

St. Michael's Parish Family

P O Box 217 Chapman, KS 67431

785-922-6509

web site: www.smchapmanparish.org

e-mail: smichael-chapman@sbcglobal.net

December, 2022

Dear Friends of St. Michael's,

On this Saturday before Gaudete Sunday, the words from the Dominican Sisters of Peace are my wishes for you:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. (Philippians 4:4 ESV). What better words describe the season of Advent? We prepare our homes and our hearts for the arrival of our beloveds, we welcome the embrace of family and friends, and we celebrate the joy of knowing that Christ, our Salvation, has entered our world and entered our hearts.

Peace,

PARISH HAPPENINGS and OTHER NEWS

Fr. Peter News! In his second year as pastor/priest supervisor of St. Michael's, Fr. Peter is not slowing down! Besides attending as many activities and meetings as his schedule allows, here are a few other additions:

- Offering a weekday Mass once every three weeks or so on Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.
- Having meals with parish families three times a month in order to get to know them better.
- Riding his unicycle in the Chapman Labor Day Parade alongside the Knights of Columbus Float.

Sr. Carolyn Juenemann News! Sr. Carolyn continues to be a part of St. Michael's by accompanying the musicians for Sunday morning Mass when Marlo is not here. She is slowing down a tiny bit by declining January opportunities because of uncertainty of weather and driving in the dark. She once in awhile comes the night before and stays with friends or re-lives her time here by staying at the parish house. Parishioners appreciate whenever she can be here.

Continuing Our Commitments! St. Michael's continues to support:

- Red Cross Blood Drives—hosting 4 or more each year with help from the community. The promise of a ham salad sandwich and pie continues to be a big draw.
- Catholic Charities—helping distribute food and hygiene products to families in need.
- Advent Giving—non-perishable foods are donated by parishioners during Advent. With the Chapman Methodist Church having a “Blessing” Box, the donations are being given to them instead of Abilene Food Pantry.
- Adopted Families—three families from the Chapman School District are being helped with gifts and gift cards for Christmas. 19 adults and children are being helped.

A New Parish Directory is ready to print. Once again, Chapman High School Photography took the family pictures and Irish Ink compiled and printed the directory. The last directory was in 2017 and a lot has changed since then.

- ✓ 40 family units have moved, quit attending or died.
- ✓ 24 family units are new members.
- ✓ 08 family units are no longer able to attend due to health, age, etc.
- ✓ 108 family units in 2017 compared to 92 in 2022.

Long-Time Parishioners Change Parishes! Craig and Bernie Altenhofen have moved to Seneca, KS, with Sts. Peter and Paul their parish. Ken and Vicki Simenson transferred to St. Andrew's in Abilene. They live in Abilene so a lot less driving!

Youth News!

- ❖ CYO members, with help from parents, made bierocks to raise funds for NCYC in November. They plan to do another one in the summer. Five youth and two sponsors are planning to attend NCYC.
- ❖ Confirmation of nine high school youth by Bishop Vincke was held September 18th. The youth and sponsors (in parentheses) are: Justin Blocker (Shaun Blocker), Ethan Calovich (Marlo Zumbrunn), Alison Gavillan-Pena (Courtney Morgan), Reece Langvardt (Marita Bachura), Weston Langvardt (Daniel Bachura), Brayden Lexow (Taylor Bauman), Abigail Martinez (Tim Morgan), Ray Whitehair (Sara Sanders), and D. J. Won (Julia Hall). A breakfast was provided by the Ladies of St. Michael's for all attending.
- ❖ Religious Education resumed in September. Catechists are: Becky Kelly for 7 Pre-K; Courtney Morgan for 12 Kindergarten & 1st Graders; Abbie Anderes for 1 2nd Grader; Jenny Whitehair for 13 3rd & 4th Graders with help from Tiffany Valenzuela; Janice Carroll for 5 5th & 6th Graders; Jon & Jenna Norton for 7 7th & 8th Graders; and Sara Cook for 14 high schoolers. Laurie McLaughlin continues her leadership as Director of Religious Education.
- ❖ First Reconciliation was held on Monday, November 28th for Addison Stearns, daughter of Blake and Ashley. A pizza party followed.
- ❖ Christmas Pageant after Mass December 18th will have a smaller number of characters. The main characters (Joseph & Mary, 3 Kings and 2 Angels) are usually played by 2nd Graders but this year other grades will need to help since there is only one 2nd Grader.
- ❖ Live Nativity with high school youth portraying the characters will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m. on December 18th.

Adult Formation Continues!

- Chris Tassin is the leader of Adult Formation on Sunday mornings during Religious Education. Chris volunteered after Vicki Simenson transferred to St. Andrew's.
- Janice Carroll is the leader of Adult Class on Friday mornings after Communion Service
- Both have 5-7 regularly attending. Materials from FORMED and Ascension Press are the main resources.

