

ST. MARY'S PARISH

703 Monroe St., Ellis, KS 67637

December 14, 2025
Third 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 18 - Sept. 7, 2025

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 15 – December 21

Mon: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Matthew 21:23-27
Tue: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32
Wed: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17
Thu: Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25
Fri: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25
Sat: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38
Sun: Isaiah 7:10-14; Matthew 1:18-24

Parish Personnel

Pastor	Fr. Dana Clark
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Emily Mattheyer
School Principal	Mrs. Patti Park
Pastoral Council President	Mr. Brian Serpan
Liturgy Chairpersons	Ruth Bollig and Alyson Johnson
School Council President	Mrs. Sarah Fischer
Home & School President	Mrs. Megan Honas
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 13	5:30 p.m.	Rulene Rosproy+
Sun	Dec 14	7:00 a.m.	Richard Kinderknecht+ Family (liv/dec)
Sun	Dec 14	9:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners
Mon	Dec 15	5:30 p.m.	John & Amellia Kuhn+
Tues	Dec 16	8:10 a.m.	Ralph & Rosie Berens+ Family (liv/dec)
Wed	Dec 17	8:10 a.m.	David Dreiling+
	EGSC	10:00 a.m.	Schoenberger Family (liv/dec)
Thurs	Dec 18	8:10 a.m.	Sherry Witthuhn+
Fri	Dec 19	8:10 a.m.	Linda Kohlrus+
Sat	Dec 20	5:30 p.m.	Marion Dorzweiler+ (anniv) Family (liv/dec)
Sun	Dec 21	7:00 a.m.	Victor Werth+, Josephine Werth+, Jacob Werth+, and Joseph Vahling+
Sun	Dec 21	9:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners

Ministries for December 20 & 21

Ministry	5:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m.
Lector	Roberta Augustine	Megan Honas
Presentation of Gifts	Ethan & Britny Cox Family	<i>Need Volunteers</i>
Eucharistic Minister(s)	Terry Zervas <i>Need (1) Volunteer</i>	Lacie Haas Sarah Eck <i>Need (1) Volunteer</i>
Servers	Caleb, Landon, Mason Schield	Addalyn & Ainsley Haas
Cantor / Musician	Alyson Johnson Nancy Cunningham	Abby Serpan Emily Mattheyer
Ushers & Greeters	Duane & Karen Dorzweiler Rick & Nancy Cunningham	Eric & Kristen Gaschler Family Geoff & Mindy Eck Family

Other Ministries

7:00am Lector	December 21 (Sun)	Becky Metzler
Communion to Homebound	December 19 (Fri)	Diane Kuhn
Ellis Good Samaritan	December 21 (Sun) 10:00 a.m.	Barney Boos
Rosary Leaders	December 20 (Sat) 5:30 p.m. December 21 (Sun) 9:00 a.m.	Rita Younger Josita Dreiling
Monthly Money Counters	December	Bob & Margie Mickelson

Meetings & Events

Sun	Dec. 14	Youth Choir Sings at 9:00am Mass Coffee & Donuts after 9am Mass
Wed	Dec. 17	YDisciples @ 6:30pm CCD Classes @ 7:00pm
Thurs	Dec. 18	SMS 5th Grade DARE Graduation Eucharistic Adoration @ 9:00am-5:00pm RCIA @ 7:00pm
Fri	Dec. 19	SMS Classroom Christmas Parties SMS Early Dismissal @ 12:40pm
Sun	Dec. 21	First Day of Winter Advent Communal Penance Service 2pm

Religious Fund for Religious

- **Religious Fund for Religious Collection, Dec. 13th & 14th: They gave their lives in service—now they need your help.** For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care and dignity they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not just a donation—it's a way of thanking them for their lifelong services. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Parish Prayer List

Please Remember in Prayer

Our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends in the loss of **Sylvanus "Syl" Rome** who passed away on December 9, 2025. May the peace of God surround you during this time of sorrow.

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Juanita Augustine, Kampton James Augustine, Henry Dinkel, Cory Eberle, Joe & Arlene Erbert, Cheryl Noles, Sr. Doris Flax, Gary Flax, Debbie Haas, Edna Hejny, Steve Hejny, Nathan Hively, Doug Kingsley, Tim Kingsley & Family, Gilbert Kinderknecht, Agneta Kuhn, Joey LaBarge, Kevin LaBarge, Shawna LaBarge, Martin & Debbie LaBarge, Annette Lang, Michael Lang, Norma Lang, Troy Mattheyer, Marge Metzler, Riley Moore, Elizabeth Newton, Ramona Patten, Kevin "Mo" Pfeifer, Ralph & Shirley Pitner, Cathy Sherfick, Bernie & Laura Schoenberger, Tanner Sullivan, Kathy Wiesner, 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.*

