

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, January 1, 2023 ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. Jan 1	8:00 am	+L/D Herman & Rosie Leiker fam
Wed. Jan 4	7:30 am	+Curt Pfannenstiel
Sun. Jan 8	8:00 am	+Cody Younger
Wed. Jan 11	7:30 am	+Mary Lou Pfannenstiel

SERVERS

Sunday, Jan. 1	Alec Gerstner & Reylyn Leiker
Sunday, Jan. 8	Ahnalyn Leiker & Makailyn Leiker

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, Jan 1	Ken Richmeier & Peggy Richmeier
Sunday, Jan 8	Ernie Binder & Nathan Leiker

LECTORS

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Sun. Jan 1	Gene Gottschalk	Linda Gross
Sun. Jan 8	Benjamin Dome	Jason & Kacy Gerstner

GREETERS

Sunday, January 1	Wilbert Gross
Sunday, January 8	Linda Gross

COLLECTION TEAM

Sunday, January 1

Ernie Binder, Blake Leiker, John Moeder, Gary Staab

Sunday, January 8

Larry Koirth, Mark Leiker, Ken Richmeier, Sid Steinert

TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday, January 1	Aaron & Kolleen Dome
Sunday, January 8	Ken & Peggy Richmeier
Sunday, January 15	Deanna Leiker
Sunday, January 22	Jeff & Wendy Richmeier

Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure

Envelopes	\$2,527.00	
Loose	\$464.00	<i>Christmas Envelopes</i>
		\$1,415.00
Total	\$2,991.00	

REFLECTION FROM DEACON STEVE URBAN

Numbers 6:22-27
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:16-21

Today we celebrate New Year's Day on our civil calendar and the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, on our liturgical calendar. While we might think that the two celebrations are so totally different and have no relationship to each other, I believe the two can be paired together in this Octave of Christmas. Often we try to separate the secular and the sacred in our lives, but in Jesus' Incarnation, which we highlight in the Octave of Christmas, the two come together in one great celebration. As we begin a New Year, we long to make changes to our lives, and we hope for better days ahead. Mary, our spiritual mother, reflects in her heart all the workings and wonders of God. Might our new year be truly a better year if like Mary we took the time to pause and wonder how God is working in our life. And in a spirit of surrender, like our Mother Mary, we would turn our lives over to God we might experience some grace-filled changes in our hearts.

Our first reading from the book of Numbers is a beautiful blessing that the Levitical priests, of which Aaron was one, prayed over the Israelites at the end of their prayer. It is still used in both Jewish and Christian liturgies. This simple but profound blessing prayer is Hebrew parallelism in a triplicate form. Since the Israelites had no superlative in their language, they would instead use a triple formula emphasizing the awesome power of God. The Lord bless you, the Lord let his face shine upon you, and the Lord look on you kindly all state the same thing. It is a prayer that God would give us his grace, goodness, and peace. What better way to begin our new year with a prayer that Mary surely always treasured in her heart and voiced with her lips.

Our Gospel reading is Luke's infancy narrative account and deals with two important characters and the good news about Jesus's birth...the shepherds and Mary. Shepherds in biblical times were not well respected. They were considered unclean and outside the law because they often had to graze their sheep on lands that they didn't own. In addition, taking care of dirty smelly sheep made them ritually impure. Yet, these are the ones chosen to hear the good news about the birth of Christ. And unlike Herod, the scribes, and chief priests who should have believed in the coming of Christ but didn't, these unworthy shepherds heard the news and proclaimed it to all they met. Then we have the lowly virgin Mary who God chose to give birth to Jesus, the God-man. Mary models for all the posture we are to have towards God. She listens with her heart, reflects on God's presence, and then lives a life of holiness.

As we begin this New Year, we might be tempted to come up with a New Year's resolution. Studies have shown that most people's attempts at resolutions don't last that long. Maybe the simple resolution you might want to consider is to spend ten minutes in quiet reflective prayer as Mary modeled for us in her life. You might ask how to accomplish this practice. Find a quiet space in your home and let this be your daily prayer corner. Then find a time each day to escape to your prayer space. First, try to rid your mind of all the distractions by letting God have control

Sunday, January 1, 2023 ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

of them. Then ask God to enter your heart, and reflect on how He is working in your life. Finally end with a prayer of thanksgiving for all God has accomplished in your life. If all that doesn't work, just voice the prayer of blessing found in first reading from the Book of Numbers, and with Mary respond wholeheartedly "let it be".

