

PASTOR

Fr. Damian Richards 785-628-1446 **Emergency Contact** 785-621-6200

(press 3)

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Lilly Binder 785-623-8000

FINANCE/PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON Tina Waddell 785-650-3833

ART & ENVIRONMENT

Ann Pfannenstiel 785-628-8458 Jerry & Sylvia Gross 785-342-4183

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

GRAND KNIGHT

Donovan Richmeier 785-623-0417

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 - By appointment after completion of required pre-Baptism instructions.

MARRIAGES - Couples anticipating marriage must contact Pastor at least six months before intended date of marriage.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Family Elementary 785-625-3131

www/hfehays.org

Thomas More Prep-Marian 785-625-6577 www.tmp-m.org

| Mass Intentions |         |                                   |  |  |  |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Sun Aug 24      | 8:00 am | L/D Wilbert Gross family          |  |  |  |
| Wed Aug 27      | 7:30 am | L/D Norbert & Betty Leiker family |  |  |  |
| Sun Aug 31      | 8:00 am | +Charles & Kathleen Evans         |  |  |  |
| Wed Sept 3      | 7:30 am | L/D Ken & Peggy Richmeier family  |  |  |  |

| Servers    |                                 |  |  |
|------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Sun Aug 24 | Jacob Leiker & Logan Leiker     |  |  |
| Sun Aug 31 | Alec Gerstner & Makailyn Leiker |  |  |

### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Sun Aug 24 John M, Ken R, Peggy R, Michelle W.

Sun Aug 31 Lilly B, Jenalyn L, Josh W, Tina W.

|            | LECTORS       | OFFERTORY GIFTS   |
|------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Sun Aug 24 | Nathan Leiker | Tony & Patty Rohr |
| Sun Aug 31 | John Moeder   | K of C Members    |

|            | GREETERS           |
|------------|--------------------|
| Sun Aug 24 | Brian Pfannenstiel |
| Sun Aug 31 | K of C Members     |

#### **COLLECTION TEAM**

#### Sunday, August 24

Ernie Binder, Blake Spencer, Tony Staley, Brandon Zimmerman

#### Sunday, August 31

Francis Leiker, Ken Richmeier, Sid Steinert, Darold Younker

| Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure |            |                 |          |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------|--|--|--|
| Envelopes                       | \$2,370.00 | <b>Holy Day</b> |          |  |  |  |
| 1                               | \$158.00   | Envelopes       | \$315.00 |  |  |  |
| Loose                           |            | Loose           | \$45.00  |  |  |  |
| Total                           | \$2,528.00 | Total           | \$360.00 |  |  |  |

#### FROM THE DESK OF CODY MARINTZER

#### This Is A Hard Saying

Remember in the Gospel of John when Jesus is telling the crowd that his flesh is true food and his blood is true drink? Some of his disciples say "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it," and many of them then turn and leave. I think today's second reading and Gospel fit into that same category. When we think about having to embrace suffering, we think surely there is an easier path. When we think about how many who will say, "We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets," will be turned away, we find this teaching too difficult and want to follow suit with those disciples. We want all mercy and no sacrifice. We may not speak it, but anytime we don't believe what we hear in the Gospel, or when we don't follow a certain teaching because we think Christ's Church must be wrong, we are doing the same thing.

Christ gave us His Church as our Mother. When the Church speaks, Christ speaks. If a teaching is difficult, we can either submit through faith, or choose another path. If we choose another path, we have just said "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" The reality of the Gospel is that it should radically change our lives. If we just want to have Jesus when it is easy, or comfortable, then at our judgement, we are likely to hear, "I do not know where you are from. Depart from me, all you evildoers!"

Christianity is not easy, yet Christ's yoke is easy and His burden is light. It may not be easy to pick up our cross and follow Jesus, but He tells us "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." This is a whole lot easier than spending eternity away from Him. It may not be easy to speak moral truths to a loved one, but it is a whole lot easier to know you did what you could to save their soul than to know their soul is in peril because you just wanted them to like you.

"There comes a time when one has to stop talking about becoming a saint and actually start choosing to be one. If becoming a saint were easy, everyone would do it." - Bishop Robert Barron

### **Mission COOP Speaker Today**

Ad Gentes Missionaries is a religious community of priests, brothers, and sisters devoted to grassroots missionary work as agents of evangelization in both rural and urban areas. Founded on June 1, 2003, by Rev. Vitalis Anyanike, the institute is committed to the holistic development of people, communities, and cultures.

