

Focusing the gospel

The Sunday that follows Christmas is always the celebration of the Holy Family. There are wonderful readings from the Book of Sirach, the First Book of Samuel, and Paul's letter to the Colossians or the First Letter of John. The gospel is the story of the teenaged Jesus teaching in the temple while his parents could not find him. Jesus goes back home with his family. "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man."

Continuing our special feasts in the days after Christmas, Monday is the moving Feast of the Holy Innocents, remembering the infant martyrs of Herod's jealous rage.

Tuesday is the Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas. We have the story of the Purification in the temple and the powerful words of Simeon about Jesus and about Mary.

Wednesday, the Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas, is the story from Luke's Gospel of Joseph and Mary meeting the prophetess, Anna in the Temple who gives thanks to God for the child, Jesus "to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem."

Thursday is the Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas. The Gospel is the beginning of John's Gospel.

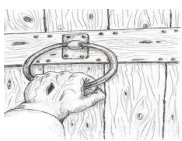
Friday, New Year's Day is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. In addition, it is a celebration of World Day of Prayer for Peace.

Saturday is the Memorial of Saint Basil the Great and Saint Gregory Nazianzen, bishops and doctors of the Church.

On Sunday, January 3, many parts of the world will celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, although some countries will celebrate it on Wednesday, January 6. The Epiphany celebrates the light that has come into the darkness of the world and that our salvation was made known to the Gentiles. Where the Epiphany is not celebrated, the Second Sunday of Christmas will have the beginning of John's Gospel and its poetic images of light and the Word.

Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on Creighton University's Online Ministries Website: <http://www.creighton.edu/collaborativeministry/prayer>. Used with permission.

He is Standing at the Door. He Knocks.



"Come to me all you who labor and are overburdened and I will give you rest (Mt 11:28)" There are 20 open hours in

our Perpetual Adoration Chapel. Please consider spending one hour with our Lord in His gentle oasis. For more information, call Jana Schoen at 945-5379.

Sunday - 2 a.m. & 5 a.m.

Monday - 1 a.m., 2 a.m. & 4 p.m.

Tuesday - 2 a.m., 5 a.m. & 8 a.m.

Wednesday -

Thursday - 1 a.m. & 2 a.m.

Friday - 2 a.m., 7 a.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m. & 9 p.m..

Saturday - 1 a.m., 2 a.m., Noon, 1 p.m. & 6 p.m.

He is waiting for you.

Please Remember In Prayer:

Sr. Lucille Kerschen
Matilda Puetz
Katy Carney
Juanita Mans
Jim Ridder
Sue Warren
Regina Gaytan
Jeanne Sullivan
Nancee Scheffer
Kadie McDonough
Deannie Little
Andy Little
Ray Rancuret
Cheryl Burke Julian



Jim Monroe
Leroy Nedeau
Charles T. Morton
Gail Alcaez
Robie Campbell
Evelyn Monty
Sarah Skidd
Clair Vanzelfden

Eldon Freund
Duane Wilson
Nancy Bradley
Vernie Bloch
Joan Kandt
Jim Flanigan
Peggy Bowan
Marci Limon
Robert Range
Doug Howell
Betty Sherlock
+Leah Stepanek
+Joyce Armstrong
+Tom Darland

Prayers for Our Military

Please pray for all members of the military, especially our parishioners:

<i>Jay Schoen</i>	<i>Tony Jeffress</i>	<i>Jonathan Burke</i>
<i>Sam Francis</i>	<i>Matt Mork</i>	<i>Timothy Collier</i>
<i>Justin Light</i>	<i>Jeff Cranor</i>	

Weekly Readings

- Mon. 12/28: 1Jn 1:5-2:2, Ps 124:2-8, Mt 2:13-18
- Tues. 12/29: 1Jn 2:3-11, Ps 96:1-6, Lk 2:22-35
- Wed. 12/30: 1Jn 2:12-17, Ps 96:7-10, Lk 2:36-40
- Thur. 12/31: 1Jn 2:18-21, Ps 96:1-13, Jn 1:1-18
- Fri. 01/01: Nm 6:22-27, Ps 67:2-8, Gal 4:4-7, Lk 2:16-21
- Sat. 01/02: 1Jn 2:22-28, Ps 98:1-4, Jn 1:19-28
- Sun. 01/03: Is 60:1-6, Ps 72:1-13, Eph 3:2-6, Mt 2:1-12

Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

Monday, December 28
 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
 8:15 a.m. Mass For the Good of Kevin Becker

Tuesday, December 29
Saint Thomas Becket
 6:00 p.m. Mass +Lois Milehan

Wednesday, December 30
 8:15 a.m. Mass Living & Deceased
 Members of the Cupps Family

Thursday, December 31
Saint Sylvester I
 6:00 p.m. Mass +Maggie Babich

Friday, January 1
 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
 8:15 a.m. Mass +Andrew Gerstenkorn
 10:00 a.m. Mass For the People of St. Joseph

Saturday, January 2
 Saint Basil the Great, Saint Gregory Nazianzen
 8:15 a.m. Mass For the Respect of Life
 4:00 p.m. Mass +Wilma McDonough

Sunday, January 3
 The Epiphany of the Lord
 8:15 a.m. Mass +Fred LeFevre
 10:00 a.m. Mass +Frank Darland

