KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

The K of C's will meet the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall All Knights, past Knights or men interested in becoming a Knight are encouraged to attend.

Next Knight's meeting will be January 15, 2026

Deceased Knights Memorial Masses

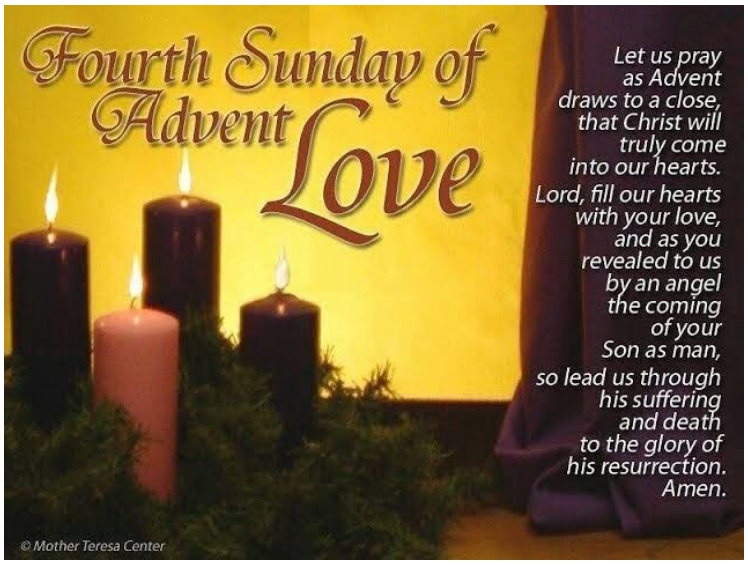
January 8—Elvyn Bell

Happy birthday to these Knights born in December! Reno Hammond, vade Keithley, Duncan MacKenzie Jr. Al McCauley, Joe Shaffer, Mike Skidmore, Mike Upmeyer Jr. JR Vela

DAUGHTERS OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 - 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall.

Pat Culley is turning 100! Please join us at the Community Connections on January 3rd at 1:00 PM to celebrate this Centurion.



Religious Education

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Religious Education and OCIA teachers who generously serve our parish by nurturing the faith of our children, youth, and those seeking to further their faith. Your dedication, patience, and loving witness make a lasting difference in the lives of our families. As we celebrate the joy of Christmas, we pray God's blessings upon you and your families and wish you a Merry Christmas.

Please join us in thanking our Religious Education and OCIA teachers and volunteers for their dedication to our parish: Anna Swart; Elsa & Matt Cunningham; Catalina Corona; Rachel Siddoway; Brenda Orszulak; Jeremy Aujero; John Papenfuss; Cayla Todd; and Ben & Cynthia Norton.

RE Schedule: RE will resume on January 4th, 2026! We wish you a wonderful Christmas break!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A JOYUS NEW YEAR

Believe it or not there were times when we did not celebrate the birth of The Christ Child. In the early days of Christianity, Easter was the main holiday and birth of Christ was not celebrated. The bible does not give us a date for the birth of Christ. Pope Julius I chose December 25 to celebrate the Nativity. It was hoped that celebrating the birth of Christ at the same time as the winter solstice that the birth of Christ would be embraced and replace the pagan celebrations. On Christmas, believers would attend church and then have a carnival like celebration. In the early 1700's religious reform took place and that changed the way Christmas was celebrated. In 1645, England cancelled Christmas due to Oliver Cromwell and his Puritan movement. Charles II brought back the popular holiday of Christmas.

When the pilgrims came to America in 1620 Christmas was not a holiday and was actually outlawed in Boston from 1659 to 1681. If you were caught showing the "Holiday Spirit" you could be fined five shillings. However Jamestown celebrated Christmas and it was enjoyed by all.

After the American Revolution, English customs fell out of favor, including Christmas. The early 19th century saw much conflict and turmoil, unemployment was high and there was much rioting and unrest. In 1819 Washington Irving wrote a series of stories about the celebration of Christmas in an English Manor House. The stories were warmhearted peaceful holiday and brought together people of various social status. Charles Dickens created the classic holiday story "A Christmas Carol". The story emphasis the importance of charity and good works.

In the 19th century Americans began to embrace Christmas and celebrated as a day of peace and nostalgia. In 1828, New York established its first police force in response to a Christmas riot. On June 28, 1870, Christmas was declared a federal holiday.

Today Christmas has become commercialized and often times we forget that Christmas is about the Christ Child **SO REMEMBER TO KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS!!!**

Coffee Hour Schedule

Dec 21—Mike & Laurie Carnahan
Dec 28—Jill Myatt, Virginia Babski
Jan 4—Cole & Brenda Orszulak

Church Greeters Schedule

Dec 21—The Orszulak Family
Dec 28—Matt & Gail Armstrong
Jan 4—The Marvin Family

***If you would like to help with social hour, please contact the office. Thank you!*