

# St. Francis of Assisi Church

883 Moscow Street  
Munjoy, Kansas 67601

785-625-5314

[office@stfrancis-church.com](mailto:office@stfrancis-church.com)

[www.stfrancis-church.com](http://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  
Jerry & Sylvia Gross

785-628-8458  
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](http://www/hfehays.org)

Thomas More Prep-Marian 785-625-6577

[www.tmp-m.org](http://www.tmp-m.org)

## Sunday, January 8, 2023 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. Jan 8	8:00 am	+Cody Younger
Wed. Jan 11	7:30 am	+Mary Lou Pfannenstiel
Sun. Jan 15	8:00 am	+Carol Schlegel
Wed. Jan 18		*** NO MASS ***

### SERVERS

Sunday, Jan. 8	Ahnalyn Leiker & Makailyn Leiker
Sunday, Jan. 15	Hayley Gerstner & Rexton Leiker

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, Jan 8	Ernie Binder & Nathan Leiker
Sunday, Jan 15	Jenalyne Leiker & Deacon Steve

### LECTORS

### OFFERTORY GIFTS

Sun. Jan 8	Benjamin Dome	Jason & Kacy Gerstner
Sun. Jan 15	Gene Gottschalk	Aaron & Kolleen Dome

### GREETERS

Sunday, January 8	Linda Gross
Sunday, January 15	David & Claudia Leiker

### COLLECTION TEAM

#### Sunday, January 8

Larry Koirth, Mark Leiker, Ken Richmeier, Sid Steinert

#### Sunday, January 15

Donovan & Jeff Richmeier, Tony & Trenton Staley

### TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday, January 8	Ken & Peggy Richmeier
Sunday, January 15	Jeff & Wendy Richmeier
Sunday, January 22	Deanna Leiker
Sunday, January 29	Randy & Michelle Werth

### Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure

Envelopes	\$1,845.00	
Loose	\$165.00	<i>New Year's Envelopes</i>
		<b>\$330.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,010.00</b>	

### REFLECTION FROM DEACON STEVE URBAN

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

While in the United States, the Solemnity of Christmas overshadows the feast of Epiphany. That is not the case in many European and Latin American countries. In these countries, Epiphany is a bigger day than Christmas. In America many people have taken down their Christmas decorations and moved on with life to secular winter celebrations. In the Church's view, the Solemnity of Epiphany is a big day. It is a feast of light, and more importantly, the day we celebrate when Christ was manifested to all the world through the Magi. The power of this manifestation comes together in the Epiphany, the Baptism of our Lord, and the Wedding Feast at Cana. In these three celebrations, Jesus is manifested to all mankind as God's son who came to bring salvation, light, and peace to the world. For us sometimes, we put limits on how God works in the world, and to whom God's message is given in the world. The message of Epiphany is that salvation comes to all persons...all mankind. The key to finding God is that we must search diligently as did the Magi in Matthew's Gospel.

Our first reading from Isaiah was a message probably proclaimed to the Israelites shortly before they returned from Babylonia to Israel or immediately upon entering their homeland. It was a message to bolster hope and encouragement for the major task of rebuilding their country and temple. Isaiah saw in their return to their homeland that God had once again favored his people, and this redemption of Israel was not only for the Israelites but for all nations. Because the nation of Israel was now a shining radiance, other nations would come streaming to Israel to know God's presence. As they journeyed to Jerusalem, these other nations would bring gifts to offer God. In fact, this reading is a foreshadowing of what will happen in Matthew's infancy narrative found in today's Gospel. In the manifestation of Jesus Christ, all nations including non-believers will be drawn to God's presence.

In the Gospel, we have magi or most likely astronomers who were drawn by the appearance of a star to seek out the newborn king of the Jews. Because they had as Gentiles no knowledge of the Scriptures, they stopped at Jerusalem seeking guidance as to how they might find this newborn king. King Herod, jealous of who this king might be, consults the Jewish chief priests and scribes about this ruler. Right away, they point to the prophet Michah who foretold that the newborn king would come from Bethlehem, the home of David. These chief priests, scribes, and Herod should have believed, but instead they are suspicious, and in Herod we have all those who want to destroy any rivalries to their authority. Only the pagans, or non-believers, are truly seeking to find the newborn king and pay him homage. Led by the star, they finally arrive at the house of Jesus and prostrate themselves and offer this king their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Not deterred by Herod's jealousy or the Jewish leaders' unbelief, they find what they are looking for in the baby Jesus comforted by his mother Mary.



We need this celebration of the Epiphany because so often we are shrouded in darkness and confusion. Christ is the light that guides our way. But how often, we are like the chief priests and scribes in the Gospel thinking we know how God works, and yet we miss the coming of the newborn king. Instead, we must have the attitude of the magi who search diligently for the Christ and then prostrate themselves humbly before God. We need God's light and grace to guide us through the darkness and sin of our lives. But we also need the humility to bow down and worship and make a change in our lives for the better.

~ Deacon Steve

**Coffee, Rolls and Conversation** following Mass this morning, hosted by the Parish.

**Pastoral Council Meeting**, Tuesday, January 10th 6:30 p.m.

**Religious Education**: Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

**WOMEN OF THE PARISH**: Christian Mothers After Christmas Festivities will be held Sunday, January, 15th at 12:30 in the Parish Hall.

