

The

Spirit of St. Joseph Parish

214 North Main
Ellinwood KS 67526

Immaculate Conception Parish

310 North Main
Claffin KS 67525

Father Terrance Klein, Pastor
Sister Andre Kravec



RCIA Candidates go to Rite of Election

By Sharla Thill

Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City was the scene for this year's "Rite of Election" on Valentine's Day, February 14. Those being called to join St. Joseph Church on Holy Saturday attended this meaningful event, where candidates, sponsors and families arrived from all over the Dodge City Diocese.

This is the time when the seven candidates and catechumens are called by the Bishop in the name of the whole Church to the Easter Sacraments. They were called by name to sign the Book of the Elect, as they did back at Mass in St. Joseph's Church earlier in the day.

Joining in with all the RCIA members from every town in the Diocese gives you a wonderful feeling and lets you know that we are all one in this call to conversion.

Our seven candidates this year are Tania Wirtz, Raylette Oeser, Dane Wood, Courtney Klein, Mark Panning, Taylor Siemsen and Gene Rugan.

In this issue we share with you two of the candidates from our parish who are in the RCIA program. Greet them when next you see them in Mass.



Gene Rugan

Gene Rugan

"I grew up on a farm south of Ellinwood and have spent my whole life here," remarks Gene Rugan, who is attending St. Joseph's RCIA program this winter. "I attended Ellinwood schools. After graduation I went to Barton County Community College for two years, and then went to Ft. Hays State to finish up with a degree in Agriculture."

Gene is married to Karen (Kuhn), who grew up in Great Bend. They met on a blind date at Kiowa Kitchen, which was set up by her brother and a friend. The couple have three children, Haley, age 10, Christopher, age 7, and Lauren, age 3. Haley and Christopher attend St. Joseph School.

The family lives on a farm, south of Ellinwood, and Gene says this about his wife, "Karen keeps the home fires burning, running the kids to appointments, and whatever needs attending to." Gene is a farmer and rancher.

Gene shared this, "I am joining the Catholic Church because the rest of my family is Catholic and I wanted to be able to attend Mass and take the Eucharist with my family." Richard Rugan of Claffin is his sponsor.



Tania Wirtz

Tania (Osborn) Wirtz grew up in Hudson, Kansas until 6th grade, then moved to Ellinwood. "We moved here because it was where my Dad graduated from and my paternal Grandma lived," Tania said. "I graduated from EHS in 2004."

Tania went to Hutch Com. College on a tennis scholarship, then moved to Tulsa and became a certified esthetician. Moving

back to Ellinwood and wanting to further her education, she got her CNA license and went into the nursing program at BCCC. She graduated with an RN in 2011, went on for her BSN at Newman University and graduated in 2013.

"I started at Woodhaven Care Center as a full-time LPN while completing my RN," she says. "I never thought long term care was where I was meant to be, but once I graduated with my RN degree, and passed my boards, I changed to PRN there, and worked as an Oncology Infusion Nurse while getting my BSN. The Woodhaven Director of Nursing quit and they offered me the opportunity to apply. I accepted, and have realized that this is what I was meant to do with my life."

She is married to Tyler Wirtz, who attended St. Joseph School and also graduated from EHS. They first met when Tania was in grade school and started dating in high school in 2002.

"We have an 8 year old son, Layton, who is in 2nd grade and we just had a baby girl, Lynlee Joe, born December 15th," says Tania.

Tyler and Tania live between Ellinwood and Great Bend. They are in the process of fixing up Grandpa Joe's country home.

"I decided to join the Catholic Church primarily because of my son," remarks the young mother. "We chose to send him to St. Joseph because of the positive things I had heard about it."

"I grew up with a strong faith background, but decided to make the switch because as Layton, who was being raised Catholic, got older he expressed that he wanted to belong to the Church. I wanted to be able to share that faith as a family. Seeing what the School had done for Layton opened me up to joining and I am glad I did."

continued on Page 2

RCIA Candidates

continued from Page 1



She continues, "I have learned throughout this process that there are a lot of misconceptions about the Catholic beliefs that differ from other faiths. Prior to my husband's Grandpa Joe Wirtz passing, he was really a big influence on showing me what it meant to give your life to God. He was so excited to hear I was going to join the church, and I have felt his presence throughout this journey." Her Aunt by marriage, Jayne Wirtz, is Tania's RCIA sponsor.

Tania loves watching her son play sports, spending time with her family and friends, and commented, "We love getting together for meals, laughs, and watching the Chiefs play football."



St. Joseph School Hosts Chamber Coffee

During Catholic Schools Week, St. Joseph School hosted a Chamber of Commerce Coffee at the school on Thursday. Father Klein shared with all those attending about the school, past and present.

He announced that the school will be celebrating their 130th anniversary on March 26th, by inviting alumni to lunch and a tour of the school. Invitations will be going out soon.

Lead teacher, Marlene Clayton, told the group there are 74 students this year. She also recognized the teachers; our school cooks, Rhea Schartz and Kathy Birzer; our maintenance person, Kent Robl; Angie Hammeke and Alex Birney, who are working with the computer students; Jean Klepper and JoAnn Roth, both who are regular volunteers at the school, and Lois Hammer, who was in charge of the Book Fair, held this year in the parish center.

School board members, Chad Steffan and Matthew Hamameke helped serve the doughnuts and coffee to all present.



