

Immaculate Conception Parish, St. Marys

Holy Cross Church, Emmett

St. Stanislaus Parish, Delia/Rossville/Silver Lake

Third Sunday of Advent ~ "Gaudete"
Sunday

Gaudete Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent. The Introit for *Gaudete* Sunday, in both the *Traditional Latin Mass* and the *Novus Ordo Mass*, is taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "*Gaudete in Domino semper*" ("*Rejoice in the Lord always*"). Like Lent, Advent is a penitential season, which used to be called the "little Lent". The priest normally wears purple vestments. The Church invites us to make a concentrated effort to increase our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Having passed the midpoint of Advent, the Church lightens the mood a little, and the priest may wear rose vestments. The change in color provides us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation for Christmas. For this same reason, the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is first lit on *Gaudete* Sunday, is traditionally rose-colored.



Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2013

208 W. Bertrand **Father Gerard Senecal, OSB, Pastor, e-mail: gsenecal@benedictine.edu** St. Marys, Kansas 66536
Phone: 785-437-2408 Fax: 785-437-2938 E-mail: unity_general@oct.net

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm – Immaculate Conception
 7:00pm—St. Stanislaus
Sunday 8:00am—St. Stanislaus
 11:00am—Immaculate Conception

Daily Mass Schedule

Monday – Saturday 8:00am—Immaculate Conception
Alternate Thursdays 4:00pm—Rossville Valley Manor
 4:00pm—St. Marys Manor

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION Saturdays 3:15pm—Immaculate Conception
 Sundays 7:15am—St. Stanislaus

BAPTISMS You must be registered in one of the above parishes or have the permission of the pastor where you live. Required preparation classes are held monthly for both parents and godparents. They are encouraged to attend prior to the birth of the child. Please contact Peg at the office, 437-2408, ext. 8, for further information.

MARRIAGE You must contact the pastor **at least six full months** prior to the desired date of marriage and before making any other arrangements. Please contact the church office for a copy of the up-dated wedding policy or view online at www.marytownyouth.com.

**“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice!
The Lord is near” Philippians 4:4-5**

If we want to experience the true joy of Christianity, we must be like Jesus. Live for others and not for self. Be a gift for others.

A number of years ago in a very poor area of New York City a young Hispanic boy wanted a wagon for Christmas. He was delighted when he saw the wagon waiting for him on Christmas morning under the family tree.

In a similar way the pastor of his parish was also delighted. A generous woman had purchased an expensive nativity scene from Italy to give to the poor and struggling parish.

However, when the priest entered the church on Christmas morning, he noticed that someone had stolen the Baby Jesus. Word of the theft spread quickly through the neighborhood and everyone was saddened by the news. The days went on, and still no one knew who had taken the Baby Jesus.

Finally during Mass on New Year’s Day, the young Hispanic boy walked down the aisle pulling his new red wagon. In the wagon was the Baby Jesus. Everyone in church was amazed. The priest turned to the boy and asked him why he had taken the Baby Jesus from the manger scene. “I asked Jesus to give me this wagon for Christmas. He gave me the wagon, and so I wanted to give him the first ride”.

Dear friends, may this Christmas be the best Christmas ever. Let us make a firm decision today to rid ourselves of every behavior that causes us to be self-centered. Let us die to self so that Jesus may live in us. Let us die to self so that we may live for others. Let us die to self so that we may experience true joy, given by the Holy Spirit.

Fr. Gerard Senecal, O.S.B., Pastor

“His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.” (Philippians 2:6-8).

