

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 25, 2016-THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



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. 26-Baileyville-Ben Dalinghaus

Tues.-Dec. 27-Baileyville-Oen Family

Wed.-Dec. 28-Baileyville-Gene Heiman

Thur.- Dec. 29-Baileyville-Voactions to the Priesthood & Religious Life

Fri.-Dec. 30-St. Benedict-Liv/Dec. Clem & Florentine Rethman Family

Sat.-Dec. 31-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Sylvester Koch Family

Sun.- Jan 1, 2017--Baileyville-People of the Parishes

Sun.- Jan. 1, 2017-St. Benedict-Elaine Ronnebaum

COLLECTIONS for December 18, 2016: Plate: \$77.00, Envelopes: \$2,474.00, Other: \$1.02, Retirement for the Religious: \$10.00, Hall Rent: \$50.00, Donations: \$1,100.00, Raise the Roof: \$1,350.00, T-Shirt Roof Fund: \$721.00, Total: \$5,783.02.



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM FATHER ED

-May Jesus be born anew in your hearts.

Open your hearts to receive the peace, joy and love that Jesus wants to give you today and throughout 2017. Thanks so much for remembering me in your prayers, for sending me your beautiful Christmas cards, warm wishes and your generous gifts.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON will continue till the feast of the Baptism of Jesus on January 9. Please continue to sing Christmas hymns till January 9. Sing the Gloria on weekends.

THANK YOU to the Helen Bergman Family for the generous donation made to St. Mary's Church Roof Fund and to St. Mary's Cemetery in memory of their mother.

THANK YOU to the Axtell Knights of Columbus #1163 for the \$350.00 donation made to St. Mary's CCD program.

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 COLLECTION - Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas exists because there is need. Because of our generosity, they are able to meet this need every day. Our help is someone's hope. Give generously to this year's Christmas Collection.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK is scheduled for Jan. 15, 2017.

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

ELEMENTARY CCD will resume on January 4.

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

PLEASE PICK UP a copy of "Resisting Happiness" at the doors of our church. Every family is invited to take home a copy and read a short passage every day.

COFFEE AND SILENCE-Wednesday, January 11, 2017 from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Come for a morning or a day. Spend time in silence. Walk our beautiful grounds. Visit our Saint Scholastica Chapel. Coffee is provided. Arrive any time after 9:00 a.m. Bring a sack lunch and spend the day. Leave by 4:00 p.m. For more information or to register, call 913-360-6173 or visit Sophia Spirituality Center's website at www.sophiaspiritualitycenter.org.

THE BEST of all gifts around any Christmas tree is the presence of **HAPPY FAMILY** all wrapped up in each other.

Ministries for January 1, 2017-Soleminity of Mary, the Mother of God

Cross: Anthony Lueger

Servers: Rachel Schmitz & Savannah Engelken

Eucharistic Ministers: Laurie Strathman, Paul Strathman, Lisa Holthaus, Brian Holthaus, Brianna Uphaus

Lector: Cindy Murphy

Commentator: Diane Schmitz

Ushers: Dennis Rottinghaus & Wayne Rottinghaus

Offertory: Darren & Tammy Holthaus Family

Rosary: Cindy Murphy

Organist: Marlene Deters & Adult Choir

Cantor: Staci Haug

ALTAR SOCIETY EVENTS & NEWS

BINGO AT LIFE CARE NURSING HOME is every 3rd Wednesday at 2:00PM. **NOTE TIME CHANGE** January 2017-Suzanne Nolte, Karen Holthaus(G), Melanie Lierz, Jenny Heiman, Linda Haug, Deborah Sudbeck, Amy Sudbeck, Ellen Sudbeck.

ANNUAL SOUP DAY-Feb. 5, 2017

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, 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.

RAISE THE ROOF FUND

PROJECT GOAL	\$60,000.00
51 DONATIONS	\$26,359.07
3 PLEDGES	\$550.00
REMAINING GOAL	\$33,090.93

T-SHIRT RAISE THE ROOF DRIVE-\$721.00
ROOF SETTLEMENT-\$10,000.00

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Insurance Agents Present: **Evening With an Attorney**-You're invited to an estate planning seminar on January 24th at the Seneca Knights of Columbus Hall. Nick Puckett, from Brown and Vogel will be on hand to talk about protecting your assets, business succession plans and pitfalls people make when planning their estates. Snacks and drinks start at 6:30. Contact Kirby Schmelzle with questions: 785-213-5787.

PRO-LIFE ESSAY-8th grade Pro-life essay and digital media contest! Theme: "We are the #Prolife generation 500 word or less Essay Digital media creation: imovie, cartoon, commercial, poem, photography, original art Cash prizes! Due Feb. 1st! More information visit: www.archkck.org/prolife or email Alli Donohue at: adonohue@archkck.org.

WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT-Do you desire time away to pray about God's Will for your life? Single women between the ages of 18 and 30 are invited to Prairie Star Ranch to participate in an overnight discernment experience. This Retreat is full of opportunities to grow in community and friendship, develop a deeper understanding of how God is speaking to you, and meet some of the consecrated women who are joyfully serving the Church today. Register today at www.archkck.org/ranch or contact the Retreat Team at: psrministry@archkck.org; 785-746-5693 What: Women's Discernment Retreat Where: Prairie Star Ranch, 1124 California Road, Williamsburg KS 66095 When: January 20th-21st, beginning at 5:30pm.



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

Dec. 25-Engelken-Hall

Dec. 31-Lueger-Hall

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

Jan. 8-Schmitz Hall

Jan. 9 –Finance Council Meeting @ 7PM

Jan. 15-Anointing of the Sick after 10AM Mass

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. 9-Hall-Halley/Rottinghaus

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, 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.

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.

BAILEYVILLE CYO BREAKFAST will be on Sunday January 8, 2017.

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, desserts, 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.

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 steward-ev@archkck.org for help with your gift.

LISA thanks her grandpa, "Thank you Grandpa for the violin you gave me last year for Christmas. I've never got such a brilliant gift!"
"Really?" asks the surprised Grandpa.
Lisa says, "Oh yeah - every time I start playing, mom gives me 2 dollars so I would stop!"

"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.

PROJECT RACHEL-You are lovedAfter abortion. Maybe you don't love yourself but that is not God's way. Divine Mercy loves unconditionally, everyone. Let Project Rachel show you the many ways of healing. **FREE, CONFIDENTIAL.** Call or email Patricia at 888-246-1504 or projectrachelkc@archkck.org. Project Rachel is a ministry supported by Call to Share .

MARRIAGE MINUTE December 25, 2016

"It's the most wonderful time of the year!" How many times have you heard that song over the past several weeks as the barrage of "Christmas songs" have reached a crescendo on this day? It's the most wonderful time because it's the most wonderful day of the year! It is the day where we began to realize the fullness of God's love by taking on our humanity and pledging to never abandon us!

For married couples, Christmas is analogous to our wedding day. We committed the entirety of our being to our spouse and pledged to "take on the other's humanity" in every aspect. In other words, we committed to bringing joy and happiness to our beloved like the Christ child pledged to bring us joy and happiness.

This Christmas, let's recommit to bringing our spouse joy and being more concerned with their happiness than our own. This recommitment is the greatest gift we can give. For practical ways to live this commitment, go to www.joyfulmarriageproject.com.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION-An old joke asks, "What time is Midnight Mass?" The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of "midnight" predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as "The Shepherds' Mass," and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus' birth to focus on the key to the day's celebration: John the Evangelist's majestic theology of Christ's identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you're officially late!—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD-On this day of gifts and gift giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God. At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning. Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.