

# CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES of MEADE COUNTY

Father Ted A. Skalsky

(Pastor)

## St. Patrick Church

P.O. Box 247  
Plains, KS 67869  
Phone: 563-7663

## St. John the Baptist Church

P.O. Box 1207  
Meade, KS 67864  
Phone: 873-2003  
Cell: 338-6547

## St. Anthony Church

P.O. Box 80  
Fowler, KS 67844  
Phone: 646-5297  
Fax: 646-5207

website:<https://meadecocatholic.org>

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

*I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,  
'make straight the way of the Lord.'*

*John 1:23*

## Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

17	Sun	8:30 am	(F)	The Third Sunday of Advent.....+Irvin Sobba (Sobba Family)
17	Sun	10:30 am	(M)	The Third Sunday of Advent.....+Donald Gertner (Josephine Amerin)
17	Sun	1:00 pm	(P)	The Third Sunday of Advent .....(Spanish).....For the Parishioners
18	Mon	6:00 pm	(M)	Week day in Advent.....+Dottie Gillen (Marjorie Gillen Family)
18	Mon	6:00 pm	(F)	Week day in Advent .....+Eric Zimmerman (Larry & Cherie Knott)
19	Tue	7:30 am	(M)	Week day in Advent.....+C. J. Thomas (Debbie & John Thomas)
19	Tue	8:30 am	(P)	Week day in Advent.....+Patricia & E. C. Arellano (Teresa Garza)
20	Wed	8:30am	(P)	Week day in Advent .....For Vocations to the Priesthood & religious life
20	Wed	10:00 am	(FRC)	Week day in Advent .....For rain
20	Wed	12:05 pm	(F)	Week day in Advent .....+Norma Vrtiska (Judy & Steve Dewell)
21	Thu	7:30 am	(M)	St. Peter Canisius.....For an end to religious persecution
21	Thu	8:30 am	(P)	St. Peter Canisius.....For an end to human trafficking
22	Fri	8:30 am	(P)	Week day in Advent .....Souls in Purgatory (Dolores Amerin)
22	Fri	6:00 pm	(P)	Week day in Advent .....(Spanish).....For a renewal of faith in our parishes
23	Sat	5:30 pm	(M)	Fourth Sunday of Advent.....+Dottie Gillen
24	Sun	8:30 am	(F)	Fourth Sunday of Advent.....Deceased Relatives (Bobby Lauppe & Sarah Jordan)
24	Sun	10:30 am	(P)	Fourth Sunday of Advent.....+Donald Gertner (Josephine Amerin)
24	Sun	1:00 pm	(P)	Fourth Sunday of Advent.....(Spanish).....For the Parishioners
24	Sun	6:00 pm	(M)	The Nativity of the Lord.....+C. J. Thomas (John & Debbie Thomas)
24	Sun	6:00 pm	(P)	The Nativity of the Lord .....+George & Anna Kisner (Anna Marie Kisner)
24	Sun	9:00 pm	(F)	The Nativity of the Lord.....+Eugene Bergkamp (Shelby Huslig)
25	Mon	9:00 am	(M)	The Nativity of the Lord.....+Dottie Gillen (Dan & Carolyn Boyd)

25 Mon 10:00 am (P) The Nativity of the Lord.....(Spanish).....For World Peace

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

45 minutes before Masse

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE** Couples anticipating marriage are asked to contact their parish priest as soon as possible so that preparation can begin. The dioceses of Kansas prefer at least 6 months notice; 4 months is required.

**HOMEBOUND** If you would like Communion brought to you at home, or have someone in the hospital, please notify Father.

**HAVE YOU REGISTERED IN OUR PARISH?** If you are new, we welcome you and would like to get to know you.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please send any announcements you want put in the bulletin to the Fowler Rectory, or call the Dewells (646-5300), or email [@stanthonyfowler@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonyfowler@gmail.com) no later than **THURSDAY** noon. Thanks!

