



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 20, 2020

St. Joseph Mass Times

Saturday: 8:00am & 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am & 10:30am

Monday - Friday: 6:30am

Holy Days Masses: See Bulletin/Website

Rosary before each Mass.

Confession: Sat. 3:30pm; Wed. 5:00pm

Sun. 6:45-7:15am / 9:30-10:15am

First Friday Deviations: Noon

Comeau Campus Center Mass Times

Sunday: 9:00am & 6:00pm

Monday - Thursday: 5:45pm

Friday: 12:10pm

Holy Day Masses - See bulletin

Confession - Mon. - Thurs., 5:00-5:40pm

Sunday, 5:00-5:30pm

(All Year)

Adoration - After Mass, Tues, 9:30am
ends Wed. 5:45pm.

before the 5:45pm Mass.

St. Joseph Parish Offices

**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 - 4:00pm

Fri. 8:00 a.m. - noon

Office Closed Saturday, Sunday,

Holy Days/Holidays



Pastor

Fr. Brian Lager

stjpastor@stjoehays.com

785-625-7356 (Church)

785-625-7397 (Campus)

Associate Pastor

Fr. Matthew Cowan

stjassociate@stjoehays.com

785-625-7356 (Church)

785-625-7397 (Campus)

Office Manager /Organist/Liturgist

Kevin Rupp, 785-625-7356

stjoseph@stjoehays.com

Business Manager/St. Joseph Cemetery

Tony Dreiling, 785-625-7356

stjoffice@stjoehays.com

Director of Religious Education

Becky Newell, 785-625-7356

stjdreks@gmail.com

Food Pantry Coordinator/Band

Renee Michaud, 785-628-8434

michauds@ruraltel.net

Maintenance Director

Randy Gottschalk, 785-625-7356

stjoffice@stjoehays.com

Pastoral Council Chairperson

Marty Walters, Chair, 785-625-9064

waltersml68@gmail.com

Finance Council Chairperson

Gary Schmeidler, 785-625-4593

gaschmeid@gmail.com

St. Joseph Choir Director

Kathryn Walters

kawalters2@mail.fhsu.edu

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."

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

6:45 - 7:15 a.m. Confessions
 7:30 a.m. +Virgil Staab
 9:00 a.m.C For the Parish
 9:00 a.m. +Clarence Legleiter
 10:30 a.m. +Leola Gottschalk
 6:00 p.m.C +Darrell McGinnis
 7:00 p.m. Advent Vespers/Confessions

Monday, Dec. 21, 2020

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45

6:30 a.m. +Leona Walters
 5:00 p.m.C Confessions
 5:45 p.m.C +Alfred "Bud" Lager

Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020

1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

6:30 a.m. L/D Mem Allen Dinkel Family
 5:00 p.m.C Confessions
 5:45 p.m.C +Bernard Huelsmann

Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2020 - St. John of Kanty

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

6:30 a.m. L/D Mem Scott & Mildred Megaffin
 5:00 p.m. Confessions
 5:00 p.m.C Confessions
 5:45 p.m.C +Bernard Helmann

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020 - Christmas Eve

2 Sm 7:1-5.8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79

6:30 a.m. Poor Souls
 5:00 p.m. L/D Mem Robert & Sally Frank
 7:00 p.m. L/D Mem Robert & Eileen Maxwell
 9:00 p.m. For the Parish
 11:30 p.m. Choir Music Prelude
 Midnight L/D Mem Norbert R. Dreiling

Friday, Dec. 25, 2020 - Nativity of our Lord

Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn1:1-18

7:30 a.m. For the Parish

NO CAMPUS MASS TODAY

10:30 a.m. +Richard Yost

Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020 - St. Stephen, First Martyr

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

8:00 a.m. Vocations
 3:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:00 p.m. L/D Mem Alfred & Mary Jane Rohr
 6:00 p.m. Baptism - Grace Marie Hager

Sunday, Dec. 27, 2020 - Feast of the Holy Family

Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

6:45 - 7:15 a.m. Confessions
 7:30 a.m. Marvin & Sue Lang
 9:00 a.m.C L/D Mem Dell & Mary Ann Keil
 9:00 a.m. +Clarence Legleiter
 10:30 a.m. +Ruby Karlin
 6:00 p.m.C For the Parish

