

The Scroll



Sunday Services

Matins..... 9:00 a.m.
Church School..... 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy.....10:00 a.m.

Saturday Services

Confession..... 4:30 p.m.
Great Vespers..... 5:00 p.m.

Church Contacts

Fr. Aaron Warwick, Pastor
fraaron@stmarywichita.org

Fr. John Baize
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Fr. Deacon James Kallail
kkallail@att.net

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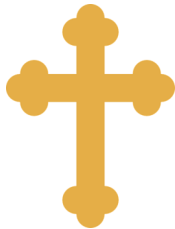
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The Scroll

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Question of the Month
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Cook's Corner
Favorite Pot Roast



**Plus.....From the Ministry Teams,
Celebrations, and Bits & Pieces**

St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church
344 S. Martinson, Wichita, KS 67213
Rev. Fr. Aaron Warwick - Deacon James Kallail
Website: www.stmarywichita.org

The Scroll Production Schedule – 2022

Issue: January/February, 2022

Deadline: February 5

On Website – February 18

In Foyer – February 20

Issue: March/April, 2022

Deadline: April 9

On Website – April 22

In Foyer – April 24

Issue: May/June, 2022

Deadline: June 4

On Website – June 17

In Foyer – June 19

Issue: July/August, 2022

Deadline: August 6

On Website – August 19

In Foyer – August 21

Issue: September/October, 2022

Deadline: October 8

On Website – October 21

In Foyer – October 23

Issue: November/December, 2022

Deadline: December 10

On Website – December 16

In Foyer – December 18

Send news to: rokallail@att.net

The Meaning of Christmas by Fr. Vladimir Berzonsky

“The Source of life and of Salvation from despair and the condition for the existence of the whole world is contained in only these words: ‘The Word became Flesh’ [John 1:14]” (Feodor Dostoevsky, *The Possessed* drafts)

The question, “What does Christmas mean?” has as many answers as people in our society. Opportunity for merchants, vacation days for school children, parties and exchange of gifts even for non-Christians, since it has become a national holiday even in a nation that forbids official recognition. All including Christians, even Orthodox Christians, define the event by their own understanding, and by doing so limit the meaning of Christmas. There can be no definition, because the birth of the Son of God transcends every attempt to explain the inexplicable or comprehend the incomprehensible. We can only thank the Holy Trinity for the nativity of the Messiah and celebrate His life on earth.

Christmas is a mystery, a glorious event in history, the awesome phenomenon when “Christ Jesus Who, being in the very nature of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant and coming in the likeness of men...” (Philippians 2:5). The kenotic condescension of the Holy Trinity expressed by the evangelist John, “The Word became flesh,” can only be explained by the word “love.” Such a divine love for human beings transcends the ability to grasp with our limited capacity, which is why the Orthodox Church services for this season, filled with joy, wonder and gratitude, point to the inexplicable event without even trying to elucidate the wonder.

“Heaven and earth join in celebration...Wise men and shepherds welcome Him...Angels and humans sing with joy...” The glorious hymn of laudation: “God is with us!” requires an explanation, because that phrase has been misused, wrongly applied and abused by some Christians through the ages. What it does not mean is that God endorses a nation or purpose against His other children.

Gott mit uns, for example, was a battle cry of Nazi Germany equal to the present day war shout of radical Muslims: Allahu akhbar! as those flying into the Twin Towers yelled. “With us” is the joyous awareness of the awesome mystery that Creator became Creature, the Eternal condescended to human limits including death, love beyond all human comprehension has manifested itself in Christ Jesus the Son of God Who became the Son of Man for our sake.

Christ appears on earth as the most precious Gift that we cannot hope to recompense, certainly never earn or comprehend. Why does God love us so much, and how can we repay Him? Nobody, not even the Lord Almighty, offers gifts without expecting something in return. We know there is nothing we have as our own except the present of freedom. We are not robots, and even if “our days are like grass...” (Psalm 103:15), nevertheless, in our brief life span we have time to consider the gift of life and the Source of life. We can come to the realization that this lifetime may be short, but the promise of the gift of eternity is part of the reason for the incarnation of the Son of God. Salvation is Christ’s purpose for His birth. Christ is life, and yet He died so that we might share eternal life with Him. Yet another mystery.

He offers us life everlasting, but He does not insist we accept it—or Him. He “stands at the door and knocks,” but it is for us to open to Him or leave Him outside. Such respect is almost too much; however, He treats us with a freedom that we feel we do not deserve or that we may not appreciate. We throw away our freedom with excess of passions, with some form of addiction to drugs, alcohol, overindulgence, wallowing in despair or foolish behavior—and Jesus remains standing outside the door of our heart, patiently waiting to be invited inside. How can He love us that much?