**Liturgical and Other Ministers**

**FOWLER – Sun., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am**

**LECTOR:** Sarah Jordan, Phyllis Butts  
**SERVERS:** Jacey W., Heath H., Karson W.  
**EXTRA. ORD. MIN:** Kevin & Stacy M., Dave Weber  
**USHERS:** Tom Huelskamp, Ron Beckerman  
**GREETERS/GIFTS:** Mark & Sadie Wideman  
**MUSIC MIN:** Choir  
**NURSING HOME:** Decinda Heinz  
**ROSARY:**

**COLL. COUNTERS:** Steve & Judy Dewell

**PLAINS – Sun., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am**

**LECTOR:** Brendan Smith  
**SERVERS:** Dolores A., Yanet G., Hailey S.  
**EUCH. MIN:** Debbie E., Jenny A., Maria D.  
**GREETERS:** Bob & Gloria Kaberlein  
**MUSIC MIN:** Nancy H.  
**ROSARY:** Teresa Garza  
**MONEY COUNTERS:** Kathy Jacobs

**MEADE – Sat., Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 5:30 pm**

**LECTOR:** Tyler Flavin  
**SERVERS:** Nolan D., Alek H., Horacio H.  
**EUCH. MIN:** Kevin D., Susan D., Goudy F.  
**MUSIC MIN:** Gleason Family  
**GREETERS:** Cottrell Family **GIFTS:** Haberman & Hagemeyers'  
**MONEY COUNTERS:** Smith Family  
**ROSARY:** Flavin Family

**PLAINS – SPANISH, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm**

**LECTOR:**  
**SERVERS:**  
**EUCH. MIN:**

**FOWLER – Sun., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 pm**

**LECTOR:** Judy Dewell, Doug Heinz  
**SERVERS:** Angel M., Crystal M., Kale H., Paige H.  
**EXTRA. ORD. MIN:** Steve, James & Becky H., Tom L., Dave  
**USHERS:** John Weber, Tom Leis  
**GREETERS/GIFTS:** Karen McDowell, Rita Bergkamp  
**MUSIC MIN:** Choir  
**NURSING HOME:**  
**ROSARY:**

**COLL. COUNTERS:** Steve & Judy Dewell

**PLAINS – Sun., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm**

**LECTOR:** Lucy Bromwell  
**SERVERS:** Gloria K., Dianna O., Jesse O.  
**EUCH. MIN:** Terry S., Larry E., Mary A.  
**GREETERS:** George & Traci Eakes  
**MUSIC MIN:** Martha Saucedo  
**ROSARY:** Bob Kaberlein  
**MONEY COUNTERS:** Lucy Bromwell

**MEADE – Sun., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm**

**LECTOR:** Cali Keith  
**SERVERS:** Brooke K., Logan K., Brock K.  
**EUCH. MIN:** Janet R., Tom R., Audrey F.,  
**MUSIC MIN:** Belinda Chalker  
**GREETERS:** Dewell Family **GIFTS:** Holguin Family  
**MONEY COUNTERS:** Dewell Family  
**ROSARY:** none

**PLAINS – SPANISH, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am**

~~ **IF YOU CANNOT FULFILL YOUR OBLIGATION, PLEASE FIND SOMEONE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE** ~~

**VOCATION VIEWS:** Rejoice always! Our Savior is near! The call to priesthood and/or religious life is a source of great joy to those who embrace their call with their whole heart, mind and soul. (1 Thes 5:16) If you think God is calling you to priesthood or to consecrated life, visit our website at [www.dcdiocese.org/vocations](http://www.dcdiocese.org/vocations).

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES:** All of the people in today's readings – the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist – seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

	<b><u>FOWLER</u></b>	<b><u>MEADE</u></b>		<b><u>PLAINS</u></b>
ENVELOPES:	\$1,160.00	\$1,378.00		\$966.00
OFFERTORY:	\$138.00	\$67.00		\$190.00
CHILDREN:	\$22.00	\$4.00	Bldg. Fd.	\$50.00
OTHER:	\$.00	\$375.00		\$.00
IMMAC. CONCEPT.	\$1,087.00	\$225.00		\$ .00
CANDLES:	<b><u>\$.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$.00</u></b>		<b><u>\$.00</u></b>
TOTAL:	\$2,407.00	\$1,854.00		\$1,206.00
	\$2,118.00	\$1,250.00		

**THOUGHTS FROM FATHER TED:** One of the discouraging experiences that I encounter is when I hear the confessions of the children in our religious education programs. The discouragement is that it is a rare child who has been to confession since the last time group confessions were available for the children. This tells me that parents are not encouraging their children to use this Sacrament; parents themselves are not using the Sacrament and that, once the children are no longer in the religious education program, they will not be likely to continue receiving the Sacrament.

