

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 785-628-1446
Emergency Contact 785-621-2699

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Lilly Binder 785-623-8000

FINANCE/PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON

Brian Pfannenstiel 785-650-1387

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

Kevin Stramel 785-623-7101

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 17, 2023 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. Dec 17	8:00 am	+Ron Ruder
Wed. Dec 20	7:30 am	+Alicia Brull
<u>Sun. Dec 24</u>	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>L/D John & Agnes Pfannenstiel family</u>
Sun. Dec 24	7:00 pm	+Norbert, Betty & Brandon Leiker
Wed. Dec 27	7:30 am	+Arthur F. Wagner

SERVERS

Sunday, Dec 17	Rexton Leiker & Rafe Richmeier
Sunday, Dec 24	Ahnalyn Leiker & Makailyn Leiker
Sun Dec. 24 (pm)	Alec Gerstner & Trenton Staley

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sun. Dec 17	Ernie B, John M, Ken R, Peggy R.
Sun. Dec 24	Jenalyn L, Lauren M, Amy P, Michelle W.
Dec 24 (pm)	Glenn S, Rhonda S, Josh W, Tina W.

LECTORS OFFERTORY GIFTS

Sun. Dec 17	Gene Gottschalk	Tony & Patty Rohr
Sun. Dec 24	Nathan Leiker	Ken & Peggy Richmeier
Dec 24 (pm)	John Moeder	Jeff & Wendy Richmeier

GREETERS

Sunday, Dec 17	Joe & Mindy Pfannenstiel
Sunday, Dec 24	Terry & Cathy Pfeifer
Sun Dec 24 (pm)	Ken & Peggy Richmeier

COLLECTION TEAM

Sunday, December 17

Aaron Dome, Brian Pfannenstiel, Sid Steinert, Josh Waddell

Sunday, December 24

Ernie Binder, Kyle Jones, Rich Ruder, Blake Spencer

Sunday, December 24 (7pm) Volunteers

TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday, December 17	Mark & Dora Leiker
Sunday, December 24	Ernie & Lilly Binder
Sunday, December 31	Herman & Rosie Leiker
Sunday, January 7	Darold & Evelyn Younker

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DAMIAN

St. Nicholas at the Council of Nicea: Punching a Heretic.

How would you respond if you were told your grandmother was in hell? And that she was in hell because she worshiped God the Son and not God the Father? If they got away with only a bloody nose, they would be lucky.

Back in the early days of the church, fights over this subject would break out all the time.

Why would they say such things? Because "I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods before me."

Now, when a pagan became a Christian, they knew they couldn't worship Zeus or Athena or Isis any more. You could only worship the One, True God. But people weren't just worshipping God the Father. They were also worshipping Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

So, the question came up: "Are you breaking the First Commandment if you worship God the Son or God the Holy Spirit and not just God the Father?"

The quickest way to hell is to break a Commandment, which makes this very serious stuff. Your salvation, and the salvation of your family, was at stake. Feelings ran high, and riots would break out during these debates.

In 325, Bishops & theologians, including Nicholas of Myra, met at Nicea to hash out how Father, Son and Holy Spirit can be three separate persons yet one eternal God.

Nicholas argued, of course, in favor of the Trinity. He did it using a brick. Just as God is one God yet three separate Persons, Nicholas said, so the brick is one uniform substance composed of clay, water and fire. As Nicholas finished the analogy, the brick burst into flames while water dripped from it onto the floor, leaving only clay in his hands.

But one man, Arius, took the counter-point to Nicholas. Arius thought the concept of three separate Persons and one eternal God was silly. Instead, Arius argued that Jesus was a human being and the Holy Spirit an angel.

As Nicholas was listening, he realized Arius' arguments meant Jesus wasn't God. Which meant worshipping Jesus would send you to hell.

Sadly, this time Nicholas didn't refute Arius' argument with words. He got up as Arius was speaking, went over and punched Arius in the face.