**HUMANITARIAN
MINISTRY TEAM**

**NATIVITY PROJECT
THROUGH DECEMBER 19, 2021**

**St. Mary is supporting the
Wichita Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County.**

**The Advocacy Center is the first stop for
child victims of abuse and their
non-abusive care giver on the way to healing.
The Center provides a safe place and
multiple avenues for care, therapy, and healing.**

**St. Mary is supporting a wish list of items
requested by their Therapy and Advocacy Supervisors.**

Please place your un-wrapped donation in the gift box in the foyer.

**We can also do your shopping for you! Simply give your money
to Joan Ferris, and the Humanitarian Team will pick out gifts!**

Items requested:

"If these walls could
talk, they'd tell stories
most
people
can't
handle."



**Fuzzy Socks
Paint Brushes
Paint Canvases
Ear Buds
\$5 Walmart Gift Card
\$5 Fast Food Gift Card**

**Acrylic Paints
Gel Pens
MP3 Players
Backpacks
Coloring books (all ages)**

Thank you for your generosity during this Nativity season.

Question of the Month

If you woke up Christmas morning to find the car of your dreams sitting in the driveway with a big bow on top, what kind of car would be sitting there?

Amy Minks – A red Corvette.



Mike Shaheen – First of all it wouldn't be a car. It would be a half ton pickup either a Ford 150 or a Tundra pickup. Once you own a truck you'll never go back to a car.



Jeremy Wagner – VW Bus



David Shippy – 2021 Mustang Shelby GT500



Dennis Fairbanks – Maserati sedan, pearl white, with AWD, 8 cylinder, turbo.



Tanya Husselman – A Chevy Blazer or truck with heated seats and steering wheel.



Darren Minks – Dodge Viper



Gwen Warwick – Moira, my Tesla



Al Busada – Either a Lexus or a Cadillac



Jessica Lessman – pink 1955 T-bird convertible



Jerry Stitt – Ram 1500 Laramie



Zared Salome – Tesla model S Plaid



Anna Ewertt – blue 1967 Mustang



5 Quotes To Make You Smile

“Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas? Santa Jaws!”

“What do Santa's little helpers learn at school? The elf-abet!”

“What do snowmen wear on their heads? Ice caps!”

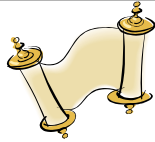
“What do they sing at a snowman's birthday party? Freeze a jolly good fellow!”

“Why don't eggs tell jokes? They would crack each other up!”



From the Ministry Teams

THE SCROLL



Next Issue

Will Cover ~ January/February

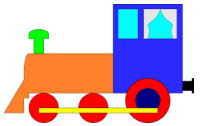
Deadline to Submit ~ February 5

On Website ~February 18

Available in Foyer ~ February 20

Send news to: rokallail@att.net

MEAL TRAIN



The St Mary Meal Train ministry was formed in 2016 to serve the families in our parish immediately following the birth of a child. After the birth of a child, what to eat for dinner is not usually at the forefront of new parents' minds. Instead, new parents are focused on the new life they have created and finding their new normal between dirty diapers, seemingly near-constant cries, and many feedings.

Our goal is to provide the evening meal every day for a week. The meals have been a mixture of home cooked, frozen, and store-bought meals as well as restaurant gift cards. We also provide a supply of paper products such as plates, napkins, cutlery, and cups to reduce the workload of the family. Being part of this ministry does not mean that you have to be involved every time a request is sent out. Each of us has our own commitments and are sometimes unable to help. Any help at all is much appreciated by the families we are serving. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact Jessica Lessman (Miriam121406@live.com) to get on the mailing list.



The Lord's Diner exists to combat hunger in the community. The Diner's singular mission is to serve a nutritious meal with dignity and respect to anyone who is hungry. The Lord's Diner serves an evening meal 365 days a year. The Lord's Diner serves an average of 2,500 meals nightly at two dining facilities (one in downtown Wichita and one in south Wichita) and three food trucks (one in northwest Wichita, and one in southeast Wichita, and one in northeast Wichita) to any guest who needs a nutritious meal, 60 percent of which are families.

THE LORD'S DINER

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WICHITA

St. Mary volunteers serve at The Lord's Diner on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. We gather at the downtown location, Central and Broadway, at 5:15 p.m. We are usually finished by 8:00 p.m, so come join us. All volunteer sign up is now taking place on SIGN UP GENIUS. For more information, contact Vicki Jones at 650-0658 or vawj55@gmail.com.

