

# PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment



## Fourth Sunday of Lent March 22, 2020

### MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Private Mass	Nicole Trutna & Her Intentions
Tuesday	March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Private Mass	+ William Frohner
Wednesday	March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Private Mass	+ Leland Novacek
Thursday	March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Private Mass	+ All Souls Day Int. of Dolores Maly
Friday	March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Private Mass	+ Raynold Woita
Saturday	March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Private Mass	+ LaVerne Wonka
Sunday	March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Private Mass	Missa pro Populo

### NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

**Good St. John's and St. Vitus' parishioners,** Peace be with you. I will offer prayers for all of you in this unprecedented time. In times of difficulty God promises He is always with us. And in every trial, there is an opportunity to grow. I hope that we can all grow closer in our families and care for each other, our charity to our neighbor, and our depth of trust in the Good God. At this time we are asked, for the common good and the good of our neighbor to forego public masses and liturgies, so we will not have Sunday nor daily masses at this time nor Stations of the Cross. Funerals, weddings, and baptisms of no more than ten are allowed and those in danger of death may receive the sacraments. The faithful are dispensed from Sunday masses. Until I decide the best way to have confessions please call me to set up an appointment at Church. I will lift all of you up in prayer as I offer my private mass each day. At this time the church will remain unlocked so people can come to visit our Blessed Lord. I ask that you follow the directives of ten or less people according to what our Governor and Bishop have enacted. Below is the link to the Diocese of Lincoln webpage that includes the statement from our diocese about the suspension of public masses and liturgies. As I hope to communicate through email I plan to send out an email to those addresses I have in the parish database by Friday, March 30th. If you do not get an email from me by then and would like to be included, please send your email to me at: [fr.matthew-vandewalle@cdolinc.net](mailto:fr.matthew-vandewalle@cdolinc.net)  
Let us pray for each other. In the Peace of Christ through Mary, Fr. Matt Vandewalle

**Diocese of Lincoln webpage:** <https://www.lincolndiocese.org/>

**Magnificat subscription** – If you want the monthly *Magnificat* magazine starting in August 2019, NOW is the time to sign up at the back of Church. \$23/year for 12 issues. \$41 for LARGE print (We need a minimum of 10 orders to get the LARGE print). **Please order by April 12<sup>th</sup>.** You can sign up and pay now or later, check or cash. *Magnificat* is a good way to learn more about your faith & deepen your prayer life and your relationship with God. Due to the current situation Magnificat is offering their publication free on-line. It includes daily readings and the mass.

**Postponements** - Many things of course are postponed or cancelled. We will keep you updated on those. A few include the PCCW, Salad Buffet, moved to June 9<sup>th</sup> and the Game Feed moved perhaps to July or August, but yet to be determined. First Communion is also postponed to a date to be determined

**Media Mass options** - Sunday KLKN-TV 9am (Lincoln); EWTN (TV, 102.7FM, or on-line) 7am; Val's Facebook: Sts. Mary and Joseph's Church - Valparaiso 9am (7am daily; stations 5:30pm Fridays); St Wenc's webpage at <http://www.stwencwahoo.org/> (Daily mass times – 7am & 8am; Sunday mass time – 7am).

**Resources** – There are many resources available. Some of these include: Free Magnificat on-line. Word Among us in the back of church. Catholic Spirit Radio, Diocese of Lincoln webpage and Formed.org (parish code to receive it for free is 68NGD2).

### ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

**Stewardship of Treasure: March 15, 2020** We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$1,445.07 **PLUS: Candles:** \$45.00 **Combine Collection:** \$435.00

**PCCW Members**—Our Salad Buffet has been postponed to **Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>!**

### READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54	Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16	Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Jn 17:40-53
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38	Sunday:	Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47		

### SPIRITUAL CORNER

"In this distress, — for then I had never had a single vision, — these Thy words alone were enough to remove it, and give me perfect peace: 'Be not afraid, my daughter: it is I; and I will not abandon thee. Fear not.'" —St. Teresa of Avila

### SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

This week please pray for James O'Neil from St. Mary's, Nebraska City.

