

Sunday, December 10, 2017: Second Sunday of Advent

FR. JARETT'S CATHOLIC Q & A



Why is purple the color of Advent?

The color purple has roots to the 15th century B.C. and has traditionally been known as the most valuable dye in antiquity. Anyone who is familiar with primary and secondary colors (yellow and blue make green/ red and blue make purple) logically asks the question "Uh, you mix red and blue, what is valuable about that?" This is true, but the pigmentation or dye of the secondary color green is readily accessible in creation. (i.e., trees, plants) However, purple is rare in creation. It is thought that some of the earliest purple dyes were made from certain species of shellfish. The name of the shellfish in Latin, the language of the Romans, was purpura, translated purple, in English. This early rarity of the dye in combination with the time taken to blend the colors

makes purple traditionally a color of great value. Of course, at this point K-State fans are cheering and KU fans are screaming, "But the primary colors are red and blue!"

Because purple was a valuable pigmentation in antiquity it was something that only the wealthy or royalty could afford. Therefore, it became the color of the King and Queen and their royal court. One of the most famous leaders in human history, Alexander the Great, is said to have worn purple vestments and would sit beneath purple canopies. Obviously, to communicate to those he had conquered his greatness. Advent is a season of waiting for the coming of the King, Jesus Christ. Consequently, the color of the season is royal, kingly, purple.

Then why is purple also connected with the suffering and penitence of Lent? In John's Gospel we read, "The soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head, and clothed him in a purple cloak, and they came to him and said, 'Hail, King of the Jews.'" (Jn. 19:2,3) One of the main reasons that purple is connected to suffering and Lent is because it was the color of the cloak placed upon Jesus during his passion to mock the idea that He was a king. Thus, we can see the connection of the color with suffering and penitence. This is an interesting association if we think about the United States tradition of military personnel wounded in battle receiving a purple heart. While, no one seems to know the exact reason for the use of purple with this medal, perhaps, there is an underappreciated Christian correlation between the offering of a soldier's body for the good of his country and the offering of Jesus' body for the good of humanity.

Traditionally, the purple of Advent in order to contrast or draw some distinction to the purple of Lent contains more blue. This is partially because blue is a color of hope or anticipation, which accurately describes the meaning of this liturgical season.

Liturgical colors are simply another way that we Catholics in our humanity are drawn into a deeper experience of worship through the use of our senses. The next time we enter church let us look at purple again for the first time.

Have questions, clarifications, or concerns. Email them to Fr. Jarett at father.konrade@eaglecom.net

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tithing: Your Gift to God

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Collection for the week of Dec. 3	\$ 12,813
Weekly Collection to meet Fiscal Budget:	\$ 15,227
Fiscal Year Budgeted:	\$791,815
Collected Year to Date:	\$320,708

Dec. 10	Frank & Maureen Mindrup
Dec. 17	Rebecca Brady & Kerry Schuckman
Dec. 31	Bryan & Melissa Schoepf
Jan. 7	Jared & Ashley Bauck

Readings for

**Week of the Second Sunday of Advent
Monday, December 11 (St. Damasus I)**

Is 35:1-10 / Ps 85:9ab, and 10, 11-12, 13-14 /
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 12

(Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Zec 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab /
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 / Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

Wednesday, December 13 (St. Lucy)

Is 40:25-31 / Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 / Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 14 (St. John of the Cross)

Is 41:13-20 / Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab /
Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 15

Is 48:17-19 / Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 / Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, December 16

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 / Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 /
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday, December 17

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 / Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 /
1 Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Sign-up sheets for Christmas

Ministries are available in the gathering space!

Inform the parish office of dates you will be unable to participate in ministries.

(628-1446 or e-mail rfweigel@eaglecom.net)

Dates & Times are as follows:

Christmas Eve:

Sunday, Dec. 24 @ 5:00 p.m.
12:00 a.m.

