

Sunday, February 1, 2009: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH CORNER

GOD IS REVEALED THROUGH JESUS

The content of revelation and the Christian message is given in Scripture. We freely respond to God in faith, love and witness to the gospel message.

God is present with us. God reveals Himself through creation, other people, and Scripture. Jesus is the perfect revelation of God. We learn about Jesus through the Bible and tradition.

Faith is a gift of God. When we believe, we respond in word and deed.

National Catechetical Directory

God's revelation reached its supreme expression in the incarnation, life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Spirit. Jesus inaugurated God's kingdom among human beings.

(#53, see also #s 43, 56, 57, 58, 59)

Catechism of the Catholic Church

God has said everything in his Word

"In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son." Christ, the Son of God made man, is the Father's one, perfect, and unsurpassable Word. In him he has said everything; there will be no other word than this one. St. John of the Cross, among others, commented strikingly on Hebrews 1:1-2:

In giving us his Son, his only Word (for he possesses no other), he spoke everything to us at once in this sole Word – and he has no more to say...because what he spoke before to the prophets in parts, he has now spoken all at once by giving us the All Who is His Son. Any person questioning God or desiring some vision or revelation would be guilty not only of foolish behavior but also of offending him, by not fixing his eyes entirely upon Christ and by living with the desire for some other novelty. (#65)

There will be no further Revelation

"The Christian economy, therefore, since it is the new and definitive Covenant, will never pass away; and no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ." Yet even if Revelation is already complete, it has not been made completely explicit; it remains for Christian faith gradually to grasp its full significance over the course of the centuries. (#66)

FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK:

ADULTS: What are the evils in today's world that you pray God will free us from?

YOUTH: Jesus was able to free the man from the unclean spirit within him. What do you hope Jesus will free you from? What is happening in the world that needs Jesus' help?

CHILDREN: Name some bad things that you want to pray that Jesus will take away from our world.

Masses, Intentions & Services

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
Wed.	Feb. 4	7:30 a.m.+	Pauline Walters, Benita Kuhn Francis Walters, Jr., & Dwight Walters
Fri.	Feb. 6	7:30 a.m.	Living & Deceased of Nick & Ledwina Geist Family
Sat.	Feb. 7	5:00 p.m.	Living & Deceased of Paul & Josephine Kuhn Family
Sun.	Feb. 8	9:30 a.m.+	Ron Ream
		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!

Responding to the Call 2009-2010 Stewardship Renewal

Our parish has begun our "Responding to the Call" 2009-2010 Stewardship Renewal. It has been said that one cannot truly come to Christ except through the Cross. Likewise, one cannot come to Christianity except through stewardship. Good stewardship is discipleship. Please prayerfully reflect upon your committee of time, talent, and treasure to the parish. Stewardship helps form healthy individuals, families, and parishes. It is the medicine for our age.

Church Repairs

To Date \$50,870

Tithing: Your Gift to God

Our 2008/2009 fiscal year started July 1, 2008

Week Collection of Jan. 25	\$ 10,477
Budgeted Weekly Collection	\$ 11,663
Collection Year to Date	\$388,201
Budgeted Collection Year to Date	\$361,553
As of Jan. 25, 2009 we are over/(under) budget	\$ 26,648

The parish tithes for May went to St. Paul's Catholic Mission, First Call for Help, Mary Elizabeth, and Birthright.

MONEY COUNTERS

Feb. 1	Neil & Sondra Klaus
Feb. 8	Curt & Donna Dinkel
Feb. 15	Ernie & Darlene Kroeger
Feb. 22	Mark & Amanda Lang

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Readings for Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, February 2

(Feast of the Presentation of the Lord)

Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Hebrews 2:14-18;
Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Tuesday, February 3 (St. Blaise & St. Ansgar)

Hebrews 12:1-4; Psalm 22:26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32;
Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday, February 4

Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Psalm 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a;
Mark 6:1-6

Thursday, February 5 (St. Agatha)

Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24;
Psalm 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11; Mark 6:7-13

Friday, February 6 (St. Paul Miki)

Hebrews 13:1-8; Psalm 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc;
Mark 6:14-29

Saturday, February 7

Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6;
Mark 6:30-34

Sunday, February 8

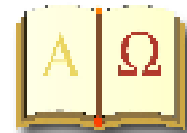
Job 7:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (see 3a);
1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

Faith Formation News

Classes in session,

-- Wednesday, Feb 4

-- Wednesday, Feb. 11



CYO News

Meeting – Sunday, Feb 1, at Volker's House, 7pm until end of Super Bowl game. Service project-Bring 1 item for the Mary Elizabeth Home Baby Shower Drive.