Father Terrance Klein speaks about St. Joseph School to those attending the Coffee. Behind Father is the school staff. From left are Kathy Birzer, Rhea Schartz, Kent Robl, Robin Doll, Cami Thomas, Marlene Clayton, Lyles Lashley, Michelle Miller, Jamie Harrington (behind Father); Marcie Liebl and Kyla Pearce. Members of the parish and the community were in attendance.

Ladies Come Together To Serve Area Churches Soup Supper



By Sharla Thill

Jalayne Ewing helps with desserts at the Ellinwood Area Churches Soup Dinner on January 28th, at the Parish Hall. Ladies from all churches came together to make the Soups and Desserts for this annual event.

A free will offering was taken at the 30th annual event. Proceeds will go into the Emergency Assistance Fund, administered by the Ellinwood Area Churches.

The Altar Society, under the direction of new president, Mary Waite, met on January 18th, to prepare for the Soup Dinner on January 28th. The Lenten Lunches on Ash Wednesday, which began on February 10th, were also discussed. St. Joseph's Church hosted the first noon lunch on the 10th.

Stations of the Cross

On March 16th, the Altar Society will prepare and facilitate the Stations of the Cross. Please contact Mary Waite if interested in volunteering for this. All members are urged to patronize these events.

Next meeting will be Monday, March 7th, at 7 p.m., in the Parish Center.



Celebrating Our Seniors



MaryBeth Thill

By Rita Feist

“My plans for the little time I have left, at my house and in Ellinwood, are to make as many great memories as I possibly can, spending time with all my friends and family before I start a new chapter in my life,” commented MaryBeth Thill who will be off to Kansas State University in the Fall, hoping to possibly major in Apparels and Textiles.

MaryBeth is the daughter of Mike and Ginger Thill, and the granddaughter of LeRoy and Sharla Thill, of our parish, and Edie Wolf of Claflin. She has three siblings, Abby, Ellinwood, Lauren, Hays and Ava of the home.

She attended elementary school at St. Joseph and said, “I got to experience so many wonderful memories at St. Joseph. Being in such a small class I created bonds with my classmates that could never be broken! Every single day we always had so much fun and that will always be a time of my life that I could never forget. The St. Joseph School food was always a perk as well!!!”

High School life has been great for her. She has been very involved in many activities during her four years, mainly FBLA, KAY, STUCO and National Honor Society. She played volleyball her freshman year. Participated in cheer and dance her freshman through junior year, and has been a member of The Mystic Blues group all four years.

She was also involved in the musical, “Bye Bye Birdie”. “My favorite memory

out of all the activities I was involved in would definitely have to be being a part of the cheer and dance squad. I have made so many friends through this, and getting to cheer at all the football and basketball games was one of the most fun things I have ever been a part of!”

Fall Homecoming of 2015 was memorable. Having the privilege of being a candidate for Homecoming queen and being a part of the school’s fun activities including a school parade was the very BEST!

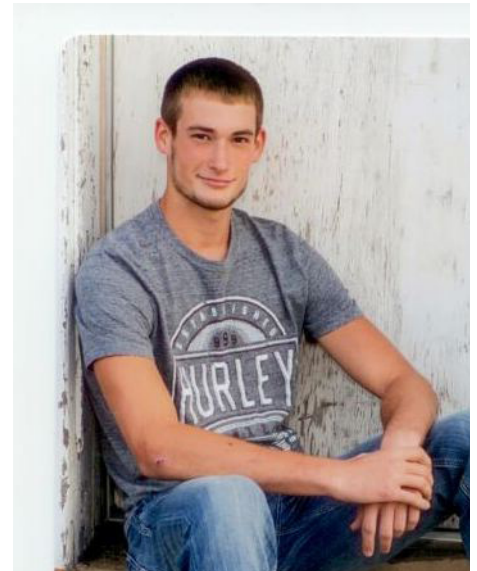
Her High School classes and being a member of the National Honor Society for three years, attending the Egghead Banquets, receiving an Academic Achievement Certificate and being on the Honor Roll all four years are all part of her great high school memories.

“My favorite class would have to be English Comp with Mrs. Jacobs, who makes the class a fun environment to be in. English Comp is actually a college course that we seniors gratefully get to take through Barton Community College. I really enjoy the things that we learn in the class and also the different papers we write each week!” exclaimed MaryBeth.

MaryBeth has been a part of PSR and Altar Server for many years.

When MaryBeth is not in school, she can be found dancing at the studio she attends called Danceography in Great Bend, or working as a teller at Sunflower Bank in Ellinwood. She plans to continue working there this summer and will miss that job very much when she leaves for college. Being with her lifelong friends will be among her best memories.

St. Joseph parishioners wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



Cody Wondra

By Sharla Thill

Son of Kristen and Kelly Wondra, Cody will graduate from Ellinwood High School this May. Born in Orange City, Iowa, Cody and his family moved back to Kansas in 2000.

“My Dad grew up in Great Bend, then attended and played basketball at Barton Co. Com. College,” says the young senior. “He then transferred to Kansas State to study swine nutrition.”

Cody continued, “My Mom grew up moving all over, but spent most of her high school years in St. John. She went to Barton Co. Com. College, where she met my Dad. She also went on to Kansas State to study Microbiology.”

After their years in Manhattan the couple moved to Iowa, where Kelly got a nutritionist job.

Back in Ellinwood, Cody went to St. Joseph’s Catholic School from kindergarten to 8th grade.

“From the moment I got to high school I knew I wanted to take an AG class,” Cody declares. “I remember sitting in the classroom for weeks on weeks learning about everything agriculture, but not being able to go into the shop to do anything.”

