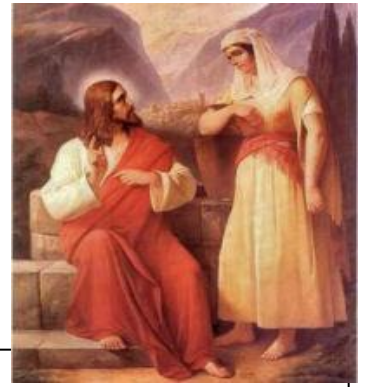


PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

P.O. Box 10 Weston, NE 68070 Phone #: 402-642-5245 Fr.'s Cell #: 402-853-2846
Rev. Matthew Vandewalle, Pastor E-mail address: fr.matthew-vandewalle@cdolinc.net
E-mail address: StJohn-Weston@cdolinc.net
Website address: www.stjohnschurchweston.com
CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment



Third Sunday of Lent March 15, 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	March 16 th	7:50 am	Larry Lechtenberg
Tuesday	March 17 th	7:50 am	+ All Souls Day Int. of Ron & Bev Machacek
Wednesday	March 18 th	7:50 am	Priest's Intentions
		5:30 pm Touhy	+ Blayne Rezac
Thursday	March 19 th	7:50 am	Donna Furasek & Her Intentions
Friday	March 20 th	7:30 am	+ Lorraine Firley
Saturday	March 21 st	5:30 pm Weston	+ Milton Sabatka
Sunday	March 22 nd	8:00 am Touhy	+ Loretta Snitily
		10:00 am Weston	Miss pro Populo

5:00 pm Weston Exposition of Eucharist with Evening Prayer & Benediction

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Coronavirus – Attached to the bulletin is a statement from the Diocese of Lincoln Coronavirus task force and a letter from me. The statement may also be found on our diocesan website. For the time being it would be great if ushers could arrive early for mass to open doors for people in order to avoid touching door handles and of course welcome them warmly. Using one's coat sleeve seems to me to be another option.

I also liked the words from our Diocesan Education Superintendent, Dr. Hecker, who reminded us, among much other good information "... let us remember who we are. We are God's people. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. We are led by faith in God... Panic and irrational fear have no place in our schools. Rather, with our public health officials and fellow educators, together we are forming a thoughtful and comprehensive response. In prayer, we continue to place our schools in the hands of our loving Almighty God. There is no better course of action.

St. John Men's Club Wild Game Feed – Saturday, March 30th. Advanced ticket required. If you have worked in the past, could you please plan on doing the same job as before (unless you have been contacted otherwise). It is MUCH appreciated. Otherwise, please contact Steve Breunig at 402-480-1313, so he knows how to fill the jobs. If there is someone new that would like to help with the game feed, please call as well. Thanks for all your work in the past. It is a great time!

Congratulations to our newly confirmed students who were so excited to be confirmed! It was a great mass with Archbishop Lucas who was so gracious. Thank you to all who helped prepare for this event, especially St. Vitus' ladies who prepared the meal for the Archbishop and 13 priests and the St. John's ladies who hosted the cookie reception.

Magnificat magazine sign-up sheet for 2020-21 – is in the back of Church.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of March 21-22, 2020

Acolyte:	Sat. 3/21 Pat Carroll	Sun. 3/22 Byron Shanahan
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 3/21 Deb Carroll	Sun. 3/22 Marvin Wiese
Servers:	Sat. 3/21 Volunteers	Sun. 3/22 Mason Wiese/Spencer Wiese
Ushers:	Sat. 3/21 Paul Virgl/Don Sabatka	Sun. 3/22 Bob Masek/Steve Breunig
Gifts:	Sat. 3/21 Joe Janecek Family	Sun. 3/22 Paul Pleskac Family

Stewardship of Treasure: March 8, 2020 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$2,898.71 **PLUS: Candles: \$36.00 Combine Collection: \$80.00 Guardian Angel Fund: \$135.00**

Ash Wednesday: \$20.00 Easter Flowers: \$120.00

Collection Counter for Sunday, 3/15—Charlie Jelinek
Sunday, 3/22—Leonard Chapek

PCCW Members—Our Salad Buffet will be on **Thursday, April 2nd**, with the theme "**Team Spirit**". We are asking for volunteers to decorate the tables. Not limited to only sports; speech, band, cheerleader teams welcome. If you are interested, please contact Shelly Pleskac at 402-480-3056 or any committee member with your theme and how many tables you would like to decorate. Work lists will be in the back of church, please pick yours up. Thank you!

