



Second Sunday Of Advent December 7th 2014



What is pre-evangelization?

"This initial phase corresponds to the call to discipleship. The Gospels show us that the disciples were called to Christ not by abstract speeches, but by an encounter either with Christ himself or, after Pentecost, with men and women who were on fire with the Holy Spirit....What every Christian convert eventually comes to realize is that he or she is being offered not just a list of rules or a set of doctrines, but also the secret of true happiness" (The work of evangelization helps others to see, understand and engage the world from the perspective of faith by Stratford Caldecott - <http://www.kofc.org/en/columbia/detail/education-evangelization.html> accessed 12.4.14).

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, it is becoming more and more frequent in our culture and in these times that we need to prepare someone before we can begin to teach them doctrine. If someone does not know Christ personally, then the teachings of the Church will not be able to penetrate to their heart.

Hence the great call for us to engage the process of pre-evangelization and eventually evangelization. As parishioners you have relationships which puts you in a position to invite! Friendships are key in the process of pre-evangelization because you have the foundation already to invite someone to a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. Your good relationships and good witness is already a foundation for invitation!

This of course takes courage, and the grace of the Holy Spirit to discern when and how and what to ask of someone. Maybe you will sense that someone is open to an invitation to Mass. Or maybe someone who is not Catholic has expressed interest in the Faith, opening the door for you to invite them to join the RCIA, which is the program for adults to explore the Faith and potentially enter the Church at Easter (Contact Kathy Chlan or me with questions). Maybe you will sense a call to open up a conversation with someone about the meaning of life and how you have found meaning in Christ.

We are handing out bags again this year for Saint Nicholas Day for you to give to a neighbor or a friend or even someone you don't know very well! The key is that the bags include Christmas Mass times and the Saint Nicholas Website information. We are asking you to put out into the deep and invite someone and offer the gift bag. This may be difficult, but with God all things are possible!

The more authentic we are as Christians and as friends and as human beings, the better we will be at pre-evangelization leading to evangelization and full acceptance of the Gospel!

God bless you,
Fr. Barnes

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sun, Dec 7...Christmas Pageant Practice 11:15am in Church, Christ Child Shower in Church Hall 6pm, KC's Christmas Tree Lot Open,
Mon, Dec 8...Holy Day of Obligation – Mass @ 8am & 7pm,
Tues, Dec 9...Fatima Group 8:30am, Choir Practice 7pm,
Book Club 7:15pm
Wed, Dec 10....Golden Hearts Meeting 1pm church basement,
Religious Ed. 6:30pm, KC's Christmas Tree Lot Open
Thurs, Dec 11...RCIA @ HC 6:30pm, KC's Christmas Tree Lot Open
Fri, Dec 12...Cursillo in Myra Room 7pm,
KC's Christmas Tree Lot Open
Sat, Dec 13... "Man- Up: Real Men Love Jesus" Church Basement
7am – noon, CMLG Bake Sale 5pm in church basement, KC's Christ.
Tree Lot Open, Prayer for Unborn in Mpls 8am
Sun, Dec 14...Doughnut Sunday, CMLG Bake Sale, Christmas Pageant
Practice 11:15am in Church, Ladies Christmas Tea in church basement
2-4, Christmas Tree Lot Open, DTS 6pm, Giving Tree gifts due
Liturgy of the Hours (Morning Prayer): Everyone is Welcome - Tuesday –
Friday at 7:20am & Sat at 7:35am in the church.

Please consider signing up for Automatic Withdrawal for your Sunday giving. It's easy to sign up and will automatically be withdrawn from your account one time a month. Forms are in the back of church, on the parish website; www.stncc.net or by calling the parish office at 952-461-2403.

Doughnut Sunday schedule: Dec 14th. Doughnuts are served after both Sunday masses. Everyone is welcome!

MUSIC COORDINATOR/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Part-time, non-exempt, required approximately 10 flexible hours per week. Practicing Catholic in good standing; excellent communication and time management skills. **Salary:** approx. commensurate with experience. Send Resume to: MUSIC SEARCH, CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, PO Box 9, Elko New Market, MN 55020-0009, or e-mail to Lisal@stncc.net.

