

Sunday, March 1, 2009: First Sunday of Lent

FAITH CORNER

A NEW BEGINNING

Lent is a time for catechumens to prepare for baptism. We prepare to renew our baptismal promises.

Springtime is a time when new plans and new beginnings are made. New life is springing up in nature. We plan a new garden, anxious for the warm weather to allow us to plant. The baseball season begins with high hopes for our favorite team.

Lent is the Church's springtime. It is a time for new life and new beginnings. Catechumens are preparing to receive baptism at the Easter vigil. Each of us takes time to look at our own lives to see how we have failed to live up to our baptismal promises. We try to make a new beginning. We prepare to renew our baptismal promises at the Easter Vigil. Lent is a time to remember what baptism is all about.

National Catechetical Directory

By His life, death and resurrection [Jesus] redeemed humankind from slavery to sin and the devil. Truly risen, the Lord is the unfailing source of life and of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the human race. He is the firstborn among many brothers and sisters, and creates in Himself a new humanity. (#90)

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The sacraments of Christian initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist – lay the foundations of every Christian life. "The sharing in the divine nature given to men through the grace of Christ bears a certain likeness to the origin, development, and nourishing of natural life. The faithful are born anew by Baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of Confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life. By means of these sacraments of Christian initiation, they thus receive in increasing measure the treasures of the divine life and advance toward the perfection of charity." (#1212)

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (vitae spiritualis ianua), and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word." (#1213)

FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK:

ADULTS: What is the one area of your life which you most want to "reform" as you get ready to embrace the Gospel?

YOUTH: Lent gives us a chance to do things differently, to "go to the desert." How can you make Lent a time for growing in faith?

CHILDREN: What is the one area of your life which you most want to "reform" as you get ready to embrace the Gospel?

Masses, Intentions & Services

Sat. Feb. 28 5:00 p.m.+ Martha Culbreath
 Sun. March 1 9:30 a.m. People of the Parish
 11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of Clara Miller Family
 Wed. March 4 7:30 a.m.+ Janet Rodda
 Fri. March 6 7:30 a.m.+ Ralph Fisher
 Sat. March 7 5:00 p.m.+ Larry Berens
 Sun. March 8 9:30 a.m.+ Leonard & Regina Braun
 11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

St. Nicholas of Myra Lenten Project

The Church invites all to more intense prayer, fasting and almsgiving during the season of Lent. A means of almsgiving is to give to those less fortunate. During this Lenten Season, the Ladies Guild would like to invite all parishioners to participate in a parish Lenten project. Sacks are available in the gathering space. Please take this sack and fill it with non-perishable items to be given to the Community Assistance Center. Bring your filled sack back to church sometime during the Lenten Season and place it in a designated area in the back of church. By sharing what we have with those less fortunate we will be able to live our Catholic faith more fully and share it more freely with others.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed Friday evening, March 6, 7pm.



The St. Nicholas Bingo will be held March 1, at 1pm, in the St. Nicholas Parish Hall.

Help is needed for all ministries for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Sign up sheets will available in the gathering space. Thank you!!

Church Repairs

To Date \$50,970

Tithing: Your Gift to God

Our 2008/2009 fiscal year started July 1, 2008

Week Collection of Feb. 22	\$ 13,033
Budgeted Weekly Collection	\$ 11,663
Collection Year to Date	\$439,750
Budgeted Collection Year to Date	\$408,205
As of Feb. 22, 2009 we are over/(under) budget	\$ 31,545

The parish tithes for February went to St. Paul's Catholic Mission, First Call for Help, Hispanic Ministry, and Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County.

