

ST. MARY QUEEN OF ANGELS



415 South Windsor

Russell, KS 67665

Fr. Daryl Olmstead	405 S Lincoln	785-656-0336
Religious Ed/Parish Office	415 S Windsor	785-483-2871
Parish Center	415 S Windsor	785-483-2871
Office hours	8:30 am—12:30 pm Monday-Thursday	
Website Address	www.stmaryrussell.com	
Email:	smgoa@ruraltel.net	

PASTOR:

Fr. Daryl Olmstead

December 21, 2025

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Beverly Nichols, Chairperson, Dave Zachman, Vice Chairman,
Gail Ogle, Stacy Moore, Sarah Hurla, Mark Ptacek,
Tammi Buhrlé, Nathan Myers, & Deb Strobel

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Dave Beagley, Chairman, Jane Cline, John Malone,
Jim Malone, & Mark Ptacek

COMMISSIONS:

Marge Schulte, Liturgy
Merlin Ney, Cemetery Board
Bruce Heier, Evangelization
Tammi Buhrlé, Family Life/Christian Service
Beverly Nichols, Stewardship
Dave Zachman, Respect Life

CYO PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL:

Madi Wieger

PARISH STAFF:

Judy Larson—Administrative Assistant
Marcia Blundon—Bookkeeper
Bonita Ney—Religious Education Coordinator
Bruce Heier—Custodian
Curtis Sander--Music Coordinator

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Tues., Wed. 5:30 p.m.
Thurs., Fri. 7:30 a.m.

Holy Day

- as announced

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

We are happy to have you with us! Please call or stop by the parish office to register.

Welcome
To Our
Parish

SACRAMENTS:

Baptism—Personally contact the pastor prior to intended date.

Marriage—Personally contact the pastor at least six months prior to intended date.

Sick Calls/Anointing—Please call the parish office if someone is hospitalized or ill at home and would like us to visit with Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of the Sick.

Reconciliation — Saturday — 4:30 p.m. or by appointment.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

With Christ as our model,
St. Mary, Queen of Angels Catholic Church
Strives to be a welcoming community of faith,
United in our diversity,
Guided by the Holy Spirit,
Nurtured by the sacraments,
Centered around the Eucharist,
And inspired by the gospel message.

We devote our time, talent and treasures to build the Kingdom of God.
We love and serve the Lord by serving one another.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 21ST, 2025

He was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame. (Matthew 1:19).

What an interesting thing to say about Joseph: he was “righteous” yet “unwilling to expose” Mary “to shame” (Matthew 1:19). It seemed as if there were two different impulses in Joseph as he struggled to decide how to respond to Mary’s pregnancy.

Today’s Gospel tell us that Joseph was a righteous man and a devout observer of the Mosaic law. He was *just* in his intention to break his union with Mary - she seemed to have violated their betrothal, after all. But still, he didn’t want Mary to become an object of ridicule and shame. So he was *merciful* in his desire to find a quiet solution that avoided public scandal.

Justice and mercy: these two noble instincts revealed the depth of Joseph’s holiness. And yet God had something better in mind. He wanted to bring Joseph even further along the path of righteousness.

When the angel appeared to him in a dream, he reassured Joseph that he didn’t need to divorce Mary. The child she carried was part of God’s plan to redeem the world. He was Emmanuel, God-with-us, who would fulfill both justice and mercy in himself. Joseph accepted the angel’s words. He came to see that God’s plans were bigger and better than his own, righteous though they were. So Joseph let the Lord redirect his ideas and strategies.

This is a lesson for us. God is always calling us into a deeper relationship with him. He might ask us to set aside our plans or take a step in a direction we don’t understand. But he leads the way for us. Joseph’s yes to the Lord not only protected Mary and Jesus, but it also transformed his own life. Even though Joseph didn’t understand, he was willing to obey. It made all the difference for Joseph, and it can do the same for you!

“Lord, help me to trust in the goodness of your plan so that I can grow closer to you!”

The Word Among Us

Date	Mass Intentions	Mass Readings
Saturday, December 20 - 5:30 p.m.	For Our Parishioners	Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24
Sunday, December 21 - 10:00 a.m.	Joann Malone, Ann of B	Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24
Monday, December 22	No Mass	1 Samuel 1:24-28, Luke 1:46-56
Tuesday, December 23 - 5:30 p.m.	Kevin Axelson	Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24, Luke 1:57-66
Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve Masses - 4:00 p.m.-Gorham - 5:30 p.m.-Russell	For Our Parishioners	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16, Luke 1:67-79
Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day Mass - 9:00 a.m. -Russell	For Our Parishioners	Isaiah 9:1-6, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14
Friday, December 26 - 7:30 a.m.	Carol Strobel, Ann of D	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59, Matthew 10:17-22
Saturday, December 27 - 5:30 p.m.	Stella Mans, Ann of B	Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, Colossians 3:12-21, Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
Sunday, December 28 - 10:00 a.m.	For Our Parishioners	Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, Colossians 3:12-21, Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Gorham Mass Schedule Sundays - 8:00 a.m. Christmas Eve - 4:00 p.m.



