

*The***Spirit of St. Joseph Parish**214 North Main
Ellinwood KS 67526**Immaculate Conception Parish**310 North Main
Claflin KS 67525*Father Terrance Klein, Pastor**Sister Andre Kravec*

Come Holy Week, St. Joseph's Will See a Change

Come Holy Week of this year, our two parishes will experience a change, though for the older members of the parishes it will be more of a return, or a restoration.

After consultation with both pastoral councils, who in turn solicited opinions from parishioners, we will be moving the tabernacles of our churches back into the center of the sanctuaries, where they originally were.

It's helpful if one understands the reasoning and purpose behind this renewal. We have records of the Eucharist being reserved in Catholic churches from almost the beginning of the church's life, though initially it wasn't reserved for prayer and adoration, but rather to be taken to the sick, as is still done today. During the Middle Ages, Catholics began to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, especially in times of trouble, as we still do today. The tabernacle was located in the center of the high altar, in the center of the sanctuary, the place where the older among us remember it being.

The reforms of the Second Vatican Council sought to address a confusion created by what might be called the five multiple presences of Christ in the liturgy: priest, Eucharist, sacraments, word, and assembly. It taught that Christ is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of His minister, "the same now offering, through the ministry of priests, who formerly offered himself on the cross," but especially under the Eucharistic species. By this power He is present in the sacraments, so that when a man baptizes it is really Christ Himself who baptizes. He is present in His word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church. He is present, lastly, when the Church prays and sings, for He promised: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt. 18:20).



The council suggested that the Blessed Sacrament, if possible, be reserved in a separate chapel where the faithful could go to pray before it. If you visit a church like Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, this is what you will find, though this side chapel is as large as our church in Claflin. This meant that during the Mass itself, people would not focus upon the presence of Christ in the tabernacle but rather upon Christ's presence in the person of the priest, in the word proclaimed, in sacraments celebrated during Mass, in the Eucharist upon the altar, and in the sacred assembly. Christ is present, without confusion, in all of them. It's a question of helping us to focus at different times upon different presences.

At the time of the council, virtually no churches in rural America were large enough to create a separate Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Instead, many, though by no means all, Catholic churches moved the tabernacle from the center of the sanctuary to one of the places where the old "side altars" originally stood. Everyone still saw the tabernacle, containing the Blessed Sacrament, during the Mass, so this small move didn't in any way accomplish what the council was trying to do. Instead, for many Catholics it seemed to suggest that the Christ reserved in the tabernacle was somehow of less importance than before. Our sense of the sacred in our midst suffered.

Our churches in Claflin and Ellinwood were both built with the expectation that the tabernacle would be in the center of the sanctuary. This is why both churches have very deep sanctuaries. The tabernacle can take a place of prominence and respect in the sanctuaries, beneath the crucifixes, and still be "at a distance" from what occurs on the altar and at the ambo (lectern).

Returning the tabernacles to the center creates an additional advantage in both churches. It will help us create a better "baptismal chapel" to the side of the sanctuary. Immaculate Conception Church was designed with wings (apses) that were meant to add solemnity and grandeur to the altar area. Unfortunately, over the years they have simply become store rooms that are visible to those who sit in front. At Immaculate Conception, we hope to clear these spaces so that people, when they visit the church alone, can come forward and pray close to the Blessed Sacrament.

Change, even when it is for the best, is never easy. Give yourselves time to appreciate the adjustment.



Lenten Men's Group to Begin On March 3, at School

Cafeteria
By Curtis Wolf

For the past several years, a group of as many as 20 men from the parish have gathered for fellowship and discussion during a Lenten Men's Group. The group meets on the Fridays of Lent at 6:15am at the St. Joseph School Cafeteria beginning on Friday, March 3. Breakfast and coffee are shared. The group is open to anyone that would like to join. Contact Curtis Wolf at 785-623-3189 if you are interested in participating in this year's group.



Soup Sampler

The K of C hosted their Soup Sampler at the beginning of Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 29th. A wide variety of soups were available, along with drinks and dessert. The proceeds are used for the K of C scholarship fund for local youth.

Lotto St. Joe Pays Out

Winners for January 22nd and January 29th were Bryan Snyder and Margaret Snyder. February winners are Ethan Schlochtermeyer for February 3, and Curtis Wolf, February 10th.

How Interesting is This?

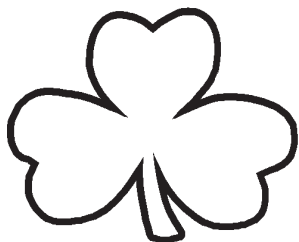
February 2017 Calendar structure will not occur again in your lifetime. February had 4 Sundays, 4 Mondays, 4 Tuesdays, 4 Wednesdays, 4 Thursdays, 4 Fridays and 4 Saturdays. This happens once every 823 years.

How many boxes of those Thin Mints do I have to eat before I start seeing results?

Kairos Prison Ministry

Volunteers are needed to help with this ministry, scheduled for April 29 and 30th in Hutchinson, Kansas. A recruitment meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 15, at Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church, 1600 W 27th St. N, Wichita, Kansas.

Training will start on March 4th. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Dr. Charlie Joslin at 564-2637 or 564-3771.



Roof Repairs

After a long consultation process, Roofmasters of Hays, the company that repaired the guttering over the sacristies last Spring, is beginning work on the flashing that surrounds the steeple and is at the west end of the nave roof.