## Parish Offering: Nov. 29-30 & Dec. 6-7

### **Weekly Budget Fiscal Year 2025-26: \$6,845.00**

Nov. 29/30 Offertory Loose Plate.....\$1,120.00  
Nov. 29/30 Adult Envelopes.....\$4,145.00  
Dec. 6/7 Offertory Loose Plate.....\$1,333.00  
Dec. 6/7 Adult Envelopes.....\$8,312.00  
**Total Giving.....\$14,910.00**

**After last weekend's collection, we are above by \$1,222.00**

## **Parish Announcements**

- **Religious Education CCD Advent Confessions:** Our 3rd-7th grade students will be participating in an Advent Penance Service (Sacrament of Reconciliation) this Wednesday, Dec. 17. We ask for students to meet with their teacher in the school cafeteria by 6:45pm and then walk over as a class. There will be no class during Christmas Break.
- **YDisciples Christmas Party!** Come have some fun on Wednesday, Dec. 17th for our final 2025 gathering! We'll enjoy a Christmas Meal around the table at 6:30pm with games and gifts following! No need to bring anything, but maybe a friend or two! Check "GroupMe" for an invite so mentors can make sure enough food, gifts and fun are offered—Everything else will be provided...including the laughs!
- **No Eucharistic Adoration:** We will be taking a short break during the holidays. No Adoration on Dec. 18, Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. We will resume on January 8, 2026.
- **Blessing of the Bambino, Next Weekend:** During all Masses on December 20 & 21, we will have the Blessing of the Bambino. Parishioners are invited to bring the infant Jesus from the nativity/manager scene at their home and prior to Mass, place it on a table reserved for it near the sanctuary, where they will receive a special blessing. Baby Jesus' can then be picked up by families to take back home with them at the concluding of Mass.
- **Christmas Poinsettias—In Memory or In Honor:** If you wish to donate to the St. Mary's Poinsettia Fund, place your contribution in a regular envelope marked for this purpose, and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office. If you want to make donation in memory of someone dear, kindly do so by simply writing their name(s) down with your donation. If you prefer to purchase your own flower, please have it to the church **next weekend, Dec. 20-21 (after 9:00am Mass)**. Names will be published after the Christmas holiday.
- **Advent Communal Penance Service** will be next Sunday, December 21 at 2:00pm. All are welcome.
- **Needing Volunteers Christmas Eve/Day:** We are in need of a few altar server volunteers for Christmas Eve at 6:00pm and Christmas Day at 9:00am. If your student(s) would be willing to help, please call the Parish Office this week to claim which Mass you plan to attend. We'd greatly appreciate it. ~Thank you!

## **Notes from the Pastor**

**Retired Religious Collection** is this weekend, Dec. 13 & 14th.

**Communal Penance Services (Confessions).** We are planning our parish *Communal Penance Service* for Advent on Sunday, December 21 at 2:00pm.

**Pictures of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Divine Mercy.** There are framed pictures of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Divine Mercy, that I matted and framed, and blessed, available on the table at the entrance of church during the Advent season. A donation may be given, if you so desire, by placing it in the Sunday collection. They may make a good Christmas gift.

**Christmas Masses.** Christmas Eve Masses this year will at 4:00pm and 6:00 p.m. The 4:00 p.m. Mass will the children's Mass. The Christmas morning Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. There will be no 7:00 a.m. Mass.

**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.

**2026 Calendars** are available on the tables at the entrance of the church.

### ***What Christmas Is All About***

Christmas will always be for us  
A time to reflect on Christ,  
The gift God gave to all the world  
Was the gift of His life  
We know Christmas is  
not about tinsel,  
Nor fancy Christmas wreaths,  
Nor is it about all the decorations  
That adorns our Christmas trees  
And it's not about  
Holly or Mistletoe  
Hanging from our doors,  
Nor is it about the gifts that are left  
By the jolly Santa Claus

Christmas is more than all of this  
And the only reason why  
We celebrate Christ's birth  
together  
And the wonder of His life  
So remember as you celebrate,  
Just what it's all about  
And invite the Lord to join with you,  
Instead of leaving Him out  
For He will always be the  
reason  
We celebrate this day,  
No substitute the world may offer  
Can take that meaning away.

© By M.S. Lowndes ~ 2007

### **Dates to Remember**

| Date        | Event                                                                    |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12/21 (Sun) | Advent Communal Penance Service @ 2:00pm                                 |
| 12/24 (Wed) | Christmas Eve Masses @ 4:00pm & 6:00pm                                   |
| 12/25 (Thu) | Christmas Day Mass @ 9:00 am                                             |
| 12/31 (Wed) | Solemnity of Virgin Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass @ 5:30pm              |
| 1/1 (Thu)   | Solemnity of Virgin Mary, Mother of God Holyday Masses @ 7:00am & 9:00am |