Our missionaries serve as beacons of hope amid human suffering—responding to the deep needs of those affected by misery, loneliness, violence, and hunger, which often impact children, women, and the elderly the most.

We are dedicated to the integral development of the human person, addressing both spiritual and material needs. Through ministries in education, healthcare, counseling, youth empowerment, and community development, we support those on the margins of society—especially immigrants, displaced persons, and refugees. We also stand in solidarity with Christian minorities living in predominantly Islamic regions, offering accompaniment and pastoral care.

Cemetery Mowing/Trimming: Monday, August 25th beginning at 9:00 a.m. For more info contact Tony Rohr 650-1819 or Jerry Gross 342-4183.

Pauline Younker, Janell Herrmann, Amy Moeder, Amber Lacewell, Special Intentions, Becky Prayer Robben, Maya Gottschalk, Carla Meier, Terry Requests 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.

#### Bible Reflection ~ Stewardship Goal

"For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last." LUKE 13:30

Our cultural standards are different from God's standards. We often rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge us by the same earthly standards. When God asks you, "What have you done with the gifts I have given you?" How will you respond?

#### Family Perspective ...Bud Ozar

Prayer\

The phrase in today's gospel, "I don't know where you come from," is often used by parents about children and children about parents. Change is so rapid one generation has little in common with another We depend on love, trust, and mutual respect to bridge this gap.

#### The Founding Pastor of the 8 Volga-German Catholic Parishes in the Hays Area

A Presentation by Fr. Reggie Urban

In 1876, Father Valentine Sommereisen, a German speaking priest from France arrived in Hays just as waves of Volga-German immigrants were settling in the region. In only 19 months, he founded eight Catholic parishes within a half hour of Hays, spanning Ellis & Rush counties. Join us as we explore his remarkable legacy, the growth of theses early faith communities, and the enduring cultural impact of the Volga-German settlers in western Kansas.

September 11th, 7:00 pm. St. Joseph School Building, formerly known as Kennedy Middle School.

Stars & Stripes All You Can Eat Breakfast Sunday, Sept. 14, from 7:30am - Noon at the VFW - 22nd & Vine. Proceeds on pre-sale tickets go to the local American Historical Society of German from Russia Hays Sunflower Chapter. Tickets are: Adults \$11.50/Children ages 6-12 are \$6.50/ Children Under 5 - Eat for free! Tickets on sale at the St. Joseph Parish Office, or from Elmer Dreher, Phil Schmeidler, Larry Reichert, Pat Lang, or Norma Pipkin.

#### **EVENTS IN THE HEARTLAND**

Is there something tugging on your heart calling you to deeper faith in Jesus Christ through discipleship in the Catholic Church? In your mind are there questions about the Catholic Church and what it believes? Then join us on a journey of faith through O.C.I.A... the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. The O.C.I.A process begins Thursday, Sept. 4, at 6:30pm, in the parish activity center. Through prayer, study, and works of charity, God may be calling you to the Sacrament of Baptism or full communion in the Catholic Church. For more information about this process, contact Deacon Steve at urbs57@gmail.com or call 785.650.2931

The St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council & Bishop Cunningham Assembly will be having a combined Family Picnic on Sunday, Aug. 24, from 5 to 7pm, in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall in the church basement. The Knights will be providing the chicken and drinks. We ask that members please bring a side dish or dessert. All members and their families are welcome to attend this annual event.

Beads of Hope: All grandmothers are invited to join us in praying the rosary for our grandchildren and greatgrandchildren and the special intentions we hold in our hearts for them. We will meet in Immaculate Heart of Mary church after the 8:00am Mass on the first Thursday of each month. Our next rosary will be prayed on Thursday, September 4th. Coffee and cookies will be provided in the Parish Hall after the rosary. We would love to have you join us!

The Antonino Christian Mothers will begin selling tickets for their annual 30 Days of Cash fundraiser at the beginning of September. Tickets are \$25 each. If you would like tickets, contact Suzanne Klaus at 785-259-3806. We appreciate your support in the past and hope you will be able to support us again this year. Thank you.

**CEMETERY NOTES** The St. Joseph maintenance crew will be moving both cemeteries starting Tuesday, September 2nd. We ask that you remove any decorations that are not attached to the monuments by Labor Day, Sept. 1.

#### Fr. Fred's Brown Bag Bible Basics

This year we are studying the Gospel of St. John, Classes will begin on Thursday, Sept. 4, at noon in the Kennedy Cafeteria to get a head count so that Fr. Fred can order enough books and study note packets. We will spend the first few weeks finishing up last year's study of the Gospel of St. Luke while we are waiting for our books to come in. All are welcome and no previous Scripture study experience is necessary. Textbooks and note packets will be \$30.00.

