



**St. Dominic
St. Francis Xavier
Catholic Church**
Our Lady of Snows Shrine



December 23, 2018

The 4th Sunday of Advent

PASTOR

**Fr. Jonathan
Dizon**

jdizon@archkck.org

SECRETARY

Kay Ludvick

ACCOUNTANT

Merlin Nelson

DIRECTOR REL. ED.

Barbara Berg

PARISH OFFICES

**115 E. 5th St.
Holton, KS 66436**

Office: 785-364-3262

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parish@jacocatholics.org

SACRAMENTS

WEEKEND MASSES

5:30 pm Sat. Vigil @ St. Dominic
8:00 am Sun. @ St. Francis Xavier
10:30 am Sunday @ St. Dominic

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue. 8am @ St. Francis Xavier
Wed. 8am @ St. Dominic
Thu. 8am @ St. Francis Xavier
Fri. 8am @ St. Dominic
No Mass Mon. or Sat.. Morning

RECONCILIATION

30 Minutes prior to
5:30 pm and 8:00 am Mass
Anytime by appointment

MARRIAGE

Contact the parish 9 months prior to
preferred wedding date

BAPTISM

Contact the office after
birth of the child

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

My father used to refer to the town of my—and his—birth as a “nickel-and-dime” town. As a child, I was never exactly sure what he meant, but it didn’t sound like a compliment. I think it was similar to Micah’s words about Bethlehem as “too small to be among the clans of Judah” (5:1). Another description would be “backwater.” Hardly a place deserving of great expectations. Yet backwater Bethlehem, city of David the shepherd boy, was to be the birthplace of the Messiah—not Jerusalem, center of government and religion, city of David the warrior king.

God’s strange choices extend beyond geographical sites to the people on whom God sets eyes. A young betrothed girl up in the north, a barren woman down in the south—these were chosen to play pivotal roles in the story of salvation. The once-barren Elizabeth, soon to bring forth the greatest of all prophets, now proclaims God’s most marvelous work and the little one through whom God is working: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (Luke 1:42).

Elizabeth cues us to join in the response of the baby in her womb: to allow our hearts and spirits to leap for joy. Again and again God works through those who are open to the Spirit. Blessed are they who place their trust in the Lord, who continues to come to give us new life.

—James A. Wallace, C.S.S.R.

ved.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

December 16

St. Dominic:

Envelopes* \$ 1,395.00
Plate \$ 367.49
Total: \$ 1,762.49

Week of Dec. 9 \$ 2,071.50
Week of Dec. 2 \$ 6,797.72

Average weekly expenses for this fiscal year: \$2,719.11

St. Francis Xavier:

Envelopes* \$ 1,690.00
Plate \$ 121.00
Total: \$ 1,811.00

Week of Dec. 9 \$ 1,879.47
Week of Dec. 2 \$ 1,584.64

Average weekly expenses for this fiscal year: \$1,971.04

**Thank you for your
continued generosity**

Eucharistic Ministers for the weekend of Dec. 29-30th

Homebound: Dyann Parks

Nursing Homes: Dyann Parks

Ministry Schedule for the

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

St. Dominic Dec. 29th~ 5:30 pm	St. Francis Xavier Dec. 30th~ 8:00 am	St. Dominic Dec. 30th~ 10:30 am
COMMUNION Tom Heideman	COMMUNION Damon Putnam	COMMUNION Michele Haverkamp
LECTOR Alberta Lierz	LECTOR Zachery King	LECTOR Maggie Schiefelbein
ACOLYTE Jordan Reith* Abigail Schlodder Katie Purcell	ACOLYTE Lexi Koch * Connor Hammes Jackson King	ACOLYTE Eric Koon Darren Bausch Tegan Bowhay
MUSIC Cathleen Reed D. Parks, J. Erhardt	MUSIC Joan Hood Wayne Berry	MUSIC Mary Gerstner Jenea Chartier
GREETERS / USHERS Dan Doyle Pat Doyle Dan Doyle Jean Lierz	GREETERS / USHERS Larry Reilly Marceta Reilly Ben Ehrhart Farrell Holthaus	GREETERS / USHERS Ruben Zeller Family Roger McAsey Dan Fiedler

