

217 North Sixth Street, Conway Springs 620-456-2276

December 2, 2018 1st Sunday of Advent

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Saturday: 5:30 p.m.
Weekdays: 8:05 a.m. (Tues. thru Fri.)
Holy Day vigil 7:00 p.m.,
Holy Day 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

MARRIAGES

In order for weddings to take place here at St. Joseph, either the bride or groom must be registered in the parish for a minimum of six months before preparations for marriage will begin. In addition, the bride or groom registered in the parish is expected to be actively participating in the life of the Church by living the Stewardship Way of Life. Please contact Father for additional information.

REGISTRATIONS

New parishioners, please contact the Parish Office for a Registration form. Forms may be returned via the collection basket, mail or delivered to the Parish office.

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT Exposition takes place after Wednesday Mass. Adoration ends before Thursday Mass. Two persons are needed in prayer before Our Lord at all times.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday afternoon from 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday & Friday 7:45—8:00a.m.
(or by appointment)

BAPTISMS

By appointment and usually after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Parents who plan to have their child baptized are required to be registered and practicing their Catholic faith. The Baptism Information Form must be returned to the Parish Office prior to the scheduled baptism. Please call the Parish Office at (620) 456-2276 with any questions.

PARISH PRAYER LINE

If you would like to sign up for this ministry or if you have a prayer request, call Eileen Harrington at (620) 456-3225 or 456-3283 or Bes Becker at (620) 456-2849

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Enrollment in our parish school is without tuition for registered families who live their Catholic Faith by following the Commandments publicly, and by observing the Precepts of the Church, including the practice of stewardship through sacrificial giving of time, talent and treasure.

Phone Numbers & Email Addresses

Rectory/Office (620) 456-2276
Church Fax (620) 456-3317
School (620) 456-2270
Hall (620) 456-2271
School Fax (620) 456-2272
Parish website www.stjoeecs.org

Church email sjcs@juno.com
Pastor frsmeltzer@stjoeecs.org
Principal email arnold@stjoeecs.org
Altar Society Peggy Winter (620-584-6605)
K of C Phillip Lange (316-644-5683)
P T O Danny Pauly (620-456-3514)

Prayer Before Mass

Come, Holy Spirit, quiet my heart and my head, as I gather with my family, friends and neighbors to celebrate Mass. Quiet the thoughts and distractions that will keep me from worship. Open my mouth in prayer and song. Open my ears to hear God's Word. Open my eyes to the mystery of the Eucharist. Open my heart to receive Jesus with Love. May I go forth strengthened to take the Mass into my life this week. Amen.

Sunday is the beginning of a new liturgical year with the **First Sunday of Advent**. The first reading from the **Book of Jeremiah** offers a comforting promise of safety to beleaguered Israel: "those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure." **Luke's gospel** offers us a repeat of several of the daily gospels, advising us to be alert and vigilant, watching for signs. "And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."

During the first part of Advent - until December 17 - we focus on the first reading. This week it is from the **Prophet Isaiah**. These readings are about promises. Isaiah is consoling, building up and preparing his people to have hope. "In the days to come," When the day of promise comes, "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again." Even though King David's line, and that of his father, Jesse, are almost wiped out, Isaiah proclaims hope: "On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom." Who would believe even a peace in nature - lion lying down with the lamb? "There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea." God's unique ways of favoring the poor, which Mary comes to know and proclaims in her *Magnificat*, are seen when Isaiah says, "He humbles those in high places, and the lofty city he brings down; He tumbles it to the ground, levels it with the dust." Even Jesus' own statement about his mission is seen in the powerful images Isaiah uses to give us courage and hope: "On that day the deaf shall hear ... the eyes of the blind shall see ... the lowly will ever find joy in the LORD ..." "On the day the LORD binds up the wounds of his people."

The gospels for this first part of Advent are chosen from several gospels. They are meant to match the first readings and to show that the promises are fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus brings healing. He raises up the childlike. And Jesus calls and sends the twelve apostles to continue his ministry.

Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on the Creighton University's *Online Ministries* web site:<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>
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Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec 1	Lord's Day Vigil	5:30 pm	Special Intention
Sunday, Dec 2	1st Sunday of Advent	8:00 am	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	Living & Deceased Members of Altar Society
Monday, Dec 3	St. Francis Xavier	8:05 am	No Mass
Tuesday, Dec 4	St. John Damascene	8:05 am	+ Earl Kerschen
Wednesday, Dec 5		8:05 am	+ Karen Strate by Sharon Morris
Thursday, Dec 6	St. Nicholas	8:05 am	+ Jim May by Kenny & Lucy Andra
Friday, Dec 7	St. Ambrose	7:00 pm	+ Jack & Dolores Ebenkamp by grandkids
Saturday, Dec 8	Immaculate Conception of the BVM	9:00 am	+ Velma Koester by Bernard & Barbara Kraus
	Lord's Day Vigil	5:30 pm	+ Ed Stuhlsatz by family
Sunday, Dec 9	2nd Sunday of Advent	8:00 am	Eileen Andra by Connie Hartman
		10:30 am	People of the Parish

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON	Dec 3	Altar Society Meeting at 6:30
MON	Dec 17	K of C Meeting at 7:30

Altar Society:

Circle 6—Next funeral
 Circle 6 —Rosary before Mass for December
 Circle 1—Rest Home Birthdays for December

Altar Society will once again offer poinsettias in memory of a loved one for the altar. They will be \$8. Place money and family members name in the collection basket or mail to the office by December 16 to have your name on the list for the bulletin.