## 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

**Stewardship of Treasure: March 15, 2020** We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$

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

## SCHOOL NEWS

**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

**\*All events are subject to change or postponement, please call before attending\***

**Lower Platte North NRD**—Effective March 16<sup>th</sup> – April 5<sup>th</sup> is offering free entry to Lake Wanahoo Recreation Area. Located just north of Wahoo off Highway 77/92, Lake Wanahoo offers camping, no wake boating, fishing, hiking, biking, disc golf as well as the opportunity to simply GET OUT and enjoy the outdoors. Questions call 402-443-4675 or email at [egottschalk@lpnnd.org](mailto:egottschalk@lpnnd.org) or [lsabatka@lpnnd.org](mailto:lsabatka@lpnnd.org)

**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.

**Support Our School with Scrip**—How It Works: You purchase a gift card from a local or national vendor for the full amount and the vendor donates anywhere from 1-30% back to our school. You get the full value of the card! Local Vendors include Bomgaars 10%, Our Corner Cottage 15%, Simons Home Store 15%, Valentino's 10%, Super Saver 3%, Hy-Vee 3%, Toast 5%, Runza 10%, Amigos 10%, Raising Canes 30% and U-Stop 5%. There are also hundreds of National Vendors including Amazon, Best Buy, Olive Garden, Texas Roadhouse, Pizza Hut, Subway, Dairy Queen, Chipotle, Walmart, Target, Sam's Club, Bass Pro, Scheels, Menards, Under Armour and many more! Order forms are in the back of church and can be mailed or turned in to Barb at St. John's School or emailed to [stjohnscrip19@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnscrip19@gmail.com). Please clearly mark on the envelope St. John's SCRIP. Envelope should include your order form complete with address, phone number and payment. Cards are ordered on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. You will get your cards approx. 2 weeks after order is placed. Please email [stjohnscrip19@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnscrip19@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**A Life in the Spirit Retreat at North American Martyrs Catholic Church**—Mar. 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto: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 28<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/hsgirlsretreat). Questions, please call NFP Offices 402-473-0630 or email [naturalfamilyplanning@cdolinc.net](mailto:naturalfamilyplanning@cdolinc.net).

**GALA 2020 Nifty Fifty is STILL ON!!!** It will just be a little different this year. It will now be a Cyber GALA. As of now, we are encouraging GALA participants to still gather together on April 25<sup>th</sup> at your table leader's home, with your table of “10” to celebrate and support Saunders Catholic Schools. More information will follow.

**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!

**Spirit Catholic Radio Resources**—**Mass Broadcasts:** Spirit Catholic Radio broadcasts the Mass weekdays at 10:30am and Sun. at 7 am and 12pm. Tune in your local Spirit station on our free smartphone app or at [spiritcatholicradio.com](http://spiritcatholicradio.com). **Rosaries and Devotionals On-Air:** Pray the Rosary weekdays at 6am; 10am; and 10pm. Weekends at 6:30am; 3:30pm; and 10pm. Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy daily at 3pm. **Stations of the Cross:** Spirit Catholic Radio is excited to bring you Stations of the Cross, every day at 10am during Lent.. Take time to reflect with us each weekday, with a beautiful broadcast of the Stations.

## A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

My husband, an avid golf player couldn't help challenging my boastful son to a game of golf. He was in for quite a surprise when on the first swing my son got a hole in one. “OK” my quick-thinking husband said while subtly winking at me “now, I will take my practice shot, and then we will start.”



## **Diocese of Lincoln Guidelines for Coronavirus (COVID-19) March 17, 2020**

This document captures the most recent guidance from the Diocese of Lincoln regarding the coronavirus and the steps that should be taken to stop its spread.

On March 16, the Diocese of Lincoln announced that due to the new coronavirus limitations in place from our local, state, and national governments, effective immediately, all public Masses and communal celebration of the sacraments or other liturgies are indefinitely suspended in the Diocese of Lincoln.

