

# 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 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](http://www/hfehays.org)

Thomas More Prep-Marian 785-625-6577

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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

|                    |                |   |
|--------------------|----------------|---|
| Sun. Dec 24        | 8:00 am        | L/D John & Agnes Pfannenstiel family        |
| <b>Sun. Dec 24</b> | <b>7:00 pm</b> | <b>+Norbert, Betty &amp; Brandon Leiker</b> |
| Wed. Dec 27        | 7:30 am        | +Arthur F. Wagner                           |
| Sun. Dec 31        | 8:00 am        | L/D Mike & Celeste Stecklein family         |
| Mon. Jan 1         | 8:00 am        | Special Intention                           |
| Wed. Jan 3         | 7:30 am        | L/D Marvin & Mary Jo Braun family           |

**SERVERS**

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sunday, Dec 24   | Ahnalyn Leiker & Makailyn Leiker |
| Sun Dec. 24 (pm) | Alec Gerstner & Trenton Staley   |
| Sun Dec. 31      | Reynyn Leiker & Cali Richmeier   |
| Mon Jan 1        | Hayley Gerstner & Rexton Leiker  |

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Sun. Dec 24 | Jenalyn L, Lauren M, Amy P, Michelle W. |
| Dec 24 (pm) | Glenn S, Rhonda S, Josh W, Tina W.      |
| Sun. Dec 31 | Ernie B, Nathan L, John M, Tony S.      |
| Mon. Jan 1  | Ken R, Peggy R, Glenn S, Rhonda S.      |

**LECTORS                      OFFERTORY GIFTS**

|             |               |                          |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Sun. Dec 24 | Nathan Leiker | Ken & Peggy Richmeier    |
| Dec 24 (pm) | John Moeder   | Jeff & Wendy Richmeier   |
| Sun Dec 31  | Lauren Moeder | K of C Members           |
| Mon Jan 1   | Lilly Binder  | Joe & Mindy Pfannenstiel |

**GREETERS**

|                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday, Dec 24  | Terry & Cathy Pfeifer |
| Sun Dec 24 (pm) | Ken & Peggy Richmeier |
| Sun Dec 31      | K of C Members        |
| Mon Jan 1       | Volunteers            |

**COLLECTION TEAM**

**Sunday, December 24**

Ernie Binder, Kyle Jones, Rich Ruder, Blake Spencer

**Sunday, December 24 (7pm) Volunteers**

**Sunday, December 31 - K of C Members**

**Monday, January 1 - Volunteers**

**FROM THE DESK OF CODY MARINTZER**

**Do we pray like children?**

To use a skill, we first have to learn it. And with any skill we don't use often enough, we can completely forget it, or become rusty at it. Why would our prayer life be any different? We all need to be taught prayers like the "Our Father." Jesus taught his disciples how to pray this and they handed it on to us. We also need to be taught how to have open conversations with God. Just as children need to be taught how to speak and communicate with others, if we are very young in our faith, or just have never learned, we may need help on how to talk with our Father in Heaven.

On the other hand, we also need to learn how to be a little bit more like children in our prayer life. Matthew 18 says: "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." What is meant by childlike prayer then? Children have the gift to simply trust and are not worried about wasting God's time (as if that's even possible). They know how to invite Him into their day to journey with them.

Children have a great sense of Awe and Wonder, which means they will say whatever is on their mind and talk with whoever will listen. They don't worry about how others may see them. They also don't have a sense of pride that keeps them from asking for what they need, or asking questions for fear of looking dumb. They simply ask.

How Awesome is it that we have a God that isn't bored with or put out by our talking to Him! He isn't perturbed with us for asking for what we need. He is a good Father and wants nothing more than for us to share every moment with Him and to be more childlike by not worrying about external pressures, but instead being filled with Awe, Wonder, and excitement of being in relationship with Him.

I was reminded of this during Advent when I was sitting in Adoration here at St. Nicholas holding my youngest daughter. As a tear of Joy welled up in my eyes from the beauty and Awe of that moment, I turned my head and whispered to her that someday Jesus would hold her like I was and a huge smile came across her face. I am pretty sure Jesus was telling me the same thing. Someday I will meet Him face to face and He will embrace me with the biggest hug.

Childlike faith. Isn't it Beautiful!



**TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS**

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday, December 24 | Ernie & Lilly Binder    |
| Sunday, December 31 | Herman & Rosie Leiker   |
| Sunday, January 7   | Darold & Evelyn Younker |
| Sunday, January 14  | Jason & Rose Carter     |

**Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure**

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Envelopes    | \$2,726.00        |
| Loose        | \$200.00          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>\$2,926.00</b> |



**From the Desk of Fr. Damian:** Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. It is an honor to minister to the people of St. Francis Parish. Merry Christmas! *Fr. Damian*

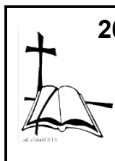


*Mass Times*

**Christmas Eve Mass, 7:00 p.m.**  
**New Year's Day Mass, 8:00 a.m.**

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

**Religious Education:** NO CLASS ~ Christmas Break




**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**

*“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” – Luke 1:28*

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

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**

**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.

**New Year's Eve Dance**  
**Sunday Dec. 31st, 2023 - 2:00PM to 5:00PM**  
*Rose Garden Ballroom, 230 E 8th, Hays Ks.*  
**The Hot Shots Band will provide the music**

**\$8.00 per person**      **Snack Bar included**  
**Open to the public**      **No BYOB - no set ups**



Sponsored By:  
The Sunflower Polka Club      Marion (620)-897-7778

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

The fourth Week of Advent is the week of Love. This verse tells us that Jesus came because God loves us so much that he doesn't want any of us to miss out on spending eternity with him. All we have to do is believe that Jesus is the Son of God who came to save us from sin.  
*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, That whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. ...John 3:16*

**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

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

CCC - **NO MASS**  
IHM - 6:45am & 5:30pm English (No Vigil Masses)  
Munjor - 8:00am  
St. Joseph - 7:30am, 10:30am  
St. Nicholas - 9:30am



*Merry Christmas!*

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**



**HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY**

Mandy Meagher Principal  
(785) 625-3131

Dec 21- Jan 3 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break



**THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN**

Chad Meitner, Principal

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

Dec 21—Jan 3 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



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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.*