Weekly Schedule

(Dec. 15 to Dec. 22)

| | | | | |
|--------|-------|---------|-----|----------------------------------------------|
| Sat. | 12-14 | 8:00am | IC | Tricia Clark (+) |
| | | 5:00pm | IC | Cecilia Schumaker (+) |
| | | 7:00pm | SS | Margie Bedlan (+) |
| Sun. | 12-15 | 8:00am | SS | Catherine Jacobson & John Jacobson, Jr. (++) |
| | | 11:00am | IC | Parishioners |
| Mon. | 12-16 | 8:00am | IC | Lawrence Mees & Jill Peterson (++) |
| Tues. | 12-17 | 8:00am | IC | Gary Smith (+) |
| Wed. | 12-18 | 8:00am | IC | Jared Cheek (+) |
| Thurs. | 12-19 | 8:00am | IC | Sp. Int. for IC Sacristans |
| | | 4:00pm | SMM | Lois Schoemann (+) |
| Fri. | 12-20 | 8:00am | IC | Leo & Margaret Passman (++) |
| Sat. | 12-21 | 8:00am | IC | Eugene McKenzie (+) |
| | | 5:00pm | IC | Arnold & Mary Oestmann (++) |
| | | 7:00pm | SS | Parishioners |
| Sun. | 12-22 | 8:00am | SS | Rosella Bergman (+) |
| | | 11:00am | IC | Steve Deiter (+) |

Upcoming Events



| | | | | |
|--------|-------|--------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|
| Sun. | 12-15 | Third Sunday of Advent | | |
| | | 9:15am | SS | Rel. Ed |
| | | 6:00pm | IC | Youth Group |
| | | 6:00pm | SS | Youth Group |
| | | 6:00pm | SS | ADORE |
| | | 7:00pm | | St. Bernard’s, Wamego-Penance Service |
| Mon. | 12-16 | 7:00pm | IC | RCIA |
| Wed. | 12-18 | 6:30pm | IC | Rel. Ed |
| | | 7:00pm | SS | Rosary & Chaplet-in Church |
| | | 7:00pm | SS | K of C Meeting |
| Thurs. | 12-19 | 4:00pm | SMM | Mass |
| Sun. | 12-22 | Fourth Sunday of Advent | | |
| | | 9:15am | SS | Rel. Ed |
| | | 6:00pm | IC | Youth Group |
| | | 6:00pm | SS | Youth Group in Hall |

Adoration Chapel Closings for Christmas

Christmas ~ Closes at Noon on Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve and reopens at Noon on Thursday, Dec. 26th at Noon.

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00am to Noon and 1:00 - 3:00pm
Friday 9:30am to Noon and 1:00-3:45pm

Main Office Phone Number: 785-437-2408 Extension

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|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Pastor: | Father Gerard Senecal, OSB | unity_pastor@oct.net | 5 | |
| Office Staff: | Secretary | Mary Alice Hutley | unity_general@oct.net | 0 |
| | Bookkeeper | Colette Peel (St. Stanislaus) | ksgardner43@aol.com | 785-584-6612 |
| | IC Religious Education | Carol Michaelis | unity_general@oct.net | |
| | SS Religious Education | Peg Wehner | unity_reled@oct.net | 8 |
| | IC Religious Ed. Asst. | Connie Fischer | cfischer@amcplus.com | 785-584-6262 |
| | IC Youth Coordinator, Sr. | Betty Aubert | unity_reled2@oct.net | 16 |
| | SS Youth Coordinator | High-Gerry Lou Marstall | glmarstall@yahoo.com | 785-437-2295 |
| | Dekat Parish Center | Angie Bittner | angiebittner@yahoo.com | 785-221-2644 |
| | | Colette Peel | ksgardner43@aol.com | 785-584-6612 |

Immaculate Conception, St. Marys / Holy Cross, Emmett unity_general@oct.net

Dec. 8: Contributions ~
Plate-\$216.
Env.-\$2,698.
The Needy-\$180.
Total-\$3,094.

Thank you for your stewardship and generous support of our parish!



Memorial Christmas Flowers ~

If you would like to purchase a flower in memory of a loved one, please put the money in the collection basket or drop it by the office.

Christmas Decorating ~

Sunday morning, Dec. 15th, after 11am Mass. Need some strong men to carry up boxes and help put up trees.

Remember: It would be nice to remember our parishioners who reside at St. Marys Manor during Christmas time. Each would enjoy receiving card greetings.



