

"Beacon of Faith,"
ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

"Cathedral of the Plains,"
THE BASILICA OF ST. FIDELIS

"Pearl of the Prairie,"
ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH



Parish Office:	601 10th Street, Victoria, KS 67671 • 785-735-2777 • Fax: 785-735-2779 Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30 — Friday 8:30-12:00	Catholic Faith Education Office: 785-735-9244	
Gift Shop Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:30–noon and 1:00–4:30 Friday: 8:30–noon	Weddings: Couples planning to marry must contact the Parish Office at least 6 months before the wedding date for marriage preparations.	Baptisms: All new parents are asked to complete a Baptismal Preparation class before their child is baptized. For information, please call the Parish Office.	Hospital Visits: To arrange for our pastor to visit someone in the hospital, please call the Parish Office.
In-Home Mass: Any homebound or hospice family interested in having Mass in their home should contact Bertha Brungardt at the Parish Office.	Holy Communion Brought to Homebound: Holy Communion can be brought to homebound parishioners. Please contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know is unable to come to a Sunday Mass.	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: THURSDAYS 10:00 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M. in St. Fidelis Church Chapel behind the main altar	

www.stfidelischurch.com / www.stbonifacevincent.com

April 3, 2016 – Divine Mercy Sunday

Masses:

St. Fidelis, Victoria

Saturday — 5:00 pm
Sunday — 10:00 am
Monday — 7:00 pm
Tuesday through Friday — 6:45 am

St. Ann, Walker

Saturday — 6:30 pm — November - April
Sunday — 7:30 am — May - October

St. Boniface, Vincent

Sunday — 8:45 am

Confessions:

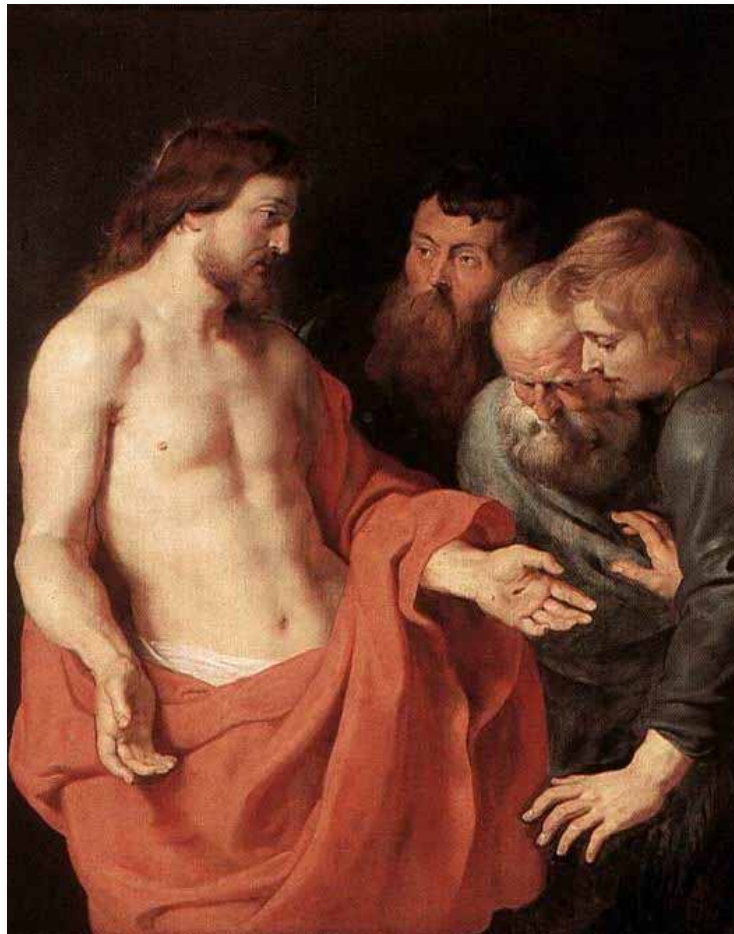
at St. Fidelis — Mondays — 7:30 pm
or by appointment (contact Parish Office)

