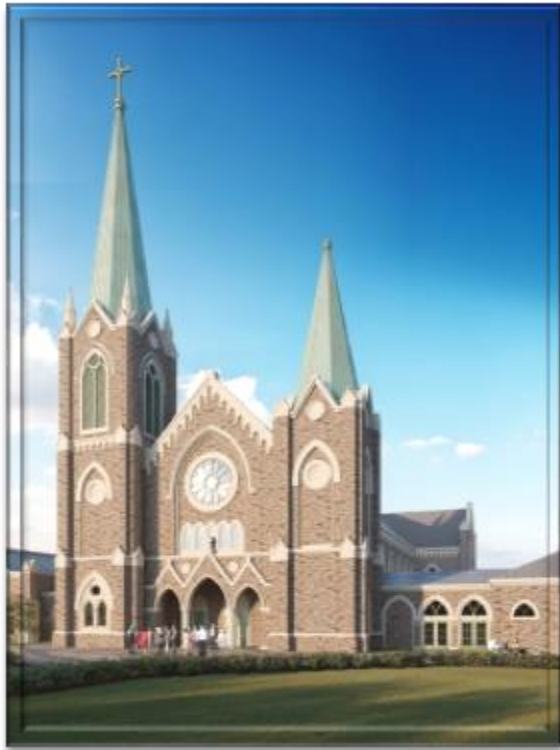


Stillwater Catholic Community

Serving St. Francis Xavier and St. John the Evangelist Parishes
Part of the Diocese of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma – Together, Our Faith Goes Further

We seek to spread the word of God and serve our community
and the universal Church through the Pillars of Parish Stewardship:
HOSPITALITY, PRAYER, FORMATION, AND SERVICE.

His Holiness, Pope Francis
Bishop of Tulsa, David Konderla
Fr. Ken Harder, AJV, JCL - St. Francis
Fr. Kerry Wakulich - St. John
Fr. Emeritus Jim Greiner
Deacon Bart Brashears
Deacon Glenn Collum
Deacon Paul Govek
Deacon Tom Haan



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord April 9, 2017

*Passion of Christ, strengthen me!
Strengthen me under the pressure of temptation.
Strengthen me when principle is at stake.
Strengthen me to do Your Will, My God.
Strengthen me in moments of suffering, in times of loneliness,
in periods of depression. Strengthen me that I may never swerve from You, dear
Christ, nor weaken through human respect, through a desire to be popular,
through hope of social distinction.
Strengthen me to accept my cross and carry it generously to the end.
On the battlefield of life, stand by me that I may never prove
a traitor in the ranks. Stand by me that I may not be dazzled
by the glitter and glow of the enemy camp.*

Amen.

(Reprinted with permission of Catholic Online www.catholic.org)

The Second Collection this weekend benefits
St. Gregory's University (Oklahoma Catholic Scholarship Fund).

Bulletin submissions should be directed to saintfrancis2@brightok.net by Wednesday at noon
prior to the Sunday publication. Submissions are subject to editing. Graphics are appreciated and
used if space permits.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

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Phone: 405-372-6886 † Fax: 405-533-1728
Email: saintfrancis@brightok.net
Website: www.stfrancisxavierstillwater.org

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Join us Holy Monday – Good Friday at 12:10pm for a
Community Ecumenical Holy Week Service at St. Francis.

Holy Monday 4/10 12:10pm First Community Holy Week Service
Holy Tuesday 4/11 8:00am Daily Mass
5:30pm Chrism Mass at Holy Family Cathedral
Holy Wed. 4/12 8:00am Daily Mass
5:30 – 7pm Confessions
Holy Thursday 4/13 NO Daily Mass
7:00pm Bilingual Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration of Blessed Sacrament until Midnight
Good Friday 4/14 NO Daily Mass
2–3:00pm Stations of the Cross/Afternoon prayer
6:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
followed by Procession of the Holy Burial
Holy Saturday 4/15 9:30am – 12:00pm Confessions
8:30pm Easter Vigil (No 5pm Mass)
Easter Sunday 4/16 8:00am, 10:00am and 1:00pm (Spanish) Mass
Easter Egg Hunt following 10am Mass

