

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

Bulletin announcements need to be in by Noon on Thursdays.

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 21, 2014-- FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Regular Mass Schedule:

BAILEYVILLE---Saturday 7:00PM and Sunday 8:30AM

Weekday masses at 8:30 a.m. Monday thru Thursday

ST. BENEDICT---Sunday 10:00AM

Weekday mass---Friday 8:30AM

Mon.-Dec. 22-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Nick Holthaus Family

Tues.-Dec. 23-Baileyville-Richard Dalinghaus

Wed.-Dec. 24-St. Benedict-Christmas Eve Mass @ 4PM

Arlene Schmitz

Wed.- Dec. 24-Baileyville-Christmas Eve Mass @ 7:30PM-

People of the Parishes

Thurs.-Dec. 25-Baileyville-Christmas Mass @ 9AM-Marvin

& Anna Oen Family

Fri.-Dec. 26-St. Benedict-Leon Schmitz

Sat.-Dec. 27-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Elmer Koelzer Family

Sun.-Dec. 28-Baileyville-People of the Parishes

Sun.-Dec. 28-St. Benedict-Alan Stallbaumer

COLLECTIONS for December 14, 2014:Plate:\$158.00, Envelopes: \$1,217.00, Other: \$145.52, Religious Retirement: \$478.00, Other: \$52.07, Anniversary Book: \$47.00, Genealogy: \$40.00, Christmas Flowers: \$60.00, Total: \$2,197.59.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM FATHER ED. May Jesus, our Savior, fill your hearts with a renewed love and joy on Christmas and throughout 2015. Thanks so much for remembering me in your prayers, for your beautiful Christmas cards, warm wishes and your thoughtful gifts!

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON will continue till the feast of the Baptism of Jesus on January 11. Please continue to sing Christmas hymns all during this season. We continue to thank and praise God for sending His only Son to save us from our sins and to raise us up to become sons and daughters of the Father, brothers and sisters to Jesus, and temples of the Holy Spirit.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR-We invite our children grades 3rd to 8th, to come and sing at St. Mary's Church Mass on Sunday, December 28th at 10AM. Please join us for practice on Sunday, December 21st, immediately following 10AM Mass.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to remember a deceased loved one by having their name placed on a Christmas Poinsettia, please put \$15 with their name in the collection basket by this Sunday December 21.

HIGH SCHOOL CCD CLASSES-No Classes until January 7, 2014

ELEMENTARY CCD CLASSES-No Classes.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS-If you have a child in the 2nd grade, they are invited to be in the opening procession during Christmas Eve Mass at St. Mary's. They may also be asked to carry up gifts.

CHRISTMAS MASSES IN THE AREA

St. Benedict-Christmas Eve Mass-Dec. 24th-4PM

Baileyville-Christmas Eve-Dec. 24th-7:30PM

Baileyville-Christmas Day-Dec. 25th-9AM

Seneca-Christmas Eve-Dec. 24th-4PM-6PM-10PM

Seneca-Christmas Day-Dec. 25th-7AM-9AM



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE is scheduled for Tuesday Dec. 30 at Seneca Community Building. Appointments can be made by calling 336-3360.

Ministries for December 24, 2014-Nativity of the Lord

Servers: Kyle Haverkamp, Devon Siess, Trevor Holthaus

Eucharistic Ministers: Abby Olberding, Paige Strathman, Betty Olberding, Paul Strathman, Zachary Bradley

Lector: Nancy Sudbeck

Commentator: Elmer Ronnebaum

Ushers: Parish Council

Offertory Gifts: 2015 First Communicants

Rosary Leader: No Rosary. Come early for silent prayer and to enjoy the music.

