STEWARDSHIP

A WAY OF LIFE

Prince of Peace Parish

TIME and TALENT

MINISTRY GUIDE

"Honor the Lord with the first fruits of your labor."
Proverbs 3:9

PARISH HISTORY

The Catholic Church has been formally present in the Great Bend area since the mid-1800's. A few Catholics were part of the first settlers in Barton County. From 1865-1870 monks from St. Benedict Abbey in Atchison, Kansas specifically came to take care of the spiritual needs of the Catholic soldiers stationed at Fort Zarah. The first church was built in 1878 at the intersection of Baker and Park streets. Named after St. Rose of Lima, the parish was formally established that same year. The present church-building at the intersection of Broadway and Baker was built in 1915, renovated interiorly in 1997, and a narthex, baptismal font, and bathrooms were added in 2006-2007. The parish grew until St. Patrick's Chapel was created in 1954 on the west side of town to accommodate the growing number of Catholics. In 1960 St. Patrick Parish was formally established. The St. Patrick church-building was built in 1968. Both parishes eventually created a school and an auditorium/gym/hall. Due to the decline in the structure of the building, St. Rose School was demolished in 2002. The two schools were then merged into Holy Family Grade School. After the merging of the schools and some consolidation of parish organizations, the two parishes were financially and organizationally merged into one in July of 2003. Temporarily identified as "The Catholic Community of Great Bend", the new community was created into a new parish on December 3, 2006, under the title, Prince of Peace.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Prince of Peace Parish is to be a community of faith, seeking to involve every member in listening to, learning from, and living out God’s Word and celebrating the sacraments. United by His Spirit, we will be known for the generous way we live as well as for what we believe.

PARISH COUNCILS & COMMITTEES

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Pastoral Council represents the people of Prince of Peace Parish in planning, initiating, implementing, evaluating and adapting programs and projects to assist the Pastoral Team in meeting the needs of the parish.
Contact: Father Don 620-792-1396

ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

This committee works with the Liturgy Commission for the purpose of decorating our 2 churches. The group is responsible for Ordinary Time, as well as, the special Masses during Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. They plan and order plants, flowers, decorations, etc., for the altar and gathering area. This also includes *undecorating* and organizing supplies to be stored for future events. During Easter and Christmas, the biggest events, there are many activities to keep up with that keeps the group busy.
Contact: Father Don 620-792-1396

FINANCE COMMISSION

The Finance Commission is responsible for determining and providing funds to operate the programs necessary to bring to fruition the mission of the Prince of Peace Parish in Great Bend. The group works to develop and approve annual operating budgets with the Pastoral Team and Pastoral Council.
Contact: Father Don 620-792-1396

HOSPITALITY COMMISSION

This commission is responsible to assist the office and other councils and commissions in promoting and coordinating activities, events and programs for the purpose of social interaction of the Prince of Peace Parish. They organize the dinner for the Anointing Celebration, and the annual parish social and other receptions honoring members of the parish, including the RCIA candidates and Confirmation celebrants. They welcome all people to be a part of our parish family. Their mission is to assist in bringing about a loving and caring atmosphere in the parish.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

LITURGY COMMISSION

The Liturgy Commission, along with the pastor and parochial vicar, meets quarterly and is responsible for promoting a deeper liturgical and spiritual life through opportunities for liturgical prayer and enrichment. It is also responsible for studying the liturgical documents and guidelines of the Church and to implement these guidelines in order to meet the liturgical needs of the parish. This commission helps plan and evaluate each liturgical season in order to provide the best possible prayer experiences. It advises and provides direction for those who prepare liturgies, including the musicians, and presiding ministers, and promotes the development of competent liturgical ministers. A sub-committee is responsible for the preparing of the environments at both churches for the liturgical seasons.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

PROPERTY COMMISSION

This commission provides the facilities and total pleasing environment within which the various ministries can be carried out. Responsibilities include assisting Pastoral Team and Staff in seeing that all facilities are well utilized within boundaries of state, insurance, and Church regulations and keeping facilities in good mechanical condition.
Contact: Father Don 620-792-1396

