



ST. MARY'S PARISH

703 Monroe St., Ellis, KS 67637

February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent

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 17 - Sept. 13, 2026

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

February 23 - March 1

Mon: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46

Tue: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15

Wed: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32

Thu: Esther C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12

Fri: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26

Sat: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48

Sun: Genesis 12:1-4a; Matthew 17:1-9

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	Feb 21	5:30 p.m.	Clifford "Cliff" Kreutzer+ (anniv)
Sun	Feb 22	7:00 a.m.	Albert & Jennie Pfeifer+ Family (liv/dec)
Sun	Feb 22	9:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners
Mon	Feb 23	5:30 p.m.	Edger & Rosemary Bittel+, Elaine Bittel+, and Wayne King+
Tues	Feb 24	8:10 a.m.	Lucille Kuhn+
Wed	Feb 25	8:10 a.m.	Syl & Jeannie Rome+ and Dennis Rome+
	EGSC	10:00 a.m.	Neil DeWarff+
Thurs	Feb 26	8:10 a.m.	Cliffard "Cliff" Kreutzer+
Fri	Feb 27	8:10 a.m.	Darlene Werth+ (anniv)
Sat	Feb 28	5:30 p.m.	Otto & Philomene Berens+ Family (liv/dec)
Sun	Mar 1	7:00 a.m.	John Rupp+, Theresa Rupp+, and Arlene Rupp+ (anniv)
Sun	Mar 1	9:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners

Meetings & Events

Sun	Feb. 22	Lenten Study Series @ 10:30am RCIA @ 2:00pm
Mon	Feb. 23	Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm
Tues	Feb. 24	SMS Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-7pm
Wed	Feb. 25	YDisciples gather @ 6:30pm CCD Classes meet at 7:00pm
Thurs	Feb. 26	Eucharistic Adoration @ 9:00am-5:00pm SMS Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-7pm
Fri	Feb. 27	No School Stations of the Cross @ 5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper following Stations
Sun	March 1	Rite of Sending & Enrollment @ 9am Lenten Study Series @ 10:30am Youth Choir Practice @ 2:00pm Rite of Election for RCIA @ 3pm @ St. Nick's

Ministries for February 28 & March 1

Ministry	5:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m.
Lector	Sharon Bittel	Alissa Rehmert
Presentation of Gifts	Duane & Karen Dorzweiler	<i>Need Volunteers</i>
Eucharistic Minister(s)	Terry & Cindy Zervas	Jackie Flax Curtis Weber Sarah Eck
Servers	Caleb, Landon, Mason Schield	Olivia & Vincent Eck
Cantor / Musician	Alyson Johnson Abby Serpan	Brad Deines Amy Staab
Ushers & Greeters	Pat & Diane Kuhn Rick & Nancy Cunningham	Eric & Kristen Gaschler Family

Other Ministries

7:00am Lector	March 1 (Sun)	April Pfeifer
Communion to Homebound	February 27 (Fri)	Mindy Eck
Ellis Good Samaritan	March 1 (Sun) 10:00 a.m.	Barney Boos
Rosary Leaders	February 28 (Sat) 5:30 p.m. March 1 (Sun) 9:00 a.m.	Ginger Schoenthaler Josita Dreiling
Monthly Money Counters	February	Bob & Margie Mickelson

Parish Announcements

- **Stations of the Cross and Lenten Soup Suppers:** Each Friday during Lent, Fr. Dana will lead the *Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm*. When the Ellis Knights of Columbus are not hosting their Lenten Fish Fry, we will host a *Lenten Soup Supper* following Stations, in the church basement. These soup suppers will be February 27, March 13 and March 27. If you would like to make a meatless soup, provide fresh veggies, fruit, bread and/or a dessert for these gatherings, please contact the Parish Office a week ahead of time!



- **Youth Choir to Sing, March 8th:** Students who are in the 3rd grade and older are invited to come sing with us on Sunday, March 8th at 9:00am Mass! A required practice will take place on Sunday, March 1st at 2:00pm in the church. Please RSVP to Nancy C. by calling or texting 785-726-1096.

- **"Follow the Yellow Brick Road" to the 31st Annual Auction** on Saturday, March 28th! We are accepting donations items or monetary gifts! Items will be auctioned off at either our silent or live auctions! Monetary gifts may be used to purchase items (with your name for credit if you choose) for either of the auctions. If you plan to donate an item, we ask for you to let us know or turn the item(s) into the Parish Office by March 1st, so we can make sure it is included in the book. Information has been mailed out, but you can also access the details for this big event on either the church website or the auction website: charityauction.bid/stmarysauction2026. On the auction website, you can browse the items, purchase admission tickets, raffle tickets, and/or make a cash donation to the auction or our Special Item. Reserve your seat for you, family and friends for \$70.00 each! Tickets include a bidding number, appetizers, drinks at the open bar, dinner catered by Kitchen-N-Stitchin' Dickerson's Catering! Don't forget to get your chances to win \$10,000! As always, stop by the Parish Office and we can help you with tickets and your donations!