**RSVP Deadline by January 8th.**

Jane Younger: 785-259-3374

Bea Suppes: 785-625-5180

**K of C meeting**, Monday, January 23rd at 7:00 p.m.



Mike Suppes, Matt Shorman, Virgil Uhrich, 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.

Throughout Germany at this time of year, you will find most main doorways inscribed with the following: 20+C+M+B+23. Children known as Sternsinger (star singers) dress up as the Magi and go door to door, requesting candy for themselves and money for the Church. As they leave, the house is blessed, and the inscription written in chalk. The 20 and 23 refer to the year, the CMB are said to represent either Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar-the Magi-or the Latin Christus Mansionem Benedicat, which means "Christ, bless this home."

*20+ C + M + B + 23*

## EVENTS IN THE HEARTLAND

**RESPECT LIFE MASS & HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE** will be at St. Joseph Church on Saturday, January 21st at 8:00 with the Holy Hour to follow from 8:30am - 9:30am. All are welcome!

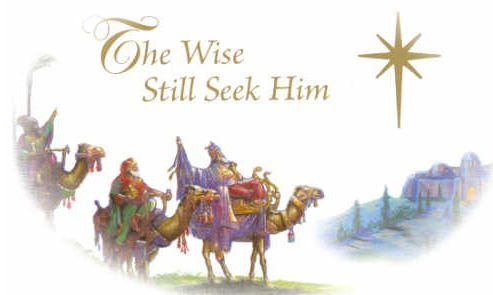
**Gorham D of I Soup Luncheon**. Sunday, January 22 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Menu: Chili, Green Bean & Dump-ling, Chicken & Noddle . Homemade bread, pies and des-serts. Tickets: \$8.00; children 5 and under Free. Carry out quarts \$12.00.

**Hospice Volunteer Training** Wednesday, January 25, 8:30am to 4:30pm Hospice Office at Hays Med 2220 Canterbury Dr, Hays, KS 67601 Registration is due by Friday, January 6, 2023 Learn about the history and philosophy of Hospice, Advance directives, care of the dying person, spir-ituality, and the role of the volunteer. Our Hospice serves Ellis, Rush, Russell and Rooks Counties.

**Kansas "RALLY FOR LIFE"** THE Kansas "Rally for Life" will be Tuesday, January 24. The Bishops of Kansas en-courage ALL Catholics of Kansas to gather in Topeka to advocate for LIFE! The event begins at 9:00 a.m. with a rally and Mass celebrated by the Bishops of Kansas at the Expo Center in Topeka and ends with a march to the Capi-tol steps in time for the noon Rally for Life.

## Stewardship of Family

*One of God's Most PRECIOUS GIFTS to us is Our Family.* The people God has placed in our lives are our most pre-cious gift. This gift is varied and different for everyone. As Christian stewards, God has entrusted us to be the caretak-er of this most precious gift. Take a moment to look around you at the people who make up your family; then give thanks to God for the most precious gift by giving of yourself to them. Clear away all the distractions in your life and fo-cus on this most cherished gift of family. Take time to let them know you love them.



Report allegations of the abuse of a minor to the  
Department of Children and Families  
800.922.5330  
KBI Crime Hotline  
800.572.7463

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If you suspect abuse of a minor by church or school personnel, in addition to contacting civil authorities, the diocese provides a confidential Hotline: 866.752.8855 ext.1067  
Website: [reportandprotect.com](http://reportandprotect.com)  
Email: [reportabuse@salinadiocese.org](mailto:reportabuse@salinadiocese.org)  
Reports will be responded to promptly by the Victim Assistance Coordinator

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To report an incident of sexual abuse and related misconduct by a Bishop or Religious Superior currently or in the past, the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Services provides a confidential Hotline: 800.276.1562  
Website: [reportbishopabuse.org](http://reportbishopabuse.org)

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The Diocese of Salina complies with Kansas laws regarding reporting suspected abuse to civil authorities and cooperates with civil authorities investigating reports of suspected abuse by all persons, including but not limited to Church Personnel.



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Questions regarding reporting should be directed the Safe Environment Office  
Diocese of Salina -785.827. 8746

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*"God is light; and in him there is no darkness. If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another."*  
1 John 1:5-7



7-22

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS



### HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Rachel Wentling, Principal  
(785) 625-3131

- Jan. 9 Red Cross Blood Drive (contact office)  
Jan. 11 Spelling Bee  
Jan. 12 July Birthday Mass & Lunch  
Vision Screening K - 2nd gr



### THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN

Chad Meitner, Principal

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

**Monarch for a Day** - January 13th 8 to Noon. Lunch Included. 5th - 8th Grades. Learn what TMP-M has to offer. Transportation available upon request. Register at [schoepfm@tmpmarian.org](mailto:schoepfm@tmpmarian.org) Free student admission & popcorn TMP-M vs Ellis basketball game that evening starting at 4:30 p.m.



### 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 [13srbaker@gmail.com](mailto:13srbaker@gmail.com).

"Don't leave Jesus in the manger; don't remember Him only at Christmas. Instead, learn to walk with Him every day, as you pray and read His Word and ask Him to help you." ...*Billy Graham*

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### **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.*