

## St. Michael's Parish Family

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June, 2022

Dear Friends of St. Michael's,

As I begin this newsletter, I am reminded that we are people of faith. It is so easy to forget that when we face challenges and there are many challenges these days—violence across the United States and around the world; economic uncertainty, affects of weather—drought, flooding, fires, wind, scorching heat, etc., and Covid-19 that continues to linger, to name a few. My faith in a loving God who is with us through it all gives me hope.

My hope and prayers is that your faith is helping you in any challenges you face and that this newsletter can lift your spirits as it does mine as I share all that is going on at St. Michael's parish and how we are continuing what was started by you and your ancestors.

Peace,

## PARISH HAPPENINGS and OTHER NEWS

### Milestones!

- **Fr. Peter** begins his second year as pastor/priest supervisor on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He turned 39 in January and celebrated his 12<sup>th</sup> year of priesthood in May.
- **Marita** begins her 22<sup>nd</sup> year as Parish Life Coordinator on July 1<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> year at St. Michael's. She interned under Sr. Carolyn Juenemann from July 2000-June 2001.
- **Frances Long** turned 90 in May and joined the 90 and over club which includes Noreen Zumbrunn and George Zurmely. Others who will soon join are Kenneth Long (July), Darlene Moritz (August) and Dick Acker (September).
- **First Communion:** Archer Anderes, Elias Calovich, Haidyn Gilliland, Shae Kelly, Cannon Krinhop, Lawson Norton and Adalee Zumbrunn made their First Communions on April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **Graduation:** Nicole Blocker, David Morgan and Dawson Richardson were recognized on May 8<sup>th</sup> at Mass and with a reception following. Graduation was May 15<sup>th</sup>. Ivy Beck, Alyssa Calovich, Victoria Morgan, Savannah Valenzuela and Reese Whitehair were promoted to high school.

Chapman Valley Manor Services are now provided by St. Michael's once every other month. Only two or three parishioners are allowed to participate, and masks are still required. Terry Miller, Liz Sites and Marlo Zumbrunn have been providing these since Marita has had other parish duties.

### Lent/Easter!

- ✓ **Weekday Mass** was offered on Thursdays during Lent—either at 8:30 a.m. or at 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ **Stations of the Cross** were offered on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
- ✓ **Soup Supper** was held two times on Thursdays prior to Mass and Stations. The Family Life Commission was in charge. This was the first time for this and was well attended with delicious soups provided.
- ✓ **Confessions** were offered a variety of times to meet the needs of parishioners.
- ✓ **Palm Sunday** had the wearing of red by parishioners and the blessing of palms but there was no procession from the parish center due to time constraints for Fr. Peter.
- ✓ **Easter Vigil** was held at St. Michael's with St. Andrew's (Abilene) joining us. It was a first for both parishes. Ministries (lectors, servers, musicians) were a combined effort of the two parishes. Riley DeLorenzo was baptized and made his First Communion; Mary DeArmond and Bethany (DeLorenzo) Miller from St. Michael's and Sabrina Holland and Brett Reed from St. Andrew's made a profession of faith, were confirmed and made their First Communions; and William Rose was confirmed.

### Wild Weather!

- ❖ **On December 15<sup>th</sup>**, a windstorm flipped the Live Nativity stable built by Bob Stroda in 2002 and damaged it beyond repair. Bob could not get a new stable built before the Live Nativity on December 19<sup>th</sup> so straw bales were used. A window in the garage was blown off its hinges but surprisingly none of the glass panes broke. Trees were damaged and there was no electricity for a few hours.
- ❖ **On March 6<sup>th</sup>**, an unexpected snowstorm hit Central Kansas. The Rite of Election was in Salina that day at 3 p.m. It was whiteout conditions by the time the 1 catechumen, 2 candidates, 3 sponsors, family members, Fr. Peter and Marita headed to Longhorn Steakhouse for an early supper. **FYI:** Marita doesn't drive in snow. Billy Miller, with his stepson, Riley DeLorenzo, drove Marita's car to the steakhouse and back as far as the Enterprise exit. All made it home safely.
- ❖ **On May 30<sup>th</sup>**, the winds were steady over 20 mph and gusting over 30 mph, so the Memorial Day Mass was held at St. Michael's church instead of at St. Patrick's Chapel Memorial for 30 parishioners, former parishioners, and friends at 10:00 a.m. The American Legion held its service at 10:30 a.m. at St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Parish Workday on a Sunday! With parishioners coming from a distance, with busy schedules and with Fr. Peter's permission, a parish workday was held on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. The day started with Mass followed by a return of the traditional summer coffee, juice and rolls. Parishioners then helped scrub all the tables and chairs in the parish center and modulars; cleaned out the bell tower and boiler room; inspected the playground equipment and several other maintenance tasks. It was a parish-wide endeavor that included children (kindergarten and up) and adults.

