

**Inside this issue:**

Commission Reports 2-6  
 Health Ministry 6  
 News and Happenings 2,3,7  
 Birthdays /Anniversaries 8

# St. Nicholas Post

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
**St. Nicholas Catholic Church**

Volume 5 Issue 1

180 North Holiday Boulevard, P.O. Box 351, Santa Claus, IN 47579 February 2012

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**Liturgies:**

**Sunday: 10:00 am Mass**  
**Tuesday: 7:30 am Mass**  
**Friday: 7:30 am Mass**

**Reconciliation:**

**Friday: 7:00 - 7:30 am**

**Pastor:**

**Rev. John Brosmer**

**Deacon:**

**Jim Woebkenberg**

**Office Manager:**

**Lisa Helming**

**Bookkeeper:**

**Elaine Mohr**

**Faith Formation:****Music Minister:**

**Kyle Kramer**

**Parish Pastoral Council:**

**Pastor, Rev. John Brosmer**

**At Large Members:**

**Chairman, Eric Day**

**Vice Chair, Jackie Schaefer-Mattingly**

**Mark Evans**

**Karen Springston**

**Faye Hagedorn**

**Lori Tischendorf**

**Dave Wylam**

**Christopher Schumacher**

**Karen Claise**

**Larry Hess**

**Commissions:**

**Parish Outreach, Ann Moore**

**Christian Vocations, Ralph Langen**

**Hospitality, Joanie Cassell**

**Faith Formation, Mary Schriefer**

**Worship, Stella Bennett**

**Finance, Jarid Hirt**



**INVITE JESUS  
 INTO  
 OUR LIVES**

**Greetings  
 From  
 Fr. John**

Greetings,

I wrote my last newsletter article in December and many celebrations and activities have happened since my last report. Certainly, I thank all of you for your stewardship these past two months and throughout the year in making our community a place of God's presence. Your generosity has helped share the love of God to the poor, sick, lonely, youth, parish, and the community. We had many activities besides the Christmas celebrations that has occupied much of our time. Many people in the community and outside have been very grateful for our service and hospitality. I always appreciate those words and your ministry. Big or small those acts of kindness make a difference. I am also very grateful for those who coordinated the pictorial directory and those who have taken pictures or submitted a photo for the album. This will be a great tool to build community in our three parishes. Thank you for giving of yourself for something larger.

Next, we move into the month of February with many activities and the beginning of the Lenten Season. We have the Community Anniversary Celebration where our married couples who are celebrating a wedding anniversary. A special invitation for a meal and fellowship is extended to couples in 5 year increments and those who continue to model the 50 years of marriage or more. We pay tribute for your commitment and dedication to each other. I thank you for living out your marriage vows to your spouse. It is a great model of faith for our young people to witness. I especially thank the coordinators for continuing this special event for our couples and to bring our community together. We also have the many activities in our commissions to model the faith of Jesus to one another. Please respond when asked to help in these commissions to make our parish and community a better place to live. When we care for one another, God is found. It is in giving that we receive.

On Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the season of Lent begins with the distribution of Ashes. If you are like me, Lent always has a negative connotation. We repeatedly hear the words such as, *sin, repent, correct, turn away, give up, sacrifice, and etc.* It sounds like work. However, what about the words such as, **life, free, healthy, happy, holy, new, generous, and etc.** Certainly, they are words my ears want to hear. What will give me life and make me happy or healthy? Do I want to reach that plateau? During Lent, I need to invite Jesus into my life and let Him transform me into being a new creation. If we *incorporate* some Jesus in our way of life by prayer and works, then Lent will become very rewarding for us. Christ promises something better, Salvation. That sounds awesome. Let us walk with Christ and make our end goal become a reality on Easter Sunday, then we are a new creation. Jesus says during Lent and always "Come Follow Me." His words lead to something very positive.

We will have special activities during the Lenten Season to be in solidarity with Christ and help us reach our goal. On Friday evenings, we will begin with stations and end with Mass. There will also be a Fish Fry on each Friday where the devotions and Mass are scheduled. Last year, we had very good turnouts for every Friday. We also have the Community Mission with Father Michael Weldon beginning on the weekend of February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. I really want you to come and take advantage of this opportunity. Please check the bulletin for other activities to help you reach your goal.

God's Blessings,  
 Fr. John

### Ash Wednesday Services

We will have four Ash Wednesday Services in our community.