Next meeting - Feb. 15 6:30 to 8pm in the Parish Hall
ENCHILADA SALES in progress. Please see a member of CYO or place your order after Masses on and Jan. 31 & Feb. 1, and Feb. 7 & 8. **6 for \$7.50 or 12 for \$14.00** Checks can be made payable to **St. Nicholas CYO. Orders will be ready for pick up Feb. 21 and 22, after all Masses.**

Jr. CYO

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 to 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.



LENT begins in only 3 1/2 weeks. Consider joining a Lenten small faith sharing group to enhance your spiritual preparation. Groups can be formed to fit your schedule and family situation; adults only, families groups for those with children, intergenerational groups, etc. Sign up sheets are available in the gathering space. You will be contacted prior to the first meeting by a group leader.

Crownpoint Mission

Notice: We will no longer take items for the Crownpoint. The garage and storage unit are full.

Thanks!

Baby Shower!

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!



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.

Catholic Websites

Adult & Parents – Catholic Online

<http://www.catholiconline.org>

Youth – Youth Apostles

<http://www.youthapostles.com>

Children - EWTN Kids

<http://www.ewtn.com/ewtnkids/index.asp>

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Holy Family Elementary

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

Feb. 5 - July Birthday Mass & Dinner

Feb. 9 - School Advisory Council Mtg., 7pm, Library
-- 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.



-- **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.

Dillons Coupons will be available next weekend after all Masses, Feb. 7 & 8.

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 FEBRUARY 7 & 8

Saturday, 5:00 P.M. Mass

<u>EM</u>	<u>Proclaimer</u>	<u>Hospitality</u>
Henry Reinhardt	Sylvia Reinhardt #1	Duane Klein
Darlene Arnhold	Jason Mayers #2	Joel Zimmerman
Andy Beck		<u>Sacristan</u>
Glen Gabel		Marilyn Gabel
	<u>Altar Servers</u>	
Sr. Vivian Kleinsorge	Alysia Arnhold	
Stan Mayers	Alayna Arnhold	<u>Gift Bearers</u>
Charlie Munsch	Rachel Muirhead	Alan Hoffman

Sunday, 9:30 A.M. Mass

<u>EM</u>	<u>Proclaimer</u>	<u>Hospitality</u>
Ruth Schumacher	Joe Mindrup #1	Craig & Lisa Karlin
Joel Dreiling	Tim Schumacher #2	Jim & Lisa Cech
Paula Flesher		<u>Sacristan</u>
Darlene Kroeger		Wilfred Kreutzer
Eric Moeder	<u>Altar Servers</u>	
Karen Moeder	Joseph Heimann	
Iris Lang +	Scott Heimann	<u>Gift Bearers</u>
	David Moeder	Troy Hickman

Sunday, 11:00 A.M. Mass

<u>EM</u>	<u>Proclaimer</u>	<u>Hospitality</u>
Geralyn Allen	Andrew Allen #1	Deenna Gregg
Mary Braden	Hannah Keil #2	
Randall Braden		<u>Sacristan</u>
Sara Humphrey		Nolan Allen
Janet Kohl	<u>Altar Servers</u>	
Rose McFarland	Matea Gregg	
Bob Wasinger	Torrie Gregg	<u>Gift Bearers</u>
	Brett Leiker	Wes Leiker



-- **Free donuts at Cup a Joe** on Sunday, Feb. 1, & 15, 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.*

-- **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.

Help is needed for all ministries for Ash Wednesday. Sign up sheets will available in the gathering space. Thank you!!

WELCOME

Please extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish family:

Tyler & Rebecca and family;
Joe & Pat Englert;
Jeff & Jennifer and family;

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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!

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.

Heartland Parishes Offer Pastoral Care

"Journey Through Grief" is a series of eight sessions to help you understand and embrace the journey toward healing. Caring for your 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.



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.

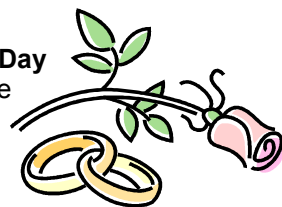


St. Nicholas Church to host health screenings that could save your life.

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.