LITURGY SCHEDULE AND MASS INTENTIONS

The 4th Sunday of Advent

SATURDAY, December 22nd~		
St. D	5:30 PM	Madison Taliaferro (D)
SUNDAY, December 23rd~		
St. F	8:00 AM	Beam/Stuke Families
OLS	8:30 AM	
St. D	10:30 AM	For All Parishioners
MONDAY, December 24th~ Vigil of Christmas		
St. F	6:30 PM	Bob Hood (D)
St. D	11:00 PM	For All Parishioners
TUESDAY, December 25th~ The Nativity of the Lord		
St. D	10:30 AM	Darline Huftles (D)
WEDNESDAY, December 26th~		
St. D	8:00 AM	NO MASS
THURSDAY, December 27th~		
St. F	8:00 AM	B.B. Anderson (D)
FRIDAY, December 28th~		
St. D	8:00 AM	NO MASS
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph		
SATURDAY, December 29th~		
St. D.	5:30 PM	Al Alcott (D)
SUNDAY, December 30th~		
St. F	8:00 AM	Susan Nelson (D)
OLS	8:30 AM	
St. D	10:30 AM	For All Parishioners

CHURCH CLEANERS:

Dec. 24-30	Gary & Annette Schreiber
Dec. 31-Jan. 6	Karen Lieker, Kay Ludvick
Jan. 7-13	Bertulfo Family
Jan. 14-20	Gail Schmitz, Robin Sides
Jan. 21-27	Utz Family, Carolyn Kennedy

Please contact the office ahead of time and let us know when you are planning on cleaning so that the church will be unlocked and the lights can be turned on for you.

Thank you for your service to your parish. You can still volunteer by calling the office at 364-3262

Jackson County Pastoral Council

- Gregg Watkins
- Elsie Beam
- Barbara Berg
- Margaret Blevins
- Marie Burdick
- Larry Larkin
- Wayne Leiker
- Karen Leiker
- Jackie McAsey
- Merlin Nelson
- Darrin Reith
- Janeil Stevens

St. Dominic Finance Council

- Greg Watkins—Chair
- Carolyn Koger
- Jane Coverdale
- Pat Doyle

St. Francis Xavier Finance Council

- Elsie Beam—Chair
- Bill Haug
- Chris Everts
- Larry Larkin
- Kay Andler
- Damon Putnam

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ST. DOMINIC:

- NO RelEd Classes, Dec. 26-Jan. 3rd. Christmas Break, Classes Resume Jan. 9th

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER:

- NO RelEd Classes, Sunday, Dec. 23rd and 30th. Classes resume Jan. 6th.

RCIA-Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Next class January 8th .

ACOLYTE TRAINING: If you missed the training session and are still interested in serving there will be an additional training session at St. Dominic on Wednesday, January 9th at 6:30 pm. St. Francis students see Merlin Nelson to schedule a training time. Parents please remember to fill out the information forms.

Marriage Minute~

Win the New Year!

This weekend, we not only take time to honor the Holy Family of Nazareth, but reflect on how our own families may become more like them. If you are married, the best way to increase the holiness of your family is to grow closer to your spouse! Here are four simple steps for the New Year:

- **PRAYER:** Even a “Hail Mary” together before work is powerful
- **PRIORITIZE:** Plan an event this year to grow your marriage, such as the School of Love date night.
- **STORM-PROOF:** Attend a retreat like “Living in Love” in February at Holy Spirit.
- **SERVICE:** How can your marriage bless others?

For concrete tips and more info, go to www.JoyfulMarriageProject.com.

Congratulations to St. Dominic...

Knight and Knight Family for November...
James & Thelma Bowhay & Family



Congratulations to St. Francis Xavier...

Knight for December...

Patrick Broxterman



MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord’s words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

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PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