CHRISTMAS & WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	Thurs. Dec. 24th 5:00pm Christmas Eve	Thurs. Dec. 24th 7:00pm Christmas Eve	Thurs. Dec. 24th 9:00pm Christmas Eve	Fri. Dec 25th Midnight Mass	Fri. Dec. 25th 7:30am Christmas Day	Fri. Dec. 25th 10:30am Christmas Day
Sacristan	Sara Vonfeldt	Sacristan Needed	Sam Allen	Sacristan Needed	Kevin Augustine	Vicky Walker
Altar Servers	Carson Pinkney Caden Pinkney Isaac Fox Kyser Fox	Heuer Brungardt Elsa Brungardt	Carter Newell Creighton Newell Parker Linenberger Will Linenberger	Luke Rome Trenton Rome Joel Johnson Jace Wentling Kade Megaffin Michael Lager	Jacob Sack Server Needed	Kendall Walker Kenneth Walker Chloe Purinton Nash Dreilling
Cantor	Jeanne Geist	Liz Schmeidler	BAND	Choir/Anita Walters	Cantor Needed	Jackie Maxwell
Reader	Tim Flax Barb Wasinger	Joyce Dinges Dustin Roths	Laura Allen	Kim Schmeidler	Anthony Walters Jeanne Riedel	Ruth Firestone Tom Haas
Usher	Rob Wasinger	Usher Needed	Usher Needed	John Schmeidler Mark Herl	Jeff Sach Joe Desch	Troy Haas Eric Augustine

Pastor's Notes

Fr. Brian Lager

Merry Christmas!

These past nine months have taken forever. The reality of Covid has affected our lives in many different ways and 2020 has been one for the books. This week we look forward to the celebration of Jesus being born. Unfortunately, we often take this celebration too lightly and forget how much this event changed everything. The birth of Jesus ushers in the new covenant and a new understanding of God's relationship with us.

God created the world out of love for love. He is love and desires to share that love with others. It is always outward focused and never inward focused. Love of self is selfishness, true love is seeking the love of the other and seeks the good of the other. God created you and I for no other reason than because of the greatness of His love.

You and I have a problem. We fail to love as we ought. We fall short of that love because our will has been weakened and we are easily moved by pleasure, pride, worldly allurements, or material possessions. We turn and seek happiness in things outside of God, but the reality is that God is the only one that can offer fulfillment. All else falls short of the love that we are created for and from.

This false love that we turn to is what we call sin. Jesus comes to us in order to remedy sin. He doesn't do this without us, he does this with us. He calls us to Himself never turning us away or never forgetting about us, but we forget about Him. I recall one of my favorite poems by Francis Thompson called the Hound of Heaven "I fled Him, down the nights and down the days; I fled Him, down the arches of the years; I fled Him, down the labyrinthine ways Of my own mind; and in the mist of tears I hid from Him, and under running laughter."

This last year has offered us a chance to meditate on what matters most in our life. The reality of death has met us face to face and along with that reality is the reality of the afterlife and where we will spend it. As we read through the Christmas narrative this year, let us remember why Jesus has come and that his life leads to the cross. Our lives also lead to the cross as Jesus calls us to "take up our cross and follow Him."

This year has been a cross, I pray we have not fallen under the burden of the weight, if we have may we return to the love of Jesus in the sacrament of confession and allow Him to restore us to His grace. If we have carried our cross well, I pray the grace that comes through it moves our heart to divine intimacy, deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ and union with Him.

This Christmas, let us be all the more grateful for the Christ child to remind us to be like little children, innocent in our reception of His ways. May we be all the more grateful for the life He has given us and the grace to live in His love through the sacraments. May your Christmas be blessed and know that Fr. Matthew and I are praying for you. Merry Christmas

Fr. Brian J. Lager

Announcement from Fr. Brian

Extra mass times have been added to encourage parishioners to social distance. Hand Sanitizer and masks will be available at the entrances. There will not be a Children's Pageant at the 5pm Mass this year. All Christmas masses will be held at St. Joseph Church, (No Campus Masses).

Mass times will be:

Christmas Eve: 5pm, 7pm, 9pm and Midnight

Christmas Day: 7:30am and 10:30am

New Years' Eve: 5 pm & 7 pm

New Year's Day: 9 am

We look forward to this beautiful season of Advent and to joyfully welcome you home for the Christmas season.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEWS

Sacristans Needed

We are in need of sacristans to help with the weekend Masses, 5:00pm Saturday and 7:30am & 10:30am on Sundays. If you are interested in this parish ministry, please contact Kevin at the parish office. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENT:

We have added a 9:00am Mass to our normal Sunday Mass Schedule. This is to allow for social distancing at the Masses. We are blessed to have parishioners desiring to Worship together, but we need to keep in mind the practice of social distancing.

Please Note: There is hand sanitizer and masks on the tables by the doors for you to use during Mass if you wish.

