



ST. MARY'S PARISH

703 Monroe St., Ellis, KS 67637

December 3, 2023
First Sunday of Advent

Phone #s

Rectory: 726-4522
School: 726-3185

E-Mail

Parish: stmary@gbta.net
SMS Principal: ppark@stmarysellis.net

Website

Parish: www.stmarysofellis.org
Diocese: <http://salinadiocese.org>

Mass Schedule

Monday 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday 8:10 a.m.
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. (EGSC)
Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:00 a.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. Cedar Bluff, May 21 - Sept. 10, 2023

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Anytime by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline

By 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

Baptism

By appointment. Contact the Pastor

Weekly Readings

December 4 - December 10

Mon: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11

Tue: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24

Wed: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37

Thu: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Fri: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Luke 1:26-38

Sat: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sun: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Mark 1:1-8

Parish Personnel

Pastor	Fr. Dana Clark
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Emily Mattheyer
School Principal	Mrs. Patti Park
Pastoral Council President	Mr. John Zody
Liturgy Chairpersons	Ruth Bollig and Alyson Johnson
Finance Council President	Mr. Melvin Augustine
School Council President	Mr. Matt Fondoble
Home & School President	Mrs. Jenni Bongartz
Director of Religious Education	Mrs. Judy Schuler

Marriage

Contact the pastor at least six months prior to the anticipated wedding date. No wedding will be scheduled without premarital instruction.

Mass Intentions

Sat	Dec 2	5:30 p.m.	William & Rose Augustine+ and Ken Augustine+ (anniv)
Sun	Dec 3	7:00 a.m.	Thomas & Tillie Windholz+ Family (liv/dec)
Sun	Dec 3	9:00 a.m.	Belinda Shannon+, Kay Plante+, Fred Nurse+, John Brown+, and Plante/Patten/Kingsley Families (liv/dec)
Mon	Dec 4	5:30 p.m.	Carl Steckline+ Family (liv/dec)
Tues	Dec 5	8:10 a.m.	Joyce Michelson+
Wed	Dec 6	8:10 a.m.	Jacob & Otilia Kinderknecht+ Fam. (liv/dec)
	EGSC	10:00 a.m.	Tim Kohl+ & Don Kohl+
Thurs	Dec 7	8:10 a.m.	Otto & Philomene Berens+ and Cathy Kutina+ Families (liv/dec)
Thurs	Dec 7	7:00 p.m.	For the Parishioners
Fri	Dec 8	7:00 a.m.	Charlene Goscha+
Fri	Dec 8	8:10 a.m.	Jake & Regina Dreiling+
Sat	Dec 9	5:30 p.m.	Mary Wasinger+
Sun	Dec 10	7:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners
Sun	Dec 10	9:00 a.m.	Richard & Charlene Flax+

Ministries for December 9 & 10

Ministry	5:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m.
Lector	Cindy Zervas	Nicole Carroll
Presentation of Gifts	Roberta Augustine Clarence Rupp	Austin & Kiedra Hickert Family
Eucharistic Minister(s)	John & Andrea Zody	Peggy Seibel Geri Augustine Mindy Eck
Servers	Jaren Frickey	Tyler & Adam Bongartz
Cantor / Musician	Rylan Aschenbrenner Emily Mattheyer	Guitar Choir
Ushers & Greeters	James & Sandy Rome Family Gary Luea Bob & Margie Mickelson	Mark & Sarah Eck Family

Other Ministries

7:00am Lector	Dec. 10 (Sun) 7:00 a.m.	Eldon Pfeifer
Communion to Homebound	Dec. 8 (Fri)	Barney Boos
Ellis Good Samaritan	Dec. 10 (Sun) 10:15 a.m.	John Gnad
Rosary Leaders	Dec. 9 (Sat) 5:30 p.m. Dec. 10 (Sun) 9:00 a.m.	Cindy Zervas Connie Fink