Notes from the Pastor

Lenten Study Series. The first session for our Lenten study series “The Rescue Project” is this Sunday, February 22 at 10:30am in the church basement. Everyone is invited!

Stations of the Cross and Soup Suppers. Stations of Cross are Fridays during Lent at 5:30pm. This Friday, February 27, we will hosting a soup supper following the Stations. Call the Parish Office if you’d wish to bring a side dish or dessert to the Soup Supper.

Auction Update:

- **FOUR WEEKS AWAY!** Purchase your **Admission Tickets** now, and invite family and friends. Our goal is to have 300 attendees. Pick up a pack of the *invitation cards* on the table in the back of the church and hand them out to your family and friends. As of this past Friday, we have sold 35 tickets, so we have a ways to go. Don’t wait until the last minute—ticket price does increase soon!
- Purchase your chance to win \$10,000 cash with **Raffle Tickets**. We are only selling 450 tickets for this Raffle, with four chances of winning cash. This makes your odds of winning approximately 1 in 100, if you purchase one ticket. Your odds go up as you purchase more tickets. In comparison, the odds of winning a lottery is 1 in several million! Whether you win cash or not, you are still a winner, because you are supporting a great cause.
- If you are **donating an item** (cash or tangible), send or bring in your donation or call and let us know what you plan to donate, so we can enter your donation into the system. We would like to have the item or description of the item by the first week in March, so we can work on finalizing the items for the auction website and auction book.
- Visit our **Auction Website**. Browse the items coming in as we enter them into the system. Items (cash and tangible) are added to our system as we receive them. *Note:* The final list of auction items will be different because some items may be packaged into larger items, when assigned to the silent and live auctions. On our Auction Website, you can also purchase your Admission Tickets and Raffle Tickets there too. When you register online (whether your attending in-person or not), you will be automatically assigned a “paddle #”. This will allow you to “pre-bid” once the silent auction opens until the day of the Auction. If you wish, you may also donate a Cash Donation or make a pledge to our Special Project.

March 1st. On Sunday, March 1, during the 9:00am Mass we will be **celebrating our Confirmation Class and Members in RCIA**. The Rite of Sending takes place in the parish with the RCIA members, in which the parish “sends” the catechumens and candidates to the bishop. The Rite of Enrollment is for our Confirmation class. This Rite is being celebrated along with the Rite of Sending for our RCIA catechumen and candidates. Lastly, the Rite of Election for the western part of the Diocese is Sunday March 1 at 3:00pm at St. Nick’s in Hays. This is a special ceremony marking the transition from one RCIA period to the next for those catechumens seeking to enter the Catholic Church.

Have a good week! Fr. Dana

Parish Organizations

- **Card Night with the Knights:** The Ellis Knights of Columbus will open the Knights Hall on Wednesday, February 25th at 7:00pm for a card night! A great evening of fellowship!
- **BUNCO!** Ellis Daughters of Isabella are hosting Bunco Night at the Knights Hall on Thursday, February 26th at 6:00pm. Round up the friends and come join us! Light snacks will be served.
- This Lenten season, William Eck and Easton Werth, seniors at TMP-Marian High School, are hosting a **Lenten Food Drive** to support **Catholic Charities of Northern Kansas** as part of their senior Capstone Project. The goal of this effort is to help stock Catholic Charities’ shelves this spring so they can continue providing food to families in need in Hays and throughout Northwest Kansas. This is a meaningful way for our parish to serve those who are struggling and to live out our faith during Lent. The food drive began on **Ash Wednesday, February 18th**, and will continue through **Holy Thursday, April 2nd**. Catholic Charities has requested specific food items. You can find copies of the donation list in the gathering space near the marked collection boxes. Thank you for your generosity and support!
- **Join us for the CRS Rice Bowl:** Make a difference this Lenten season: Fast, Give, Pray, Change Lives. Every gift you give helps a child thrive, brings hope to a family and rebuilds a community. Pick up your Rice Bowl from one of the entrances of the church.

Parish Prayer List

Please Remember in Prayer

Denice Allen, Juanita Augustine, Henry Dinkel,
Dianne Durler, Joe & Arlene Erbert, Cody Fisher,
Cheryl Noles, Sr. Doris Flax, Gary Flax, Debbie Haas,
Edna Hejny, Steve Hejny, Nathan Hively, Mason Honas,
Doug Kingsley, Tim Kingsley & Family, Gilbert Kinderknecht,
Agneta Kuhn, Kevin LaBarge, Shawna LaBarge,
Martin & Debbie LaBarge, Norma Lang, Marge Metzler,
Riley Moore, Dean Neuberger, Elizabeth Newton,
Ramona Patten, 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: February 7 & 8

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

Offertory Loose Plate.....\$831.00

Adult Envelopes.....\$4,372.00

Total Giving.....\$5,203.00

This weekend’s collection is below by \$1,642.00.