7:30 AM @ Mary Help of Christians

4:00 PM @ St. Nicholas

6:00 PM @ St. Joseph --- Bilingual

7:30 PM @ Mary Help of Christians

Ash Wednesday is also a day of fast and abstinence.



### Parish Mission

We will have Father Michael Weldon OFM with us in February to give us a Community Mission. Father Mike was our presenter at our 2010 Diocesan Presbyterate Convocation. He also was my professor and formation director at the seminary. Currently, he is on the spiritual formation department at Sacred Heart School of Theology. Father Mike's background includes being a pastor of multiple parishes, spiritual direction, director of spiritual formation, and systematic studies. Father Mike will begin his presentation with weekend Masses on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. His mission will focus on forgiveness, conversion, and healing. The Mission will begin on Sunday evening and end on Wednesday evening all the sessions will be held at St. Joseph. Please come and renew your spirit in Christ during this Lenten Season.

### Corporate Office Manager

Lori Nord is our new Office Manager for the Catholic Community of North Spencer. She will replace Terri Seitz who took a position in a Nursing Home Facility in Cincinnati, Ohio. Lori is a member of St. Joseph Parish and is the daughter of Albert and Margie Nord. She has volunteered in the parish office several years ago while she was a substitute teacher at Pope John Paul II High School in Jasper. Lori will be a great asset for our community with her background in parish ministry and her clerical skills. Lori will begin working full time in the office in February. We welcome Lori to our community and to this position. We also thank Terri for her year of service to our community and wish her well in her next endeavor.

### Catholic Relief Services

During the Lenten Season, we will be supporting the Catholic Relief Services as a part of our Almsgiving. Similar to last year, we invite you to pick up a Rice Bowl and participate in helping the poor with your sacrifices. Each week, we invite you forward during the preparation of gifts and place your almsgiving in the CRS container in front of the altar or place it in the collection basket marked Rice Bowl. Let us be in solidarity with the poor when we make those sacrifices.

## OUTREACH COMMISSION

A big THANK YOU to all who helped with Outreach projects this past year. We fed starving children, sent Christmas presents and school supplies to local children and some in Africa. Troops in Afghanistan received gifts and many prayers for safe return, and local neighbors received all kinds of help through your efforts for NSCAC and St. Vincent DePaul. We cooperated with area churches to support Community Table and helped with Habitat house building. We learned more about the Islamic faith, end of life decisions and the changes in the mass while having a light supper with time to lean about one another. Recently Father John talked about doing things through Faith not fear. What can we accomplish if we reach out through faith and follow the teachings of our faith. Do you still have a bracelet that says, "What would Jesus do?" What can we accomplish? Are you ready to act on faith and can you give a few hours a month to help others? We need people to support our Outreach projects. We need some people to join the Outreach commission to help plan the projects and contact people who want to help. Once projects are planned we seldom have any difficulty finding volunteers. We need people who can come to a meeting once a month and work with the team from St. Joseph and Mary Help of Christians to plan projects. What will acting on faith lead you to try? Take a step out of your comfort zone and act on faith. Give Ann Moore a call at 544-3284 or call the parish office.

**Community Luncheons** are held every third Friday of the month. Come and join us on Feb. 17, 2012 at 12:00 noon. You are welcome to stay for socialization and games.

**JOB OPENING-** St. Nicholas has a job opening for a Coordinator of Religious Education. A job description of the position is in the office area at St. Nicholas. If you are interested, please contact the parish office at 937-2385.

## Worship commission

Various candles are being blessed on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. You may bring your own or you may pick one up after Mass for your home use. Blessing of throats will be on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and at all the week-end Masses, February 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>.

First Friday is on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Adoration will be held after the 7:30am Mass till 5:00pm. Opportunity for anointing will be during the Mass. The Mass intention is for the students making their 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation.

Ash Wednesday is February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mass schedule is 7:30am and 7:30pm at Mary, Help of Christians, 4:00pm at St. Nicholas and 6:00pm at St. Joseph. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. There will be lots of reading material to take and opportunities for spiritual growth. The Way of the Cross, Mass, and Reconciliation will be offered at one of the Tri-parishes on Friday evening during Lent. May this Lent be a time of renewal and a closer walk with Jesus.

