**Parish Office:**
115 E. 5th St
Holton, KS 66436

**Office phone:**
(785) 364-3262

**Rectory phone:**
(785) 362-7026
(sacramental emergency only)

**Parish email:**
parish.jacocatholics@gmail.com

**Parish website:**
www.jacocatholics.com

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**WEEKDAY MASSES:**
- St. Dominic — 5:30 pm (Tue, Thu)
- St Francis Xavier — 8:00 am (Wed, Fri)

**WEEKEND MASSES:**
- 5:30pm Sat Vigil Mass @ St. Dominic
- 8:00am Sun Mass @ St. Francis Xavier
- 10:30am Sun Mass @ St. Dominic

**RECONCILIATION:**
30 mins prior to each weekend
Mass OR by appointment

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**Pastor:**
Rev. Fr. Jonathan Dizon
jdizon@archkck.org

**Secretary:**
Kay Ludvicek

**Accountant:**
Tena Brucken

**Dir. Rel. Ed:**
Barbara Berg

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**BAPTISM.** Those requesting baptism for their children need to be registered parishioners and are required to take a baptismal preparation class prior to the child’s baptism. Attending the class prior to the child’s birth is preferred. Godparents are highly encouraged to attend with you. Please call the parish office.

**MARRIAGE.** Weddings require six (6) months notice to fulfill the archdiocesan marriage program. Consult with the pastor BEFORE any plans or decisions are made.

**ANOINTING of the SICK.** Available upon request. Contact the parish office to schedule an appointment.

**HOSPITAL REMINDER.** Please call the parish office if you or a loved one has been admitted to the hospital.

**FUNERALS.** Please call the parish office and consult with the pastor for services.

**DECLARATION of NULLITY.** Please contact the parish office.

**NEW PARISHIONERS.** Please fill up registration forms located at the front entrance of the church. Submit it to any usher or in person at the parish office. You must be a registered parishioner for sacramental preparation.

**REGISTERED PARISHIONERS.** Please notify the parish office of any changes in address or phone number.

**BULLETIN ITEMS and MASS ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Items for bulletin publication and Mass announcements are due in writing on Thursday prior to the weekend by noon.

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**REFLECTING ON GOD’S WORD**
Joy is different from happiness. Happiness is a transient experience, but joy has more depth to it, more lasting roots. It can be independent of what is going on around us. In John’s Gospel, the night before he died, Jesus says to his disciples that he wants his joy to be in them and their joy to be complete (John 15:11). And Paul writes to the Thessalonians: “Rejoice always” (2 Thessalonians 5:16).

Today’s readings invite us to think about what brings us joy. Isaiah offers images of a world that will blossom or bloom, flowering into fullness. The prophet gives us wonderful images of dry, parched land suddenly breaking into a colorful display of new and abundant life.

This fullness also results from something being restored that had been lost or that was missing from the start: sight, hearing, being able to sing and leap with joy, health of body and spirit. Such fullness comes from God. It is gift, pure and simple.

God wants us to have this fullness of life, to be sure. It will come with the coming of the Lord. In the meantime, we are to wait patiently, not complaining, but with hearts marked by certitude. We have assurance in that we have already been welcomed into the kingdom at our baptism. The rest is only a matter of time. In speaking of John as more than a prophet, Jesus concludes by saying, “Yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he” (Matthew 11:11).

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

**LIVING GOD’S WORD**
We can ask God to give us that joy that the world cannot give, a joy that is found rooted in our faith in God, in our trusting that the God who raised Jesus up will also bring us to fullness of life.