PARISH COUNCILS & COMMITTEES CONTINUED

FAITH FORMATION COMMISSION

The Faith Formation Commission promotes and cultivates the Christian and Catholic formation of all members reaching out to them at all stages of development. They work together to promote, implement and evaluate faith education programs for the parish including both youth and adults. We welcome anyone interested in helping in any of these areas.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

This commission represents the people of the parish by promoting fellowship through social programs and projects. They develop, conduct and coordinate community programs ministering to, but not limited to, the aged, sick, dying, shut-in, poor and disabled. In addition, they provide education to members to promote awareness of area programs of Christian social action and promote and coordinate active involvement in programs such as the Food Bank, All Church Soup Supper, Lenten Lunches, etc.
Contact: Nancy Sundahl 620-792-7334

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

This commission assists Prince of Peace Parish to create a church where each person serves one another.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

VOCATIONS COMMISSION

This commission tries to raise the awareness that everyone is called by God to experience God's love as well as share it with others.
Contact the Parish Office at 620-792-1396

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parish liturgical ministers play an important role in the life of the parish community. Liturgical ministers help make our worship prayerful and reverent. You are encouraged to reflect upon the God-given gifts you possess and use these gifts for the benefit of the whole community. All ministers should remember that they undertake a visible role in the faith community. Therefore, their lives should give witness to the values we hold as a Catholic people. For all liturgical ministers, modest and appropriate attire is essential. If you are interested in serving the parish through any of the following ministries, please contact the Parish Office 620-792-1396.

ALTAR SERVER

Servers can be either boys or girls. In the Spanish-speaking community, children have begun serving after celebrating their First Communion. In English Masses, servers begin in the fourth grade. Periodic trainings take place to keep the servers informed as changes occur in the Mass.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER

Eucharist Ministers are a very large part of our ministry needs for the celebration of Eucharist. Many are also bringing Communion to those in the hospital, homebound, and those in nursing homes. We also need ministers for daily Masses, funerals, etc.

GIFT BEARER

Gift bearers present the bread and wine to the priest at the altar. They may be individuals or members of one family.

GREETER

The greeters are asked to be at Mass thirty minutes before, to stand at the entrance to welcome and greet parishioners and guests. It is their job to make our service welcoming to those who enter. This is an important ministry because it serves to welcome people to our community and our worship.

LECTOR/LEADER

There are two lectors and a leader scheduled for almost all of the weekend Masses. The lector is provided with the scripture readings to prepare to proclaim the Word of God. People who love the Scriptures and who can proclaim the Word of God are encouraged to undertake this ministry.

SACRISTAN

The Sacristan for Weekend Masses is a dependable, dedicated person (Man or Woman) willing to serve a weekend a month by arriving early, opening the church building and setting up for Mass.

USHER

The ushers are responsible to guide individuals to available seating and assist elderly or handicapped individuals. They also help with the circulation of the collections baskets. Following Mass they help circulate bulletins.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

SONG LEADER / CANTOR

The parish would love to have more cantors. They are responsible to lead the congregation in song at weekend Masses, funerals, and other liturgical celebrations.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

ACCOMPANIST

The parish is always in need of more accompanists. If you like to play the piano, organ, guitar or another instrument, please call to get more information.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

ST. ROSE CHOIR

Voices are needed for the St. Rose Choir who contribute the gift of song at the Sunday liturgy. The choir is scheduled to sing from September through May or June.
Contact: Joyce Haberman 620-793-9532

THE CHOIR

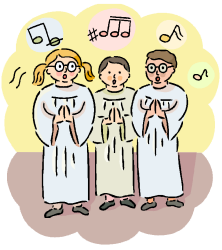
This choir is comprised of anyone who likes to sing liturgical music. The choir is scheduled to sing the first Sunday, from September through Pentecost (May or June) at the St. Patrick worship site.
Contact: Lori Hammeke 620-792-6236