Divine Mercy Radio's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Appreciation Banquet will take place in two locations: 6 p.m. Sat., Sept. 13 at The Rose Garden Banquet Hall Hays and 5 p.m. Sun. Sept. 14 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Salina. After Aug. 19, if tickets are still available, the cost is \$60. The cost includes appetizers and drinks including adult beverages. Featured speaker is the "Dynamic Deacon" Harold Burke-Sivers, host of Beacon of Truth. His talk is titled "Go and Make Disciples: The Call to Evangelization" in both Hays and Salina.

To purchase tickets, send your check, along with which banquet you will attend (Hays or Colby). Banquet Reservations Divine Mercy Radio 108 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St. Hays, KS 785.621.4110

Or visit dymercy.com/banquet. No tickets sold after Sept. 1.

#### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Today's readings show us that it is not enough to be Christ's disciples in name only. To be a real disciple, we must live for Christ every day and in every aspect of life. This kind of life takes strength and discipline.

Intentionally and consistently offering the Lord the best of our Time, Talent, and Treasure through a stewardship way of life is a form of spiritual discipline. These spiritual disciplines teach us to become ever more aware of God's constant provision for us and they keep us on the narrow path towards the Kingdom of Heaven. The more we embrace this way of life, the more we can be "trained" by the Lord in the ways of true discipleship. Though difficult, these disciplines become a source of spiritual strength.

Our Lord Himself speaks of the difficult path to the Kingdom of Heaven in today's Gospel passage from Luke. He is asked, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" Jesus responds, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." Showing up for Mass on Sunday while living as if Christ is an after-thought the rest of the week does not make us disciples. What's more, this approach to our faith is an unjust and unloving response to our good God who has given us all that we have and are.

Jesus does not want us to merely go through the motions of faith. He wants much more from us and for us. He wants to know us deeply and for us to get to know Him so that we become His holy disciples. This is not a burden; it is a privilege. But it does take discipline, the discipline of a steward-ship way of life

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#### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**



#### HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Mandy Meagher Principal (785) 625-3131

Aug 26 All Parent Information Night 6:30 pm (Gym)

Job Opening: Paraeducators - Part-Time We're really in need of 2 part-time paraeducators for this school year! One para position will be for Preschool mornings only -- this would be a great opportunity for parents with kiddos all in school, or any other family member/ friend who would enjoy assisting the teachers in the mornings! This employee would help the teachers with supervision, classroom activities/projects, snack time, bathroom breaks, photocopying and other preparation duties as needed. This position is flexible but around 25-29 hours per week during the school year only and does not include benefits.

Job Opening: After School Care Workers - HFE is seeking After School Care workers for this school year! The employee would be needed from 3:00-5:30 p.m. on weekdays during the school year to supervise the students after school is dismissed. Duties include setting up, snack time, assisting with homework, playing games/reading with the children, supervising both indoors and on the playground, and clean-up. This would be ideal for college students or anyone else who may enjoy the part-time after-school hours. If you are interested in either position, please complete an application and bring it by the school office.



### THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN

Chad Meitner, Principal

Melissa Schoepf, Jr. High Assistant Principal

(785) 625-6577

Aug 25 6:30-7:30pm PTF Meeting (JH/HS)

Aug 28 3:30—5:30 Finance Advisory Meeting

Sept 1 NO SCHOOL - Labor Day



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.

# DIOGESTALINA DISGRAMBAMBARANDS

# OCTOBER 18 — ST. JOSEPH SEMINARY VISIT

This seminary visit will take place in Wichita at the St. Joseph House of Formation and is open to any guys in high school

## NOVEMBER 6-8 — ST. JOHN VIANNEY SEMINARY VISIT

This seminary visit will take place in Denver, CO at St. John Vianney Seminary and is open to any guys 18 and older

## NOVEMBER 20-22 — KENRICK SEMINARY VISIT

This seminary visit will take place in St. Louis, MO at Kenrick Seminary and is open to any guys 18 and older

# DECEMBER 26-28- QUO VADIS DISCERNMENT RETREAT

This retreat is an opportunity to examine where your life is going and ask the Lord if you are going in the right direction. This retreat is designed for young men to discern a vocation to the priesthood, to religious life, or to marriage. On this retreat, you will take time to ask the Lord where He desires to lead you.



SCAN IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING US!