School Announcements

Tuesday, Feb. 24—Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, Feb. 25—Mrs. Meagher's Virtue Crew LOFT Lunch

Thursday, Feb. 26—Miss Brungardt's Virtue Crew LOFT Lunch & P/T Conferences

Friday, Feb. 27—No School

The **Scholastic Book Fair** is coming to St. Mary's School on February 24th and 26th 3:30-7:00pm! The same days as our Parent- Teacher Conferences! The Fair will also be open in the morning before school: February 23-26, 7:30-8:00am. It will be in the basement of St. Mary's, in the library. Come check out the books!! Start exploring together: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stmarygradeschool2>

The encourages student to read AND raise funds for our school. One way to pay is with an eWallet. You can create one for your student so they can shop cash free and independently during the Fair. Visit the link above for more info. The Fair is open to any and all who love books! A great opportunity to shop for Easter baskets, birthday gifts or even early Christmas gifts. We hope to see you at St. Mary's Book Fair!



Baby Bottle Campaign: We are still collecting donations for the Catholic Charities of Northern Kansas Baby Bottle Campaign, now through March 6! Each classroom has a large baby bottle, and for 2 weeks, students, families, staff are encouraged to bring in spare change, cash, or checks to help fill it up. Even small amounts of change collected make a real and tangible difference. Join us in giving hope and making an impact!

- **SAVE THE DATE:** Mark your calendar to join us for Pre-School/Kindergarten Round-Up at St. Mary's School on Thursday, March 12th! Incoming Preschool students visit in the morning and Incoming Kindergarten students visit in the afternoon. More information to come soon!
- **St. Mary's Home & School Scholarship Opportunity:** We are offering the opportunity to any former St. Mary's School graduate that is now graduating from high school who will future their education by means of higher education to a \$500 scholarship from St. Mary's Home & School Association. *Applications are due by April 7, 2026.* Applications are available by contacting the School Office or Mrs. Park at ppark@stmarysellis.net.

Diocese Announcements

- **College Scholarships:** There are three scholarship opportunities are available for the 2026-2027 school year. The application process is online and open NOW! Students are encouraged to apply by **March 1, 2026** at givecfds.org/scholarships.
 - ★ Monsignor Clement A. Kruse (approx. \$500): Applicant must be an active, registered member of Catholic parish in the Diocese of Salina.
 - ★ Marymount Memorial Education Trust (\$1,000-3,000): Applicant must be attending an accredited Catholic College as a full-time student and an active, registered member of a Catholic parish in the Diocese of Salina.
 - ★ Susie Deges (\$1,000): For high school seniors, specifically, in the Diocese who are active in their local CYO.
- **SAVE THE DATE: Together in Holiness** is a one-day conference, grace-filled experience designed with busy families in mind. **Together in Holiness** is a marriage enrichment initiative that inspires couples to grow together in holiness and empowers and equips parents to form their children in the Catholic faith. The first annual **Together in Holiness** conference will be held on Saturday April 18th at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays! **Early Bird Couple registration is \$54 or Early Bird Individual is \$35 (ending March 2nd).** Registration is now open, and interested couples can sign up and learn more <https://forlifeandfamily.org/events/th26-slks/>.

Community Announcements

- **Needing a Vacuum:** The Ellis Nutrition Center is in need of a new vacuum cleaner for their facilities. If you have one that you no longer use and/or wish to donate towards a purchase of a new one, please contact Leonard S. at 785-726-1278.



In-Pew Weekend for Bishop's Annual Appeal

This weekend is in-pew weekend for the 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal. Our parish goal this year is \$13,500. Your gift, regardless of size, helps us reach this goal and supports ministries and programs across the diocese, including members of our parish. If you have not yet given to the appeal but would like to, there are many different ways to GIVE: by returning your pledge card at any time in the Offertory, mail your pledge card/gift to: Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 1696, Salina, KS 67402, or online at appeal.givecfds.org.

Lenten FOOD DRIVE

*Hosted by Easton Werth &
Will Eck – Seniors at TMP-
Marian H.S. – Capstone
Project*

Join Us in Feeding the Hungry!

Dates: February 18th – April 2nd.

Drop-Off Location: Marked boxes in the Gathering Space

**Donation
Items
Needed:** Jiffy Mix, Pudding or Jello Mixes, Macaroni &
Cheese, Canned Tuna or Chicken, Jelly,
Pancake Mix, Canned Soup, Instant Potatoes,
Cereal, Canned Vegetables or Fruit, Peanut
Butter

*Thank you for
providing **HOPE** to our
Neighbors in Need!*

*This will help Catholic
Charities stock shelves and
continue providing food
boxes to those in need.*

