

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

December 23, 2018 4th 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.

The **Fourth Sunday of Advent** begins a brief, two-day final week of Advent. The reading from Micah reminds us that from the seemingly unimportant town of Bethlehem, "from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel." Luke's gospel offers again the story of Mary's going to visit her cousin. Elizabeth understands immediately Mary's situation and praises God saying, "How does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy."

In our important feasts this week, the first on Wednesday honors the **Feast of Saint Stephen, the first martyr**. Stephen was the first public witness who gave his life for his faith. The second feast on Thursday remembers the disciple Jesus loved, **Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist**. Friday is the **Feast of the Holy Innocents**, which honors the infant martyrs of Herod's jealous rage. The readings for those feasts renew their stories for us. Saturday is the fifth day in our eight days of celebrating Christmas - first from the First Letter of John's powerful letter about God's love for us and our love for others, and from the beginning of Luke's Gospel with the picture of the scene when Mary and Joseph present Jesus in the temple and encounter Simeon and his prophecies about the child and about Mary.

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 22	Lord's Day Vigil	5:30 pm	Special Intention
Sunday, Dec 23	4th Sunday of Advent	8:00 am	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	+ Nick Strunk by Ralph & Linda Ohl
Monday, Dec 24	Vigil of Christmas	4:00 pm	Special Intention
		8:00 pm	+ John Love by The Leddy Clan
Tuesday, Dec 25	Nativity of the Lord	12 midnight	+ Kirk Koester by Nancy Koester
		9:00 am	Special Intention
Wednesday, Dec 26	St. Stephen	8:05 am	+ Msgr. Robert Hemberger
Thursday, Dec 27	St. John	8:05 am	+ Francis & Michael Ternes by Kathleen Ternes
Friday, Dec 28	The Holy Innocents	8:05 am	+ Karen Strate by Kenny & Kay Kruse
Saturday, Dec 29	Lord's Day Vigil	5:30 pm	Special Intention
Sunday, Dec 30	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph	8:00 am	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	+ Dean Leddy by Jesse Mercer family

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Mass Times for Christmas Masses are:
 Mon, Dec. 24 at 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm
 Tues, Dec 25 at 12 midnight and 9:00 am

Mass Times for Solemnity of Mary, The Holy
 Mother of God, Jan 1 are:
 Mon, Dec. 31 at 5:30 pm
 Tues, Jan, 1 at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Please check the schedule (on the back) to see if
 there is still positions needed that you could volun-
 teer for. Thank you.

A Special Christmas Gift For You!

We all want to be happy, but there is a single lie
 that is preventing billions of people from experi-
 encing lasting happiness—and many don't even real-
 ize it.

When you come to Mass this Christmas, you'll re-
 ceive a copy of the book. The **Biggest Lie** in the
 History of Christianity. This special gift from our
 parish will empower you to overcome the lie so that
 you can experience more happiness than you ever
 thought possible.

No PSR classes December 19–January 2. Classes
 resume January 6 for elementary and January 9 for
 MS and HS.

Liturgy assignments for December 29 & 30

Time	Servers	Reader	Music Ministers	EM of Holy Communion	Offetory
Sat 5:30 pm	Thane Herndon Jacob Osner Eli Howard	Jack Dalbom	Sarah Mercer	H-Richards New C-B Zoglmann C-G Ebenkamp	Rod & Laura O'Neal
Sun 8:00 am	Sydney Zoglmann Natalie Doffing Janel Meyer	Jim Schmitz	Marc Robinson	H-J Doffing C-L Palsmeier C-D Stuhlsatz	Dave & Tonya Stuhlsatz
10:30 a.m.	Layne Whitney Anthony Reep Dalton Morrison	Jane Klausmeyer	Jessie Gerlach	H-P Winter C-D Fitts C-J Klausmeyer	Jay & Karen Clum

“ The priesthood is the love and the heart of Jesus.
 When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus
 Christ.”

Please consider a gift this year for Christmas Call to
 Sharing to support our 37 seminarians and 19 re-
 tired priests.

St. Joseph Parish is collecting aluminum cans.
 Bags of cans can be put in the blue garage by the
 office (the side door is open) or in the container in
 the dumpster area. Thank you for your support.

A lost ring was found in the gym last week, if it
 might be yours, you can claim it at the office.

The total donated toward the heating/air condition-
 ing in the church is \$21,500. Thank you for your
 support.

Our Gifts To God

	last week	7/1/18 to date
Received	\$13,217.73	\$336,725.41
Budgeted	\$14,300.00	\$357,500.00
Over/(Under)	(\$1,082.27)	(\$20,774.59)

Liturgy Assignments for Christmas Masses:

Dec. 24 at 4:00 pm

Servers:

Macie Hartman, Jase Downey, Bethany Hollis

Reader: Melissa Hartman

Cantor: Lange family

EM: Mike Ebenkamp, Peggy Winter, Dave Doffing

8:00 pm

Servers:

Thane Herndon, Kirsten Whitney, Layne Whitney

Reader: Richard New

Cantor: Jessica Gerlach

Offetory: Paul & Emily Herndon family

EM: Linda Ohl, Ralph Ohl, Melvin Becker

Dec. 25 Midnight

Servers:

Levi Mies, Cohen Newell, Sydney Zoglmann

Reader: Gala Mies

Cantor: Jim Brozovich

Offetory: Kevin & Becky Zoglmann

EM: Betty Zoglmann, Vic Struble, Sally Mercer

9:00 am

Servers:

Jan Stuhlsatz,

Reader: Suzanne Koester

Cantor: Marc Robinson

Offetory: Dan & Lilla Stuhlsatz family

EM: Dan Stuhlsatz, Darrin Seiwert, Helen Ohl

Fully Alive as Missionary Disciples

Today we get to see the stewardship of our Blessed Mother, and we should pause to notice two things. The first is the hospitality of Mary and of her cousin, Elizabeth. We often think hospitality must include food and beverage, but from these women we see that hospitality is greeting each other with genuine love and joy. They are sincerely happy to be in one another's company. As stewards, we should practice that kind of hospitality everywhere we go—not just when we host people in our own homes. Secondly, we should note Mary's role as the "bearer of God." Throughout her pregnancy, Mary has a very unique role of carrying God with her at all times and in all places. Before Jesus was born, she alone was responsible for sharing Him with all she encountered. She was the first missionary disciple. We must remember that God dwells within us as well, and that we, like Mary, have the responsibility of sharing Him with all those we encounter.

CYM NEWS

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

Upcoming calendar

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!
