

**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 6, 2015-SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**Masses for the Week**



**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. 7--St. Benedict-Mass @ 7PM-Edwin Kramer

Tues.-Dec. 8-Baileyville-Mass @ 8:30AM-Liv/Dec. Art

Heiman Family

Tues.-Dec. 8-Mass at Life Care @ 11AM-Audrey Feldkamp

Tues.-Dec. 8-Baileyville-Mass @7 PM-People of the Parishes

Wed.-Dec. 9-Baileyville-Gerhard Placke

Thurs.-Dec. 10-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Gene Heiman Family

Fri.-Dec. 11-St. Benedict-Zita & Daniel Bergman

Sat.-Dec. 12-Baileyville-Frank Wessel

Sun.-Dec. 13-Baileyville-People of the Parishes

Sun.-Dec. 13-St. Benedict-Leonard Schmitz

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**COLLECTIONS for November 27, 2015:** Plate:\$16.00, Envelopes: \$652.00, Other: \$78.66, Christmas Flowers: \$25.00, Total: \$771.66.

**THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY** on December 8 is a Holyday of Obligation. Mass will be at 7 PM on December 7 at St. Mary's. St. Benedict. Masses at Sacred Heart will be at 8:30AM and 7PM , on December 8. There will also be a Mass at Life Care at 11AM on the 8th.

**ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES**

Baileyville-Sunday, December 13 at 3PM

St. Benedict-Sunday, December 20 at 7PM

**PLEASE PICK UP** a copy of "Rediscover Jesus" at the back of church. Every family is invited to take home a copy and read a short chapter each day. The Archdiocese sent copies to every parish in our archdiocese.

**HIGH SCHOOL CCD**-No classes until January 6, 2016.

**ELEMENTARY CCD**-No class.

**SUPPORT ELDERLY RELIGIOUS** - A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.



**"YEAR OF MERCY: COMMITMENT WEEK-END"** - Beginning this weekend, we answer Pope Francis's call to give a stronger witness to our faith and a clear reflection of the actions of God in our lives.

Please fill out the commitment form provided. Keep a copy for yourself and place a copy in the collection basket. These will be kept in our church as a silent reminder of our willingness to make a sacrifice for others who are depending on us. Please take one of the Year of Mercy prayer cards and keep it with you to Learn, Look and Live a life of mercy.

As we begin our commitment this year, let us remember, in the words of Pope Francis, mercy "is the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life."

**2016 FIRST COMMUNICANTS**-On Christmas Eve you are welcome to walk in the entrance processional and bring up gifts.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** to pick up your church envelopes in the back of church for next year.

**Ministries for December 7, 2015-Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary-7 PM Mass**

**Servers:** Amber Blume, Rachel Schmitz, Bradley Schmitz

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Connie Huerter, Wayne Schmitz, Carol Schmitz

**Lector:** Nancy Sudbeck

**Commentator:** Cindy Murphy

**Ushers:** Ferdie Deters & Mike Deters

**Gift Bearers:** Galen & Betty Bergman

**Rosary Leader:** Cindy Murphy

**Organist:** Marilyn Holthaus

**Cantor:** TBD

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**Ministries for December 13, 2015-Third Sunday Advent**

**Cross:** Will Engelken

**Servers:** Garrett Randel & Shayla Heiman

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Kevin Sudbeck, Betty Olberding, Ferdie Deters, Brianna Uphaus, Sara Nordhus

**Lector:** Elmer Ronnebaum

**Commentator:** Connie Huerter

**Ushers:** Richard Engelken & Chris Engelken

**Gift Bearers:** Mike & Beth Deters Family

**Rosary Leader:** Brianna Uphaus

**Organist:** Marlene Deters

**Cantor:** TBD

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**UPCOMING ALTAR SOCIETY EVENTS & NEWS**

**BINGO AT LIFE CARE NURSING HOME** is every 3rd Wednesday at 1:30PM. December, 2015-Betty Roeder, Donna Stallbaumer, Trisha Engelken, Carol Bergman, Rosette Randel, Betty Ruegge, Annette Rottinghaus

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** those who are sick, taking treatments, hospitalized or still recovering: Leroy Tangeman, Brad Bowhay, Margie Miller, Ivan Rottinghaus, Clara Krogman, Aiden Berkhart, Lyle Rottinghaus, Monica Olberding Countryman, Anna Marie Kuckelman, Brad Hammes, Laura Schmelzle, Karsyn Aylward, Nancy Broxterman, Cyril Tangeman, Ambrose Martin son of Larrissa Nordhus, Martin, Eldon Kriley, Mary Lally, Dorothy Pearl Murphy, Kenny Olberding, Mary Ann Schmitz.