WORD AMONG US/MAGNIFICAT ISSUES

The December issue of the Word Among Us will be the last issue that our parish will receive. We will receive the Magnificat until June of 2021.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Budgeted envelopes/offertory per week	\$20,900.00
Actual envelopes/offertory received 12/07/20-12/13/20	\$18,821.50
For this week, the collection is ahead (behind)	(\$2,078.50)
Budgeted envelopes/offertory thru 11/30/2020	\$452,833.38
Actual envelopes/offertory thru 11/30/2020	\$362,561.90
As of 11/30/2020 we are ahead (behind) budget for the fiscal year.	(\$90,271.48)

VESPERS, Sunday - December 20th, 7:00pm

Cantor- Abby Staab

Reader - Jouce Dinges

Server - Grant Ginther

	Sat. Dec. 26th 5:00pm	Sun. Dec. 26th 7:30am	Sun. Dec. 26th 9:00am	Sun. Dec. 26th 10:30am
Sacristan	Sam Allen	Don Dreher	Kevin Rupp	Vickie Walker
Altar Servers	Jace Wentling Avery Brown Adler Brown Heuer Brungardt	Evan Staab Blaise Staab		Grant Weber Patrick Weber Allison Weber Nash Dreiling
Cantor	Christy Thomas	Jackie Maxwell	No Music	Abby Staab
Reader	Rachel Wentling Tim Flax	Maddy Quimby Tucker Mall	Jeanne Riedel	Barb Wasinger Tom Haas
EMHB		Judy Dischner Irvin Leiker		Troy Haas Vicky Walters
Usher	Rob Wasinger Eric Haas	Joe Desch Mike Brull		Jon Schmeidler Mark Herl



ST. JOSEPH'S WEEK IN A GLANCE: Dec. 20 - 26, 2020

C = Catholic Campus Center; KB=Kennedy Building; PO = Parish Office; SJ=St. Joe Church

SUN	20	MON	21	TUES	22	WED	23	THURS	24	FRI	25	SAT	26
6:45-7:15am Confessions - SJ		6:30am Mass - SJ		6:30am Mass - SJ		6:30am Mass - SJ		6:30am Mass - SJ		Christmas Day		8:00am Mass - SJ	
7:30am Mass - SJ								5:00pm Mass - SJ		7:30am Mass - SJ			
9:00am - SJ Mass - SJ								7:00pm Mass - SJ					
9:00am Mass - CCC		5:00pm Confessions - C		5:00pm Confessions - C		5:00pm Confessions - SJ		9:00pm - SJ Mass - SJ		10:30am Mass - SJ		3:30pm Confessions - SJ	
9:45-10:15am Confessions- SJ		5:45pm Mass - C		5:45pm Mass - C		5:00pm Confessions - C		11:30pm Christmas Prelude				5:00pm Mass - SJ	
10:30am Mass - SJ						5:45pm Mass - C		Midnight Mass - SJ				6:00pm Baptism - SJ	
6:00pm Mass - CCC						7:30pm Choir Practice							

NO CAMPUS MASSES TODAY

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Third Sunday of Advent

In Blaise Pascal's work, *Pensees*, he says: "What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself."

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off center, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come.

QUESTION & ANSWER

Apostle vs. Disciples

Question: What is the difference between apostles and disciples

Answer: When we look at the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus, we see two special titles applied to his followers: apostles and disciples. At first glance, we might think that these two words are interchangeable, but when we look at what each one means, we quickly see that the evangelists were using them very specifically. When we look more closely, we see that while Jesus had many disciples, the group of apostles was much more limited and referred to Jesus' closest collaborators.

The word apostle essentially means "one who is sent forth" or, as we might think of it today, "an ambassador." The group of apostles — sometimes called the Twelve — included those twelve men who formed Jesus' inner circle (see Mark 3:13-14; Luke 6:12-13). It was this group that received the gift of the Holy Spirit and who were sent out by Jesus with the special mission of forgiving sins on that first Easter Sunday (see John 20:19-23). In time, the Catholic Tradition also recognizes Saint Paul and Saint Barnabas as apostles, recognizing that they also shared the mandate of going out in the Lord's name to pray, to bless, and to preach. In 2016, during the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis raised the liturgical celebration of Saint Mary Magdalene to the rank of feast, recognizing that she also received a special mandate to proclaim the good news of Jesus' resurrection to the Eleven, becoming the "apostle to the apostles." In a particular way, the bishops continue the mission of the apostles in our own time.