A parent meeting was held for First Communion students on January 17<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was well attended and a schedule of celebrations leading up to First Communion was handed out. Several activities are being planned which include students and parents. First Reconciliation for the Catholic Community of North Spencer is February 16<sup>th</sup> at Mary, Help of Christians at 6:30pm in the church. There are a total of 26 students. (14 from St. Nicholas, 5 from St. Joseph, and 7 from Mary, Help of Christians) Other family members are also encouraged to attend.

A special thanks to all who made the Christmas Season a heart warming experience. You made it most memorable. Although it wasn't planned, there were ministers from other tri-parishes who participated. The season ended with the presentation of the gifts from the wise men on Epiphany.



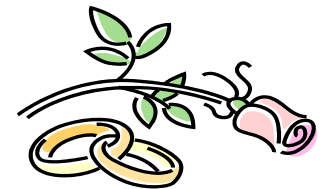
Anyone is welcome to join the Worship Commission. We could use more ushers. The present ushers would like more ushers in their rotation. Women are also welcome. Give the idea more thought and prayers. If interested contact Stella Bennett at 544-2239 or [blitzen@psci.net](mailto:blitzen@psci.net). Any Worship Commission member will also be happy to take your call.

## Finance Commission

You will find an insert about the financial statement for November and December 2011. Please look it over carefully and if you have any questions please call the office. We thank you for your generous contributions and the many sacrifices you make to have a vibrant parish. It tells in scripture that God loves a cheerful giver and you will be blessed abundantly.

### Tri-Parish Anniversary Dinner:

Invitations went out early this month for our third annual Tri-Parish Anniversary Dinner to be held at St. Joseph Catholic Church's Community Center on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 pm. Anyone celebrating an anniversary in 2012 in 5 year increments such as 5, 10, 15, 20 etc. or 50 years or more is invited to attend. Dinner will consist of pork chops, baked potato, green beans, salad, rolls, and a desert. Please place RSVP cards in the collection baskets during mass or call one of the three parish offices with your name if you did not receive your invitation. Thank you and we look forward to celebrating your anniversary with you!!



## Hospitality Commission



We celebrated St. Nicholas Feast Day by hosting a carry in luncheon on Dec. 4, 2011. It was very well attended with over 160 people present. St. Nicholas goodie bags were handed out to all families at Mass and the children enjoyed a craft after the luncheon.

The Holy Family Statue was blessed on Jan. 1, 2012 by Fr. John after the 10 AM Mass.



Fellowship Sunday was held on January 8, 2012 with over 50 people in attendance. Thank you to our January Service Group. The next Fellowship Sunday is February 12, 2011 following 10 AM Mass. Please come be our guest.

We, along with SJ's Hospitality Commission, are going to have a Mardi Gras Women's Bunco night on Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 5:30-8 PM. All are asked to bring a snack to share. Drinks will be provided.

We discussed a date for a winter CCNS carry in (last year we had it on March 3, 2011 at SJ)--Because there is so many "food opportunities" in Feb/Mar (Taste of Mexico, Anniversary Dinner, Italian Dinner, Lenten Dinners) we have decide to possibly do a CCNS BBQ carry in this summer since there is not going to be a SN Summer Social this year.

We are pleased to welcome as 3 new members to the Hospitality Commission: Gloria Shreve, Margaret Wilmes and Julie Genet.

All monthly chairpersons need to call their monthly "volunteers" to make sure they are still willing to serve during that particular month and get any feedback for improvements to the program.

Upcoming events:

Next meetings Feb. 2, 2012 (6:30 pm @ SN)

Confirmation Reception March 11, 2012 following 2 pm Mass

Easter Egg Hunt April 7, 2012 at SN

## Faith Formation Commission

Lent begins February 22nd and Easter Sunday is April 8th. During Lent the students will have Stations of the Cross during their faith formation session. An explanation of Palm burning will take place the Wednesday before Ash Wednesday. Each student will receive a Rice Bowl.

A Lenten Youth Reconciliation Service is being held on March 7th after the 6:00pm Mass at St. Joseph. Adults are also welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity for a family celebration.

The Mission group has planned a couple of fund raising events. A chicken and dumpling fundraiser is being held on Sunday, January 29th after the 10:00pm Mass at St. Nicholas, lower level. On March 9th the Mission group is hosting the fish fry at Mary, Help of Christians. All proceeds benefit the Catholic Community of North Spencer Youth Mission Trip to Catholic Heart Workcamp this summer in Mishawaka, IN

Grades 4-6 are invited to an evening of pizza, popcorn and a movie at Mary, Help of Christians Parish Center on February 12th from 5:00-7:00pm. Sounds like fun! Come, enjoy an evening of fellowship and being with friends.

