

Focusing the gospel

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. In countries not celebrating Epiphany, the Second Sunday of Christmas is celebrated, with the beginning of John's Gospel and its poetic images of light and the Word.

Monday is the Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, and Tuesday the Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop.

In the week that follows the Epiphany we continue with more of the beautiful first readings from the First Letter of John. He wants us to believe the message: we are from God and are loved by God and "whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love."

The Gospels this week are from all four gospel writers, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We read of Jesus traveling through Galilee "teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people." He feeds loaves and fishes to the hungry and exhorts his disciples, "Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid!" when they are caught in a storm at sea. When he reads from the scriptures at the synagogue, he proclaims, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." When a leper begs for healing, Jesus says, "I do will it. Be made clean." On Saturday, John tells his followers he is not the Christ. "He must increase; I must decrease."

Sunday is the Baptism of the Lord. We hear the Lord say in the first reading from Isaiah, "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit." Those words are echoed in the reading from Luke's Gospel, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." This feast marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time on the Church calendar.

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



He Is Waiting. Will You Come?

"Come to me all you who labor and are overburdened and I will give you rest (Mt 11:28)" There are 18 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.

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.

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
+Tom Darland

Prayers for Our Military

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

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

Weekly Readings

Mon. 1/4: 1Jn 3:22-4:6, Ps 2:7-12, Mt 4:12-25
Tues. 1/5: 1Jn 4:7-10, Ps 72:1-8, Mk 6:34-44
Wed. 1/6: 1Jn 4:11-18, Ps 72:1-13, Mk 6:45-52
Thur. 1/7 1Jn 4:19-5:4, Ps 72:1-17, Lk 4:14-22
Fri. 1/8: 1Jn 5:5-13, Ps 147:12-20, Lk 5:12-16
Sat. 1/9: 1Jn 5:14-21, Ps 149:1-9, Jn 3:22-30
Sun. 1/10: Is 42:1-7, Ps 29:1-10, Acts 10:34-38, Lk 3:15-22

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

Weekly Collection 12/27/2015	\$15,498.19
Weekly tithe amount needed	\$12,960.77
Surplus or (Deficit) YTD	\$7,339.60

The glory of the Lord shines upon you! Can you picture a place inhabited by God? Would it be a bright light shining in the darkness? Today's first scripture reading describes Jerusalem as shining radiance because the glory of the Lord was shining on her. Peoples were flocking to her, bringing offerings of the best they had. In the Gospel, the magi were overjoyed when they came to the place where the child Jesus was. St. Paul tells us in the second reading that we are stewards of God's grace, making us co-heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven. Our discipleship should be a light in our world to draw peoples to Christ. May our joy as children of God reflect the glory of the Father.

Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

Monday, January 4
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
8:15 a.m. Mass +All Poor Souls

Tuesday, January 5
St. John Neumann
6:00 p.m. Mass +Bea Gersenkorn

Wednesday, January 6
St. Andre Bassette
8:15 a.m. Mass +Fr. Ulick Walsh

Thursday, January 7
St. Raymond of Penyafort
8:15 a.m. Mass +Frances Evelyn Fagan

Friday, January 8
8:15 a.m. Mass Living & Deceased
Members of the Tucker Family
10:00 a.m. Masonic Home Mass +Leah Stepanek

Saturday, January 9
8:15 a.m. Mass +Memorial Mass
4:00 p.m. Mass +Michael Thanh Bui

Sunday, January 10
The Baptism of the Lord
8:15 a.m. Mass +Virginia Schreffler
10:00 a.m. Mass +Joyce Armstrong

Ministry Schedule Jan 9th & 10th

4:00 PM
(S) Mike McDaneld (Rosary) Linda Bolster
(L1) Linda Bolster (M. Server) Hannah English
(L2) Jeff Dyer (Candle 1) Kaleb Mans
(H) Marvin Patterson (Candle 2) Jeremiah Epps
(C1) Jennifer Martin (GB) Christina & Paige Hallacy
(C2) Beth Patterson

8:15 AM
(S) Charlie Deitchler (Rosary) Joe LaBelle
(L1) Barbara Wattman (M. Server) Nick Wagner
(L2) Gabby Shideler (Candle 1) Caleb Cummings
(H) Charlie Deitchler (Candle 2) Dylan Morch
(C1) Tom Voboril (GB) Bev Rancuret
(C2) Sr. Nancy Jane & Ann Jaeger

10:00 AM
(S) Alice Johnson (Rosary) Florence Marx
(L1) Janet Walsh (M. Server) Trenton Samples
(L2) Greg Sanders (Candle 1) Santos Limon
(H) Donna Riddel (Candle 2) Carter Martin
(C1) Shirley Ricke (GB) Donna & Robin Riddel
(C2) John Cooke



Our Debt is Retired!!!

In these last weeks leading up to Christmas, several of you have made wonderful contributions toward retiring our debt. This includes one anonymous parish couple in particular who wanted to see that debt gone for good. As a result the debt is officially retired: thanks be to God and our parish family & friends.



Parish Directory Photo Sessions

Sign-up for the upcoming directory's photo sessions will continue after all the weekend Holy Masses January 2nd - 3rd. You may also call the parish office to sign-up. 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.

Spiritual Life Center

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.

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.

A Walk Through the Mass Wednesday, Jan. 12; 7-9 p.m. In this evening program Fr. Ken will discuss the signs and symbols we experience each time we attend Mass. Participants will learn what we're really doing and how to do it more effectively. \$10

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.slwichita.org or call 316.744.0167



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.

Come Join the Diocese in Prayer to End Abortion.

This year on Friday, January 22, you have a special opportunity to join the Diocese for Holy Mass and a candlelight vigil. Holy Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Broadway and Central, Wichita at 6:00 p.m. The Holy Rosary will be recited together before the Mass about 5:40 p.m. Immediately following Mass, a candlelight prayer service will be held at South Wind Women's Center at 5107 E. Kellogg, Wichita. You are welcome to attend one event or both events. Please join us as we stand for the voiceless and pray that abortion will come to an end

German Sausage Supper

The West Sedgwick County Chapter of Right to Life of Kansas will have their annual German Sausage Supper on Sunday, January 10th from 4:30 – 6:30pm at St. Mark's parish hall, 19230 West 29th St. N. They will serve sausage, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, green beans, hot apples, homemade bread, desserts, and drinks. A free-will offering is requested.

Spiritual Casserole Club

A spiritual-support group for Catholic adult family members of persons with mental illness will begin in February. "The Spiritual Casserole Club" will meet every other week beginning Wednesday, February 3, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the chapel of the Chancery located at 424 North Broadway. A prayer service format will be used. Participants will join for song, Scripture reading, homily, reflection and prayer intentions. A facilitator and a priest will be present each evening. Anonymity and confidentiality will be highly valued! There is no cost and no registration to attend. For more information, please contact the Ministry with Persons with Disabilities at 269.3900 or email: racunast@CatholicDioceseOfWichita.org.

Gratitude for Christmas Help

Thank you to everyone who helped to make Christmas better for 13 families and 40 children this year. Your generosity is incredible. Thank you also to everyone who has helped to support the food pantry. Because it was so well stocked by your support, each of the 13 families also received a box of food.

Below is a letter from one of the families:

Dear St. Joseph Parish,

As a mother of a family in need, I want to thank you for your help making Christmas gifts and food possible for my home. It brought tears to my eyes watching my children open the gifts...gifts I could not have provided on my own. I hope and pray that one day I too can help another family in need, just as you yourselves have helped us.

**You shall love
the LORD
with all your heart
and your
neighbor
as yourself.**

