

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
Father Reginald Saldanha-Pastor
9208 Main Street St. Benedict, KS. 66538



Father Regie's email : frregie@gmail.com
Office: 785-336-6464
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.
Secretary in the office only on Thursday from 8:30AM till 1:30PM
Marriage: Contact parish priest 6 months before Baptism: Contact parish priest
DECEMBER 10, 2017-SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Unless specified below Mass times are as listed.
ST. BENEDICT---Sunday 10:15AM
Weekday Mass---Tuesday and Fridays at 8:30AM
Confession-Friday from 8:00AM to 8:30AM
BAILEYVILLE---Saturday 6:00PM and Sunday 8:30AM
Weekday Mass--- Wednesday, Thursday 8:30AM
Confession-Saturday from 5:15PM to 5:45PM
Sundays from 8:00AM to 8:15AM

Sun. Dec. 10-St. Benedict +Leonard Schmitz
Tues.-Dec. 12-St. Benedict -Seneca K of C #1769
Tues. Dec. 12-Mass at Life Care at 11AM +Bill Buessing
Wed. Dec. 13-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Virgil & Max Sudbeck Families
Thurs. Dec. 14-Baileyville + Eileen Koelzer
Fri. Dec. 15- St. Benedict + Odelia Sudbeck
Sat. Dec. 16-Baileyville +Leonard Tanking
Sun. Dec.17-Baileyville -People of the Parishes
Sun. Dec. 17-St. Benedict -Liv/Dec. Wilfred & Rosella Bergman Family

COLLECTIONS for December 3, 2017-Total: \$2,427.00.

ADVENT BOOK REVIEW AND STUDY - The review and study of Scott Hahn's book "Joy to the World" is being held on Wednesdays 7-8pm at St. Mary's and on Thursdays 7-8pm at Sacred Heart. The copies of the book are available at the back of the church for free. This week's study will cover chapters 4-6. All are welcome to join. Just bring the book and a bible. Looking forward to seeing you there. - Fr. Regie

THE NEMAHA COUNTY CHRISTMAS BUREAU would like to thank everyone who donated a gift for the Angel Tree. They were overwhelmed with the generosity of the parish! CYO would also like to thank you for your support of this project.

LECTOR'S WORKBOOK - The 'Lector's Workbooks' are available at the back of the church. If you are a lector, please pick up your copy (one per family).

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS: Remember your loved ones during this Christmas season by offering poinsettias/flowers in their names. Please use the envelopes provided in your envelope packet to write their names and for your donation and drop it in the collection basket or send it to the parish office. These poinsettias/flowers will be used to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas celebration and beyond. Please put \$15 in the collection basket for each memorial with the name of your loved one by December 17.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES
Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3:00 pm at **Baileyville**
Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7:00pm at **St Benedict**
Sunday, Dec.3 at 3:00pm at Axtell & Corning & Kelly at 7PM
Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3 pm at Frankfort & Marysville at 5PM
Sunday, Dec. 17 at 3 pm at Seneca & Sabetha at 7PM

Christmas Mass Schedule Eve: (Sunday, December 24)
4:00 pm : St. Mary's, St. Benedict
7:00 pm : Sacred Heart, Baileyville
Christmas Day (Monday, December 25)
9:00 am : Sacred Heart, Baileyville

New Year's Mass Eve: (Sunday, December 31)
6:00 pm : Sacred Heart, Baileyville
New Year Day Mass Schedule: (Monday, January 1)
8:30 am : Sacred Heart, Baileyville
10:15 am : St. Mary's, St. Benedict

