



SACRED HEART BEAT

DECEMBER 2023

NEWSLETTER OF SACRED HEART PARISH

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THE FAITH JOURNEY OF REV ANSELM KENTUS CHIJOKE EKE, MSP

Born on March 18, 1965, Anselm Kentus Chijioke Eke is the 2nd of seven sons born to Mr. Emmanuel Eke and Mrs. Marcilina (Alim) Eke both of blessed memory from Obodo Ahiara, Ahiazu Mbaise, Imo State of Nigeria. After graduation from high school in 1981, he began to give serious thoughts to a vocation to the priesthood.

On November 7, 1984, young Anselm entered the National Missionary Seminary of St. Paul, Abuja Nigeria, where he completed undergraduate studies in Philosophy (June 1988) and Theology (June 1992).

Rev. Anselm was ordained a priest for the missions, along with nine of his classmates, on July 1, 1992 at Abuja, Nigeria. His first assignment was to St. Therese Church Bwari Abuja (August 1992 – October 1993) as associate pastor. He was later assigned to St. Charles Effium, Abakiliki, Nigeria (December 1993 – September 1994) also as associate pastor. On October 18, 1994, Rev. Anselm embarked on his first missionary trip outside of his homeland; he was sent to Cameroon in Central Africa. He was made chaplain of Anglophone Catholic Community (English speaking Catholics living in the predominantly French speaking city of Douala in Cameroon). This community was later to grow into a parish (St. Joseph Bonaberi) and Rev Anselm was named the pioneer pastor in September 1997.

During the period he spent in Cameroon, Rev Anselm, among many other things he did, initiated and supervised the building of the church and rectory of St. Joseph parish Bonaberi, Douala. The Church was dedicated on June 30, 2002. Rev Anselm spent 8 years in the Cameroon Mission.

In January, 2003, Rev. Anselm set his eyes beyond the shores of Africa when he was assigned to the Caribbean Island of Grenada. He served as pastor of St. Peter's Parish Gouyave until he left Grenada in August 2006. Rev Anselm recounts that the mission in Grenada was very challenging and yet very fulfilling. But one experience he would not forget in a hurry was the event of hurricane 'Ivan' which happened on Sept. 7, 2004. It devastated Grenada and

especially the church was left the worst for it. He found himself struggling with the people of Grenada for the next two years to rebuild their lives and their churches. Thanks be to God, before he left Grenada in August 2006, the church of St. Peter had been restored.

Rev. Anselm moved to the United States in August 2006, and was assigned as associate pastor in the Church of St. Benedict the Moor in Savannah, Georgia. On August 30, 2007 he was appointed pastor of St. Therese Church in Orange, Texas where he served until July 1, 2013. While at St. Therese, Rev. Anselm supervised the building and witnessed the dedication of the new church. He was in Orange, TX for 6 years.

Effective July 2, 2013, Rev. Anselm was assigned to the Diocese of Dodge City. He was appointed pastor of St. John the Evangelist Hoisington KS and also doubled as chaplain of the Dominican sisters in Great Bend (a ministry that lasted for 6 months). In January 2014, in addition to being pastor at St. John the Evangelist, Rev Anselm was appointed pastor of St. Ann's church Olmitz, KS. He remained pastor of the two churches until July 5, 2023 when he was transferred to Sacred Heart of Jesus Larned and St. Bernard Catholic Church, Belpre. He is having a good time in these two beautiful churches.

Rev. Anselm has undertaken post seminary studies leading to his earning a Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Theological Studies. He knows that whatever he has accomplished today is because of the grace of God. And this is why he can reiterate his motto at his ordination:

“To God Alone be the Glory”.