When we think of the word disciple, we see that it has a very different meaning. Rather than referring to those who were sent out to carry on the mission of Jesus, disciple literally means "student" or, more specially, an "apprentice learner." The task of the disciple is to learn and integrate into their lives the teachings, values, and way of life of their master teacher. Although a disciple might be called on to explain or represent aspects of their life, in light of the teachings they receive from this master teacher, Christian discipleship is ultimately about living our lives with faith and integrity, guided by the life and mission of Jesus, our Master Teacher. The call to discipleship is the common vocation of all Christians. ©LPi

Advent/Christmas Schedule



December 23, 2020 - Wednesday

St. Joseph - Confessions, 5:00pm

December 24, 2020 - Thursday, Christmas Eve

Antonino - 4:00pm

IHM - 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm (Spanish), 10:00pm

IHM - No Morning Mass or Confessions

Munjoy - 7:00pm

Schoenchen - 5:00pm

St. Joseph - 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm

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

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

December 25, 2020 - Friday, - Christmas Day

IHM - 8:00am, 10:00am

IHM - NO 12pm or 6pm Masses or Confessions today.

Catharine - 9:00am

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

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:30am

December 26, 2020 - Saturday

IHM - NO 8:00am Daily Mass

St. Joseph - 5:00pm

December 27, 2020 - Sunday, 2020

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

December 31, 2020 - Thursday - Solemnity of Mary (Vigil)

Antonino -

IHM - 5:30pm & 7:30pm (Spanish)

Schoenchen -

St. Joseph - 5:00pm & 7:00pm

St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00pm

January 1, 2021 - Friday, Solemnity of Mary

IHM - 9:00am only

Munjoy - 9:30am

St. Joseph - 9:00am

St. Nicholas of Myra - 8:00am



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.

*Choir Prelude begins at 11:30pm
with caroling and choir pieces*

*Mass beginning at Midnight
Choir will sing the Convent Latin Mass,
Hodie and various traditions carols.*

Copyright © 1997 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505, Paul Turner, pastor of St. Muncie Parish in Cameron, Mo.

Saint Francis and the Origin of the Creche

If a nativity scene is an important part of your family's Christmas, you already are familiar with this lovely and meaningful way to honor the birth of Christ. You may not know, however, that Saint Francis of Assisi is credited with popularizing the crèche back in the 13th century.

St. Francis of Assisi (c 1182-1226) was an Italian friar and preacher who founded the men's Order of Friars Minor (commonly called The Franciscans), the women's Order of Saint Clare, the Third Order of Saint Francis and the Custody of the Holy Land. After living a life of luxury as a youth, St. Francis, who was the son of a successful cloth merchant, claimed he heard the voice of God commanding him to rebuild the Church and to live a life of poverty. He then decided to devote his life to the service of God.

Canonized just two years after his death, St. Francis today is the patron saint of animals and of the natural environment.

Francis's biographers tell us that Christmas held special meaning for the monk, and he celebrated the birth of Christ with great joy. He wrote a number of Christmas hymns in Latin and in Italian, including "Psalmas in Nativitae."

In 1223, about three years before his death, St. Francis had transformed a mountainside cave in the Italian village of Greccio into a hermitage. According to *The Life of St. Francis of Assisi* by [Saint Bonaventure](#), a Franciscan monk, St. Francis requested permission from Pope Honorius III to set up a representation of the birth of Jesus in the cave.

In his book *The Christmas Crèche*, Matthew Powell writes, "The saintly friar did see clearly the need to visualize in a tangible manner the events surrounding Christ's birth. He knew the need people have to see, and not just to hear about, the sacred events of their salvation."

Powell explains that St. Francis asked papal permis-

sion because he knew of Pope Innocent III's letter that expressed the Vatican's displeasure with the religious dramas of the time.

Mystery plays, also known as miracle plays, were a popular form of entertainment in Europe. These plays,



originally performed in churches and then in town squares and other public places, often reenacted Bible stories. Since church services at the time were conducted only in Latin, the dramatizations were an opportunity for laypeople to learn about the Bible. However, some of the plays veered away from the Scriptures, focusing more on the value of entertainment.

It was St. Francis's intention to recreate the atmosphere of the birth of Christ as closely as possible. According to St. Bonaventure, St. Francis was determined to keep the first nativity a solemn occasion "lest he should be accused of light-

ness or novelty."

St. Francis received permission from the Pope, and he planned his special service for Christmas Eve in [Greccio, Italy](#), which is about halfway between Rome and Assisi. Interestingly, the word "crèche" is most likely a French derivative of Greccio, which is pronounced "Grecho."

St. Bonaventure writes, "Then he [St. Francis] prepared a manger, and brought hay, and an ox and an ass to the place appointed. The brethren were summoned, the people ran together, the forest resounded with their voices, and that venerable night was made glorious by many and brilliant lights and sonorous psalms of praise."

Accounts are unclear whether a live baby or a wooden or plaster representation of Christ was used in first Greccio nativity scene, but accounts are clear that live cow and donkey were there at the cave along with a live Mary and Joseph.