“When the day finally came for us to go out in the shop, it felt like Christmas,” Cody says. “Even though Mr. Blakeslee had filled our heads full of awful pictures of what could happen if we did even the slightest thing wrong on a drill press or a

Continued pg. 4

Celebrating Seniors

Continued from pg. 3

hydraulic press, I loved being in the shop. It quickly became my favorite class.”

Cody also shared this, “I have taken as many Ag classes as I can every year, even repeating some classes a couple times. Mr. Blakeslee has taught me so much and has really helped me decide what I want to do later in life.”

Sports were also a big part of Cody’s life, and he played football and basketball every year. “Having my Dad as a coach at St. Joseph’s School really taught me some great life lessons. He taught me from an early age that it is important to always give your best on the court and off. He showed me that quitting was never an option and that there is always room to improve,” Cody said.

He spends his spare time taking care of and improving his livestock, helping dad at the farm, hunting, and being with his friends. Cody has been a part of PSR and an altar server for many years.

Cody has two siblings: Kaitlyn is in the Nursing program at Fort Hays State, and Luke is an 8th grader at St. Joseph School.

This senior hopes to get his degree in Animal Science at Kansas State and added, “I want my future to involve the breeding and reproductive side of the swine industry.”

Good luck for a great future from your family at St. Joseph’s Church.



Feast of St. Joseph

For over a thousand years the feast of St. Joseph has been celebrated on March 19th.

If a world wide survey was taken to establish people’s favorite saints, Joseph would be high on the list –probably second. (Mary would be first.)

Interesting, Joseph doesn’t make any appearance in John’s Gospel; his name isn’t even mentioned in Mark’s Gospel. When he makes his only appearances in Matthew and Luke – in the infancy narratives – he says not a word.

Joseph may have died thinking he hadn’t done all that much, or even all that well. He simply tried his best to do whatever was given him to do.

That’s probably why he’s such a favorite – he simply tried his best to do whatever was given him to do.



By Sharla Thill

Soup Sampler is Success

The Knights of Columbus hosted their annual Soup Sampler on Sunday, January 31st from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the St. Joseph Parish Center.

A large crowd attended because of Catholic Schools Open House at the School. A wide variety of soups were available, along with drinks and dessert.

The proceeds from this event will be used for the K of C scholarship fund for local youth.



I just ran five miles and what a workout . . . I didn’t think that ice cream truck would ever stop.

Small Group Discussions

Sister Andre is leading a presentation and discussion of the Year of Mercy and the book “Rediscover Jesus” in the parish offices at 9:30 a.m. on all the Fridays of Lent. All are invited to attend.



Men’s Prayer Breakfast

On all the Fridays during Lent, the Lenten Men’s Group met at 6:15 a.m. at the St. Joseph’s School Cafeteria. These will continue on the first three Fridays of March and you can still attend, even if you have not been able to come in February.

The group watches a short video series, followed by small group discussion and dismisses by ten to 7 a.m. Coffee and light breakfast is served.

A parishioner shares

Even though there are days I wish I could change some things that happened in the past, there’s a reason the rear view mirror is so small and the windshield is so big.

Where you’re headed is much more important than what you’ve left behind.

Doll Goes to County Bee

Kyler Doll, son of Robin and Monte Doll, won the school Spelling Bee in 16 rounds and advanced to the County Spelling Bee held in February. He is an 8th grader and won by spelling the word, “masterpiece.”

Fourth grader, Caylee Rowan, daughter of Brian and Jamie Rowan took second place.

Lead teacher, Marlene Clayton, Fr. Terrance Klein, and teacher Cami Thomas served as judges.

Kyler went to the County Bee on Saturday, February 6th. He took fourth place. Congratulations!

Help the Food Bank

Thank you for your continued support. Right now, the food bank is in need of tomato sauce, chili beans, peaches, fruit cocktail, apple sauce, chili, pickles, dish soap, paper towels, and sugar.

Dillons Enrollment Reminder

In order to continue in Community Rewards during the upcoming year, all supporters must re-enroll their Plus Shoppers card by visiting their website: www.dillons.com/communityrewards. Sign in to your online account, scroll down to the bottom to Com.Rewards, Click on Enroll Now. Find and select St. Joseph School or our organization number 11102. Thank you for your support.

When God answers my prayers, sometimes He says “Yes,” sometimes He says “No” and sometimes He says “You’ve got to be kidding!”



Students Enjoy Many Activities to Celebrate Catholic Schools Week

By Sharla Thill

If you saw lots of boys and girls with maroon and gold t-shirts, running amok during the noon hour on Thursday of Catholic Schools Week, it was just the students of St. Joseph School having a Scavenger Hunt, arranged by Father Klein.

This event came after Papa Murphy's Pizza for lunch, and before they spent the latter part of the school day creating cards for Diocesan Priests and Sisters.

It was only part of a week long celebration of Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service, the theme for this year's Catholic Schools Week.

Field trips were taken on Monday, Feb. 1st, to honor our community. The younger grades visited the Sunflower Bank and the City Building. The older students, 6-8 grades toured the Ellinwood Tunnels.

Kaitlyn Panning, 8th grade, remarked, "Even though I'm not a big fan of ghosts, I enjoyed the Tunnel Tour."

Daphne Doll, 7th grade, said, "I had so much fun at the Tunnel Tours, both sides of the street. Our tour guide Rick Casagrande, had so many good stories to share."

The students probably looked a little different for the tours because it was also "Lazy Day", and they were dressed in their pajamas or sweats.