**The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday - December 8th**

Masses:

**7:00 am at St. Bernard, Belpre
9:30 am at Diversicare of Larned
6:00 pm at Sacred Heart, Larned**

FINANCE/PROPERTY COMMISSION

- ❖ Met November 15, 2023
- ❖ Members present: Dennis Wilson, Jim Damm, Jenny Ramsey, Tom Giessel, Jacques Molleker, Pam Huffles, Fr. Anselm.
Unable to attend: Kathy Couchman
- ❖ Minutes of the October 18, 2023 meeting were approved following corrections.
- ❖ The group reviewed the financial reports for October 2023 which showed income of \$30,924.25 and expenses of \$21,017.52 for a monthly gain of \$9,906.73. The October 2023 balance sheet showed assets of \$527,428.04 compared to \$458,046.52 at the end of October 2022.
- ❖ Window replacement: Still waiting to hear about window replacement for the Rectory.
- ❖ Roof replacements will probably be in the spring when the weather is warmer.
- ❖ Jason added nightlights in each restroom in the Parish Center.
- ❖ Video Monitor in Church: Dennis is meeting with Hammeke Electric tomorrow, November 16th to get an estimate on placement of the video monitor. Dennis will also ask Hammeke Electric their thoughts on lights in the Parish Center restrooms and also see if they can check the speakers in the choir loft. There is no sound coming from the speakers.
- ❖ Pam shared that there is no light by the south side door of the Parish Center. PSR students use the playground equipment and as it gets darker earlier, Catechists have a hard time monitoring them. Dennis will ask Hammeke Electric for their thoughts on the installation of a light.
- ❖ Next meeting: February 21, 2024 @ 12:00 Noon



Reverse Advent Calendar

For the past several years, the Heart to Heart Ministry has organized a "Reverse Advent Calendar" food drive during Advent to help with food insecurities in our community and county. The need continues to be great among individuals and families. With your help and support, Heart to Heart is once again continuing this important service ministry.

This issue of the Sacred Heart Beat contains the "Reverse Advent Calendar" with suggestions for each day. Please know these are only suggestions. As well as nonperishable food items, there is also a need for nonfood items such as toothpaste, tooth brushes, dental floss, deodorant, bath products, cleaning and laundry supplies, paper products, etc.

As a way to help get children involved, try having them choose items to give to those less fortunate. Kids learn so much easier when they are a part of serving rather than just by hearing about serving/service!

Donated items can be left in the Church vestibule when convenient or during normal office hours at the Parish Education Center. We will deliver the items to the food pantry during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day or during the first week of January 2024. Thank you very much for your donations. May God richly bless you this Advent season and throughout the coming year!

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

- Dec. 3 ~ Refreshments after Mass / Blessing of December Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Dec. 3 ~ "The Chosen" Season 3 with Pot-Luck, 12:00 PM
- Dec. 3 ~ Advent Penance Service, 4:00 PM
- Dec. 4 ~ Adult Faith Formation Group, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 5 ~ Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 5 ~ Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Dec. 6 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Dec. 6 ~ RCIA, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 7 ~ Benedictine Oblates Gathering, 11:00 AM
- Dec. 7 ~ Pastoral Council Meeting, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 8 ~ Larned Community Blood Drive, 12:00 to 6:00 PM
- Dec. 11 ~ Adult Faith Formation Group, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 12 ~ Game Morning, 9:30 – 11:30 AM
- Dec. 12 ~ Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 13 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Dec. 13 ~ RCIA, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 17 ~ "The Chosen" Season 3 with Pot-Luck, 12:00 PM
- Dec. 18 ~ Heart to Heart Ministry Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 19 ~ "Lunch with Friends", 12:00 Noon
- Dec. 19 ~ Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 20 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Dec. 20 ~ RCIA, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 25 ~ No Adult Faith Formation Group
- Dec. 27 ~ No RCIA
- Dec. 27 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

DECEMBER PSR SCHEDULE

- Dec. 3 – PSR Mass (3rd Grade), 10:30 AM
- Dec. 6 – Regular Classes
- Dec. 13 – Regular Classes
- Dec. 20 – No Classes / Christmas Break
- Dec. 27 – No Classes / Christmas Break

LET'S PREPARE FOR ADVENT

Take time to be aware that in the very midst of our busy preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth in ancient Bethlehem, Christ is reborn in the 'Bethlehems' of our homes and daily lives. Take time, slow down, be still, and be awake to the Divine Mystery that looks so common and so ordinary yet is wondrously present.

"An old abbot was fond of saying, 'The devil is always the most active on the highest feast days.'

"The supreme trick of Old Scratch is to have us so busy decorating, preparing food, practicing music and cleaning in preparation for the feast of Christmas that we actually miss the coming of Christ. Hurt feelings, anger, impatience, injured egos—the list of clouds that busyness creates to blind us to the birth can be long, but it is familiar to us all."

