

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 628-1446
Emergency Contact 621-2699

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Lilly Binder 623-8000

FINANCE/PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON

Tina Waddell 650-3833

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Joseph Pfannenstiel 259-2762

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Peggy Richmeier 656-0033

ART & ENVIRONMENT

Ann Pfannenstiel 628-8458
Jerry & Sylvia Gross 342-4183

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

GRAND KNIGHT

Kevin Stramel 623-7107

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS PRESIDENT

Jane Younger 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 625-3131

www/hfehays.org

Thomas More Prep-Marian 625-6577

www.tmp-m.org



MASS INTENTIONS



REFLECTION FROM DEACON STEVE URBAN

Sun. Dec 19 8:00 am +Benjamin & Diana Dome
 Wed. Dec 22 7:30 am +Colton Lane
 Christmas Eve 7:00 pm L/D Paul & Ruby Binder family
 Sun. Dec 26 8:00 am L/D Norbert & Betty Leiker family
 Wed. Dec 29 7:30 am +Nancy Oponui

Micah 5:1-4a
 Hebrews 10:5-10
 Luke 1:39-45

Two women waiting to give birth in their bodies, but signaling a greater birth in their hearts, is the theme of today's Gospel. As we draw closer to Christmas day, the readings for Mass take us back to events that happened to Elizabeth, John, Mary, and Joseph in the period before Jesus' birth. In the first reading, we hear how tiny Bethlehem would be home of the future messianic king who would shepherd the people of Israel. In Luke's Gospel, we read the story of Mary, with child through the Holy Spirit, who visits her cousin Elizabeth, also pregnant with John the Baptist. Both women's pregnancies are through God's special intervention, and both women symbolize an openness to trust in God's plan even when the world fails to believe otherwise. If we can learn from these two pregnant women, it is that we too, in our daily lives, are to give birth to the Christ by our words and especially our actions. And like them, we must wait patiently and fervently for God's plan to come to fruition.

Our first reading is taken from a minor prophet, Micah, who was a contemporary of the more well-known prophet Isaiah. Micah was very keen to point out the failures of everyone from priests and prophets to wealthy merchants for their religious hypocrisy. While liturgically acting as if following God's commandments, these same groups of people were not faithful in ethical matters of daily life. Micah had become disillusioned with the anointed kings of Judah and was waiting for a messianic ruler. This messiah would come from lowly Bethlehem-Ephrathah, birthplace of Jesse, David's father. This is important because Jesus was born in Bethlehem and comes from David's lineage. And while Micah probably envisioned king Hezekiah as the king who was to shepherd Judah and Israel, his expectations were dashed by Hezekiah's unfaithfulness to God. Therefore, the prophet Micah placed his hopes on a future messiah which we believe was fulfilled in Jesus' coming.

In today's Gospel from Luke, we see Mary setting out in haste to meet her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth, who was barren, found out she was to be with child by God's hand through the angel Gabriel, appearing to her husband Zechariah. Mary was also told she would be with child through God's power by the appearance of the angel Gabriel. When Mary reaches Elizabeth's house, the child within Elizabeth, John the Baptist, leaps for joy. This leaping in the womb was often used in Biblical literature to symbolize the extraordinary circumstances of these children in time to come. Elizabeth honors Mary with the words "blessed are you among women" to

SERVERS

Sunday, Dec 19 Cali Richmeier & Rafe Richmeier
 Christmas Eve Valerie D., Alec G., Ahnaly L., Logan L.
 Sunday, Dec 26 Jacob Leiker & Trenton Staley

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, Dec 19 Nathan Leiker & Lauren Moeder
 Christmas Eve John Moeder & Bea Suppes
 Sunday, Dec 26 Wendy Richmeier & Michelle Werth

LECTORS

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Sun. Dec 19	Valerie Dome	Darold & Evelyn Younker
Christmas Eve	Gene Gottschalk	Neal & Carolyn Younger
Sun. Dec 26	Nathan Leiker	Josh & Tina Waddell

GREETERS

Sunday, Dec 19 Nathan & Jenalyn Leiker
 Christmas Eve John & Amy Moeder
 Sunday, Dec 26 John & Natalie Oborny

COLLECTION TEAM

Sunday, December 19

Wilbert Gross, Larry Koirth, Donovan Richmeier, Neal Younger

Christmas Eve

Jason Carter, Nathan Leiker, Brian Pfannenstiel, Rich Ruder

Sunday, December 26

Aaron Dome, Sid Steinert, Josh Waddell, Brandon Zimmerman

TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday, Dec 19 Tony & Patty Rohr
 Sunday, Dec 26 Ernie & Lilly Binder
 Sunday, Jan 2 Herman & Rosie Leiker
 Sunday, Jan 9 Darold & Evelyn Younker

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

indicate her unique role as physical mother of Christ and to praise Mary's faith in accepting God's role in her life. Like Elizabeth and Mary, our response to God's invitation should be one of complete and total surrender.