Please pray for Leonard Hoch, Carol McAdoo, Florance Klein, Jim Vlcek, Judy Soukup (Kim Shumaker’s mother) Helga Ziegler, Mary K Hurla (Andy Hurla’s mother), George Sullivan (Tammy Ptacek’s dad), Gary Flax, and all our friends and relatives who are ill or experiencing difficulties in their lives that they may know the healing presence of God.

Stewardship of Treasure

Contributions Weekend of December 13 and December 14th, 2025

Envelopes	\$ 1,475.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 2,460.00
Loose Cash	\$ 307.00
Votive	\$ 73.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 50.00
Retired Religious Fund	\$ 1,025.00
TOTAL DEPOSIT	\$5,390.00
CEMETERY	\$ 200.00

QR Code for Online Giving



Stewardship of Time and Talent

Liturgical Ministers	Wednesday, December 24th - 5:30 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE	Thursday, December 25th- 9:00 a.m. MERRY CHRISTMAS
Hospitality/Ushers/Gifts	Barb Schuster Family	Cody & Rebecca Rogg Family
Lectors	Mike McGreevy & Linda Schulte	Melinda Cross & Cindy Balthazor
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Body: *Melanie Banks & Deanna Myers Cup: Deb Bernard, Dan Bernard & Janna Norin	Body: *Alice Quinday Cup: Steve Knopp & Jon Quinday
Altar Servers	Bennett Myers, Steele Rogge & Colton Mullender	Damon Becker & Haven Becker
Organist/Instrumental/Cantors	Cheryl Seirer/Rachel Sipe	Curtis Sander/Craig Cline & Jim Malone
Religious Ed. Teachers Preschool - First Grade	Christmas Break	Christmas Break
Counters	Sunday, December 21st Steve & Luci Knopp	Sunday, December 25th Glen & Marcia Blundon
Liturgical Ministers	Saturday, December 27th - 5:30 p.m.	Sunday, December 28th- 10:00 a.m.
Hospitality/Ushers/Gifts	Steve & Terri Middleton Family	Luke & Karen Keller Family
Lectors	Beverly Nichols & Matt Nichols	Chris Sipe & John Malone
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Body: *Craig Cline & Jane Cline Cup: Mark Ptacek, Tammy Ptacek & Kristi Fisher	Body: *John Farmer & Michelle Farmer Cup: Tanya Becker, Marc Hertel & Marc Nichols
Altar Servers	Klaudia Shumaker & Ava Cline	Reese Owens, Mary Kate Hertel & Elliott Sipe
Organist/Instrumental/Cantors	Curtis Sander/Melanie Banks & Kayla Schneider	Debbie and Dave Zachman
Religious Ed. Teachers Preschool - First Grade	Sunday, December 21st Olivia Morgenstern & Morgan Finkenbinder	Sunday, December 28th Gracelynn Dinkel & Reese Owens
Counters	Sunday, December 28th Gordon & Denise Dolechek	Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 31-Jan 1 Steve & Luci Knopp

Birthday Wishes to:

Saturday, December 20th
Monday, December 22nd
Tuesday, December 23rd
Thursday, December 25th
Friday, December 26th
Sunday, December 28th

Tammi Buhrle & Cody Rogge
Turner Rios
Debbie Zachman & Briar Schneider
Catherine Nelson
Koopers Hamlin, Yvonne Driscoll & Shauna Leiker
James Hurla, Noell Olson, Marge Schulte, Bennett Gross & Madisyn Leiker



Anniversary Wishes to:

Saturday, December 20th
Saturday, December 27th
Sunday, December 28th

Aaron & Linda Cole
Nick & Anne Coady
Bob & Patty Scheck



2025-2026



Religious Education News

Dec. 24 -NO CLASS - Merry Christmas
Dec. 31 -NO CLASS - Happy New Year
Jan. 7, 26 7:15 p.m. -CCD Class - CYO
Jan 14, 26 7:15 p.m. -CCD Class
Jan. 21, 26 7:15 p.m. -CCD Class

New Ministry Schedules are in the box on the table in the Gathering Space, some were mailed out. They are also available on our website.

Please let me know by January 7th, the days you are unavailable for the next schedule dates of:

Saturday, February 7th through Sunday, March 7th, 2026.

You can email me at: smqoa@ruraltel.net. Thank you!



If you subscribe to the Living With Christ magazine, your January copy is on the table in the Gathering Space. Please be sure you pick up the copy with your name on it.



Please get any notices you would like in the bulletin to me by Monday, December 22nd.

