

St. Francis of Assisi Church

883 Moscow Street
Munjoy, Kansas 67601

785-625-5314

office@stfrancis-church.com

www.stfrancis-church.com

*Lord make me an
instrument of peace...*



PASTOR

Fr. Damian Richards
Emergency Contact

785-628-1446
785-621-2699

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Lilly Binder

785-623-8000

FINANCE/PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON

Tina Waddell

785-650-3833

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Joseph Pfannenstiel

785-259-2762

ART & ENVIRONMENT

Ann Pfannenstiel

785-628-8458

Jerry & Sylvia Gross

785-342-4183

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

GRAND KNIGHT

Kyle Jones

785-656-3007

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS PRESIDENT

Jane Younger

785-259-3374

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday - 8:00 am

Wednesday - 7:30 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sunday - 7:30 am

BAPTISMS - Preparation class
required for first time parents
and inactive Catholics.
Contact Lilly to schedule.

MARRIAGES - Couples anticipating
marriage must contact Lilly at least
6 months prior to wedding date.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Family Elementary

785-625-3131

www/hfehays.org

Thomas More Prep-Marian

785-625-6577

www.tmp-m.org

Sunday, December 11, 2022 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. Dec 11	8:00 am	L/D Edward & Oliva Pfannenstiel fam
Wed. Dec 14	7:30 am	+Carol Schlegel
Sun. Dec 18	8:00 am	+Mary Lou Pfannenstiel
Wed. Dec 21	7:30 am	L/D Herman & Rosie Leiker fam

SERVERS

Sunday, Dec 11	Benjamin Dome & Rexton Leiker
Sunday, Dec 18	Cali Richmeier & Rafe Richmeier

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, Dec 11	Wendy Richmeier & Deacon Steve
Sunday, Dec 18	Lauren Moeder & Josh Waddell

LECTORS

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Sun. Dec 11	Ken Richmeier	Larry & Gloria Koirth
Sun. Dec 18	Benjamin Dome	Wilbert Gross

GREETERS

Sunday, December 11	Jason & Kacy Gerstner
Sunday, December 18	Jerry & Sylvia Gross

COLLECTION TEAM

Sunday, December 11

John Oborny, Brian Pfannenstiel, Caleb Staley, Randy Werth

Sunday, December 18

Jason Carter, Wilbert Gross, Greg Pfannenstiel, Glenn Stramel

TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday, December 11	Linda Gross
Sunday, December 18	Herman & Rosie Leiker
Saturday, December 24	Darold & Evelyn Younker
Sunday, January 1	Aaron & Kolleen Dome

Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure

Envelopes	\$2,000.00
Loose	\$270.00
Total	\$2,270.00



REFLECTION FROM DEACON STEVE URBAN

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

In our world and in our personal lives, we experience a great deal of brokenness. Like the environment the prophet Isaiah addresses in our first reading, there is a great amount of spiritual blindness that prevents us from seeing God's presence. We also suffer from a deafness that keeps us from hearing the cries of the poor and disadvantaged. Our bodies might be broken and lame, but our spirits are definitely weak and afraid. Yet the prophet speaks of a time when God will restore wholeness and health, both physically and spiritually. And in the person of Jesus we see that time of fulfillment and restoration realized. Yet, we often doubt Jesus' presence and his power to bring about healing in our personal lives. Our doubts are consistent with John the Baptist who wondered if this Jesus was the Messiah who was to come. Jesus assures us and asks us to believe that he can bring wholeness if we surrender. The wholeness Jesus gives us is not necessarily a physical healing but a transformation of the heart. That transformation takes place only if we patiently wait as the Letter of James encourages us to do. This patience is not a passive submission but a whole-hearted attention to whatever we do.

Our first reading from Isaiah speaks to the brokenness of humanity. The people of Israel are dealing with being in captivity in Babylon. Having been taken from their homeland and their place of worship, the people are lost in a sea of hopelessness. The prophet envisions the coming of the Messiah who would reverse the people's fortune. Sickness and paralysis would be healed, and there would be great joy. Even nature itself would be restored. What was desert and dryness would now become paradise blooming with flowers and new life. God would lead his people back to their homeland in what could be taken as a new Exodus. Yet we know that this vision of Isaiah has not been fully realized. However, we believe that Jesus' coming to earth and taking on our humanness brought about the beginning of this transformation. While it is not complete in this life, we work in patience and diligence to make the changes we can.

In today's Gospel, we come face to face with doubt about God's workings in our world. John the Baptist expresses his doubt and ours when asked if Jesus was indeed the Messiah who was to come. Some messianic traditions had a messiah who was a warrior, judge, a vindicator. Jesus responds to John's questions by telling John to look at what Jesus is doing to heal the blind, the lame, the deaf, and to proclaim the good news to the poor. In other words, Jesus is pointing back to today's passage in Isaiah, and saying he is the fulfillment of those messianic prophecies. Jesus then goes on to explain how important John's role was in preparing the way for his coming. John was indeed, according to Jesus, the greatest prophet. Jesus makes clear his role and purpose and defines the role John played.