Jessie Tree ~ Please take a tag from the Jesse Tree and wrap your gift. Attach the white tag on the outside of your gift. This gift needs to be returned to the Jesse Tree by Dec. 15th. We are providing gifts to 40 families. Call Judy at 584-6447 or Carol at

584-6309 for questions.

Reminder: The surveys that were mailed out are to be returned by next weekend, Dec. 21-22.

Community Blood Drive ~

3:00-6:00pm, Dec. 26th at the IC Cent. Bldg. Sponsored by K of C #657. Make your appointment at www.savealifenow.org or call John Simecka, 437-6123.

Community Health Ministry Care Package items needed for our troops:

Socks, men's crew or work black or white; Drink singles (like you add to bottled water) or coffee singles; Toothbrushes, floss & chapstick; Rice Krispie Treats; Protein bars or powders, Jerky or slim jims; Instant oatmeal packets; Small gifts such as cards or anything else. Community Health Ministry, 407 Ash, Wamego KS 66547, (785-456-7872)

Religious Education Info. ~

The 2nd Grade Family Mass is Sunday, Dec. 15th at 11:00am Mass. 2nd Grade students and their families please sit in the assigned pews up front on the east side of the church.



St. Stanislaus, Rossville / Silver Lake/Delia

ksgardner43@aol.com

Dec. 8: Contributions ~
Plate-\$162.
Env.-\$2,142.
Retired Rel.-\$125.
Human Dev.-\$5.
Total-\$2,434.
Building Pledge-\$858.

Thank You for your stewardship and generous support of our parish! (Please write a separate check for the building pledge donations, as we have to do a separate deposit.)



Christmas Flowers

~Forms for purchasing a Christmas flower in memory of a loved one are located at the back

of church.

St. Stanislaus Parish Cookbook ~

Copies of the cookbook are available at the Parish Office. Ask after Masses or contact Colette at 584-6612, June, 584-6080 or Helen, 584-9919. These cookbooks make nice Christmas gifts. Cost is \$12.00.



Jesse Tree ~ Thank you for your generosity to the families in our community who face daily challenges and hardships. God Bless You! All gifts and food baskets will be completed this week.



What a Blessing! ~ If you wish to make a cash donation please put it in an envelope marked "Poor & Needy" and drop it in the collection.

Religious Give Thanks ~ "Thank you for accompanying us as we care for our elder sisters" writes a religious superior. Your gift to last week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps support nearly 34,000 sisters, brothers, and religious order priests past age 70. May God bless you abundantly for your goodness.

Services Provided Parishes and Communities:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Perpetual Adoration: | Please contact the office if you wish to participate in this beautiful and prayerful devotion. |
| Religious Education: | Contact Peg Wehner (IC and HC), 437.2408 or Connie Fischer (SS) [cfischer@amcplus.com], 785-584-6262 |
| Youth Group: | Contact Gerry Lou Marstall, (IC) 437-2295 or Angie Bittner(SS) 785.478-6803 |
| St. Marys Food Pantry: | Please contact Mary Poell @ 437-2448 or Tina Roth @785-584-6466 for assistance. |
| Ministry to the Sick: | Parish contacts are: Betty Aubert, IC (437-6118) Janet Wehrly, HC (535-8021); Colette Peel, SS (582-5846). |
| Hall Rentals: | For rental information at any parish, please contact the parish office: 437-2408 or: for SS --Colette Peel (584-6612); for IC --e-mail to unity_general@oct.net ; or for HC --Galen Rezac (535-2482). |
| Prayer Chain Coord.: | Holy Cross -Janet Wehrly (535-8021), St. Stanislaus -Darlene Berry (584-6258), Immaculate Conception -Mary Ellen Reese (437-6163) or Marj Guerich (437-2473). |
| SS Music Ministry | (Youth Choir) Angie Bittner, 221-2644 or Jen Womack, 969-5882 (Adult Choir) Helen Lytle, 584-6335 or June Burgett, 584-6080 |

**WILL YOU PLEASE
HELP?****Adorers of the Holy
Eucharist:**

- ✠ Sun., 8-9am;
- ✠ Mon., 10-11am.
- ✠ Sat., 12-1pm; 8-9pm;
9-10pm.