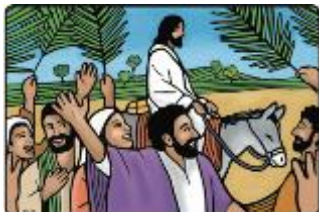
St. John the Evangelist Catholic Student Center

201 N. Knoblock † Stillwater, OK 74075
Phone: 405-372-6408 † Fax: 405-372-6409 † 032176
Email: catholicpokes@gmail.com
Website: www.catholicpokes.com

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Monday 4/10 12:15pm Daily Mass
Holy Tuesday 4/11 8-9am Adoration and Confession
No 5:15pm Daily Mass
5:30pm Chrism Mass at Holy Family Cathedral
Holy Wed. 4/12 8-9am Adoration and Confession
12:15pm Daily Mass
1-5pm Adoration
9pm Student Mass
Holy Thursday 4/13 8-9am Adoration and Confession
7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration 8-11:59pm
Good Friday 4/14 12pm Stations of the Cross
3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7pm Movie Night – Passion of the Christ
Holy Saturday 4/15 8:30pm Easter Vigil Mass (No 6pm Mass)
Easter Party after the Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday 4/16 9:30am and 11:30am Mass
No 5pm Student Mass

*"Hosanna to the son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was
shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee." (Mt 21:9-11)*



Gospel Reflection- *“Peter said to him in reply, ‘Though all may have their faith in you shaken, mine will never be.’”* Peter thought pretty highly of his faith. On the eve of Christ’s death he professed, in essence, that he was more committed to Jesus than anyone else. And yet, we know how the story turns out: when put to the test in the moment that mattered, Peter *“began to curse and to swear, ‘I do not know the man.’”*

On this Palm Sunday, we hear many stories of betrayal. The crowds, who once hailed Jesus with “hosannas,” will soon be chanting, *“Let him be crucified!”* Judas, who was counted among the closest companions of the Lord, turns him over to the chief priests for thirty pieces of silver. And Peter falls short in the moment of truth, and then *“went out and began to weep bitterly.”*

Here in the hours before Christ faces crucifixion, he is surrounded by false friends. Just when he most needs the support, he is abandoned. No wonder he feels the suffering even of being forgotten by his Father while he hangs on the cross, *“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”* What trials Jesus endured, not only physically but emotionally as well.

It’s easy to glaze over this as a story from the past that does not involve us. But in truth, Jesus suffered all of this for **each one of us**. He would have preferred things to go otherwise, but submitted to his Father’s will because he knew *“it must come to pass in this way.”* Jesus’ passion and death took place in order to bring **us** salvation. So today, may we not be counted among his many betrayers, but may we be truly grateful for the gift of the cross and show it through a life of sincere faith.

Readings for the Week of April 9, 2017

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54
 Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1-3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
 Thursday: Chrim Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
 Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
 Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42
 Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8-11/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-6, 17-18/Is 4:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-6/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8-11/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10
 Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 or Lk 24:13-35

Parish Contributions

Fiscal Year: 7/1/2016-6/30/2017

| | Weekly | To Date |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| St. Francis – Apr. 2 | \$6,454.00 | |
| St. Francis Automatics | \$5,360.00 | |
| Total | \$11,814.00 | \$280,516.00 |
| St. John – Apr. 2 | \$7,623.15 | \$278,162.27 |
| Stillwater Catholic Radio (1/1/17-12/31/17) | | |
| Annual Goal: | \$4,260 | Received to date: \$2,085.00 |


PRAYER

We started a new prayer list so if you would like to add or remove someone, please contact the Parish Office at (405) 372-6886. Due to space limitations, names are removed from the list after 1 month.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Katrina Ames and Family, Jaden Andrew, Emma Bisges, Barbara Bradley, John Belusko, Nan Bokorney, The Collum and Kastl Family, Fay Cypret and Family, Terry Deer, Sally Denny, The Doyle Family, Edith Garlet, Nathan George, Joe Haney, Joe Hamman, Fr. Ken Harder, Phyllis Lambert, Tim Mongin, Deacon Bill & Oleta Moler, Anne Ortiz and Family, John & Jacqueline Palumberi, Dan Reynolds and Family, Danielle Robinson, Paul Schatz, Les Sargent, Amy Bell Tidland, Rosanne Trompler, Anne and Joe Zinn, Marge Zoellner, and those receiving care from Stephen Ministry.