CUSTODIAL / MAINTENANCE (part-time non-exempt, approx. 10-13 flexible hours per week, occasional work in the evenings and on weekends.) Provide professional assistance to staff, volunteers and guests through overall janitorial care and maintenance of parish facilities, equipment, and grounds and through work with volunteers in buildings/ grounds/ cemetery projects as directed. **Req:** Three to five years experience in facilities cleaning, maintenance and repairs including HVAC, plumbing, building safety and grounds care; ability lift up to 50 lbs, and shovel snow. **Salary:** commensurate with experience. Send Resume **by Mon., Dec. 15, 4 PM:** MAINT ENANCE SEARCH, CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, PO Box 9, Elko New Market, MN 55020-0009, or Fax: (952) 461-2423; or email lisal@stncc.net.

FELLOW PARISHIONERS:

We have a chance to input into our Parish's Strategic Planning Process – Shaping Our Future for the next 3 to 10 years! How? Complete this confidential survey at

<http://fluidsurveys.com/s/stnicholasatholicchurchelkonewmarket/>
or you can access at our parish website at www.stncc.net

You may access this from your home computer the local library or a laptop in the church office during office hours.

This is part of the GROW initiative, which with Rediscover: is to support and develop a community of believers in this local church that is proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people. Thank You!

CONFESSION, CHRISTMAS and NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE:

Penance Service: Tuesday, December 23rd, 7pm

Individual Confessions: Wednesday, December 24th 11am-Noon

Christmas Eve Masses: 4pm (pageant@3:40pm)
10pm (caroling at 9:30pm)

Christmas Day Mass: 9am

Solemnity of Mary Masses: Wed., Dec 31: 5pm & Thurs., Jan 1: 9am

Support elderly religious – show your support for senior catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

ATTENTION MEN, St. Nicholas will be hosting a morning of reflection December 13, 2014, 7am - noon. The morning will include Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, Confession, Speakers and a hearty breakfast. The topic for the morning will be Man-Up: Real Men Love Jesus. Men come join us and become inspired to become the Spiritual Rock of your families. Cost for the morning will be \$10.00. Invite your friends, Sons, Son-in-laws, brothers, all family members for this wonderful morning. Contact Kathy Chlan 952-652-2286 or Jean Moeller 952-461-4552 to register.

Ladies, let us help you prepare for a prayerful, peaceful Christmas by coming to a Christmas Tea Sunday December 14, 2014 at 2:00pm-4:00pm at St. Nicholas. Jeanette Howe, foundress of the Seven Sisters Apostolate

will be our speaker. Cost will be \$10:00. Please register by calling Kathy Chlan 952-652-2286 or Jean Moeller at 952-461-4552.



Women's Fellowship

CALLING ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH

If you are new to the parish or have been a member your whole life, if you have children, or if you don't have children – this is your opportunity to meet and mingle with the other women of the parish. You may meet a neighbor or make a new friend!

Please join us for this fun annual tradition of the Christian Mothers and Ladies Guild Christmas Party and Christ Child Shower on Sunday, December 7th at 6pm in the church basement. Please bring a new unwrapped baby gift or monetary donation for the Christ Child Shower. Items and cash will be donated to a local pregnancy resource center. The party will consist of a presentation/speaker, a fun game, treats, and a great chance to socialize as women and young ladies of the parish. Please consider joining us in continuing this long-held tradition of our parish women and young ladies!



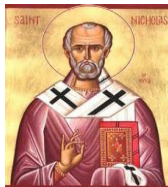
The Holiday Bake Sale will be after all masses the weekend of Dec. 13-14th. Please drop off baked goods or new Catholic Christmas crafts, Advent Calendars, or anything you wish to donate to our sale. Items can be dropped off at the table in the church basement before the Saturday evening mass on Dec. 13th, or before any other mass that weekend.

All proceeds support CMLG.

Year-End Donation Opportunity.

Please consider a donation to our Parish Endowment Fund. The Endowment is set up so we cannot spend the principle, only the interest earned can be spent as the Parish sees fit. Current balance \$ 96,000 Accumulated Interest \$ 46,000

Feast of St. Nicholas



As a way of honoring the Feast of St. Nicholas, which is Saturday, Dec. 6th, we will once again be following in the steps of our parish patron by giving to others! At the weekend masses this weekend, parishioners will be handed a gift bag filled with items, and you are asked to reach out to a neighbor, friend, co-worker or relative and pass this bag onto them and invite them to attend mass at St. Nicholas. Thanks for your participation!

