

Parish Staff



# A Man Sent From God

Among the many intriguing characters in the gospels — the Magi, Pilate, Nicodemus — perhaps the most curious is John the Baptist. Today's gospel introduces John with these striking words, "John the Baptist appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he fed on locusts and wild honey."



The gospel of Mark tells us that Herod feared John. King yet, paradoxically, he liked to hear him speak. When John rebuked the religious leaders for their hypocrisy, they demanded to know who he was. He replied, "I am 'the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." It was John who baptized Jesus in the Jordan, not to cleanse Christ of sin, but to inaugurate the mission of Jesus with the authority of God the Father. who said as Jesus came out of the water, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

John the Baptist is a pivotal character in salvation history. As a

prophet who preached the coming of the kingdom of God in the spirit of Elijah he is the link between the Old Testament and the New Testament. He prepared the people to receive the promised Messiah with a life that mirrors that of Jesus.

The angel Gabriel announced the unusual conception of both John and Christ, assigning each a special name. Both preached the same message of

> conversion, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." Both defied the Sadducees and Pharisees. Both were thought of as prophets and feared by their enemies because of the people. Both were seized and bound. Both were sentenced by reluctant authorities and executed as criminals. And both were buried by their own disciples.

> Despite these impressive similarities, John made it clear that he was not the Messiah. "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you

with the Holy Spirit." It was John who identified Christ as "The Lamb of God."

John the Baptist is at the heart of the gospel and of this Advent season when we prepare for the rebirth of Christ in our hearts. "There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world." (Jn 1:6)

# .... and mirth

A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.

Pastor: Fr. Jim Moster, OFM, Cap. email: james.moster@capuchins.org Secretary/Bookkeeper: Andrea Schmidtberger email: fidelis@ruraltel.net Catholic Faith Education Office: Jeanette Brungardt, R.E. Coordinator/ Youth Minister email: fidelisyouth@ruraltel.net Shirley Brungardt, RCIA Director/ Sacramental Records email: sfreled@ruraltel.net Housekeeping/Sacristan: **Darlene Dreiling** Cemetery Groundskeeper: Wilmer Dinkel Maintenance: Ken Pfeifer Organists: Kathy Dreiling-Amrein Lou Ann Hammersmith Choir Director: Kathy Dreiling-Amrein Technology Coordinator: Connie Windholz email: sftech@ruraltel.net

#### Council Members

St. Fidelis Pastoral Council John R. Braun 735-2622 (Chair) Rose Ann Dreiling (Vice-Chair) Angie Roth 735-8035 (Sec) Bertha R. Brungardt 735-4106 Patty Dreiling 735-4479 Curt Kuhn 735-8820 Rosie Kreutzer 656-3298 Michael Younger Jeff Kisner 785-650-1808

<u>St. Fidelis Finance Council</u> Harland Rupp 735-2206 Frank Dreiling 735-8385 David Ottley 735-8434

<u>St. Boniface Pastoral Council</u> Fred Tholen 735-4801 Curt Wellbrock 259-6564 Kathy Huser 735-4193

<u>St. Ann Pastoral Council</u> Bill Robben 806-669-5264 Patrick Zwenger 402-452-6253 Bob Brungardt 735-4410

#### Contributions December 2-3, 2023

ST. FIDELIS: Envelopes 2540.00 Loose 892.00 Repair Fund 257.00

**ST. ANN:** <u>Envelopes</u> 220.00 <u>Loose</u> 97.00

**ST. BONIFACE:** <u>Envelopes</u> 975.00 <u>Loose</u> 170.00 <u>Hall Rent</u> 50.00 <u>Candles</u> 17.00

~ MONEY COUNTERS ~ December 11 — Verda Werner, Bertha Brungardt December 18—Jerry Schmidtberger, Andrea Ottley

# Please Remember Your Parish ...

As we are approaching the end of the tax year, donations to your church can be claimed if you need a tax deduction.

Sunday Rosary 1<sup>st</sup> - Christian Mothers 3<sup>rd</sup> - Daughters of Isabella

Schedul e 2<sup>nd</sup> - Knights of Columbus 4<sup>th</sup> - Family Life

#### MINISTER SCHEDULE

The Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Homebound, and Cantor schedules can be found on the Mass Schedule page of the church website at StFidelisChurch.com. Please contact Diane Gross (785-735-4804) with any questions about the schedule for the Eucharistic or Lector ministries or if you are willing to volunteer for those ministries.