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**The 3rd Sunday of Advent**
**December 15, 2019**

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**Reflecting on God’s Word**
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**Living God’s Word**
We can ask God to give us that joy that the world cannot give, a joy that is found rooted in our faith in God, in our trusting that the God who raised Jesus up will also bring us to fullness of life.
**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 21, SAT</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>St. Dominic Hall</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 22, SUN</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>SFX</td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier Hall</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 22, SUN</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>St. Dominic Hall</td>
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**LECTOR**
- Nancy Kathrens

**ACOLYTES**
- Isaac Utz+
- Preston Utz
- Katie Purcell

**MUSIC**
- Andrea Bailey
- Wayne Berry

**HOSPITALITY**
- Dan Doyle
- Pat Doyle
- Jean Lierz
- Dan Doyle

**CALENDAR of EVENTS**

- **December 16, Monday**
  - NO Altar Society Meeting
  - 7:00 pm St. Dominic K of C Meeting St. Dominic

- **December 17, Tuesday**
  - 2:00 — 5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration St. Dominic
  - 5:30 pm Mass St. Dominic
  - 6:30-8:00 pm RCIA St. Dominic

- **December 18, Wednesday**
  - 8:00 am Mass St. Francis Xavier
  - 6:30-7:45 pm RelEd Classes St. Dominic
  - 6:30 pm Penance Service St. Dominic

- **December 19, Thursday**
  - 5:30 pm Mass St. Dominic
  - 6:30 pm Penance Service St. Francis Xavier

- **December 20, Friday**
  - 8:00 am Mass St. Francis Xavier
  - 1-7:00 pm Blood Drive St. Dominic Hall

- **December 21, Saturday**
  - 5:00 pm Confessions St. Dominic
  - 5:30 pm Mass St. Dominic

- **December 22, Sunday**
  - 7:30 am Confessions St. Francis Xavier
  - 8:00 am Mass St. Francis Xavier
  - 9:00 am RelEd Classes St. Francis Xavier
  - 8:30 am Mass Our Lady of Snows
  - 10:30 am Mass St. Dominic

**OTHER VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES**

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**
- Weekend of Dec. 14-15
  - Homebound: Pat Doyle
  - Nursing Home: Paula Morris

**CHURCH CLEANERS (ST. DOMINIC)**

Thank you for your service to the parish. Please let us know when you plan to clean so the church can be unlocked and lights turned on for you. If you wish to volunteer, please contact the parish office.

- Dec. 16-22
- Dec. 23-29
- Dec. 30-Jan. 5
- Jan. 6-12
- Jan. 13-19

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Envelopes*</th>
<th>St. Dominic</th>
<th>St. Francis Xavier</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 8, 2019</td>
<td>$4,695.00</td>
<td>$905.00</td>
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<tr>
<th>Plate</th>
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<td>$265.55</td>
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<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>$4,960.55</td>
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<th>Week of Dec. 1</th>
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<td>$3,463.50</td>
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<td>$1,271.00</td>
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<th>Average weekly expenses for this fiscal year</th>
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<th>St. Francis Xavier</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>$2,719.11</td>
<td>$1,971.04</td>
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**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

- Barbara Berg
- Kay Ludvicek

**FINANCE COUNCILS**

- St. Dominic
  - Gregg Watkins (ch)
  - Jane Coverdale
  - Pat Doyle
  - Marilyn Atkinson
  - Wayne Leiker
- St. Francis Xavier
  - Elsie Beam (ch)
  - Chris Everts
  - Larry Larkin
  - Kay Andler
  - Damon Putnam

**JOSHUA 24:15 FAMILY CORNER**

**As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord**

For this month, please consider this activity for your family:

**ADVENT**. In solidarity with the universal Church and in prayerful anticipation of Christmas, prepare an **Advent wreath** as a family project. Get together and pray as a family for the ritual lighting of each candle at the start of each week.

**BLOOD DRIVE. December 20 (Friday)** from 2 — 6pm at St. Dominic Hall. Sponsored by the St. Dominic Knights of Columbus.
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 or remove someone’s name on the prayer list, please call the Parish Office.

COMING SOON in JANUARY!

The Bible Timeline is a revolutionary approach to Bible study that divides the Bible into twelve color-coded time periods that make it easier to follow its narrative thread. Using a unique color-coded chart, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and discover how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith.

Our parish will offer The Bible Timeline (in 24 sessions) starting on January 16, 2020. Participants will meet at the parish office every Thursday from 6:30 — 8:00 pm for engaging video presentations, group discussions and fellowship. A registration fee of $20/person is required to partially cover the cost of the study guide ($36). Deadline to register is January 3, 2020. To sign up for a spot, please call the parish office 785-364-3062 or email us at parish.jacocatholics@gmail.com.