This is sad and it speaks to a real decline of the sense of sin in our lives and of our awareness of the mercy of God. **Jesus gave to the Church the power and the responsibility to declare the forgiveness of sin and to manifest God's mercy** (Cf. Jn 20: 21-23). However, this can only be done if people are open to acknowledging their need for mercy.

Perhaps all of this speaks to a larger problem: the failure of many parents to take an active part in the religious formation of their children. If we are going to renew the Catholic Church, this must change. Parents are the strongest and most important force in the religious and spiritual formation of their children. If they do not carry out this responsibility, a high percentage of their children will be lost to the faith. In a culture that does not value religion or deep spirituality, those values must be developed and encouraged within the family. When parents request baptism for their child, they are accepting the responsibility of forming that child in the ways of faith.

**CATHOLIC PLANNED GIVING AND ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR:** The Catholic Diocese of Dodge City is pleased to sponsor: "Catholic Planned Giving and Estate Planning". These seminars are part of the Department of Development's stewardship education program and concentrate on the Christian steward's right to plan for the prayerful and orderly distribution of one's estate. The purpose of these seminars is to inform Catholics within the diocese of their rights to ensure that their wishes and the needs of their family are carried out as intended. At the same time, we will illustrate some gift planning techniques people may use in coordination with their estate plan and to give back to God some of the material blessings He has bestowed on all of us. People generally recognize the importance of giving to their parish and diocesan ministries during their

lifetime; not too many consider similar gifts in their estate plans and wills. Our vision is to show you the opportunities! Please join us at one of the Seminars listed: January 10, 2018, 7:00pm COLG, Dodge City; January 15, 2018, 7:00pm St. Anthony Parish Center, Liberal; January 25, 2018 7:00pm Prince of Peace Parish Center, Great Bend Sacred Heart Pratt to be announced as soon as determined.

**MASS TIMES WILL CHANGE ON THE FIRST WEEKEND IN JANUARY:** January 6 – 7. At that time, Mass will be at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, in Plains; On Sunday, at 8:30 a.m. in Meade; and 10:30 a.m. in Fowler. In Plains, 1:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

**IN THE BEGINNING...** This is a series of bulletin messages describing the fetal development of “Chris.” (week 39). Chris now weighs between five and nine pounds. The average size baby is seven pounds. “It’s really crowded in here and it’s very hard to move.” The umbilical cord is approximately 20 inches long and about ½ inch thick and doesn’t have any nerve endings “this means that neither mom nor Chris will feel any pain when it is cut). The good news for mom is it’s easier to breathe because the baby is moving down. The bad news is mom may be running to the bathroom every two minutes.  
*“Then God, who had specially chosen me while I was still in my mother’s womb... Gal.I:15*

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD:** is Monday, January 1. Mass times will be at 5:30 p.m., on December 31, in Meade; 8:30 a.m., on the 1<sup>st</sup>, in Fowler; 10:30 a.m. in Plains; and 1:00 p.m. in Spanish in Plains.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE IN OUR CLUSTER:** Mass will be at **6:00 p.m.** on Christmas Eve in Meade and in Plains. Mass will be at **9:00 p.m.** on Christmas Eve in Fowler. Mass will be at **9:00 a.m.** on Christmas Day in Meade. Mass will be at **10:00 a.m.** in Spanish on Christmas Day.

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS SCHEDULE:** **Sunday, December 17, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. - in Plains**  
**Wednesday, December 20, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in Fowler**  
**Friday, December 22, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. (after Spanish Mass) to 7:30 p.m. in Plains**

### Announcements for Plains

**PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY** (the rosary) There will be prayer for our country on Sunday, at 5:30 p.m.

**THRIFT SHOP:** The time has come for our turn to take care of the Thrift Shop. January is our month. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. All help is greatly appreciated. The Thrift Shop is open Tuesday evening from 6-8 pm and on Friday afternoon 2-4 pm. Thank you to all who help with this service project in our community.

### Announcements for Meade

**PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY:** On Monday, there will be Mass at 6:00 p.m. followed by the rosary for our country.

### Announcements for Fowler

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!** We filled the Christmas boxes for the Community Holiday Food Boxes on Thursday. Your contributions to those in need were deeply appreciated!

PASTORAL COUNCIL: On Wednesday, December 20, Pastoral Council is scheduled at 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY: On Monday, there will be rosary for our country at 5:45 p.m., followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m.

REMINDER OF LITTLE LAMBS and Morning Glory breakfast after Mass today, along with decorating.