

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Andrew Harris | 15 Samuel Fisher |
| Blake Lee | John Heien, Sr. |
| 2 Seth Thibault | 16 James Carpenter |
| 3 William Mass | Maria Perez |
| 4 Julie Fields | 17 Sergio Adame |
| Eric Nystrom | Jerry Burkhardt |
| Andrew Southard | Trey Langford |
| Dana Vahsholtz | Harold Windholz |
| Cheryl Weese | 18 Geneva Beckman |
| 5 Chris Himmelwright | Devon Koehler |
| Roland Stein | Miguel Ramirez |
| Gertrude Stevens | 19 Cathy Graf |
| 6 Deven Schaffer | Michael McGraw |
| Evelyn Schuler | 20 Cora Rojas |
| Beatriz Torres | Jacie Paige Theis |
| Eric Voss | 21 Blake Himmelwright |
| 7 James Gfeller | Lawrence Huslig |
| Lindsey Lykins | Susan Matthews |
| Cecilia Venegas | Joseph Schaffer |
| Rion Westhoff | 22 Eric Buck |
| 8 Christine Brenner | Chessny Corona |
| Mark Carroll | Kadin Gonzales |
| Joshua McDiffett | Scott Gonzales |
| 9 Austin Beat | Elmer Meier |
| Berkley Blasi | Gabriel Pedroza |
| Shaine Chadd | 23 Austin Clarkson |
| Justin Lamatsch | Colin Kumberg |
| Gary Maier | 24 Bonnie Rojas |
| Haley Reid | Sandy Veverka |
| 10 Jeff Blasi | Alan Woodruff |
| Amanda Burkhardt | 25 Kathleen Burkhalter |
| Klasee Crawford | Paul Goertz |
| Cindy Eisenhauer | Maria Ibarra |
| Justin Hampel | Juanita Meier |
| Phalba | Brenda Naasz |
| Hatzenbuehler | Kim Rolfs |
| Donald Kitson | David Sherraden |
| Chase Morelan | 26 Juan Castillo |
| 11 Vincent Wilczek | Ryan Landry |
| Harper Lee | Ben Mass |
| Westerhaus | Connor Rose |
| 12 Marie McGuire | 27 Annette Adelhardt |
| Aaron Marsh | JoAnn Fowler |
| Norman Morelan | Kristin George |
| Devin Strohl | 28 Natalie Bare |
| Terry Studer | Daniel Ellis |
| 13 Jesus Alvarez | Aberlardo |
| Avery Grace Blasi | Fernandez Jr. |
| Lela Marsh | Jason Osner |
| 14 Andrea Brundage | Dave Scott |
| Stephen Fisher | Chanielle Thibault |
| Scott Parra | Robert Torres |
| Tamie Pina | Harold Voss |
| Stephanie Shaffer | 29 Kenneth Van Winkle |
| Ed Schmdtberger | |
| Brooke Theis | |

STEPPING STONE EVENTS

Baptized in Christ

Sara Rose Gallagher, daughter of Jason & Kelli Gallagher.

Died in Christ

Mary L. Horsch, wife of deceased Jim Horsch, died Jan. 8th.
Bertha M. Fischer, wife of deceased Art Fischer, died Jan. 15th.
She was mother to LaDonna Forrest, Janice Light, Duane, Lenus, Kenny, and Roger Fischer,.

Farewell

John & Carol Henderson moved to Wichita.
Josh & Cheri Theis & family moved to Cunningham.
Lucas & Kyla Wiegert & family moved to Beloit.

May God bless and be with them.

Guidelines for Fast and Abstinence during Lent

ABSTINENCE is a penitential practice consisting of refraining from the consumption of meat and is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. Pastors and parents are encouraged to see that children who are not bound by the obligations to fast and abstain are led to appreciate an authentic sense of the penance.

In addition to abstinence, **FASTING** is to be observed by all Catholics between the ages of 18-59 years (inclusive). On days of fasting, one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed.

