

The Parish Office will be closed on Ghristmas Day, December 25, and on Tuesday, December 26. MERRY GHRISTMAS

Jan. 15 — Martin Luther King Jr Day —

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED



The Christmas Creche

Most families celebrate Christmas with their own traditions to enrich their family life and their faith. The Franciscan family reflects on how Saint Francis observed Christmas.

One year Christmas fell on a Friday and a friar insisted that meat may not be eaten on that day. "If it is Christmas it is not Friday," replied Saint Francis. "If the walls could eat meat, I would give it to them today. And if I were the Emperor, I would order that on this day all people scatter corn to the birds, especially to our sisters the larks, and that everyone who has a beast in the stable should give it a special feeding for love of the Child Jesus born in a manger. On this day the rich should feast all the poor."

The most memorable Christmas for Saint Francis was in 1223 at Greccio where he designed the first crèche, a live nativity scene. "I want to celebrate Christmas night in a special way. I wish to do something that will recall to memory the little Child who was born in Bethlehem and set before our bodily eyes in someway the inconveniences of his infant needs, how he lay in a manger upon the hay where he had been placed with an ox and an ass standing by."



"In the woods by the cloister you will find a cave, and there you should arrange a manger filled with hay. There must also be an ox and an ass, just as at Bethlehem. I want to celebrate visibly the coming of the Son of God upon earth and see with my own eyes how poor and humble he wished to be for our sakes.

"The friars prepared the cave with a manger and the ox and the ass, as Francis had requested. Mass was celebrated over the manger and Francis sang the gospel and preached about the birth of the poor king in the little town of Bethlehem. Some saw the doll lying in the manger come alive, as if from a deep sleep. This was a fitting vision, for in the hearts of many the child Jesus had been forgotten, but now, through his servant Francis, he had been brought back to life and held in loving reverence.

"A church was later built over that manger so that where animals once had eaten hay, the faithful could be nourished by the Body and Blood of our Lord, who through such great love has become one with us on Christmas and in the Eucharist."

"A child is born to us, a son is given to us. They will name him Prince of Peace." (Is 9:4,5)



Parish Staff

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

St. Fidelis Finance Council

Harland Rupp 735-2206 Frank Dreiling 735-8385 David Ottley 735-8434

St. Boniface Pastoral Council 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 16-17, 2023

ST. FIDELIS:

Envelopes 3925.00 Loose 681.75 Repair Fund 355.00 Immaculate Conception 20.00 Retired Religious 50.00

ST. ANN:

Envelopes 1300.00 Loose 198.00 Immaculate Conception 100.00 Retired Religious 100.00 Cemetery 25.00

ST. BONIFACE: <u>Envelopes</u> 435.00 <u>Loose</u> 517.00 <u>Christmas</u> 10.00 <u>Candles</u> 28.00

~ MONEY COUNTERS ~ December 27 (Wednesday)— Patty Dreiling, Anne Schmidtberger January 2 (Tuesday) — Brenda Dreiling, Sandra Dreiling

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 Schedul e 1st - Christian Mothers 3rd - Daughters of Isabella

2nd - Knights of Columbus 4th - Family Life

MINISTER SCHEDULE *CANTORS*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

5:00 PM — John Braun **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31**

10:00 AM — Becky and Jim Scheck

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 AM -

<u>*EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS*</u>

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

5:00 PM — Jane Wagner, Kathy Kuhn, Diane Gross, **Keith Billinger**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

10:00 AM — Andrea Schmidtberger, Anne Dinkel, Michelle Geist, Connie Windholz

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 9:00 AM — Kathy Kuhn, Jane Wagner

LECTORS\COMMENTATORS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

5:00 PM — Teresa Shepherd **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31** 10:00 AM — Karen Nowak

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 9:00 AM — Yvonne Braun

HOMEBOUND MINISTERS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27 — Carol Pfeifer **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31** 10:00 AM — Kathy Amrein

MASS SERVERS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 5:00 PM — Myah and Grace Y., Easton W. **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31** 10:00 AM — Wesley S., Michael S., Emma D.

Committee Meeting Dates

Finance Council 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 pm

Pastoral Council 1st Tuesday @ 7:00 pm

Liturgy Committee 2nd Thursday @ 5:30 pm

Tithing Envelopes

Tithing envelopes for 2024 have been placed at all of the tri-parishes. If you do not see your name and would like a box, contact the parish office at 785-735-2777. Any boxes left after January 28th will be brought to the parish activity center to be picked up from there.

Bags of Rice

We have 3 large (10-pound) bags of Basmati Rice here at the Parish Office that are available for FREE on a first-come. first-serve basis.

Anyone wanting a bag for yourself or to share with others should pick it up at the office or call 785-735-2777 to see if it is still available.

Explore the Gospel of Mark

The study of the Gospel of Mark will break for the holidays. The meetings will resume on Tuesday, 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.

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Meeting Notice

The next Liturgy Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the PAC. Members are asked to bring their copies of the minutes and the December Agenda that were mailed to them in early December.

ST. ANN

Change to Refreshments After Mass

Mass on Saturday, December 23, and on Saturday, December 30, at St. Ann Church will be at 6:30 p.m. as usual; however, there will be no refreshments afterwards.



ST. BONIFACE

St. Boniface "Little Town of Bethlehem" Nativity

The "Little Town of Bethlehem" nativity at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Vincent will be open for visitors Sunday, December 24, and Christmas Day from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Appointments can also be made at any other time by calling Carol at 785-735-9282.

This is the 97th year of the nativity, begun by Fr. Callistus Rectenwald in 1927.



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. Please remember your ADVENT ANGEL

in your prayers throughout the season of Advent.



January 1, 2024, is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. There will NOT be a 7:00 p.m. Mass and no scheduled Confessions. THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.

COMMUNITY

New Year's Eve Dance

Sunday, December 31 | 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Music provided by The Hot Shots Band Cost: \$8.00 | Snack bar included Open to the public. Sponsored by The Sunflower Polka Club

MASS INTENTIONS MONDAY.....DECEMBER 25 8:30 am St. Boniface James and Marian Rajewski 10:00 am St. Fidelis Arlyn and Kimberly Schumacher 6:45 am Ambrose and Adelia Brungardt WEDNESDAY.....DECEMBER 27 6:45 am Ruth and Frank Polika THURSDAYDECEMBER 28 6:45 am I.A. Stramel family FRIDAYDECEMBER 29 6:45 am Edwin F. and Lawrentine Schmidtberger and David Mindrup SATURDAYDECEMBER 30 5:00 pm St. Fidelis Kiley Goetz (anniv) and Hubert and Jo Sander 6:30 pm St. Ann For the parishes SUNDAY ... HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH ... DECEMBER 31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** 8:30 am St. Boniface Kenneth Robben family 10:00 am St. Fidelis Ronald Leiker, Alfred and Regina Leiker, Peter and Alice Braun, and Donnie and Darlene Braun MONDAY...... JANUARY 1 Mary, the Holy Mother of God 9:00 am St. Fidelis Anita Lang and deceased family



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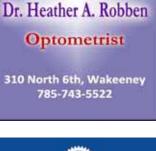
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MERRY CHRISTMAS





"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:1-14



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Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month