Christmas Pageant – If your child is 4 years of age and older, and would like to be in the Christmas Pageant, please contact the parish office at 952-461-2403. Practice will be held on Sunday, Dec. 7th & 14th at 11:15am.

Parish leadership has recently approved a number of necessary maintenance projects. Our operating budget is really just keeping the doors open, there is not extra money for large repairs. We will be taking money out of our parish savings account to pay for these projects. We are asking parishioners for donations to replenish the savings account.

Here is a list of the current projects and their costs:

- Sidewalk replacement - \$2,236.50
- Replacement of flat roofs over basement bathrooms & south basement entrance - \$11,250.00
- Mold removal in parish basement - \$1,755.00
- Mold removal in school building - \$600.00
- Leaf guards for gutters on rectory - \$620.00
- Additional Mold Removal (not in original bid) - \$1,952.00
- Total cost of current needed repairs: 18,413.50
- Donations to date – Thank You! 8,517.00
- Balance 9,896.50

We are also in the process of identifying and prioritizing a number of other projects (solving our water problems is a big one). If you are able to contribute to the parish for these expenses, you can make your donation two different ways. In your current Sunday envelopes, on the left side of the envelope it reads Capital Improvement and Endowment Fund Offering. Simply circle Capital Improvement and then list the dollar amount you would like to

contribute to the projects. You may also stop in the parish office and leave your donation with Lisa. As the donations begin to come in, the dollar amounts will be listed in the bulletin. If you have any questions please contact the parish office at 952-461-2403

Thank you from the Parish Leadership.

Thank you to everyone who has responded so quickly to the parish needs, through prayer, treasure and talent! God Bless You!

Mass Intentions – (* indicates a change in mass time)			
Sat	6	5:00 pm	Bob Seykora+
Sun	7	8:00 am	David & Ruth Stencil+
Sun	7	10:00 am	For the Parish
*Mon	8	8:00 am	
*Mon	8	7:00 pm	Lillian Kalal+
Tues	9	8:00 am	Wilfred Wagner Family
Wed	10	8:00 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Thurs	11	8:00 am	Bruce Cammack+
Fri	12	8:00 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Sat	13	8:00 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Sat	13	5:00 pm	Allen, Viola & Brad Neal+
Sun	14	8:00 am	For the Parish
Sun	14	10:00 am	Bob Devine+

Daily Scriptures	
Mon	Genesis 3:9-15,20/Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12/Luke 1:26-38
Tue	Isaiah 40:1-11 Matthew 18:12-14
Wed	Isaiah 40:25-31 Matthew 11:28-30
Thu	Isaiah 41:13-20 Matthew 11:11-15
Fri	Revelation 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab Luke 1:39-47
Sat	Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26 Matthew 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8
Sun	Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11/1 Thessalonians 5:16-24/John 1:6-8,19-28

Liturgical Stewardship December 13 & 14		
Dec 13 @ 5pm	Lector:	Kelly Heselton
	Ministers	Jan Freeman-H, Mary Kay Forland-Ch-H
	Ushers:	Joe Molitor, Doug Serie
Dec 14 @ 8am	Lector:	Kendra Caduff
	Ministers	Mike Moeller-H, Mike Cole-Ch-H
	Ushers:	Dan Simones, Gary Vosejпка
Dec 14 @ 10am	Lector:	Paul Panka
	Ministers	Chris Kuehl-H, Tom Streefland-Ch-H
	Ushers:	Randy Wagner, Tony Nelson

SUNDAY GIVING: Nov 30 / Week 22 in Fiscal Year	
Budget Weekly Sunday Giving:	\$6,276
Budget Year-to-Date Sunday Giving:	\$138,072
Actual Collection Received	\$4,226
Collection Received Year-to-Date:	\$121,136
	-\$16,936
Capital Improvement \$61 / Endowment \$17	

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CHRISTMAS EVENTS



It's that time of year, when we ask you to please support the Knights of Columbus, by purchasing your Christmas trees and wreaths from their lot, located at the corner of County Road 2 & 91. The lot opens the day after Thanksgiving at 9am. Lot Hours are: Saturday & Sunday 10am – 5pm, and Wednesday- Friday 5-8pm. The lot will remain open until the week before Christmas. If you can help any amount of time please call Ben Zweber at 952-461-2366.