Kent Askren (nephew of Cletemae Brown); Carol Barton (Friend of Dean & Ramona Robinson); Sonya Bergman; George Bolz; Angela Brewer; Estelle Danner; Dick DeVader (Brother of Ramona Robinson); Francis DeVader; Sharon DeVader; Steve Devlin; Sheila Fernkopf; Brad Fiedler; Dennis Fiedler; Warren Fiedler; Alan Fund (brother of Karen McClaskey); Sam Gerry; Brad Gould; Carly Grant (great granddaughter of Joan Hood); Mary Ann Grollmes (mother of Vic Grollmes); Jenny Harigan; Jared Harris (grandson of Mary Harris); Mary Harris; Pat Hasenkamp; Jerry Huftles (father of Jackie McAsey); Charles Kennedy; Adrian Koch; Rheva Korte; Shari Lott (sister-in-law of Russell Schuetz); Rita Martin; Mike McClaskey; Mary Morford; Don Morris; Lynne Mulroy; Luisa Munoz (sister of Anna Alvarez); Erin Norwood and daughter Bailey (Larkin Family Members); Kristina Oates (granddaughter of Gene Schiefelbein); Calvin Page; Carolyn Reicherter; Cameron Renfro; Amy Reese (daughter of John & Susan Stallbaumer); Mary Riniker (Sister of Regina Butts); Ronna Rowe (Family Member of Hilda Hrenchir); Shelly Russell (daughter of Karen McClaskey); Peggy Sanderson (friend of Mary Morford); Lonnie & Helen Sands (brother and sister-in-law of Joan Hood); Brad Schiefelbein (son of Gene Schiefelbein); Chris Schiefelbein (brother of Gene Schiefelbein); Laura (daughter of Gene Schiefelbein); Emma Schirmer; Easton Shelton (son of Eric and Stephanie Shelton); Special Intentions of Sheila Springer; William Steinlage; Nancy Versch Stereit; Evelyn Sullivan; Madison Taliaferro; Janie Teetzel; Melinda Wareham; James Wecker

We pray for those among us who are ill, their families and for their care-giver, those experiencing a hardship or difficulty; and for those in the Armed Forces protecting our freedom.

To place someone's name on the prayer list or to remove a name, please call the Parish Office (364-3262)



Blessed are you among women,
and blessed
is the fruit of your womb.
— Luke 1:42

Scripture Insights~

Today's Scripture readings are filled with joyful expectation in the face of incredible odds. In the First Reading, the prophet issues an oracle of hope to a people whom he had been railing against for their failure to act justly. Though they must pay the price for their sins now, in God's time, a messiah-king will be raised up from among the least of them. This messiah-king will act in peace and *be peace!* Bethlehem was David's hometown. Hence, the messiah-king will be of the lineage of David. The woman of whom he speaks is the mother of this long-awaited messiah-king, but she remains nameless.

In the Gospel, we are privileged to imagine the tender and private encounter of two seemingly insignificant women. Both would have been the target of much gossip-one because she was pregnant before her marriage was finalized and the other because she had been denied children for all the years of her marriage. The former would become the mother of the messiah-king and the latter the mother of John the Baptist, whom God chose to announce the long-awaited reign of God.

As today's Second Reading reminds us, however, salvation and God's reign of peace come at a cost. The author of this reading imagines the incarnate Christ praying from Psalm 40 and committing himself to do God's will, even to the point of replacing the sin offerings of the temple with his body, which will be sacrificed on the cross. Thus, we are consecrated to God once and for all times.

- What attributes does Micah provide that would describe God's ideal king?
- Today's Responsorial Psalm uses two images to reflect on God's relationship to humanity-the shepherd and the vineyard owner. What images would you use?
- What would you like to learn from Mary and Elizabeth?

O COME, LONG FORETOLD

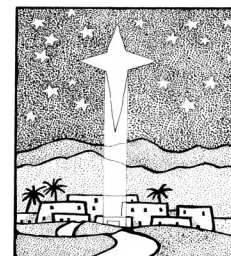
O come, Desired of nations,
Whom priest and prophet long foretold
Will break the captive fetters,
Redeem the long-lost fold.
Dear Savior, haste; come, come to earth,
Dispel the night and show your face,
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

—Simon J. Pellegrin (1663-1745), Tr. by Mary of St. Philip (1825-1904)

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	Monday, Dec. 24th	Tuesday, Dec. 25th	Wednesday, Dec. 26th
St. Dominic	VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 11:00 pm Mass	CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30 am Mass No Eucharistic Adoration No RCIA	No AM Mass No RelEd Classes
St. Francis Xavier	6:30 pm Mass	OFFICE CLOSED	8:00 am Mass Eucharistic Adoration 2-4:00 pm

	Friday, Dec. 28th	Saturday, Dec. 29th	Sunday, Dec. 30th
St. Dominic	NO am Mass	5:30 pm Vigil Mass	10:30 am Mass
St. Francis Xavier			8:00 am Mass NO RelEd Classes 8:30 am Mass OLS

	Tuesday, Jan. 1st	Wednesday, Jan. 2nd	Thursday, Jan. 3rd
St. Dominic	The Holy Mother of God 10:30 am Mass No Eucharistic Adoration No RCIA	8:00 am Mass NO RelEd Classes	NO am Mass Eucharistic Adoration 2-4:00 pm
St. Francis Xavier	OFFICE CLOSED		



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