If you go into the choir loft, on the south side, you can see the extensive damage that rain and water has done. Having refurbished the organ recently, we don't want to get it wet.

The estimated cost of this repair is \$16,000. Contributions made directly to this project will go directly to this project. Please help if you can.



March the first will be the beginning of Lent. St. Joseph will host the first noon Lenten Luncheon at St. Joseph Parish Center on that day. Our pastor, Father Klein, will be the speaker. A donation offering will be appreciated. Everyone is welcome.

KofC supports Special Olympics, Sunflower Diversified

By Curtis Wolf



Debbie Reynolds, Executive Director of Sunflower Diversified is presented a check from Curtis Wolf, K of C Grand Knight.

KofC Hosts Andrew Dinner for High School Boys

By Curtis Wolf

On January 22, St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus Council #1187 was asked to help host an Andrew Dinner for high school boys from the eastern half of the diocese at the St. Joseph's Parish Center.

Diocesan Andrew Dinners are coordinated by Bishop Brungardt and the Department of Priestly Vocations. Just as the Apostle Andrew invited Peter to come know Jesus, these dinners give pastors the opportunity to invite their young men to know Jesus better.

During the dinner, Bishop Brungardt, Fr. Terrance Klein, Fr. Ted Stoecklein-Great Bend, and Fr. Matthew Kumi-La-Crosse met with nine young men to talk about their vocation stories and their path to the priesthood. The Knights of Columbus prepared and served a spaghetti dinner for the group.

Promotion of priestly vocations is one of the primary goals for the Knights of Columbus, and the council was honored to assist with this important event. Congratulations to the young men who took the opportunity to further their journey to choose their vocation.

Around the middle of March each year, Hays, KS hosts the Kansas Special Olympics Basketball and Cheerleading Tournament. This year, the tournament will take place March 16-18. Teams from around Kansas, including a team from Barton County, participate.

The St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus is dedicated to assisting individuals with intellectual disabilities and assists with the Basketball tournament. Several 4th degree knights from Ellinwood typically participate in the Opening Ceremonies that will be held on March 16. This is a special event that you should attend if you get a chance.

Using funds raised from the annual Tootsie Roll Drive and Pancake and Sausage Breakfast, the St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus recently donated proceeds to the Great Bend Special Olympics and Sunflower Diversified. Checks were presented to Great Bend Special Olympics for \$864 and to Sunflower Diversified for \$432.

Sharing Baptism with Our Catholic Community

By David Gonzales

When Father Terry asked me to talk about baptism, it gave me a chance to really do some thinking about my baptism and what it means to me. And to ask some questions . . . do I remember my baptism? Do I live out my baptismal promises? I think about it at Easter like most of us do, but really . . . not on a regular basis.

For me, Baptism is simply . . . Faith! What do you ask of God's Church?" The response is "Faith".

It is a new initiation, a new life, a new start of one's Faith life. For me, I actually have some memory of it.

I was baptized in Berlin, Germany when I was seven years old, having moved there with my mother and sister. You see, Mom left our life in southern California to marry my Dad. They fell in love there, but then he was transferred to Berlin, as he was an Airman in the US Air Force. Dad proposed to Mom via the postal service. She accepted and after Dad asked my Grandparents for their approval, we boarded PanAm and headed to Templehoff Air Field in West Berlin. So between 1966 and 1968, I had a new Dad, a new place to live, and a new faith . . . Catholicism.

The Catechism of the Church says after Baptism we are to grow in Faith, and each year renew our Baptismal promises. It has taken me a long time to be able to say that with any conviction!

For me, Faith really didn't start blooming until I had children. After that, came a gradual, but sure strengthening.

When our parents bring us to be baptized, they want us to have Faith! On January 8th of this year, the Holy Father, talking to parents about the baptism of their children said, "You have asked for faith: The Church gives faith to your children with Baptism, and you have the task of making it grow, safeguarding it, so that it may become testimony for all others."

Two weeks ago, Karla's aunt Ruth passed away in Great Bend. I thought of my talk to you today when Father Ted sprinkled Ruth's casket with baptismal holy water, recalling how the deceased was immersed into the death and her new Life with Christ. Whether it is the first time or when at death we are reminded of our new life . . . Baptism, what a Sacrament!

When Father Terry asks us to renew our Baptismal Promises . . . you know them . . . Do you renounce Satan and all his works?

Robin Doll Honored With Diocesan Teacher Award

By Sharla Thill

Robin (McCrary) Doll knew from 2nd grade on that she wanted to be a teacher. St. Joseph School was her first assignment, and 24 years later she is still making a difference in the lives of kindergarten, first and second grade students at our parish school.

On February 13th, Mrs. Doll was presented the KAIRS 2017 Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award for the Dodge City Diocese.

Robin says, "I loved my first grade teacher, Sr. Imelda Rose. That's when I decided I wanted to be a teacher too."

"As a young girl, I played school a lot, at home with my sister, Rhonda, and our neighbors, the Flax girls," Robin shared.

Robin, herself, is a graduate of St. Joseph School. She attended Ellinwood High School and started her college career at Barton Community College, where she attained a Business Associates degree. It was then on to her major at Ft. Hays State, eventually graduating with an Elementary Education Degree from Newman College.