ST. MARY



"St. Mary On the Go" is an adult fellowship for the St. Mary parishioners. All adults are invited to participate in planned activities scheduled at least 4 times a year: March, June, September, and December. There is no theme or purpose to this ministry team other than to enjoy each other and have social time together.

From the Ministry Teams

PARISH COUNCIL



The following four candidates were elected to a two-year term on the Parish Council: Shanna Binkley, Jason Ewertt, Rick Husselman, and TC Wallace. In addition to these four, Joan Ferris was appointed to a two-year term.

They will join the following four returning council members to form the 2022 Parish Council: Darren Minks, Tracy Namee, Helen Stitt, and Mike Zarich. May God grant them Many Years!

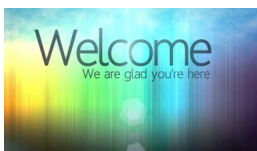


Family Promise of Greater Wichita unites hearts and hands to provide compassionate hospitality and empower homeless families with children to achieve sustainable independence.

Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was in prison and you came to Me"

St. Mary Parish participates by hosting families in the program four times a year in our church building. Families arrive at St. Mary on Sunday in time for the evening meal. Parishioners volunteer their time by driving families to and from the day house, setting up the rooms, and sleeping overnight at the church. Evening meals, food for breakfast, and snacks are all provided by St. Mary parishioners. The families eat their evening meal and spend the night at the church. Lunches are made and snacks packed before heading to their rooms for the night. They get up and leave the church by 6:15 each morning and are transported to the day house. During the day they work, attend classes, shower, do laundry, and a multitude of other tasks before returning to the church in time for the evening meal. Both the families and parishioners are encouraged and blessed by the interactions throughout the week. Although approximately fifty parishioners will have participated in 2021, there is still a need for more to participate in this significant ministry by providing hospitality and shelter. In 2022, the weeks of January 16, June 12, September 18, and December 4 have been scheduled for the parish to host families. Contact Vicki Jones at 650-0658 or vawj55@gmail.com for more information.

GREETER MINISTRY TEAM



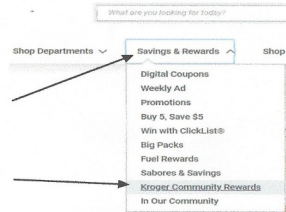
The primary purpose of the Greeter Ministry Team is to make all of our visitors to St. Mary feel welcome in our parish home. To welcome the stranger is not just a nice or courteous thing to do, but is in fact one of the things mentioned by our Lord by which we will be judged: *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."* To welcome the stranger is a great blessing to them and to us, the Greeter Ministry Team strives to fulfill this scriptural command together with our parish family. One responsibility of greeters is to greet visitors before Liturgy. This includes giving them a bulletin and visitor packet, asking them to sign the visitor book, and invite them to coffee hour. After Liturgy, greeters will seek out the visitors and introduce to at least one other person in church, introduce them to Fr. Aaron and Deacon James, offer to give a tour of the facility, and show them the rack of educational pamphlets in the foyer. During the following week, the greeter will complete a New Visitor Note Card that will be mailed to the visitor. There are currently six active members of the Greeters Team. There is a need for more members of the team. If you wish more information on this Ministry Team, contact Vicki Jones at 650-0658.

From the Ministry Teams

DILLON'S REWARDS

How to Register a Digital Account

Creating a digital account is as simple as 1,2,3! Simply visit <http://www.dillons.com/>, <http://www.bakersplus.com>, <http://www.gerbes.com> or download the Kroger mobile application from the appropriate app store for your device and follow these directions.



Hint: it will say "Dillons Community Rewards", "Baker's Community Rewards" or "Gerbes Community Rewards" depending on what banner you are registering under.

1. Select the 'View Details' button.

I'm a Customer Want to enroll in Community Rewards?

View Details

2. Select 'Create Account' or if you already have an account please sign in.

Sign In

Sign in to your existing Kroger account.

Email Address

Password

Forgot your password?

Remember Me

Sign In

[New to Kroger? Create an account.](#)

Please make sure that you add your card number or create a virtual card number while registering your Digital Account. This is required for the Community Rewards program so that your transactions apply towards the program.

Once you are signed in...

- Search for your organization that you wish to support.
- Change View by Type to "ALL"

Find an Organization

Search

View by Type

ALL

- Click Enroll

Enroll

TEEN SOYO

St. Mary's Teen SOYO had a fun evening with our friends from St. George in October. We went to Walter's Pumpkin Patch and enjoyed a trip through the Haunted Barn. In November, Keri and Tony Jacobs hosted a bonfire at their home and we enjoyed our time together. We're going to Cowtown's Victorian Christmas on December 11th. We're looking forward to new adventures in 2022!