Our Annual World Marriage Day

Weekend is Feb. 14 and 15. We will have receptions after all Masses. Marriages will be blessed at every Mass.



The Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life is offering a course on the Second Vatican Council. The course will be on 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.

First Friday Respect Life Mass – This Friday, Feb. 6

Our 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.

Social Justice Commission Movie "Wetback"

On Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Hays Public Library at 1:30pm, our Heartland Social Justice Committee will present "Wetback." This film follows the travels and suffering of immigrants from Central America and Mexico and their attempts to enter the United States. The films are open to the public. All are invited to attend. A short discussion follows each film and refreshments are available.

Sunday, February 1, 2009: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catholicism: The Cost of Discipleship

The way of discipleship is privileged beyond any other. Jesus came that we would have life and have it abundantly. But discipleship is not an easy way. Jesus tells us, "You must deny yourself and take up your cross daily and follow me. For if you wish to save your life you will lose it, but if you lose your life for my sake you will save it." (Lk 9:23-24) The Lord's way is not in following "cheap grace" as a way of pleasant experiences and feeling good. It is "costly grace" because it calls us to follow and put aside our will. It is the grace that saves us through Christ's blood in doing the Father's will.

Please Use your Offertory Envelopes

It is now Internal Revenue Service's policy to require substantiation of "cash" donations to a church. If you want credit for cash donations, you will need to use your envelopes. Here at the parish we prefer that all weekly offertory donations – cash or check -- be placed in your parish envelope.

The Heartland Parishes Adoration Chapel is Open for You

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!

Consider our Jesus through Mary Prayer Group

A wonderful group of Heartland parishioners meet each Tuesday at 9am, at the St. Joseph Parish Center for prayers, readings, reflections, and fellowship. This is the largest – and longest running – "joint Heartland Parishes" prayer group in our churches (other than Adoration Chapel devotees). Give it a try. You will enjoy it too! Just come, you will be very much welcomed.

Heartland Parish "Women of Joseph" Saturday Mornings

A wonderful group of Heartland Parish ladies meet each Saturday morning at 7:30am, in the St. Joseph Parish Center for the *Women of Joseph* faith sharing. We read the Sunday Scriptures and reflect upon insight as to how they apply in our lives. Come share with us. Rest assured that you will be very welcome! For more information call Laura Sadeghi 635-3323.

Wednesday Evening Rosary for the Family

In our day and age, families must be steeped in the protection of prayer. Join us every Wednesday night in the Heartland Parishes Adoration Chapel from 9 to 9:25pm for our Rosary for families and community support of the family.

Heartland Parish Men of Myra Bible Study

A great group of 10, 12, 16 men (depending upon how many show up on a given week) meet every Saturday morning from 7:30 to 8:30am, in the St. Nicholas of Myra Parish Hall, to share the Sunday readings, our understanding of them and their implications in our lives. One Sunday every other month we share with another Christian group at their church. Just come. You will be very welcome. For more information, call Steve Urban 628-2009.

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. 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.

Are you a Knight of Columbus or Daughter of Isabella?

If you are not active, please consider becoming so. If you are not a member, please contact the parish office and we will connect you with the right person. These organizations are local, diocesan, national, and international all at once. They promote Catholicism on all four levels. It's great camaraderie too!

Divine Mercy Sign

We have one remaining 18" x 12" Divine Mercy sign waiting to be adopted by a parishioner or family devoted to the Divine Mercy. Contact Mark Roberti 625-7356.

CPR Stay-in alive

Sign up for FREE training, Saturday, Feb. 21, Sessions begin at 8:30am and will run every 2 hours. Last sessions begins at 12:30pm at Hays Medical Center, Hadley Conference Rooms, 2220 Canterbury Dr. Training is open to people 8 and older. To register, call Debbie McLaren at 1-800-248-0073 ext.5500 or 623-5500.

THE DAYS AHEAD

- Feb. 1** All American Breakfast, 7:30am to 12:30pm, American Legion, (Benefit: Fireman Relief Assoc.)
- Feb. 3** Community Assistance Center Garage Sale, 8 to 11am, 12th & Oak St.
 - St. Nicholas Prayer Group Meeting, 1pm
- Feb. 4** Rosary for Family Life, Adoration Chapel, 9pm
 - Art & Environment Meeting, 6:30pm
- Feb. 5** RCIA, 7pm
- Feb. 7** Men of Myra, 7:30am
- Feb. 8** Rosary in the St. Nicholas Chapel, 9am