Coming home to St. Joseph's School, in 1994, was a joy for Robin. She stated that, "I got to be a co-worker with Sister Francella and Sister Noella, teachers who taught me."



Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth? Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord . . .

Father also says: And may Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

A lot has changed over the years, but I am grateful for that day in 1967. And when it is my turn to go home to the Lord, I will be grateful for the Sacrament with Holy Water.

"Kindergarten was only a half day then," Robin remarked, "so at first I taught kindergarten and second grade. Then I taught kindergarten in the morning and first grade in the afternoon."

She is ending her 24th year as all day Kindergarten and 1st grade combination teacher, moving this year to a new room in the school.

The experienced teacher likes all the subjects she teaches, but admits to enjoying language arts the most. Down the road, Mrs. Doll hopes to find herself still at St. Joseph School and the students very much. There is a great atmosphere of family here."

Robin grew up in Ellinwood, the daughter of Ron and Rosemary McCrary. She is married to Monte Doll who works at H & B Petroleum. They have two children, Kynlee, a freshman in college at BCC, graduating in May, and Kyler, a freshman at Ellinwood High School. In her spare time she mostly follows her two children to sports events and other activities.

Your community at St. Joseph's congratulates you on this well earned honor.

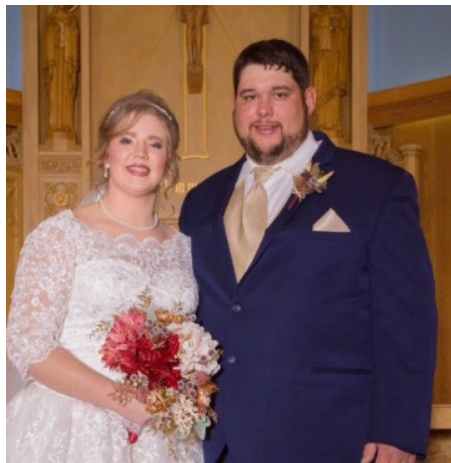


Robin Doll



Marriage Unites Casey Roberts and Michael Batchman

By Sharla Thill



Casey and Michael

Casey Roberts, daughter of Max and Kathy (Kasselman) Roberts, and Michael Batchman, son of Paul and Susie (Brungardt) Batchman, were united in marriage on January 14th, at St. Joseph Church. Father Terrance Klein officiated.

Casey and Michael's wedding was the first of 2017, with the new rite, in St. Joseph Church. The new Mrs. Batchman joined the church at Easter in 2015.

Michael graduated from St. Joseph School and attended Ellinwood High School in 2005. He is employed by Klepper Land and Cattle of Ellinwood.

Casey was born in Great Bend and attended Park Elementary there. She graduated from Ellinwood High School in 2009 and went to college at Barton Community College. She is employed at Golden Belt Feeders in St. John.

The young bride says, "We live south of Ellinwood on the old Puz Kowalsky place. We enjoy our two dogs; have a horse, and some livestock."

"We like spending time outside, being around our animals, four wheeling and hunting," remarked Casey. "We enjoy cooking together, especially grilling. We have great families and friends that we love spending time with as well."



Maid of Honor for Casey was her cousin Chelsea Sauber of Kansas City. Bridesmaids were Jessica Scharz; Lindsay Lewis, and Katie Gatton, all of Ellinwood.

Michael's best man was his brother, Mark Batchman of Ellinwood. His groomsmen were Craig Scharz; Aaron Pohlman, and Travis Trarbach, all of Ellinwood.

Grandparents of the couple are Mary Ann Brungardt and the late Ben Brungardt of Ellinwood, and the late Teresa and Vernon Batchman of Ellinwood, the late Georgia and Theron Roberts of Great Bend, and Violet Kasselman and the late Leonard Kasselman of Ellinwood.

The couple enjoyed a honeymoon in Colorado. They belong to St. Joseph's community and we wish them many happy years of marriage.



K of C "Free Throw" Contest Held Locally on January 21

By Curtis Wolf

All boys and girls, ages 9-14 were invited to participate in the local "Free Throw" competition for the 2017 Knights of Columbus Championship. The event was held on January 21 at 2 p.m., at the Ellinwood High School Gym.

This is an annual event. All students compete in their respective age divisions. Winners of each age are able to advance to district and state competitions.

Students from St. Joseph School winning in their division were Grant Klepper, age 12 boys, 2nd place; Ashtin Klepper, age 13 girls, 3rd place; Lane Klepper, age 13 boys, 1st place; all children of Jeff and Gwen Klepper; and Haley Troyer, age 14 girls, 1st place; daughter of Matt and Tammy Troyer.

The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic family fraternal service organization with over 1.8 million members in 15,000 local councils. Last year they donated over 70 million volunteer hours and \$170 million to charitable causes benefiting their church, council, community, culture of life, families, and youth.



Klepper and Rowan Head To Hays Championship

By Marlene Clayton

Lane Klepper, 8th grade, and Caden Rowan, grade 7, took the winner and runner-up spots in the St. Joseph School Spelling Bee, then went on to do the same at the Barton Co. Spelling Bee.

In the school competition, Caden Rowan was the champion, with Lane Klepper being the runner-up. At the county Spelling Bee, Lane was the champ with Caden being the runner-up. There were twenty-two competitors.