Also, in the spirit of community, the students held a contest for the Food Bank and brought cans of soup, or a box of cereal, each day, to see which teams would win. On Tuesday, local veterans came in the morning for a flag-raising ceremony. Those sharing with the students were Richard Kimple, John Isern and Randy Strickland. Creating Valentine cards for veterans took place in the afternoon.

"We had some classes in the mornings," said Isabel Mai, 6th grade. "But in the afternoon we did fun things like make signs for the side walls of the church."

Second grader, Layton Wirtz, who said he "very much" likes going to St. Joseph School shared this, "My favorite day was Hippie Day. I wore hippy clothes from the 60's."

Ison Dauber and the 6th graders all came dressed as Hippies on "Hippies Day". Ison described his outfit as a tie-dyed shirt and jeans, a hat with long hair attached and lots of beads, making for a fun day. He said, "It was the high-light of the week for me."

Isabel Mai and Karson Harrington



Trace Tudor, grade 1, shares a couple of books with his Grandpa, Kevin Romine of Great Bend, during the special meal and program on Grandparents Day.

dressed in sweatpants and light up head bands for Hippie Day.

Another favorite for the students was "Twin Day." Kaitlyn Panning thought this day was the most fun. Her class all dressed up as nerds and she said, "I put tape on my glasses and wore high water pants and suspenders. I did my hair in pigtails."

Wearing Minion shirts and hats, RhiAnn Dauber and Chris Rugan, 2nd graders, also loved Twin Day. RhiAnn said she was really looking forward to Catholic Schools Week and almost came close to winning at Bingo on Monday.

Ava Thill and a friend, Elizabeth Monaghan, both in third grade, wore orange shirts, jeans and colored shoes for Twin Day, and Ava thought it was the most fun day. She also said, "I liked Mini-Me day and learned how to play "Clue" with Erin Hammeke, grade 7.

I was sitting next to Josie Heter at the Grandparents lunch on Friday, and she said Twin Day was her favorite time. She smiled and said, "Avery Schartz and I wore white shirts, jeans, AND Cowboy boots." Because her grandparents live too far away, Josie brought her Mother, Nancy, to Grandparents Day.

Other fun activities that took place during the week included Pastries with Parents, Mini-Me board games, Guessing Jars, Bingo with senior citizens, Red, White and Blue day (to celebrate our Nation) and a



Kelly Ann Williams, 8th grade, displays some of her art work, at the school Open House following the opening of Catholic Schools Week.

Scavenger Hunt. The Hunt, arranged by Fr. Klein, was a big hit, with teams of students finding clues at the school, Father's House and the Church.

At the opening Mass on January 31st, students arrived at Church carrying banners and symbols of faith, knowledge and service and joined the procession. The students took part in the Mass, by lecturing, being cantors, being Altar servers and bringing up the offertory.

Continued pg. 6

Catholic Schools Week

Continued from page 5



Jocelyn Joiner and Eleanor Joiner, both in kindergarten, agreed that making the flags for the 100th day of school was pretty exciting for them. Making the four and a half hour trip from Edmonds, Oklahoma, for Grandparents Day, were Steve and Kerry Fisdeck, parents of Stephanie Joiner and grandparents of Eleanor.

Angie Hammeke was the Grandparent who has the most Grandchildren at St. Joseph this year: David, 8th; Wittney, 7th; Daniel 5th, and Ty Hammeke, 2nd, and a foster child Ethan Fields, grade one.

Grandparents who have come to Grandparents Day the most years, (21) times, were Edie Nixon, of Pratt, and LeRoy and Sharla Thill.

Mel Waite, representing National Billing Co., who sponsored the St. Joseph School Spelling Bee, was on hand to give plaques to Kyler Doll, 8th grade, winner of the Bee, and Caylee Rowen, 2nd grade, who took second place. Kyler went on to the County Bee on Saturday and took fourth place.

Lead teacher, Marlene Clayton thanked the Grandparents for coming, being good role models for their Grandchildren and supporting St. Joseph School. She also gave out door prizes to each one who had a star on the bottom of their lunch cup.

Lois Hammer and several helpers manned the "Book Fair", which was held all week in the Parish Center. The money from books sold will be used to buy new books for the school library.

The Guessing Jars, where the students guessed the amount of things in them, like legos, paper, sweet tarts, puzzle pieces and rice were announced. Mr. Lashley, teacher, brought the rice jar, which made the guessing a little harder this year. Cody Zink, 6th grader, got the closest guess on the rice jar, with 14,050 grains of rice, only about 850 off the total amount.



Cantoring for the Opening of Catholic Schools Week are lead teacher, Marlene Clayton, and students, Monica Hammeke, grade 7, and Caden Rowan, grade 6.



St. Joseph School cooks, Kathy Birzer and Rhea Scharz, prepare to cut pizza for the students. It was a special treat for everyone on Thursday.



While standing in lines to check out at the Book Fair, Josalynn Zink, grade 1 shares a moment with Lexie Thomas Kindergarten, and her grandmother, Dana Lloyd.



Angie Hammeke and Lois Hammer manning the Book Fair during Catholic Schools Week.



Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest on Saturday, January 23rd

by Curtis Wolf



Thirty youth participated in the Ellinwood Knights of Columbus Council Free Throw Contest.



Winners in each age group of the Ellinwood Knights of Columbus Council Free Throw Contest from left to right: Kennedy Harrington, Mary Dimitt, Kaitlyn Panning, Mya Maxwell, Luke Wondra, Kaden Schofield, Nathan Ringwald and Trey Schofield. Not pictured Caleb Bookout.