St. Bonaventure describes the scene this way, "The

Saint stood before the crib and his heart overflowed with tender compassion; he was bathed in tears but overcome with joy. The Mass was sung there and Francis, who was a deacon, sang the Gospel. “

Using the manger as his altar, Francis preached to the people about the birth of Jesus, referring to Him as the “the babe of Bethlehem.”

The following Christmas, the people of Greccio and the surrounding area reconstructed the place of Jesus’ birth in other caves and stables, and the nativity tradition began to grow and spread. There were even claims that original elements, such as hay, of the 1223 nativity cause miraculous healings.

Although some historians credit St. Francis with creating the first crèche, scholars such as Powell and Nesta De Robeck instead stress his influence on the tradition rather than his creation of it.

“It is impossible to credit the Christmas crèche to any one person or event,” writes Powell. “It would be more accurate to say that the crèche was the result of several influences – that it was a hybrid or assimilation that developed gradually.”

However, Powell does emphasize the beloved friar’s contributions. “What Francis did do was to spark a renewed devotion to the Nativity and special devotion to the Infant Jesus.”

In her book *The Christmas Presepio in Italy*, De Robeck writes, “St. Francis brings us to a turning point in the history of the presepio (crèche) for, though popular tradition is mistaken in thinking of him as its originator, nevertheless it was he who took the old custom and gave it the stamp of his own irresistible genius.”

De Robeck goes on to say that, with the 1223 crèche, St. Francis presented the Gospel in a way everyone could understand. “The most lettered of men could understand his [Francis’s] presepio as well as any doctor of theology,” she writes. “His realism made the Nativity of the Eternal Word as real to those Umbrian peas-

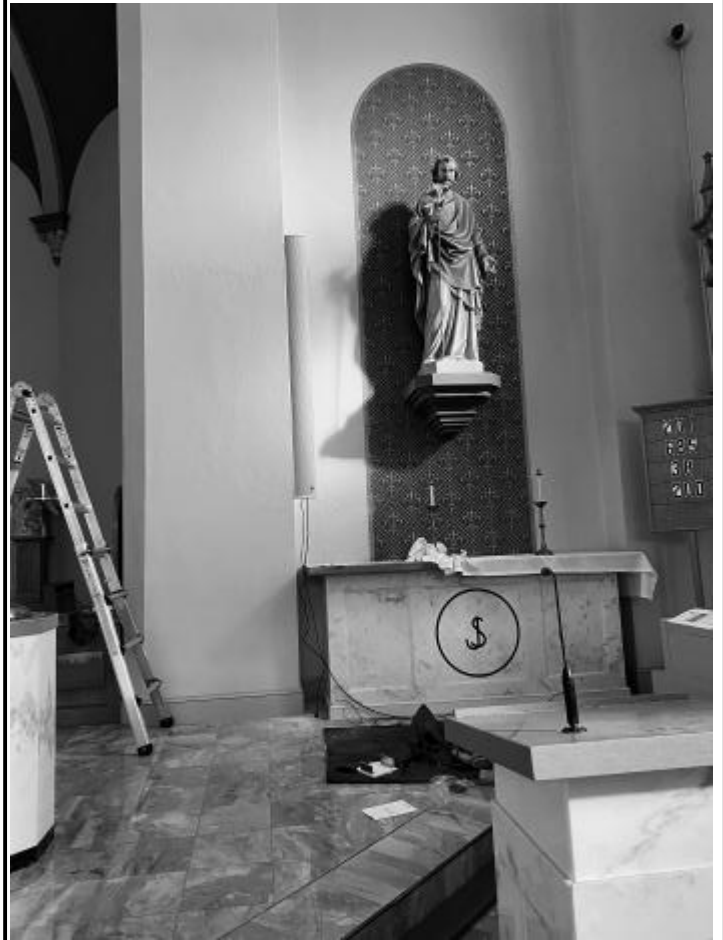
ants as the birth of their own children; he gave into the arms of his followers that most precious of all babies, the Bambino Gesù.”

Powell gives Francis this deep praise, “A new spring of poetic imagination had been released, and its source stood Francis.”

This Christmas, as you set up and display your outdoor nativity scene or tabletop crèche, take a moment to reflect on the humble St. Francis and the tangible way he gave us to celebrate the birth of Christ.



NEW SPEAKER SYSTEM INSTALLED



A new speaker system was installed last week. The system consists of two up-front cabinets filled with 16 multi-directional speakers each. The system was tprogramed this week and may need a few more before it is set as we like it.