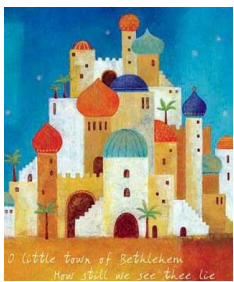
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

December 21	9:40 a.m.	-Knights of Columbus Rosary
December 24	4:00 p.m.	-CHRISTMAS EVE Mass-Gorham
	5:30 p.m.	-CHRISTMAS EVE Mass-Russell
December 25	9:00 a.m.	-CHRISTMAS DAY Mass-Russell MERRY CHRISTMAS!
December 28	2-3:30 p.m.	-Sunday Services at Nursing Homes
December 30	6:15 p.m.	-Finance Council Meeting
December 31	4:00 p.m.	-New Years Eve Mass in Gorham
	5:30 p.m.	-New Years Eve Mass in Russell
January 1, 2026	9:00 a.m.	-New Years Mass in Russell -Happy New Years
January 2	7:30 a.m.	-First Friday Mass
	8:00 a.m.	-Adoration
	5:45 p.m.	-Benediction
January 6	6:15 p.m.	-Parish Council Meeting after Mass
January 7	6:30 p.m.	-OCIA youth meeting
	7:15 p.m.	-RCIA adult meeting
	7:15 p.m.	-CCD Classes



The 4th Week of Advent focuses on Love, preparing for Jesus' arrival with sayings about God's immense love, the meaning of Christmas as love manifest, and calls to love God and neighbor, echoing verses from 1 Corinthians (love is patient, kind) and Micah (do justice, love mercy). Key themes include God's sacrificial love shown through baby Jesus, the fulfillment of prophecy, and opening hearts to receive this divine love, often using prayers for love, peace, and faith in God's promises.

Due to high winds forecasted on Thursday, December 18, Catholic Charities will now be here on Monday, December 22nd from 9-10 a.m. in the parking lot.



The "Little Town of Bethlehem" nativity at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Vincent will be open for visitors on **Sunday, Dec. 21st** and also on **Christmas Day from 1-5 p.m.** both days. Appointments can also be made at any other time by calling Carol at **785-735-9282**.

This is the 99th year of the nativity, begun by the parish priest Fr. Callistus Rectenwald in 1927. Over the years, the nativity has become a worldwide representation of Christmas. Rocks

from all 50 states and 105 countries surround the scene, in particular, rocks from the Cave of Lourdes and the Sea of Galilee. Infant Jesus is from Spain, and Mary, Joseph and the Three Kings are from Germany. A special section of the nativity is dedicated to our veterans who could not be home for Christmas over the years, featuring rocks from Germany, Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Wake Island and Christmas Island to name a few. The nativity has had special lighting effects added the last few years - a color changing rock show and a neon blue-lit sky in the background. Four trickling waterfalls, animals and shepherds dot the scene surrounding the Bethlehem Inn, and the stable made from a nearby pear tree in 1927.

St. Boniface Catholic Church is located 5.5 miles south of Victoria and two miles east.



The **Christmas Poinsettias** were donated in **loving memory** of:

Matthew Driscoll, LaVerne Schuster & family, Alphonse & Clara Denning, Russ & Pat O'Donnell, Henry, Eva & Craig Lohrmeyer, Ima Stoppel, Ray & Charlene Strobel, Janice Miska, Sean Banks, Paul &

Betty Wagner, Paul & Mary Banks, Don Dreher, Quentin & Norma Blasi, Dale Blasi, Ron & Rose Gros, Jeannine Truan, Charlie Munsch, Deceased of Carl & Emma Munsch, Deceased of Frank & Bessie Brock, Jerry J. Driscoll, Ella Mae Driscoll, Sherry Driscoll, Victor & Theresa Peterka, Cecil & Ifa Merkel, Kevin Axelson, Don Haberer, Candi Wagner, M.D. Jim Balthazor, Kirk Balthazor, Craig Hitschmann, Lee & Mary Catherine Ross, Leo & Loretta Ross, SP & Margaret Quint, Jerry Ross, Joseph & Clara Ross, Betty & Dale Diederich, Tim & Joann Malone, Don & Imogene Butcher, Bryan & Glenda Tholen, Jerry Malone, Ralph & Darlene Kuhn, BJ & Wilhelmena Kuhn, Martin & Bridget Leiker, John & Marj Annan, Jack Nichols, Paul Kisslinger, Bill Kerns, Don Vonfeldt, Viola Vonfeldt, Keith Stoppel, Nancy Stoppel, Betty Wallace, Gilbert & Elizabeth Truan, Karl & Ronnie Savage.

May the Joy of Jesus' love, the comfort of His presence, and the strength of His faith be with you this Christmas and always.

Wishing you All a Blessed Merry Christmas!

Fr. Daryl Olmstead and the staff of St. Mary Queen of Angels.

May you have a blessed Christmas season and may the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of his love be yours.



PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed on **Thursday, December 25th** and on **Thursday, January 1st**.

Please submit any notices you would like for the bulletin by Monday, December 22nd and on Monday, December 29th.