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30	Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35	Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19	Sunday:	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23; Eph 5:8-14;
Thursday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89;		Jn 9:1-41
	Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a		

SPIRITUAL CORNER

"Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?" -Ven. Fulton Sheen

SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

This week please pray for Scott Nemecek from St. Vincent de Paul, Seward & St. Wenceslaus, Bee.

OTHER INFORMATION

Please remember in your prayers and, on occasion, pay a visit or send a card to our home-bound/assisted care facilities parishioners: South Haven—Charles Kadavy, Rose Walla, Mary Lou Woita and Patsy Sabatka; Saunders County Care Center—Julius & Marcella Meduna and Marjorie Rezek; Oxbow Living Center, Ashland—Bob & Joanie Machacek. Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of March 21-22, 2020

Acolyte:	Sun. 3/22 Tom Rezac
Lector/Reader:	Sun. 3/22 Steve Bartek
Servers:	Sun. 3/22 Nolan Thoene/Adam Furasek
Ushers:	Sun. 3/22 Nick Bartek/Allen Stanek
Gifts:	Sun. 3/22 Pat Bartek Family

Stewardship of Treasure: March 8, 2020 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$781.10

Collection Counter for Sunday, 3/15—Tom Rezac
Sunday, 3/22—Keith Strizek

St. Vitus March Church Cleaning—Chairman: Jackie Maly. Group: Mary Kavan, Andrea Furasek & Jami Thoene.

SCHOOL NEWS

St. John's Parent-Teacher Assoc (P.T.A.)—Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18th, at 6:30pm at St. John's School.

Global Outreach is a Catholic exchange program matching excellent students from Eastern Europe with Catholic American families. These students spend one academic year in an Omaha archdiocesan or Lincoln diocesan high school, living with a Catholic family, learning to be servant leaders for their communities in former Communist countries. One host family is still needed at Bishop Neumann for the 2020-2021 academic year. If interested, please contact Monsignor James Gilg at 402-618-0607, or Craig Boro at 402-556-1554. Thank you!

Please Keep Saving Your Labels/Box Tops—Please continue to save Box Tops for Education labels, Our Family UPC's, Best Choice UPC's, and store receipts from Sun Mart and Corner Market. There is a basket in back of church to drop all your labels and receipts off in.

AREA NEWS

****St. Mary's Pancake Breakfast in Cedar Bluffs** this weekend is cancelled due to the necessity to take precautions of the coronavirus.

Sts Mary & Joseph Church, Valparaiso—Parish Mission Casting Nets March 14th-16th, Saturday-Monday from 6:30pm–8:00pm. Held In Church. This is for the entire family but if you choose, there will be babysitting provided in the Hall. A light lunch provided, Free Will Donation, Saturday after 4:00pm Mass, also, cookies & coffee following each session in Parish Hall.

Dwight Assumption Parish—Spring Soup Dinner & Accordion Jamboree Sunday, March 15th, at the Parish Hall in Dwight from 10:30am-1:30pm. Serving Chili & Chicken Noodle Soup, Sandwiches, etc. Mass at 10:00am. Free will donation.

2020 Lenten Series – A Lenten Encounter with Christ-Forgiveness, Healing, Intimacy, Mission—JXXIII Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln, 7:00pm-8:30pm, Mondays of Lent thru March 30th. Matt Simmons will be giving the talks with Adoration to follow. Jonathon Little will play music during adoration while attendees go to confession, receive prayer ministry and have silence for prayer.

Bishop Neumann has an opening for Cheerleading Coach/Sponsor for the 2020-2021 school year. This is a paid Extra Duty position. Responsibilities include: running weekly practices involving conditioning, teaching cheers, jump techniques; assist cheerleaders in building school spirit; assist cheerleaders in running pep rallies; supervise cheerleaders at home football, volleyball, girls' basketball, and boys' basketball games; transport cheerleaders to some away games; assist cheerleaders in organizing homecoming week, pep rally, and homecoming dance; work with competitive team practicing for state cheer competition; take competitive team to a local competition(s) and state competition. Contact Fr. Morin or Mr. Kreikemeier (402-443-4151) if interested.

