

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

December 9, 2018 2nd 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.

"Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever." Those words from **Baruch** are in the first reading for the **Second Sunday of Advent**. **Luke's Gospel** offers us a first look at the promise of John the Baptist as he cries out, "Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

We focus on the first readings from the Prophet **Isaiah** this week. With the Babylonian Captivity, the temple was destroyed, the leaders of the people were taken away to Babylon and a remnant was left behind. A life-threatening desert separated the people. In this context, Isaiah proclaims God's vindication of the people in exile. The desert will be reborn. A highway will bring their liberation. And the signs will be that there is healing and peace. "Comfort, give comfort to my people," says the Lord. The valleys will be filled in, the mountains leveled - every obstacle will be overcome - to build a highway for our God to come and save us. The people can hardly believe the good news. They are weak and weary of their captivity. Isaiah proclaims, "They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings." He offers support: "I am the LORD, your God, who grasp your right hand; It is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.'" The people have been at a distance from the Lord for some time and were not obeying the commandments. The Lord says, "I, the LORD, your God, teach you what is for your good, and lead you on the way you should go." The final first reading this week is a piece from the book of **Sirach** in which the prophet Elijah is praised. Elijah, who was destined to come again to restore order before the day of the Lord, is seen in the reading from **Matthew's Gospel** to be John the Baptist.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec 8	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
Monday, Dec 10		8:05 am	No Mass
Tuesday, Dec 11	St. Damasus I	8:05 am	Jake Woods by Mike & Donna Ahne
Wednesday, Dec 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe	8:05 am	+ Robert McDaniel by Claire Daniels
Thursday, Dec 13	St. Lucy	8:05 am	+ Jim May by Randy & Carol Andra
Friday, Dec 14	St. John of the Cross	8:05 am	+ Mary Fisher by Bill & Janice May
Saturday, Dec 15	Lord's Day Vigil	5:30 pm	Special Intention
Sunday, Dec 16	3rd Sunday of Advent	8:00 am	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	+ Velma Koester by Scott & Deb Masterson

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON	Dec 17	K of C Meeting at 7:30
MON	Jan 7	Altar Society Meeting at 7:30 pm
MON	Jan 21	K of C Meeting at 7:30 pm
SUN	Jan 27	Confirmation at 10:30 Mass

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.

St. Joseph Time and talent forms are available in the vestibule, from the church office, or downloading from the church website stjoeecs.org. Please take time to fill these out and return. Parish counsel members are creating a database and are looking forward to putting all the talented parishioners where they would like to help out. Thank you!

We can't fully practice our Catholic faith without the life and ministry of priests. You should have received an invitation to consider a gift to the Christmas Call to Sharing—a gift of gratitude to support retired priests and the education of seminarians. God has blessed us this year with 37 men in the seminary and continues to bless us with so many retired priests who serve the Church in many ways. I would ask that you be as generous as you possibly can be at this most holy time of year.

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. Thank you for your support.

Liturgy assignments for December 15 & 16

Time	Servers	Reader	Music Ministers	EM of Holy Communion	Offetory
Sat 5:30 pm	Elijah Howard Lucas Hilger Jase Downey	Rebecca Zoglmann	Steve Lange	H-V Struble C-T Zoglmann C-G Ebenkamp	Tony & Michelle May
Sun 8:00 am	Jan Stuhlsatz Reece Johnson Bethany Hollis	Pamela Lange	Jason Carl	H-D Seiwert C-S Mercer C-D Stuhlsatz	Jim & Karla Schmitz
10:30 a.m.	Joseph Beck Trenton Holmes Cooper Shobe	Gala Mies	Leslie Mies	H-R Ohl C-L Ohl C-D Doffing	Brian & Emily Beck

Holy Baptism

We joyfully welcomed
 into the parish family
 of St. Joseph
 Emersyn Marie Zoglmann
 Daughter of
 Makenna Zoglmann

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!
 Holiday Concert at St. Peter Catholic Church

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.

Our Gifts To God

	last week	7/1/18 to date
Received	\$12,321.94	\$301,098.29
Budgeted	\$14,300.00	\$328,900.00
Over/(Under)	(\$1,978.06)	(\$27,801.71)

CYM NEWS

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

Upcoming calendar

Dec 12th - No PSR

Dec 19th - No open gym or 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!

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..

Fully Alive as Missionary Disciples
Jesus' cousin, John the Baptist, was a bit of a rogue character. He embraced life in the wilderness and preached a challenging message of change and repentance. John the Baptist was living as a missionary disciple before Jesus ever called His first disciples! Consider the wilderness that exists within you, within your own heart. How does the message of John the Baptist stir that wilderness into action? There is no need to fear or tame your wild heart—instead, explore that place within you and allow the Holy Spirit to draw you deeper into your own commitment to being a disciple. A life of stewardship is not always easy or popular. Use this holy season to make a transition from the comfortable to the uncomfortable...from the calm to the wilderness.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

St. Joseph Catholic School students would like to spread the holiday cheer this Advent season! +Weather permitting, grades 1-4 will be performing songs from our Christmas Program on DEC. 18 at Spring View Manor at 9:45.

+Weather permitting all students will be going Christmas caroling throughout Conway Springs the morning of DEC. 19 from 9-10. We will be taking 3 different routes. If you live on these routes and would like the students to knock on your door, please call the school and let us know! Grades 5-6 will carol at Spring View Manor and houses south of Main St. on 8th St. Our next group will go west on St. Louis St. to Sug's Home Care and then south on Highland and east on Spring St. Our final group will go south on 7th St to houses along the way before they begin carolling at businesses along Main St. If you do not live along these routes but would still like to hear the children, they will be going through businesses on Main Street around 9:30, including Conway Bank, Vintage Bank, the post office, the pharmacy, and many more. We invite you to stop by one of these businesses to listen!