The Ellinwood Knights of Columbus Council #1187 conducted the annual Council Free Throw Contest at Ellinwood High School on Saturday, January 23. Thirty boys and girls ages 9-14 shot 15 free throw baskets, and awards were presented to the top three places of each age. The winners of the council free throw contest have the chance to advance on to the district contest, which was held at Barton Community College Sunday, January 31. Thanks go out to Steve Oelke, Free Throw

Chairman, and Jared Oelke, Josh Komarek, Mark Hammeke, and Curtis Wolf for assisting with the contest. The top 3 places in each age group were:

Girls—Age 11—1st Mary Dimitt, 2nd Graci Schlessiger; Age 12—1st Mya Maxwell, 2nd Anahi Mendec, 3rd Ashtin Klepper; Age 13—1st Kaitlyn Panning, 2nd Becca Henderson, 3rd Jenni Magner; Age 14—1st Kennedy Harrington, 2nd Coleen Dunnaway

Boys—Age 10—1st Kaden Schofield; Age 11—1st Trey Schofield; Age 12—1st Nathan Ringwald, 2nd Caleb Robl, 3rd (tie) Cole Petz, Lane Klepper; Age 13—1st Caleb Bookout, 2nd Justyn Shaffer, 3rd Woodson Corbett; Age 14—1st Luke Wondra, 2nd Tyler Knopp, 3rd Ryan Niles

Things You Should Give up For Lent!

Let's recap. Lent comes along every year. And every year you think you should give up something that will be

- A) difficult,
- B) life-changing, and

C) Creative. Teenager Christina Mead shares this on her blog for Lent and says, "I stretched every muscle in my brain to come up with this list for you. Now you absolutely have NO excuse what you ***"can't think of what to give up for Lent"*** because I did all the thinking for you.

Snacking between meals

Listening to music in the car.

Texting and driving.

Talking about true feelings through text instead of in person.

Not inviting your friends to Mass.

Rolling your eyes at your parents.

Spitting your gum on the street, parking lot, or sidewalk.

Wishing for someone else's life, relationship, or possessions

Complaining.

Only talking to Jesus when you need something.

Only talking to Jesus when you "feel" like it.

Wearing clothes that are too tight.

Pride. Instead pray the Litany of Humility.

Being selfish. Give away something every single day, be it time, money, or something you own.

Don't buy anything besides the essentials during Lent.

Laziness. Give up TV and commit to going on a walk every day and praying the rosary.

Gossip. Write 40 affirmation notes (a note every time you slip and gossip).

Impure thoughts and actions.

Saying "God" or "Jesus" outside of a prayer,

Memorize Ephesians 4:29 and repeat it on the hour, every hour during the day.

If you're angry, take up kickboxing.

If you're complacent, take up Zumba.

If you're wasteful, volunteer once a week at a soup kitchen.

If you're judgmental, pray for every person you see.

Bad jokes.

Being sarcastic.

Not apologizing when you should because it's hard to admit you're wrong.

Clafin Seniors to Graduate



Taylor Rolfs

Taylor Rolfs is a senior at Central Plains High School in Clafin. She is a member of Immaculate Conception Church. Her parents are Kim & Trevor Rolfs, and she has one brother, Trey Rolfs. Her grandparents are Dennis & Kathy Rolfs.

During her high school years, Taylor has participated in Volleyball, Basketball, Track, National Honor Society, Math Relays, KAY, and FCCLA.

Her accomplishments include: All State & All League Volleyball & Basketball, and Honor Roll.

Her hobbies include hanging out with friends, playing sports and being with family.

Taylor's future plans include playing basketball at Fort Hays State University. At this time, her major is undecided.



Checking your phone every two minutes. (LOL. You know it's 30 seconds.)

Pulling the victim card when things go wrong.

Telling yourself you're fat, and stupid, and anything less than the truth that you're an amazing beloved child of God.

Hiding your faith from those around you. It's Lent. Share what God is doing in your life these 40 days.

"I hope this helps," says teenager Christina Mead. "I hope it made you smile. And I hope it blesses your Lent this year. I'm praying for you"



Kaylyn Oberle

Kaylyn Oberle is a senior at Central Plains High School and is a member of Immaculate Conception Church in Clafin. She is the daughter of Ray & Sandi Oberle. Her siblings include Emily Peterson, Nicole Ball, Rebecca Oberle, and Jacob Oberle. Her grandparents are Victor & Mary Rose Oberle, Harold & Bonnie Burnett, Vicki Wiles, and the late Verlin Wiles.

While in high school, she has been involved in KAY, FCCLA, the All-School Play, Scholars Bowl, O-Club, Math Relays, Forensics, National Honor Society, Class Office, Tennis, Basketball, Softball, Volleyball, National Society of High School Scholars, NCYC, CYO, Choir, Band, Yearbook, and church cantor/instrumentalist.

Her accomplishments include: State Yearbook, State Vocal, State Piano, State Tennis, State Softball, Student of the Week and Principal's Honor Roll.

Kaylyn plans to attend Sterling College to study Elementary Education with a Special Education endorsement. She would like to teach Kindergarten at a small school and teach piano lessons or take senior pictures in her spare time.

Kaylyn's hobbies include singing, playing piano, and spending time with friends and family.



***Join in the saying of the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy
each Friday of Lent following the 8:15 Mass.***

This can be done on your rosary beads. Pamphlets are in the vestibule of the church.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy as a novena will begin on Good Friday at St. Joseph Church, at the three o'clock hour (recalling the time of Christ's death on the cross).