Meetings & Events

Mon	Dec. 4	Return Warming Heart Tree gifts Home & School Assoc. Meeting @ 6:45pm
Wed	Dec. 6	SMS Christmas Concert @ 6pm
Thurs	Dec. 7	Eucharistic Adoration: 9am-5pm Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception @ 7pm
Fri	Dec. 8	Feast of Immaculate Conception Mass at 7am & 8:10am National Youth Day
Sat.	Dec. 9	National Youth Day Rosary after 5:30p Mass
Sun	Dec. 10	Coffee & Donuts after 9am Mass

Feast Day of Immaculate Conception Dec. 7 @ 7pm and Dec 8 @ 7am and 8:10am

**All Ministries for Immaculate Conception Mass
will be Volunteer or covered by Students.**

Please Remember in Prayer

Our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends in the loss of **David Dreiling**, who passed away Nov. 24. May the peace of God surround you during this time of sorrow.

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Dean Augustine, Gilbert Augustine, Juanita Augustine, Mark Boos, Janice Collins, Patty Dreiling, Rose Egger, Sister Doris Flax, Robert Gerhardt, Debbie Haas, Edna Hejny, Nathan Hively, Rob Hrabe, Gilbert Kinderknecht, Doug Kingsley, Clifford Kreutzer, Agneta Kuhn, Lucille Kuhn, Irene LaBarge, Kevin LaBarge, Joey LaBarge, Shawna LaBarge, Martin & Debbie LaBarge, Holly Metzler, Bob Mickelson, Riley Moore, Elizabeth Newton, Maddux Pfeifer, Jeanna Plante, Megan Ptascheck, Doug Rohr, Bernie & Laura Schoenberger, Toyna Sterling, Tanner Sullivan, Marlene Tribble, Brandy Womack, and the residents of EGSC.

*If any one has names they would like added to the list, they may call the rectory at 726-4522.*

## *School Announcements*

**December 4**—Home & School Meeting @ 6:45pm

**December 6**—School Christmas Concert @ 6:00pm

**December 11**—School Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

- **St. Mary's Christmas Concert:** You are invite to attend the annual Christmas Concert on Wednesday, Dec. 6 in the school gym, beginning at 6:00pm! Please use the south gym door to enter. **Mrs. Claus' Cupboard will be open!** We will be selling baked goods before and after the Christmas Concert! Anyone willing to donate baked items and/or snacks to sell, please have them to the school no later than 5:45pm on Wednesday! We will price the items for you! If you are planning to attend the concert, be sure to stop by and see the delicious treats that will be available!

## Parish Announcements

## Notes from the Pastor

- **Thank You for giving to #iGiveCatholic!** We, **THANK YOU**, for your continued support you gave to St. Mary's Church & School on Giving Tuesday, Nov. 28th through #iGiveCatholic! We raised just over \$26,000! We've said it before, people are much more powerful and likely to succeed when they work together toward a common purpose, and we did just that!
- **Second Sundays - Coffee & Donuts:** Be sure to join us on Sunday, Dec. 10th after 9am Mass in the church basement for coffee, donuts, orange juice and fellowship.
- **Time & Talent Forms:** Please take a look at the form and consider volunteering for a ministry. There has only been 20 returned thus far. The deadline to return the forms to the Parish Office is **Monday December 11th!**
- **YDisciples Holy Hour!** This week, Wednesday, Dec. 6th, we have a wonderful opportunity to spend time with Jesus during a Holy Hour and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. What better way to prepare for Jesus' coming! We'll see you for a meal at 6:30pm with Holy Hour and Confession to follow! **8th Grade Confirmation Students:** We will be joining the YDisciples for the Holy Hour and Confessions at 7:00pm.
- **How can I spend an hour with Jesus?** Please consider and pray to commit to one hour of Adoration. ***We are in search of a volunteer to fill the hour of 2:00-3:00pm each Thursday.*** If you would like to sit with Jesus on Thursday's, please contact Roberta at 785-726-4991. ***I Thirst For You...*** Eucharistic Adoration Thursdays, 9:00am-5:00pm (after morning mass until closing).
- **Christmas Poinsettias:** If you would like to donate to the St. Mary's Poinsettia Fund, place your donation in a regular envelope marked for this purpose, and drop it in the collection basket, or by the Parish Office. If the donation is in memory of a loved one, please mention their name and who it's from. If you would prefer to purchase your own flower, please have it to the church **the weekend of Dec. 23 & 24 (after 9:00am Mass)** with a note to whom it's in memory of and from!
- **Blessing of the Bambino:** We started a new tradition a couple years ago, participating in Bambinelli Sunday to remind families about the joyous event of Baby Jesus' arrival in the manger. Bambinelli Sunday is celebrated on the third Sunday of Advent. We invite you to bring your Baby Jesus from your Nativity set to mass for a special blessing the weekend of December 15-16!

