

Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2017

MASSES THIS WEEK:

Monday	December 18
8:05 a.m. -- +Duane Ridder	
Tuesday	December 19
5:15 p.m. -- +Harris Clark	
Wednesday	December 20
8:05 a.m. – Justin Ahlers	
Thursday	December 21
5:15 p.m. -- +Bill & Eleanor Ulrich	
Friday	December 22
8:05 a.m. -- +Louis Mendoza	
Saturday	December 23
5:00 p.m. -- +Maria Bui Thi Thin	
6:30 p.m. – Mary Ann Gourley	
Sunday	December 24
8:00 a.m. -- +Verland Windholz	
9:30 a.m. – People of St. Mary's Parish	
11:00 a.m. -- +Paul & Cecelia Vance	
Christmas Eve	December 24
4:00 p.m. – People of St. Mary's Parish	
6:00 pm – People of St. Mary's Parish	
Christmas Day	December 25
12:00 am midnight – People of St. Mary's Parish	
9:00 a.m. – People of St. Mary's Parish	
4:00 pm – Vietnamese Mass	

CONFESSIONS

Monday, December 18 th at 8:30 am
Thursday, December 21 st at 5:45 pm
Saturday, December 23 rd at 3:30 pm
Communal Penance Services:
Sunday, December 17 th at 3 pm – SH Cathedral
Wednesday, December 20 th at 7 pm – St. Elizabeth's
Thursday, December 21 st at 7 pm – St. Mary's

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS

Sunday, December 10 th :	\$20,549.00
December to date:	\$41,952.00
Needed weekly:	\$17,500.00
Needed for month:	\$78,833.00

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

PLEASE PRAY for Maria Hernandez, Elmer Zerr, and all those who are disabled, in rest homes and hospitals, and service personnel serving overseas. (Names will be on this list for 1 month and then removed unless notified otherwise.)

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday	December 17th
CYO Bake Sale/8:30-12:30/Parish Hall	
Parish/Town Hall Meeting/12:30 pm/Parish Hall	
Communal Penance Service/3 pm/S.H. Cathedral	
No CYO	
Monday	December 18th
Adult Education/7 pm/Meeting Room #1	
Wednesday	December 20th
Communal Penance Service/7 pm/St. Elizabeth's Church	
Parish Choir Practice/7:45 pm/Church	
Thursday	December 21st
Communal Penance Service/7 pm/St. Mary's Church	
Friday	December 22
Children's Choir Practice/4-6 pm/Church	
Sunday	December 24
No C.Y.O.	

Notes from the Pastor

The Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession is a wonderful gift that God has given us and which the Church makes available with great regularity. The seasons of Advent and Lent are times when the Sacrament is strongly encouraged, but it is available at almost anytime. Saturday's from 4:00 – just before Mass, Monday's after the morning Mass, usually around 8:30 a.m. and Thursdays after the evening Mass usually around 5:45 p.m. one or both of us priests try to make ourselves available in the confessional for the Sacrament. We also will schedule appointments with people who want to avail themselves of the Sacrament. But again during Advent all of the parishes offer a communal celebration of the Sacrament, which simply tries to make it as convenient and simple as possible for folks to use the Sacrament. This year Sacred Heart parish will have their service this Sunday Dec. 17th at 3:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth's parish will have their service on Wednesday Dec. 20th at 7:00 p.m., and ours here at St. Mary's will be Thursday Dec. 21st at 7:00 p.m. Let me encourage all of you to consider taking advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation whether it is at one of these communal service times, one of the other regularly scheduled times or if you need to schedule a special appointment. Use this wonderful Gift God has given and the church offers.

