

# 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. Jarett Konrade 628-1446  
Emergency Contact 621-2699

## PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Lilly Binder 623-8000

## FINANCE/PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Gary Staab 628-1807

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Joseph Pfannenstiel 259-2762

## CHOIR DIRECTOR

Peggy Richmeier 656-0033

## ART & ENVIRONMENT

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

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

David Leiker 623-0094

## CHRISTIAN MOTHERS PRESIDENT

Michelle Werth 623-3003

## MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday - 8:00 am  
Tuesday - 8:00 am  
Thursday - 8:00 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 625-3131  
www/hfehays.org

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

*Rejoice*



**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sun. Dec. 13 8:00 am +Charles & Kathleen Evans  
 Wed. Dec. 16 7:30 am L/D Keith & Carol Fieler family  
 Sun. Dec. 20 8:00 am +Norbert & Betty Leiker  
 Wed. Dec. 23 7:30 am +Nick & Almeda Stecklein  
 Christmas Eve 7:00 pm +Paul & Ruby Binder

**SERVERS**

Sunday, Dec. 13 Rexton Leiker & Trenton Staley  
 Sunday, Dec. 20 Cali Richmeier & Rafe Richmeier

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday, Dec. 13 Glenn Stramel & Deacon Steve  
 Sunday, Dec. 20 Lauren Moeder & Peggy Richmeier

**LECTORS**

Sunday, Dec. 13 Nathan Leiker  
 Sunday, Dec. 20 John Moeder

**COLLECTION TEAM**

**Sunday, December 13**

Ernie Binder, Larry Koirth, Jeff Richmeier, Brandon Zimmerman

**Sunday, December 20**

Kenny Pfannenstiel, Donovan Richmeier, Glenn Stramel, Darold Younker

**TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS**

Sunday, Dec. 13 Tony & Patty Rohr  
 Sunday, Dec. 20 Ken & Peggy Richmeier  
 Sunday, Dec. 27 Glenn & Rhonda Stramel  
 Sunday, Jan. 3 Randy & Michelle Werth

**Tithe ~ Stewardship of Treasure**

Envelopes	\$2,135.00	<b>HOLY DAY</b>	
Loose	\$180.00	Envelopes	\$250.00
Seminary	\$70.00	Loose	<u>\$151.00</u>
Cmp. H. Dev.	\$60.00		\$401.00
Poinsettias	\$235.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,680.00</b>		

Contributions can also be mailed to the Parish Office:  
 St. Francis Church  
 883 Moscow St.  
 Munjor, KS 67601

**REFLECTION FROM DEACON STEVE URBAN:**

Isaiah 61: 1-2a, 10-11 1  
 Thessalonians 5: 16-24  
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

Rejoice Always! On this Rejoice Sunday, or Gaudete Sunday our mission is one of rejoicing in the Lord. Gaudete comes from the Latin word *gaudere* meaning to rejoice, and hence our hearts should do just that. Even the vestments the priest and deacon wear point to a change in our Advent preparation as we use rose color vestments instead of purple. You may ask how can I rejoice when Covid 19 has disrupted our nation and the world and brought so much fear, uncertainty, and death. In a vein of hope and rejoicing St. Paul says, "In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus". We are filled with inner joy and hope because Jesus our savior has come into our broken world and brought us healing, liberty, and ultimately salvation.

This message of good news is what Isaiah the prophet proclaims to the Israelites in the first reading. Again, the Israelites have returned to their homeland after bondage in Babylon. Their task is to rebuild their temple, homes, and entire world. Feeling desperation and hopelessness, Isaiah is called to be a prophet of promise and glad tidings. God is working to restore his people Israel and will see it through to fulfillment. God has freed his people from the physical bondage of Babylon and now wants to free their hearts and spirits. This "year of favor" spoken of in the first reading was a tradition that every 50 years, or a year of jubilee, God would do great things for his people. For instance, the land was to be left to lie fallow; property that was seized or borrowed or rented was returned to its rightful owner; slaves were set free and debts were cancelled. This liberation was what God was accomplishing now for the Israelites who returned from slavery. In our Gospel reading from John, the Jewish leadership wants to know who this John the Baptist is and what's his purpose. John declares without hesitation that he is a witness, a witness to the light who is Jesus. He is not the light, but shows others who this light is and prepares the way for Jesus.

So how can our hearts be filled with joy? Joy is not a facade or a fake happiness to mask the pain and suffering of our world. We do not put blinders on and deny the brokenness and heartaches in our lives and the world. Nor do we seek to escape from this world and its issues. This year and this season of Advent, we cannot run away from the pain and sickness of the pandemic and all it has done to our world. Instead, we put our hope in the belief that God is with us. God is not taking us away from this suffering but leading us through it. God is in charge, and in his Son's death and resurrection shows us that nothing can stand in the way of his love and grace.

With this hope in God's promise we can be filled with a true inner peace. This peace and hope is what leads to joy. Ultimately, we rejoice as Isaiah said in the first reading because "God is the joy of my soul".

What change will these readings demand for our lives? First, we must pray for the gift of joy. It truly is a gift from God, and God wants us to ask with trust for Him to bless us with real inner joy. Secondly, we must reach out to others whose lives are filled with sadness and despair. Pope Francis keeps preaching this simple but profound message. Happiness lies in giving ourselves away. Look around you! Those people who give to others and help people are the most blessed, and usually are some of the most-happy individuals you know. When we look around, we see that there are many who have greater burdens and crosses to bear than we do. So, let's reach out and give of ourselves and pray without ceasing as St. Paul demands. And let's rejoice always.