Tri-Parish Prayer Line

Anyone wishing to request prayers for family or friends may call Helen Windholz (735-2508) or Teresa Shepherd (735-9576) to add their requests to the Prayer Line

Dates To Remember

April 10 — First Communion at St. Fidelis and St. Boniface
April 24 — Feast of St. Fidelis
April 24 — Fidelisfest
May 8 — Mother's Day
May 15 — High School Graduation
May 18 — 8th Grade Promotions
May 19 — Last day of school
May 21 — Armed Forces Day
May 30 — Memorial Day — PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
June 5 — Feast of St. Boniface
June 14 — Flag Day
June 19 — Father's Day
July 4 — Independence Day — PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
July 26 — Feast of St. Ann



Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.

(from the Holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31)



Today's gospel is the only Sunday gospel that is read on all three years of the liturgical cycle. Even Christmas and Easter offer alternate gospels, but the Second Sunday of Easter is always the story of the Doubting Thomas (Jn 20:19-31). This captivating story, only in John's gospel, offers many points of reflection and raises some interesting questions.

Why was Thomas not with the other apostles when the Lord first appeared to them? Had he given up on his community of faith which the Lord had founded? If Thomas had such a difficulty, ultimately he returned and made the boldest profession of faith of all the apostles, "My Lord and my God." Perhaps he represents disenchanting Catholics who withdraw from their parish community and stop attending church. Many who return after a lapse of practicing the faith often have a deeper conviction than routine Catholics.

And why did the Lord wait a week to reappear in the presence of Thomas? Why not get this over and done with at once? Perhaps Christ was allowing Thomas time to work through his struggle of faith. We are not all ready at the same moment to make a lasting faith commitment. The personal circumstances of one's life, the opportunities for religious education and for faith development affect one's ability to commit to the responsibilities of faith. Not all the workers in the vineyard began at the first hour, yet all received the same reward.

What about the other apostles? Were their words to Thomas a vain boast? "We have seen the Lord." Were they taunting Thomas, claiming to be more favored apostles than he? The manner in which we outwardly profess our faith affects others. We can edify them or embarrass them. It takes great prudence to challenge unbelievers without turning them off. Good example must be given in a good manner.

Should Thomas be honored as a model, even a saint? Belief is a virtue. Has doubt now somehow become a virtue? Doubt may not be a virtue in and of itself, but doubt is an essential part of an authentic faith. St. Philip Neri wrote, "Our faith owes more to the doubts of Thomas than to the belief of all the other Apostles." How can that be true?

Our doubts must be admitted and engaged if our faith is to grow. An unexamined faith is not an authentic faith. A thousand doubts do not make a single denial. The doubting apostle Thomas is offered as a model for modern Christians who raise honest questions from the perspective of a sincere faith. It is significant that Thomas doubted. It is more important that ultimately he believed.

Finally, the question of Jesus, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." That may appear to be a rebuke of Thomas. But is it? Thomas was deprived of the first appearance of Christ to the apostles. He had not seen when the others had. Yet eventually he did believe. He doubted, but he did not despair. A thousand doubts do not make a single denial. Christ's words may be a subtle blessing of Thomas. Perhaps Christ is blessing not so much those who have never doubted, but more so those whose struggle with faith has led them to the deeper faith of Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

... and mirth

Wrinkles are something other people have, similar to my character lines.

Parish Staff

Pastor:

Fr. John Schmeidler, OFM, Cap.
email: frjohncap@gmail.com

Secretary:

Jan Brungardt
email: fidelis@ruraltel.net

Catholic Faith Education Office:

Shirley Brungardt, Coordinator
email: sfreled@ruraltel.net
Jeanette Brungardt, Youth Minister
email: fidelisyouth@ruraltel.net

Family Life Office:

Bertha Brungardt, Coordinator
email: sffamily@ruraltel.net

Sacristan: Katie Scheck

Housekeeping: Darlene Dreiling

Groundskeeper: Julius Dreiling

Maintenance: Joe Brungardt

Organists: Kathy Dreiling-Amrein
Lou Ann Hammersmith

Choir Director: Kathy Dreiling-Amrein

Technology Coordinator:

Connie Windholz
email: sfttech@ruraltel.net

Council Members

St. Fidelis Pastoral Council

Randy Leiker 259-1392 (Chair)
Andy Kuhn 639-2156 (Vice-Chair, B & G)
LeeAnn Schmidtberger 735-9486 (Sec)
Janea Dinkel 735-9529 (FamLife)
Peggy Fitzpatrick 735-8186 (RelEd)
Daren Lang 735-2855 (Finance)
Doug Kuhn 650-1058
Donna Juenemann 735-9700

St. Fidelis Finance Council

Curtis Sander 735-2559
John R. Braun 735-2622
Harland Rupp 735-2206
Dave Juenemann 656-0647

St. Boniface Pastoral Council

Carol Freitag 735-9282
Randy Huser 735-4836
Mike Eckroat 623-9566

St. Ann Pastoral Council

Helen Windholz 735-2293
Allen Hammerschmidt 735-2447
Jerry Nowak 637-5273

Contributions Easter March 26-27, 2016

ST. FIDELIS:

Adult 7488.00 Loose 1914.00
Cemetery 25.00

Catholic Relief 20.00

~ HOLY SATURDAY ~

Adult 1078.00 Loose 1069.00

ST. ANN:

Adult 2322.00 Loose 1178.00

ST. BONIFACE:

Adult 700.00 Loose 418.00
Candles 55.00

Money Counters

Apr. 4 — Randy Leiker, Tina Rajewski

Apr. 11 — Mary Brungardt, Det Younger

21st ANNUAL FIDELISFEST SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016

MASS—10:00 AM

COUNTRY STORE—11:00 AM UNTIL SOLD OUT

KID'S GAMES—11:00 AM

SILENT AUCTION—11:00-11:30

LIVE AUCTION—11:30

RAFFLE WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED
FOLLOWING THE LIVE AUCTION

HAMBURGERS, BEER, BRATS, AND POP
THROUGHOUT THE DAY

CHANGE OF LOCATION—BEHIND THE PAC
WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR MORE
INFORMATION

AUCTION ITEMS MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE
OFFICE DURING OFFICE HOURS OR BY CALLING
JAN AT 785-735-2777 TO ARRANGE FOR A
MORE CONVENIENT TIME.

ST. BONIFACE

Rain Mass and Blessing of Fields and Pastures at St. Boniface

The annual Rain Mass and Blessing of fields and pastures will be **Friday evening, April 15**, at 7:00 p.m. The Knights of Columbus will cook hamburgers and brats following in the parish hall for all to enjoy. All are welcome.

YOUTH MINISTRY



Jr. CYO will meet on **Wednesday, April 13**, from **6:30 – 7:15 P.M.** in the north sacristy at the Basilica of St. Fidelis.

JR. CYO Camp

Rock Springs Ranch • May 28 – May 31, 2016

This camp is available for any 6th through 8th grader, during the 2015-2016 school year. Rock Springs Ranch is a 4H Center and lays on a sprawling 700+ acres in the Kansas Flint Hills, located outside of Junction City. Outdoor activities available to kids will include: archery, volleyball, crafts, canoeing, softball, trap shooting, and horseback riding. Spiritual activities will include Mass, daily prayers, and a pit Mass, along with a surprise or two along the way. 😊

Registration forms along with the pre-registration fee are due to the Diocese of Salina by May 5, 2016. Please contact Jeanette, 785-735-9244, at the PAC with any questions and for registration forms.

A few kids have signed-up already and we hope and pray that many more can take advantage of this wonderful opportunity! Blessings.