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Keep "Christ" in Christmas Signs – if you have your sign from last year, please dig it out and place it in your snow covered lawn, or if you don't have one, and would like one, please pick up your sign in the back of church.

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The Knights of Columbus are selling Religious Christmas Cards. The display is in the back of church, and the price of the cards are on the boxes. Please place your money in the envelope provided.

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IF YOU REMOVED A TAG FROM THE GIVING TREE, PLEASE BRING THE UNWRAPPED GIFT AND PLACE UNDER THE TREE BY SUNDAY, DECMEBER 14th.

Opportunity to Give this Season

Once again our parish will be participating in a "Giving Tree" for the Christmas season! Your family can help bring joy to one of many children in our area, by choosing an ornament tag from the tree and purchasing the item listed. Please see posted directions by the tree. Unwrapped gifts are to be returned by the tree area during the weekend of Dec. 13-14th. Thanks for your generosity!

See Pope Francis
Up Close!

Pilgrimage space available
Check out our itinerary online at www.stncc.net
To register visit www.takeapilgrimage.com



Just in time for your Christmas shopping!

We are excited to share the news that St. Nicholas Catholic Church has teamed up with SSA Stores to offer St. Nicholas apparel items and accessories to our parishioners.

Show your spirit and support for St. Nicholas with personalized t-shirts, jackets and more for men, women and children. You can customize merchandise online choosing colors and designs to reflect your own style.

No minimums, high product quality, and fast delivery. And the best part... St. Nicholas will receive a percentage from every purchase you make from our online apparel store.

For more information and to order please visit the parish website (stncc.net) and follow the link provided or visit <https://ssastores.com/store/st-nicholas-catholic-church-elko-new-market-mn/>

Please note all ordering, payment, shipping and returns are handled through SSA Stores and not the parish office.

ST. NICHOLAS MINISTRIES

BOOK CLUB

Book Club meets one Tuesday a month @ 7:15pm at Deb Streefland's home. If you are interested in joining us, please call Deb Streefland 652-2349.

The fall schedule is as follows; Dec. 9th

2015 Schedule; Jan. 13, Feb 17, March 17, April 14 and May 12.

CHOIR

The St. Nicholas choir practices Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:30pm. We are in great need of new members especially now for our Advent and Christmas season ahead. No previous choir or vocal training required to join. Our music ministry is one of the most vital to the Liturgy and one that brings its members many rewards for their time and talents shared. If you are interested but have questions, please contact Pam Filipiak at 952-461-3478.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

"HE IS ALWAYS WITH YOU." BE ALWAYS WITH HIM." - Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity

MORE ADORERS ARE NEEDED FOR HOLY HOURS WITH JESUS. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING WITH AN HOUR.

Adorers are needed especially for the following hours: **Sunday:** 1 pm (2 Sundays a month), 3 pm (beginning in January), **Tuesday:** 7 pm, **Wednesday:** 10 am, **Friday:** 1 am, 2 am, 7 pm (2 Fridays a month), **Saturday:** 1 pm (on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Saturdays of the month, this hour could be shared). To sign up as an Adorer or for more information on Adoration, please contact Dan and Lynne Soderlund at (507) 645-6012 or at lynsod@yahoo.com

MOTHER'S GROUP

We are reading Catholic books and meeting once a month for spiritual discussion, to pray, and reflect on the Gospel to enrich and support our vocation as wives and mothers. Location and times may vary. The next scheduled date is, Thursday, December 4th at 9:15am in the Myra Room.

Please contact Becky Myhre and join us! 952-292-1086.

PRO-LIFE

We invite you to the chapel for the Pro-Life Rosary- every Saturday at 9am

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ADULT EDUCATION:

Mary: A biblical walk with the Blessed Mother. If still interested in joining us here at St. Nicholas, please call Kathy Chlan at 952-652-2286 or Jean Moeller at 461-4552. Cost is \$22.00. Classes will be on Tuesday evenings and Thursday mornings.

Session 2: (2015)

Tues., Jan 6 to Jan 27TH @ 7:00pm / Thurs., Jan. 8 to Jan. 29 @ 9:00 am.

A Powerful Study on the Blessed Mother Begins October 28, 2014 at 6:30

LNMV RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Regular Classes Wednesday, Dec. 10th @ 6:30-7:45pm

Regular Classes Wednesday, Dec. 17th @ 6:30-7:45pm

YOUTH GROUP:

Dead Theologian Society: Next DTS is December 14th. St. Nicholas youth room 6:00pm-9:00pm. (*Confirmation students this will count for one Faith Enrichment event.*)

If you have any questions please call Kathy Chlan 952-652-2286.