### Parish Offering: Weekend of Nov. 25 & 26

**Weekly Budget Fiscal Year 2023-24: \$7,433.34**

Offertory Loose Plate.....\$973.00

Adult Envelopes.....\$3,996.00

**Total Giving this week.....\$4,969.00**

**For this weekend the collection is below by \$2,464.34.**

**The School Christmas Concert.** The concert is this Wednesday, December 6 at 6:00pm. It will be held in the school gym this year.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception.** Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This is a holyday of obligation. Masses for this holyday will be Thursday evening, December 7 at 7:00pm and Friday at 7:00am and 8:10am (school Mass). There will be no evening Mass on Friday.

**Communal Penance Services (Confessions).** We are planning our parish *Communal Penance Service* for Advent for Sunday, December 17 at 2:00pm.

**Retired Religious Collection** is next weekend (December 9-10). Elderly religious need our help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes—often for little to no pay. Now, many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide medications, nursing care, and more.

**2024 Calendars** are available. Check the tables in the back of the church.

**Year-end Gifts.** The end of the year is approaching fast. Keep the support of our parish in mind as you plan for your end of year giving.

**FORMED.org: The Catholic Faith on Demand.** We continue to have a free subscription to the website provided by the Diocese. FORMED is a great resource that provides access to the best Catholic teaching videos, books, and audio talks to help deepen our relationship with Christ and his Church. It is easy to register, if you haven't already: go to "formed.org". Click "Sign up as a parishioner". Follow the instructions. You can also download an app from the App Store. There are great programs, movies, audio talks, and books. It is worth checking it out, if you haven't already done so.

### Upcoming Events

| Date        | Event                                                                |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12/7 (Thur) | Feast of the Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass @ 7:00pm               |
| 12/8 (Fri)  | Feast of the Immaculate Conception Holyday Masses: 7:00am and 8:10am |
| 12/17 (Sun) | Communal Penance Service @ 2:00pm                                    |
| 12/24 (Sun) | Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00pm & 6:00pm                                |
| 12/25 (Mon) | Christmas Day Mass @ 9:00am                                          |

*Have a good week! Fr. Dana*

## *Parish Organizations*

- **Daughters of Isabella Christmas Party:** This Sunday, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00pm, we will have our annual Christmas Party. Seasonal snacks and drinks will be served. An optional \$15 gift exchange will take place. Please join us! All are welcome!
- **St. Mary's Gift Giving Trees:** Reminder that the **Ellis Food Pantry *Warming Heart*** gifts need to be returned back under the tree or the Parish Office on or before Monday, December 4th. If you wish to give a monetary gift, please contact Rita Younger at 785-650-4225 or Millie Winterscheidt at 726-1127. The **Ellis Good Sam Angel Tree** is for the residents of the Ellis Good Samaritan Center for Christmas Day. Each angel has a wish list for the designated residents, you only need to choose one item from the list. *Gifts purchased for the Angel tree need to be returned back to the church or Parish Office ONLY on or before December 18th.*
- **Toys for Tots Program:** Last chance to fill the box with toys for needy families in Ellis and surrounding communities! Items will be picked up early this week! Please do no wrap your toy!
- **Pray the Rosary for National Youth Day:** This year, December 8<sup>th</sup> marks National Youth Day. In recognition and appreciation of our youth, the Daughters of Isabella will be saying a special Rosary for them *on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> after the 5:30 Mass.* Everyone is welcome to join us!