Contributions Holy Thursday ASSISTANCE FUND March 24, 2016

ST. FIDELIS:

Adult 612.00 Loose 441.00

ST. ANN:

Adult 5.00

ST. BONIFACE:

Adult 15.00

Contributions Good Friday HOLY LAND March 25, 2016

ST. FIDELIS:

Adult 852.00 Loose 473.01

ST. ANN:

Adult 26.00

ST. BONIFACE:

Adult 30.00

CATHOLIC FAITH EDUCATION

Reminder:

Religious Education Committee Meeting

The REC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 12**, at 7:00 P.M. in the Parish Activity Center.

Religious Education K-12

On the last day of religious education, Wednesday April 27th, all grades in Kindergarten through 12th grade will meet at the Basilica of St. Fidelis for Mass at 7:00 P.M. Parents and families are welcome and encouraged to attend! This service will last between 30 to 45 minutes.

APRIL CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 6 — 2:30 – 3:30 P.M. Jubilee Choir Practice
Religious Education

K-5 6:30 – 7:15 P.M.

6-12 7:30 – 8:30 P.M.

*6:30 – 7:30 P.M. – Second grade meets at St. Fidelis, not at the PAC, for Sacrament of First Communion practice.
Banners due for First Communion.

Saturday-Sunday, April 9-10 — CYO Diocesan Convention in Salina, Kansas

Sunday, April 10 — Second graders receive Sacrament of First Communion at 10:00 A.M. Mass

Jubilee Choir performs at 10:00 A.M. Mass at St. Fidelis

Tuesday, April 12 — 7:00 P.M. Religious Education Meeting at PAC

Wednesday, April 13 — Religious Education

K-5 6:30 – 7:15 P.M.

6-12 7:30 – 8:30 P.M.

*Jr. CYO meets at 6:30 P.M. in North Sacristy at St. Fidelis

Wednesday, April 20 — Religious Education

K-5 6:30 – 7:15 P.M.

6-12 7:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Wednesday, April 27 — Last day of Religious Education Classes
7:00 P.M. — ALL of K-12 Mass at the Basilica of St. Fidelis

Victoria Elementary Still Collecting Box Tops

The **Pop Tabs** have been delivered to the **Ronald McDonald House** in Topeka! Victoria Elementary had a total of 123 pounds of tabs, and we were able to donate a check of \$47.97 this year. We have already started to collect for next year! Remember we are also collecting **Box Tops** so if you have any of these items be sure to give them to any elementary school student or staff member, or you can drop them off at the school. Thanks again for all your help!



Community Assistance Center — 12th and Oak, Hays

GARAGE SALE

Tuesday, April 5 • 8:00-11:00 am



HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT!

Host families are needed for high school exchange students for the 2016-2017 school year. The students will arrive from Europe, Asia, and South America in mid-August 2016 and will stay with the host family for one semester or until the end of the school year. They are in need of caring American families (with or without children) to provide a home and share with them this unique experience. The host family provides a bed, meals, friendship, understanding, and a genuine desire to share the American way of life with a student from overseas. The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance, and have spending money for their personal expenses. Approved families can view online student applications and select the student that best matches their own family. For more information, please call Kori Braun at 785-735-4161

Rachel 's Vineyard Retreats

The mercy of Jesus is like an ocean ready to flow into any soul who asks for even a small portion. Experience the healing touch of Jesus' mercy.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreats. *Healing the pain of abortion one weekend at a time.*

Next Retreat: May 20-22

1-877-I-GRIEVE (1-877-447-4383)

785.639.4643 (call or text)

rvineyard@ruraltel.net

CONFIDENTIAL

Prayer Hour for Our Nation

We need a lot of prayer, since we are in an important election season. Prayer hour **every 3rd Tuesday** of the month from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Fidelis Church. All are welcome!



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

American Red Cross

Victoria Community Blood Drive

V.F.W. Hall—204 E. Main

TUESDAY, APRIL 12 • 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Visit www.redcrossblood.org or call

800-RED-CROSS to schedule your appointment!

Redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED-CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

Download the Blood Donor App

Budweiser BUD LIGHT

MAKE IT A GREAT ROUND

At The 14th Annual VICTORIA HERZOGFEST GOLF TOURNAMENT

APRIL 30th, 2016 ~ RUSSELL GOLF COURSE

BEGINNING AT 10:00 AM

4 Person Scramble \$50 Per Person (Includes Mulligan)

CONTACT RUSSELL GOLF COURSE AT 785-483-2852 FOR REGISTRATION

FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE PRIZE MONEY AWARDED!

Can't afford a foreign pilgrimage?

Then consider a state-side pilgrimage during this Jubilee Year of Mercy to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge and Boston, Massachusetts, **July 23-27**. For more information go Divine Mercy Radio's web site at dvmercy.com, and click on the pilgrimage tab, or call 785-621-4110.



ALL AMERICAN BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 3 • 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Proceeds go to the

Blaine Billinger Excellence in Scouting

Adults-\$8.00; Children 5-12 yrs-\$3.00; Under 5 yrs-Free
At the Door-Adults-\$8.50

Contact **Kathy Kuhn at 785-735-5040** or
Marilyn Billinger at 785-735-4963

Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service

The Divine Mercy Prayer Service will be held at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 3**, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Hays. The hour will include Eucharistic Exposition, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in song, litany of prayers, and meditation.



Jesus entrusted Saint Maria Faustina with the task of spreading the message of his Divine Mercy through a series of visions and interior locutions in the 1930s. When Pope John Paul II canonized Saint Faustina April 30, 2000, he declared the Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday and an official feast day of the Church.

Everyone is encouraged to pray the novena to the Divine Mercy, which begins on Good Friday, March 25. Leaflets on this novena are in the brochure rack of the church. **CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD BEGINNING AT 2:00 p.m.** This prayer service is sponsored by Divine Mercy Radio 88.1.

BULLETIN ITEMS—The deadline for bulletin articles is **Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.** Please contact Connie (sftech@ruraltel.net or 785-735-2777) at the Parish Office if you have an item for the bulletin.



ART Show & SALE

Date: Sunday, May 1st
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Place: Sand Plum Nature Trail just west of St. Fidelis Basilica in Victoria (From the church go west on 10th street onto the sand road, approx. ¼ mile.)
Featuring: Local artists; photographers, antique art (for sale by artist) Limestone keepsakes will be given away and your donation will go directly to the Basilica. The nature trail will be open to visitors attending the art show!
Admission: Free
Sponsored by Sand Plum Art

Victoria Schools Calendar

- Monday — April 4**
FCCLA state @ Wichita
3:30 pm JH/HS track practice
4:00 pm HS baseball practice at Russell
- Tuesday — April 5**
Life Touch 8th Grade pictures during 1st hour
FCCLA state @ Wichita
Life Touch Spring Sports pictures during AIM
AIM period—students will have directed study
3:00 pm HS track meet @ Ellis. Depart 1:30
3:30 pm JH track practice
4:00 pm HS V baseball with Russell vs. Ellsworth. Depart: 3:00
- Wednesday — April 6 — PLC 2:20 Dismissal**
9:00 am VES students @ FHSU
AIM period—students will have directed study
2:20 pm PLC dismissal
3:30 pm JH/HS track practice
4:00 pm HS baseball practice at Russell
- Thursday — April 7**
AIM period—students will have directed study
3:00 pm JH track meet at Plainville. Depart: 1:30
4:00 pm HS baseball practice at Russell
- Friday — April 8**
AIM period—students will have directed study
3:30 pm JH/HS track practice
4:00 pm HS JV baseball vs. Sacred Heart (Salina). Depart: 3:00

SECOND GRADE FIRST COMMUNION

Our second graders will receive their First Holy Communion during the 1:00 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of St. Fidelis **NEXT WEEKEND—April 10.**

Tour Guide Boxes

Three new tour guide boxes were installed in The Basilica of St. Fidelis on Wednesday, March 16, by Odus Trober and Connie Windholz. (A fourth box was replaced several years ago.) All four of the boxes were re-recorded with updated text. Ivan and Verda Werner graciously volunteered their time and talent to record the text.

