

Sunday, January 25, 2009: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH CORNER

FAITH IN JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES

Faith in Jesus changes our lives.

Today we pick up again the Gospel of Mark, the first to be written (around 70 C.E.), and the one that we will be reading throughout this liturgical year. This is also the shortest of all the Gospels and the announcement of Jesus' preaching is told in customary brevity. The first disciples follow "immediately" (a favorite word for Mark). The call to follow Jesus is a call to a kind of radical conversion. We are called to turn to God completely.

National Catechetical Directory

Faith grows and matures. People of mature faith recognize the real and lasting value of human activity in this world, while also directing their "thoughts and desires to the full consummation of the kingdom in eternal life." (#33, see also #s 48, 49, 56, 57)

Catechism of the Catholic Church

To believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God

For a Christian, believing in God cannot be separated from believing in the One he sent, his "beloved Son," in whom the Father is "well pleased"; God tells us to listen to him. The Lord himself said to his disciples: "Believe in God, believe also in me." We can believe in Jesus Christ because he is himself God, the Word made flesh: "No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known." Because he "has seen the Father," Jesus Christ is the only one who knows him and can reveal him. (#151)

Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, Christians are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" and so participate in the life of the Risen Lord. Following Christ and united with him, Christians can strive to be "imitators of God as beloved children, and walk in love" by conforming their thoughts, words and actions to the "mind...which is yours in Christ Jesus," and by following his example. (#1694)

FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK:

ADULTS: If someone asked you, "To what work has Jesus called you?" how would you answer?

YOUTH: At the start of Jesus' ministry, Jesus invites people to "believe in the Good News." What are some ways that you could be more open to the truth and challenge contained within the Gospels?

CHILDREN: What do you think it was like for the people in today's Gospel to be called by Jesus? What did they have to give up in order to follow him?



WE WELCOME IN BAPTISM

Mary Jane Woolsey, infant daughter of Tyler and Rebecca Woolsey. She was baptized on Saturday, Jan. 17.

Masses, Intentions & Services

Sat. Jan. 24 5:00 p.m.+ Patricia Selensky
 Sun. Jan. 25 9:30 a.m.+ Jacob C. Stecklein
 11:00 a.m. People of the Parish
 Mon. Jan. 26 7:30 a.m.+ Marvin Leiker
 Wed. Jan. 28 7:30 a.m.+ Clem & Ida Dinkel
 Fri. Jan. 30 7:30 a.m.+ Ralph Fisher
 Sat. Jan. 31 5:00 p.m.+ Albinus Weigel
 Sun. Feb. 1 9:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of
 Norma Schmeidler Family
 11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Second Annual St. Nicholas Whole Parish Meeting

Please mark your calendar for the *St. Nicholas Whole Parish Meeting* which will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 3, at 7pm, in the church. Meeting will last an hour. Childcare will be provided. Come ready to share your thoughts. Bring your comments and questions. Refreshments will follow.

Stewardship Fair – Feb. 7 & 8 after all Masses. All parishioners are invited to St. Nicholas Annual Stewardship Fair. Come visit "booths" representing the many commissions and ministries active at St. Nicholas Parish. Enjoy refreshments, face painting, a clown with balloons, adult and youth door prize drawings. Something for everyone!



St. Nicholas Knights of Columbus is again sponsoring the Annual Pro-Life Baby Shower. A playpen will be available in the gathering space of church to collect baby and young mother items. These will be presented to the Mary Elizabeth Maternity Home in early February. Contact Bill or Teresa Heimann at 623-4737. Many thanks for your generosity!

Church Repairs

To Date \$50,820

Tithing: Your Gift to God Our 2008/2009 fiscal year started July 1, 2008

Week Collection of Jan. 18	\$ 10,730
Budgeted Weekly Collection	\$ 11,663
Collection Year to Date	\$377,724
Budgeted Collection Year to Date	\$349,890
As of Jan. 18, 2009 we are over/(under) budget	\$ 27,834

MONEY COUNTERS

Jan. 25	Melvin & Karen Bruggeman
Feb. 1	Neil & Sondra Klaus
Feb. 8	Curt & Donna Dinkel
Feb. 15	Ernie & Darlene Kroeger

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Readings for Third Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, January 26 (St. Timothy & St. Titus)

2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5;

Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10; Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday, January 27 (St. Angela Merici)

Hebrews 10:1-10; Psalm 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11;
Mark 3:31-35

Wednesday, January 28 (St. Thomas Aquinas)

