

# Saint John the Evangelist Church, Herington



The Daughters of Isabella sponsored a pilgrimage to Herington to tour the newly remodeled Church. The Church was recently finished under the direction of Fr. Peter O'Donnell, who was happy to answer questions. *(photos by Mack Teasley)*



## What is Adoration?

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a form of prayer that began centuries ago. The word *adoration* means "to pay honor or homage to someone or something." As Catholics, we have the opportunity to pay honor to the One who deserves all our praise. The same Eucharist we receive at Mass is what (or more accurately *Who*) we worship in Adoration. During Adoration, we have the opportunity to come face-to-face with the living God. Like spending time with a close friend, Eucharistic Adoration is about deepening and strengthening our personal relationship with God. ... the more time you spend with Him the more your heart is opened to His love... ~Kat Martinez

## What is Advent?

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (*from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to"*) is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.