\*CANTORS\*

#### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16**

5:00 PM — Jerry Schmidtberger, Rick Colmenero **SUNDAY. DECEMBER 17** 

10:00 AM — Christie Sander

#### \*EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS\*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16** 

5:00 PM — Deb Geschwentner, Becky Scheck, Debbie Staab, Mary Brungardt

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 — (Jubilee Choir Sings)

10:00 AM - Colleen Kuhn, Anne Dinkel, Yvonne Braun, Teresa Shepherd

#### \*LECTORS\COMMENTATORS\*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16** 5:00 PM — Marilyn Braun **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17** 10:00 AM — Allan Amrein

\*HOMEBOUND MINISTERS\*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 — Diane Gross **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17** 10:00 AM — Anne Dinkel

\*MASS SERVERS\* **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16** 

#### With Sympathy

The sympathy of the parishes is extended to the family of Harvey F. Munsch of Hays, who passed away on Thursday, November 30, 2023. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Hays, on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. Burial with military honors was in St. Fidelis Cemetery, Victoria.

The sympathy of the parishes is extended to the family of Otto "Ott" Dinkel Jr., who passed away on Friday, December 1, 2023. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at The Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria, on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, with burial in St. Fidelis Cemetery, Victoria.

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# Communal Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be administered on Saturday, December 9, after the 6:30 p.m. Mass at St. Ann and on Sunday, December 10, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Fidelis.

"Those of the faithful whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age receive this sacrament. ...A sick person may be anointed before surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery. ...Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present."

[Pastoral Care of the Sick, nn. 8, 10-11]

# **Natural Family Planning Trainer**

The Diocese of Salina FertilityCare Services Center and NFP Office is excited to announce our first Creighton Model FertilityCare Practitioner Education Program beginning March 9.

If anyone in the parishes with a minimum of an Associate Degree would like to look into the possibility of training to become a FertilityCare Practitioner, please contact Fr. Jim for further information.

# **Committee Meeting Dates**

Finance Council 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 7:00 pm

Liturgy Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 5:30 pm

#### Pastoral Council 1st Tuesday @ 7:00 pm

# **Communal Penance Service**

at the Basilica of St. Fidelis on Monday, December 18, after the 7:00 p.m. Mass

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10 The Second Sunday of Advent On this Second Sunday of Advent, light two violet candles on your Advent wreath and ask God for the strength to be like John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord."	11 "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Mark 1:10	12 Today is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe who appeared to Juan Diego as a pregnant indigenous woman. Pray for all pregnant women and mothers and look for ways that you can walk with moms in need: Walking with Moms in Need	13 In the bustle of the holiday season, spend some time this week in silence and prayer, possibly before the Blessed Sacrament, to prepare your heart to receive the Lord at Christmas.	14 According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up before Christmas and remains in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. Share this <u>blessing</u> with your family and friends.	15 "For the believer, the Word of God is not simply a text to read. The Word of God is a living presence, it is a work of the Holy Spirit that comforts, instructs, gives light, strength, relief, and a zest for life. To read the Bible, to read a piece, one or two passages of the Bible, is like a short telegram from God that immediately goes to the heart." Pope Francis, Audience, December 21, 2022	16 Las Posadas, a reenactment of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter before the birth of Jesus, traditionally begins today. <u>Pray for migrants</u> seeking shelter around the world.



The Diocese of Salina has renewed its subscription to FORMED.ORG, which it has subscribed to for several years. So as a parishioner of the tri-parishes, you can use FORMED for free. FORMED provides access to books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies.

You can easily access FORMED by using the church's website at **StFidelisChurch.com** and select **FORMED Website** under the **Organizations-Links** tab. Just follow the instructions on that page.