Teens at pumpkin patch

THE BELLES



The Belles presale bake sale was in November. Thank you to all who participated. We held our annual Christmas gathering at the home of Donna and Robbie Namee on December 6.



Cook's Corner



FAVORITE POT ROAST RECIPE MADE IN THE CROCK POT/ SLOW COOKER

Ingredients

- 5 to 6 pound pot roast
- 2 (10.75 ounce) cans condensed cream of mushroom soup (or make homemade [condensed cream of mushroom soup](#), using equivalent amount)
- 1 packet onion soup mix (Lipton or store brand – 1 ounce packet (or make [homemade dry onion soup mix](#)))
- 1 1/4 cups of water (water can be substituted with beef broth. You can also add a little red wine. My favorite is 1 cup water and 1/4 cup red wine)

Directions

Lightly spray crock pot with non-stick cooking spray. Place roast in crock pot and season with salt and pepper or your favorite seasonings. In a medium size bowl, mix soups (can and dried) and water and pour mixture evenly over roast. Cook on low for 8 hours or on high for 4 to 5 hours. Each crock pot cooks differently so you may need to adjust cooking times. Serve with your favorite potatoes and veggies. The gravy from the roast is wonderful with mashed potatoes. Enjoy!

Tips

Browning the roast before placing in the crock pot adds wonderful flavor. Also, if you had red wine, I highly recommend replacing 1/4 of cup of water with wine – it's wonderful!

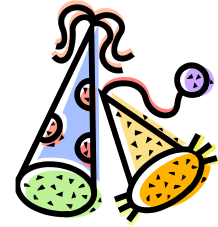
For leftover roast beef sandwiches, try my [Grandpa Kelly's Famous Horseradish Cheese Spread recipe](#)! Just 4 ingredients, simple to make, so good.

Thanks for stopping by!
Cheers!



Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS



JANUARY

2 Deanna Ferris
3 Sh. Ro Kallail
4 Subdeacon John Laham
6 Jessica Abdayem
6 Xochitl Hewitt
8 Padelis Kambiotis
10 Anthony Vulgamore
11 Eric Namee
14 Ollie Kingery
15 Elisabeth Oller
18 Shawn Bourgerie
22 Olivia Oller
29 Dee Ann Bragg

FEBRUARY

2 Jerry Stitt
2 Beverly Taylor
5 Jason Ewertt
6 Anna Jacobs
7 Matthew Armanio
8 Linda Farha
8 Simone Warwick
8 Gabriel Hernandez
12 Laura Stanley
13 Julia Jacobs
15 Sophia Jacobs
19 James and Julia Lessman
21 Marie Patterson
21 William Ewertt
21 Luke Ewertt
28 Julia Shippy

A Day to Remember

ANNIVERSARIES

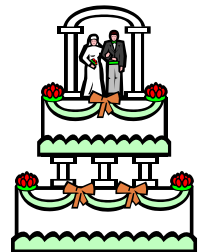


JANUARY

January 5 Fr. John and Kh. Cindy Baize

FEBRUARY

February 12 Tony and Micheline Abdayem
February 24 Bruce and Joan Ferris



BITS & PIECES



Al Busada 90th Birthday celebration at St. Mary on October 17, 2021.

Many Years!



Al Busada 90th Birthday celebration on October 23, 2021 at the home of Amy and Darren Minks.

Many Years!



Donna Namee 85th Birthday celebration at St. Mary on October 24.

Many Years!



BITS & PIECES



Jesse Nightingale is on the Student Leadership Board of Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), and she is the Midwest Regional Student Leader. Every year, OCF is led by a team of talented students who take on leadership positions in Orthodox campus ministry. The Student Leadership Board works with staff and clergy volunteers to implement the programs of OCF, advise and inspire their peers on campuses, and develop new resources and programs for Orthodox college students. The Midwest Region includes Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Manitoba.

Most recently, Jesse planned and led the regional retreat in November at the Loyola Retreat Center outside Chicago where students from all over the region gathered for fellowship, stewardship, and learning with Father Athanasios Minetos. The next retreat is in the spring at St. Iakovos in Kenosha, Wisconsin. She will attend College Conference in December. Jesse was also in charge of Orthodox Awareness Month.

The Mission of OCF:

OCF transforms the lives of college students by guiding them along the path to Jesus Christ through His Church, cultivating a campus community of worship, witness, service, fellowship, and education. Their goal is to actualize the Orthodox Christian life in the hearts, minds, and souls of college students by facilitating unified campus ministry efforts—reaching Orthodox college students on campuses throughout North America. OCF does this by working continuously to improve in the areas of leadership training, high school to college transition, and college to parish transition through new and innovative programs as well as partnerships with other organizations in the Orthodox world.

