

ST.MARY'S CHURCH

Father Edward Oen, C.PP. S. Pastor
9208 Main Street St. Benedict, KS. 66538

Father Edward Oen: Residing at 357 3rd St., Baileyville, KS 66404 Phone: 336-6464

St. Mary's Church Phone: 785-336-3174. Website: www.stmstb.org

Secretary's email: tahaverkamp@bbwi.net

Mass Schedule: Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Friday morning 8:30AM

Marriage: Contact priest 6 Months before - Baptism Call Father Ed at 336-6464

Confession: First Friday mornings 7:45AM TO 8:00AM before mass

DECEMBER 23, 2012 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Regular Mass Schedule:

BAILEYVILLE---Saturday 7:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 am
Weekday masses at 8:30 a.m.

ST. BENEDICT---Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Fridays, 8:30 a.m.

Mon.--Dec. 24--Christmas Eve Mass at St. Benedict at 4:00PM

--Ambrose Schmitz

Mon. Dec. 24--Christmas Eve Mass at Sacred Heart at Bai-

leyville at 7:30PM--People of the Parishes

Tues. Dec. 25--Christmas Day Mass at Sacred Heart at Bai-

leyville at 9:00PM--Marvin & Anna Oen Family

Wed.--Dec. 26--Henry Lierz

Thurs.--Dec. 27--Leonard & Ruth Tanking (60th Anniversary)

Fri.--Dec. 28--People of the Parishes

Sat.--Dec. 29--Liv/Dec. Robert & Alma Haug Family

Sun.--Baileyville--Dec. 30--People of the Parishes

Sun.--St. Benedict--Dec. 31--Leo Schmelzle

COLLECTIONS for December 16, 2012--Plate: 27.00, Enve-
lopes: \$1326.00, Seminarians: \$75.00, Christmas Flowers: \$45.00,
Anniversary Book: \$99.00, Stola: \$40.00, REA Rebate: \$551.86.

NOTE FROM FATHER ED--May all of you experience the
love of Jesus, the Son of God, on Christmas and throughout 2013.
Thanks so much for remembering me in your prayers, for your
beautiful Christmas cards and gifts of all kind.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON will continue till the Feast of the
Baptism of Jesus on January 13. During this season continue to
sing Christmas songs. During this season let's continue thanking
and praising God for sending His only Son Jesus to save us from
our sins and to raise up into God's family at Baptism.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION will be given to Catholic Charities
to take care of more than 85,000 people each year. Our country
and the State of Kansas have seen an increase in the number of
those living in poverty. During the holidays, as you share warm
feelings and gifts with your friends and family, please consider
the less fortunate who never imaged they would be at Catholic
Charities' doors. Please make a donation to this year's Catholic
Charities Christmas collection to allow the agency to help our
brothers and siste4rs in need.

THE PARISH would like to say Thank you to the generous memorial
donation in memory of Ben & Ida Olberding. May God Bless you
and your family.

ENVELOPES are in back of church for you to pick up. Please
DO NOT use until after the first of the year as your number may
have change since 2012 due to putting everyone in alphabetical
order.

FATHER FELIX'S CAR: For the past 4 years Fr. Felix's car
1996 Olds Achieva has been sitting in the rectory's garage. He
would like to sell it. It has been moved to Mark Bergman's Shop
in Seneca. If you are interested please contact Mark Bergman or
Richard Siess. It has approximately 143,211++ miles on it.

WORKBOOKS for Lectors are available for the beginning of
Advent (Dec. 1-2) in the sacristy. Thanks so much to all readers
for proclaiming God's word to us at Mass.

THE PARISH would like to say Thank you to the family of Am-
brose Schmitz for the generous donations toward the church and
the cemetery. May God Bless Your Family.



Ministries for Dec. 24, 2012--THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Cross: Shayla Heiman

Servers: Caleb Bradley & Luke Holthaus

Eucharistic Ministers: Jason Haverkamp, Kelsey Bradley, Eric Huerter, Arlyn Holthaus, Mary Haverkamp

Lector: Joanie Holthaus

Commentator: David Huerter

Ushers: Parish Council

Offertory Gifts: Addy Holthaus, Lawson Schmelzle, Joe Siess, John Siess, Ella Sudbeck, Brayden Uphaus

Rosary: No Rosary

Prelude Music: Marlene Deters

Organists: Kayla Sudbeck & Marilyn Holthaus

Cantor: Stan Murphy—ADULT CHOIR

Soloist: Staci Haug & Kelsey Bradley

Flutist: Taylor Holthaus & Katrina Sudbeck

Trumpet: Kayla Sudbeck

Soloist/Guitarist: Rachel Holthaus

Ministries for Dec. 30, 2012--THE HOLY FAMILY

Cross: Joseph Stallbaumer

Servers: Marissa Randel & Trevor Holthaus

Eucharistic Ministers: Charity Henry, Connie Huerter, Kevin Nordhus, Leon Holthaus, Arlene Holthaus

Lector: Gabriella Sudbeck

Commentator: Don Lueger

Ushers: Mark Bergman & John Bergman

Offertory Gifts: Dennis & Leanna Rottinghaus Family

Rosary Leader: David Huerter

Music Leaders: Theresa & Laura Sudbeck, Tammy, Rachel & Cory Holthaus

Remember in your prayers those who are sick, taking treatments, hospitalized or still recovering: Donna Hulsing, Elijah James Ruegge, Cyrilla Sudbeck, Michelle (Damian) Buessing, Odelia Sudbeck, Jackie Olberding, Jordan Sudbeck, Leroy Tangeman, Nancy Deters, Martha Engelken, Brad Bowhay, Margie Miller, Greyson Murphy (grandson of Stan & Cindy Murphy), Melvin Bergman, Max Rusche, Shirley Claas, Ben Niehues.