As I said in the opening paragraph, all of us must deal with the brokenness and wounds of our lives. This brokenness can be physical, emotional, and spiritual. None of us can escape from this life without dealing with some cross or

difficulty. Yet Jesus wants to bring us healing and hope. God might not take away our cancer or heal our arthritis, but God can heal the cancerous growth of sin and evil of our hearts. God can restore to wholeness the defects and deformities of our hearts. But it takes a patient surrender of our lives. It takes a lifetime of prayer, awareness, and works of justice and charity to cooperate with God's work.

~ Deacon Steve



Religious Education: Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm.

Communal Penance Service Wednesday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Anointing of the sick and elderly will take place following Mass next Sunday, December 18th.



We are once again accepting donations for Poinsettias for church decorating. If you would like to make a monetary donation in memory of a loved one, for your family, or to simply make a donation, please use the envelope in your weekly offering boxes and include the name(s) of those you are remembering, (optional). **Note:** *If after the Christmas season you would like to take a plant you made a donation for, you are welcome to do so. Thank you!*



2023 Boxed offering envelopes are at the entrances.
Please do not begin using these until January.

Take Home Glass Candles: Due to price increases, we will be transitioning to candle inserts for the candles that are available for purchase. They will still be approximate 6 day burn time, will be blessed and cost remains \$4.00 each. You will need to purchase a glass globe for safe burning in your home. These globes are available for purchase at **Messenger Catholic Store -115 W. 10th, Hays.**

The end of the calendar year is fast approaching. If you are considering a year-end donation, please keep St. Francis of Assisi in mind. These unexpected donations and your ongoing support are greatly appreciated. *May the Lord bless you abundantly for your generosity.*

EVENTS IN THE HEARTLAND

Join Us ~ Each Tuesday this Advent Season at 7:00 p.m. at St. Nicholas of Myra Parish for one hour of:

Live Advent/Christmas/Worship Music
Reflection ~ Adoration ~ Confession

December 13th — Joy

December 20th — Peace



37th Annual Cathedral Christmas Concert ~ Sunday, December 11th at 3:30pm - 5:30pm The Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria. The Concert is free and open to the public. As always, beautiful Christmas carols will be sung by all!

The "Little Town of Bethlehem" nativity at St. Boniface Catholic Church will be open for visitors Sundays Dec. 11, 18, and 25 from 1-5pm. Appointments can also be made at any other time by calling Carol at 735-9282. This is the 96th year of the nativity, begun by Fr. Callistus Rectenwald in 1927. Over the years, the nativity has become a worldwide representation of Christmas. Rocks from all 50 states and 105 countries surround the scene, in particular rocks from the Cave of Lourdes and the Sea of Galilee. Infant Jesus is from Spain, and Mary, Joseph and the Three Kings are from Germany. A special section of the nativity is dedicated to our veterans who could not be home for Christmas over the years, featuring rocks from Germany, Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Wake Island and Christmas Island to name a few. The nativity has had special lighting effects added the last few years - a color changing rock show and a neon blue-lit sky in the background. Four trickling waterfalls, animals and shepherds dot the scene surrounding the Bethlehem Inn, and the stable made from a nearby pear tree in 1927. St. Boniface Church is located 5.5 miles south of Victoria and two miles east.

Religious Retired Collection Help aging religious. Senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer, service, and works of mercy. Most ministers for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your gift to today's Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give



Prayer List: Rick Werth, Carol Legleiter, Special Intentions, Helen Werth, Becky Robben, Maya Gottschalk, Stan Herrmann, Jerome Herrmann, Carla Meier, Terry Hauschel, Theo Leiker, Chris Brull, Carol Carter, Parishioners in Health Care Facilities. Drop requests in the collection basket or let Lilly know.

Please let Lilly know when the intention can be removed.

Short-Term Host Families Needed

For 5 weeks only from Jan. 7 to Feb. 8, 2023, ten (10) international students from Argentina will be visiting TMP-Marian High! We need 10 host families to bring them to our school. If you're thinking of hosting, we need to know by Dec. 16 so that we can get you approved by the time students arrive on Jan. 7. There are so many talents and interests among these students! To help offset food and utility expenses, host families are given a \$500 stipend. Because the students help pay for their time in our school, TMP-M also receives \$500. If you host, it's just like giving a \$500 donation! The school needs more host families to step up and welcome our guests. We have both boys and girls needing a stable and fun home. We also need one host family to house the 23-year old female chaperone. To inquire further, please contact Michele Springer at mspringer@team.nacelopendoor.org.

13th Annual Community Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 25th. Dinner served from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the VFW, 22nd & Vine. *Volunteers needed*, deliveries for homebound. Call 785-625-5528 (thru 12/15) & 785-259-9735 (12/16 thru 12/24) or email communitychristmasdinner@gmail.com

PRAYER FOR RAIN: O God, our Creator, you are the source of all life. We pray to you who calms the raging waters and commands the wind, to provide us sufficient rain to quench our parched land. We pray for rain that will sustain our crops and land. Help us always be good stewards of your creation and to care for the many resources of this earth. We ask for these blessings through the intercession of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth. Amen

St. Isidore, Patron of Farmers and Farm Life—Pray for Us.



Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudete Sunday

Shells Partially Donated by Northwestern Printers.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS



HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Rachel Wentling, Principal
(785) 625-3131

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|-------------------|---|
| Dec. 12 | Mary's Baby Shower
Reconciliation 3rd - 6th grades |
| Dec. 14 | Arby's HFE Family Fundraising Night |
| Dec. 15 | December Birthday Mass & Lunch |
| Dec. 19 | End of Qtr 2 1st Gr Polar Express Day |
| Dec. 20 | 1/2 day school dismiss at 11:00 |
| Dec 21 -
Jan 4 | NO SCHOOL
Christmas Break |

You can support HFE by recycling your aluminum cans in our trailer across the street North of the school/church in the small gravel parking lot on 19th! Simply bring by a trash bag of them to drop off anytime! Try the new BoxTops for Education app on your phone or devices! You have 2 weeks to scan your store receipts to earn our school points \$\$ automatically, just from your phone! We can give your pulltabs to HHS for the Ronald McDonald Houses of America! Thanks for your continued support!!!



THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN

Chad Meitner, Principal

Bob Leikam, Jr. High Assistant Principal
(785) 625-6577

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Dec. 11 | 3:30 - 5:30 Pop Singers Cathedral Concert |
| Dec 13 | 5 PM Alumni Black Tie Dinner |
| Dec 22 -
Jan 4 | NO SCHOOL
Christmas Break |

Theotokos Catholic Homeschool Co-op

If you have questions or need to RSVP (all events require RSVP) contact Samantha Baker at 785-639-3285 or 13sbaker@gmail.com.

Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe activity/play date (time TBD)
Dec. 21—9:30 a.m. tour Ellis Post/City Offices

Mission Statement:

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is built on a foundation of faith. We continue that spirit by welcoming all people to participate in our spiritual growth. As we are called to love God and and be examples of his teachings, we strive for unity through fellowship and participation in all areas of the Catholic faith.

2022 - Advent/Christmas Schedule - 2023

Our Lady Help of Christians - Antonino
St. Anthony - Schoenchen

St. Joseph - Hays
Immaculate Heart of Mary - Hays

St. Francis of Assisi - Munjor
Comeau Catholic Campus Center - Hays

December 11, 2022 (Sun.) - Third Sunday of Advent

St. Joseph-Anointing of the Sick after 7:30am & 10:30am
Mass

December 12, 2022 (Mon.) - Our Lady of Guadalupe

IHM - 5:00am Manetas & ass at 7:30pm with Fiesta
following in AC.

December 13, 2022 (Tues.)

St. Nicholas - 7:00pm Advent Prayer Service & Confessions

December 14, 2022 (Wed.)

Munjor - Communal Penance Service 6:30pm

December 16, 2022 (Fri.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 pm in the Church
St. Nicholas - Adoration 8:00am - 4:00pm

December 17, 2022 (Sat.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 pm in the Church

December 18, 2022 (Sun.) - Fourth Sunday of Advent

IHM - Posadas at 7:30 pm in the Church
St. Joseph - Communal Penance Service 3:00pm

December 19, 2022 (Mon.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 pm in the Church

December 20, 2022 (Tues.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 pm in the Church
St. Nicholas - 7:00pm Advent Prayer Service & Confessions

December 21, 2022 (Wed.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 pm in the Church

December 22, 2022 (Thur.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 pm in the Church

December 23, 2022 (Fri.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00 pm in the Church

December 24, 2022 (Sat.) - Christmas Eve

Antonino - 4:00pm
IHM - 5:00 pm & 10:00 pm (Bilingual)
Munjor - 7:00pm
Schoenchen - 5:30pm
St. Joseph - 5:00pm, 11:30pm Caroling with Mass at Midnight
St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00pm (Family Mass), 9:00pm

December 25, 2022 (Sun.) - Christmas Day

Campus Center - 9:00am, NO 11:00am & 6:00pmMass
Catharine - 9:00am
IHM - 8:00 am 10:00 am & 12:00pm. (Spanish), NO 6:00pm
St. Joseph - 7:30am & 10:30am
St. Nicholas - 9:30am

December 26, 2022 (Mon.)

IHM - No Masses
St. Joseph - 6:30am

December 31, 2022 (Sat.) - Solemnity of Mary Vigil

Antonino - 4:00pm
IHM - 5:00 pm
Schoenchen - 5:30pm
St. Joseph - 5:00pm
St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00pm

January 1, 2023 (Sun.) - Solemnity of Mary

Catholic Campus - 9:00am & 6:00pm, NO 11:00am Mass
IHM - 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm
Catharine - 9:00am
Munjor - 8:00am
St. Joseph - 7:30am & 10:30am
St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:30am & 11:00am