**Vacation Bible School** was held in the parish center and modular classrooms May 31-June 3. VBS is now held the Tuesday-Friday after Memorial Day instead of the first full week of June due to conflicts and busy schedules. This year 85-90 3 yr. old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade (Fall of 2022) attended with around 50 adult and youth volunteers. Chapman NAZ, Chapman Methodist and St. Michael's churches work together to make this a success.

**Extra Opportunities for Adults!** In addition to the adult formation classes on Sundays during Religious Education, there were a couple of other opportunities for adults. During Lent, Fr. Peter had a Bible Study of the Book of Daniel at St. Andrew's (Abilene). Eight to ten parishioners from St. Michael's regularly attended. This summer Janice Carroll is facilitating a study group on the "Messiah" series on Friday mornings with six adults attending.

#### **Maintaining and Protecting St. Michael's Property!**

- ✓ **Insurance** coverage of the church, house and garage has gone from actual cash value to replacement cost.
- ✓ **Fire Alarm System** has been installed in the church and parish center.
- ✓ **Handrails** for the church entrance—steps and handicap ramp—will be replaced.
- ✓ **Trees** damaged, diseased or dead have been taken down or are scheduled for removal.

**Family Life Commission** met in January after Covid restricted their usual activities—World Marriage Day, Summer coffee, juice & rolls, and Christmas Concert reception. With new members some new and previous activities have taken place along with continuing the previous ones. The new or renewed activities are Lenten Soup Suppers, Baby Bottle Campaign to benefit Catholic Charities diaper and pregnancy programs, and Softball Sunday—which has been postponed for a year due to extra activities this fall.

**Knights of Columbus** held their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fish Fry on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. They served 50 less than the last one which was in 2020 right before Covid shut everything down. The Knights are handing out and putting up Value Them Both yard signs. This is an amendment on the August 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot. For more information go to [www.ValueThemBoth.org](http://www.ValueThemBoth.org).

**CYO Convention** was held April 2-3 in Salina. Brenda Blocker, sponsor, and 5 youth--Justin Blocker, Nicole Blocker, Reece Langvardt, Weston Langvardt and Ray Whitehair attended.

#### **Death of Family and Friends of St. Michael's:**

- Theresa (Wadick) Fulcher died September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Mike Kelly, brother-in-law of Naomi Larouche, died January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Sr. Rosalyn Juenemann, 90-year-old sister of Sr. Carolyn Juenemann, died on January 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Patsy Brookey, sister of Tom and Judy Smith, died on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Marsha Koster, mother of Brett and Andrea Koster, died on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

## MEMORIAL FUND FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS

Theresa (Wadick) Fulcher (dec.)

## ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY NEWS

**A Second Time!** For the second time in the last 22 years there have been no burials in the last nine months. The first time this happened was in 2019.

### **SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

**William "Billy" Miller** and **Bethany DeLorenzo** were married on January 22, 2022.

### **NEW MEMBERS OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

- ❖ **Weston Gene**, son of Ryan and Laci (Keating) Foltz, was baptized on January 16, 2022.
- ❖ **Olivia Elizabeth**, daughter of Mitchell and Alexandra (Alex) Keating, was baptized on May 1, 2022.

### **New Parishioners**

Logan and Stephanie Lehmkuhl and 4-year-old daughter, Lillian.

Carol McKeithan.

### **ST. MICHAEL'S CARDS AND PRINTS AVAILABLE!**

**Parish Christmas Cards** from past years can be ordered in a pkg. of 10 cards which includes St. Patrick's Chapel & Memorial, St. Michael's Church, stained glass windows, etc. The cost is \$15 which includes postage. Orders can be placed with Marita up to December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Prints of St. Michael's Church** (shown below), drawn by Jean Scanlan as a fundraiser for the 1998-99 church remodel, are available for the cost of postage and mailing materials. The print measures 11" x 14".