Because beating people up is frowned on in a debate, even if you are beating up a heretic, Nicholas was put in jail to cool off before being allowed to return to the Council. Both Jesus and Mary appeared to Nicholas while he was in the jail cell. They praised Nicholas for his love and devotion to Christ and to the Trinity.

After Nicholas was returned to the Council, they put together a Creed to describe how Father, Son & Holy Spirit are three separate persons, but still one God. That's why it's called the Nicene Creed—the Creed written at Nicea.

In it, we profess our belief in One God and the Three Persons of the Trinity: God the Father Almighty, Jesus Christ The Only Begotten Son of God, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord the Giver of Life. When we worship—Father, Son or Holy Spirit—we are worshipping the One, True God.

Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure

Envelopes	\$1,948.00	Holy Day	
Loose	\$343.00	Envelopes	\$535.00
		Loose	\$56.00
Total	\$2,291.00	Total	\$591.00



Anointing will take place following Mass on Sunday, December 17th.

Religious Education: NO CLASS ~ Christmas Break

Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious.

2024 Weekly Offering Boxes are at entrances. Please do not begin using until January, as some numbers have changed.

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



2024 Mass Intentions are now being accepted. Please limit to 3 requests. Stipends \$10.00 per Mass. Contact Lilly to schedule ~ 785-623-8000

BIBLE REFLECTION ~ STEWARDSHIP GOAL

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.



Larry Roda, Kenny Pfannenstiel, Carol Legleiter, Special Intentions, Becky Robben, Maya Gottschalk, 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.

EVENTS IN THE HEARTLAND

FHSU Cathedral Christmas Concert Sunday, December 10 at 3:30 p.m. The Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria 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.

OPEN HOUSE - To the Public

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary would like to invite you to an Open House of the Atrium space at Holy Family Elementary on Dec. 16, from 5 to 7pm and Dec. 17, from 9 to 12pm! Come see how this space has impacted the lives of our youngest parishioners!

The "Little Town of Bethlehem" nativity at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Vincent will be open for visitors Sunday Dec. 17th, as well as Saturday Dec. 23, Sunday Dec. 24 and Christmas Day. All times are 1-5pm. 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 the parish priest Fr. Callistus Rectenwald in 1927. 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. 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 Catholic Church is located 5.5 miles south of Victoria and two miles east.

Parish Pictorial Directory: Volunteers are needed to work through this process. If you are interested, please contact Lilly 785-623-8000.

Family Perspective ...Bud Ozar

Today's gospel reports "there is one among you whom you do not recognize." It is hard to believe Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words spoken at mass, "The Lord is with you," are not a hope, they are a fact.

Sunday, December 17, 2023 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

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

December 18, 2023 - (Mon.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church

December 19, 2023 - (Tues.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church
St. Nicholas - Advent Adoration w/music and Conf., 7:00pm

December 20, 2023 - (Wed.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church

December 21, 2023 - (Thur.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church
St. Joseph - Adoration 7:00am - 7:00pm
St. Nicholas - Eucharistic Video & Discussion, 7:00pm

December 22, 2023 - (Fri.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church

December 23, 2023 - (Sat.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church

December 24, 2023 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

IHM - No 5:00pm Confessions, No 6:00pm Mass

December 24, 2023 - (Sun.) Christmas Eve

Antonino - 4:00pm
CCC - 9:00am Mass, **NO 6:00pm Mass**
IHM - 4:00pm and 10:00pm (Bilingual)
Munjor - 7:00pm
Schoenchen - 6:00pm
St. Joseph - 5:00pm, 11:30pm Choir Music, Midnight
St. Nicholas - 5:00pm

December 25, 2023 - (Mon.) Christmas Day

CCC - 9:00am only
IHM - 9:00am & 12:00pm (Spanish)
St. Catharine - 9:00am
St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am
St. Nicholas - 9:30am

December 26, 2023 - (Tues.)

IHM - No Masses

December 27, 2023 - (Wed.)