BELL CHOIR

This group provides instrumental music at Sunday Masses with a five octave bell choir. Tuesday evening practices prepare the group for their music ministry.
Contact: Katrina Aumiller 620-791-8876

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR

This choir consists of students, grades first through sixth. They meet in December to rehearse for the Christmas Eve Mass at St. Patrick.
Contact: Holy Family School at 620-793-3265



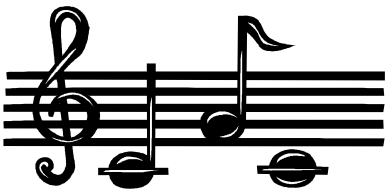
MUSIC MINISTRIES CONTINUED

PERFECT FIFTHS CHOIR

Prince of Peace Perfect Fifths Choir is a SATB choir of seasoned musicians, ages 18 to 60, that sing on the fifth Sunday of the month. This occurs four times a year. Practices are only held in weeks leading up to performances. The music chosen is usually challenging.
Contact: Katrina Aumiller - 620-791-8876

SPANISH CHOIR

This choir consists of Spanish-speaking individuals for the Spanish liturgy.
Contact: Mercedes Helms - 620-792-1396



PARISH GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

ALTAR SOCIETY

An organization to unite ALL women of the parish in various aspects of religious and social concern. All women in the parish are members of the Altar Society. This groups objective is the care of the altar, which includes providing the bread, wine and candles. They are also responsible for regular and special cleaning of the church. Another way they serve the community is by cooking and serving funeral dinners. Dues of $5 are payable each May.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

The Order of the Daughters of Isabella is a charitable organization of Catholic women open to all Catholic women age 16 and older that was founded on the principle of its motto: Unity, Friendship and Charity. They meet the second Monday of each month, excluding July.
Contact: Jolene Rziha 620-793-8585

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

This group of over 450 Catholic men have four wonderful principles that form the foundation for all their works: CHARITY, UNITY, FRATERNITY AND PATRIOTISM. They support activities with Church, family, community, and youth. During each fiscal year they contribute thousands of dollars to various groups such as church, school, birthright, and other local, state and national charities. Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. in the K of C hall at 723 Main.
Contact: Alan Stein 620-793-9081

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

EDUCATION

As a way of growing in our spiritual life we provide opportunities for learning more about scripture, sacraments, Church, and doctrines. God continues to invite us to grow as adults on our faith journey.

HEARTS AFLAME

Our faith is not fully mature when we leave high school or are confirmed. Rather, we need to continue to pray, study, share faith with others, and grow into ever-deeper intimacy with Christ. Hearts Aflame provides opportunities for adults to continue to learn and grow in their faith through various small faith-sharing groups, Bible study groups, faith gatherings, and retreat experiences.
Contact the Parish Office 620-792-1396

PASTORAL MINISTRY FORMATION PROGRAM

The Pastoral Ministry Formation Program is designed to nurture and send forth mature disciples, conscious of responding to their baptismal call, to be heralds of the Gospel in building up the Church.

The program will provide solid grounding in theology to empower the laity to become increasingly responsible for the life and ministry of the Church. It strives to equip the participants for fulfilling the roles to which they are called by their Baptism and for which their gifts and the needs of the times challenge them.
Contact: Mercedes Helms 620-792-1396

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

The mission of our school is to nurture children in Christian and Catholic values by instilling a sense of community service, fostering faith development, and demonstrating respect and responsibility for others. Holy Family serves students from pre-kindergarten through the sixth grade. Each teacher encourages high academic achievement in a Christian and Catholic environment. Our school provides the opportunity for growth in prayer, the celebration of Mass, reception of the Sacraments, and practice of Catholic virtue. Holy Family is located at 4200 Broadway. Call the school for enrollment information.
Contact: Karen Moeder 620-793-3265