Ministry Schedule Jan 2nd & 3rd

4:00 PM
 (S) Mike McDanel (Rosary) Mike Irvin
 (L1) Jeff Dyer (M. Server) Jacob Stickney
 (L2) Mike McDanel (Candle 1) Zach Stickney
 (H) Jeff Dyer (Candle 2) Jacob Villa
 (C1) Corrinna Irvin (GB) Anne Harris Family
 (C2) Mike Irvin

8:15 AM
 (S) Charlie Deitchler (Rosary) Alice Mertens
 (L1) Michael Morch (M. Server) Dylan Morch
 (L2) Tomas Voboril (Candle 1) Grace Bowman
 (H) Cassidee Cummings (Candle 2) Thomas Kucera
 (C1) Carissa Cummings (GB) Rob & Shawn Gordan
 (C2) Jeff Cummings

10:00 AM
 (S) Jack Johnson (Rosary) Florence Marx
 (L1) John Cooke (M. Server) Patrick Sanders
 (L2) Judy Johnston (Candle 1) David Sanders
 (H) Andrew Purcell (Candle 2) Austin Dowell
 (C1) Shellie Hamersky (GB) Mark Wilson Family
 (C2) Anthony Hamersky

Thank you for your gift of treasure! July 1, 2015- June 30, 2016

Weekly Collection 12/20/2015	\$13,200.71
Weekly tithe amount needed	\$12,960.77
Surplus or (Deficit) YTD	\$4,802.18

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord! Families are called 'the domestic church.' Today we consider the importance of the family. Jesus, as a member of a family, lived in obedience to Joseph and Mary in Nazareth. St. Paul describes how husbands and wives should interact and how children should submit to their parents. In Christian discipleship we learn from Jesus' words how to live for the kingdom. In God's love we find goodness, and we look for opportunities to share and spread that goodness. Rather than striving to possess the gifts of God, may we be stewards of His love and share it with our neighbors, and so bring an increase to the gates of Heaven.

Let's Retire Our Debt

Goal: \$300,000.00

Total received: \$279,810.50

Only \$20,183.50 go!

Thank you Dear Lord,

Beloved Friends

& St. Joseph Family!!



Thank you for all the wonderful Christmas prayers, cards and gifts. May the Good Lord bless you all.

~ Father Smeltzer



Parish Directory Photo Sessions

Sign-up for the upcoming directory's photo sessions will begin after all the weekend Holy Masses December 26th & 27th.

The Photo sessions will take place

January 20th -23rd & 27th - 30th. Please make plans to be part of this special historical directory. We hope you and your family will participate!

Parish Family Agreements

The 2016-2017 Parish Family Agreements were mailed to the High School Families on December 2nd. All forms need to be signed and returned to the parish office by January 4th, 2016.

Memorial Mass

If you have lost a loved one this past year, you and your family are invited to attend the Memorial Mass at 8:15 a.m. on Saturday, January 9th, 2016. Breakfast will follow in the Mother Teresa Room of the Parish Center. R.S.V.P. to Susan McDaneld at 261-5812 by Wednesday January 6th.

Confirmation 2016

Confirmation classes begin on Monday, January 4th, 2016. Confirmation Mass with Bishop Kemme will be at the 8:15 am Mass on Sunday, February 14th. If you are of high school age, are not yet confirmed and would like to be, please contact the Parish Office to register for the upcoming class.

Spiritual Life Center

New Year's Eve Marian Retreat: Our Lady of Guadalupe Thursday, Dec. 31; 7 p.m.-midnight (overnight accommodations available). Celebrate New Year's Eve by ringing in the New Year with Our Lady. Program includes conference, adoration, Mass and an indoor procession. \$20

KidsPrayToo! Mass with Children Thursday, Jan. 7; 11:15 a.m. Little children and their caregivers are invited to our regular daily Mass which will be especially tailored for the little ones among us. Pack a lunch and join us for fellowship in the dining room afterwards.

Docentium: Did God Really Say That? Thursday, Dec. 17; 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us on the third Thursday of every month for an evening of food, friendship, and learning. Fr. Sherman Orr presents this month. Doors open at 6:15 p.m., food is served at 6:30 p.m., followed by a lecture given on a topic related to religion and culture. \$15

Retreat: Street Smart Saints: Holiness in the Secular World Friday, Jan. 8 - Sunday, Jan. 10. We can always learn from the saints how to live a life devoted to God in our busy modern world. This retreat focuses on saints or potential saints who received their calls to holiness "on the road." How can a man who sat on death row for murder be proposed for canonization? Join Msgr. Andrew Vaccari and Teresa Monaghan from the Pro-Sanctity Movement for this wonderful weekend of learning and discerning! Early bird rates end Dec. 28. Cmtr \$100; Sng \$145; Dbl \$120.

St. John the Evangelist Grief Support Group Winter session begins Tuesday, Jan. 12; 7-8:30 p.m. This 10-week long grief support group meets Tuesday evenings. It is open to anyone grieving the loss of someone close. With video sessions, discussions, and a helpful workbook, the program offers comfort and support. Cost is a one-time fee of \$35 and you can attend as many sessions as needed for as long as they run at the SLC.

Dinner with the Doctors: St. Hilary of Poitiers Wednesday, Jan. 13; 6-8 p.m. At this program, participants will enjoy a delicious meal and pleasant conversation in our main assembly room, surrounded by our collection of icons depicting the doctors of the Church. \$15 advance registration; \$20 week of

Advance registration requested. For more info and to register, visit www.slcwichita.org or call 316.744.0167