St. Joseph Faith Formation

St. Joseph Parish Faith Formation Calendar 20-21

Wed. Dec. 23	NO CLASS - Christmas Break
Wed. Dec. 30	NO CLASS - Christmas Break
Wed. Jan. 6	Class, 6:30 - 7:30pm

First Reconciliation & Communion Schedule

Sun. Dec. 13	First Reconciliation 1:00pm St. Joseph Church
Wed. Apr. 7	First Communion Retreat 6:30pm - 7:30 p.m. St. Joseph Church
Wed. Apr. 28	First Communion Practice 6:30 p.m. St. Joseph Church

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Sun. Feb. 21	Confirmation Retreat 2:00 - 4:30pm
Sun. Feb. 21	Letter to Bishop and Confirmation Paperwork
Sat. Mar. 13	Confirmation Practice

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: December 19th & January 2nd.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR DECEMBER: Ramen noodles, cereal and proteins!

We will follow social distancing and mask guidelines as directed by our city. Patrons are asked to park their cars and enter through the usual doors near the gym, however PLEASE do NOT get out of your vehicle before the doors open at 9am in order to follow guidelines. Patrons will be directed into the cafeteria where you will remain in a group with the people you came with in your vehicle. When all spaces are filled, you may be asked to wait outside until someone else leaves.



HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

1800 Milner - 785-625-3131

www.hfehays.org

WE ARE CHRISTIANS TO ONE ANOTHER

Dec 21-Jan 4	NO SCHOOL – Christmas Break
Jan 4	NO SCHOOL – Faculty/Staff Inservice Day
Jan 5	School Resumes
Jan 8	First Friday Prayer Circles 5 th Grade Monarch-4-a-Day
Jan 11	Home & School Mtg. 7:00 p.m. in AC
Jan 12	July Birthday Mass “B” Classes
Jan 13	School Spelling Bee, 8:15 a.m.
Jan 14	July Birthday Mass “A” Classes July Birthday Lunch
Jan 15	HFE Blood Drive w/ Red Cross in AC
Jan 18	NO SCHOOL – Inservice Day
Jan 19	January Birthday Mass “A” Classes
Jan 20	After School Care Appreciation Day



Kitchen Help Needed

Thomas More Prep-Marian Jr/Sr High School is currently looking for a food service employee to assist in the kitchen, particularly with dish washing during the serving times. The position is 3 hours per day (10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) five days a week when school is in session. Interested candidates should contact Carol Feauto, Kitchen Manager, by email at feautoc@tmpmarian.org or by phone at 785-625-6577.

St. Thomas More Society

We ask for your prayers and continued support for the St. Thomas More Society (STMS), the largest operational fund for TMP-Marian and Holy Family Elementary. Soon the annual campaign will arrive in homes and we pray that it will be met with generosity for the future of Catholic education. This year, the STMS is called upon to raise \$520,000. For questions or to contribute to the STMS, please contact Troy Ruda at rudat@tmpmarian.org.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

Are you interested in becoming a D of I member? Please contact Peggy Feltis at 785-628-1336 for more information. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month.

Daughters of Isabella will sponsor a food and craft Bingo January 10, 2021 at the Holy Family Activity Center at 1:00 PM. Members are asked to bring food and craft items between 11:30 and 12:30 for the event. All are invited to attend the afternoon of fun.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Joseph Knights of Columbus, Council #1325 meets every **FIRST** 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. Place to be determined.

ORDER OF SECULAR FRANCISCANS

This group follows in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi and meets every third Sunday at the St. Joseph Church Conference Room 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 7:00pm - ~8:30pm

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.

Sacraments and Parish Information

ST. JOSEPH PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

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: stjoseph@stjoehays.com.

COMEAU CATHOLIC CAMPUS CENTER

506 w. 6TH, Hays, Ks. 67601

Most Reverend Gerald "Jerry" Vincke

Bishop of Salina

Office: 785-625-7396

Web Site: www.fhsucatholic.com

Chaplain

Fr. Brian Lager

stjpastor@stjoehays.com

785-625-7397 (Campus)

785-625-7356 (Church)

Assistant Chaplain

Fr. Matthew Cowan

stjassociate@stjoehays.com

785-625-7356 (Church)

785-625-7397 (Campus)

Music, Art & Environment

Jackie Maxwell

jmaxwell@fhsu.edu

K of C Council 10211 Grand Knight

Zach Meyer

zachmeyer121@gmail.com

Catholic Disciples President

Brady Stephenson

Crossroads Retreat Director

Cole Murray

Maintenance

Vacant

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

1st Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 pm in the lounge. Bring your current membership card. When school is in session.

CATHOLIC DISCIPLES

Wednesdays at 8:00 pm in the lounge when school is in session.

CAMPUS GOINGS ON.....

A LOOK AT THE WEEK....