SCHOOL COUNCIL

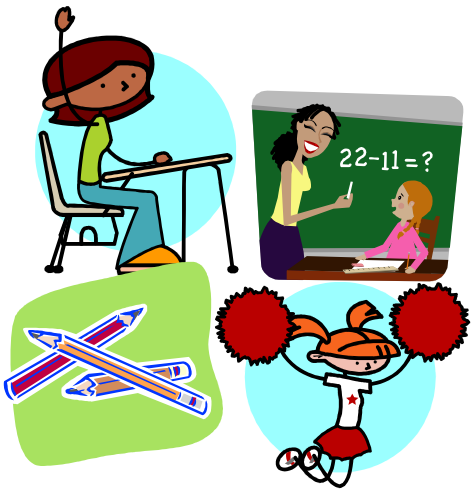
This council supports the endeavors of the Holy Family School to achieve educational excellence by students becoming committed to being a lifelong learning process, employing a highly qualified faculty, promoting an on-going curriculum development and encouraging a high level of parental and parish involvement.
Contact: Karen Moeder 620-793-3265

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL ENDOWMENT

The Holy Family School Endowment Fund was incorporated in 1986 to meet the challenges posed by the rising cost of providing education. The corporation is responsible for obtaining charitable gifts that become permanent additions to the fund. Annual earnings are to be utilized to give the children at Holy Family School the best possible education. As the fund grows, earnings will tremendously enhance the potential of our school and reduce the severe annual demand on general funds from the parish.
Contact: Linda Marmie 620-792-4161

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION

An association of parents, teachers, and students is formed for the purpose of supporting the goals and purposes of Holy Family School. At least two regular meetings shall be held during the year. PTSA is responsible for many of the Fund Raising activities at HFS along with hosting many fun events such as the Swim Party at Wetlands and Catholic School Week activities.
Contact: Karen Moeder 793-3265



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The RCIA process in our parish is designed for adults who have not been baptized, or have been baptized in another Christian religion and are seeking full communion with the Catholic Church through Confirmation and Eucharist, and for baptized Catholics who for some reason, have not celebrated Confirmation and Eucharist. This process is life-long, continuing during the rest of one's life through prayer, continued formation, and parish participation in the activities of the Church-local, diocesan, and global. It is a four-step formation process that is tailored to the needs of each individual and involves weekly participation in scripture sharing, worship, service, rituals, and catechetical sessions.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

RCIA/Y RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS ADAPTED FOR YOUTH

This is a process in which unbaptized youth ages 7-18 experience and learn the basic beliefs of our faith with a special concentration on the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. They gather on Wednesday evenings with the other youth their age who are participating in the Parish School of Religion (PSR) or Confirmation. They also participate in the English or Spanish RCIA rituals. Parent sessions are provided to help the parents have a better understanding of how they can support their children as they walk this journey of becoming Catholic. These children celebrate the sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil (English) or on Easter Sunday at the 12:30 Spanish Mass. Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Pre-baptism preparation is designed to enable parents to live a good Christian example which edifies, strengthens, and sanctifies the newly born child of God. The same basic preparation is offered in English and Spanish. The instruction is based on Holy Scripture, Christian Tradition and Divine Revelation as experienced within the Church.
Contact: Parish Office or Mercedes Helms 620-792-1396

FIRST EUCHARIST

Children in the parish prepare to celebrate their First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the second grade. Holy Family students are prepared through school religion class. Children seven years old or older who are not baptized and have not celebrated First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are prepared through RCIA/Y. These children celebrate the sacraments at Easter time. Children who are between the ages of eight and eighteen who are baptized but have not celebrated First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be prepared through special sacrament classes appropriate to their age, and these sacraments will be celebrated with them in the spring. The Parish celebrates First Eucharist with 2nd graders usually mid- to late April.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION(PSR)

This program provides religious instruction for students in grades K-8 who do not otherwise receive formal religion classes. The program runs from September through April. We meet on Wednesday evenings starting @ 6:45 p.m. Registrations begin in August for the catechetical year starting in September. Mid-year registrations are handled individually by the Director of Religious Education.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

