

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 31, 2017-THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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. 31-St. Benedict-Mass @ 10:15 AM + Joe & Anita Oswald
Sun. Dec.31-Baileyville -Mass at 6PM-Liv/Dec. Nick Holthaus Family
Mon. Jan 1, 2018-Baileyville-Mass @ 8:30AM- People of the Parishes
Mon. Jan 1, 2018-St. Benedict-Mass @ 10:15AM- +Greg & Henrietta Holthaus
Tues.-Jan 2-St. Benedict- +Clemens & Cyrilla Sudbeck
Wed. Jan 3.-Baileyville -TBD
Wed. Jan 3-Mass at Life Care at 11AM-TBD
Thurs. Jan 4-Baileyville -For World Peace
Fri. Jan 5- St. Benedict -Father Godfrey Mullen
Sat. Jan 6-Baileyville-Liv/Dec. Allie & Irene Koelzer Family
Sun. Jan 7-Baileyville -People of the Parishes
Sun. Jan 7- St. Benedict-Liv/Dec. Richard & Arlene Schmitz Family

COLLECTIONS for December 24, 2017-Total: \$ 2,418.00.
Christmas Eve Mass-Total: \$1886.75.



THANK YOU-As the year will be ending and a new year will be starting, St. Mary's Parish would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to volunteer at the parish in 2017. As the saying goes: Volunteers are seldom paid, not because they are worthless but because they are priceless, Thank you!

CHILDREN CHOIR-Children's Choir will sing on Sunday, Dec. 31 at the 10:15AM Mass. Grades 3rd thru 8th.

NEW YEAR'S MASS EVE: (Sunday, December 31)
 6:00 pm : Sacred Heart, Baileyville

NEW YEAR DAY MASS SCHEDULE: (Monday, Jan. 1)
 8:30 am : Sacred Heart, Baileyville
 10:15 am : St. Mary's, St. Benedict

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!

BAILEYVILLE K of C Free throw contest will be on January 7, 2018 at St. Benedict Hall, starting at 11:30AM. Ages 9 thru 14 may participate.

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.

Ministries - January 7-The Epiphany of the Lord

Cross: Anthony Lueger
Servers: Amber Blume & Hannah Scott
Candle Holders: Colton Blume & Elijah Sudbeck
Eucharistic Ministers: Will & Charity Henry, Brian & Lisa Holthaus, Anita Schmitz,
Choir EME: Sara Nordhus
Lector 1: Dan Tangeman
Lector 2: Diane Schmitz
Ushers: Richard Sudbeck, Steve Sudbeck, Tony Sudbeck
Offertory: Gilbert & Deb Schmitz
Rosary: Don Lueger
Organist: Marlene Deters & Adult Choir
Cantor: Kayla Sudbeck
Money Counters: Nancy & Joyce



ALTAR SOCIETY EVENTS & NEWS

JAN 2018-(3RD TUESDAY)-CRESTVIEW at 2PM-Karen Holthaus(G), Melanie Lierz, Jenny Heiman, Suzanne Nolte

JAN. 2018-(3RD WEDNESDAY)-LIFE CARE at 2PM-Linda Haug, Deborah Sudbeck, Amy Sudbeck, Amber Sudbeck, Kristen Tangeman

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

CCD CLASSES will resume on Wednesday, January 3 at 7:30PM. **CYO** meets at 7:15PM.

ELEMENTARY CCD - Wednesday, January 3 after school.

"GOD'S LITTLE GREEN ACRE" Seminarian Support - You are invited to join Catholics across the Archdiocese in giving thanks for our seminarians and show your support 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. Donations will be divided among our seminarians this Christmas to help them pay for textbooks and living expenses. They greatly appreciate these gifts since they have no income. For questions call 913-647-0303 or email vocation@archkck.org. Mail donations to : Vocation office, 12615 Parallel Pkwy, Kansas City, KS 66109.

SAMUEL GROUP is a discernment program where you are given the tools to know God's will for your life and how to accept His call with peace and joy. The program is open to students or young adults ages 20-30. The group meets one Sunday a month 1:00-4:30PM during the school year at the St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center in Lawrence. The group is run by the Apostles of the Interior Life, who specialize in providing spiritual guidance. Visit their website at kucatholic.org/Samuelgroup.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MEETING - OPEN TO ALL. Meet at 7:00PM at NVCH conference room every second and fourth Thursday of each month. Contact Sarah at 785-294-0657.