Both boys went on to compete in the Kansas Spelling Bee, which was held in Hays on February 25.

Mel Waite, representing National Billing Co., who sponsored the School Spelling Bee, was on hand during Grandparents Day to give plaques to the two young boys.



March Happenings

- March 1** Lenten Lunch at Parish Center
- March 7** Pick-Up for Red Wheel
- March 14** 7th and 8th Grade Students Confirmed 6:30pm
- March 26** Over 70's dinner

We Celebrated Catholic Schools Week!

By Sharla Thill

St. Joseph School recently focused on a Catholic education, including faith, knowledge and service, during the week of National Catholic Schools Week, all over America since 1974.

Two million students are currently educated in nearly 6,600 Catholic schools across our land. An estimated 99 percent of these students graduate from high school, and 85 percent of Catholic school graduates attend college.

Included on this page are a few of the activities that were held at St. Joseph School. The St. Joseph School Council hosted a Chamber of Commerce Coffee, serving doughnuts and coffee to a large group. Members of the council are Chad Steffan, President; Matthew Hammeke, Vice President; Scott Klepper; Danielle Weber, secretary, Jill Ritchie, treasurer, and Jamie Rowan, German Buffet. Lead teacher, Marlene Clayton, welcomed the guests and introduced the eighth grade students, who in turn gave the present history of the school.

The Talent Show brought out the many talents belonging to the students. They all dressed in colors, each class having a different color. (See pictures of some of the talents). There was even a demonstration on how to make a pie crust.

There were activities about veterans, a pizza party, guessing jars, lazy day, entertaining of parents, bingo, dressing like careers that made America great, an even

more amazing scavenger hunt than last year by Father Klein, and many more.

The week ended with Grandparents Mass and Lunch. The grandparents of Eleanor Joiner came from the farthest distance, Oklahoma City. Lots of smiles and hugs, as grandparents got to spend some time with their grandchildren.



Elizabeth Monaghan twirls the hula hoop in her Talent number.



Colby Heinz and Wittney Hammeke do the Swing Dance at the Talent Show.



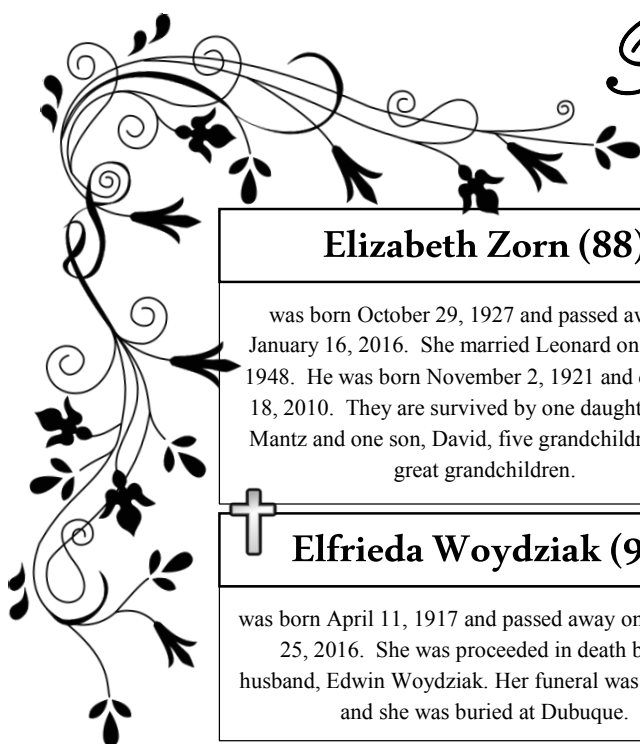
Enjoying a visit with their grandparents, Linda and Phillip Martin, of Great Bend, are St. Joseph students, Alexander, grade 5, Alvin, grade 3 and Ashlynn, grade 1, children of Holly Bowyer.



Trace Tudor, Alyvia Batchman and Luke Heinz tell jokes for Talent Show.



Nathan Hammeke demonstrates his drone at the Talent Show.



Remembering

Those we lost in 2016

Elizabeth Zorn (88)

was born October 29, 1927 and passed away on January 16, 2016. She married Leonard on May 10, 1948. He was born November 2, 1921 and died June 18, 2010. They are survived by one daughter Diana Mantz and one son, David, five grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.



Pauline Oberle (74)

died June 5, 2016. She was born May 29, 1942. She married James J. Oberle on June 4, 1966. She was proceeded in death by her son, Jeff. She is survived by her husband, James, and five children, Theresa, Peter, Douglas, Jennifer, and Ellie



Elfrieda Woydziak (99)

was born April 11, 1917 and passed away on February 25, 2016. She was proceeded in death by her husband, Edwin Woydziak. Her funeral was at Claflin and she was buried at Dubuque.



Esther Oberle (98)

died September 11, 2016. She was born March 1, 1918. On November 7, 1939 she married Joseph Oberle he died November 12, 1979. She is survived by two sons John and David and one Daughter, Judy. 12 Grandchildren, 30 great grand children and 12 great great grandchildren.