THE EDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM

Prince of Peace Parish offers "The EDGE" Middle School Youth Ministry Program. Our goal is to give our middle school kids the edge, the Catholic edge, the Jesus edge, as they go through this time of remarkable change in their lives. The EDGE is for early adolescents in grades six, seven, and eight. It is designed to meet the educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of young adolescents. The Edge sessions take place on Wednesday evenings @ 6:45 p.m. at Holy Family School through our PSR Wednesday evening faith formation programs. The program is broken into four parts: Gather, Proclaim, Break, and Send. This is based on a liturgical model incorporated at Mass. These sessions include a variety of methods with always include prayer and scripture as well as could include music, witness talks, catechetical talks, music, skits, large and small group discussion, individual handouts, activities, crafts and much more.
Contact Parish Office 620-792-1396

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a beginning of life-long faith development that they assume as a mature person. Students who are active members of the parish and are in 9th—12th grade are eligible to be confirmed. Prince of Peace utilizes Lifeteens, R.O.C. (Rite of Confirmation) to prepare students to be confirmed. This program is designed to prepare high school youth to celebrate the Confirmation Sacrament while showing how to live their lives saturated in the Spirit. Lifeteens approach to learning is comprehensive, therefore it is not classroom style learning. Students enrolling in the Confirmation program at Prince of Peace should be in the 9th grade, but not older than 18. If a student is asking for the Confirmation sacrament and is older than 18 he/she is invited into an adult Confirmation process. Confirmands are asked to be diligent in attending classes, do service projects, become involved in parish life and attend a Confirmation Retreat. Since R.O.C. is a sub-program of Lifeteen, teens enrolled in R.O.C. are also encouraged to attend Youth Group on Sunday evenings.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Marriage is the celebration of a sacrament. Church norm requires the couple to contact the priest or deacon at least four months prior to the wedding. Either the bride or groom must be registered or have some real connection with the parish where the wedding will take place. The couple must meet with the priest/deacon, take the FOCUS marriage inventory, and attend an Engaged Encounter Weekend. The preparation process for people in special circumstances due to age, remarriage, etc., may be a little bit different than those who are young and have never been married.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

CATHOLICS IN ACTION (CIA) Youth Group

Catholics in Action is one of four programs designed to suite the individual needs of high school teens. There are no enrollment fees for Youth Group. We utilize Lifeteen curriculum. During our kickoff each Fall, teens are allowed to vote for their own identity, group t-shirt, theme song, activities, and trip possibilities. Activities are paid for through fundraising efforts. Some of this years activities included: Fall Retreat ~ Fall Festival ~ Bierock Baking Days ~ Food Bank Scavenger Hunt ~ Spare Change Sunday ~ Helping Hearts Christmas Party ~ Pro-Life Rally in Topeka ~ Ski Retreat ~ Mission Experience ~ Summer Retreat ~ Lake Party ~ Vocations Event.
Contact Parish Office 620-792-1396

ADULT FORMATION PROGRAMS

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Renew International's Theology on Tap is a discussion series for young adults in their 20s and 30s, married and single. The group meets on select Thursdays. Share your faith, a meal and a drink or two if you choose, while listening to an entertaining speaker and learning more about your Catholic faith. Social time begins at 6:30 pm with the speaker starting at 7:00 pm. Childcare is available.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

AWAKENING FAITH

Awakening Faith is a parish program meant to help people to reconnect with their Catholic faith. It consists of six basic sessions to help people explore, learn, and share with others in a friendly, confidential setting. The series of six sessions is offered several times throughout the year.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

OTHER PARISH MINISTRIES

BULLETIN STUFFING

This group gathers to stuff the weekly bulletins. They also assist with occasional or large mailings. They gather depending on need.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

COLLECTION COUNTING

Counting Teams count all monies received in the Sunday Mass offerings, separate by categories, and make weekly deposits.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

OFFICE ASSISTANCE

The office is occasionally in need of individuals to help with projects. This might include things such as computer input, large mailings, or just helping answer the phone, etc.
Contact the Parish Office 620-792-1396

SOCIAL JUSTICE

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICE

Catholic Social Services helps families make the important decisions regarding adoption, provides home studies for adoptive and foster parents, and provides counseling to teens with unexpected pregnancies in addition to helping families with a special needs child find respite care. A growing concern for young parents who are struggling.
Contact: Angela Schawe 2201 16th Street, 620-792-1393