 Please remember in your prayers all those currently serving our Country.

Please pray for the repose of all Souls.

Prepare the Way of the Lord – Tell anyone who cannot attend Mass the good news! The St. Francis 8:00am Mass will be broadcast on 94.3FM and 780AM at 9:30am each Sunday.

† Mass Intentions †

St. Francis Xavier

April 11 8:00am †Frank & Ruth Whinery - The Family
 5:30pm Chrim Mass in Tulsa
 April 12 8:00am Holy Wednesday
 April 13 7:00pm Holy Thursday
 April 14 6:00pm Holy Friday
 April 15 8:30pm Easter Vigil
 April 16 8:00am Easter Sunday
 10:00am
 1:00pm

St. John the Evangelist

April 10 12:15pm †Dcn. Tom Doyle – Bokorney’s
 April 11 5:15pm No Mass (Chrim Mass, Tulsa)
 April 12 12:15pm Joe Haney – Perkin’s
 9:00pm
 April 13 5:15pm Holy Thursday
 April 14 5:15pm Good Friday
 April 15 6:00pm Holy Saturday
 April 16 9:30am Easter Sunday
 11:30am

Novena of Divine Mercy begins Good Friday

In preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday, the Novena of Divine Mercy will begin Good Friday, April 14 after the 3pm liturgy at St. John. Join us for daily public praying of the Novena and Divine Mercy chaplet, 3pm at St. John from Sat., April 15 to Sat., April 22. Begin your preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23.

Come pray with us.

Celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy –

Sunday, April 23 – Potluck Luncheon (meats/drinks provided) following the 11:30am Mass at St. John.

MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIPTION (Includes Daily Mass, Prayers, Meditations, Saints Lives and much more) - **It is time to renew our Parish bulk subscription for Magnificats.** The new subscription will begin in June and the bulk subscription rate is \$29.95 per year. If you would like to continue or start a subscription, please contact the Parish Office at (405) 372-6886 by April 20th. Please make checks payable to St. Francis and put Magnificat in the memo.

HOSPITALITY

Join us for Coffee and Donuts TODAY! At St. John after the 9:30am Mass.
At St. Francis, NO coffee and donuts but please join us for the Knights of Columbus breakfast (see details below).



Knights of Columbus Breakfast – Please join us TODAY, April 9th for a delicious breakfast from 8:30am to 11:30am in the St. Francis Parish Hall. The cost is \$10 per family or \$4 per person. Free blood screening will be available.

Pray the Rosary: The Hispanic Community invites all parishioners to join them at St. Francis to pray a bilingual holy rosary every Thursday at 6:00pm for the recovery of Fr. Ken Harder and all those in need of healing.

During Fr. Ken's absence, the parish office will be sending him items on a weekly basis so if you would like to send him a letter/note, please drop it in the box in the vestibule at St. Francis or bring to the Parish Office.

Letters of Condolences for Deacon Tom Doyle's Family may be sent to the following address: Nancy Doyle, C/O Tara Hawkins 356 Menger Springs St. Boerne, TX 78006. Please keep the Doyle Family in your prayers.

Welcome to all! Thank you for celebrating Mass with the Stillwater Catholic Community today! If you would like to register as a new member or you need to make updates to your contact information, please contact the Parish Office at 405-372-6886.

New Baby Ministry – Please call the parish office if you are expecting or have recently had a baby. We have a special gift for your little one and would like to bring your family a meal shortly after the baby arrives.

FORMATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(Pre-K to 5th grade)

Sarah Dorman – creprek-5@brightok.net
(405) 372-7987

April 9 – RE Classes 11:15 – 12:30

First Communion Banners are due TODAY!!

April 16 – The Catholic Youth Group will provide an **Easter Egg Hunt** for children after the 10am Mass at St. Francis preschool playground. Bring your baskets!!

Rice Bowls are due back to the RE office April 23. Thank you for supporting our Lenten Service Project.