December 8, The Immaculate Conception of the BVM, is a Holy Day of obligation. Masses will be Friday, Dec 7 at 7:00 pm and Saturday, Dec 8 at 9:00 am. There is a sign up sheet in the entrance of church for the liturgy assignments.

Priests play an essential role of sanctifying, teaching and leading. They are servants to all. Very soon, you will be receiving an invitation from Bishop Kemme asking you to consider a gift to the Christmas Call to Sharing. Your gift is used to benefit the 37 men currently studying for the priesthood in the Wichita Diocese and the 19 priests in retirement. I would ask you to prayerfully consider a special gift this year to support our priests.

St. Joseph Parish is collecting aluminum cans. Bags of cans can be put in the blue garage by the office or in the container in the dumpster area. \$205 was made on another load of cans. Thank you for your support.

Holy Baptism

We joyfully welcomed into the parish family of St. Joseph
 Noah Lee Rhodes
 Baptized November 24
 Son of
 Joshua & Judith Rhodes

Wyatt Gabriel Hemberger
 Baptized November 25
 Son of
 Aaron & Elizabeth Hemberger

The KofC will be hosting a Holy Hour on December 2nd at 2:00pm. A special Marian Icon will be present at all masses, and will also be present at the Holy Hour. Please join us for a special opportunity to offer our prayers as a parish community.

The KofC Annual Christmas Party will be held after 10:30am Mass on December 2nd in the gym. Join us for some refreshments and holiday fun!

The KofC will be hosting a breakfast to support the March 4 Life pilgrims on December 9th (8:00am - 12:00pm). All proceeds will support our parish students & sponsors so please join us for a morning of fellowship and support of this program!

Our Gifts To God

	last week	7/1/18 to date
Received	\$7,809.18	\$288,776.35
Budgeted	\$14,300.00	\$314,600.00
Over/(Under)	(\$6,490.82)	(\$25,823.65)

Liturgy assignments for December 8 & 9

Time	Servers	Reader	Music Ministers	EM of Holy Communion	Offetory
Sat 5:30 pm	Hayley Pauly Melissa Ebenkamp Sadie Koester	Susie Steffen	Catherine Koester	H-T Zoglmann C-M Ebenkamp C-R New	Nick & Susan May
Sun 8:00 am	Natalie Doffing Sydney Zoglmann Janel Meyer	Kim Becker	Jim Brozovich	H-H Ohl C-H Ohl C-S Mercer	Keith & Rachel Schmanke
10:30 a.m.	Brooke Beck Reghan Ohl Amelia Meyers	Suzanne Koester	Linda Ohl	H-T Gerber C-P Winter C-R Hartman	Gary & Jan Wolke

Holiday Concert at St. Peter Catholic Church
St. Peter Parish will host the Senseney Community Band comprised of local musicians on Tuesday, December 4 at 7 p.m. to benefit the Lord's Diner. We ask that you bring a can of food (per person).

Please consider making an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to the Parish. The distribution from your individual retirement account will save you taxes since it is not reportable as taxable income. For those over 70 1/2 it can count towards your required minimum distribution (RMD). This is a way to save taxes whether you itemize or not. Contact your IRA plan administrator to learn their procedure for making a QCD gift to the parish.

CYM NEWS

All high school students in the parish are invited to join us for CYM on Wednesday nights 7-9pm.

Upcoming calendar

Dec 5th - Bible Study 7:00-7:30, choir practice 7:00-7:30, PSR, CYM meeting 8:30-9:00

Dec 12th - No PSR

Dec 19th - Open gym 7:00-7:30, PSR

If you are a young adult and wondering how to serve your parish, CYM needs you! The youth of today are most impacted by young adult leaders. Consider helping for 30 minutes/month or once a year. No theology required, just a willingness to share your love of Christ with our young parishioners. Fill out your Time, Talent & Treasure form and check that box!

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC. 12-Christmas Program - 7:00 @ CSHS - All parishioners are invited!

ALUMNI DATABASE

We are preparing to send out our next alumni newsletter! If you are a St. Joseph graduate and did not receive this newsletter this summer, or if you have family members or friends that have moved away and would love to hear what is currently happening at their alma mater, please fill out a form that is in the back of church and we will add you to our list! Forms can be returned to the school office or dropped off in collection basket next Sunday! Thank you!

Fully Alive as Missionary Disciples

Being "Fully Alive" means being fully aware. Today's gospel reminds us of the need to be aware and prepared for the return of the Lord. Jesus says, "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life..." How easily we can get caught up in all of those things during this very busy time of year. **SLOW DOWN.** Practice being fully alive during this advent season by creating quiet time for prayer and study, by reflecting on the gifts of being a disciple, or by practicing gratitude for all the blessings that exist in your life. Be watchful as we anticipate the birth of Jesus Christ. Let us "Be vigilant at all times" and prepare the way of the Lord.

Marian Mantle Group: For the return of our children to the practice of the Catholic Faith will meet Wednesdays at 5:00 pm. Praying the Rosary, Parents' Litany and the Way of the Cross.

Mission Mart—There is a green tub in the entrance of church to drop off non-perishable items for our local mission mart. If you are in need of assistance, at any time, for food or to help pay utility bills, you can contact the United Methodist Church 620-456-2300. Their office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Any other time you may leave a message and they will get back with you..