Note: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self-denial that are suitable to their condition.

ECUMENICAL LENTEN LUNCHEON

The Pratt Ministerial Association offers an Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon/Prayer Service from 11:45am-12:50pm on Wednesdays during Lent at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at the corner of First and Jackson Streets, Pratt. A light luncheon is served followed with an ecumenical Prayer Service. A free-will offering is accepted with the proceeds going to assist travelers, or other needs of charity in our community.

The Women of Sacred Heart and Sacred Heart parish will host the Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday, March 13th. The Women of Sacred Heart will prepare and the serve the meal. Father McKinney will conduct the prayer service/homily. Parishioners are encouraged to attend each Wednesday and give support to the ecumenical efforts of the Pratt Ministerial Association.

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The Women of Sacred Heart and Sacred Heart parish will host the Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday, February 24th at 11:45am at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at the corner of First and Jackson Streets, Pratt. Fr. McKinney will conduct the prayer service/homily and Sacred Heart School children will assist with the music starting about 12:15pm. Parishioners are encouraged to attend each

Wednesday and give support to the ecumenical efforts of the Pratt Ministerial Association. A free-will donation is accepted with proceeds being used by the Ministerial Association as charity for the needy of the community and travelers.

FINANCIAL REPORT - DECEMBER 2012

The parish fiscal year began July 1, 2012 and continues through June 30, 2013.

If anyone has questions, please contact a Finance Council member. They are: Linda Gfeller, Haley Fitzsimmons, Rick Klausmeyer, Jennifer Slater, Vince Wilczek, Jim Wessling, Principal, and Vicki Rush, Liaison from the Pastoral Council.

<u>Receipts:</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Contribution Envelopes	\$47,618.00	\$206,175.78
Other Receipts	38,869.99	106,620.42
Total Receipts	\$86,487.99	\$312,796.20
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
School	\$30,454.05	\$170,623.04
Other Expense	13,946.76	106,614.24
Total Disbursements	\$44,400.81	\$277,237.28
Net Surplus	<u>\$42,087.18</u>	<u>Surplus \$ 35,558.92</u>

RELIGIOUS FORMATION CORNER



From the clipboard of
Erin Crouch, DRE

Hello and Welcome to another issue of the newsletter. We have a lot of Adult Education going on in February and also the regular PSR classes every Wednesday night including Ash Wednesday, February, 13th.

Our Confirmation students are preparing for the **sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday March 3rd at a 1:00pm Mass.** The Signing of the Book Rite will take place during the 8:30am Mass on Sunday, February 17th.

The **Confirmation retreat** for candidates and sponsors will begin following Mass from 10:00am - 3:00pm in the school. **Confirmation practice** in church is scheduled for Wednesday, February 27th during PSR class.

I invite all Freshman and Sophomore High School students to consider attending the **JOY (Jesus, You, Others) retreat** the weekend of February 9-10th in Garden City. It is a wonderful weekend for students to draw closer to their faith, have fun, and meet new people. You can sign up at:

<http://www.dcdioocese.org/youth>.

Applications for the Youth Council for the Diocese are available. If any high school student is interested. Please contact me. The deadline is Friday, March 1st.

Also for High school students this summer, the Newman University is putting on the **Summer Service Camp** in June from the 16th -21st. The cost is \$175.00, spending a week, having fun, doing service in Wichita, and hanging out. Let me know if you are interested. The \$50 deposit is due to me by March 15th.

RFC will meet Wednesday, Feb. 6th at 5:30ish in the rectory.

Have a wonderful Lent.

Adult Education: The **Catholicism DVD class** will continue to be offered at 7:00pm on Wednesday's in the school conference room, if anyone is interested in attending.

The Bible Salvation Timeline study is still meeting on Thursdays at 6:30pm, in the home of Ken and Jackie Woodruff. Call the church for details.