The next Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) is February 18th-20th at St. Mary's in Ireland. It will be a weekend to remember. Adult observers are also welcomed. Contact Emily for more details.

Confirmation practice is March 8th, 7:00pm at St. Nicholas. It is important that student and sponsor attend. Confirmation is March 11th at 2:00pm at St. Nicholas. There are 22 young adults from St. Nicholas and St. Joseph. The bishop will be here to administer the sacrament.

There is a Source and Summit Retreat on March 16th-18th at Memorial High School Gym in Evansville. The youth are encouraged to attend.

Coming this summer: *One Bread, One Cup* at St. Meinrad. It is a great leadership opportunity for youth. You will meet other youth from all over the USA.

### Deanery Penance Services:

Sunday, March 25, 3pm St. Joseph, Dale

Tuesday, March 27, 7pm, St. Bernard, Rockport

Thursday, March 29, 7pm, St. Rupert, Red Brush

Sunday, April 1, 3pm, St. John, Newburgh

## Christian Vocations



Saint Valentine baptizing Saint Lucilla  
by Jacopo Bassano

### Saint of the Month- St. Valentine

**Saint Valentine** (in Latin, **Valentinus**) is the name of several (14 in all) martyred saints of ancient Rome. The name "Valentine", derived from *valens* (worthy, strong, powerful), was popular in Late Antiquity. Of the Saint Valentine whose feast is on February 14, nothing is known except his name and that he was buried at the Via Flaminia north of Rome on February 14, he was born on April 16. It is even uncertain whether the feast of that day celebrates only one saint or more saints of the same name. For this reason this liturgical commemoration was not kept in the Catholic calendar of saints for universal liturgical veneration as revised in 1969. But "Martyr Valentinus the Presbyter and those with him at Rome" remains in the list of saints proposed for veneration by all Catholics.



## Health Ministry

**Chairperson Karen Claise F.C.N., M.S.N. A.C.N.P. B.C.**

On November 10<sup>th</sup> Fr. Mark O'Keefe Pastor of St. Mary's in Huntingburg enlightened us as to the Catholic Principles of an Advance Directive during our joint sponsored Soup and Theology with the Outreach Commission. We learned that the process of creating advance care directives may be difficult. It requires you to think about your priorities regarding quality of life and your death. Treatment options, and their possible influence on your quality of life, need to be fully understood and considered. Know the potential implications of choosing or refusing specific forms of care. Discuss your wishes regarding advance care directives with your health care providers, family members, and friends. Review your wishes from time to time to remind everyone. What fundamental principles should guide a Roman Catholic, and indeed any person, who is thinking about advance directives?



**There are three principles that should be considered:**

- a) **Human life is a gift from God.** Because human life is a sacred gift we must protect it as would any good steward. *We have an obligation to take normal means to preserve and protect life.*
- b) **Death is a beginning, not an end.** As believers in the mystery of the Resurrection, we know our current life is not all there is. We need not do everything possible to prolong our life.
- c) **We have the right to direct our own care.** Each person has two rights regarding medical care and treatment: the right to be clearly and accurately informed about a proposed course of treatment and its consequences, and the right to decide to receive or not receive treatment in accord with the moral law.

## Health Ministry

**Parish Nurse Course Completed in November-** Please welcome Rita Quinones as our most recent Certified Faith Community Nurse. Rita is a member of St. Joseph's Parish and recently received her Faith Community Nurse Certification. We welcome Rita to Our Health Ministry Commission. Please congratulate her on a job well done! There were eleven women that are now the 2011 Faith Community Nurse graduates!

### Upcoming Events for Health Ministry Commission:

- ◆ The Portion plate with Exercise Program during Lenten season.
- ◆ Safety and Emergency Preparedness Fair in April.



*Congratulations!*



Rita Quinones receives her certificate!

### **COMING IN LENT: The Portion Plate and Operation Rice Bowl**

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you give me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me."* Matthew 25:35

Wednesday, Feb. 22 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, a time for transformation of life, a time to pray, FAST and learn. For centuries food has been a part of Lenten sacrifices. We've been taught by our controlling the passions of the body, we free our souls for prayer and the giving of ourselves to others as Christ gave his life to us.

