

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

Church's email: stmarys9208@gmail.com Secretary's email: tmhave1991@gmail.com

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 11, 2016-THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



Unless specified below mass times are as listed.

ST. BENEDICT---Sunday 10:00AM

Weekday Mass---Friday 8:30AM

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

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

Mon.-Dec. 12-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Art Heiman Family

Tues-Dec. 13-Baileyville-No Mass @ Baileyville-Mass at Life Care @ 11AM-Ronald Steinlage

Wed.-Dec. 14-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Clarence & Eileen Olberding Family

Thur.- Dec. 15-Baileyville-Walt & Marge Tlusty

Fri.-Dec. 16-St. Benedict-Liv/Dec. Andrew & Maraget Engelken

Sat.- Dec. 17-Baileyville-Liv/Dec Vernice & Mildred Haug Family

Sun.- Dec. 18-Baileyville-Jeanette Holthaus

Sun.-Dec. 18-St. Benedict-Liv/Dec. Wilfred & Rosella Bergman Family & Alan Stallbaumer

COLLECTIONS for December 4, 2016: Plate: \$63.00, Envelopes: \$1,684.00, Christmas Flowers: \$20.00, Catholic Charities: \$15.00, Retirement for the Religious: \$15.00, Immaculate Conception: \$15.00, Other: \$50.15, Stola: \$20.00, Candle Inserts: \$12.00, Raise the Roof: \$1,700.00, Hall Rent: \$50.00, Purchase of tax credits: \$5,849.00, Out of parish roof donation: \$1,000.00, Total: \$10,493.15.

December 5, 2016: Stola: \$100.00, Catholic Mutual Church Roof Settlement: \$10,000.00, Total: \$10,100.00.

REMEMBER Leo O'Dowd in your prayers. He died on December 3 at a nursing home in Wapakoneta, OH. His funeral Mass was on December 9. His wife Monica is a sister to Fr. Ed. May he rest in peace.

REMEMBER Helen Bergman in your prayers. She died on December 1 in Topeka. Her funeral Mass was on December 5. Sympathies to her son Galen & Betty Bergman and to her many other relatives. May she rest in peace.

REMEMBER Henry "Hank" Hulsing in your prayers. He died on November 30 in Topeka. His funeral Mass was on December 6 at Most Pure Heart of Mary in Topeka. Hank will be buried in St. Benedict, Ks. at a later date. May he rest in peace.

REMEMBER Anna Marie Kuckelman in your prayers. She died on December 4 in Seneca. Her funeral was on December 9 at St. Michael's at Axtell. Sympathies to her daughter Shirley & Alan Schmitz and many other relatives. May she rest in peace.

SCHOOL CHILDREN are invited to sing at Mass on December 18 at the 10AM Mass. Grades 5th thru 9th grades.

CHOIR PRACTICE will be on Wednesday, December 14th at 7PM. Practicing music for Christmas Eve Mass. Choir members please come. New voices are welcome!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS--Christmas poinsettias may be purchased as memorials this holiday season. Please put \$15 in the collection basket for each memorial with the name of your loved one by December 18. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS-The parish council will be putting up the manger after Mass today, Sunday, December 11th. If anyone would like to help it would be greatly appreciated!

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

Baileyville - Sunday, December 11 - 3:00PM

Axtell - Sunday, December 11 - 7:00PM

Seneca - Sunday, December 18 - 3:00PM

St. Benedict - Sunday, December 18 - 7:00PM

ANOINTING OF THE SICK is scheduled for Jan. 8, 2017.

Ministries for Dec. 18-4th Sunday in Advent

Cross; Hallie Holthaus

Servers: Shayla Heiman & Garrett Randel

Eucharistic Ministers: Betty Bergman, Betty Olberding, Leon & Arlene Holthaus, Kevin Nordhus

Lector: Brianna Uphaus

Commentator: Dan Tangeman

Ushers: Ardan Rottinghaus & Bob Rottinghaus

Offertory: Will & Charity Henry Family

Rosary: Kenny Schmitz

Organist: Marlene Deters

Cantor: Grades 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th Youth Choir

ALTAR SOCIETY EVENTS & NEWS

BINGO AT LIFE CARE NURSING HOME is every 3rd Wednesday at 2:00PM. **NOTE TIME CHANGE-**December 2016-Betty Sudbeck @, Theresa Sudbeck (J), Denise Haverkamp, Laurie Stallbaumer, Leanna Rottinghaus, Nikki Rottinghaus, Danise Mohny, Kathleen Meiers.