Hebrews 10:11-18; Psalm 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mark 4:1-20

Thursday, January 29

Hebrews 10:19-25; Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6;

Mark 4:21-25

Friday, January 30

Hebrews 10:32-39; Psalm 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40;

Mark 4:26-34

Saturday, January 31 (St. John Bosco)

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Luke 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75;

Mark 4:35-41

Sunday, February 1

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9(8);

1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

Faith Formation News

Classes in session,

-- **NO Classes Wednesday, Jan. 28**

-- Catechist In-service night

-- **Wednesday, Feb 4** Classes
resume



CYO News

Next Meeting – Sunday, Feb 1, at Volker's House, time to be announced

ENCHILADA SALES BEGIN Now. Please see a member of CYO or place your order after Masses on and Jan. 24 & 25, Jan. 31 & Feb. 1, and Feb. 7 & 8. **6 for \$7.50 or 12 for \$14.00** Orders will be ready for pick up Feb. 21 and 22, after all Masses. Checks can be made payable to **St. Nicholas CYO.**

Jr. CYO

Jan. 25: Our Jr. CYO members will be getting together to help plan for the upcoming parish Stewardship Fair. We will be designing our Jr. CYO display board and creating items to be distributed during the fair. Fun and games will follow.

Feb. 7 & 8: The Jr. CYO will be passing out crafts to visitors of our display at the annual Stewardship Fair. Let us know if you can help!

Feb. 7 & 21: The St. Nick's Jr. CYO is in charge of working the St. Joseph Food Pantry for these Saturdays in February. We need 1-2 adults and 5-8 members to volunteer their time in helping to serve others. The time you are needed is 8:30-11:30am. Please call or email if you can help!

Feb. 22: Jr. CYO Meeting from 6:30 to 8pm in the Parish Hall. The evening's main event will be making Prayer Blankets. Parent volunteers are welcome. Please join us!

Adult Education Classes

Salina Diocese School of Pastoral Leadership. *The Gift of Stewardship* – (4 hours) Feb. 8&15, 3 to 5pm, Russell, Fr. Steve Heina, *Letters to St. Paul*, - (8 hours) March 8, 15, 22, 29, 12-2pm, Abilene, Fr. Merlin Kieffer, *Morality* – (12 hours) March 1, 15, 22, 29, 2 to 5pm, Plainville, Fr. Galen Long, *The Gospels* - (8 hours) April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 4 to 6pm, Clyde, Fr. Merlin Kieffer
Contact Kathy in the Parish Office to register.

The Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life is offering a course on the Second Vatican Council. The course will be on Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, and 15, from 7 to 9pm, at the Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life, Victoria, KS. The presenter will be Fr. Michael Scully.

SIGN PRO-LIFE POSTCARDS! Today our parish, along with thousands of parishes across the nation, will provide postcards urging Congress to oppose the "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) and to retain existing laws against government funding and promotion of abortion. Sign a postcard to your U.S. Representative and your two U.S. Senators. Let your voice be heard! Thank you for standing up for life at this important time! (Senators: Sam Brownback & Pat Roberts; Representative: Jerry Moran) Postcards in bulletin and on Respect Life table in the gathering space.

SDCCW Annual Workshop will be held Sunday, Jan 25, from 1:30 to 4:30pm, at St. Wenceslaus Parish Hall, Wilson, KS. This workshop is open to all Catholic Women with a desire to know, love, and serve Christ, and particularly officers and commission chairwomen of the parish.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreats

Women and men of abortion, weep no more.
Jesus is calling you to follow Him. Give yourself
the gift of a retreat weekend.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreats

Healing the pain of abortion one weekend at a time

Next retreat: Jan. 30-Feb. 1

877-I-GRIEVE (877-447-4383)

rachelsvineyard@salinadiocese.org

confidential

Vocation

"Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." Are you considering a vocation as to the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Fr. Jarett Konrade 785-827-8746 or e-mail at vocations@salinadiocese.org



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Holy Family Elementary

Jan. 25 - Annual Chili Supper, 4 to 7pm, Little Theatre/Activity Center

Jan. 25-30 - Catholic Schools Week

Jan. 27 - 2009-2010 Preschool/Kindergarten Information Night; Preschool 7pm, Little Theatre; Kindergarten, 7:30pm, Activity Center.

Jan. 29 - KA Kindergarten is in session

Feb. 2 - ITBS Testing Feb. 2 through Feb. 13.