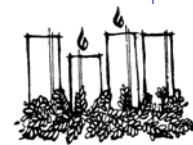
**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** If you would like to have the name of a loved one as a memorial on a poinsettia this year or just want to contribute to the Christmas flower fund, please put the money in the collection by Dec. 20th. Memorial Poinsettias are \$15. Please include the name of the loved one you would like attached to the poinsettia.



**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**-The parish council will be putting up the manger after Mass on Sunday, December 13th. Any help would be greatly appreciated in carrying over the decorations and/or helping decorate the rest of the church for the holidays. Thank you.

**YEAR-END GIFTS** of Stock Using appreciated assets such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds to make yearend charitable gifts has tax advantages to those who itemize deductions if they have been owned for more than one year. Gifts mailed or delivered by December 31 will be acknowledged for tax purposes in the 2015 tax year. Simple instructions for making a stock gift to the parish or other charities within the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas are available at www.archkck.org/waystogive.

Immaculate Conception



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

December 6--George Holthaus Christmas-Hall  
Dec. 12-Rusche-Hall  
Dec. 13-Rottinghaus-Hall  
December 19-Bergman Christmas-Hall  
Dec. 20--Stallbaumer-Hall  
Dec. 24-Olberding-Hall  
Dec. 25-Scott-Hall  
Dec. 26-Lueger-Hall

**HALL & CHURCH is spoken for on these dates for 2016:**

Jan. 2-Schmitz-Hall  
Jan. 11-Finance Council Meeting at 7PM.  
Feb. 6-Set up for Soup Dinner-Hall  
Feb. 7-Soup Dinner-Hall  
Feb. 13-Holthaus\_Hall  
March 6-Welcome Reception-Hall  
April 1-Huerter-Hall  
April 2-Drew Huerter & Chelsey Rottinghaus Wedding  
April 23- Julie Holthaus & Andrew Sneed-Wedding  
May 1--Lueger-Church  
June 4-Abby Olberding & Austin Stallbaumer Wedding  
June 20-27-Picnic Set up & Take down.-Hall  
June 26-ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC-Hall  
July 1-Huerter-Hall  
July 2-Marissa Lueger & Ryan Huerter Wedding-Church  
Sept. 3-Holthaus-Hall  
Sept. 17-Brett Holthaus & Anna Groppoli Wedding-Church  
Dec. 17--Bergman Christmas-Hall  
Dec. 18, 2016-Sudbeck-Hall

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**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](http://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 ,Boeckman, Deters, Engelken, Fangman, Grosser-Holthaus, Haug, Haverkamp, Heiman, Grobe-Holthaus, Holthaus, Huerter, Hulsing, Lierz, Kramer, Krogman, Mohrman, Olberding, Rethman, Ronnebaum, Rottinghaus, Sextro, Strathman, Strathman B, Stegeman, Sudbeck, Wichman . Suggested donation is \$20.  
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**CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP**-Sacred Heart Parish, Baileyville and St. Mary's Parish, St. Benedict, have **12 students** and **3 adult sponsors** making plans to attend **Catholic Heart WorkCamp** in Oklahoma City, OK, June 19-25, 2016. To help raise funds, they are planning their annual **pork chop/chicken breast supper** on **New Year's Eve**, from **5:00 – 8:30 p.m.** in the Sacred Heart Church Hall. Tickets for the pork chop or chicken meal are \$15.00. A hotdog meal is available for children for \$5.00. You can also call Jeanne Holthaus at 294-0167 or Gloria Heiman at 336-1703. Please support these students in their quest to deepen their faith and to help those in need!

**BAILEYVILLE K OF C SOUP DAY** will be today, Sunday, December 6 from 9:30AM to 1:00PM at Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Chili, Chicken Noodle and Vegetable Soup will be served. Freewill Offering.