MONEY COUNTERS

March 1	Greg & LaNae Lang
March 8	Greg & Kimarae May
March 15	Ernie & Darlene Kroeger
March 22	Kristi, Samantha, & Sara Newell

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Readings for the First Sunday of Lent

Monday, March 2

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15;
Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday, March 3 (St. Katherine Drexel)

Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19;
Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday, March 4 (St. Casimir)

Jonah 3:1-10; Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Luke 11:29-32

Thursday, March 5

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25;
Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Matthew 7:7-12

Friday, March 6

Ezekiel 18:21-28; Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8;
Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday, March 7 (St. Perpetua & St. Felicity)

Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;
Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday, March 8

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;
Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9);
Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10

WELCOME

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

Edwin & Ruth Engel;
Clayton & Alicia Hering;
Jesse & Brianna Zimmerman;



THE DIOCESAN CHRISM MASS will be celebrated on Thursday, April 2, at, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina beginning at 11:30am. Those wishing to attend but need a ride may contact the parish office, 628-1446. The parish office will be closed on April 2, allowing the staff the opportunity to join in this celebration.

EASTER FLOWERS: The Art and Environment committee of the parish invites you to make donations for Easter Flowers. Donations may be made to the parish and put into the collection basket, left at the parish office or mailed. Please note EASTER FLOWERS on envelope. Thank you for helping create the beautiful worship space within St. Nicholas Church.

Singers and accompanists needed for Holy Week and Easter liturgies. All high school students and adults are welcome. Practices will be held on Wednesday evenings from 8:15 to 9:30pm, beginning March 11. Practice dates include: March 25, April 1, & 8. Contact Paula Beck at 625-8065 or pbeck@eaglecom.net if interested.

Faith Formation News

Classes in session,

-- **Wednesday, March 4**

6:15-7:15pm session - Family Lenten activity night,
7:30-8:30 session - Lenten Prayer service (about 20 minutes at beginning of class),

Parents welcome to attend

-- **Wednesday, March 11**

-- **NO CLASSES Wednesday, March 18** – Spring Break

CYO News

-- **Next meeting** - March 1, 6:30-8:00pm in the Parish Hall, Diocesan Convention Forms and Fees due

Adult Education Classes - Are being offered through the Salina Diocese School of Pastoral Leadership. **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, 2-5pm, Plainville, Fr. Galen Long, **The Gospels** - (8 hours) April 19,26, May 3,10, 4-6pm, Clyde, Fr. Merlin Kieffer
Contact Kathy in the Parish Office to register.

PARISH LENTEN ACTIVITIES

“Feed My Lambs, Tend My Sheep, Follow Me.”



The Religious Education Commission is sponsoring a *parish community Adopt –a-Sheep* project for Lent. Through Heifer International (web site – www.heifer.org) –we are going to try to purchase a sheep (**one sheep costs \$120**) to be given to a impoverished family. A Sheep poster will be on display in the gathering space. Children and parishioners will be asked to make donations. For every **\$10 dollars, (one share of a sheep)** raised, the students will glue on 10 cotton balls. Hopefully our sheep will be covered in “wool” by Easter. In addition, the children will spend time before each class session praying for the family who will benefit from the gift of the sheep. Last year we were able to purchase two sheep.

Catholic Websites

Adult– Catholic First <http://www.catholicfirst.com>

Parents – Family Life Center International

www.familylifecenter.net

Youth – Teen Prayers

<http://www.prayerbook.com/Prayers/Teenager/teenager.htm>

Children - Fr. Pat’s Place <http://frpat.com/kids.htm>

Lenten Crosses

The Religious Education Commission invites everyone to take a twig cross from the basket in the gathering space. These may be placed in your home, office or vehicle as a visible reminder to practice, praying, fasting and simple living throughout the season of Lent.



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Holy Family Elementary



-- Effective September, 2010-2011 school year, Holy Family will no longer offer a three-year-old preschool class. There will be two four-day-sessions for 4 year olds. Each session will meet Monday through Thursday, morning or afternoon.

March 4 - Spring Pictures; PA & PB Preschool through 6th Grade

March 5 - Spring Pictures; PC Preschool

March 5 - PE Program, 7pm, Al Billinger Fieldhouse, TMP

March 6 - 8am rosary, IHM

March 6 - Stations of the Cross, 2:30pm, IHM

March 9 - Pancake Man visits the school cafeteria during lunch.