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## *Community Announcements*

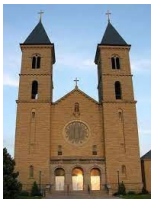


**All Aboard the Ellis Polar Express!** Catch a ride on the enchanting immature train in downtown Ellis for just a small suggested donation of \$5 per person. Don't miss the chance to be transported to a magical world! Hop on board one of the three nights! A weekend you don't want to miss! It's a sight to see for all ages!

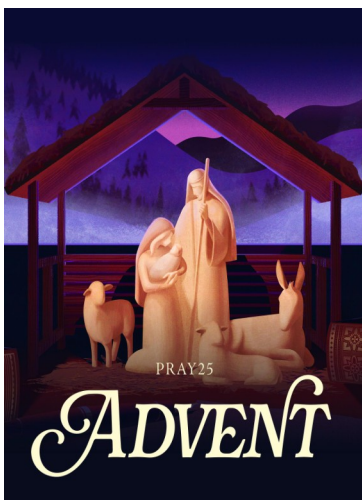
**Saturday, December 2:** Train Ride from 6:00-9:00pm and Cookies & Visit with Santa in the Ellis Public Library!

**Sunday, December 3:** Free Candy Cane Hunt at 5:30pm *sharp!* Train Rides from 6-8pm with Santa in the Library!

- **5th Quarter for EHS Students at Ellis United Methodist Church:** All Ellis High School students are invited to EUMC basement after the home wrestling match on December 8 to enjoy food, games, door prizes and time together! This is a safe, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs free place for EHS students to have fun!



**Annual Cathedral Christmas Concert at Cathedral of the Plains, Victoria:** Start the Advent/holiday season on a glorious note with the FHSU choirs: Fort Hays Singers, Concert Choir, and Smoky Hill Chorale at the annual Cathedral Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 10 at 3:30pm.** The concert is free and open to the public. Be sure to get there early to get a seat, this concert is usually standing room only! Also appearing are the FHSU horn Ensemble, FHSU Saxophone Quartet, several FHSU Music Faculty performing, Tom Meagher on organ, and special guests: Hays High School Chamber Singers and Hillsboro Girl's Ensemble!



During Advent, **St. Mary's Parish** is inviting you to join us on [Hallow](http://www.hallow.com/advent), a Catholic prayer and meditation website/app that helps you deepen your relationship with God through audio-guided prayer sessions! We want to encourage all parishioners to join us for [Advent Pray25](http://www.hallow.com/advent)!

Starting on the first Monday of Advent, **December 4**, we'll pray as one community from all over the world leading up to Christmas!

**How do you sign up?** It's easy! You can create an account on their website ([www.hallow.com/advent](http://www.hallow.com/advent)) **or** you can download the [Hallow](http://www.hallow.com/advent) app on your phone and **or** scan the QR Code! If you are using the website be sure to download the **"Free Advent Prayer Guide"** under the Advent: The Biblical Roots title! If you are using the app, scroll down the screen and **"Join the Advent Waitlist"** (if you do this step before Monday!).



The app will keep you on task for daily prayers for the next 25 days! We'll hear from Liam Neeson, Jonathan Roumie, and other amazing guests as we prepare for the birth of Jesus with reflections on the writing of C.S. Lewis. With powerful excerpts from *The Four Loves*, *Mere Christianity*, *The Great Divorce*, and more, we'll mediate on the three comings of Christ—personally into each of our hearts, His Second Coming at the end of time, and as an infant at Christmas. We couldn't be more excited for you to join us this Advent season.

If you have questions, please reach out the Parish Office or Craig Seibel!