2018 CHURCH ENVELOPES are in back of church. Please pick up at your earliest convenience.

Ministries for Dec. 17-3rd Sunday of Advent

Cross: Cole Engelken
Servers: Madison Lortscher & Joe Siess
Candle Holders: Alexis Spring & Elijah Ruegge
Eucharistic Ministers: Betty Olberding, Betty Bergman, Don Lueger, Brian & Lisa Holthaus
Choir EME: Kristina Sudbeck
Lector 1: Joanie Holthaus
Lector 2: Dan Tangeman
Ushers: Eldon Sudbeck, Jim Sudbeck, Richard Engelken
Offertory: Cyril & Joyce Schmitz Family
Rosary: Dan Tangeman
Organist: Marilyn Holthaus
Cantor: Stan Murphy
Money Counters: Evelyn Rottinghaus & Marsha Korber



ALTAR SOCIETY EVENTS & NEWS
DEC. 2017-(3RD TUESDAY)-CRESTVIEW at 2PM)- Theresa Sudbeck (J), Denise Wolsleben, Laurie Stallbaumer, Lindsey Haug, Betty Sudbeck (R)

DEC. 2017-(3RD WEDNESDAY)-LIFE CARE at 2PM)- Nancy Sudbeck, Leanna Rottinghaus, Nikki Rottinghaus, Heidi Holthaus, Kathleen Meier

HALL RENTAL NOTE:
1. Please make sure the walk-in cooler door is propped open when you leave.
2. Make sure the doors to the bathrooms are propped open with a folding chair when you leave.
3. Once done with the mopping, please hang the mop heads up to dry back in the cleaning closet in the pie room and put the handles back in the closet.
4. Make sure the fans in the shower rooms are running when you leave.

FIRST COMMUNION will be on April 15, 2018 at the 10:15AM Mass.

ALL 2018 FIRST COMMUNION are invited to walk up in the processional on Christmas Eve Mass at 4PM. Please meet in the back of church with Lisa Holthaus before mass. Also, they are invited to bring up offertory gifts at Mass as well. Each child will need to go to the back of church when the ushers begin picking up the collection.

JR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CCD - No CCD classes until January 2018.

PIANO RECITAL - Russell Ronnebaum, originally from Axtell, will entertain with a piano recital performance on Thursday, December 28 at 6:30PM at St. Michael's Church. There will be a reception to follow in the parish hall. All are welcome.

21ST WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING VIGIL - Sunday, December 10 at the Cornerstone Coffee Haus, 431 Main, Seneca beginning at 6:00PM. Anyone who has lost a child is welcome to join them that evening. Everyone is invited to light a candle in their home from 7-8PM, in memory of all children who have died, but are not forgotten. If planning to attend or for more info. about the event, please call 785-336-3691.



RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS-Help religious communities. "Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry," writes a religious sister. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!

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

Dec. 10-Hall-Lueger
Dec. 23-McKinley-Hall
Dec. 24-Olberding-Hall
Dec. 25-Scott-Hall
Dec. 30-Sudbeck-Hall



HALL & CHURCH is spoken for on these dates for 2018:

Feb. 2-3-4-Soup Supper
Apr. 8-Altar Society Meeting & Election of Officers
April 1-Scott-Hall
April 14-Huerter Wedding-Church
April 21-Rottinghaus & Engelken Wedding-Church
March 25-Easter Egg Hunt-CYO
May 6-May Crowning
May 27-Rottinghaus-Hall
June 9-Hasenkamp & Steinlage Wedding @ 4PM-Church
June 13-Hall Cleaning-No renting of hall until after picnic
June 16-Sudbeck Wedding-Church
June 22-23-24-25-Annual Church Picnic
Aug. 5-Beckman Reunion-Hall
Sept. 1-DeMint & Lemons Wedding-Church
Nov. 22-Scott-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 tmhave1991@gmail.com or stmarys9208@gmail.com, 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, Huerter, Hulsing, Liening, Lierz, Kramer, Krogman, Mohrman, Olberding, Rethman, Ronnebaum, Rottinghaus, Schmitz, Sextro, Strathman, Strathman B, Stegeman, Sudbeck, Wichman. Suggested donation is \$20.

SCHMITZ HERITAGE BOOK--The John and Mary Schmitz genealogy book is available at St. Mary's parish office for \$10. The money towards this book will be donated to St. Mary's Parish.