Or do the following:

- 1. Go to FORMED.ORG.
- 2. If you have used FORMED, select SIGN IN.
- 3. Otherwise, select FORMED FOR PARISHES.
- 4. Select SIGN UP in the top menu bar.
- 5. In "Find Your Parish or Organization", type "67671" (as the parish zip code).
- 6. Select "St. Fidelis Catholic Church, 601 10th St Victoria KS".
- 7. Click NEXT.
- 8. You will need to provide your name and email.
- 9. Click SIGN UP.
- 10. Then browse to see all that you can watch.

The next time you go to FORMED.ORG, select SIGN IN. If you did not log out the last time you visited the site, it will take you directly to the site. If you did log out, you will need to provide your email address. FORMED will send you an email with a link to sign in. The link expires after 2 hours. Follow the steps to log back in.

# Explore the Gospel of Mark

The study of the Gospel of Mark will continue on **Tuesday, December 12, and Tuesday, December 19**, and then break for the holidays. The meetings will resume on **January 9** and continue each Tuesday to finish the series.

Meetings are held in the north sacristy of the church and begin at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy an evening of fellowship as together we better understand the Gospel of Mark.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Broyles (785-735-4747) or Jane Wagner (785-735-2587). Sponsored by the Family Life Committee.

Please remember your **ADVENT ANGEL** in your prayers throughout the season of

Advent.



If we threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.



With Christmas just around the corner, consider visiting the **St. Fidelis Gift Shop** 

in the Parish Office. There are a number of great gifts to choose from including the Basilica Rosaries, 3 different Parish Cookbooks, Die Herzoger, the Basilica Christmas Ornament, and more.

# Basilica Rosaries

Dark Brown Oval Wood Beads ······\$55
Light Brown Rectangular Wood Beads (only 1 left)\$55
Faceted Clear Glass Beads 6mm ······\$60
Faceted Blue Glass Beads 6mm ······ \$60
Borealis Clear Glass Beads 7mm ······\$60
Borealis Blue Glass Beads 7mm ······\$60
Rosary Cases ······ Small \$5 <sup><u>00</u> ······ Large \$6<sup><u>00</u></sup></sup>

ALSO,

don't forget to visit the St. Fidelis Thrift Shop to find some great gift ideas.

# **Christmas Food Boxes**

The Family Life Committee is preparing for the Tri-Parish Christmas Food Boxes for families in need.

If you wish to donate, we are asking for cash donations only. That way we can purchase the same food items for all the boxes.

You may drop your monetary donations in the collection basket at Mass or bring it to the Parish Office. Please mark it as "Christmas Food Boxes".

# Know Someone Who Needs a Food Box?

If you or someone you know would like one of these Christmas Food Boxes please contact the Parish Office at 785-735-2777

#### by Friday noon, December 15, 2023.

This deadline is necessary for the team of volunteers to purchase the food, pack the boxes, and have them ready for pickup **on Wednesday, December 21**.



When you call in, you will be informed that these Christmas Food Boxes must be picked up the afternoon of Wednesday, December 21. A schedule of pickup times will be made in 10-minute increments for social distancing and confidentiality.

# DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA



# St. Fidel is Food Bank

The St. Fidelis Food Bank is available during Parish Office hours to those in need of food. Please call the office at 785-735-2777 in advance so you won't have to wait while we prepare a box of food for you. Boxes can be picked up at the northwest door of the Parish Office. Donations of food or money are always welcome to help supply the Food Bank.

# ST. ANN

St. Ann women will do their annual cleaning of the church on **Saturday, December 9,** @ 9:00 a.m.



#### ST. BONIFACE

# **24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration**

A 24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration at St. Boniface Church will begin **Saturday**, **December 9**, **at 8:00 a.m.** and conclude **Sunday**, **December 10**, before the Year of Mercy Mass with Bishop Jerry Vincke at 8:00 a.m.

# St. Ann's Christmas Potluck & Bingo SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023 after 6:30 p.m. Mass

Every family is asked to bring a bingo gift—the gift can be for any age level .



# Year of Mercy Visit with Bishop Vincke

St. Boniface Cathol ic Church Vincent

# TODAY–Sunday, December 10 8:00 Mass

(PLEASE NOTE: Mass will start 30 minutes early)

CYO serving BREAKFAST FOLLOWING MASS

# 7-Week Study 'Jesus and the Eucharist'

St Boniface will host a 7-week study on "Jesus and the Eucharist" on Wednesday evenings from **January 3 through February 21, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.** in the St. Boniface Parish Hall. They will not meet on February 14 due to Ash Wednesday. All are welcome to attend.

#### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

# 30 Days of Cash Giveaway Winners

Winners of the 2023 Knights of Columbus 30 Days of Cash Giveaway are (the first 25 winners receive \$100 a day):

- 1. Kami Weber
- 2. Anita Braun
- 3. Betty Younger
- 4. Angie and Steve Dorzweiler
- 5. Joe Roth (Russell)
- 6. Lane Kisner
- 7. Ethel Younger
- 8. Armella Schippers
- 9. Jerry Brungardt
- 10. Vera Galliart
- 11. Patrick Zwenger
- 12. Michael K. Brungardt
- 13. Jared Windholz
- 14. Curtis Wellbrock

- 15. John Schippers
- 16. Chad Hammerschmidt
- 17. Ronald Braun
- Steve 18. Joe Roth (Russell)
  - 19. Brian Kuntz
  - 20. Brent Schippers
  - 21. Heather Schlochtermair
  - 22. Amy Schaffer
    - 23. Kassi Weber
    - 24. Dave Kisner
    - 25. Lana McClenahan
    - 26. Dale Pfeifer (\$250)
  - 27. Sophia Sanders (\$250)
  - 28. Kassi Weber (\$500)
  - 29. Kamryn Bliss, Keira

# CHRISTMAS CAROLING St. Fidelis Religious Ed

Families & Friends

ALL STUDENTS & FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO SOME OF OUR BELOVED HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS & NEIGHBORS. PLEASE DRESS WARM. WE WILL LOAD ON TO TRAILERS & DEPART THE PAC AT 6:30 P.M.WE WILL MAKE A STOP AT THE VFW FOR HOT CHOCOLATE & COOKIES, HOSTED BY OUR LOCAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

# WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 6:30 P.M.

St. Fidelis Parish Office 601 10th St.



PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15. A CONSENT FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN FOR ALL YOUTH NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A GUARDIAN. JEANETTE CELL: 785-639-5067

#### DIOCESE



# **Retired Fund for Religious**

**Support a lifetime of service.** Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education, and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

# Career Opportunity: CEO Catholic Foundation

The Catholic Foundation will begin a search for a new CEO. Katie Platten, current CEO, will be retiring this coming summer.

This Executive role is hired by the Diocese and works at the direction of the Board of Directors of the Foundation. The CEO is the principal advisor to the Bishop.

Motivated by enhancing the mission of the Church, the executive will work to set the strategic direction for development efforts, cultivate major relationships, and offer planned giving opportunities, as well as managing foundation operations and foundation employees.

This person is an active practicing Catholic living a life in accord with Church teaching. If you know someone who may be interested or you'd like more information about this exciting opportunity, please call Kim Hoelting, HR Director, Diocese of Salina at 785-342-0819 or email kim at kim.hoelting@salinadiocese.org for copy of the job description or other information.

#### **Box of Joy Successful Venture**

The Catholic schools along with many parishes are participating in Cross Catholic Outreach's Box of Joy service project. (Our tri-parishes were among them.) Over 1,300 boxes were distributed in communities across the diocese, and the Diocese is awaiting their return. These boxes will be shipped to Florida where they will have a rosary and a Story of Jesus booklet packed into each box. The Boxes of Joy will then be sent to areas of need across the world for boys and girls to open on Christmas.

# **December Human Trafficking Alert**

A gift to US Catholic Sisters can make a difference in our efforts to confront the Human Trafficking pandemic. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a 501 c (3) organization, 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114.

# Catholic School and Catholic Charities Partnership

Students and staff at Diocese's Catholic schools donated over \$13,000 worth of diapers to Catholic Charities of Northern Kansas. Schools brought their collected diapers to the annual Teachers' Institute on Friday, November 10, where they were greeted by students from St. Mary's Grade School and Sacred Heart Jr/Sr High School, as well as staff from Catholic Charities. The individuals worked together to deliver the diapers to

#### **Tax Credit Scholarship**

The Scholarship Granting Fund for the Catholic Diocese of Salina is accepting donations and is able to offer a 75% tax credit. Please email Laurie Trautwein, Data Specialist for the Catholic Foundation (laurie.trautwein@salinadiocese.org). This school year, over \$119,000 was awarded to schools for 96 students in the Salina Diocese.