**ST. JAMES CONSIGNMENT AUCTION, Wetmore,** is on Sunday, December 6, 2015 starting at 10AM. Contact 785-547-5082 or 785-207-0434.

**AXTELL ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA** will be Sunday, December 13 at 7:30PM at the Salem Lutheran Church, Axtell.

**NCHS BAND BAKE SALE** – Saturday, December 12 (8:00AM-Noon) – at Seneca Variety Store – Proceeds go to benefit the 2017 Alamo Band trip.

**AMERICAN RED CROSS** and the Seneca Community are hosting an upcoming blood drive on Friday, December 18 at the Community Building from 7:30AM to 1:30PM.

**SACRED HEART BAILEYVILLE CYO BREAKFAST** will be on Sunday, January 10, 2016.

**“LIVING IN LOVE”** retreat at Sacred Heart Parish in Sabetha, January 16-17, 2016. Register online at [www.archkck.org/LivingInLove](http://www.archkck.org/LivingInLove) or contact Mary Anne Kierl at the Archdiocese at 913-647-0345 for information.

**19TH ANNUAL WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING VIGIL** for the Compassionate Friends will be held on Sunday, December 13th. Everyone is invited to **light a candle** in their home from 7 - 8 PM, in memory of all children who have died, but are not forgotten! Please remember those families that have experienced such a devastating loss that evening in your prayers and honor their children by lighting a candle in their memory. The Seneca Chapter of Compassionate Friends is also planning their own Candle Lighting that evening at the home of Brett and Lisa Ohlsen, 503 N. 19th St., Seneca. Anyone who has lost a child is welcome to join them that evening to honor their children! If planning to attend, for more information about the event, or the Seneca Chapter, please call 785-336-3691.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE:** Dec. 6 & 20, Jan. 10-24, Feb. 7 & 21, March 6 & 20, April 10 & 24 and May 8.

**MARRIAGE MINUTE-** Second Sunday of Advent In today's Gospel, the Church places before us the figure of John the Baptist. While John is certainly known for performing baptisms in the desert, he also laid down his life for God's definition of marriage. To have John remind us of the beauty of matrimony is no accident during Advent. John preaches a message of hope and focuses us on the one who fulfills all desires. The road of marriage is sometimes rocky, and does not always follow a straight path, but with Christ, the road can be straightened, and the difficult times can be transformed into joy by His grace. We could easily call him, St. John of Marriage for his passionate defense of the goodness of marriage. When we listen to John and turn to Christ in our marriage and family, we are able to rejoice with the psalmist who sings, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!" If we are tempted to lose focus this week on God's goodness or the goodness of our spouse, let us repeat this prayer, and we will truly be filled with joy.

**25TH ANNIVERSARY HORTON LUMINARIAS** on Sunday, December 6, 2015 from 5:30 to 8PM.Luminarias transform 10 city blocks of Horton. Shuttle buses will be provide to help the flow of traffic. Shuttles may be boarded at no charge at Jim's Thriftway located on Hwy 20 and 2nd Ave. E.

**dearPadre**

December 6, 2015 Santa Claus: Christian or secular? I have two friends—one is an atheist, the other is a Christian fundamentalist. Neither is carrying on the tradition of Santa with their children. The atheist claims he is a Christian symbol; the Christian thinks he's a secular figure. Who's right? As strange as it may sound, both are correct. The myth of Santa Claus is based on the real life of St. Nicholas, a Catholic bishop. Born in the third century, his parents were wealthy but died when Nicholas was very young. His faith led him to dedicate his life to the service of God and others. He gave away his entire inheritance to help the poor and suffering. Like Christ himself, Nicholas is known as a giver of gifts. Stories of St. Nick's generosity form the basis for some of our current Christmas traditions. According to one story, the bags of gold he tossed through an open window landed in stockings hanging above the fire to dry. Some put food for Nicholas and straw for his donkey outside their homes, hoping he will replace their gifts with his. December 6 is now an annual feast commemorating this saint. Most today know Santa as coming from the North Pole with his red-nosed reindeer Rudolph and bringing toys and treats made by elves. This is certainly a secular image, but however we celebrate Advent and Christmas, we must remember and lead others to their true purpose and meaning. FR. PAUL BOROWSKI, CSsR [sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org).

**A WEDDING** celebrates when a man and woman become one. The trouble starts when they try to decide which one.