RAISE THE ROOF FUND

PROJECT GOAL	\$60,000.00
40 DONATIONS	\$17,760.75
3 PLEDGES	\$550.00
ROOF SETTLEMENT	\$10,000.00
REMAINING GOAL	\$31,689.25.

MONEY COUNTERS-Gary Schmitz has decided to retire from counting money. We are in need of 2 money counters. One to replace Gary and someone who is willing to help out when someone might be gone for that Sunday. If you would like to do this please let Father Ed know. Thanks to Gary who has done this for many years.

HIGH SCHOOL CCD CLASSES-No Classes until January 4, 2017.

ELEMENTARY CCD-December 14-Classes at 3:45PM.

FIRST COMMUNION-If you plan on your child making First Communion at St. Mary's Parish, please contact Lisa Holthaus at ldalinghaus@yahoo.com. Also, all 2017 First Communicants are invited to bring up gifts at the Christmas Eve mass at St. Mary's.



CHRISTMAS EVE MASS, -The 2017 First Communicants will gather in the back of church before mass to bring up baby Jesus for the processional. They will also bring up gifts.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

4:00PM - Christmas Eve at St. Benedict

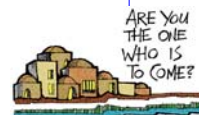
7:30PM - Christmas Eve here

9:00AM - Christmas Day here

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE: Dec.18, Jan. 8 & 22, Feb 5 & 19, March 5 & 19, April 2 & 30 and May 8.

2017 CHURCH ENVELOPES are in the back of church. Please pick up at your earliest convenience. If you didn't receive a box please let the office know by calling 336-3174.

NEMAHA COUNTY CHRISTMAS BUREAU would like to thank all those who donated towards the Angel Tree Project. They were so appreciative of the support that St. Mary's provided. Your generous donations will help many families in Nemaha County who otherwise wouldn't be able to have a nice Christmas for their families.



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

Dec. 10-Rottinghaus-Hall
Dec. 18-Sudbeck-Hall
Dec. 25-Engelken-Hall
Dec. 31-Lueger-Hall

HALL & CHURCH is spoke for on these dates for 2017:

Jan. 8-Anointing of the Sick after 10AM Mass
Jan. 8-Schmitz Hall
Jan. 9 –Finance Council Meeting @ 7PM
Feb 5-Annual Soup Day
April 9-Easter Egg Hunt-Hall
April 16-Hall-Scott
March 19-Holthaus-Hall
May 7-May Crowning-Church
May 27-28-29-St. Benedict Alumni-Hall
May 27-James Smith-Church-First Mass
June 10-Stallbaumer & Edelman Wedding-Church
June 14-Annual Hall Cleaning
June 25-Annual Church Picnic
July 9-Stallbaumer Hall
Aug. 6-Schmitz-Hall
Nov. 23-Scott-Hall
Dec. 16-Bergman-Hall
Dec. 25-Scott-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. The book provides the unique story of St. Mary's Parish from its founding. The family photos are sure to be cherished in decades to come. Copies available for pickup at the Rectory; leave a message at 336-3174 or email to Mary Beth at tahaverkamp@bbwi.net. Copies also are available through the Kansas Rural Water Association office located west of Seneca. Your grandchildren or great-grandchildren will appreciate having a copy.

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

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, Ambrose Martin son of Larrissa Nordhus, Martin, Eldon Kriley, Mary Lally, Kenny Olberding, Dennis Bergman, Greg Fangman, Jed Henry, Tim Sack, Victor Holthaus, Paul Kramer, Sara Conroy, Joyce Koch, Kathleen Ronnebaum.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is hosting the Axtell Ecumenical Cantata on December 11, 2016, at 7:30 PM. The Choir will be performing "A Candlelight Christmas" by Benjamin Harlin, directed by Stan Murphy, Seneca, accompanied by Lisa Broxterman. There will be a time of fellowship following the presentation.