SEEKING CUSTODIAN: The St. Dominic Catholic Church in Holton is seeking a part-time custodian who will be responsible for the cleanliness and orderliness of our parish buildings and facilities. Due to the occasional need to carry, lift or move items around, male applicants are preferred. Reliability, trustworthiness, punctuality and promptness in accomplishing tasks are other desired qualifications for this position. Please send cover letter and resume to St. Dominic Catholic Church, 115 E. 5th St., Holton, KS 66436 OR parish.jacocatholics@gmail.com.

St. Dominic KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS.
Congratulations to the following students: Grace Bowhay, John Kennedy and Nicholas Steiner! They each will receive $600 in scholarship money.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS

Parishioners: Sonya Bergman; George Bolz; Angela Brewer; Rick Cole; Terry Craig; Estelle Danner; Francis Devader; Sharon Devader; Steve Devlin; Mildred Eisenbarth; Sheila Fernkopf; Brad Fiedler; Dennis Fiedler; Warren Fiedler; Sam Gerry; Brad Gould; Jenny Harigan; Mary Harris; Pat Hasenkamp; Ed Hrenchir; Adrian Koch; Rheva Korte; Rita Martin; Mike McClaskey; Mary Morford; Don Morris; Lynne Mulroy; Calvin Page; Elizabeth Page; Jane Proctor; Carolyn Reicherter; Cameron Renfro; Emma Schirmer; Special Intentions of Sheila Springer; Nancy Versch Stereit; Evelyn Sullivan; Larry Tanking; Janie Teetzet; Melinda Wareham; Gregg Watkins; James Wecker

Relatives and Friends of Parishioners: Kent Askren (nephew of Cletemae Brown); Judy Bagby (grandmother of Landon Bagby); Carol Barton (Friend of Dean & Ramona Robinson); Leann Decker (mother of Doug Decker); Alan Fund (brother of Michael McClaskey); Ally Gales (granddaughter of Thelma Bowhay; Renea and Marve Gardner (cousins of Gene Schiefelbein); Carly Grant (great granddaughter of Joan Hood); Jared Harris (grandson of Mary Harris); Jerry Huftles (father of Jackie McAsey); Dan Henry (parents of Mike Henry); Michael Johannsen (friend of D. & N. McGuflin); Shari Lott (sister-in-law of Russell Schuetz); Kevin Meier; Luisa Munoz (sister of Anna Alvarez); Danny Murphy (brother of Helen Plankinton); Erin Norwood and daughter Bailey (Larkin Family Members); Mary Kay Osterhaus (Sister-in-law of Mildred Eisenbarth); 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); Lonie Sands (brother-in-law of Joan Hood); Pegg 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); Easton Shelton (son of Eric and Stephanie Shelton); Margaret Waggoner (sister of Kay Ludvicek);

ATTENTION FELLOW SINNERS!! Penance services are happening this week. Dec 18 (Wed) at St. Dominic and Dec 19 (Thu) at St. Francis Xavier, both starting at 6:30pm.

MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION: The celebration of Mardi Gras will be observed at both parishes on Sunday, February 23, 2020, with a 5:30 pm Mass and a reception that evening. It is a great opportunity for family members and friends to come and enjoy the festivities together.

PARISH CANCELLATIONS: Due to inclement weather, the following events have been canceled:

- Dec 18 (Wed) at St. Dominic and St. Francis Xavier, both starting at 6:30pm.
- Dec 19 (Thu) at St. Dominic and St. Francis Xavier, both starting at 6:30pm.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Parishes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Dominic, Larry &amp; Alberta Tanking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier, Ethan Everts+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier, Fallen Away Catholics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 19</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Dominic, Patricia Levings+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 20</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier, Bob Hood+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Dominic, Mark Suther+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 22</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier, For All Parishioners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For All Parishioners, please send cover letter and resume to St. Dominic Catholic Church, 115 E. 5th St., Holton, KS 66436 OR parish.jacocatholics@gmail.com.