REMEMBER those who are sick or taking treatments, hospitalized or still recovering: Brad Bowhay, Ivan Rottinghaus, Clara Krogman, Aiden Berkhart, Lyle Rottinghaus, Monica Olberding Countryman, Brad Hammes, Laura Schmelzle, Ambrose Martin son of Larrissa Nordhus, Martin, Eldon Kriley, Mary Lally, Kenny Olberding, Dennis Bergman, Greg Fangman, Jed Henry, Tim Sack, Victor Holthaus, Sara Conroy, Joyce Koch, Kathleen Ronnebaum, Kristi (Mike) Meyer, Vivianne Marousek, Leon Holthaus, Shirley Schmitz, Larry Sudbeck, Jayla Nolte, Joyce Holthaus, Jerry Lueger, Eric Holthaus, Frank Hulsing.

P.S. These names will remain on the list for two months, if you want to include the names again please call (336-3174) or email at stmarys9208@gmail.com.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH DATES: Dec. 17, Jan.7& 21, Feb. 4 & 18, March 4 & 18, April 15 & 29 & May 6.

THE 2017 AXTELL ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS

CHOIR will be performing the cantata *The Promise of a King* by Lloyd Larson and Joseph Martin on Sunday, December 10 at 7:30PM at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Axtell.

This year's cantata is directed by Stan Murphy. Accompanied by Owen Zinke on the piano and enjoys singers from the Axtell, Baileyville, Frankfort, St. Benedict, Seneca, Salem and Summerfiled areas. Refreshments will be served in the St. Michael's Church hall after the cantata.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be at the Community Building on December 15. For appointments call 336-3360 or online at www.RedcrossBlood.org.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SUPPER TICKETS FOR SALE -The tickets are \$15 for either a pork chop or chicken cordon bleu meal and includes a baked potato, salad, roll, and dessert. Hot dog meals are also available for \$5. Your support is greatly appreciated!

LIVE as if every day were Christmas!

LIFE CARE FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

is in need of supplies. Items that are needed: toys, musical instruments, puzzles, jump ropes, school supplies, clothes. The donations could be dropped off any time at Life Care and if anyone wants to volunteer to wrap shoe boxes or fill shoe boxes feel free to call Tracie at [785-336-0723](tel:785-336-0723).

ISO FAMILIES for next year's foreign exchange students

—So excited we now have student applications in for the next school year. We are looking for some great American families who are able to invite an international teen into their home for the upcoming school year so they can learn more about our culture, while also sharing their own with you and your family!

Hosts provide their student a clean and safe living environment including a bed, meals, and way to/from school. Students come with medical insurance, clothes, phone, money and anything else they may need for the program. If you can help and are interested in selecting a student for the upcoming school year, message Diane Yunghans or my email is DianeySTS@gmail.com.

MARRIAGE MINUTE DECEMBER 10, 2017

Are you prepared? John the Baptist had the privilege of preparing God's people for Jesus: to "make straight the paths" that lead from people's hearts to their Savior. John modeled this behavior by retreating to a desert life of prayer and simplicity. Married couples are also called to bridge the divide between God and his people by demonstrating his great love for each of us. In our vocation, it looks less like locusts and wild honey and more like: • Simplifying our schedules so we have time to spend with our spouse. • Treating one another with tenderness and respect. • Repenting quickly and humbly after we have hurt our spouse. • Praying together. Just as John brought people to God by living his vocation, so will we—by living ours! For more tips on faithfully living your marriage, go to www.JoyfulMarriageProject.com.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LIMITED KNOWLEDGE

—As we were putting out cookies for Santa on Christmas Eve, I accidentally dropped one. "No problem," I said, picking it up and dusting it off before placing it back on the plate. "You can't do that," argued my four-year-old. "Don't worry. Santa will never know." He shot me a look. "So he knows if I've been bad or good, but he doesn't know the cookie fell on the floor?"