March 9 - Home & School Meeting, 7pm, Activity Center

March 10 - Father's Mass, 8am

-- A note of thanks to all that supported our annual chili supper on Jan. 25. Its success was made possible by you. Thank you.

-- 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.



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

-- TMP-Marian Pre-enrollment for 2009-2010 school year for the Freshman Class of 2013

Place: TMP-M Cafeteria

Dates: Tuesday, and Thursday March 3 and 5

Time: 3:30 to 5:30pm and 6 to 8pm both days

Why: to have one on one time to enroll

Who: Parent and Child

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

Lay Ecclesial Ministry Presentation: Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord, will be held at St. Nicholas Church on March 10, from 7 to 8:30pm. Speaker will be Most Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas, D. D.

Volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels the week of March 16 thru 20. This is during spring break and would be a wonderful opportunity to introduce the youth to this wonderful ministry in helping the homebound. Please call Cathy Pfeifer before March 6, to schedule a time (work 621-2085 or cell 623-1780).

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 7 & 8

Saturday, 5:00 P.M. Mass

EM

Kathy Rome

John Allen

Mary Mellick

Gracemary Melvin

Charlie Munsch

Jeanie Munsch

Larry Rome

Proclaimer

Eileen Roberts#1

Jo Good #2

Altar Servers

Rachel Muirhead

Alexis Ralph

Macie Stoecklein

Hospitality

Duane Klein

Joel Zimmerman

Sacristan

June Allen

Gift Bearers

Norman Keller

Sunday, 9:30 A.M. Mass

EM

Sheila Pfeifer

Deb Kraus

Darlene Kroeger

Rick Rajewski

Tim Schumacher

Ruth Schumacher

Nolan Allen +

Proclaimer

Clare Gustin #1

Keith Gustin #2

Altar Servers

Sarah Jo Gustin

Halle Lang

Garrett Portenier

Hospitality

Neil Klaus

Sacristan

Paul Kraus

Gift Bearers

Alexius Leiker

Sunday, 11:00 A.M. Mass

EM

Sara Humphrey

Carrie Gottschalk

Jayne Inlow

Mary Lou Mastin

Rose McFarland

Cathy Pfeifer

Galen Pfeifer

Proclaimer

Jorge Vazquez #1

Tom Pitner #2

Altar Servers

Emma Humphrey

Emily Leiker

Brett Leiker

Hospitality

Mike Leiker

Wes Leiker

Sacristan

Kathy Jacobs

Gift Bearers

Steve Keil



Have you suffered a broken bone in your hip or spine? Do you feel as if you are getting shorter? If you answer

“yes” to either of these questions, you may want to consider being screened for the risk of osteoporosis. We are pleased to offer a Life Line Screening preventive health event that can be used to detect just such a risk. Life Line Screening uses a quantitative ultrasound bone densitometer, using the heel as a measurement site, to assess one's risk of osteoporosis. This screening compares your bone density to that of the average 20-year-old adult female, according to World Health Organization guidelines. The osteoporosis screening is not only for women. Of the 10 million Americans who have been diagnosed with osteoporosis, 2 million are men. The screening will take place on March 12. Register for a Vascular with Heart Rhythm for \$139, and receive the Osteoporosis test for \$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.lifelinescreening.com, for more information or to pre-register.

Bulletin Ads are being renewed at this time. We have two spots to be filled by a business. If you are interested in filling these spots, please contact Ramona at 628-1446.

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CURSILLO

What is it?

-- The Cursillo Movement is a movement of the Church that has the same apostolic purpose as the Church herself. And the Church, as Pope Paul VI told us, exists to evangelize."

-- The purpose (or goal) of the Movement is to make Christian community possible in neighborhoods, parishes, work situations and other places where people live the greater part of their lives.