A LIVING NATIVITY (manger scene with live animals) will be portrayed on the Church lawn by the Axtell Community, starting at 5:30 PM and ending before the Cantata. Plan to come early so you can see this, it will be an inspirational experience.

THE 20TH ANNUAL WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING VIGIL for the Compassionate Friends will be held on Sunday, December 11th. 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! The Seneca Chapter of Compassionate Friends is planning their own Candle Lighting that evening at the Cornerstone Coffee Haus, 431 Main St. Anyone who has lost a child is welcome to join them that evening. If planning to attend or for more info. about the event, please call 785-336-3691.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be on Friday, December 16 at Seneca Community Building. Hours are 7:30AM to 1:30PM. Walk-ins are welcome or appointments can be made by calling 336-3360 or on line at redcrossblood.org.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS – Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care and more. Please support this week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.

CHWC-Sacred Heart Parish, Baileyville and St. Mary's Parish, St. Benedict, have 8 students and 2 adult sponsors making plans to attend **Catholic Heart WorkCamp** in Oklahoma City, OK, June 18-24, 2017. 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.

THE 2017 BAILEYVILLE BENEFIT is for Sarah Conroy, Zachary Engelken, Bethany Ohlsen and Jase Suther. It is scheduled for January 28th & 29th at Nemaha Central High School with the auction scheduled to start at 6:00pm on Sunday. Donations for the auction, chance stand, or wheel are very much welcome and appreciated! You may also bring in donations of food (i.e. pies, deserts, cinnamon rolls, cookies, etc) to the concession stand Saturday morning to sale throughout the tournament. If you have any questions or would like to donate in any way (including volunteering to work a couple of hours), please contact Kenny or Diane Schmitz at 336-6252, 336-1771 or e-mail kdschmitz@bbwi.net.

"GOD'S LITTLE GREEN ACRE" SEMINARIAN SUPPORT
You are invited to join Catholics across the Archdiocese in giving thanks for our seminarians and support them as they study for the priesthood. Farmers can donate the proceeds from one acre of their crops, and those who don't farm but want to "grow" vocations can make a donation in any amount. This Christmas the donations will be divided among our seminarians to help them pay for textbooks and living expenses. They greatly appreciate these funds since they have no income. For questions call 913-647-0303 or email vocation@archkck.org. Mail donations to: Arch KCK Vocation office, 12615 Parallel Pkwy, Kansas City, KS 66109.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK If you know you are being admitted to a hospital, please inform your pastor or parish priest prior to your hospitalization and ask for the sacrament of reconciliation and anointing of the sick. This is a great opportunity for pastors to administer these sacraments to parishioners in light of the ongoing pastoral and sacramental relationship that already exists between parishioners and their pastor. Hospital priest chaplains make it their priority to ensure the "Sacrament of the Sick" is offered to Catholic patients, especially when in danger of death. So, please contact your parish priest, if you know you will to be hospitalized in the near future, and let him know you would like to receive these sacraments before your hospitalization.

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. Gifts mailed or delivered by December 31 will be acknowledged for tax purposes in the 2016 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. Contact the Stewardship and Development Office, at 913-647-0365 or email stewdev@archkck.org for help with your gift.

MARRIAGE MINUTE December 11, 2016
"Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them." Couldn't we also add to this list of miracles in this Sunday's Gospel that marriages are renewed through grace? Imagine what this Gospel verse would look like if it were specifically applied to our marriage. • We see our spouse with new eyes like when we first fell in love. • We walk toward our spouse when we are hurt rather than hiding in self-pity. • We allow our heart to be cleansed through Confession for our sins against our spouse. • We listen to our spouse with eager anticipation for what they desire to share. • We allow the Lord to resurrect our seemingly broken relationship. • We speak positively about the greatness of marriage. For marriage enrichment opportunities and suggestions, check out www.JoyfulMarriageProject.com