Call Mary Ellen (437-6163) or
Mary Alice (437-2408).

**O, come let us adore
Him, Christ the Lord!**



Picture Books and CD'S ~ The picture books from the Abbot are on sale now for \$35.00 a book and the Abbot's CD's are \$15.00. They are available at the IC church office.

Parishes' Wedding Policy Available On-Line: The parish wedding policies for Immaculate Conception and St. Stanislaus churches are available to view/print at: www.marytownyouth.com

**Christmas Mass and Advent
Penance Schedule:****Dec. 15th:**

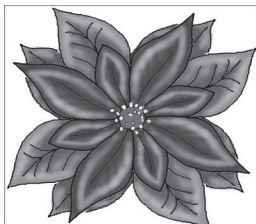
7pm St. Bernard, Wamego Penance Service

**(Christmas Masses) IC & SS &
HC****Dec. 24**

6pm-IC
6pm-SS
Midnight-IC

Dec. 25

Holy Cross-undecided at this time
10am-SS

**Note these Adoration
changes.**

**Please call these coordinators
for assistance:**

**Mary Ellen Reese: Mon. thru
Fri, 6pm to 6am.**

**Joe Mulford: 6am to Midnight
on Saturdays and Sundays.**

**Mary Alice Hutley: 6am-6pm
Monday thru Friday.**

RCIA-Becoming a Catholic ~
RCIA, 7pm Monday, Dec. 16th. **Topic:**
One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic-Church.

Registering In Your Parish

~ If you are 18 years of age or older, and live in the parishes of Immaculate Conception or St. Stanislaus, **please make sure you are registered at the appropriate parish office.** This will be important if you are asked to be a sponsor for a Confirmation, or a godparent for a Baptism, or if you plan to be married in any of those churches.

**Topeka Advent Reconciliation
Schedule, 2013 ~**

Dec. 15, 7pm-Mother Teresa

Dec. 17, 7pm-Mater Dei-Holy Name

Dec. 19, 7pm-Christ the King

Dec. 21, 9:30am-Most Pure Heart of
Mary

**Christmas Mass Schedules for St.
Bernard's, Alma and Paxico ~****Dec. 24:**

5pm at St. Bernard
7pm at Paxico
9pm at Alma
9pm at St. Bernard
10pm at St. Joseph, Flush

Dec. 25:

9am at St. Bernard
9am at St. Joseph, Flush

**ST. MARYS FOOD PAN-
TRY** **Any food or monetary
donations would be greatly
appreciated.** We are in continuous
need of: peanut butter, jelly, applesauce,
canned fruit, tomatoes, tomato sauce,
corn, tuna, mac & cheese, spaghetti and
sauce, egg noodles, cream soups, cereal,
pancake mix and syrup, soda crackers,
pork & beans, peas, green beans,
toothpaste, dish soap, laundry detergent,
T-paper, shampoo, bar soap. Send monetary
gifts to Community Food Pantry,
503 N. 5th Street, St. Marys, KS 66536.
Thank you for helping meet these needs.
**Please save your Best Choice labels
for the Food Pantry. Thanks**

Feast Days for the Week

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sun., | Dec. 15, | Third Sunday of Advent |
| Mon., | Dec. 16, | Advent Wk Day |
| Tues., | Dec. 17, | Advent Wk Day |
| Weds., | Dec. 18, | Advent Wk Day |
| Thurs., | Dec. 19, | Advent Wk Day |
| Fri., | Dec. 20, | Advent Wk Day |
| Sat., | Dec. 21, | St. Peter Canisius |

Community Health Ministry ~

Needs your help. Please consider adopting a family this holiday season. They have several families in the St. George area who need to be adopted for Christmas. If you can help in any way, please contact Community Health Ministry, 785-456-7872.

**TODAY'S
FORECAST
GOD REIGNS
AND THE SON
SHINES**