- ♦ Sun. Dec. 20 - 9am Mass, 5pm Confession, 6pm Mass
- ♦ Mon. Dec. 21 - 5:00pm Confessions, 5:45pm Mass
- ♦ Tues. Dec. 22 - 5:00pm Confessions, 5:45pm Mass
- ♦ Wed. Dec. 23 - 5:00pm Confessions, 5:45pm Mass
- ♦ Thurs. Dec. 24 - NO MASS OR CONFESSIONS TODAY
- ♦ Fri. Dec. 25 - NO MASS OR CONFESSIONS TODAY

First Sunday of each month....

COFFEE & DONUTS

Jan. 3rd following the

9:00am Mass!!

Come join us!!!



HEARTLAND NEWS

The PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

1805 Vine - IHM Church

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

Time slots available:

Tuesday 7:00 pm

Friday 1:00 am, 6:00am, 1:00pm, 10:00 pm

Saturday 5:00 pm, Saturday 6:00am, 11:00 pm.

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)

Kitchen Help Needed

Thomas More Prep-Marian Jr/Sr High School is currently looking for a food service employee to assist in the kitchen, particularly with dish washing during the serving times. The position is 3 hours per day (10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) five days a week when school is in session. Interested candidates should contact Carol Feauto, Kitchen Manager, by email at feautoc@ttmpmarian.org or by phone at 785-625-6577.



The "Little Town of Bethlehem" Nativity at St. Boniface Church in Vincent will be open for visitation on Sundays, December 13 and 20, and on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25. Viewing times are 1-5 p.m.



BATTLE OF THE BADGES

Respond to the call. Give blood.

Big Creek Crossing Mall

Wednesday—Thursday, December 30 & 31
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Hays Donation Center

Saturday, January 2
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Big Creek Crossing Mall

Sunday, January 3
12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

*Come donate to receive a long sleeve T-Shirt
--while supplies last!*

Please visit redcrossblood.org and enter code "Battle" or call 1-800-RED-CROSS for your lifesaving appointment

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App
© The American National Red Cross | 108415

SACRED HEART ROOM in St. Joseph Church parish offices, is open during regular office hours. We have many religious articles for FREE, stop by and see what we have. We also take those religious items you no longer want or need such as statues, rosaries, prayer books and blessed palms.



Support the Advertisers That Support Our Bulletin!

SUPPORT THE **ADVERTISERS**
THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY



**PROTECTING SENIORS
NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**

\$29.95/MO
BILLED
QUARTERLY

CALL
NOW!
1.877.801.7772
www.24-7MEDALARM.COM

HPR
HIGH PLAINS ROOFING, INC.
(785) 628-1485

**catholicmatch[®]
Kansas**

CatholicMatch.com/KS

**WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES**

- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT: careers@4LPI.com
www.4LPI.com/careers