Peace and Prayers, Fr. Kevin



St. Mary's: Christmas Eve at 4:00 and 6:00 pm;
Christmas Day at 12:00 midnight (Carols & Music will begin at 11:30 pm) and 9:00 am
Vietnamese Mass at 4:00 pm Christmas Day

Sacred Heart Cathedral: Christmas Eve at 4:00, 6:00 & 7:30 pm (Spanish)
Christmas Day at 9:00 am & 12:30 pm (Spanish)

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: Christmas Eve at 4:00 and 5:45 pm
Christmas Day at 8:00 am



Communal Penance Services:

Sunday, Dec. 17 – 3 pm – Sacred Heart Cathedral
Wednesday, Dec. 20 – 7 pm – St. Elizabeth's
Thursday, Dec. 21 – 7 pm – St. Mary's

Confessions:

Monday, December 18th at 8:30 am
Thursday, December 21st at 5:45 pm
Saturday, December 23rd at 3:30 pm
Monday, Dec. 25 – 2 pm – Vietnamese Confessions

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: There is a sign-up sheet in the Ministries Room for the Christmas and New Year's Masses. If you would be able to help out, please sign up this weekend. Thank you!!!

PARISH NEWS

CYO will have their annual CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE this Sunday, December 17th from 8 am until 12:30 pm in the parish hall. All proceeds go to help youth pay for NCCY, Prayer & Action, Diocesan Convention, etc. Please come out and support our youth!



SPECIAL TOWN HALL MEETING to explain the proposed Church Renovation Project: This meeting is meant to give as many people as possible an opportunity to voice their opinions, ask questions or share concerns about such a project. We have scheduled this meeting for this **Sunday December 17th, at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** We plan on the meeting lasting less than 2 hours. Please plan to come and share your thoughts about what needs and wants that are important to you and what you would like to see happen or not happen with a renovation project.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: When using the envelopes in your packets to donate for Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one, please be sure you PRINT the names clearly in the space provided. The deadline for donation is **Monday, December 18th.**

CATHOLIC CALENDARS: The parish is offering each household a 2018 Catholic Calendar from the Catholic Extension Society. They may be picked up at the entrances to the church. Please take one if you wish, but be considerate and don't take more than you need so everyone has a chance to get one. Catholic Extension Society assists small diocese like our own with education of seminarians and other important need we cannot meet on our own.

THE PARISH NURSERY will be closed on Sunday, December 24th and Sunday, December 31st.

The PARISH OFFICE will be closed from Friday, December 22nd through Tuesday, December 26th and Friday, December 29th through Monday, January 1st.

OUR FEATURED WEEKLY ADVERTISER

SCHOOL NEWS

FAST CASH CALENDAR WINNERS:

Sunday, December 10 – Norbert Hermes
Tuesday, December 12 – Luke Pollitt
Thursday, December 14 – Janice Cain



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL will have their ANNUAL BAKE SALE on Monday, December 18th from 10:30 am- 2 pm. Stop by and take a look at the wonderful holiday treats and enjoy our beautiful art show. Feel like baking? We are looking for bakers to donate goodies to the bake sale. All items may be dropped off at the grade school between 7:30-10:30 am.

St. Mary's School students are doing various Advent projects for service to others. The grade levels are collecting the following: Pre-School – toys for Catholic Charities; Kindergarten – men's gloves, hats, scarves, socks for Rescue Mission; 1st Grade – baby items for Birthright; 2nd grade – items for comfort bags for foster children; 3rd grade – children's toys for Jordan's Helping Hands; 4th grade – gloves, hats, socks, toiletries for homeless shelter; 5th grade – fruit baskets for nursing homes; 6th grade – school supplies for missionary Catholic school. The students welcome any donations to their causes; please drop off any donations to the school by Monday, December 18th.

SMGS HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:

Open: Dec. 20, 21, 27 & 28 from 8-12
Normal office hours resume on Wednesday, Jan. 3.

SHJSHS HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:

Open: Dec. 26, 27, 28, 29 & Jan 2 from 9-1
Normal office hours resume on Wednesday, Jan. 3

PLEASE JOIN US in praying for our students, teachers, and the needs of St. Mary's School and SH Jr/Sr High School. We will pray a rosary every Friday morning following the 8:05 am Mass in the church.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL asks that you save your Box Tops for Education labels. They may be turned in to the school or to the parish office and we will get them to the school. **They can no longer accept Campbell's Soup labels.**

PARISH NEWS

YEAR-END GIFTS: As we continue to thank God for all He has gifted us with, please consider leaving a year-end gift for our Parish and/or Schools.