*Deacon Steve...*



**Sacrament of Reconciliation ~ Communal Penance Service, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.**

Religious Formation: Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.



We are once again accepting donations for Poinsettias for church decorating. If you would like to make a monetary donation in memory of a loved one, for your family, or to simply make a donation, please mark your check or envelope 'Flowers' and include the name(s) of those you are remembering, (optional). **Note:** If after the Christmas season you would like to take a plant you made a donation for, you are welcome to do so. Thank you!



16<sup>th</sup> Communal Penance Service & First Reconciliation 7pm  
24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Mass: 7:00 p.m.  
25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day: *NO MASS*



2021 Calendars are at the entrances. Special thanks to Hyle & Ann Huginin from Hays Memorial Chapel for once again providing the calendars for our parish.



**UPDATE: 2021 Mass Intentions.** Currently there has been less than normal Mass intention requests. If you have already scheduled some, we would allow for a few additional requests through June. Stipends are \$10 per Mass.

**Contact Lilly to schedule ~ 623-8000.**

As Christmas approaches, over 272 Ellis Co. families rely on the Community Assistance Center for Christmas dinner. \$50.00 sponsors one family for a Christmas food basket. If you would like to help, mail donations to: Community Assistance Center 12<sup>th</sup> & Oak St. Hays. We also accept items for donation daily. For more info call Laurie at 625-9110.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

The "Little Town of Bethlehem" Nativity at St. Boniface Church in Vincent will be open for visitation on Sundays, December 13 and 20, and on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25. Viewing times are 1-5 p.m.

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.

**DECEMBER** –A gift to U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking (USCSAHT) can make a difference in our efforts to confront the Human Trafficking pandemic. ([www.sistersagainsttrafficking.org](http://www.sistersagainsttrafficking.org)). a 501© 3 organization. 2039 N Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131.

St. Joseph's Food Pantry Distribution Days: December 19<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Special Intentions, Ramona Weigel, Curt Brungardt, Carole Carter, Stan Herrmann, Jerry Barnes, Parishioners in Health Care Facilities.

Drop requests in the collection basket or let Lilly know.

*Let Lilly know when the intention can be removed.*

*Start each day with a grateful heart.*

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Adoration Chapel needs someone to cover these hours:

**Friday 1:00am & 6:00am & 10:00pm & 11:00pm**

**Saturday 6:00 AM & 5:00PM & 11:00PM**

The Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel, at 1805 Vine St., IHM Church is open 24/7. Jesus is waiting for you. To sign up for an hour, call: Bob & Carol Feauto: 628-1429

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HEARTLAND PARISHES ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**December 13<sup>th</sup> - Third Sunday of Advent**

IHM - Communal Penance Service, 3:00pm

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Adoration/Confessions, 7:00pm

**December 15<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday**

St. Nicholas of Myra - Communal Penance Service, 7:00pm

**December 16<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday**

St. Joseph - Confessions, 5:00pm

IHM - *Posadas*, 7:00pm December 16 through December 23

\*\* Munjor - Communal Penance Service, 7:00pm

**December 20<sup>th</sup> - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Adoration/Confessions, 7:00pm

**December 23<sup>rd</sup> - Wednesday**

St. Joseph - Confessions, 5:00pm

**December 24<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, Christmas Eve**

IHM - No Morning Mass or Confessions

IHM - 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm (Spanish), 10:00pm

Antonino - 4:00pm

St. Joseph - 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm

St. Joseph - 11:30pm Choir Christmas Music, Mass at 12am

St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00pm, 9:00pm

Schoenchen - 5:00pm

\*\* Munjor - 7:00pm

**December 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday, Christmas Day**

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

IHM - 8:00am, 10:00am

IHM - No 12pm or 6pm Masses or Confessions

Catharine - 9:00am

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:30am

Catholic Campus Center - No 6:00pm Mass

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What if....

today we were just grateful for everything?

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS



**HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY**

Rachel Wentling, Principal  
625-3131

Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. Birthday Mass for "B" classes.

Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> Dec. Birthday Lunch & Mass for "A" classes.

Preschool & Kinderprep Christmas Fun!

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> Half day of school/11:00 a.m. dismissal. No bus service/after school care/no lunch served/end of qtr. 2.

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> Classroom Christmas celebrations.

Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> -Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> -NO SCHOOL! CHRISTMAS BREAK!

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**THOMAS MORE PREP- MARIAN**

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

**Kitchen Help Needed!** TMP-M is currently looking for a food service employee to assist in the kitchen, particularly with dish washing during the serving times. The position is 3 hours per day (10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) five days a week when school is in session. Interested candidates should contact Carol Feauto, Kitchen Manager, by email at feautoc@tmpmarian.org or by phone at 785-625-6577.

St. Thomas More Society We ask for your prayers and continued support for the St. Thomas More Society (STMS), the largest operational fund for TMP-Marian and Holy Family Elementary. Soon the annual campaign will arrive in homes and we pray that it will be met with generosity for the future of Catholic education. This year, the STMS is called upon to raise \$520,000. For questions or to contribute to the STMS, please contact Troy Ruda at rudat@tmpmarian.org.

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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 be examples of his teachings, we strive for unity through fellowship and participation in all areas of the Catholic faith.*