meetings. Bring your current membership card.
- There will be no daily Masses at the Campus Center Dec 23
 27th except for Christmas Mass on Dec. 24th at 10:00 and Dec. 25th at 9:00pm. No 6:00pm Mass on Christmas day.

HELP WANTED: Comeau Catholic Campus Center is looking for a person to help with custodial duties. It is a 20 hour per week job. Please speak to Father Brian Lager.

Midnight Mass



Paul Turner

Christmas is the only day on our church calendar that calls for Midnight Mass. Easter has its Vigil. But the pivotal celebration at Christmas is the Mass at Midnight.

Actually, we have four Masses for Christmas, each with its own prayers and Scriptures: the Vigil Mass on the evening of December 24, Mass at Midnight and Mass at Dawn for those times of day, and Mass during the Day for December 25. We may mix and match the Scriptures if we wish. There's no fixed time when these Masses must be celebrated not even the one at midnight. The titles are a simple convenience to identify the four. A parish might celebrate "Midnight Mass" at ten in the morning or eight at night. Parish staffs laugh at callers who ask, "What time is Midnight Mass?" But the question isn't as stupid as it sounds. If we attend any Mass Christmas Day, it's possible we'll hear the Scriptures of Midnight Mass.

That's a plus, because the Gospel of Midnight Mass alone relates Luke's immortal story of the birth of Jesus. It's the good news people want to hear when they come to Mass on Christmas.

The Midnight Mass tradition reaches far back in our history. It originated probably in Rome before the Middle Ages.

One reason for Mass at midnight is that we used to fast all day before communion, and since Christmas was such a grand day, we wanted to cut to the celebration as soon as possible.

Another reason is the tradition that Jesus was born at midnight. This comes from an interpretation of a passage from Wisdom 18:14-15. The author says that during Israel's Passover, God's word leaped from heaven when the night was half gone. So in the new covenant, it was assumed God's Word leaped from heaven at midnight. The mystique of Midnight Mass draws some who come to church only rarely. The shepherds, the magi, the angels, the animals - the mystery of Christmas beckons us all.

This year at Midnight Mass the Choir will sing the entrance chant: Dominus Dixit ad me: Felius meus es tu, ego hodie genui te. Quare fremuerunt gentes: et popula meditate sunt inania?

(The Lord said to me: You are Son, today I have begotten you. Why do the nations conspire and the people plot in vain. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, would without end. The Lord said to me....)

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HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Principal - Rachel Wentling, rwentling@hfehays.org 785-625-3131 ~ www.hfe.org

- ◆ Dec. 23 Jan. 6 NO SCHOOL Christmas Break
- ♦ Jan. 7 School Resumes
- Jan. 8 All Staff Mtg. 3:40pm in Library
 Jan 10 First Friday Prayer Circles, 8:05am
- ◆ Jan 13 Home & School Mtg. 7:00pm in LT
 ◆ Jan. 15 HFE Red Cross Blood Drive 8:00 3:00 AC
- Jan, 16 July Birthday Mass & Lunch
 Jan. 20 No School = Teacher Inservice

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! We still accept all Box-tops, but please check the expiration dates! We can give your pulltabs to HHS for the Ronald McDonald Houses of America! Thanks for your continued support!

THOMAS MORE-PREP MARIAN

Principal - Chad Meitner, meitnerc@tmpmarian.org 785-625-6577 ~ www.tmp-m.org TMP-M calendar at www.tmp-m.org/calendar

- Advent Tree in the Learning Commons With special thanks to ABC Seamless, TMP-Marian students, faculty and staff will have a daily reminder of the joy and hope that come with the season of Advent. The tree will progressively be decorated with purple and pink decorations as we approach the joy of Christmas. Thank you ABC Seamless!
- ♦ St. Thomas More Society (STMS) The STMS is the secondlargest funding arm for both TMP-Marian and Holy Family Elementary. This vital fund is called upon to contribute \$650,000 this fiscal year and allows excellence in Catholic education to continue and prosper. Please consider generously contributing to the success of our students through the STMS. Contact Troy Ruda, Advancement Director, at rudat@tmpmarian.org or (785) 621-5427 to become a member of the STMS! Gifts may also be made online at tmp-m.org/ donate.
- ♦ IRA Rollovers Are you age 70 ½ or older and required to take a required minimum distribution (RMD) on an IRA by the end of the year? Did you know that if you contribute your RMD to a charitable organization the gift is not subject to taxation? This is a great way to contribute to your Catholic schools. Contact Troy Ruda, Advancement Director, at rudat@tmpmarian.org or 785-621-5427 for more information.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

Are you interested in becoming a D of I member? Please contact Judy Flax at 785-628-6577 for more information. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Joseph Knights of Columbus, Council #1325 meets every **THIRD** Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Joseph Parish school building, room 110 (the old art room). Enter through south door, on the west side, marked #2.

KNOTS OF LOVE

This ministry meets the last Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m. at the Via Christi Chapel.

ORDER OF SECULAR FRANCISCANS

This group follows in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi and meets every third Sunday at the Comeau Campus Center at 1:30 p.m. For more information about the meetings or about the Order please contact Brenda Lager at 785-628-3107.Regional Franciscan Website:

www.sfojuandepadilla.org.

PARISH CHOIR

The St. Joseph Parish Choir practices each Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Director, Carol Brull, 785-625-9707.

WOMEN OF ST JOSEPH SCRIPTURE SHARING GROUP

This group meets after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday mornings in the large conference room. You may enter after Mass through the east sacristy door or if you are not attending Mass through the east side door to the parish offices. Women are invited to just drop in and join us as we discuss the scriptures for the following Sunday's Mass.

