

**December 24, 2017- Fourth Sunday of Advent
Pastoral Staff**

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www.IccClaflin.com www.holyfamilyodin.com
**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 4:00pm Ellinwood,
Sun., 8:00am Claflin, 7:30am Odin & by appointment.**

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

CHRISTMAS DAY (12/25)
Mass 8:30am [C] +Alfred Hammeke
Mass 10:30am [E] Parish Cluster

Tues. St. Stephen (12/26)
Mass 8:15am [C] +Tom & Betty Thompson

Wed. St. John (12/27)
Mass 8:15am [E] +Mary Ann Birzer

Thurs. The Holy Innocents (12/28)
Mass 8:15am [C] +Janet Klug

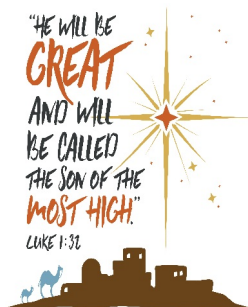
Fri., St. Thomas Becket (12/29)
Mass 8:15am [E] +Ashley Reichuber

Holy Family (12/30)
Mass 5:00pm [E] +Bill Wood

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (12/31)
Mass 8:00am [O] +Katherine Demel
Mass 8:30am [C] Parish Cluster
Mass 10:30am [E] +Brett Moeder

NEW YEAR'S EVE
Mass 5:00pm [E] +Bob Merritt
Mass 7:00pm [O] +Eric Beran

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Mass 8:30am [C] Parish Cluster
Mass 10:30am [E] +Joe Hickel



<u>Ministers - St. Joseph</u>		
Weekday Servers: Week of Dec. 24 - Grant Klepper, Daniel Hammeke		
<u>Dec. 30 & 31</u>	<u>5:00pm Sat.</u>	<u>10:30am Sun.</u>
Lector 1 Lector 2	Derek Joiner John Clayton	David Gonzales Karla Gonzales
EM	Glenda Heinz Lori Billinger Sharon Gatton Angie Hammeke Jason Schlochtermeier	Catherine Strecker Jalayne Ewing LeRoy Thill Sharla Thill Ed Schlochtermeier
Accomp/Cantor		
Servers	Brandon Carr Shaun Weber	Kennedy Harrington Karson Harrington
Sacristan	Marilyn Schartz	Kelly & Kristen Wondra

Greeters Dec 30: Millie Menges, Heather & Jason Schlochtermeier Family
Greeters Dec 31: Leon & Marilyn Reichuber, Jeff & Sandy Roth, Ed Schlochtermeier, Nick Younker

Ministers - Immaculate Conception

Sunday, December 31, 2017 - 8:30am
Lectors: Kathy Krier, Don Zink
EM: Joe Jordan, Doris Feist, Jim Oberle, Bill Thomas, Nancy Liebl
Gift Bearers: Lee & Jamie Bieberle
Greeters: Pete & Lois Krier and Petie
Servers: Paxton Doty, Emily Ryan
Sacristan: Joy Hertach

Weekday Mass Schedule

12/26/2017 Lector: Kathy Krier EM: Bill Thomas, Jim Oberle
12/28/2017 Lector: Nancy Schartz EM: Kathy Krier, Carla Liebl

Ministers - Holy Family

Sunday, December 31, 2017 - 8:00am
Lector: Lindsey Bogner
EM: Chrys Lamatsch, Joyce Koester, Joan Klug
Greeters: John Bogner, Mark Bogner
Gifts: Leonard & Lisa Klug
Servers: Kylie Lamatsch, Rachel Lamatsch

Note for Odin Ministers: If you are not able to serve your assigned position on the above schedule/date, please find a substitute and indicate the substitute's name on the schedule posted in the church entrance foyer.

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" - LUKE 1:28

Faith is a gift from God. Take time in silence and thank Him for all the gifts He has given you. Try to set aside any anger or resentment you have and really open your heart to receive the gift of God's mercy and forgiveness. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DEC 31

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14, Col 3:12-21, Lk 2:22-40

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY 1

Nm 6:22-27, Gal 4:4-7, Lk 2:16-21

**DON'T FORGET TO PURCHASE
YOUR SCRIP.**

**REMEMBER TO REGISTER YOUR
DILLONS PLUS CARD AND
SUPPORT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL**

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Church Support

Weekend Collection \$6,249.45

Envelopes \$5,786.00 Offertory \$428.25

Flowers \$35.00

PETITION SCHEDULE, Weekend of December 31st:
Mary Jo Cunningham. New Year's: Marilyn Reichuber.

THE BIRTHRIGHT GIVING TREE will be in church during the month of December. Please put unwrapped items in the box under the tree. There are also envelopes available. Thanks for any help you can give. If you have questions, call Eileen Huslig at 620-564-3318.

DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY the Knights of Columbus will be having their annual bottles for babies campaign. We will be handing out baby bottles at weekend Masses for you to fill with change, bills or a check and then return to us. The proceeds from this are donated to pro life causes, we generally donate this to Birthright of Great Bend and Catholic Charities in Great Bend.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will be having their annual soup sampler, Sunday January 28th. Any Knight willing to make and donate a roaster of soup can call Mel Waite at 620-617-3291.

OUR SUPPLY OF PYXES, the small containers used to bring communion to the sick and homebound, is very low, especially of the smaller pyxes. If you happen to have one with you at home, could you please return it to the sacristy in the gathering area.

THANK YOU to Louis Pivonka and Kent Robl who once again decorated the Marian Grotto with Christmas lights. And thank you to Josh Komarek, who single handedly decorated the front of the rectory, unless you count Fr. Klein, holding the ladder.

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL to those parishioners and groups who sponsored a Christmas basket for needy Ellinwood families.

CURRENT FOOD BANK NEEDS ARE, Peas, Canned Potatoes, Carrots, Tomato Sauce, Cereal, Pickles, Ketchup, Deodorant, Vegetable Oil, Syrup, and Pancake Mix.

If you are planning a year-end donation for tax purposes, please consider the St. Joseph Living Legacy Fund and St. Joseph Endowment Fund.

PARISH CLUSTER NOTES

IN THEIR OBSERVANCE OF SUNDAYS AND SOLEMNITIES, Catholics follow the ancient Jewish practice of marking the beginning of the new day with the setting of the sun the night before. Hence we have Saturday evening Masses which are celebrations of the Sunday, but the absolute earliest these can occur is 4:00 pm.

This year, the solemnity of Christmas falls on a Monday. That means that the cluster Masses offered at 5:00pm Saturday, and 8:00, 8:30, and 10:30am on Sunday the 24th of December are Masses for the 4th Sunday of Advent, which, like any other Sunday, is a day of obligation. The evening Masses of the 24th of December 4:00 and 6:00pm are Christmas Masses, along with the two offered on Monday morning at 8:30 and 10:30. Christmas is a Holy Day of obligation.

An observant Catholic will thus attend two Masses this week. One for Sunday and one for Christmas. Consider it your thanks to God for the gift of his Son. Fr. Klein will celebrate seven.

THANK YOU - I try to write personal thank you notes for all of those who are so very kind to me at Christmas. But sometimes items come anonymously, or I miss one. Please know that I am very grateful to all of you for your gifts. I can't imagine a better assignment than the one, which I have. And don't forget, please, to pray for your pastor in the new year. Fr. Terrance Klein

JANUARY 1 IS THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD. This year, because it falls on a Monday, it is not a holy Day of obligation, though it is certainly an excellent way to begin the New Year. Like Christmas, the week before, its Masses begin on Sunday evening and go into Monday morning.

A NEW YEAR OF THEOLOGY ON TAP begins January 6th, at 7:00 pm in the Wolf Hotel Saloon. "Everything you ever wanted to know about what the Church teaches on sexuality, which you can ask in an hour."

LOTTO ST. JOE winner of the \$50 weekly drawing for December 22 is Cassie Batchman. Winner of the \$500 Christmas drawing is Roger Ellinger.

THERE WILL BE A MEETING at the ICC Parish Center on Wednesday, January 10th at 8:00 p.m. for current ICC and Holy Family 7-10th grade students who are interested in attending NCYC 2019. The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is an exciting biannual four-day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers (9-12th grade) and their adult chaperones. If you are planning to attend NCYC in 2019 please attend the meeting with a parent or guardian. If you aren't sure and would like to learn more about NCYC, this would be a great time to hear from both students and chaperones who have attended in the past!

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT to send a letter of support to our seminarians who, if it be God's plan, will one day serve as a priest for the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City. The seminarians have said on many occasions how much these letters mean to them! Letters can be mailed to **John Stang, Austin Habash and Tyler Saucedo** at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary, 1300 S. Steele St., Denver, CO 80210, **Eric Frieb and Esteban Hernandez** at Conception Seminary College, P. O. Box 502, Conception, MO 64433.