Organist: Marilyn Holthaus, Marlene Deters, Kayla

Sudbeck

Trumpet: Kayla Sudbeck

Flute: Katrina Sudbeck

Soloist: Staci Haug

Cantor: Stan Murphy & Adult Choir

Ministries for December 28, 2014-Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Cross: Addy Holthaus

Servers: Shayla Heiman & Amanda Stallbaumer

Eucharistic Ministers: Sara Nordhus, Brian Holthaus, Evelyn Rottinghaus, Trevor Heiman, Caleb Bradley

Lector: Dan Tangeman

Commentator: Brianna Uphaus

Ushers: Dean Sudbeck & Don Sudbeck

Offertory Gifts: Wayne & Carol Schmitz

Rosary Leader: Greg Schmitz

Organist: Marlene Deters

Cantor: TBD

UPCOMING ALTAR SOCIETY EVENTS

Feb. 1, 2015-Annual Soup Day.

BINGO AT LIFE CARE NURSING HOME is every 3rd Wednesday at 1:30PM. January, 2015—Lillian Engelken, Diane Schmitz, Brenda Haug, Marilyn Holthaus, Deb Koelzer, Lori Sudbeck, Holly Schmitz.

Remember in your prayers those who are sick, taking treatments, hospitalized or still recovering: Elijah James Ruegge, Jackie Olberding, Leroy Tangeman, Nancy Deters, Brad Bowhay, Margie Miller, Ivan Rottinghaus, Gilbert Schmitz, Clara Krogman, Aiden Berkhart, Lyle Rottinghaus, Monica Olberding Countryman, Anna Marie Kuckelman, Brad Hammes, Elaine Ronnebaum, Laura Schmelzle, Ruth Wichman Moon, Holly Bergman Harsh & Babies.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION-Our country and the state of Kansas have seen an increase in the number of those living in poverty. During this holidays, as you share warm feelings and gifts with your friends and family, please consider the less fortunate who never images they would be at Catholic Charities' doors. Please make a donation to this year's Catholic Christmas collection to allow the agency to help our brothers and sisters in need.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

- Seneca—Sunday—December 21—3PM
- Sabetha—Sunday—December 21—7PM
- St. Benedict—Sunday—December 21—7PM
- Frankfort—Sunday—December 21—7PM



HALL & CHURCH is spoken for on these dates for 2014:

Dec. 21, Olberding -Hall

Dec. 25—Scott-Hall

Dec. 27--Lueger-Hall

Dec. 28--Schmitz-Hall

HALL & CHURCH is spoken for on these dates for 2015:

Jan. 5-Parish Council Meeting @7PM

Jan. 10--Katrina Sudbeck & Levi Larkins Wedding

Jan. 12-Finance Council Meeting @ 7PM

Jan. 31-Setup Hall for Soup Day

Feb. 1--Annual Soup Day-Hall

Feb. 7-Holthaus-Hall

May 2--Lisa Holthaus & Kent Kruse Wedding

May 16-Schmitz Anniversary-Hall

May 30-Spencer Walters & Kelsey Haug Wedding

June 17-Annual Hall Cleaning

June 20--Danielle Osterhaus & Brad Green Wedding

June 26-Picnic Setup-Hall

June 28-Annual Church Picnic

Aug. 2--Schmitz Hall

Sept.5-Holthaus Hall

Sept 5--Craig Haverkamp & Sheriden Hanzlik Wedding

Oct. 10-Jerad Enneking & Stephanie Haverkamp Wedding

Fall 2015-Confirmation at St. Mary's

December 6--George Holthaus Christmas-Hall

December 19--Bergman Christmas-Hall

Dec. 20--Stallbaumer-Hall

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 are still available. 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. Cost of candles are now \$5.00. Inserts are \$3.00.

GENEALOGY--The parish has acquired genealogy information on many families of the parish including Bergman, Deters, Engelken, Fangman, Grosser-Holthaus, Haug, Haverkamp, Heiman, Holthaus, Huerter, Lierz, Kramer, Krogman, Mohrman, Olberding, Rethman, Ronnebaum, Rottinghaus, Strathman, Strathman B, Stegeman, Sudbeck, Wichman. Suggested donation is \$20.