Anna (Wondra) Oberle (80)

died on March 17, 2016. She was born August 11, 1935 on a farm northeast of Odin. She married Paul Oberle at Odin. They lived in Claflin and had three children, Kathleen, Paul, Jr., and Karla

Helen M. Zorn (95)

died on September 19, 2016. She was born August 2, 1921. She married Frank F. Zorn on March 4, 1943. She was proceeded in death by her husband, Frank, and her daughter, Patty Schremmer. Survivors include Thomas, Susan, Michael, 13 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Beverly Joan Zink (76)

died March 20, 2016. She was born April 17, 1939. She married Don Zink July 23, 1960. They had five children, Dan, Mark, Susan, Janet, and Joni.



Eleanor M. Reif (93)

died December 4, 2016. She was born April 22, 1923. She married Anton J. "Tony" Reif on October 20, 1942. He preceded her in death on May 19, 2011. She is survived by two children, Sharon Dreiling and Gregory Reif.

Janice Bieberle (74)

died May 27, 2016. She was born January 2, 1942. She married Lee C. Bieberle, Sr. on June 15, 1960. Lee died September 15, 2006. Survivors include: four children, Kimberlee, Lisa, Lee C. Jr. and Jina and 13 Grandchildren.



Robert Reif (76)

died December 19, 2016. He was born May 19, 1940. Survivors include one sister, Donna Mackler, two nieces and one great-nephew. Bob loved seeing the church decorated for Christmas. It was fitting that the church was decorated with the Christmas trees and manger for Bob's funeral mass.



Lucille Beck (86)

died on June 1, 2016. She was born March 24, 1930. She married Arthur L. Beck on December 2, 1950 and he died June 9, 2005. She is survived by four children Jerry, Bonnie, Fred and Arthur and 14 grandchildren.

Remembering Gerry



Geralyn "Gerry" M. Schartz, 57, died January 10, 2017 at Via Christi St. Francis, Wichita. She was born February 2, 1959 in Lyons, Kansas, the daughter of Alfonso "Al" and Ruth (Vilapando) Morales.

Gerry graduated from Lyons High School in 1977. A longtime Claflin resident, Gerry worked as the Library Aide at Central Plains High School in Claflin. She had also worked for the United States Postal Service and had ran her own daycare. Gerry was a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, where she was active in the Altar Society and taught PSR classes for many years.

On January 15, 1983, she married Paul E. Schartz, Jr. in Lyons, Kansas. She is survived by her husband of nearly 34 years, Paul E. Schartz, Jr.; and their three children, Christopher Schartz of Claflin, Melissa Puetz and husband Jacob of Goddard, Kansas, and Luke Schartz of Claflin, her parents, Al and Ruth Morales of Lyons, Kansas; five siblings, Debbie Christianson, Tony Morales, Alvina Lundquist, Max Morales, and Susie Morales; and many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

In Father Klein's homily, he told how Gerry was always caring for or comforting others, whether it was her family, friends, students at Central Plains or her parents. She loved running the concession stand and teaching First Communion and Confirmation classes. Gerry was a woman of hope and will be greatly missed. Immaculate Conception

Parish extends deepest sympathy to the Schartz family.

Funeral Mass for Gerry was on January 13, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church with Fr. Terrance Klein officiating. Memorials were made to the K-State University Marching Band or the Community Scholarship Inc., of Claflin,



Knight of Columbus Free Throw Competition

Sunday January 22, 2017, Knight Kyle Hickel of the Claflin Council held the Annual Free Throw Contest at the Claflin Recreation Center. Emma Hickel and Lauren Oeser were the only participants and both competed in the 11 year old girls division. Both girls shot 15 free throws, which ended in a tie, each making 7 out of 15 baskets. In the tie-break, Lauren Oeser made 4 out of 5 free throws to win the 11 year old girls division.

Winning the local K of C contest, Lauren went on to compete at the District Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest held at Ellsworth on Sunday February 5, 2017. Lauren made 8 out of 25 Free Throws. Great Job Lauren!



Lauren Oeser – 11 year old girls
division champion



Emma Hickel – Participant



Lauren Oeser shooting at
District K of C Contest at Ellsworth.

2016 Weddings

Performed at
Immaculate Conception Church

Jan. 2, 2016

Natalie (Zink) & Taylor Bieberle

April 2, 2016

Morgan (Fletcher) & Devin Hoffman

May 14, 2016

Melissa (Schartz) & Jacob Puetz

June 4, 2016

Brichelle (Davis) & Seth Rolfs

Aug. 27, 2016

Angela (Jones) & Jeremy Liebl

Nov. 12, 2016

Brogan (Kirmer) & Isaac White

2016 Baptisms

Performed at
Immaculate Conception Church

Jan. 30, 2016

Bryce Matthew Harrison
son of Darah (Dohrman)
& Ryan Harrison

July 3, 2016

Gage Joseph Cuffe
son of Bobbi Sue (Musgrove)
& John Cuffe

Sept. 11, 2016

Marissa Elizabeth Schmidt
daughter of Shelli (Stoss)
& Travis Schmidt

Oct. 16, 2016

Logan Elizabeth Kirmer
daughter of Lauren (Shaver)
& Kade Kirmer

Dec. 11, 2016

Case Michael Niedens
son of Megan (Kirmer)
& Adam Niedens

ICC Funeral Committee

...Serving Others

The funeral committee is a group within the Altar Society which provides lunch for the family and their guests after a funeral. It was formed approximately 18 years ago. The original Co-Chair persons were Mary Rose Oberle and Elizabeth Zorn. After Elizabeth resigned due to health reasons, Rose Ann Wondra filled her position.