Feb 5 - July Birthday Mass & Dinner

-- Thank you for collecting Box Tops, Campbell UPC's, Nestle Water Labels, McDonald Receipts, and recycling aluminum cans for HFE. Every label counts at our school and benefits our students. All school label collection day is Wednesday. 3,000 McDonald receipts were mailed in this week. Magnetic Letters and Whisper Phones were purchased with McDonald receipts. 7,070 Campbell points were earned and 13,400 box tops were mailed for cash. Thank you.

--Holy Family Elementary would like to invite you to their Annual Chili Supper/Bazaar on Sunday, Jan. 25, from 4 to 7pm. It will be held at the Holy Family Elementary Little Theater/Activity Center, 18th & Vine. Chili, turkey sandwiches on homemade rolls, relishes, and dessert will be served. Meal tickets are \$5.50 for adults and \$3.00 for children ages 4-12. Tickets are available in advance at the school office or at the door. Bring your family and friends for a great meal, lots of kids' games, bingo, silent auction, and a raffle. Hope to see you there!



-- CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK IS BEING CELEBRATED AROUND THE NATION THE WEEK OF Jan. 25 – Feb. 1, theme is "Catholic Schools Celebrate service"

-- Monday Dress: Hats off to service TMP-M Spirit Dress and unusual hats

-- Tuesday Dress: At Catholic Schools celebrating service is "no sweat." Sweats, t-shirts, sweatshirts School starts at 9:15am.

-- Wednesday: Wednesday dress, School Mass will be at 9:30am, with Bishop Coakley Celebrating.

-- Thursday Dress: At Catholic Schools celebrating service is an honor; dress up, nice clothes.

-- Friday Dress: At TMP-M, service is team work - student dress in their respective team colors.

-- TMP-Marian will be offering a summer driver education program. There will be a meeting on Sunday, March 8, in the school dining room.

-- Feb. 19, High School for a day for all local and surrounding 8th Graders from 8:30am until 1:30pm. Transportation will be provided. Please RSVP to your school secretary and they will let us know.

-- TMP -Marian Fine Arts Booster Club invites you to the INDOOR TAILGATE on Friday, Feb. 6, in the Al Billinger Fieldhouse. We will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies and drink from 5 to 7:30pm. Free Will Offering. Come enjoy a meal before the basketball game and support the Fine Arts.

-- "Bring Back the Oldies" will be presented by the TMP Singers for their annual Dinner Theater. Dates for this years show are Saturday, Feb. 7, at 6:30pm, and Sunday, Feb. 8, at noon. Tickets can be purchased from any TMP Singer, or by contacting TMP at 625-6577. The meal will consist of a stuffed chicken breast, mashed potatoes and gravy, glazed carrots, dessert and salad. Prices for the meal and show are \$15 per person.

St. Joseph's Food Pantry

-- 180 boxes were distributed on the Dec. 20, Pantry Day!

-- Item for the month for January: Cereal Items! Hot & Cold cereals, Pancake Mix...All are appreciated!

-- Medium-sized boxes that can be closed are also needed. **NOTE: Due to the directives from the Fire Marshal's recent visit, boxes are no longer to be left in the East Stairwell of the Parish Service Center. Also, please DO NOT leave boxes outside the East Door. Boxes will now be collected in the space office down the hall from the Religious Education Office.**

-- Volunteers are needed for the Feb. 7, pantry date.

-- Please call (628-8434) or e-mail (michauds@ruraltel.net) Renee for details if you are interested in volunteering on a pantry day.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 31 & FEBRUARY 1

Saturday, 5:00 P.M. Mass

EM	Proclaimer	Hospitality
Mike Konz	Jeanie Munsch #1	Stan Mayers
Alan Hoffman	Keith Dreiling #2	
Sr. Vivian Kleinsorge		Sacristan
Laurie Konz	Altar Servers	Sylvia Reinhardt
Rosalie Nicholas	Alexis Ralph	
Henry Reinhardt	Macie Stoecklein	Gift Bearers
Mary Selensky	Raeleann Weigel	Norman Keller

Sunday, 9:30 A.M. Mass

EM	Proclaimer	Hospitality
Theresa Flax	Jim Krob #1	Kenny Zimmerman
Gene Flax	Katie Carmichael #2	
Neil Klaus		Sacristan
Cory Munsch	Altar Servers	Andrea Carmichael
Pam Munsch	Jessie Carmichael	
Denis Roberts	Landon Munsch	Gift Bearers
Bob Wasinger +	Taylor Wasinger	Richard Weber