During Lent, a **free book will be offered** for people to read, "**Rediscover Catholicism**" by **Matthew Kelly**. The book is a great read, that will help you to reconnect to your faith. Study questions will be put up on the website each week for people to consider as they read the book. Those who wish to share in a discussion are invited to come at 2:00pm on Sundays, during Lent, (except March 3rd) to the rectory upstairs meeting room and share thoughts. Books will be handed out on February 2nd and 3rd during Mass.

Also during Lent, "**Lazy Lenten Learning Sessions**" will offered.. Our first session will be Sunday, February 24th, at 3pm in the rectory upstairs meeting room. Sister Janice Grochowsky will lead the **discussion on Annulments** and what they are. This is an informal session, of about an hour, of learning and sharing.

Please consider one or more of these options to expand your faith during this "Year of Faith".

Erin Crouch, DRE
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eacrouch2001@yahoo.com
www.sacredheartpratt.com

Sacred Heart News

February, 2013

Newsletter of the Catholic Community of Pratt County

FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

One of the first things that comes to mind when I think of February is the famous date of February 14, when we all think of valentines and couples and love. It is officially the date of Saints Cyril and Methodius as the church recognizes these two Slavic leaders. Another thing that comes to mind as I look at the calendar and see the purple boxes is Lent. When I think of lent, of course I think of sacrifice and what I need to 'give up' for lent. When I was a child, like most, I gave up candy or pop and then remembered again how sweet these things are as we received them at Easter. I also remember as a child giving up meat on Fridays. Even though I did not always understand completely, there was an idea that I was doing this for my own good.

One dad asked his son, who had given up fighting with his brothers and sisters, how he was doing and the response... "I'm doing pretty good, Dad—but, I can't wait till Easter!" He had only partly understood the purpose of our Lenten sacrifice. Lent is about making our lives different, conversion, turning over a new leaf, as we would say. Giving up something tangible helps us to form the part of our lives that is not so visible. The purpose is not just to 'give up' something during Lent, but to be able to make some lasting changes in our lives. Lent then is about conversion, making Christ our way of life. The idea is not just to give up during Lent but to strengthen our life and be stronger at giving up sin at any point in our life.

This conversion process is highlighted with the catechumens through the celebration of the rites called Scrutinies. These ritual celebrations on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent are communal prayers celebrated around the elect to strengthen them to overcome the power of sin in their lives and to grow in virtue. To scrutinize something means to examine it closely. The community does not scrutinize the catechumens; the catechumens scrutinize their own lives and allow God to scrutinize them and to heal them. We too join with the catechumens in scrutinizing our own lives and praying to God for the grace to overcome the power of sin that still is with us.

May God Bless all of you,

Father Floyd McKinney



RCIA

Inquiry sessions will be held tentatively on Tuesdays at 7:00pm, rectory basement, for those who have been contacted and others wanting to know more about the Catholic Faith and/or being called to be members of the Catholic Church. If you have questions or want more information please contact Fr. Floyd McKinney at 672-6352 or Rita Hitt at 672-2614.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adult Catholics who have not been confirmed and wish to receive the Sacrament, are encouraged to call the church office (672-6352) and leave their name and phone number. Someone from the RCIA team will contact them with more details of preparation sessions.

What Some People Say About Eucharistic Adoration

Blessed Sacrament Parish, Wichita, celebrated a quarter-century of perpetual adoration (someone in prayer 24/7) on Sunday, November 2, 2008. For those interested in minutia, that is 219,000 hours of continuous prayer to the parish's namesake.

Present pastor, Fr. Shawn McKnight, said he believes Blessed Sacrament was the first to establish perpetual adoration in the Wichita Diocese. "It's been a tremendous blessing to the parish," he said. "It's certainly been a very fruitful pastoral effort in so far in that it has improved the spiritual lives of so many people in the parish. Some adorers told Fr. McKnight that at first perpetual adoration was a challenge and a burden but that "it soon becomes the hour of quiet and solitude that they long for every week. It becomes that privileged moment to be quiet and alone with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament."