ALTAR SOCIETY NOTES

*****February 3, 2013--Annual Soup Day**

*****June 23, 2013--Annual Picnic**

BINGO FOR LIFE CARE NURSING HOME--JANUARY 2013--

Every 3rd Wednesday at 1:30PM

Linda Haug, Deborah Sudbeck, Ellen Sudbeck, Suzanne Nolte, Karen Holthaus (G), Melanie Lierz, Jenny Heiman

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Seneca--Sunday, December 23--3:00PM

Axtell--Sunday, Dec. 23--7:00PM

Sabetha--Sunday, Dec. 23--7:00PM

CHRISTMAS MASSES IN THE AREA

ST. MARY'S-ST.BENEDICT--December 24 at 4:00PM

SACRED HEART-BAILEYVILLE--December 24 at 7:30PM

December 25 at 9:00AM

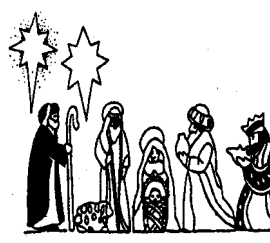
STS. PETER & PAUL--SENECA--December 24--4:00PM/Church

December 24--4:00PM/K/C Hall

December 25--7:00AM

December 25--9:00AM

MASSES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY (a Holyday of Obligation) will be the same as Sunday. The Monday night (New Year's Eve) Mass will be at 7:00PM and Tuesday (New Year's Day) at 8:30AM at Sacred Heart at Baileyville and at St. Mary's will be on Tuesday (New Year's Day) at 10:00AM.



O.J.S. Print Co.

The cafeteria is spoken for on these dates: 2012--Dec. 22, 23, 25,29
--2013--Feb. 2,3,4,June 12, 16 thru 24,Aug.4, Dec. 8.

Donations can be given toward the cost of supporting seminarians in Africa where Father Felix is from. Mark your donations. There are many seminarians but funds for education are needed.

DVD'S of THERESA RETTELE'S Tour of St. Mary's Church is available at the Rectory for the cost of \$10.00.

150th Anniversary Books continue to be a popular item. There are copies remaining for purchase. No additional copies will be printed. Orders can be placed online through the church website at www.stmstb.org or picked up at the Kansas Rural Water Association office west of Seneca. Phone: 336-3760.

CANDLES available for home use. Anyone wanting some call the rectory. 336-3174. The glass container are red, blue and green now. Cost of candles are now \$5.00.

CATHOLIC ITEMS FOR THE HOME--There is a display of Catholic items on the table in the back of church. You can order from Donnelly or from Soul Provider at Seneca.



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE is scheduled for December 28, 2012 from 8AM to 2PM. Walk-ins are welcome. To make an appointment call Marilyn Holthaus at 336-3360.

CHWC--Ticket sales to help raise funds for the Workcamp are available for the pork chop/chicken dinner on New Year's Eve from 5:00 to 9:00PM in Sacred Heart Parish Hall at Baileyville. Tickets are \$13.00 in advance, \$15.00 at the door. Call Janet Schmitz for tickets at 336-2526. Thank you for your support.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your incarnate Word,
the light of faith, which illumines our minds,
may also shine through in our deeds.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can the light of my faith be seen in my daily actions?
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HOLY HUMOR

**It was a cold and misty Christmas morning in the very depth of winter after a heavy fall of snow and only one farmer and the priest managed to arrive at the church for the morning Mass. "Well", said the clergyman "I guess there's no point in having Mass today." "Well that's not how I see it," said the farmer. "If only one cow turns up at feeding time, I still feed it."

**A lady lost her handbag in the bustle of Christmas shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to her. Looking in her purse, she commented, "Hmmm....That's funny. When I lost my bag there was a \$20 bill in it. Now there are twenty \$1 bills.

The boy quickly replied, "That's right lady. The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have any change for a reward.

MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.
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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift-giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most.
—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



YEAR OF FAITH: JANUARY 2013

Manifesting Christ: Blessed Are the Peacemakers

Meditation

The joy of love, the answer to the drama of suffering and pain, the power to forgive offenses, life's victory over death's emptiness: all this finds fulfillment in the mystery of Christ's incarnation, in Jesus becoming human and sharing our human weakness in order to transform it by the power of his resurrection (see Benedict XVI, Door of Faith, 13).

This Year of Faith has opened wide the "door of faith." The liturgical "door" that opens every calendar year is the solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Her Son is the Prince of Peace, thus her feast fittingly coincides with the World Day of Prayer for Peace, whose theme this year is "Blessed are the peacemakers." Peace, writes the pope, grows from deep within each human soul as God's gift. It flowers whenever we work to build peace in the world, as individuals and as members of the human family. As January unfolds, the Sunday Gospels proclaim Jesus' "manifestations" as Savior of the world: on Epiphany, to the Gentile nations, in the persons of the magi; on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, to the people of Israel listening to John the Baptist at the Jordan; at Cana's wedding feast, to the smaller circle of disciples, as Jesus changes water into wine; finally, in his hometown synagogue, as Jesus inaugurates his public ministry by proclaiming his mission of bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed.

Mission

To continue manifesting Jesus' presence in the world by making his mission our own, especially as peacemakers in Jesus' name at home and in our communities.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.