

Dear parishioners,

I don't know about y'all, but I'm ready for fall! We've had an exciting summer here at St. Mary's, and I wanted to take the opportunity to fill you in on a few things that have changed this summer. First of all, as you know, Ms. Van Ausdall retired in June, and we welcomed Brad Newcomb as a substitute organist. Since that time, Brad, an alumnus from our school, has worked with the folks over at First Christian, and starting September 1st will be our exclusive organist! He is still finishing his degree from OSU, so he won't be full time staff quite yet, but he will be our organist every Sunday for the 5, 8 and 11, as well as weddings, funerals and holy days. When Brad is not available, like for school Mass, Ms. Jackie Saylor, the organist from the Episcopal Church, has agreed to help us out for this year and play for our school Masses and other times that Brad might not be available. I'm very happy and excited to welcome them both to St. Mary's! Please keep Brad in your prayers as he finishes up his degree, and in May he will become our full time organist/choir director! I've made two additional, part time hires over the course of the summer. I've hired Mrs. Emily Hodgson as our development director and Mrs. Rachel Friess as our Marketing Director. Emily, who many of you know, has always been an active parishioner and volunteer in the school, and has always excelled at raising funds for the school. Rachel has been an active volunteer as well, and for the last year has done a wonderful job of running our social media account for the school. Both have proven themselves to be excellent, so I wanted to bring them on to the staff to give them the tools and the resources to be even more excellent in promoting our church and school. Many of you might be wondering if this is really a necessary move, and if this were twenty years ago the answer would be no. However, the times are changing, and if we don't take advantage of all the technology and grant opportunities that are available, then we will very quickly be left in the dust. These two women will be working together to make our church and school more visible, better branded and more accessible to everyone in Ponca City and beyond. Of course I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have. In the meantime, when you see them, please congratulate them and pray for them as they start their respective jobs here at St. Mary's! I have other exciting news as well, but everyone can only handle so much exciting news at one time, so read the bulletin next week for another exciting announcement! Stay cool, and know that you're in my prayers!

In Christ,

Fr. Carson

Masses for the week...

- MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2019**
12:10pm †Donnie Gray/Michel Gray
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2019**
12:10pm †Diane Hermes/The Will
- WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2019**
8:20am †Paul & Beatrice Paschal/Jimmy & Suzy Paschal
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2019**
9:00am †Gerald Luis/Shirley Luis
(St. Francis, Newkirk, OK)
4:00pm Spec. Int. The Residents of Via Christi
- FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019**
7:00am People of the Parish
12:10pm †Mary Haney/Maggie Schieber
- SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2019**
9:00am People of the Parish
5:00pm †Norma Luis/Shirley Luis
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019**
8:00am †Paul & Helen Otto/The Will
9:30am MASS (St. Francis Church, Newkirk)
11:00am †Beth Dahl/Jarrett & Kathleen Auschwitz
1:00pm People of the Parish (Spanish Mass)
7:00pm People of the Parish

LOOKING ahead... August 26-September 1, 2019

Monday	7:30am	DAY CARE, McGurk Room
Tuesday	7:30am	DAY CARE, McGurk Room
	7:00pm	CHURCH TOUR, Church
Wednesday	7:30am	DAY CARE, McGurk
	8:20am	WALLEN BAPTISMS, Church
	11:30am	FINANCE COUNCIL, Rectory
	6:00pm	ROSARY, Chapel
	6:30pm	K-12 FAITH FORMATION
Thursday	7:30am	DAY CARE, McGurk Room
	6:00pm	GENERAL PTC MEETING, Parish Hall
Friday	7:30am	DAY CARE, McGurk Room
	10:30am	CONFESSION, Chapel
Saturday	3:30pm	CONFESSION, Church
Sunday	12:10pm	FOMENKY BAPTISM, Church
	6:30pm	CONFESSION, Church



The 125th Anniversary celebration for St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church – Newkirk will be **Saturday, October 5th** with a 5:00 p.m. Mass and meal afterwards in their Parish Hall.

Keep watching the bulletin for more details.