Mary Rose and Rose Ann retired from their positions as Co-Chair persons in May 2016. Mary Rose served for 18 years and Rose Ann served for 14 years. We thank these wonderful ladies for their years of dedicated service and wonderful example of serving others.

Margaret Frisbie and Doris Feist have assumed the duties of Co-Chair persons of the funeral committee. When a funeral dinner is scheduled, the family gives an estimate of how many people they expect for the lunch. With that information, Margaret and Doris make the arrangements with the local grocery store for the food items they will need. The Altar Society has three guilds and they take turns supplying the salads and cakes for the lunch.

Margaret and Doris are assisted by several funeral committee volunteers, who help set up the food & beverages for each funeral, and clean up as well. Anyone who would like to volunteer to help is always welcome!

Altar Society News

In January, Immaculate Conception Altar Society installed the following officers:

Patty Schmidt & Connie Miller
Co-Presidents

Cathy Miller
Secretary

Alvita Cates
Treasurer

Outgoing officers that served in 2016 include:

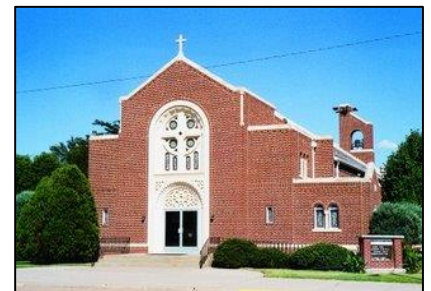
Jessy Kirmer & Lauren Kirmer
Co-Presidents

Jeanette Soukup
Secretary

Doris Feist
Treasurer

We thank these ladies for serving our parish.

Activities of the Altar Society include the Fall Supper, parish funeral dinners, Christmas gift baskets, sponsoring seminarians, supplying the altar bread & wine, and supplying candles. They also sponsor the Senior Citizen Bingo, which is held the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 at the Claflin Community Center.



Check out the Facebook Page:
Immaculate Conception Altar Society
for updates. The next meeting is scheduled for April 2 after mass.

Immaculate Conception CarePortal has developed a close working relationship with two agencies that can make needs requests on the CarePortal, St. Francis Community Services and Department of Children and Family Services (DCF). This article will focus on St. Francis Community Services. The information in this article is from <https://www.st-francis.org/>

Saint Francis Community Services began as the vision of The Rev. Robert Mize Jr., an Episcopal priest serving several small churches in western Kansas during the 1940s. When he opened the Saint Francis Boys' Home for troubled young men in Ellsworth, Kansas, in 1945, he created an alternative to the system of institutions, reformatories, and jails, offering hope and opportunity.

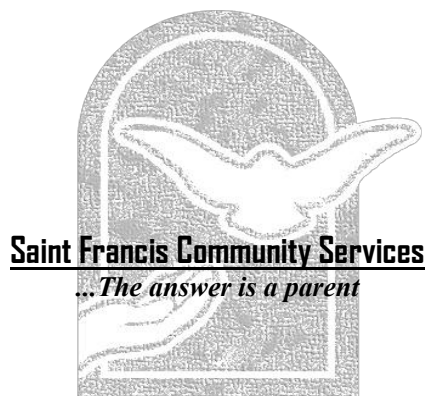
Today, Saint Francis serves more than 9,000 children and families as a non-profit, faith-based organization which is dedicated to the protection, nurturing, and healing of children and families.

Many services are offered by St. Francis Community Services. The primary purpose of **Family Preservation** is to keep families together. When children are at risk for removal from the home, DCF refers the family to St. Francis for services. Therapists and support workers guide the family through strategies and training to attempt keep the family together.

"All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle."

- Saint Francis of Assisi

There are many reasons why a child might be placed into **Foster Care**, but usually it's just because a good kid is stuck in a bad situation, through no fault of the child. The staff attempts to place them within their home county, when possible, and helps birth families find the resources they



need to correct issues that led to the child's removal. The goal of every foster home placement is the eventual return of the child to his or her own family.

When parents have either relinquished their parental rights or had their rights terminated through the court system, the child is available for **Adoption**. These children need *loving forever families* to help them heal from the loss of their birth parents and grow into happy, fulfilled adults.

Residential Treatment is available at the St. Francis facility west of Salina, Kansas, which provides treatment services for youths ages 6 to 18 dealing with mental health, behavioral issues, or the trauma of sexual abuse or substance use. **Clover House** is a new residential program for adolescent girls who have experienced the trauma of child sex trafficking.

St. Francis also offers **Outpatient Substance Abuse Programs** for teens in the system ages 12-18 struggling with substance abuse, women with addictions, pregnant women suffering with substance abuse, and fathers who need a healing environment in which to focus on recovery in body, mind, and spirit.

The **Fostering in Faith** ministry enlists congregations, religious organizations, and individuals to pray for children in need of adoptive families. ICC has signed up for this ministry and will be stating it soon. Sometimes, all we have are the prayers of others.

Honoring the presence of God within each person distinguishes Saint Francis Community Services from most child welfare agencies. **Therapy in Christ** is the spiritual component of treatment programs, and incorporates four basic principles: unconditional love, transformation through forgiveness, honesty & frankness in accepting the consequences of one's actions, and starting and ending each day with God.