~ Deacon Steve

Please Note After Mass Social. Due to New Year's being the first Sunday of the month, our January after Mass social will be on Sunday, January 8th. Hosted by the Parish.



From the Desk of Fr. Damian:

Thank you for the Christmas card and gift! It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as pastor for St. Francis Parish. You rightfully take pride in your parish and work very hard to take care of it. Merry Christmas!



Special thanks to all who helped with the various Mass ministries on Christmas Eve; made donations for poinsettias in memory of loved ones or the monetary donations to beautify our worship space.

And to those who donated their gifts of time and talent to help decorate the church so beautifully, setting an atmosphere of beauty and awe as we welcomed the birth of Jesus our Savior.

Religious Education: NO CLASS—Christmas Break

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



Prayer List: 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.



It is truly just to proclaim you blessed. O Mother of God, who are most blessed, all pure and Mother of our God.

Pray for us Oh Holy Mother of God that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

EVENTS IN THE HEARTLAND

First Friday Devotions: Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be held on Friday, January 6, 2023 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church from 12:00 to 1:00pm.

Stars & Stripes Breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 8th from 7:30 am until Noon at Hays VFW, 22nd & Vine. All you can eat! A portion of advanced ticket sales goes to Daughters of Isabella #254. Advance tickets are \$9.50 adult, \$4.50 for children ages 5-12. Children under 5 are free. Call Patty Wolf 785-639-1835 Barbara Bieker 785-635-2377 Geri Zerr 785-432-1028 Janet Koerner 785-623-3407 for tickets.



Ora et Labora (Pray and Work) is planning another weekend of work and worship, March 24-26, 2023. Registration spots will be limited to the first 40 participants. If you or someone you know in our tri-parish community needs help with small projects (painting, yard clean up, etc), please get in touch with Stephen Brummer 628-6976 or Bob Klaus 259-1374.

Kansas "RALLY FOR LIFE" THE Kansas "Rally for Life" will be Tuesday, January 24, 2023. The Bishops of Kansas encourage 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 Capitol steps in time for the noon Rally for Life.

Support Groups

"NAMI Connections" Meets 1st & 3rd Monday each month 7 to 8:30pm: Hosted by: NAMI Hays - 103C E. 27th St., Oak Plaza, Hays. For more info e-mail at art@namikansas.org.

"Healing After Loss" Support Group meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday each month 10am: Hosted by: Center for Life Experience 103C E. 27th St., Oak Plaza, Hays. RSVP by e-mail at info@cflehope.org or call 785-259- 6859.

"NAMI Family Support Group" Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month (in-person or online) – 7 to 8:30pm: Regular Meeting. Hosted by: NAMI Hays - 103C E. 27th St., Oak Plaza, Hays. For more info e-mail at art@namikansas.org.

"Healing Hearts" Support Group meets 2nd Thursday each month (in-person) – 6:30pm: Regular Meeting. Hosted by: Center for Life Experience 103C E. 27th St., Oak Plaza, Hays. RSVP by e-mail at info@cflehope.org or call for information 785-259-6859.

A New Year is God's Gift
In joyful moments—thank Him
In the busy moments—bless Him
In the trying moments—trust Him
In the quiet moments—praise Him.



Ich wuensh euch ion Glueckseliges neues Jahr,
langes Leben, Gesundthelt Friede und Eingkeit, noch
Eurem Tot, die ewige, Glueckseligkeit!

I wish you a prosperous New Year, long life, health, happiness and contentment. And after your death, eternity.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS



HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY

Rachel Wentling, Principal
(785) 625-3131

- Jan. 5 School Resumes (PS - 6th Grade)
- Jan. 6 1st Friday Prayer Circles
- Jan. 9 Red Cross Blood Drive (contact office)



THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN

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

- Dec 22 - NO SCHOOL
- Jan 4 Christmas Break



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 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 13sjbaker@gmail.com.

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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.