-- It helps people discover and fulfill their personal vocations and makes it possible for anyone in the world to live a Christian life in a natural way, "the leavening of environments with the Gospel." Changing the places we spend time by being Christlike in our thoughts, words, and actions.

Cursillo #9 will be held at old Sacred Heart Grade School in Salina, Kansas March 19-22 for the Men's.

Requirements to attend a Cursillo weekend:

1. Be a Catholic in good standing.
2. Be at least 18 years old.

If a married person wants to make a Cursillo weekend, it is strongly encouraged that their spouse also makes a Cursillo weekend themselves. If only one spouse wants to attend, the other spouse must sign off on the application form.

Cursillo weekends are for Catholics who feel the need for something more in their faith. Prayer is essential before recommending whether a person should attend the weekend.

If you have any questions about Cursillo, please feel free to contact the Coordinators of the upcoming Cursillo:

-- Tom Barlow, 945 W. Third, Colby KS 67701; 785-460-6507; tjbarlow@st-tel.net

-- Tony Horinek, 1980 County Road 13, Colby KS, 67743; 785-694-3281; tahorinek@yahoo.com

-- Fr. Damian Richards, St. Boniface Church, P.O. Box 83, Tipton, KS 67485; 785-373-4455; boniface@wtciweb.com



Join us at **Cup a Joe** for the following **March Events:**

-- **Join us for free homemade cinnamon rolls** on Sunday, March 1 from 9:30am to noon. **Come through the main door of the Parish Service Center**

and use the inside staircase.

-- **Join us on Friday, March 6 and Friday, March 13 for a class on St. Paul taught by Fr. Mike Scully.** Class will run from 7:30 to 9:30pm, after the Stations of the Cross.

-- **Join us at Cup a Joe** Monday – Wednesday mornings from 7 to 9am. **Use the east door to the inside staircase to enter Cup a Joe.**

-- Remember to join us Thursday evening between 7 to 10pm.

Heartland Parish Mission, Begins this Sunday, March 1

Our Heartland Parishes Mission will be conducted at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish by Fr. Tony Stephens of the "Fathers of Mercy" this Sunday through Thursday. Topics, by day, include: the Church in Our Lives, the Power of Prayer, The Mercy of God, the Holy Eucharist, and the Virgin Mary and the Saints. Each weekday session will be presented twice daily. Evening Sessions will begin at 7pm, morning sessions at 9am. All sessions will begin with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and conclude with Benediction. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will follow all sessions. Childcare will be provided in the evenings.

Monday Lenten Series on Mary Skips this Week

The next Lenten talk on Mary will be Monday, March 9, at 2pm and 7pm, in the St. Joseph Parish Center. The topic will be Our Lady's Perpetual Virginity (before, during, and after the birth of Jesus). Our speaker is Deacon Mark Roberti, who holds a Master of Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. All are welcome. Bring a family member or friend.

Do you know a young adult, 14 years of age or older, who is experiencing feelings of loss from a parental death, divorce or separation? The Young Adult Beginning Experience (YABE) is a peer ministry retreat where participants will be in a safe environment to walk through the grief process and discover that they are not alone. Two YABE weekends are scheduled for 2009 – March 20-22 and July 24-26. For more information and/or to register, please call Marnie at 316-729-4437. A \$35 non-refundable deposit ensures your reservation.

Lenten Rice Bowls are available in the gathering space beginning Ash Wednesday.



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.

Check Reading Rack Table for information on Social Justice, Family issues such as: Invisible Kansas Bill, Respect Life, Rachel's Vineyard, Mary Elizabeth Home, Habitat for Humanity, etc.

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St. Francis of Assisi Church, Munjor, annual Parish Supper will be Sunday, March 1, from 4 to 7pm, in the Munjor School Gymnasium. Menu: Roast beef, stewed chicken noodles, mashed potatoes & gravy, coleslaw, vegetable, dessert, drink. Adults \$8.00, Children (under 10) \$4.00. Country store with many baked items. Drawing for prizes.