Sunday, 11:00 A.M. Mass

EM	Proclaimer	Hospitality
Cathy Pfeifer	Patty Stull #1	Melvin Schmidt
Jayne Inlow	Jorge Vazquez #2	
Mary Lou Mastin		Sacristan
Galen Pfeifer	Altar Servers	Nolan Allen
Shannon Stauth	McKenna Duffy	
Jan Stauth	Alivia Inlow	Gift Bearers
Kathy Taylor	Justin Pfeifer	Michael Humphrey

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Are you looking for some good reading, but aren't interested in another magazine subscription? We have a solution!! Take a look at the new **Catholic Reading Center** located on the south side of the gathering space. Assembled there are a variety of wonderful reading resources. On the table are free reading items and in the rack are items to purchase. Use the handy envelopes on the rack for your donations. St. Nicholas Parish will keep 20% of all sales. So you get quality reading with no hassle and help the parish at the same time. Contact Kathy in the parish office if you have suggestions for other titles.

Lenten Series on Mary

St. Joseph Parish will present five, one-hour, Monday evening talks on "Our Lady" beginning Feb. 23, through March 20, (except, Monday, March 2), at 7pm, in the parish service center. We will discuss the history of Marian devotion, the four principle Marian doctrines, a fifth emerging doctrine, and objections to Marian devotion by our separated brother and sister Christians. Our speaker will be Deacon Mark Roberti, who holds a Master of Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville and who considers Marian devotion and its relationship to Christ and Catholicism his theological passion. Weekly topics will be: 1) Historical/theological introduction of Mary as Mother of God, 2) Mary's Perpetual Virginity, 3) Mary's Immaculate Conception 4) Mary's Assumption, 5) Emerging doctrine This will likely be the most comprehensive and in-depth explanation of Mary's role in salvation history that most participants will have every heard. All are welcome.



-- **Free donuts at Cup a Joe** on Sunday, Feb. 1, from 9:30 a.m. – noon. *Come through the main door of the Parish Service Center and use the inside staircase.*

-- **Thursday, Feb. 12** – Join us for movie night. Pick your favorite comedy, action/adventure, or drama and bring it to

Cup a Joe. The group will decide which movie to watch. *Enjoy free popcorn with your movie.*

-- **Free donuts at Cup a Joe** on Sunday, Feb. 15, from 9:30am – noon. *Come through the main door of the Parish Service Center and use the inside staircase.*

-- **Thursday, Feb. 19** – Join us for game night before Lent begins. Bring your favorite games to share. We will divide into groups to play. **Any beverage purchased for \$1.00 or more this night receives a punch on our free drink cards.**

-- **Remember Cup a Joe is open** Monday – Wednesday mornings from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. **Use the east door to the inside staircase to enter Cup a Joe.**

Remember that we are located on the top floor of the Parish Service Center.

Heartland Parish Mission with Fr. Tony Stephens at IHM

A Mission to the Heartland Parishes will be conducted at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish by Fr. Tony Stephens of the "Fathers of Mercy" beginning Sunday, March 1, through and including Thursday, March 5. Daily topics include: Sunday – the Church in Our Lives, Monday – The Power of Prayer, Tuesday – The Mercy of God, Wednesday – The Holy Eucharist, and Thursday – The Virgin Mary and the Saints. Each session, except the initial Sunday session, will be presented twice daily, once in the morning and once in the evening. Evening Sessions will begin at 7pm, Sunday through Thursday. Morning sessions will begin at 9am, Monday through Thursday. All sessions will begin with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and end with Benediction. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will follow all sessions. Childcare will be provided in the evenings. Please put this on your calendar and join us!



St. Nicholas Church to host health screenings that could save your life.

St. Nicholas Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive, painless health screenings on March 12. Four screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries, which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat, which is closely tied to stroke risk; Register for Vascular Package with Heart Rhythm for \$139. Add a fifth test for osteoporosis for just \$10 more. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Your Health is in Your Hands, so call 1-888-653-6441, or visit www.lifelinescreenings.com, for more information or to pre-register.

Heartland Parishes Offer Pastoral Care

"Journey Through Grief" is a series of eight sessions to help you understand and embrace the journey. Caring for the needs will help you discover a fullness to living and loving again. These sessions will be held on Feb. 11 & 25; March 11 & 25; April 8 & 22; May 6 & 20; from 4:30 to 6pm, in the Conference Room at St. Joseph Service Center. Pre-registration required by Feb. 1. Please call Sr. Janet Le Duc at 621-4436 or email at jicsj@ruraltel.net.