It will be recited at the three o'clock hour through Saturday, April 2. April 3rd is the Sunday of Divine Mercy.

What is Divine Mercy?

The message of the Divine Mercy that Sr. Faustina received from the Lord was not only directed toward her personal growth in faith, but also toward the good of the people.

With the command of our Lord to paint an image according to the pattern that Sr. Faustina had seen, came also a request to have this image venerated, first in the Sisters' chapel, and then throughout the world.

The same is true with the revelations of the Chaplet. The Lord requested that this Chaplet be said not only by Sr. Faustina, but by others: "Encourage souls to say the Chaplet that I have given you."

The same is true of the revelation of the Feast of Mercy. "The Feast of Mercy emerged from my very depths of tenderness. It is my desire that it solemnly be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the fount of My Mercy."

These requests of the Lord given to Sr. Faustina between 1931 and 1938 can be considered the beginning of the Divine Mercy message and devotion in the new forms. However, it is important to remember that this message of Divine Mercy, revealed to Sr. Faustina and to our present generation is not new. It is a powerful reminder of who God is and has been from the very beginning. This truth that God is in His very nature Love and Mercy Itself, is given to us by our Judeo-Christian faith and God's self-revelation.

The veil that has hidden the mystery of God from eternity was lifted by God Himself. In His goodness and love God chose to reveal Himself to us, His creatures, and to make known His eternal plan of salvation. This He had done partly through the Old Testament Patriarchs, Moses, and the Prophets, and fully through His only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the person of Jesus Christ, conceived through power of the Holy Spirit and born

of the Virgin Mary, the unseen God was made visible.

The Old Testament speaks frequently and with great tenderness about God's mercy. Yes, it was Jesus, who through His words and actions, revealed to us in an extraordinary way, God as a loving Father, rich in mercy and abounding in great kindness and love.

In Jesus' merciful love and care for the poor, the oppressed, the sick and the sinful, and especially in His freely choosing to take upon Himself the punishment for our sins (a truly horrible suffering and death on the Cross), so that all may be free from destructive consequences and death.

He manifested in a superabundant and radical way the greatness of God's love and mercy for humanity. In His person as God-Man, one in being with the Father, Jesus both reveals and is God's Love and Mercy Itself.

The good news revealed through Jesus Christ is that God's love for each person knows no bounds, and no sin or infidelity, no matter how horrible, will separate us from God and His love when we turn to

Him in confidence, and seek his mercy.

God's will is our salvation. He has done all on our behalf, but since He made us free, He invites us to choose Him and partake of His divine life. We become partakers of His divine life when we believe in His revealed truth and trust Him, when we love Him and remain true to His word, when we honor Him and seek His Kingdom, when we receive Him in Communion and turn away from sin, when we are mutually caring and forgiving. (www.thedivinemercy.org).



Resolve to Pray each day.



The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy, for recitation on ordinary rosary beads, is prayed in the church following the 8:15 Mass on the First Friday of Lent. Here Ray Robl, Joy Schlochtermeier and JoAnn Roth lead the chaplet. This will continue on all the Fridays of Lent.

“ASK THE PRIEST” SESSION OFFERS A UNIQUE INSIGHT

by Raechel Manley

On Sunday, February 15th Father Terrance Klein joined a group of St. Joseph High School Students to discuss deep questions like “The more I study science, the harder it is to believe in God. How do I balance it?” and “With kids getting cancer and tragedies in the world, how can I really believe that God has our back?” In addition to theological questions, which Father Klein is used to answering due to his past teaching at the collegiate and

seminary levels, there were questions that were a little more intimate. They ranged from “Did you date before the priesthood?” to “What’s been your worst day and what’s been your best day as a priest?” “The wonderful thing about the priesthood is everyday is different. You see the best in people and the worst in people. The happy moments and the sad moments. One minute you are holding back tears at the bedside of a dying parishioner, and the

next minute you are holding back laughter as a 2nd grader tries to tell you one of their corny jokes. So, my best day and my worst day could be the same day,” said Father Klein. “I like it when a priest can break it down to our level, when you can see their humility and their humor it is great,” said Lauren Manley, St. Joseph High School PSR student. St. Joseph High School PSR hosts an annual “Ask The Priest” session in efforts for students and priests to interact in a low key environment.



Top: Father Klein answers questions posed by PSR students at a recent class “Ask the Priest”. At right is Cody Wondra and MaryBeth Thill. Below: More students attending were Joanna Strecker, Myles Menges, Shaun Weber, Sarah Hammmeke and Lauren Manley (in the stocking hat) and John Billinger.



Holy Thursday
7:00pm - March 24

Lector1: Steve Billinger
Lector2: Karen Mitchel

Eucharistic Ministers: Jerome Huslig
 Darrell Shanteau
 Ellen Shanteau
 John Clayton
 Melanie Zink

Accompanist: Leon Sobba

Cantor:

Servers: Colby Heinz
 Kyler Doll
 Wittney Hammeke
 Daphne Doll

Good Friday
1:00pm - March 25

Lector 1/Passion: Terri Huslig
Lector 2/Passion: Mary Waite
Passion: Stephanie Joiner

EM: Angie Hammeke

Accompanist: Leon Sobba

Cantor:

Cross Bearers:

Holy Saturday
8:30pm - March 26

Lectors: John Clayton
 Heather Panning
 Yvonne Strecker
 Kent Roth
 John Sturn
 Mary Tudor
 LeRoy Thill
 Larry Drees

Eucharistic Ministers: JoAnn Roth
 Glenda Heinz
 Catherine Strecker
 Jean Klepper