Catholicism Stewardship: Where Trust and Responsibility Embrace

In the stewardship of the talent parable (Mt 25:14-30), two stewards act responsibly. They are praised and rewarded. The third steward hides the talents given him. He is rebuked by the master. The silver pieces given the three stewards represent much more than money. All temporal and spiritual goods are created by and come from God. This is true of everything we have such as spiritual gifts of faith, hope, and love; talents of body and brain; cherished relationships with family and friends; material goods; the achievements of human genius and skill; the world itself. One day, God will require an accounting from each of us for the use of those gifts that person has made. God will measure each person by the standard of his/her own vocation and mix of gifts and how they have been used and shared.

Family Discipleship is Important!

Stewardship helps form healthy individuals, families, and parishes. We are in an age that needs true disciples. Stewardship is the medicine for our age. Please complete your forms prayerfully and return them promptly, so other parish disciples do not have to call you.

First Friday Respect Life Mass – March 6

Our monthly Respect Life Mass will be Friday, March 6, at 5:30pm, at St. Joseph Parish. It is preceded by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary starting at 5pm. There will not be a potluck after Mass this month.



Our Next Bunko is Friday, March 13

Our crowds are getting larger! More men are also coming. Join us for Bunko, Friday, March 13, at 2:30pm, in the St. Nicholas of Myra parish hall. If you are new at Bunko, you will easily have it down after a couple of rounds. Usually we play about 10 rounds on a Bunko day. Prizes for most wins, most losses, and most Bunkos. Wonderful refreshments follow. Everyone is welcome.

Prayer for Rain

O God in whom we live and move and have our being, grant us rain in due abundance, that being sufficiently helped with temporal gifts, we may see with more confidence those that are eternal. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Single and Beyond

Single and Beyond is an ecumenical Christian social group for single, divorced, & widowed people located in/near Hays, Kansas. Our mission is to provide friendship, support, and understanding to one another. Contact persons: Nancy 628-3347, Judy 625-7871 singleandbeyond@yahoo.com

-- **March 4** – Join us at Jalisco Mexican Restaurant, 2520 Vine, 6pm.

-- **March 7** - Movie Night, Mall Cinema. Meet at 6:45pm, for movie of choice.

-- **March 14** – Game Night at Nancy's, 1402 E. 25th St. St. Patrick's Day theme. Wear your green, bring snacks and favorite beverage.

-- **March 28** - Meet at Sternberg Museum of Natural History, 4pm. Following our museum visit, eat at Professor's Steakhouse & Saloon

Employment Opportunities with the 2010 Census

What would you do with some extra cash? Apply now to be a census taker! Work up to 40 hours per week in a temporary, part-time job with the 2010 Census and enjoy good pay, flexible hours, mileage reimbursement, and the chance to serve your community. Call to schedule an appointment to take the test and apply for a job. For more information, call at 1-866-861-2010 or www.2010censusjobs.gov.



Daylight-Saving Time begins: Turn clocks forward 1 hour next weekend March 8.

Crownpoint Mission

Notice: The garage and storage unit are full. We will not be accepting anymore items to Crownpoint Mission until April.

THE DAYS AHEAD

March 1 All American Breakfast, 7:30am to 12:30pm, American Legion (Benefits: Cancer Council of Ellis County) Tickets available at 625-6653.

March 3 Community Assistance Center Garage Sale, 8 to 11am, 12th & Oak St
-- Stewardship Meeting, noon

-- St. Nicholas Prayer Group Meeting, 1pm

March 4 Rosary for Family Life, Adoration Chapel, 9pm

March 5 RCIA, 7pm

March 7 Men of Myra, 7:30am

March 8 Rosary in the St. Nicholas Chapel, 9am
-- Food Bingo Fraternal Order of Eagle #3061, 1:30pm, Eagles Lodge, 121 E. 8th St. (Everyone welcomed!)