Prayer of St. Francis

*Lord, make us instruments
of your peace.*

*Where there is hatred,
let us sow love;*

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is discord, union;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

*Grant that we may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;*

*To be understood
as to understand;*

To be loved as to love;

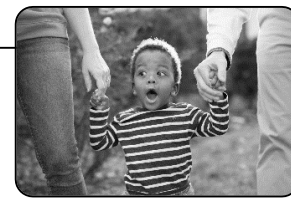
For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning

that we are pardoned;

*And it is in dying that we are
born to eternal life;*

Amen



Pictures from Care Portal Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/TheCarePortal/photos/a.311928598878706.719.12.145209262217308/1027108750694017/?type=1&theater>
<https://www.facebook.com/TheCarePortal/photos/a.372141962857369.832.93.145209262217308/1306418179429738/?type=3&theater>

St. Joseph - March 2017



- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Anthony Helfrich | 10 Stacey Ward |
| 2 Irene Kimpler | Robert Robins |
| Bill Zink | 11 Brett Moeder |
| Madisyn Schlochtermeyer | 12 Alan Bayer |
| 3 Kyle Albers | Mike Birzer |
| Monte Doll | Cheryl Klepper |
| Joyce Schulte | 13 Daniel Hammeke |
| 4 Jeff Roth | Kathy Hines |
| 5 Mel Waite | Heather Panning |
| 6 Jesse Broce | Matt Troyer |
| Doug Ewing | 14 Karen Rugan |
| Ashtin Klepper | Lauren Rugan |
| Lane Klepper | 15 Don Joiner |
| Jason Schlochtermeyer | 17 J. P. (Pat) Kasselmann |
| 9 Lana Kimpler | 19 Linda Sobba |
| Helen Hickel | Bill Williams |
| Karen Mitchel | |

- Danielle Weber
 21 Jim McMullen
 22 LeRoy Thill
 23 Remi Thomas
 24 Ethan Schlochtermeyer
 25 Carol Schartz
 26 Bradyn Christiansen
 Audrey Lewis
 Macy Menges
 28 Gerald Reichuber
 29 Bernetta Oberle
 Cayman Rowan
 30 Mason Doll
 31 Theresa Younker



Happy Anniversary

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

Immaculate Conception - March 2017

Birthday Greetings

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Melinda Kasselmann | 15 Bonnie Jeffery | 27 Edward Schartz |
| 2 Layne Bieberle | 17 Jeff Schneweis | 28 William Miller |
| 3 Gary Bittner | 18 Shelli Schmidt | 29 James Beck |
| 5 Matthew Demel | 19 Kori Hammeke | Lois Joiner |
| 6 Arlene Strube | Rebecca Oberle | Megan Kirmer |
| 8 James Trent Musgrove | 20 Catlin Miller | 30 Tom Huslig |
| 9 Jonah Schlessiger | 21 Alfred Hammeke | Charlee Schlessiger |
| 14 Cameron Hekele | Taylor Hertach | 31 Kylie Holmes |
| Brett Liebl | 23 Jane Dreiling | |
| Dana Weber | Richard Hickel | |
| | 24 James Musgrove | |
| | Sheila Oeser | |
| | 25 Richard Letourneau | |
| | Urban Oberle | |
| | Kirk Schneweis | |
| | 26 Richard Hayes | |
| | Adam Liebl | |



Happy Anniversary

- 3 Doug and Janell Hubbard
 10 Jeremy and Angela Liebl
 17 Marvin and Bobette Kirmer
 18 James and Sheryl

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

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

Change Service Requested

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Layton Wirtz, grade three, eats lunch with his grandparents, Jerry and Debbie Wirtz, the Friday of Catholic Schools Week at St. Joseph School.

March 2017
Daily Eucharistic Ministers

1 - (Ash Wednesday) Marcella Birzer,
 Glenda Heinz, Kirk Bressler, JoAnn
 Roth, Sharla Thill
 3 - Gerry Menges, Angie Hammeke
 8 - Kirk Bressler, JoAnn Roth
 10 - Joy S. Sharla Thill
 15 - Glenda Heinz, JoAnn Roth
 17 - Marcella Birzer, Angie Hammeke
 22 - Kirk Bressler, Sharla Thill
 24 - Joy S., JoAnn Roth
 29 - Marcella Birzer, Glenda Heinz
 31 - Angie Hammeke, Joy S.



SATURDAY, 5:00PM MASS

March. 4 - Glen & Kathy Hertel,
 Connie Potts, Colton Potts, David &
 Karla Gonzales

March 11 - Paul Huschka, Jeff & Gwen
 Klepper Family

March 18 - Nancy Jenisch, Millie
 Menges, Heather & Jason
 Schlochtermeyer Family

March 25 - Paul Huschka, Jeff & Gwen
 Klepper Family

SUNDAY, 10:30AM MASS

March 5 - Angie Hammeke, Jeff &
 Sandy Roth, Gerry Menges, Ron &
 Rosemary McCrary

March 12 - John & Marlene
 Clayton, Richard & Jean Doll
 Family

March 19 - Robin & Monte Doll
 Family, Larry & Joan Drees

March 26 - Kelly & Kristen Wondra
 Family, Tony & Cheryl Klepper

Weekday Servers: Week of Feb. 26 Haley Rugan, Daphne Doll

March 4 & 5

Lector 1
 Lector 2

5:00pm Sat.