ADVENT CANDLES. The candle for the 3rd Sunday of Advent is known as the Shepherd’s Candle. The rose (pink) candle represents the shepherds’ joy at finding the Christ Child and sharing that joy with others.

ATTENTION FELLOW SINNERS!! Penance services are happening this week. Dec 18 (Wed) at St. Dominic and Dec 19 (Thu) at St. Francis Xavier, both starting at 6:30pm.

CONGRATULATIONS!! To our young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this past Wednesday, December 11.

St. Dominic
Darcee Ashcraft
Matthew Lierz
Jordan Reith
Nathan Shupe
Isaac Utz
Richard Zeller

St. Francis Xavier
Emma Deghand
Abby Everts
Connie Hammes
Alexis Koch
Victor Organista
Jase Wege

Our parishes are now fully subscribed to FORMED.org, a faith-on-demand type of platform accessible to multiple types of devices containing hundreds of Catholic content (think NETFLIX for Catholics). To access:
1. Visit Formed.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select I Belong to a Parish or Organization
4. Start typing St. Dominic /St Francis Xavier to select
5. Enter your email — and you’re in!

St. Francis Xavier NCYC Youth delegates. Thank you breakfast on December 22 after the 8am Mass.
Scripture Insights ~

As we approach Christmas, today’s readings speak about an active, joyful waiting. With this type of waiting, total trust is placed in God while we do everything to accomplish our task. St. James, in the Second Reading, offers an example of patient waiting. Farmers sow seeds in the ground, then let nature take its course.

The Gospel offers the perfect example of waiting in John the Baptist, whose whole life was spent in active waiting for the coming of the promised Messiah. As he languishes in Herod’s prison, he hears of a different Jesus than he expected. Following the Jewish tradition, John believed the Messiah would be a powerful figure who would overthrow the Romans and establish the Kingdom of God.

John sends his disciples to inquire of Jesus: “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus quotes from the prophet Isaiah: “The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” These words challenge John’s idea of the Messiah. Jesus says that the true reading of Scripture looks forward to a messiah who would touch the lives of people where they are. He would heal them spiritually and physically and restore them to a relationship with God. Jesus is saying that his actions show who he is.

As Christians, we lead our lives like John the Baptist, waiting patiently while actively striving to prepare a way for Christ into our lives and into the lives of others.

- Describe Isaiah’s joyful vision of the transformation that God’s coming accomplishes.
- What does Jesus mean when he says, “Among those born of women, there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he”?
- How do you prepare daily for Christ’s coming into your life?

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today there is an abrupt shift in the season of Advent. From here on the tone is more joyful and expectant and the tug of the Christmas message is irresistible. At daily Mass tomorrow we begin to unfold the story of Jesus’ birth. Who can resist the beauty of the first reading—deserts aflame with flowers, arthritics set to dancing, the tone-deaf singing hymns? So we don’t miss the change, the parish may take rose colored vestments out of mothballs, we may light rose colored candles on the wreath, or fill in our wreaths with desert flowers, pink seashells, seed pods, cones and berries. The seeds of God’s kingdom have been sown in us. In these shining days of Advent they are sprouting in many ways. How do we bring the promise to light? This is the week to prepare gifts for the poor. It is the week to invite a lonely neighbor to your Christmas dinner, the week to write a note forgiving a lost friend, the week to shatter a family grudge so that even in the desert places of your heart, Christ’s life may blossom.

Chapel Oaks Funeral Home

Holton
524 Pennsylvania Ave.
(785) 364-2141

Wayne & Karen Leiker
Dave Ashcraft Kay Hodison Dan Fiedler
Chris Koger Bob Kramer Dixie Wege
Jonnie Turley Sandra Silver Sharon Gabriel
chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

Hoyt
100 Apache Drive
(785) 986-6548

Carolyn Koger

Koger Variety Inc.
415 New York Holton, KS 66436
(785) 364-2221

Chris & Tracy Mercer
Jamee Scott Kaleb Smith
Alberta Lierz Dee Lehmkuhl
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