Sacraments and Parish Information

ST. JOSEPH PARISH MEMBER-SHIP: To become a registered member of St. Joseph Parish, stop by the office to pick up a registration form or go to our website, www.stj-church.com and click on the *DOWNLOAD* button under the "Parish Registration Forms"

MARRIAGE - The first appointment must be made six (6) months before the proposed date of marriage. Couples expecting a traditional Catholic wedding are expected to be living a traditional Catholic lifestyle. Please contact the St. Joseph Parish Office.

BAPTISM - Please contact the St. Joseph Parish Office at 785-625-7356 to schedule a baptism. All first time parents need to take a baptism class.

FUNERAL

Please contact the parish office.

HOSPITAL VISITS - If you have a loved one in the hospital please be sure to contact the St. Joseph Parish Office.

HOMEBOUND VISITS - If you are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, or if you are on the weekend schedule and will not need it for some reason, please call the parish office at 785-625-7356.

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL FORMS

(SRF) - Stewardship Renewal Forms are sent out at the end of January each year with tithing information. Parishioners are asked to look over these forms for any additions or corrections and send back to the parish office. These forms are used to help keep our records up to date.

SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

If you are needing Sacramental records for St. Joseph Church please contact the parish office.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS - Please call the parish office at 785-625-7356 or send an email to: stjo-seph@stjoehays.com. Please state how you would like your intention forwarded to the prayer chain.

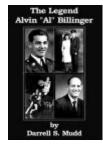
HEARTLAND NEWS

Christmas Is A Time For Giving!

The Community Assistance Center is asking for your support of \$50.00 to sponsor one family for a Christmas Food Basket. Please bring or mail your Christmas Donation to the Community Assistance Center at 12th & Oak St. so everyone may have a Merry Christmas. Thank you for giving.



SNOW BALL - Parents do your kids love to go to weddings? Here's your chance to dress up in your CHRISTmas attire again and enjoy a meal and dancing. Immaculate Heart of Mary is sponsoring a Family Night Out on Saturday, January 18th. Special seating/blessing for guests during the 5:00pm Mass. Doors open at 6:00pm in the Little Theater. Tickets are \$10, \$5 under age 12. All ages welcome! Includes Dinner and Hot Chocolate bar, photo booth DJ and games by Chad Stoecklein. RSVP to the IHM Parish office by January 13, 2020.



Need a Christmas gift for someone who was a graduate of Thomas More Prep-Marian? How about a book about one of TMP-M's well known coaches, Al Billinger. This is the story of an ordinary man who

was a legend that left a wonderful legacy of devotion, perseverance, and faithfulness in the game of life. His is a story worth reading. Copies are available at the St. Joseph parish office for \$20 each. TMP-M will benefit from the sales of this book.

HEARTLAND NEWS

The PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL 1805 Vine - IHM Church

~ Time slots available ~ Sunday: 12:00 p.m. -1:00 p.m. Thursday: 3:00 a.m. - 4:00 a.m.

The Adoration Chapel is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week and Jesus is waiting for you. Following are the names, time responsible and phone numbers of the Archangels.



Bob & Carol Feauto 628-1429, (12am-6am) **Lorraine Brungardt** 625-3021: (6am-12pm) **Yvonne Demuth** 628-2172, (12pm - 6pm) Geri Rupp 639-5588, (6pm - 12am)





The "Little Town of Bethlehem" nativity display at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Vincent, will be open for visitors on Sunday December 15th and 22nd and Christmas Day from 1:00pm - 5:00pm. Vincent is located 5 miles south of Victoria and two miles east.

DANCE: New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1st, 1:30 -5:00pm St. Michael's Parish Hall, 918 Lincoln, LaCrosse Ks. Cost is \$8.00 snack-bar included everyone is invites. Music by Wes Windholz. Bring your own refreshments. Sponsored by the Sunflower Polka Club.

RUNNIN REVS: Come and enjoy the Runnin Revs at SH Jr. /Sr. High School in Salina, Sunday, December 22, beginning at 6 P.M., as they once again will have their annual basketball game sponsored by Vocatio of Salina.

2019 - Heartland Parishes Advent/Christmas Schedule - 2020 December 22, 2019 - Fourth Sunday of Advent HM- Posadas at 7:00pm in the Activity Center HM- 9:00pm CYO Night Prayer St. Joseph - 7:00pm Advent Vespers/Confessions/Benediction December 23, 2019 - Monday HM - Posadas at 7:00pm in the Activity Center St. Joseph - 7:00pm Advent Vespers/Confessions/Benediction December 24, 2019 - Christmas Eve Antonino - 4:00pm Comeau Campus Center - 10:00pm HM - 5:00pm, 7:00pm (Spanish), and 10:00p.m. No Morning Mass or Confessions Munjor - 9:30pm Schoenchen - 5:00pm St. Joseph - 5:00pm St. Joseph - 5:00pm Christmas Pageant followed by Mass St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00 p.m. (Family Mass), Midnight December 25, 2019 - Christmas Day HM - 9:00am only (NO 8am, 10am or 6pm Mass or Confessions) Catharine - 9:00am St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am St. Nicholas of Myra - 10:00am December 26, 2019 - Thursday HFE - No Masses or Confessions December 31, 2019 - Tuesday, Vigil - Solemnity of Mary Antonino - 7:00pm HM - 5:30pm, 7:30pm (Spanish), No Confessions St. Joseph - 5:00pm St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00pm









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