Think about it--who of us has REALLY ever been hungry, much less starving? By participating in the **Portion Plate Program**, you will be encouraged to eat healthy, balanced meals, while merely eating the appropriate portion size. For many of us, it will be a sacrifice. You initially may have some hunger pangs, but you certainly won't be "**hungry**" much less "**starving**."

As you follow The Portion Plate Program, eating less, eating healthier and saving money, we encourage you to take the money you saved and **give it to the people who are really starving** by participating in **Operation Rice Bowl**. "**Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.**"

Matthew 25:40

Our Catholic Social Teaching reminds us **EVERY PERSON** has basic **RIGHTS** including the right to **LIFE, FOOD, WATER, SHELTER**. We also have a **responsibility to support these rights for others**.

Your Health Ministry team invites you to **join us** in the Portion Plate Project and Operation Rice Bowl. Sign up at either of our Tri-parishes on weekends of Feb. 11 & 12 and Feb. 18 & 19. Participant packets, portion plates and rice bowls will be available at that time.

St. Nicholas Parishioners,

I can't thank you enough for the many prayers and good wishes sent to me following my recent surgery. Each of you will remain in my prayers.

God bless you,  
Dan Keefe




### Lenten Prayer




Almighty and Everlasting God,  
You have given the human race  
Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility.  
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man  
And giving His life on the Cross.  
Help us to bear witness to You  
By following His example of suffering  
And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.  
Amen.

## St. Nicholas Fundraising

 With the beginning of a new year, the Finance Commission has begun to plan our 2012 fundraising events. We would like to share with you and your family what has been scheduled as of this date.

As you may remember the annual Spaghetti Dinner, this will once again be held in February with just a few changes, however. “*A Taste of Italy*” will be held on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at the Santa Claus Community Center from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. This will include an Italian Salad, choice of pasta and sauces, breadsticks, and dessert. Monkey Hollow Winery will be present for wine tasting with purchases available by the glass, bottle, or case. Monkey Hollow will be donating a percentage of their sales to St. Nicholas. We hope that you will support Monkey Hollow in the future, as they are helping to support our Parish. Bring your family and friends for an evening of fun and entertainment.

Our annual Lenten Dinners will be held on Friday March 2nd and 23rd from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. We will be serving salmon at both dinners with the sides to be different each week. Peanut butter and jelly will be offered **FREE OF CHARGE** to all kids. 

Our next event, the St. Nicholas Dinner/Dance/Auction, will be held on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> in the Celebration Room at Santa’s Lodge. There will be entertainment, great silent auction items along with the live auction. Please mark your calendar for this event and watch the Newsletter for more information on auction items.

Our annual golf outing will once again be held in the Fall, the date has not been confirmed.

As you may have noticed the Summer Social has not been scheduled for this year. However, we are considering a German Fest during the Santa Claus Festivities in town in December. If you would be interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Sonya Webb at 480-2296. We will start organizing this event this Spring.

A raffle similar to the St. Nicholas Win-a-Rama Raffle that was held in previous years is currently being organized.

Our goal for fundraising activities is not only to raise money, but to include everyone in the parish to work together side by side. This is a way to become a part of your Church community. Many friendships have been made over the years by working with one another. Stewardship includes time, talent and treasure. If you are unable to donate your time working the events, please consider your talents that may be useful in other ways, as well. Currently we have parishioners that have stepped forward to chair all of our scheduled events, with the exception of the December event. I would like to say Thank You to these people who have offered much of their time to organize these events for OUR parish. However, these are only successful with the help of everyone. We often hear that it is the same people doing all of the work. Our goal is to get many of you involved in the future. We must remember, however, that not all of us are gifted in organizing an event, so we must allow those people to organize and lead us in order to use our talents where needed.

### Tutoring

The Sisters of St. Benedict are providing tutoring services in the areas of Reading, Language Arts, and Math for students in grades K through 12. The program will be designed to fit each student's needs and schedules after school, in the evenings, or on Saturdays. For more information please contact Sister Mary Carol, Coordinator of Tutoring Services, at 812-367-1411 ext.