First Communion: St. John, April 23 at 9:30am Mass. St. Francis, April 29 at 5:00pm Mass and in Spanish, April 30 at 1:00pm Mass.

Youth Ministry (6th to 12th grade)
Ashleigh Martin – catholicyouth@brightok.net
(405) 269-3786

April 9 - Confirmation 11:30-12:30
Edge 5:00 - 6:30pm
YDisciple 7:00 - 8:30pm

April 13 - High School Lunch
at the Albright's Barn
(2615 E. McElroy Rd.)

April 16 - Easter Egg Hunt after
the 10am Mass at
St. Francis



Adult Formation

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Begin the Journey to study the Catholic Faith! All are welcome to participate in this study! The next class is at 7pm on April 12th and will cover Preparation for Easter Vigil. Please contact Dcn. Paul Govek at (405) 377-7322 or Kimberly Williams (918) 230-4959 for more information.

Bible Studies:

Friday Morning Women's Bible Study at 9:15am at St. John in the Lounge. Please contact Lisa Carney at (405) 743-8142 for more information.

Matthew: The King of His Kingdom Bible Study at St. Francis in the Parish Hall on Tuesdays at 1pm and 6:30pm. For information or to register for this study, contact Terri Schutte at (260) 579-6464.

FORMED – Formed is like Netflix for Catholics! So many useful resources. Logon to FORMED.org with our parish code: e4623f.

Preschool News and Activities

Maggie Beckham, Director – (405) 624-3450

April 14 – Preschool Closed for Good Friday

Lenten Project – Thank you for supporting our Lenten Service Project and following your Lenten calendars. Any 'alms' collected in your Lenten boxes will go to support the local Mother Teresa Ministry, please return your boxes to the Preschool following Easter.

Save the Date – Preschool Annual Fundraiser Rescheduled to May 19

Live the Liturgy – Inspiration for the Week

Our liturgy, with its very dramatic and poignant readings, immerses into all of the raw emotions life can often bring. We hear of betrayal, fear, anger, disappointment, confusion, suffering, and even death. The veil of injustice is pulled over the life of the innocent Lamb and God, who walked with us, is called to face his death on the cross. Yet Jesus remains faithful and accepts the fate that is before him. In all of this, he never wavers from the truth and continues to speak of mercy, forgiveness, and a God who loves. When life gets the best of us and brings us to our knees, can we remain faithful to the truth and accept what we cannot control?

Baptism Preparation Class:

If you are a parent or god-parent, Baptism classes are offered once a month and conducted by a Deacon at the St. Francis/St. John School (602 S. West St.). The class this month will be on April 18th at 7pm. To register, please call the parish office at (405) 372-6886.

SERVICE

Liturgical Ministers— Thank you for your time and help at the celebration of Mass. We truly appreciate each of you! The St. Francis Liturgical Ministry schedule will be available in the vestibule or online. The St. John Liturgical Ministry schedule will be available in the lobby. If you need more information, please contact your Parish Office.

Knights of Columbus Council 5266

Scholarships are available – Children of a Knight that are graduating high school this year, may apply for a scholarship through Council 5266. New and Renewal applications are available by contacting Maury Campbell at (405) 714-0975. Applications are due April 18th.



The Love Challenge – The Knights have accepted *The Love Challenge* with the Center of Family Love which means our Parish has a goal of raising \$10,000 by April 30th for our friend Jon and his home at the Center of Family Love. We have adopted Jon and he needs our help and support. Checks may be made out to the Center of Family Love and dropped off at the Parish Office. For more detailed information, please contact Chris Knight at (405)612-0015.

The Knights of Columbus will host an Open Meeting at 7:30 PM on Monday, April 10, 2017 in the basement of St. Francis. Sandrel Jones-Webster will open the meeting with a short presentation on Mental Health Awareness. This will be followed by a general Council Meeting. All are welcome.

Stillwater Catholic Women- It's time to begin planning for the Bazaar and future activities. Please join us for a meeting on Monday, April 24 at 6:30pm in the St. John Parish Hall.