You are welcome to listen to the boxes which are staggered on the pews down the center aisle on the south side, with the initial box located in the vestibule.

The boxes will not work if the sound system is turned on for Mass or other services.

ST. ANN

Christian Mothers Meeting

The annual St. Ann Christian Mothers meeting will be held **Saturday, April 9**, in the parish hall immediately following the 6:30 p.m. Mass.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Needing a Place to Gather? If you are looking for a place to host a reception, baby or bridal shower, family reunion, or a get-together, 1867 Memorial Home in Victoria is available for you to rent. For more information, call Jeff at 785-650-1640.

Annual 4th Degree Knights Dinner

The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree 0305 will have their annual dinner on Sunday, April 17, at the Memorial Home, 503 Main Street, Victoria.

Social Hour starts about 5:00 p.m. Dinner about 6:00 p.m. Dress is casual.

Wives of deceased brothers will be guests of the Knights.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

SAVE THE DATE!

*St. Fidelis Daughters of Isabella
90th Anniversary Celebration*

Sunday, May 1, 2016

10:00 a.m. Mass at The Basilica of St. Fidelis

Followed by a reception and dinner at noon at the Victoria V.F.W. Hall.

Invitations will be sent in April.

PLENARY INDULGENCE GIVEN WHEN VISITING A BASILICA

The faithful may obtain a plenary indulgence by visiting a minor basilica. An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment for a previously forgiven sin. To obtain a plenary indulgence during a pilgrimage to a basilica, one must participate in any sacred rite or recite the Lord's Prayer or the profession of faith while there, then go to Confession and Communion and pray for the intention of the pope. ~taken from *The Register*, the Salina Diocese newspaper

THURSDAY MORNING COFFEE is held at the Parish Office at 9:30. Come and join Fr. John, other parishioners, and friends at the Parish Office for a cup of coffee and a snack.



MINISTER SCHEDULES for Masses at the Basilica of St. Fidelis can be found on the church's website on the "**Mass Schedule**" page.

www.StFidelisChurch.com

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY	APRIL 4
7:00 pm Ed and Irene Schmidt family	
TUESDAY	APRIL 5
6:45 am Donald Sander	
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 6
6:45 am Rose Pfeifer (anniv) living and deceased family and Charles Guercio Lloyd Kisner	
THURSDAY	APRIL 7
6:45 am Francis "Red" Walters family	
FRIDAY	APRIL 8
6:45 am Jerry Roth family living and deceased Robert and Velma Leiker	
SATURDAY	APRIL 9
5:00 pm St. Fidelis James R. Kuhn Gilbert (anniv), Gene, John, and Theresa Kuhn	
6:30 pm St. Ann Isabelle and Severin Scheck	
SUNDAY	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER..... APRIL 10
8:45 am St. Boniface James Rajewski	
10:00 am St. Fidelis Lance Lang	

* Sunday Rosary Schedule *

1 st - Christian Mothers	2 nd - Knights of Columbus
3 rd - Daughters of Isabella	4 th - Family Life

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 9, 5:00 pm

<u>Cantor</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
Trilogy	Ivan Werner Kathy Kuhn	Ashlyn Windholz	Jim / Becky Scheck
<u>Lector</u>	Jan Brungardt	Katelyn	Tina Kuhn
Marilyn Braun	Melissa Schmidt Fran Robben	Windholz Wyatt Dreiling	
<u>Comm.</u>	Tom Tholen		
Verda Werner	Diane Gross		

Sunday, April 10, 10:00 am

<u>Cantor</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
Jubilee Choir	Michelle Geist Ken Brungardt	Kassi Weber Jessica	Chris / Kristy Windholz
<u>Lector</u>	Tammy Dome	Schroeder	
Lee Ann Schmidtberger	Janine Kisner Norma Keenan	Jacob Schroeder	
<u>Comm.</u>	Keith Billinger		
Det Younger	Marge Rome Shannon Radke		



St. Fidelis Food Pantry

Parish Activity Center (PAC) • 601 10th St. • 785-735-2777