REGISTER YOUR YOUTH NOW for the Diocese of Dodge City pro-life pilgrimage to Topeka on Monday, January 22, 2018. Join in a day of prayer, activity, and public witness to the value of every human life. Open to High School and College-age youth and sponsors. Bus will depart from Dodge City at 5:30 am and stop in Great Bend at St. Patrick Catholic Church. The day's activities will include Mass, march and a rally on the steps of the Capitol building and an opportunity to hear abortion survivor, Melissa Ohden prior to leaving Topeka around 4:00. There will be a dinner stop in Salina. Cost is \$35 for youth and youth leaders (includes lunch, transportation, rally and speaker). Donations

are welcome to cover additional costs. Participants will need \$\$ for supper in Salina on the way home. Registrations with payment will be accepted until the bus is full, and should be directed to Gayla Kirmer, Diocese of Dodge City, P.O. Box 137, Dodge City KS 67801, 620-227-1525 or gkirmer@dcdiocese.org.

TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENT - Everyone 21 and over is invited to compete in a Texas Hold'Em Poker Tournament to raise funds for area charities. The tournament will be at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 6th. at the Hoisington Knights of Columbus Hall.

SENIOR FOOD BANK PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN BARTON COUNTY - The Kansas Food Bank with local partner from Food Bank of Barton County, Barton County Health Department, RSVP, Hoisington Food Bank, St. Rose Health Center, Untied Way, Eldercare Inc., and Central Kansas Partnership are introducing a USDA food program to help provide monthly food boxes to low income seniors. The Commodity Supplemental Food Program for Seniors will be available to person in Barton County, age 60 and above, who meet income requirements. Distribution will start in February.

To apply for the program, call Debi at the Kansas Food Bank, 316-265-3663 to schedule an appointment for the Sign-up. The Sign-up event will be on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, between 10am and 4pm at the RSVP office, 1205 Main, Great Bend. Applicants should bring all required documents with them.

Interested seniors must fill out an application and provide the following: proof of ID, proof of income (Social Security Statement) and proof of address. Once approved, they will receive a monthly box for six months, and then will recertify for the next six months.

THINKING ABOUT SEPARATION OR DIVORCE?— Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend struggling or even heading for divorce? Do you know how to save that marriage? Or do you feel helpless? Retrouvaille is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust, and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on January 26-28 call Paul or Patty Miguel at 806-420-1520 or email us at retropairamarillo@gmail.com or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

<p>Church Support Weekend Collection: \$2,603.00 Envelopes \$2,037.00 Offertory \$566.00</p>
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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" – "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." – that the promise finds fulfillment.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION, next class will be Wednesday,

January 10th, 7:00 - 8:00pm.

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING will be held on Sunday, January 7th at 9:30 am at the Parish Center. The meeting will consist of the installation of the new officers. Refreshments will be served.

AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, our parish has encountered several unexpected expenses at the end of this year. First the sound system in the parish hall went out. This was followed by the equalizer in the church sound system. The good news is that these have all been very well repaired or replaced, but at a cost of \$3,447.00. If you can help with this expense, please label your contribution "Repairs."

Likewise, after many years of service, our parish office copier needs to be replaced. Just now, the cost looks to be about \$1500. If you can help with this, please label your gift, "Copier."

THANK YOU to everyone who supported Birthright through their donations to the Giving Tree! Your generosity is deeply appreciated!

NEW YEAR'S DAY MINISTERS - Lectors: Kent Praeger, Laura Schlessiger, EM: Todd Liebl, Carla Liebl, Rita Stueder, Cindy Stueder, Francis Soukup, Gift Bearers: Jon & Jane Oeser Family, Greeters: Marvin & Bobette Kirmer, Servers: Brett Liebl, Lawson Oeser, Lauren Oeser, Scaristan: Judy Oberle.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

<p>Church Support Weekend Collection: \$1,297.00 Envelopes \$1,045.00 Offertory \$252.00</p>
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PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION, next class will be Wednesday, January 10th, 7:00 - 8:00pm.

COMMUNION BREAKFAST January 14th following the 8 a.m. mass for all Knights of Columbus members and high school sons, and all Holy Family mass servers.

FREE THROW CONTEST -Odin Knights of Columbus free-throw contest on January 14th at 11 am in the Odin gym. For boys/ girls ages 9-14. Proof of age required.

THE BISHOP HAS SENT US A DIRECTIVE regarding church property security. All churches must now be locked at night, to prevent potential theft or vandalism. Therefore, we need a volunteer who will agree to lock the church each night and unlock the church each morning. As far as this task, it does not have to be just one person. It could easily be split between two people, with one person unlocking the church each morning, and another person locking the church each evening. We need to put this into place as soon as possible, so please contact Steve if you can perform this valuable service to the church..

MINISTERS FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS Sunday, December 31st at 7:00pm – Lector: Virginia Debes, EM: Teresa Hickel, Rosalie Kinzel, Jim Schneweis, Greeters: Bob Debes, Dale Klug, Gifts: Steve & Mildred Reif, Servers: Cole Lamatsch, Grace Lamatsch.