# Thank You!

A special thank you to all who have donated food and items to the St. Fidelis Friary throughout the year. Thank you, not only from the priests, but from Jeanie Brungardt, the cook, as well.

> IT'S NOT TOO LATE! TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE

#### Victoria Community Coalition

# **2nd Annual Holiday Home Tours**

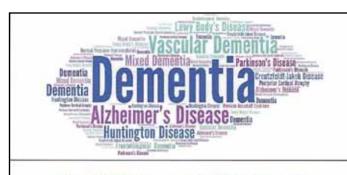
Saturday, December 9 | 5:00-9:00 P.M. Sunday, December 10 | 2:00-6:00 P.M.

Advanced: \$20 — At the Door: \$25

Contact: Nancy Piatt (785-656-2793) Brenda Dreiling (785-735-4141) Andrea Schmidtberger (785-656-2208)

# 50/50 SPLIT THE POT

Tickets available until Monday, December 11. Winners will be drawn on December 12.



A Different Mindset Dementia & Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

2nd Thursday of Every Month 2:30 PM for 1 hour Learn more about these Zoom meetings by emailing maacarmstrong@gmail.com



# Fort Hays State University Cathedral Christmas Concert Sunday, December 10 | 3:30 p.m.

in the "Cathedral of the Plains" The Basilica of St. Fidelis

Start the Advent/holiday season on a glorious note with the FHSU choirs: Fort Hays Singers, Concert Choir, and Smoky Hill Chorale at the annual Cathedral Christmas Concert in Victoria.



Hays High School Chamber Singers and Hillsboro Girl's Ensemble are the guest choirs. Also appearing: FHSU Horn Ensemble; Tom Meagher, organ; FHSU Saxophone Quartet; several FHSU music faculty will perform, plus other members of the Music & Theatre Department.

The concert is free and open to the public.

# **FCCLA Looking for Shoes**

Do you have shoes that you can't wear, but are in good shape? If so, you can donated them to the Victoria FCCLA chapter shoe drive for needy individuals of all ages. Gently worn or new shoes can be dropped off at the high school any time or at home games. This drive will run until Thanksgiving. Thank

you for supporting this community service project.



Sunday, December 10 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon VFW, 22nd and Vine St, Hays Advance tickets sold benefit the St. Nicholas Ladies Guild of St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church, Hays. Ladies Guild members will be selling tickets in the gathering space of St. Nick's before and after Mass or contact Clare Gustin at 785-635-3511. Advance tickets: \$11.50 for Adults, \$6.50 for Children, under 5 are Free

# HELP NEEDED

# at the St. Fidelis Thrift Shop

Do you like to meet new people?



Are you looking for some activity to keep you busy for a few hours a week?

Does volunteering give you a feel-good feeling?

How about volunteering for a shift at the St. Fidelis Thrift Shop?

If interested, please call the Parish Office at 785-735-2777.

# MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAYDECEMBER 11					
7:00 pm Josephine Sander and Leroy Sander					
TUESDAYDECEMBER 12					
6:45 am For the Parishes					
WEDNESDAYDECEMBER 13					
6:45 am Edwin F. and Lawrentine Schmidtberger and					
David Mindrup					
THURSDAYDECEMBER 14					
6:45 am Albert and Clara Dinkel family					
FRIDAYDECEMBER 15					
6:45 am Norman, Yvonne, and Val Schumacher					
SATURDAYDECEMBER 16					
5:00 pm St. Fidelis Dan and Angie Billinger family living & deceased					
6:30 pm St. Ann Rich and Verna Robben family					
SUNDAYDECEMBER 17					
8:30 am St. Boniface For the Parishes					
10:00 am St. Fidelis John and Irene Vonfeldt					

# Thank you for advertising in our bulletin!

Please patronize those who advertise in our bulletin. Single Ad =  $20^{10}$ , Quarterly Ads =  $60^{10}$ , Monthly Ads =  $100^{10}$ , Weekly Ads =  $300^{10}$  — To place an ad, contact Connie @ 785-735-2777

