

St. Joseph

St. Joseph, the patron of the Sisters of St. Joseph, is the center panel. He is the most illuminated and looks directly at us for he holds the living Christ. Baby Jesus instructs and blesses with one hand and in the other holds the world. St. Joseph is usually portrayed holding a flowering staff, often lilies perhaps also a symbol of the living Christ and His resurrection. The carpentry tools in St. Joseph's other hand remind us of the humble daily work required to attend to our Lord. The Holy Family's donkey and the "living well" are in the background. A sagebrush in the foreground shared with St. Teresa suggests kinship with Kansas and also to the desert where Christ went to pray.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Wichita provided teachers for many of the parish schools. They also operated St. Mary of the Plains Academy, St. Mary of the Plains High School and College, and St. Anthony Hospital, all in Dodge City. Currently three members of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Wichita minister in the diocese. A member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia works in ministry at Larned State Hospital.