Healing Mass at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, Clarkson—Thursday, March 19th at 7:00pm at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, 120 Cherry Street in Clarkson. Confessions will be heard at 6:00pm. Questions, call Fr. Rod at 402-892-3464.

A Life in the Spirit Retreat at North American Martyrs Catholic Church—Mar. 27th-29th. Mother Lucy and Sr. Marguerite Marie, DOLJ will present the retreat, which will begin on Fri., from 7-9pm and resume with Mass Sat. at 9am-3pm including a breakfast and lunch. Sunday, begins with 8am Mass and finish at 3pm, with breakfast and lunch. Registration: \$25, and a free will offering for the Sisters. Send your name, parish, check and any special needs to julie-crawford@cdolinc.net or 1101 Isaac Drive, Lincoln, NE 68521.

High School Girls Retreat—“Strength. Dignity. Fearless.” A day long retreat for high school age girls. Sat., March 28th, 9am-4pm with optional introductory session to follow. A collaboration between the Family Life Office and NFP teacher of the diocese, retreat covers topics such as body image, modesty, neuroscience of social media and healthy dating. Cost is \$40 or \$60 with intro session and lunch. Register: lincolndiocese.regfox.com/hsgirlsretreat. Question, call NFP Offices 402-473-0630 or email naturalfamilyplanning@cdolinc.net.

Join Jesus and His Mother in Praying for the End of Abortion at Planned Parenthood (5631 S 48th ST) in Lincoln. On Abortion Tuesday, March 31st, Father Leo Seiker will lead the 3rd Annual Eucharistic Procession surrounding Planned Parenthood with prayer. Join hundreds and be a public witness that Lincoln wants Abortion to End Now! Procession starts at 2:00pm and prayer warriors should be in place on the public lawn by 2:00pm. Contact Mike Davis, President of Lincoln Right to Life davism72@gmail.com for details.

St. John's PCCW Salad Buffet “Team Spirit”—Thursday, April 2nd, at St. John's School gym. Serving salads from 5:30-6:30pm. There will be a coffee can raffle, wine cork pull, mystery raffle and a live auction that begins at 6:45pm. Tickets - \$9.00, may be purchased in advance (call the school at 402-642-5234) or at the door. Reserved tables of 8 or 12 are available for advance ticket sales only.

Nifty Fifty's GALA 2020- Help Saunders Catholic Schools GALA event by donating funds and gifts. Donations can be dropped off at any of our three schools. If you have questions about sponsorships or would like to contribute to GALA, contact: Sheri Meduna at sheri-meduna@cdolinc.net or 402-443-4151. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Neumann offices or from one of our raffle volunteers. The price is \$100, and the drawing date is Saturday, April 25th. Grand Prize: \$5000 * Prize 2: \$4000 * Prize 3: \$3000 * Prize 4: \$1000 Only 375 sold! Need not be present to win. Dinner tickets are still available by sending in your registration card or at <https://bishopneumann.com/gala-2020-nifty-fiftys/>

Step by Step Al-Anon Family Group meets every Wednesday night, 7-8pm, at the Wahoo Public Library at 637 N. Maple St, Wahoo. Handicap accessible. Al-Anon Family Groups are for a place for friends and families of alcoholics to find help and hope. Come join us!

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

Teenager, Billy lost a contact lens while playing basketball in his driveway. After a brief but fruitless search, Billy gave up. His mother took up the cause and within minutes she'd found the lens. “How did you do that?” he asked. “We weren't looking for the same thing Billy,” she explained. “You were looking for a small piece of plastic. I was looking for \$150.”

The Diocese of Lincoln urges all parishes, schools and diocesan institutions to take essential precautions to combat the spread of the coronavirus. Due to the seriousness of this threat, a diocesan task force on the coronavirus has been assembled by Father Christopher Kubat, a medical doctor. While each institution should develop its own plans against the coronavirus threat, the task force offers some precautions and guidelines.

The Center for Disease Control, together with the Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship reminds us that the influenza and coronavirus are spread through personal, physical contact with someone who is sick (either through inhaling the virus, or through hand-to-mouth transmission with a contaminated surface). The CDC says the best prevention is self-isolation of people who are sick, avoiding close contact with others, cleaning hands frequently, and covering one's mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.