Accompanist: Leon Sobba

Cantor:

Servers: Joanna Strecker
 Cody Wondra
 Peter Joslin
 Sarah Hammeke

Easter Sunday
10:00am - March 27

Lector1: Sharon Gatton
Lector2: Art Huslig

Eucharistic Ministers: Marcella Birzer
 Ed Schlochtermeier
 Angie Hammeke
 Lori Billinger
 Kirk Bressler

Accompanist: Leon Sobba

Cantor:

Servers: Betsy Snell
 Kynlee Doll



March 2016

Daily

Eucharistic Ministers

- 2 - JoAnn Roth, Joy S.
- 4 - Gerry Menges, Kirk Bressler
- 9 - Marcella Birzer, Glenda Heinz
- 11 - Sharla Thill, Angie Hammeke
- 16 - Kirk Bressler, JoAnn Roth
- 18 - Joy S., Angie Hammeke
- 23 - Rosie Joiner, JoAnn Roth
- 25 - Good Friday
- 30 - Glenda Heinz, Marcella Birzer



Greeters

Saturday - 5:00pm

Glen & Kathy Hertel

Heather & Jason Schlochtermeier Family

Sunday - 8:00am

Ron & Rosemary McCrary

Kim Ward

Sharon Gattton

Sunday - 10:00am

Richard & Jean Doll family

Ed Schlochtermeier

Weekday Servers: Week of Feb. 28 - Lane Klepper, Grant Klepper

March 5 & 6

5:00pm Sat.

8:00am Sun.

Lector 1
Lector 2

Ellen Shanteau
Rosie Joiner

Catherine Strecker
Charlie Joslin

Eucharistic Ministers

Janice Birzer
Steve Birzer
Joe Schulte
Yvonne Strecker
Melanie Zink

Mike Moeder
Mary Tudor
Sharon Gattton
Joy Schlochtermeier
Paul Schlochtermeier

Accompanist/Cantor
Servers

Madisyn Schlochtermeier
Caden Rowan

Kennedy Harrington
David Hammeke

Weekday Servers: Week of March 6 - Luke Wonra, David Hammeke

March 12 & 13

5:00pm Sat.

10:00am Sun.

Lector 1
Lector 2

Mass at Claflin

Larry Drees
Linda Sobba

Eucharistic Ministers



Jalayne Ewing
LeRoy Thill
Sharla Thill
Mel Waite
Jason Schlochtermeier

Accompanist/Cantor
Servers

Alex Hammeke
Kayanna Hammeke

Weekday Servers: Week of March 13 - Haley Troyer, Monica Hammeke

March 19 & 20

5:00pm Sat.

8:00am Sun.

Lector 1
Lector 2

Heather Panning
Jerome Huslig

Kent Robl
Dennis Habiger

Eucharistic Ministers

Rosie Joiner
Millie Menges
Jayne Wirtz
Amy Oelke
Steve Oelke

Kent Roth
Rick Thomas
Lori Thomas
Curtis Wolf
Lori Hammeke

Accompanist/Cantor
Servers

Britton Dutton
Karson Harrington

Erin Hammeke
Grant Klepper

Weekday Servers: Week of March 20 - Ashtin Klepper, Lane Klepper

Weekday Servers: Week of March 27 - Madisyn Schlochtermeier, Erin Hammeke

See Holy Week/Easter Schedule



St. Joseph March 2016



1 Anthony Helfrich
2 Irene Kimpler
Bill Zink
Madisyn Schlochtermeyer
3 Monte Doll
Joyce Schulte
4 Jeff Roth
Ruth Hill
5 Mel Waite
6 Jesse Broce
Doug Ewing
Ashtin Klepper
Lane Klepper
Jason Schlochtermeyer
9 Lana Kimpler
Helen Hickel
Karen Mitchel

10 Stacey Ward
Robert Robins
Kelsey Yeakley
11 Brett Moeder
12 Alan Bayer
Mike Birzer
Cheryl Klepper
13 Daniel Hammeke
Kathy Hines
Heather Panning
Matt Troyer
14 Karen Rugan
Lauren Rugan
15 Don Joiner
17 J. P. (Pat) Kasselmann
19 Linda Sobba
Bill Williams
Danielle Weber
21 Jim McMullen
Brandon Yeakley
22 LeRoy Thill
23 Kyle Nemnich
Remi Thomas

24 Ethan Schlochtermeyer
25 Carol Schartz
26 Bradyn Christiansen
Audrey Lewis
Macy Menges
28 Gerald Reichuber
29 Bernetta Oberle
Cayman Rowan
30 Yosalin Covarrubias
Mason Doll
31 Theresa Younker



1 Chad & Lori Steffan
3 Joe & Joyce Schulte
5 Dan & Donna Mason
12 Larry & Sherrie Siefers
24 Mark & Tracy Menges

Immaculate Conception March 2016



1 Melinda Kasselmann
2 Layne Bieberle
3 Gary Bittner
5 Matthew Demel
6 Arlene Strube
8 James Trent Musgrove
9 Jonah Schlessiger
14 Cameron Hekele
Brett Liebl
Dana Weber
15 Bonnie Jeffery
17 Jeff Schneeweis
18 Shelli Schmidt

19 Kori Hammeke
Rebecca Oberle
20 Catlin Miller
21 Alfred Hammeke
Taylor Hertach
23 Jane Dreiling
Richard Hickel
24 Lucille Beck
James Musgrove
Sheila Oeser
25 Merlene Doll
Richard Letourneau
Urban Oberle
Kirk Schneeweis
26 Richard Hayes
Adam Liebl
27 Edward Schartz
28 William Miller

29 James Beck
Lois Joiner
Megan Kirmer
30 Tom Huslig
Charlee Schlessiger
31 Kylie Holmes



3 Doug and Janell Hubbard
10 Jeremy and Angela Liebl
17 Marvin and Bobete Kirmer
18 James and Sheryl Hickel

Please inform the Parish Office if there is an error, or if a name has been omitted.