Christmas Day:

Monday, Dec. 25 @ 9:00 a.m.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Masses, Intentions & Services

Sat. Dec. 9 5:00 p.m.+ George Unrein
Sun. Dec. 10 9:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of
George & Juleen
Stecklein Family
11:00 a.m. People of the Parish
Wed. Dec. 13 7:00 a.m.+ Robert, Lucy, & Luciana
Brull
Fri. Dec. 15 7:00 a.m.+ Marjorie 'Marj' Schumacher
Sat. Dec. 16 5:00 p.m. Jerome & Helen Brungardt
& Robert Unrein Family
Sun. Dec. 17 9:30 a.m.+ Quintin & Rick Hickert
11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR Dec. 16 & 17

Saturday, 5:00 P.M. Mass

EMHC	Lectors	Hospitality
John Allen	Marie Froelich #1	Kendall Foss
Deacon	Thelma Nickelson #2	

Courtney Brady		Sacristan
Tammy Dreiling		June Allen

Altar Servers		Gift Bearers
Lily Garrison		Roger Weigel
Gannon Winter		
Kassidy Winter		

Sunday, 9:30 A.M. Mass

EMHC	Lectors	Hospitality
LeRoy Lang	Mike Morley #1	Glenn Haselhorst
Deacon	Diane O'Brien #2	

Teresa Heimann		Sacristan
Pat Lang		Wilfred Kreutzer

Altar Servers		Gift Bearers
Julianna Baalman		Craig Karlin
Maggie Baalman		
Emmy Morley		

Sunday, 11:00 A.M. Mass

EMHC	Lectors	Hospitality
Deborah Schmidtberger	Jorge Vazquez #1	Dianna Koerner
Deacon	Patty Stull #2	

Stephanie Hagans		Sacristan
Jayne Inlow		Austin Klaus

Altar Servers		Gift Bearers
Landon Summers		Jerry Teel
Stanna Summers		
Kamryn Summers		



2018 CALENDARS are available in the gathering space. Please extend a thank you to Hyle and Ann Hugunin, and Kevin Kuhn Hays Memorial Chapel for making these calendars available for the Heartland Parishes of Ellis County.

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ladies Guild Christmas Party will be held on Monday, Dec. 18. Social Hour from 6 to 6:30pm; Dinner 6:30pm. Please RSVP by Dec. 9, to Janet Koerner by phone 785-623-3407 or email jkoerner@eaglecom.net; or Eloise Long by phone 785-639-1109 or email eloise@ruraltel.net. There will be entertainment provided. Please come and enjoy a relaxing dinner. Hope to see everyone there.

Any children interested in participating in the 5pm Christmas Eve Mass as angels, shepherds, or singers, please contact Cheryl at snommusicdirector@gmail.com no later than Dec. 15. The next rehearsal for the choir for the 5pm Christmas Eve Mass will be on Sunday, Dec. 10 & 17, at 4pm. Rehearsal for the choir for the Midnight Mass will be on Sunday, Dec. 10 & 17, at 5pm. All are welcome to join us!



HELP NEEDED: All ages welcome!! Work, Fun & Food!! The Art & Environment team will be decorating for Christmas on Dec. 17; at 2pm. Dinner will be provided. Please come help make our church beautiful and enjoy the fellowship and food. Hope to see you all there. **Mark Your Calendars: Dec. 17, 2pm.**

Available now: Mass Journals (yes, the ones Father and Deacon Steve have been speaking of) and Advent reading/activities for the young and not so young. Pick yours up on the display table in gathering space. Start your journaling now!

Poinsettia Plants for Christmas!!

Would you like to help beautify our worship space this Christmas by making donations for poinsettia plants? Donations may be dropped into the collection basket. Please write "Christmas Flowers" on the envelope and if the donation is in memory of a loved one, please mention their name. You may also bring donations to the parish office during the week. If you would prefer to donate a poinsettia, we ask that it be red in color. You may bring the poinsettia to the parish office the week of Dec. 11.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



SYMBOLON

Want to know more about your Catholic Faith?

Symbolon is a great tool for learning. The format is video and small group discussion. Sessions are presented on Thursdays in St. Nicholas Parish Hall beginning at 7:00pm. This is with the RCIA group and is open to the public. There is no cost or commitment. Just come and go as you wish. You are invited to join in and learn more about a given topic or to participate in the entire learning event if you like. It's up to you. Call Deacon Scott Watford at the Parish Office 628-1446 if you want more information. Here are the December topics:

Thursday Dec. 14, 7pm
Knowing the Faith Session 5:
Who Is Jesus?
Thursday, Dec. 21, No Meeting
Christmas Break
Thursday, Dec. 28, No Meeting
Christmas Break

Parishioners Helping Parishioners Because God created and instructed us to serve one another:

Purpose: to raise awareness of St. Nicholas parish families who are going through difficult times

Donations: Will be distributed anonymously at the discretion of Fr. Jarett and the Deacons to a St. Nicholas family in need.