IHM - No Masses

December 31, 2023, (Sun.) Vigil - Solemnity of Mary

St. Joseph - 5:00pm

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS



HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Mandy Meagher Principal
(785) 625-3131

- Dec 18 Reconciliation (3rd—5th gr) 1:30 pm
- Dec 19 Last Day of Full-Day Preschool
- Dec 20 End of Semester
Last Day of school before break—dismiss 11:00



THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN

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

- Dec 18 JH/HS Christmas Concert 7:00 pm
- Dec 21 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break

MONARCH FOR A DAY
OPEN TO ANY 5TH - 8TH GRADER

Come join us for the day to learn what the school has to offer! Lunch included and transportation provided upon request.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH
8:00 A.M. - NOON
THOMAS MORE PREP MARIAN

FREE STUDENT ADMISSION & POPCORN
TMP-M VS SALINA SACRED HEART
BASKETBALL GAME THAT EVENING STARTING AT
4:30 P.M.

To register please contact Melissa Schoepf
schoepfm@tmpmarian.org
(785)625-6577



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.

2023 - Advent/Christmas Schedule - 2024

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

St. Joseph - Hays
Immaculate Heart of Mary - Hays
St. Nicholas of Myra - Hays

St. Francis of Assisi - Munjor
Comeau Catholic Campus Center

December 3, 2023 - First Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2023 - (Tues.)

St. Nicholas - Advent Adoration w/music and Conf., 7:00pm

December 6, 2023 - (Wed.)

St. Joseph - Special Mass in Honor of St. Nicholas, 7:00pm

December 7, 2023 - (Thur.), Vigil-Immaculate Conception

IHM - 5:30pm English / 7:30pm Spanish

St. Joseph - 5:30pm

St. Nicholas - 6:00pm

St. Nicholas - Eucharistic Video & Discussion, 7:00pm

December 8, 2023, (Fri.), Immaculate Conception

Comeau Catholic Campus Center - 7:30am

IHM - 6:45am / 5:30pm both English

Munjor - 6:00pm

St. Catharine - 7:00pm

St. Joseph - 6:30am, 12:05pm, 7:00pm followed by Adoration

St. Nicholas - 12:15pm

December 10, 2023 - Second Sunday of Advent

IHM - Communal Penance 2:30pm

December 11, 2023 - (Mon.)

Munjor - Communal Penance Service 6:00pm

December 12, 2023 - (Tues.), Our Lady of Guadalupe

IHM - 5:00am Danza, 5:30am Mananitas

IHM - 5:30pm Danza and Mass (Misa) at 6:30pm with Fiesta
Following in the HFE Activity Center.

St. Nicholas - Advent Adoration w/music and Conf., 7:00pm

December 14, 2023 - (Thurs.)

St. Nicholas - Eucharistic Video & Discussion, 7:00pm

December 16, 2023 - (Sat.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church

St. Joseph - Anointing of the Sick following 6:00pm Mass

December 17, 2023 - Third Sunday of Advent

IHM - Posadas at 7:30pm in the Church

St. Joseph - Anointing of the Sick following both Masses

St. Joseph - Communal Penance Service 3:00pm

December 18, 2023 - (Mon.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church

December 19, 2023 - (Tues.)

IHM - Posadas at 7:00pm in Church

St. Nicholas - Advent Adoration w/music and Conf., 7:00pm

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St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am

St. Nicholas - 9:30am

December 26, 2023 - (Tues.)

IHM - No Masses

December 27, 2023 - (Wed.)

IHM - No Masses

December 31, 2023, (Sun.) Vigil - Solemnity of Mary

St. Joseph - 5:00pm

January 1, 2024, (Mon.) Solemnity of Mary

CCC - **NO MASS**

IHM - 6:45am & 5:30pm English (No Vigil Masses)

Munjor - 8:00am

St. Joseph - 8:00am, 10:00am

St. Nicholas - 9:30am