****WE are in need of a Volunteer for January to prepare some or part of the meal and/or to serve, we have students attending from all three parishes, we welcome and appreciate all volunteers, you do not have to have children attending. To volunteer for December or another month please call Kathy Chlan 952-652-2286.

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH!!!

Immaculate Conception will be having open gym night in the Crusader Civic Center Gym next to Immaculate Conception Church in Lonsdale on Friday nights from 8-9:30 pm beginning this week

All ages are welcome. If there are multiple age levels or interest in different activities we will split the gym so that there could be two groups at once. we also room in our youth room for playing floor games by younger children. If you have any questions please call Kate at IC at 507-744-2829

HOLY CROSS:

Holy Cross Catholic School students have been working hard on their Christmas Concert. Please join us to hear the students praise the Lord through song and present the story of the Nativity of Jesus. The concert is Thursday, December 11, at 1 PM and 7 PM. All are welcome!

Happening in the Area

BINGO – Fun Night every Tuesday Night October – April. KC Hall in new Prague, Starting October 7, 2014. 2 warm up game start at 7pm, 16 regular games. Lunch and refreshments are available. Please call 952-758-3924 with questions.

New this year! St. John's Jordan Council of Catholic Women will host a Christmas Sweet Shoppe and Holiday Breakfast on Sunday, December 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon in St. John the Baptist Parish Hall in Jordan. Serving breakfast egg bake, sausage, coffee cake and beverages for a free will donation! The Sweet Shoppe will feature homemade goodies, candy, cookies, breads and bakery treats, plus several raffle items, and a silent auction. Please come and join us in the Christmas spirit.

St. Mary's Christmas Fair – Sunday December 7th 8:30am – Noon. A delicious Brunch served by Knights of Columbus, Nativity play in church at 11:15am, games for kids, ice fishing, Bake Shoppe, drawings, raffles and silent auction items. 165 North Waterville, LeCenter

Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center - Prior Lake

Men's Retreat, December 12 - 14 led by Archbishop Emeritus Harry Flynn

Join Archbishop Emeritus, Harry Flynn as he leads his last preached retreat at Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center. Archbishop Flynn informed Bro. Bob last year that he needs to cut back on his numerous commitments. Weaving together his vast understanding of Christian Spirituality and his many pastoral experiences, the Archbishop Emeritus proves to be an inspiring retreat Leader.

Our Men's Retreats provide an opportunity for men to gather together to focus on deepening their spiritual lives. Men have been a strong presence at Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center from the beginning.

Besides the retreat conferences, there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of Sick. Members of the staff will be available for spiritual direction throughout the retreat. The retreat will also combine prayer experiences and liturgies to enhance the retreat experience; weather permitting, guests will have time to explore the natural beauty of the 60 acres of the retreat center grounds.

Register by calling (952) 447-2182 or on line www.franciscanretreats.net/register

Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center, 16385 Saint Francis Lane, Prior Lake, MN 55372

Three-part lecture series on the Evangelical Counsels

Part 1: Evangelical Counsel of Chastity - December 14

1:30 p.m. at St. Agnes (in St. Paul) in Schuler Hall (entrance on side of the church)

The Church of St. Agnes is hosting a three-part lecture series on the Evangelical Counsels in honor of the *2015 Year of Consecrated Life*. The first will be held as the annual St. Agnes Advent Lecture. Fr. Cassian Folsom, O.S.B., founding prior of Monastero di San Benedetto, Norcia, Italy—the birthplace of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica—will speak on the Evangelical Counsel of Chastity, examining the Counsel through the lens of both the lives of the consecrated and laity.

Team Vianney – December 4

It takes courage to follow Jesus. Dedication. Leadership. Vocation. The next Team Vianney event is on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 5 p.m. Team Vianney is a Catholic movement of men in 9th - 12th grades in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Events are held at Saint John Vianney College Seminary, located on the St. Paul Campus of the University of St. Thomas (2110 Selby Avenue). If you've got what it takes, come to Saint John Vianney College Seminary for Team Vianney and meet for dinner with college seminarians, hear a short, dynamic talk on our Catholic faith, and participate in an energetic Mass with seminarians and university students.