Suggestions: Because it is sometimes difficult to identify those in need, it is essential that members of St. Nicholas of Myra assist in this process. We ask that our entire parish community contribute in making us aware of persons in need.

Please utilize the "Parishioner Helping Parishioner" lock box for both donations and suggestions of those who may appreciate receiving an anonymous donation. The lock box is located in the gathering space by the Sacristy. Contact Gracemary Melvin, Evangelization Commission social awareness chair, (785-259-6251)



Adoration Chapel needs someone to cover the hours of 2 to 3am on Mondays; and 2 to 3am on Thursdays. If interested please contact Bob Feauto at 628-1429.

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Please extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish family:

Robert & Paula Lloyd and Family;

Nikki Rabe;

Shawn Reynolds;

Joseph & Emily Roth;

Brad & Tammy Stewart and Family;

Kent & Shawnda Werth and Family;

Annette Yost

Catholic Charities is seeking volunteers! We are looking for energetic individuals to assist in the Hays office with tasks including shopping for outreach items, assembling outreach kits, and sorting donations. Volunteers are needed during normal business hours (8-5 M-Th and 8-2:30 F). Volunteers may commit to weekly or monthly assignments. We are looking for volunteers with availability to start at the beginning of 2018. If interested, you may begin the process by visiting our website at www.ccnks.org>>>How to Help>>>Volunteer. Please specify that you are looking to volunteer in the Hays office. With questions, you may call 785-625-2644.

St. Mary's CYO will be hosting its Pan Fried Chicken Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 17. Buffet Style Dinner includes Pan Fried Chicken, Homemade mashed potatoes & Gravy, vegetable, coleslaw, dinner rolls and dessert. Will be serving from 10am until 1pm, or until sold out. Dinner is held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Ellis. Price is \$5.00 for kids 5 to 9 and 10 and above \$10.00. Everyone Welcome!

All moms are invited to celebrate Advent and take a break from the holiday rush by joining Catholic Motherhood, a group of Catholic moms representing the Heartland parishes who support each other in our vocation as wives and mothers. Upcoming gatherings will be held at 7:30pm, on Dec 18, and Jan. 8. For details and location information, please call Mary at 785-621-2121.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

YEAR-END GIFTS As this calendar year comes to a close, it is likely parishioners are considering year-end gifts to their favorite charities. Many generous individuals, moved by the birth of Jesus (and tax incentives,) give large amounts of gifts, collectively, to churches and nonprofits organizations during these last few weeks of the calendar year. You can support your parish, school, CCAA, or other Catholic ministry through these year-end gifts.



“Healing After Loss of Suicide” Healing After Loss of Suicide is an organization offering family members and friends of those who have lost a loved one to suicide a place to connect with others who are dealing with this highly specialized grief recovery process. The group will eat supper at 5:30pm, Wednesday, Dec 13, at *Cancuns’ Mexican Rest.*, 1011 Elm St., Hays. They will then gather at 7pm, in The Center for Life Experience, 2900 Hall Street, Hays. For information, contact Ann Leiker at 785-259-6859 or email ccfpc@ruraltel.net.

“Healing Hearts” Healing Hearts is an organization providing support for immediate family members who are healing from the death of a child in their lives. It is where parents, grandparents and siblings can connect with others who understand the journey toward healing after the loss of a child. The group will meet on Dec. 14, at 7pm, in The Center for Life Experience, 2900 Hall Street, Hays. For information, contact Ann Leiker at 785-259-6859 or email ccfpc@ruraltel.net



Food Pantry Drop-Off: Nonperishable food items as well as medium sized boxes may be brought to the parish school

building, formerly Kennedy, doors 25 & 26, near the gym, from 8am to 3pm, Monday through Friday.

-- Monetary donations can be sent through the weekend collection, left at the Parish Service Center or you may donate on line by going to <https://stj-church.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/St.JosephFoodPantry>

-- To volunteer to help at the St. Joseph Food Pantry contact Renee Michaud at 785-628-8434 or michauds@ruraltel.net

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you want to be a part of our prayer chain or know of someone who needs lifted up in prayer?

St Nicholas's prayer chain is currently being developed and expanded by the prayer chain subcommittee of the Evangelization commission. Members of St Nicholas parish who are in need of prayers for themselves or their loved ones should contact Ramona at St Nicholas during working hours, or Terri Braun, subcommittee chair, at 785-650-2307 when the church office is closed. Anyone who is willing to be a part of this prayer chain and pray for God's will should contact Terri Braun at the same number. If you know anyone who needs prayed for or if you are in need of prayer please don't hesitate to call. The prayer chain members are ready and willing to assist.