Culled from Take Time to be Aware by Edward Hays, A Pilgrim's Almanac, p. 196

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| (02) Darlene Befort | (17) Shannon Fischer |
| John Hutfles | (19) Kellyn Eck |
| (04) Brandon Cenicerros | Malia Schartz |
| (05) Mike Mauney | (20) Brad Bauer |
| (06) Yareli Gonzalez | Weston Jacobs |
| Stephen Heit | Felicity Newell |
| Libby Keller | (21) Joe Simmons |
| (07) Gretchen Holopirek | Richard VonFeldt |
| Samantha Jacobs | (22) Jessie Weiszbrod |
| Peyton Weiszbrod | (25) Andy Tran |
| (09) Paxton DiMarzo | (26) Jean Simmons |
| (10) Mary Mitchell | (27) Alec Carlson |
| Janice Schroth | (28) Mary Klinge |
| (11) Linda Lemuz | Liz McDonald |
| Jeanie Snyder | (31) Brayson Bird |
| (12) Amara Nwachukwu-Udaku | Kayla Josefiak |
| Cindy Perez | Marissa Smith |
| (13) Kristin Dooley | Amy Welsch |
| Natalie Stude | |
| (14) Kathy Hammeke | |
| Betty Hulsey | |
| (16) Karen Kuntz | |
| Jeremy McDonald | |
| Morris Smith III | |



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- (01) Henry and Kristen Snodgrass
 (04) Mike and Connie Mauney
 (19) Doug and Jennifer McNett
 (28) Joe and Annie Garcia



CONGRATULATIONS!

Joe & Annie Garcia ~ Married 50 years
 Doug & Jennifer McNett ~ Married 25 years



DIED IN CHRIST

Eleanor Bauer ~ November 9, 2023
 Mary Klinge ~ November 18, 2023

Advent
 Penance
 Service



Sunday
 December 3rd
 4:00 PM

Sacred Heart Church

NET INCOME/EXPENSES BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023

	OCTOBER	YTD
INCOME:		
Collections	29,731.72	78,096.37
Special Donations		105.00
Endowment		8,000.00
Interest	26.88	99.53
Farm		
PSR	50.00	17,337.00
Fundraisers		617.95
Miscellaneous	<u>1,115.65</u>	<u>88,655.83</u>
TOTAL	\$30,924.25	\$192,911.68
EXPENSES:		
Stewardship	1,290.60	6,368.10
Salaries	13,152.86	58,266.50
Insurance		7,596.00
Utilities	2,941.10	9,750.68
Maintenance	242.75	2,655.85
Improvement		
Office	1,410.05	4,310.52
PSR	943.14	16,761.75
Farm		
Miscellaneous	<u>1,037.02</u>	<u>5,146.66</u>
TOTAL	\$21,017.52	\$110,856.06
		YTD: \$82,055.62

Remember with Prayer

Frank Garcia
 Richard Wolf
 Rita O'Gwin
 Bert Schartz
 Marie Welden
 Brenda Martin
 Fr. Warren Stecklein
 Fr. Charles Mazouch
 Stan Durler
 Larry Trujillo
 Shauna Nwachukwu-Udaku
 Lindsey (Johnson) Gaylord



Sherry Lemuz
 Doris Schaller
 Leon Sanders
 Ryan Shelton
 Clayton Kelty
 Sue Haymaker
 Trenton Welsch
 Kevin Simmons
 Lee Durler
 Kathy Hammeke

All of our men and women serving in the
 United States Military, our homebound parishioners
 and those in care homes.



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses ~ December 24th

5:00 pm at Sacred Heart, Larned
 7:00 pm at St. Bernard, Belpre

Christmas Day Mass ~ December 25th

9:00 am at Sacred Heart, Larned

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9:00 am – Sunday – January 1st at Sacred Heart

ALL ARE INVITED to come to the parish center following the 10:30 am Mass on **Sunday, December 3rd** for refreshments where Fr. Anselm will give a special blessing to parishioners celebrating their **Birthday and/or Anniversary in December**. Then plan to stay for the viewing of **The Chosen** Season 3. A pot-luck dinner will be shared before the viewing.





SACRED HEART PARISH
1111 STATE STREET
LARNED, KS 67550

Return Service Requested

Non Profit Org.
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Larned, KS 67550
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