Meister Eckhart, one of the great Dominican theologians of the late 1200's, gives us insight into how Mary and Elizabeth responded to God. Here is a contemporary version of what Eckhart said from theologian Matthew Fox, "What good is it to me that Mary gave birth to the son of God fourteen hundred years ago, and I do not also give birth to the Son of God in my time and in my culture? We are all meant to be mothers of God. God is always needing to be born." Each day we have many opportunities to give birth to Jesus by how we live. The world desperately needs our willingness to say yes and allow God to be born in us. While it may sound overwhelming, God wants us to do this in simple ways throughout our day. As we approach Christmas let's find ways to give birth to God.

~ Deacon Steve

Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure

Envelopes	\$2,010.00	Ret. Rel.	\$410.00
Loose	\$52.00	Candles	\$25.00
Poinsettias	\$215.00		
Total	\$2,712.00		

Christmas Choir Practice: Tuesday, December 21st 7:30 p.m.

Religious Education: No Class. Enjoy your Christmas Break.



Mass Times

Christmas Eve ~ 7:00 p.m.
New Year's Eve ~ 6:30 p.m.

Special thanks are extended to the Munjor Knights of Columbus for their donation of \$375.00 to our Religious Education Program.

2022 Mass Intentions are being scheduled. At this time, please limit to 3 intention requests. Stipends \$10.00 per Mass. *Contact Lilly to schedule ~ 623-8000*

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection. Thank you for your generous support. Donations can still be turned in next week if you have not already done so.



2022 Boxed offering envelopes are at the entrances.
Please do not begin using these until January.

The "*Little Town of Bethlehem*" nativity at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Vincent will be open for visitation on Sunday, Dec. 19th, as well as Christmas Day. All times are 1 to 5pm. Other appointment times can be made to visit the nativity by calling Carol Freitag at 785-735-9282. Begun in 1927, the nativity has become a worldwide representation of Christmas featuring rocks and figurines from all 50 states and 105 countries and much more.

St. Boniface Catholic Church is located 5.5 miles south of Victoria and two miles east.

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.



Special Intentions, Mike Suppes, Chris Brull, Matt Shorman, Carole Carter, Parishioners in Health Care Facilities.

Drop requests in the collection basket or let Lilly know.
Let Lilly know when the intention can be removed.



Beyond Damascus with Dan DeMatte and Aaron Richards brings young adults the life-changing testimonies of ordinary people that launch them into lives of extraordinary mission for Christ and His Church. Tune in to 105.7 FM

A Family Perspectiveby Bud Ozar

Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give NECESSITIES to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the point of Christmas.

**HEARTLAND PARISHES
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

December 24th - (Friday) Christmas Eve

Antonino - 4:00pm
Comeau Campus Center - 10:00pm
IHM - 5:00pm, 7:30pm (Spanish), & 10:00pm
Munjor - 7:00pm
Schoenchen - 5:30pm
St. Joseph - 5:00pm & 11:30pm Choir Christmas Music,
Midnight Mass
St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00pm (Family Mass), 9:00pm

December 25th - (Saturday) Christmas Day

Catholic Campus Center - 9:00am
IHM - 9:00am only (Christmas)
IHM - 5:00pm (Regular Vigil Sunday Mass)
Catharine - 9:00am
St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:30am, 5:00pm

December 26th - (Sunday) - Holy Family

Catherine- 9:00am
IHM - Regular Sunday Mass Schedule
Schoenchen - 5:30pm
St. Joseph - 7:30am & 10:30am
St. Nicholas - 9:30am, 11:00am

December 31st - (Friday) - Solemnity of Mary (Vigil)

IHM - 5:30pm & 7:30pm (Spanish)
Munjor - 6:30pm St. Joseph - 5:00pm
St. Nicholas - 5:00pm

January 1st - (Saturday) Solemnity of Mary

IHM - 9:00am for the Holy Day
IHM—5:00pm (Regular Vigil Sunday Mass)
St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:30am, 5:00pm

January 2nd (Sunday) Epiphany of Our Lord.

Catherine— 9:00am
IHM - Regular Mass Schedule
Munjor— 8:00am
St. Joseph - 7:30am & 10:30am
St. Nicholas - 9:30am, 11:00am

Prayer For Moisture

O God, in whom we live and move and have our being, grant us sufficient rain/snow, so that, being supplied with what sustains us in this present life, we may seek more confidently what sustains us for eternity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

“NAMI Family Support Group” will be on Dec. 22 (in-person or online), from 7 to- 8:30pm: Regular Meeting. Hosted by: NAMI Hays - 103C E. 27th St., Oak Plaza, Hays. For more info e-mail hunter@namikansas.org or art@namikansas.org.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS



HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY
Rachel Wentling, Principal
625-3131

Dec. 20 - Jan. 3 – No School – Christmas Break



THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN
Chad Meitner, Principal
Bob Leikam, Jr. High Assistant Principal
625-6577

Dec. 20 - Jan. 3 – No School – Christmas Break



For unto us
a child
is born.
To us
a son is given
Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas!

Shells Partially Donated by Northwestern Printers.

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.