Ministry Schedule for March 2016



Sunday, March 6, 2016- 10:00am

Lectors..... Sue Weber, Kathy Krier
 EM..... Sheri & Toby Holmes, Nancy Liebl, Laurie Feist. Carmen Johnson
 Servers..... Emily Ryan, Devin Ryan
 Gift Bearers. Lee Bieberle Family
 Greeters Ann & Paul Oberle
 Sacristan..... Joy Hertach

Saturday, March 12, 2016 -- 5:00pm

Lectors..... Jane Dreiling, Janet Hitschmann
 EM..... Rita Stueder, Allan Beck, Peggy Feist
 Servers: Anthony and Jacob Oberle
 Gift Bearers. Ann & Allan Beck
 Greeters Ryan Harrison
 Sacristan..... Jane Dreiling

Sunday, March 13, 2016 -- 8:00am

Lectors..... Lexi Broeker, Lori Koester
 EM..... Karlyn & Fred Beck, Dawnya Hickel, Carmen Johnson
 Servers..... Lawson & Lexi Oeser
 Gift Bearers. Carla & Todd Liebl
 Greeters Lori & John Koester
 Sacristan...Joan Miller



Sunday, March 20, 2016 - 10:00pm

Lectors..... Janell Hubbard, Toby Holmes
 EM..... Doris Feist, Laurie Feist, Sheri Holmes, Sheri Holmes, Joan Miller
 Servers..... Kylie & Tyler Holmes
 Gift Bearers. Dee Krier Family
 Greeters Alan Kirmer Family
 Sacristan..... Joy Hertach

Saturday, March 26, 2016- 5:00pm

Lectors..... Lexi Broeker, Lori Koester
 EM..... Dan Demel, Laurie Feist, Carmen Johnson,
 Dawnya Hickel
 Servers..... Brianna Hickel, Callie Zink
 Gift Bearers. Rose Ann Wondra, Nancy Schartz
 Greeters Pete Krier Family
 Sacristan..... Judy Oberle

Sunday, March 27, 2016 - 8:00am

Lectors..... Jane Oeser Nancy Schartz
 EM..... Allan Beck, Bill Thomas. Jim Oberle, Kathy Krier
 Servers..... Lawson Oeser, Lexie Oeser
 Gift Bearers. Doris & Gene Feist
 Greeters Kevin Liebl Family
 Sacristan..... Joan Miller



Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday, March 24th, 2016

Good Friday, March 25th, 2016

Holy Saturday, March 26th, 2016

Easter Sunday, March 27th, 2016

Sister will have to fill in times or check the calendar.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2016 						
		1 Mass R: 15am [C]	2 Mass R: 15am [R] Lenten Lmch [R] Stations of the Cross 6:30pm [C] 7:00pm [R]	8 Mass R: 15am [C]	4 First Friday Mass R: 15am [R] Mass 10:00am [C]	5 Reconciliation 4pm Mass 5:00pm [R]
6 th Sun. of Lent Mass R: 10am [C] Mass 10:00am [C] 8:30 PM 9am [R]	7 Mass 10:15am Wdhuo	8 Mass R: 15am [C]	9 Mass R: 15am [R] Lenten Lmch [R] Stations of the Cross 6:30pm [C] 7:00pm [R]	10 Mass R: 15am [C]	11 Mass R: 15am [R]	12 Reconciliation 4pm Mass 5:00pm [C]
13 9 th Sun. of Lent Mass R: 10am [C] Mass 10:00am [R] 8:30 PM 11am [R] Daylight Savings begins	14 Mass 10:15am Wdhuo	15 Mass R: 15am [C]	16 Mass R: 15am [R] Lenten Lmch [R] Stations of the Cross 6:30pm [C] 7:00pm [R]	17 Christen Mass @ Dodge City 11:00am	18 Mass R: 15am [R]	19 Reconciliation 4pm Mass 5:00pm [R]
20 Palm Sunday Mass R: 10am [R] Mass 10:00am [C] 8:30 PM 9am [R]	21 Mon. of Holy Wk Mass 9:30am Hospital	22 Tues. of Holy Wk Mass R: 15am [C]	23 Wed. of Holy Wk Mass R: 15am [R]	24 Holy Thursday Mass 7:00pm [R] Mass 7:00pm [C]	25 Good Friday Service 8:00pm [R] Service 8:00pm [C]	26 Holy Saturday Mass R: 8:00pm [R]
27 Easter Mass R: 10am [C] Mass 10:00am [R] 8:00 PM 9:30 [R]	28 Mass 10:15am Wdhuo	29 Mass R: 15am [C]	30 Mass R: 15am [R]	31 Mass R: 15am [C]		

St Joseph Catholic Church
Immaculate Conception Church
214 North Main
Ellinwood KS 67526

Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 8
Ellinwood, KS 67526

March

2016



St. Joseph School Open House



Nathan Hammeke, 3rd grade, shows his grandmother, Louise Hammeke, his recent work in his classroom at the St. Joseph School Open House following mass on January 31.