Historical Church Tour with Fr. Carson

Bring a friend and learn about the beautiful artwork, windows, and sacred objects in the church. Tuesday, August 27th, 7 pm. All are welcome. This is a public event. Invite your friends, neighbors, and colleagues.

Weekly Income Report	
August 18, 2019	
Weekly Collection	\$14,607.11

Youth Ministry

JH/SH Faith Formation is this Wednesday from 6:30-8PM in the Byrnes Room. All 7-12th graders should make plans to join us!

We will be praying the rosary at 6PM in the chapel every Wednesday before Faith Formation. All youth and parents are invited to join.

Please Pray For those who need prayers: Jeanette Vassar, Charlotte Meyer, Charlene Vap, Dora Behar, Cindy Wardlow, Fran Baur, Don Schiltz, Jeanne Glaser, Patsy Hastings, Bennie Westerman, Eileen Spellman, Linda Courtney, George F. Brown, Martha Begwin, Gary Kirchmeyer, Donna Schlitz, Jim Sheets, Asher Dailey, Tyson Rutter, Betty Pino, Kaye Cunningham, Vivian Rose Graeff, Sue Odom, Barbara Spore, Alicia Aguilar, Dakota Miller, Brian McCallen, Janet Wilson, James Hess, Gabriel Dietz, Ed O'Neill, Don Raulston, Angi Jones, Marlene Taylor, Thomas Taylor, Brent Roberson, Jillian Beekman, Joe Badley, Sandy Hudack, Pamela Cline, Sherry Burgell, Ben Delapaz, Tom Courtney, Mary Knori, Nick Patterson, Jr., Helen Bloxson, Jill Kestler, Dean Tate, Bertha Smith, Wendel Hacker, David Courtney, Joyce Johnson, Karla Carter, Joyce Reutter, Dennis Guinn, Genevia Kitchen



St. Mary's Catholic School PTC will hold a **General Meeting Thursday, August 29 at 6:00 P.M. in the Parish Hall (Cafeteria).** Students whose parents/guardians attend will get **Free Dress day on Friday, September 6.** We hope to see you there.

Women's Bible Study: "Ephesians: Discover Your Inheritance" by Jeff Cavins begins Thursday, September 5th at 10 am in the McGurk Room. Call to reserve a book or register online at <https://study.ascensionpress.com/location/ponca-city-ok-st-mary-church> Group book rates available for orders through August 23rd by calling Bridgit at 382-6010. Scholarships are available.



DAY OF REFLECTION:

Register today for the September Day of Reflection at St. Gregory's Abbey.

"From Monologue to Dialogue in Prayer" will be presented by Fr. Boniface Copelin, OSB on September 21st at St. Gregory's Abbey in Shawnee. "We all learn to pray by saying prayers. We then move to talking to God.

But, just as our human relationships are based upon listening and responding, so also our prayers can be a loving conversation with God."

Mass begins at 8:30 a.m. with registration following in the Abbey Conference Center. The day ends at 3 p.m. after Holy Hour and Adoration. Confessions are available.

Due to space limitations, please pre-register by e-mailing retreats@monksok.org or by calling (405) 878-5656. The cost is \$30 (early bird- prepayment 7 days prior) or \$35 at the door. Lunch is included.

Journey to Faith--(RCIA): Thinking of joining the Catholic Church? Want to know more about our faith? Have a friend who is curious about what we believe? Join us and bring a friend for wine, cheese, and an introduction to this year's new Journey to Faith themes. Tuesday, September 3rd, in the Parish Hall from 7-9 P.M.



Elementary Faith Formation K-6

We always welcome new students! Join us on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 P.M. We have new programs for our children this year and we are excited to *Discover!* with you! All children grades K-6 are welcome! Bring a friend!

A short presentation on our new program for parents will be held in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, August 28th at 6:30.

Our local Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, James J. McGraw Assembly, will present the St. Francis Church of Newkirk new vestments as a memorial for deceased members Leonard Horinek, Fred Horinek, Dee Leven, Mike Pankratz, and Ernest Vap.

For St. Mary's Church of Ponca City they will purchase new hymnal boards as a memorial or deceased members Robert Schaeffer, and Benjamin Hein. For information on our local assembly contact Bill Bridges, Faithfull Navigator at (580) 716 4122