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He loved us first

Truly you alone are the Lord. Your dominion is our salvation, for to serve you is nothing else but to be saved by you! O Lord, salvation is your gift and your blessing is upon your people; what else is your salvation but receiving from you the gift of loving you or being loved by you? That, Lord, is why you willed that the Son at your right hand, the man whom you made strong for yourself, should be called Jesus, that is to say, Savior, *for he will save his people from their sins, and there is no other in whom there is salvation.* He taught us to love him by first loving us, even to **death on the cross.** By loving us and holding us so dear, he stirred us to love him who had first loved us to the end.



And this is clearly the reason: you first loved us so that we might love you-not because you needed our love, but because we could not be what you created us to be, except by loving you.

In many ways and on various occasions you spoke to our fathers through the prophets. Now in these last days you have spoken to us in the Son, your Word; by him the heavens were established and all their powers came to be by the breath of his mouth.

For you to speak thus in your Son was to bring out in the light of day how much and in what way you loved us, for you did not spare your own Son but delivered him up for us all. He also **loved us and gave himself up for us.**

This, Lord, is your Word to us, this is your all-powerful message: while all things were in midnight silence (that is, were in the depths of error), he came from his royal throne, the stern conqueror of error and the gentle apostle of love.

Everything he did and everything he said on earth, even enduring the insults, the spitting, the buffeting the cross and the grave-all of this was actually you speaking to us in your Son, appealing to us by your love and stirring up our love for you.

You know that this disposition could not be forced on men's hearts, my God, since you created them; it must rather be elicited. And this, for the further reason that there is no freedom where there is compulsion, and where freedom is lacking, so too is righteousness.

You wanted us to love you, then, we who could not with justice have been saved had we not loved you, nor could we have loved you except by your gift. So, Lord, as the apostle of your love tells us; and as we have already **said, you first loved us;** you are first to love all those who love you.

Thus we hold you dear by the affection you have implanted in us. You are the one supremely good and ultimate goodness. Your love is your goodness, the Holy Spirit proceeding from the Father and the Son! From the beginning of creation it was he who hovered over the waters that is, over the wavering minds of men, offering himself to all, drawing all things to himself. By his inspiration and holy breath, by keeping us from harm and providing for our needs, he unites God to us and us to God.

Catholicism: Cherishing your Gifts

Stewardship plays an important role in the lives of people who seek to follow Christ. God wants them to cherish their gifts, understanding their proper use as their vocation. Catholics also have a duty to be stewards of their Church, the Body of Christ, of which they, individually and together, are the members.

Next First Friday Respect Life Mass – Feb. 6

Our next monthly Respect Life Mass will be Friday, Feb. 6, at 5:30pm, at St. Joseph Parish. It is preceded by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary starting at 5pm. Immediately following Mass is a meatless potluck in the parish service center.



Next Seniors Bunko, Thursday, Feb. 12

The next Bunko party will be Thursday, Feb. 12, at 2:30pm, in the St. Nicholas of Myra parish hall.

Don't Forget the Heartland Parishes Adoration Chapel

Remember the Heartland Parishes Adoration Chapel is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for the sanctification of our parishioners. Stop in and visit the Creator of the Universe, who happens to be your God and Savior. Jesus longs to share an hour with you! Regular visits especially please Him!

Identifying and Developing Vocations is Everyone's Responsibility

Identifying and developing vocations to the priesthood and religious life is the responsibility of all our parishioners. Please do your share also. If you think you know someone who might be interested in a vocation, contact Pam Windholz, the chair of our Heartland Parishes Vocations Committee, at 625-9712. The committee will take it from there.

How Do I Remember my Parish in my Will? It's Simple!

I give _____% and/or \$ _____ of my estate to (name of Parish, in the Diocese of Salina) (Address, City, State, Zip), to provide funding for the _____program/ministry at (name of parish) or the particular needs of the parish as determined by the presiding pastor.

THE DAYS AHEAD

- Jan. 27** Pastoral Council Meeting, 5:30pm
- Jan. 28** Rosary for Family Life, Adoration Chapel, 9pm
- Jan. 29** RCIA, 7pm
 - Social Justice Meeting, 7pm
- Jan. 31** Men of Myra, 7:30am
- Feb. 1** Rosary in the St. Nicholas Chapel, 9am
- Feb. 3** Community Assistance Center Garage Sale, 8 to 11am, 12th & Oak St.
 - St. Nicholas Prayer Group Meeting, 1pm