FINANCIAL NEWS: Congress has now approved the IRA Direct Rollover **permanently**. This allows individuals who are withdrawing from their IRA's to take tax-free disbursements, provided the money goes directly to charity. By doing this, the annual withdrawal requirement can be fulfilled without incurring a tax liability. This provision is limited to IRA accounts. Funds in a 401k account must be transferred to an IRA before a direct transfer can be made to a charity. The IRA distribution must be made directly to the charity. If it is made out to you, then taxes will be owed.



ARE YOU MISSING SOME DISHES? Thank you to all of our parishioners who have been helpful by providing food for funeral luncheons. You can pick up your containers at your convenience. They may be found on the shelves in the storage room next to the parish kitchen.



PARISH DIRECTORIES: We still have many copies of the parish directories that have not been picked up. If you had your picture taken for the directory, or if you submitted your own picture for publication, and haven't picked up your copy, please stop by the parish office and visit with Kathy to get yours.



FOOD PANTRY BOXES: Many new parishioners may not know that there are two large wooden boxes or bins on either side of the baptismal font area which allow parishioners to bring dry food items and other supplies for families in need (diapers, paper products, toiletries, etc.). These items are given to Catholic Charities Food Pantry and the Salina Food Bank each week. Thank you to those parishioners who already make this a regular practice of their faith.

AROUND THE CITY & THE DIOCESE



BIRTHRIGHT WREATHS are in the gathering area of the church contain tags with items that are needed during the year for women and babies. If you wish to help, please remove a tag from the wreath, purchase **and wrap** the gift item, and bring the gift back **with the tag attached** by December 24th. Cash and gift cards should be left at the parish office. If you have any questions, please call Linda Campbell at 823-6138.



The "RUNNIN' REVS" basketball game will be Thursday, December 28th at 6:00 pm at the SHHS gym. This annual event will feature the seminarians and priests playing area high school boys in a fun, and

sometimes competitive, game of basketball. There will be half-time entertainment with prizes and a pizza social following the game for spectators and players alike. The event is free, but donations will be accepted. Please bring your families and come support the seminarians and priests of our diocese.



JOIN OTHERS in PRAYER AND ADORATION on Sunday, Dec. 31st to pray for a new bishop. On the last

Sunday of each month at 6:00 pm you are invited to join others to pray that our diocese will be blessed with a holy, loving, capable new bishop, and that we will all work together under his guidance as true disciples in the vineyard of the Lord. All are invited and most welcome to join!



THRIFT STORE

NOW OPEN

9:00am - 4:00pm
Wed & Thurs

9:00am - 2:00pm
Friday

9:00am - Noon
Saturday



Look for the OPEN sign

1500 S. 9th St, Salina

Open to the Public

CATHOLIC CHARITIES THRIFT STORE is open at 1500 S 9th St.

They carry a variety of clothing, house wares, bedding, toys, etc. and are open to the public. Clients of Catholic Charities will receive vouchers for limited merchandise based on need.

The store will be open Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9-4, Fridays from 9-2 and

Saturdays from 9-12 noon. To donate items or volunteer, contact Cara Ivey at civey@ccnks.org or 825-0208.

PROMISE TO PROTECT



PLEDGE TO HEAL

FOR THE SAFETY & HEALING OF CHILDREN the Diocese of Salina provides an **Abuse of Minors Pastoral Response Hotline: 785-825-0865** along with an email: reportabuse@salinadiocese.org. Calls/emails will be answered by the Diocesan Assistance Coordinator. All calls/emails are confidential with the following exception: Any allegation of child abuse concerning those who currently are minors, must be reported to the Kansas Protection Report Center (1-800-922-5330) as required by Kansas State Law and Diocesan Policy. *This announcement is provided by the Diocesan Office of Safety and Security.*



Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear, blue sky above, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and

clear! We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs. But You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises and the hearts of men will be made glad. Amen.

During the month of December when we celebrate the birth of our Savior and prepare for the entrance into a new year, let us pray that we might always give glory to God as the angels did at his birth.