Karen Mitchel
 Rosie Joiner

10:30am Sun.

Dennis Habiger
 Catherine Strecker

EM

Glenda Heinz
 Millie Menges
 Yvonne Strecker
 Rod Weber
 Danielle Weber

Mike Moeder
 Mary Tudor
 Jalayne Ewing
 Kirk Bressler
 Lori Hammeke

Accomp/Cantor

Servers

Sean Weber, Karson Harrington

A. J. Bowyer, Daphne Doll

Sacristan

Larry Drees

Kent Robl, Tammy Troyer

Weekday Servers: Week of March 5 - Emma Nienke, Haley Troyer

March 11 & 12

Lector 1
 Lector 2

5:00pm Sat.

Jerome Huslig
 Stephanie Joiner

10:30am Sun.

John Sturn
 Larry Drees

EM

Jayne Wirtz
 Jason Schlochtermeyer
 Curis Wolf
 Angie Hammeke
 Jean Klepper

Ed Schlochtermeyer
 Mel Waite
 Sharon Gattton
 Kent Roth
 Marcella Birzer

Accomp/Cantor

Servers

Haley Rugan, Madisyn Schlochtermeyer Daniel & Wittney Hammeke

Sacristan

Karen Kramp

Gerry Menges, Kelly & Kristen
 Wondra

Weekday Servers: Week of March 12 - Logan Panning, Lane Klepper

March 18 & 19

Lector 1
 Lector 2

5:00pm Sat.

Ellen Shanteau
 Heather Panning

10:30am Sun.

Mary Tudor
 Linda Sobba

EM

Joe Schulte
 Melanie Zink
 Amy Oelke
 Steve Oelke
 Glenda Heinz

John Clayton
 Lori Billinger
 Joy Schlochtermeyer
 Paul Schlochtermeyer
 Mary Tudor

Accomp/Cantor

Servers

Cody Zink, Caden Rowan

Ahstin Klepper, Kiley Troyer

Sacristan

Karen Kramp

Kirk Bressler, JoAnn Roth

Weekday Servers: Week of March 19 - Jonathon Mason, Madisyn Schlochtermeyer

March 25 & 26

Lector 1
 Lector 2

5:00pm Sat.

Yvonne Strecker
 Steve Billinger

10:30am Sun.

Mary Waite
 LeRoy Thill

EM

Jerome Huslig
 Rosie Joiner
 Ellen Shanteau
 Lori Hammeke
 Jason Schlochtermeyer

Catherine Strecker
 Sharla Thill
 Kirk Bressler
 Rick Thomas
 Lori Thomas

Accomp/Cantor

Servers:

Jonathon Mason, Erin Hammeke

Kyler Doll, David Hammeke

Sacristan

Rosemary Robl

Leon & Marilyn Reichuber

Weekday Servers: Week of March 26 Caylee Rowan, Karson Harrington

ICC Ministry Schedule

March 2017

March 5, 2017 - 8:30am

Lectors: Richard Rugan, Lori Koester
 EM: Jim Oberle, Peggy Feist, Bridget Letourneau, Bill Thomas, Dawnya Hickel
 Gift Bearers: Dorie & Gene Feist
 Greeters: Judy & Leon Oberle
 Servers: Peyton and Emily Ryan
 Sacristan: Joy Hertach

March 12, 2017 - 8:30am

Lectors: Nancy Liebl, Janet Hitschmann.
 EM: Sheri & Toby Holmes, Carla & Todd Liebl, Barbara Musgrove
 Gift Bearers: Jon Oeser Family
 Greeters: Bobette & Marvin Kirmer
 Servers: Tyler Holmes, Jacob Oberle
 Sacristan: Joan Miller

March 19, 2017 - 8:30am

Lectors: Lori Koester, Kent Praeger.
 EM: Karlynn & Fred Beck, Kathy Krier, Doris Feist, Carmen Johnson
 Gift Bearers: Lois & Pete Krier
 Greeters: Connie & John Miller
 Servers: Lexie Oeser & Delaney Rugan
 Sacristan: Judy Oberle

March 26, 2017 - 8:30am

Lectors: Janell Hubbard, Darrah Harrison
 EM: Alan Beck, Dawnya Hickel, Laurie Feist, Nancy Liebl, Bill Thomas
 Gift Bearers: Chris Steiner Family
 Greeters: Liz & Kent Praeger
 Servers: Brianna & Blaine Hickel
 Sacristan: Dee Krier



Weekday Schedule:

	Lector	E. Ministers
3/1/17	Jane Steinert	Jim Oberle, Joan Miller
3/2/17	Kathy Krier	Bill Thomas, Sr. Andre
3/3/17	Nancy Schartz	Kathy Krier, Jim Oberle
3/7/17	Sr. Andre	Joan Miller, Bill Thomas
3/9/17	Jane Steinert	Sr. Andre, Kathy Krier
3/14/17	Kathy Krier	Jim Oberle, Joan Miller
3/16/17	Sr. Andre	Jim Oberle, Bill Thomas
3/21/17	Jane Steinert	Joan Miller, Kathy Krier
3/23/17	Kathy Krier	Sr. Andre Jim Oberle
3/28/17	Nancy Schartz	Bill Thomas, Sr. Andre
3/30/17	Sr. Andre	Joan Miller, Kathy Krier