OCF's programs and partnerships offer an environment for students interested in deeper spiritual experiences. Every year, Real Break, College Conference, and similar events are hosted to enrich the spiritual lives of students. These programs stand apart as premier service and educational opportunities available to any college student.

Most importantly, OCF continues to provide a home for students on college campuses across the continent

The Vision of OCF:

- to be the loving presence of Christ and the Orthodox Christian Church on college campuses
- to be an integral part of students' spiritual formation by challenging them to explore the Faith
- to inspire students to commit to living an Orthodox Christian way of life daily

Learn more about the important mission of OCF here at www.ocf.net. Jesse is the daughter of Justine Nightingale and the granddaughter of Bruce and Joan Ferris.

BITS & PIECES



Shirley Ellis 85th Birthday celebration on November 21.

Many Years!



**BABY
BOY**

Leonidas Panteleimon Kambiotis, son of Padelis and Theodora Kambiotis was born on December 1. He weighed 7.6 lbs and measuring 20" in length.

Congratulations and Many Years!

BITS & PIECES

Bishop Basil Endowment



Honor Bishop BASIL on his name day, the Feast of St. Basil the Great, January 1, with a gift to the Endowment Fund that bears his name for establishing and maintaining missions within the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America. Make mail your check to St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church payable to “St Mary Orthodox Christian Church” and earmark “Bishop Basil Endowment”, and take this opportunity to honor Bishop BASIL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

Bishop Basil's 2021 Nativity Greeting

The Nativity 2021

To the Right Reverend Archimandrites, the Very Reverend and Reverend Priests and Deacons and their families, the Venerable Monastics, and all the Christ-loving Faithful of the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America:

I embrace and greet you with a holy kiss in the Name of the Incarnate Christ. I send to each of you and your communities my paternal love, festal greetings, and prayerful best wishes for the merriest of Christmases and a healthy and happy 2022.

Christ is born!



المسيح ولد

In Christ Jesus the Incarnate Word,

+ Basil

Bishop of Wichita and the Diocese of Mid-America

BITS & PIECES



Medical Mercy Report for Lebanon

Summary: Cash donations :64k
Total prescribed pills: 388k
(Antibiotics, HTN/DM meds, thyroid/seizure meds, Plavix ...) 14 pallets medical supplies from via Christi : 100k items
Total baby formula: 3550 lbs.
Total diapers: 27000
Total thermometer: 137 total
BP machine: 100
Total oximeter: 218
Adult Tylenol: 100 K pills
Adult Ibuprofen : >100K pills
Baby ibuprofen: 400 bottles
Baby Tylenol: 1250 bottles/boxes
Foley Catheter: 1200 foley
Oxygen masks/cannula: 800
Aspirin: 15k
Calcium:12k pills
Sterile gauze: 10k
Iron: 30k pills
Others: baby wipes, syringes, vitamins, hand sanitizer



AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

AND this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

AND all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

AND Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David.

TO be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

AND so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

AND she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

AND there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

AND, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were sore afraid.

AND the angel said unto them, *“Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which is Christ the Lord.”*

“AND this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”

AND suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”*

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!



About The Scroll

The Scroll is the news magazine of St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church, 344 S. Martinson, Wichita, KS, 67213. It was first published in March of 1974 as a newsletter and has evolved to its present magazine-style format. **The Scroll** includes information about our Orthodox Christian faith as well as news of our parish community. Deadline dates for publication are listed in each issue of **The Scroll** and also in the weekly church bulletins.

Inquiries and news items should be sent to: rokallail@att.net or to the above church address C/O The Scroll.

All news must be received by the announced deadline dates. Submitted material may be edited for content and space limitations. All submitted items should include the name of the person sending the material as well as identifying the original source of previously published pieces.

The Scroll Ministry Team

Claire Dannenberg
Deacon James Kallail
Ro Kallail
Amy Minks



LOOKING AHEAD

December 20
Advent Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.

December 24
Office Closed
Royal Hours & Typica 8:00 a.m.
Nativity Vigil 4:50 p.m.
Liturgy 6:00 p.m.

December 25
Christmas

December 31
At St. George
Liturgy 6:30 p.m.

January 1
Happy New Year
Name Day of Bishop BASIL

January 6
Holy Theophany

January 30
Synaxis of The Three
Hierarchs: Basil the Great,
Gregory the Theologian, and
John Chrysostom