YEAR-END GIFTS AND STOCK GIFTS mailed or delivered by December 31 will be acknowledged for tax purposes in the 2017 tax year. Using appreciated assets such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds to make year-end charitable gifts has tax advantages to those who itemize deductions. 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/stock. Contact the Stewardship and Development Office, at 913-647-0325 or email steward@archkck.org for help with your gift.

BAILEYVILLE CYO BREAKFAST will be on Sunday, January 14 at Sacred Heart Church Hall. Serving from 7:30AM-12:30PM Freewill donation.

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

- Jan. 7-Baileyville K of C Free Throw Contest-Hall
- Feb. 2-3-4-Soup Supper
- March 25-Easter Egg Hunt-CYO
- March 31-St. Patrick's Parade-Hall
- Apr. 8-Altar Society Meeting & Election of Officers
- April 1-Scott-Hall
- April 14-Huerter Wedding-Church
- April 15-First Communion @ St. Benedict
- April 21-Rottinghaus & Engelken Wedding-Church
- 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-Boeckman Reunion-Hall
- Sept. 1-DeMint & Lemons Wedding-Church
- Nov. 22-Scott-Hall
- Dec. 8-Rottinghaus Hall
- Dec. 16-Schmitz-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, Monica Olberding Countryman, Eldon Kriley, Tim Sack, Victor Holthaus, Sara Conroy, Joyce Koch, Kathleen Ronnebaum, Vivianne Marousek, Shirley Schmitz, 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.

WE MUST UNITE OUR "HOUSE" DIVIDED

Our Popes and Bishops have made it abundantly clear that abortion is "intrinsicly evil" and the "preeminent issue" for Catholics. This means that Catholics must assign absolute top priority to oppose this evil! "...the obligation to oppose intrinsicly evil acts has special claim on our consciences and our action." Cardinal Justin Regali This brings to mind James 2:20: "... O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" The Catholic faith is not a social club; therefore we must accept all of her teachings or be complicit in breaking God's rules. Aren't we supposed to be "one holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church"? This is America 2018 when we have many Catholic politicians who see and promote child-killing as "health care." This is simply inexcusable! We, as faithful Catholics have a duty to replace these so-called leaders who are complicit in maintaining our "culture of death."

DYNAMIC CATHOLIC--This program is based on themes from Dynamic Catholic's new book called Beautiful Hope. The easy to use Beautiful Hope study guide will help groups and individuals at the parish dive deeper into your faith.. Go online at: DynamicCatholic.com/SignUp to check it out.

A SUNDAY SCHOOL teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation in vivid detail so her students would better understand the drama. Then she asked the class, "If you saw someone lying on the roadside wounded and bleeding, what would you do? One little girl said, " I think I'd throw up!"

MARRIAGE MINUTE – Christmas time is filled with symbols: trees, holly, and of course, the Nativity. But did you know that if you're married, YOU are a sign too? In the Christmas Eve liturgy, the prophet Isaiah tells us, "As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you." At Christmas, we celebrate the fact that God does not love us from a distance. He became a baby boy so that he would share all of our joys and sorrows—all our sufferings except sin. As spouses, we proclaim this reality every time we share: • Joy of our spouse's accomplishments • Grief of a loss with our spouse • The weight of an important decision. By entering deeply into our spouse's reality, we shine brightly like the Star of Bethlehem, guiding people to the love of God. Discover more for your marriage at www.JoyfulMarriageProject.com.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.

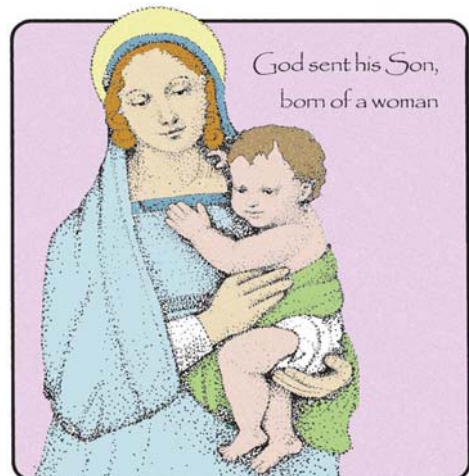
—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

BEARERS OF THE WORD

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.



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