*Have a good week! Fr. Dana*

## School Announcements

- **Monarch For A Day:** You are invited to Thomas More Prep-Marian on Friday, January 9th! Join us for the morning (7:55am-12:30pm) to learn what the school has to offer! Lunch is included! Transportation provided upon request. This day is open to all 5th-8th Graders! Register by contacting Brenda Rose at 785- 625 -6577 or [rose@tmpmarian.org](mailto:rose@tmpmarian.org)! Students will also have free admission & popcorn at TMP-M vs. Salina Sacred Heart basketball game that evening starting at 6:00pm. *Students from St. Mary's are already planning to attend as a class.*
- **St. Mary's Carnival Raffle Prize Request:** Help make our annual school carnival a success! The annual St. Mary's School Carnival is just around the corner, and we need your help to make our **Raffle** the best one yet! The raffle is a major part of the fundraiser for the school, providing essential resources for our students. We are seeking donations of **new, exciting prizes** that would appeal to **school-aged children**. This is the perfect time to shop! **How to Donate:** Please drop off all donated items at the St. Mary's Grade School Office during regular hours by **January 12, 2026** or contact one of the School Carnival Raffle committee members: Kiedra Hickert (785-259-2628) or Becky Seibel (785-639-1654). Please attach a note with your name (for a thank you!) if you wish. *Thank you for your generosity in supporting our school!*

## Community Announcements



**Ellis Christmas Food Boxes Distribution Dates:** Curbside Pick Up at 210 Madison for Families with 1-2 Members is on Tuesday, Dec. 16 from 3:00-6:00pm. For Families with 3 or more members, curbside pick up will be on Thursday, Dec. 18 from 3:00-6:00pm.

Those who didn't sign up for a Christmas Bo, but would like a Free regular food box, may come on Tuesday or Thursday during pick up times. Food Boxes are for those living in USD 388. No income restrictions, No walking or carrying food boxes. Just come to our drive-thru!

- **Fr. Callistus' Infamous Nativity Scene** at St. Boniface Parish on 625 Vincent Ave, Victoria, KS is open for visitors on Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 13-14, Sunday, Dec. 21 and Christmas Day, Dec. 25 from 1:00-5:00pm (all days). You may make an appointment by calling Randy at 785-735-4836. This is the 99th year of the nativity, began by the parish priest Fr. Callistus Rectenwald in 1927!



**Hays Tuba Christmas** will be performing at the Big Creek Crossing Mall at 3:00pm this Sunday, Dec. 14th. Twenty-five to 30 tuba, baritone and euphonium players of all ages plan to participate! The concert is free and open to the public, inviting everyone to enjoy the booming brass that signals the start of the holiday season.

- **5th Quarter for EHS Students** is set for Friday, December 19th following the basketball game against Ellinwood at Ellis United Methodist Church! FREE entry for all Ellis High School Students! Come enjoy good food, play games and win prizes!

## Christmas Week

**Monday, December 15**

**Red & Green Day:** Wear red and green

**Tuesday, December 16**

**Christmas Stocking Day:** Wear Christmas socks

**Wednesday, December 17**

**Christmas Sweater Day:**

Wear your favorite Christmas sweater

**Thursday, December 18**

**Christmas Hat or Headband Day:** We a hat or headband (but not to Mass)

D.A.R.E Graduation for 5th Graders

**Friday, December 19**

**All-School Christmas Movie: Free-Dress Friday!**

For \$1, wear appropriate pajamas or free-dress

Classroom Christmas Parties

Early Dismiss at 12:40pm



### SAFE ENVIRONMENT GUIDELINES

#### **Education & Screening**

All clergy, religious, seminarians/persons in formation, employees, educators, as well as volunteers who minister with minors are required to complete a background check and safe environment training.

For more information about safe environment compliance requirements, please contact your parish/school safety coordinator or visit [www.salinadiocese.org](http://www.salinadiocese.org)

#### **Reporting & Victim Assistance**

Report allegations of the abuse of a minor to the Department of Children and Families 800.922.5330 KBI Crime Hotline/800.572.7463

If you suspect abuse of a minor by church or school personnel, in addition to contacting civil authorities, use one of the confidential diocesan reporting resources below:  
Phone: 866.752.8855

Website: [reportandprotect.com](http://reportandprotect.com)

Email: [reportabuse@salinadiocese.org](mailto:reportabuse@salinadiocese.org)  
Reports will be responded to promptly by the Victim Assistance Coordinator

To report an incident of sexual abuse and related misconduct by a Bishop or Religious Superior, currently, or in the past, the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service provides a confidential Hotline: 800.276.1562  
Website: [reportbishopabuse.org](http://reportbishopabuse.org)

The Diocese of Salina complies with Kansas laws regarding reporting suspected abuse to civil authorities and cooperates with civil authorities as they investigate reports of suspected abuse by all persons, including, but not limited to church personnel.

Any questions in regard to education, reporting, or victim assistance can be directed to the Safe Environment Office/ Diocese of Salina 785.827. 8746



CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
of SALINA

7-2025