Catholic Charities
Community Services

BIRTHRIGHT

Provides assistance to expectant and new mothers in terms of pregnancy counseling and donated items for newborns.
Contact: Jo Tammen, 620-923-4644

OTHER PARISH MINISTRIES

OUTREACH TO SHUT-INS

The parish attempts to reach homebound parishioners in order to provide them a sacramental connection with the parish. If you know of individuals confined to the home that would benefit from this, please inform the parish office.
Contact: Fr. Don 620-792-1396

RESPECT LIFE

Although there is no formal structure, we have many parishioners who are committed to the dignity of the human life of every person, from conception to natural death. Several parishioners also take part in pro-life activities, like the Life Chain with their role as parents prompted enhancement of our teen pregnancy program to encourage and provide practical assistance for parenting teens. Our goal with The Teens Moms program is to provide the health of the teen mother and her infant, reduce child abuse potential, reduce parenting stress, support positive decision making, increase school completion, reduce the incidence of low birth weight babies, reduce smoking and substance abuse during pregnancy and support adolescent fathers.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

FUNERAL MINISTRY

At the time of death of one of our parishioners, the family is invited to come and visit with the pastor and/or parochial vicar and a funeral planner to assist the family in preparing a funeral that affirms the gifts of the deceased and ritually celebrates the life and resurrection of their loved one. The family is assisted in finding liturgical ministers for the funeral, including the musician and cantor for the vigil and the funeral. The parish offers to provide a dinner following the funeral Mass for parishioners, with the family providing the meat and cheese, and the Altar Society contacting their members to provide the salads, desserts and refreshments as well as serve the meal.
Contact: Arlene Spanier - 620-792-2378 for funerals at St. Patrick, or Kay Wondra - 620-793-6801 for funerals at St. Rose.

PRAYER

PRAYER REQUESTS

This group exists to take prayer requests for our parishioners and pass them on down the chain to people who will pray specifically for these requests. Prayer is a vital part of our faith life and praying for one another is awesome way to minister to our church community. If you ever have a prayer request you can call the church office or one of the contacts. Contact: Sharon Kubitscheck 620-792-1653

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Prince of Peace Parish has Perpetual Adoration of the Eucharist daily from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 pm at the chapel at St. Rose Ambulatory & Surgery Center. Parishioners are asked to prayerfully consider which hour on which day they would like to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament on a weekly basis.
Contact Janice Nichols 620-793-6899

ROSARY

A rosary is led prior to Mass at St. Rose on Sundays in May and October. A rosary garden is located behind St. Rose worship site. See the Worship Schedule in the weekly bulletin for rosary times at the Rosary Garden and at other locations.

A Spanish Rosary is led on the last Saturday of the month followed by prayer, singing, and a meal following. The location rotates between homes.
Contact: Luz Betty Gordon, 620-792-3703

An additional Spanish Rosary is held on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Adoration chapel at St. Rose Ambulatory & Surgery Center.
Contact: Luz Betty Gordon 620-792-3703

On Fridays at 6:00 pm a Rosary is held at the Adoration Chapel at St. Rose Ambulatory & Surgery Center.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET/BENEDICTION

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy or the Rosary or Benediction is prayed on Fridays at 2:50 PM in the church at St. Patrick with the students from Holy Family School.
Contact: Karen Moeder 620-793-3265

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

A Grief Support Group is offered through St. Rose Ambulatory & Surgery Center. They meet at three different session per year for nine weeks.
Contact: Cathy Soeken 620-792-8171

PRAYER

HEARTLAND CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY

The Dominican Sisters offer retreat opportunities for spiritual direction at the Motherhouse, 3600 Broadway.
Contact: 620-792-1232

SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUP

Small faith sharing groups are a vital part of our parish. Some meet weekly, and some meet monthly throughout the year. Others meet from the middle of October until Thanksgiving, and also during Lent. Reflection on the weekly readings and faith sharing are offered during these gatherings. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office 620-792-1396