The CDC recognizes various "levels" to health crises. These diocesan guidelines are based on the CDC's response to any potential crisis that may be brought on by influenza or other infectious disease. At this time, we are in level one, heightened awareness.

Level one: Heightened awareness. Recommendations:

- 1) People who have flu-like symptoms or who are otherwise feeling sick should not go to Mass or other Church gatherings; the Church encourages us to make an act of "spiritual communion," where we unite ourselves to God through prayer.
- 2) Only the priest celebrant or concelebrants should receive the Precious Blood from the Chalice until otherwise notified.
- 3) It will be up to pastors to recommend whether the faithful should receive Holy Communion in the hand or on the tongue.
- 4) The practice of exchanging the sign of peace is suspended.
- 5) Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should wash hands with soap and water or anti-bacterial hand sanitizer, before and after distributing Holy Communion.
- 6) Omit the spontaneous gesture of hand-holding during the Our Father.
- 7) Do not hold Eucharistic and other liturgies in a daily mass chapel if there is a larger church at the parish.
- 8) Refrain from using Holy Water fonts.
- 9) Encourage ushers to open the doors to welcome the faithful at Mass.
- 10) The door handles should be sanitized after each Mass.

Level Two: A seriously heightened situation (when a major outbreak occurs). Look for imposed restrictions by the CDC or Nebraska State and County Health Officials. Added recommendations:

- 1) Ministers to the sick must carefully follow CDC regulations (masks, gloves, etc.) and any hospital or institution guidelines where they are serving.
- 2) All unnecessary contact between individuals or groups is to be eliminated (e.g. greeting people after mass, coffee and donuts, etc.).
- 3) People with compromised immune systems are encouraged to stay home even on Sundays.

Level Three: Endemic/critical health situation. Follow CDC, state and local Health Official's restrictions for public gatherings which may include the temporary closing of parish schools and churches.

While nothing can replace attending and participating in Sunday Mass or receiving Holy Communion, those who refrain from Sunday Mass due to illness have not committed a mortal sin.

In case of personal illness or suspension of Masses, Catholics should consider devoting an hour to prayer, observing Mass on television or the internet, and/or praying a rosary. A reminder that a Mass for shut-ins is televised every Sunday in the Lincoln area on KLKN-TV at 9:00 a.m. and in the Hastings area on KSNB-TV at 9:30 a.m.

Diocese of Lincoln Coronavirus Task Force: Steve Rademaker, M.D.; Tim Fischer, M.D.; Tom Safranek (State Epidemiologist at the Nebraska Department of Health), M.D.; Bob Sullivan, J.D.; Carmen Sullivan, R.N.

(See other side for letter from Fr. Vandewalle)

Dear St. John's and St. Vitus' Parishioners and School Families,

I hope this finds you well.

I am sharing with you the conclusions of a diocesan task force concerning precautions to combat the spread of the coronavirus.

St. John's and St. Vitus parishes and school are aware of the many issues involved with the virus and wish to do everything necessary to keep all of us healthy, physically and spiritually.

As this communication says in paragraph three, as of the date of this writing, **we are in level one: heightened awareness**. All of us can help by following these recommendations, as we have been striving to do for the past days and weeks.

Sunday Mass schedules remain the same. If circumstances merit additional action, I will let you know as soon as I can.

Also, the method of receiving Holy Communion on the tongue or in the hand is always your choice. However, the preference at this time seems to be —at least for the short term—to receive Holy Communion in the hand to minimize potential contact.

People with compromised immune systems or who are at greater risk are excused from Mass for the short term. In doing so, you are not committing a mortal sin. I leave it up to your prudential judgment.

For school we are given frequent local updates by our Nurse Shannon Newburn who is an employee of Saunders Medical Center assigned to Saunders Catholic Schools. She is in frequent communication with local health officials, including Three Rivers. We would follow recommendations from local and state health officials regarding if and when schools should be closed. At the time of this writing, there has been no recommendation to close school.

I am grateful for your time and consideration of this message.

Many blessings,

Fr. Matt Vandewalle

Here are recommended resources from Saunders Medical Center:

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/resources/>