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Joseph Church, Hays, KS

B 4C 05-0335

SCHMIDT MONUMENT WORKS <i>Honoring a Life Time for Lifetimes to Come</i>	STATE Glass CO. 785-625-9319 421 Main St, Hays, KS	ROB'S HEATING & AIR Residential & Commercial 785-628-6674 Services all makes & models <i>Rob & Joanne Wasinger, Owners/Parishioners</i>	 KEITHLEY Funeral Homes ~ Crematory ~ Monuments www.keithleyfuneralchapels.com <i>Ron and Kim Keithley - Owners</i> Brock's-Keithley Funeral Chapel & Crematory 2808 Vine St • Hays KS Clise's-Keithley Mortuary 1919 E 22nd St • Hays KS	
 Hertel Oil Company, LLC Hays, Kansas	CANCUN <i>Mexican Grill</i> 1011 Elm, Hays, KS 67601 (785) 621-4550	KINDERKNECHT FAMILY DENTISTRY HAYS, KS LYNN KINDERKNECHT DDS • JON KINDERKNECHT DDS 2770 Hall Street • 785-623-4441	DAVE'S Auto Repair & Alignment <i>You Need it, We do it.</i> Dave Schmidt 785-625-7082 629 E 8th St, Hays, KS 10% off Labor to Parishioners	
 LEON'S WELDING & FABRICATION *Welding • Sandblasting • Powder Coating 785-625-5736	D&L Body Shop, LLC <i>"Collision Repair with a Precision Attitude"</i> Curtis & Jeanna Wellbrock-Owners 785-628-3899 dlbodyshopllc@yahoo.com www.dandlbodyshop.net	 Vitztum Commercial Flooring, Inc. Ceramic • Resilient • Carpet <i>"Specialized in Meeting Demanding Project Budgets and Schedules with Professional Project Management and Skilled Installations"</i> 2050 E. Highway 40 Hays, KS 785-628-2806	DAVE'S Auto Repair & Alignment <i>You Need it, We do it.</i> Dave Schmidt 785-625-7082 629 E 8th St, Hays, KS 10% off Labor to Parishioners	
 Divine Mercy 88.1 HAYS	 JP Jeff Pinkney CPA, Inc. Certified Public Accountant 2810 Plaza Ave. • Hays, KS 67601 915 Washington • Ellis, KS 67637 (785) 628-3811 (785) 726-3650 www.jeffpinkneycpa.com	 GONE LOGO GONE LOGO LTD. • 785-625-3070 2717 Plaza Avenue, Hays, KS 67601	 COLDWELL BANKER EXECUTIVE REALTY Jennifer Johnson Realtor/Parishioner for 47 years Cell: 785.259.4458 jennifer.johnson3@coldwellbanker.com www.cbhays.com 2201 Vine St. Hays, KS 67601 785.301.2699	
AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE Contact Tim NeSmith to place an ad today! tnesmith@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x5863		FULLER CONCRETE 785-650-4809	 Commercial Builders 2717 Canal Boulevard Hays, KS Office: 785-628-1031	 Auto World 722 E. 8th St. Hays, Kansas 67601 autoworldusedcars.com
 WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Time Position with Benefits • Sales Experience Preferred • Paid Training • Overnight Travel Required • Expense Reimbursement CONTACT US AT: careers@4LPi.com www.4LPi.com/careers		HESS CLINIC <i>Family Medical Care</i> Katrina Hess, M.D. Samantha Harms, APRN-C – 628-7495 – www.hessclinic.com		 abc SEAMLESS <i>"the siding without the Quacks"</i> 1507 E. 27th, Hays, KS, 67601 www.abcseamless.net • 625-2418
 Home for You REALTY, LLC Laura Sadeghi 785-635-3323 laura@hayshashomes.com <i>I Will Always Have a Home for You</i>	 FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE. – 800-950-9952 –	 HAYS CAR & TRUCK ALIGNMENT Cooper Tires YOKOHAMA MICHELIN <i>"The WERTH Family Serving You Since 1968"</i> Dave, Matt, & Tyler Complete Auto Service & Repair Shop 785-628-8912 710 E. 8th St. • Hays, KS 67601	27th & Hall Laundromat 507 West 27th Street • Hays, Kansas Randy & Nadine Gottschalk, Parishioners	
Gutch's <i>Home of Wood-fired Pizza</i> 111 W. 7th • 785-623-4088	 BIEKER INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. For All Your Insurance Needs... 107 W. 13th St, Hays KS 67601 785-625-3713 www.biekerinsurance.com	 CARO LIQUOR 1806 Buffalo Jones Ave 620-272-6001 Parishioner	Edward Jones MEMBER SIPC DARRELL G. SEIBEL • JEFF SEIBEL LINDA SEIBEL 2700 Sternberg Dr. • Hays Toll Free: 800-628-6133	
 MIKE'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR Put Your Car in My Hands For Expert Repair at a Fair Price! <i>Because Cars Like Mike's</i> Mike Glassman 710 East 7th • 785-650-0203	 WERTH ENHANCING LIVES & STRENGTHENING FAMILIES 1800 Main St. Hays, KS • 785-628-1312	 SHAUN LINENBERGER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FIELD AGENT 820 E. 12th St., HAYS, KS • 785-623-8716	PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM \$29.95/MO BILLED QUARTERLY CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772 www.24hrmedicalalarm.com	ServiceMaster Clean Cory J. Munsch Owner ServiceMaster of Hays 808 Milner Hays, KS 67601 Office: 785/628-6712 Fax: 785/628-6793 Cell: 785/623-9460 smclean@ruralnet.net servicemasterofhays.com
 BUY LEWIS.COM Andrew Hernandez General Sales Manager (785) 628-3358 BUY LOCAL • BUY FOR LESS • BUY LEWIS! 4440 & 4450 NORTH VINE • HAYS, KS 67601	 SPREAD THE WORD A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS	Drailing Bieker & Hoffman 111 W 13th St. • Hays, KS (785) 625-3537 Attorney Today 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	 FIELD ABSTRACT & TITLE CO. 1201 Fort • 625-2112 Abstracts-Title Insurance-Closings	 Too Sick for Mass? SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE! Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox! www.parishesonline.com
Too Sick for Mass? SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE! Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox! www.parishesonline.com		 ADT-Monitored Home Security Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust • Burglary • Flood Detection • Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide 1-855-225-4251		 FIELD ABSTRACT & TITLE CO. 1201 Fort • 625-2112 Abstracts-Title Insurance-Closings