ADORATION, COMMUNITY, THEOLOGY AND SERVICE (ACTS)

An ACTS retreat is a three-day/three-night Catholic based lay retreat, open to all faiths, presented by a team of lay people. The weekend retreat begins on Thursday evening and ends on Sunday with Mass celebrated with the parish community. Retreats for men, women and teens are given separately. Talks and activities during the retreat focus on Adoration, Community, Theology and Service, from which the ACTS acronym is derived. An ACTS retreat is a celebration and renewal in the spirit. It is all about you…
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

FAMILY LIFE

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

An effective method of regulating pregnancy. NFP accepts fertility as a normal and healthy process, which is a precious gift from God- a gift to be loved, respected, understood and wisely used. Certified teachers provide instruction and materials to educate couples on this method that is in full union with the Catholic Church. Artificial contraceptives go against the formal teaching of the Catholic Church and may cause unwanted or dangerous side effects. NFP is based on scientific research and is extremely effective. NFP promotes spirituality and intimacy in the marriage.
Contact: 620-793-1902

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Engaged Encounter provides quality marriage preparation primarily for couples who are planning to marry in the Catholic Church. However, couples who are not Catholic are also welcome to attend the weekend. It is an intensive weekend in which the couple is offered the time and opportunity to question, examine, and deepen their relationship with each other and God. Topics covered include: self-awareness, human sexuality, communications, decision making, Natural Family Planning, vocation, sacrament, unity, and more.
Contact: Mike and Lindsay Mazouch 620-792-6290

Catholic Engaged Encounter
A WEDDING IS A DAY... A MARRIAGE IS A LIFETIME.

ADULT SCRIPTURE STUDY

MENS BIBLE STUDY

On Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Father Don leads a bible study group for men. If you are interested in learning more about the scripture, you are welcome to join the group in the meeting room behind the altar area at St. Patrick.
Contact: Father Don 620-792-1396

SMALL FAITH COMMUNITIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

We meet once a month at Cedar Park Place. Contact: Sister Teresita Huse 620-792-1232

Other small faith sharing groups meet at various times throughout the year. Contact the Parish Office for information - 620-792-1396

OTHER PARISH SERVICES

GROCERY & WALMART GIFT CARD PROGRAMS

The grocery & Walmart gift card programs are in place for the benefit of Holy Family School. Parishioners purchase grocery gift cards for $25 and Walmart gift cards for $100 from the parish, and it does not cost anything extra. Holy Family School receives 5% of the sales of the grocery & Walmart gift card programs. It is a donation from the business, but also gives them a source of advertisement. With support from families, grandparents, neighbors, and friends this program has the potential to pay one or two teachers salaries each year. The gift cards are available in the parish office, school office, and after weekend masses.
Contact: Karen Moeder 620-793-3265

LENDING LIBRARY

The lending library began to build a resource for references and Catholic reading material. It is located in the parish office. Books, videos, cassettes, etc. can be donated to the library. The material is approved before it is placed on the shelves. Any material that is checked out, should be marked on the notebook located in the room.
Contact: Parish Office 620-792-1396

ONLINE GIVING

If you know you'll be missing services any time due to travel or other commitments, please consider setting up automatic contributions. Your consistent support is very much appreciated. Sign up online at GreatBendCatholic.com or contact the parish office at 620-792-1396 for more details.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

O Divine Giver of all gifts,
Grant us the daily graces we need to follow closely
In the footsteps of Jesus
In the way we live and use our gifts.

Accompanied by our Lady of Guadalupe,
May we renew with you our small part of the world
By allowing your will to be accomplished in and through us.

Help us to trust in your love for us
And to grow in our fidelity and relationship with you.

We thank you for the trust you place in us as stewards of our personal gifts.
May the Holy Spirit guide us in placing
our time and our gifts at the service of each other
so that together, we may faithfully live the Christian message
and become your holy people.

All this we pray in the power of Jesus' name. Amen.

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