That attitude is also reflected at Mass, he added. "They are more in touch with the contemplative dimension of the Mass." A Wichita parishioner for 13-years said perpetual adoration is a chance to get personal with God. "I feel like I'm having a face to face conversation," she said. Another parishioner stated it is amazing how quickly an hour goes by. "The adoration chapel is a very peaceful environment. It's a wonderful experience to be able to leave all of the worldly problems outdoors and concentrate on the Eucharist." Adoration helps her understand what she has read about the lives of saints, she said. "The saints cherished their time in meditation and prayer in front of the Eucharist," she added. "I don't mean to say that you are elevated to that level, but you begin to understand what the saints were writing about."

In adoration, the focus is on the Holy Eucharist—a consecrated host that rests in a holder called a monstrance (much like the picture to the left). In adoration, Catholics believe that Christ is present in body and blood, soul and divinity.

Our Sacred Heart parish does not, at this time, offer perpetual adoration, but does offer 8 hours each Wednesday, from 1:00pm to 9:00pm in church, of quiet solitude before the Blessed Sacrament. During Lent Adoration will close at 6:50pm to allow the PSR students to lead and pray the Stations of the Cross. Following Lent, the time will resume to the 9:00pm closing time.

We have twelve or more faithful adorers who keep an hour in prayer weekly. The Adoration committee would appreciate and encourages more parishioners to become adorers. The committee would like to have two or more adorers praying per hour.

If you are interested in being an Adorer, there is an Adoration sign-up book on the table to the left of the north side holy water font in church. You are asked to sign-up each week. If you can not make a full hour you are invited to pray whatever time allows for you.

Please consider Adoration as part of your spiritual nourishment and growth during Lent.

OUR SISTER PARISH

A message Jesus often gives in the Gospel is that we are to share our blessings. In the summer of 1994 the Pastoral Council was in contact with the diocese of Gallup, New Mexico, inquiring whether Sacred Heart Parish might "adopt" a financially poorer parish. The Bishop of Gallup suggested that Father Ted Skalsky (former pastor) contact Father Ed Fronske, a Franciscan pastor ministering to the Apache Indians in Whiteriver, Arizona. On the weekend of January 14-15, 1995, Father Ed visited our parish and shared about his ministry with the Apache people. He welcomed our adoption of his parish, St. Francis. Fr Ed brought with him a "burden basket" which now hangs below the sanctuary light and reminds us of our connection to this parish. Since that time we have raised money on various occasions and have also sent clothing. Several parishioners have visited his parish. Our annual Mardi Gras supper proceeds go to this mission.

Annual Mardi Gras Pancake and Sausage Supper
Tuesday evening, February 20th, 5:30pm -
7:00pm
in the school cafeteria.
Free will donation accepted.
Parish is invited.



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BITS OF HUMOR —

Out of the mouths of Children

3-year-old Reese:

"Our Father, Who does art in Heaven, Harold is His name. Amen."


A little boy was overheard praying:

"Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it.

I'm having a real good time like I am."

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, he would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'

Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"



*The Lord heals
the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds*

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MARDI GRAS SOUP SUPPER

**The "Helping Hands Circle" will host a
pre-Lenten soup supper (free will offering),
Tuesday, February 12, 6:00 p.m.
to help celebrate the beginning of the Lenten Season.**

The free will offering will help replenish supplies needed to continue the "Helping Hands Circle" ministry of making tied lap throws, baby quilts and articles for the orphanages in Haiti, they will have chances for a large quilted throw to be given away that evening. Chances will be available the weekend of February 9-10 and the night of the supper. An added attraction - **Father McKinney will share some of his pictures from his trip to the Holy Land at approximately 7:00 p.m.** Take this opportunity to enjoy an evening of fellowship and building our community of faith.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