Milton L. Highberger Memorial Foundation – College Scholarships available for Catholic students! The Milton L. Highberger Memorial Foundation was established in memory of Milton L. Highberger. Milton was a devout Catholic who not only believed in a strong commitment to faith in God, but also believed education, hard work, and commitment were important assets in achieving success. Scholarships are available for the purpose of providing financial needs to help a Catholic student further his/her education. Scholarships will be up to \$2000 per year. Deadline for submitting applications is May 1st. Applications are available in the vestibule at St. Francis or you may contact Patty Wanger at wpw@suddenlink.net for more details.

Parish Council- During Fr. Ken's absence, the members of the council will continue to meet once a month to discuss parish business. The next meeting is May 11th at 7pm in Rm. 5 of the St. Francis/St. John School.

Mother Teresa Ministry – March Report

Requests for assistance were unusually low in March, just as they were in February. Volunteers assisted 18 people for a total of \$800. Donation deposits totaled \$1,050 for the ministry. Children attending the Saint Francis preschool began bringing donated non-perishable food items as part of their Lenten Mother Teresa project. Volunteers will begin distributing food bags with vouchers along with a Mother Teresa prayer card in April. As a reminder, the Hold Thursday collection benefits the Mother Teresa ministry. **Thank you** to all who support this ministry to those in need in our community.

Rice Bowls for Catholic Relief Services- The bowls can be turned back into the St. Francis Parish Office at the end of Lent. To donate online, please visit www.csricebowl.org/give.

Interested in learning more about Natural Family Planning? Contact Daryl and Kathy Krehbiel at (405) 612-2005 or email at StillwaterNFP@aol.com.

Parish Nurse Ministry

Brandi Bishop, RN 405-269-2252

April is Organ Donation Month

- One American dies nearly every hour waiting for a transplant.
- Another person is added to the organ donation transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.
- 118,000 men, women and children await lifesaving organ transplants.
- 8,000 deaths occur every year in the U.S. because organs are not donated in time.
- One organ, eye and tissue donor can heal more than 75 lives and save the life of as many as eight people.

Roman Catholics view organ and tissue donation as an act of charity and love. Pope John Paul II stated, "The Catholic Church promotes the fact that there is a need for organ donors and that Christians should accept this as a 'challenge to their generosity and fraternal love' so long as ethical principles are followed."

95% of Americans are in favor of being a donor but only 54% are registered. *Commit now to giving life to others when you die. Each registration serves as a symbol of hope to every patient awaiting a lifesaving transplant.*

To register:

1. Log-on to **RegisterMe.org**.
2. Join the registry at your nearest DMV office.
3. Register from your I-phone using the Health app.

Seasons of Hope Grief Group- A support group for those who have lost a loved one will meet April 23rd, April 30th and May 7th from 2- 4 pm at the CYO house 717 S. Hester. Please notify Brandi Bishop, RN, Parish Nurse, at 405-269-2252 or email bmb29@hotmail.com by April 16th if you are interested in joining.

Everyday Stewardship

As a Catholic, I am very grateful for the wonderful expression of the Mass. When united in this liturgical experience, we are not only present to the reality of the bread and wine becoming the real presence of Jesus, but are also connected spiritually to the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper *and* to the future heavenly banquet at the end of time. During the Eucharistic Prayer, this is a time to be truly as mindful as we can to what is happening in our midst. Our effort to completely surrender ourselves to the moment is a true act of stewardship.

When we hear the Gospel reading of the passion and death of Jesus at Mass, we are also being called to give of ourselves completely to the moment and to be truly caught up in the story. We should strive to be there at the events of over two thousand years ago, but also to what the reality of those events mean for us today. To do this effectively, we need to spend more time reflecting on the dynamics of the events of Jesus' passion. Hopefully, our Lent has been fruitful and we have spent time with devotions like the Stations of the Cross. Maybe we have taken time to read Scripture slowly and deliberately, taking time to let each aspect sink into our mind and spirit. If Lent has been instead a time of too much business and not much prayer and reflection, the good news is that it is never too late.

During this Holy Week, take some time to enter into the story of the Passion. Good stewardship calls us to not only give of that which can be seen, but also that which cannot be seen. Surrender your mind, body, and spirit to Jesus. He carries his cross before you and beckons you to follow him.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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