RELIGIOUS ITEMS - If you or a family member have religious material such as statues, holy water bottles, rosaries, prayer books, and palms that you want to get rid of, but just can't throw them away, bring them to the St. Joseph Parish Service Center and we will either offer them to people who would like them or dispose of them in a respectful manner.

Needing a ride to Mass on the weekend? Call Parish office during the week 628-1446. A member from the Health Ministry Committee will be contacted and will make the arrangements with you.



FAITH FORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dec. 13 – Class 6:15-7:15pm, at Kennedy

CYO ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- **Keep up-to-date on information** by watching the website at www.stn-church.com/faith-formation/cyo. You can also sign up for our Remind Texts. Download instructions on the CYO webpage.

SALINA DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help religious communities.

"Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry," writes a religious sister. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!



DECEMBER Alert – Give a gift to support the work of U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking, P. O. Box 25241, Philadelphia, PA 19119 Visit: sistersagainsttrafficking.org

Start a Christmas Tradition - Christmas is all about family, faith and the baby Jesus. Those are the exact themes you will find in the new animated movie THE STAR. Families, film reviewers and Catholic children's ministry leaders agree that THE STAR is an instant classic that people will come back to watch year after year. "Experience the story of the Nativity in a whole new way-see it with your entire family!"

PRAYER FOR A NEW BISHOP

Heavenly Father, you have blessed our diocese time and again with good and holy bishops who have led us ever closer to you.

Aware of your profound love for us, we ask you to bless us once again. Send us a good and holy man to become our next bishop. Inspire us, the clergy, religious and laity of the diocese to work generously with him so that we might grow together in your love and continue the good work you have begun in us for the sake of all.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen.



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ADULT FAITH FORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Class 2 – How do we know that our Faith is Right? – With so many faiths and religions in the world how do we know that the Catholic Church is the true Church? How do we even know that God is real? We will answer all of these questions as we dig into the Catholic Faith. All of us come to our faith in different ways. Some come to recognize the truth through the Sacred Scriptures. Some come to the Church through reason and logic. We will discuss Aquinas's five proofs of God's existence, how science and religion work together to reveal God, and how we know that Jesus is the true founder of the Catholic Church. Join us as we also learn about Papal Authority, Marian Dogmas, The Eucharist, Confession, and the Mass.

Dates: Dec. 13.

Adult Sign-up Information – Signup forms can be found in the Parish Gathering Space or printed off on-line

<http://stn-church.com/faith-formation/adult-education>

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check out our Website at
<http://stn-church.com/>.



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Follow us on Twitter!
[@StNicksHays](https://twitter.com/StNicksHays)

*time, talent
& treasure*
How can I give?

FORMED

Register for Free Catholic Videos, Movie, eBooks, MP3's
www.formed.org – Parish Code: JZ3DPK
Check out the new FORMED app!

FAITH DIRECT®
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eGiving with **Faith Direct** To enroll securely online go to www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is **KS870**

THE DAYS AHEAD

Dec. 10 – Advent Retreat, 6pm, Church

Dec. 13 – Faith Formation Classes, 6:15pm

Dec. 14 – RCIA, 6:30pm

Dec. 16 – Men of Myra, 7:30am

-- Rosary in the St. Nicholas Church, 4:30pm

Dec. 17 – Rosary in the St. Nicholas Church, 9am

-- Advent Retreat, 6pm, Church

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Family Elementary



-- You can still support HFE by recycling your aluminum cans in our trailer in the north parking lot, or by sending in boxtops and old cell phones! Labels that state "Labels for Education" on them are still accepted! Our Green School Committee safely disposes of old batteries, and we collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald houses of America! Thanks for your support!

-- For more information go to www.hfehays.org



Thomas More Prep-Marian
www.tmp-m.org

Thomas More Prep-Marian Jr. Sr. High School

-- **Up-To-Date Calendar Information** -To access the most up to date information for activities and events; please visit the TMP-M Calendar at www.tmp-m.org/calendar

-- **Monarch Madness Football Winners:** To keep up with who wins each week check out our website at <https://tmp-m.org/monarch-football-madness-2017/>

-- **Part-time Cook Needed.** We are currently looking to hire someone as a substitute cook in the kitchen. Please contact Carol Feauto if you are interested.