**Ashes** — Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance. References to sackcloth and ashes can be found often in the Old Testament. Ashes remind us that we won’t live forever (“remember that you are dust”), prompting us to reflect on our lives and our need for God’s mercy and to ponder what is important in the long run (eternal life with God) and what is only temporary (many of our day-to-day desires and challenges). To prepare well for the day we physically die, we must die now to sin and rise to new life in

There is an upcoming **TEC** Follow-up scheduled for Feb.18-20, 2012. These events are not merely meaningful for those who have made a TEC weekend, but they also serve as a wonderful way of introducing youth to TEC in a fun, non-threatening environment. Please encourage any youth that want to make a weekend **in the future** to get in their applications early. Even if they want to make the weekend **next summer**, they can send in their application soon because the summer weekend always fills up fast. **Our next retreat weekend is July 28-30, 2012.** Applications can be found at [www.switec.org](http://www.switec.org). If you have any questions, please contact us at [tec@evdio.org](mailto:tec@evdio.org) or contact Emily Herr at the parish office, 937-2200. TEC Core Group

**Changing Behaviors and Attitudes** — All of us have things in our lives that come between us and God, and we may or may not realize it. This Lent, if we go somewhere quietly and humbly ask God, “Lord, what do you want me to give up?” He will answer. It may be a food, or a television show, or a friend or an attitude or habit. Giving it up will make a significant and positive difference in our spiritual lives.



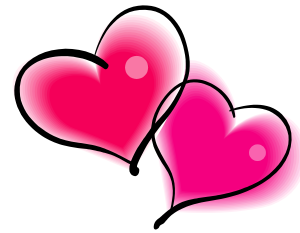
# February Birthdays



Names	Dates	Names	Dates
Emma Wilhite	01	Samual Schatz	12
Jackson Wilhite	01	Gary Gogel	13
Heather Smith	03	Terry Wagner	13
Ruthie Winchell	03	Dan Pitt	16
Susan Dawson	04	Jacob Fella	17
Brittany Detzer	04	Wanda LaMar	18
Paige Mattingly	05	Mary Robichaux	18
Braedhan Orgas	05	Jordon Gentry	19
Aiden Susnjara	05	Elijah Kramer	20
Shirley Boechman	06	Matt Sisley	20
Mary Carlson	06	Owen Vinson	20
Alyssa Kane	06	Rylan Cox	21
Tom Messmer	06	Dorothy Keefe	21
Landon Rickelman	07	Natalie Sickbert	21
Carl Alvey	08	Bridget Flannagan	22
Tom Lange	08	Nicole Klosowski	22
Nicole Gehlhausen	09	Jennifer Schwartz	22
Tyler Hirt	09	Ashley Tapley	23
Logan Koch	09	Ethan Kane	25
Tammy Heckel	10	Rebeka Merker	25
Eileen Wilmes	10	Megan Hughes	26
Karen Hughes	11	Caleb Sabelhaus	27
Alex Gehlhausen	12		
Sara Paquette	12		
Lee Ringeman	12		

## February Anniversaries

Roger & Karen Claise	2/14/1998
Charles & Jackie Miller	2/14/1987
Jerry & Mildred Sanders	2/14/1987
Alan & Karen Washington	2/14/1992
Aaron & Laura Rohl	2/22/2001
Robert & Theresa Suhrheinrich	2/27/1993



## NOTABLE OF THE MONTH

The notable for this month is Francie Wagner.



She is married to Terry for 35 years. They have two sons and a new granddaughter named Bentley. After she retired from teaching, she became very active in the parish. Presently she is a Eucharistic Minister and

works on the newsletter. Previously she has chaired several fundraising activities. Her gifts of time and talent are greatly appreciated. On any sunny day you may see her on the water floating along in her kayak.

(hopefully relaxing and reading a good book)

Other hobbies include quilting and traveling.



### Lenten Season

- ◇ Lent for 2012 begins on February 22 (Ash Wednesday) and ends just before the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on April 5 (Holy Thursday).
- ◇ Catholics 18-59 years of age are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday.
- ◇ Catholics 14 years of age and up are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.
- ◇ The *Alleluia* and the *Gloria* are not sung or said during the Lenten liturgies.
- ◇ Violet is the color of the season. Rose may be used on the 4th Sunday of Lent (*Laetare* Sunday).
- ◇ To help emphasize the penitential character of the Lenten season, the altar and sanctuary should not be decorated with flowers and musical instruments should not be used to support the singing.

Return Service Requested

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180 North Holiday Boulevard,  
P.O. Box 351  
Santa Claus, Indiana 47579

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## Mission Statement



*St. Nicholas Catholic Church*

We, the members of St. Nicholas Parish, are a community of faith on a journey of Spiritual Growth. We strive to be a welcoming and open people, living the model of Christ's love for all.