SACRED HEART PARISH-BAILEYVILLE & ST. MARY'S-ST. BENEDICT, have 14 students and 4 adult sponsors making plans to attend Catholic Heart Workcamp in Oklahoma City, OK on June 21--27, 2015. To help raise funds to attend, they are planning their annual pork chop/chicken breast supper on New Year's Eve, from 5 to 8:30PM. in the Sacred Heart Church Hall. Tickets are \$13 in advance or \$15 at the door. A hotdog meal will be offered for children for \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door. Students will be coming by to sell tickets or you can call Janet Schmitz at 785-336-2526.

BENEFIT FOR MELODY BARNES at St. James Catholic Church Hall, Wetmore on Saturday, January 3, 2015, from 5PM to 8PM. A pulled pork meal will be served and there will be a silent auction.

BAILEYVILLE SACRED HEART CYO BREAKFAST is scheduled for Sunday, January 11 in the church basement.

AXTELL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is having their annual Christmas dinner Sunday, Jan. 11, 2015 at the American Legion Bldg. In Axtell, Ks. Social hour begins at 5PM, dinner will be served at 6PM. Mea will be catered by Ace's. All Axtell Knights and their guest are invited. Please call Wayne at 336-2659 to RSVP by Dec. 31st.

DIGITAL MEDIA CENTER of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas-Connect, Explore and Engage. Whether visiting for individual reflection, small community study groups, live streaming or recordings of events, local or Vatican news, the Digital Media Center is designed for all those seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church today. Go to <http://resources.archkck.org> for more information.

ANGELS OF PEACE-Let us not be justices of the peace, but angels of peace.

As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual, "And what would you like for Christmas?"

The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped, "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

ECHOING MARY'S DECISION-The angel Gabriel today confronts Mary with a mystery. The mystery of salvation in Christ is not a mystery that is solved, but a reality beyond our comprehension that we must choose to enter into. In the liturgy of the Eastern Church, everyone waits to see if Mary will enter into the mystery: God waits, Adam and Eve and all the souls of the dead who long for paradise wait, angels wait for new heavenly companions. And there is much rejoicing when her decision is "yes."

We have less dramatic choices offered to us, but the mystery of our salvation in Christ is by no means "solved." We may understand it a bit better due to Mary's "yes." We may be a bit closer to it through the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But it still remains a mystery to which we all must give our own "yes." Soon we will be singing "O come, let us adore him." May our Advent prayer, our echo of Mary's "yes," continue then, so we may enter into the mystery of our salvation in Jesus Christ, God among us.

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IN THE BEGINNING-(week 38)-Celebrate! Don't be surprised at how Chris looks after birth. Chris' head may be misshapen and the skin may be discolored with patchy looking rashes. Chris, like all babies, is made in the image and likeness of God. Even though childbirth is frightening, it helps to keep positive support people around you. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy His favor." Luke 2:14)

dear Padre

December 21, 2014

Was Jesus actually born December 25?

How do we know the date of Jesus' birth? I've checked my Bible, and I can't find any mention of the date.

You're right: The Bible doesn't say Jesus was born December 25. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke are the only Scriptures to give much detail about Christ's birth and infancy. They name the key political figures of the day, but not much else (Luke 1:5 and 2:1-2). Neither evangelist included specific information about the dates.

Dates were apparently not important to the earliest Christians. Besides, the first few generations of Christ's followers were far more interested in celebrating Christ's resurrection each Sunday, and eventually on Easter, than they were in celebrating his birth.

Christians started to associate December 25 with Christ's nativity centuries after the fact: the year 336, according to the earliest evidence.

The most popular theory is that the Church chose to replace a popular pagan Roman sun festival celebrating the winter solstice (December 21 or 22) with a Christian feast that could overtake the pagan festival and use its sun imagery to speak of Christ as the unconquered "Sun of Righteousness."

FR. MATTHEW ALLMAN, CSsR
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