On March 16, general guidelines were also communicated to diocesan priests to help inform pastoral decisions in light of this suspension of public liturgies. Here are those guidelines:

1. The Sunday Mass obligation is dispensed by Archbishop Lucas for all Catholics in the Diocese of Lincoln.
2. Churches and chapels may remain open for private prayer. Protocol for social distancing must be observed.
3. Communal Penance services should be cancelled; however, priests are encouraged to make confessions available in outdoor or open-air spaces if the priest is not in a high-risk category. (This policy was slightly modified below).
4. No parish religious education programs are to assemble.
5. No parish public events or gatherings that exceed ten persons.
6. Weddings should be restricted to ten or less persons.
7. Funerals should be restricted to immediate family and friends, less than ten attending.

The Diocese of Lincoln offers updated guidance in response to the following questions and issues:

### **Mass**

The purpose of this time of distancing is to stop the spread of a legitimately life-threatening illness. While celebrating funerals and already scheduled weddings within the new limitations is reasonable, other celebrations are to be set aside temporarily. In the guidelines sent out March 16, we said that priests should still offer the Mass privately [...] Please don't hold communion services on Sunday [...]

### **Communion to the Homebound**

Acolytes and EMHC (Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion) are not permitted at this time to hold Communion services, for others or for their own families. Visiting the homebound should also be suspended, unless in the case of danger of death, since the purpose of this time is to stop the spread of the coronavirus. Where possible, it is strongly encouraged that the homebound receive phone calls to reach out to them.

The strong desire to receive the Blessed Sacrament is a proper and beautiful thing. However, this suspension will not be forever. In order to do our part to stop the spread of the coronavirus, we should encourage parishioners to read the scripture, to pray together as families, and to make spiritual communion.

### **Perpetual Adoration**

Our churches should remain open as usual for people to stop in and pray. The continuation of Perpetual Adoration is left to the discretion of the pastor. However, adorers must be of sound health and there should be no more than ten people at a time. Adoration should be held in the main church and not in small chapels.

### **Confession**

Confessions should take place, but they should be scheduled in such a way that groups do not congregate. Do not use the standard confessionals. Rather, confessions should be heard in the open air or a large room. Parishes with the tradition of hearing large numbers of confessions might consider using an usher to help manage the crowds.

(continued)

### **Funerals**

These are limited to ten, including the priest. There are a couple of options. A priest could have ten total persons present and livestream the funeral for others. The burial could be celebrated now, and a Mass of Christian Burial in the absence of the body or a memorial Mass could be celebrated later.

### **Weddings**

These, too, are limited to ten, including the priest. A priest could have ten total persons present and livestream the wedding for others.

### **Baptisms**

These can take place, but they should be limited to no more than ten people in the church.

### **Duration of the crisis**

We are uncertain how long this suspension of public liturgies will last.

### **Livestreamed Masses**

Livestreamed Masses are a great way to keep some sense of community during this time of suspension of public liturgies. Father Andrew Heaslip is working on directives on how to live stream on Facebook live and other platforms.

### **Televised Masses**

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.

### **CCD**

Father Heaslip will offer guidance on how to offer CCD instruction while CCD classes are postponed. He will email CCD coordinators about how to facilitate instruction during this time.

### **Chrism Mass**

The Chrism Mass scheduled for April 6 will be celebrated privately. The Sacred Oils will be distributed thereafter.

### **Confirmations**

All Confirmations scheduled through March are postponed.

### **Chancery/Diocesan Offices**

Building access for both the Chancery and the John XXIII Diocesan Center are closed to the public. Non-essential meetings and activities to be held at the Chancery or John XXIII Diocesan Center are cancelled until further notice. We will maintain telephone reception service at both buildings during this period if you need to call the Chancery.

### **Anointing of the Sick**

The administration of the Anointing of the Sick should continue to take place. The diocesan protocols in *Steward of the Mysteries* should be followed. Priests who are not healthy should find another priest to administer an anointing. If a priest is refused access to a facility, especially in danger of death, contact Mr. Heath Boddy, the president of the Nebraska Health Care Association at 402-540-7032.

### **At-home resources**

Parishes are encouraged to use technology to connect with parishioners at this time. More information and instruction will be provided by various diocesan offices to do this. If your parish uses *formed.org*, it would be helpful to promote that.

### **Works of Charity**

As Catholics, we can be a light in this time of darkness through the practice of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. Some ideas include:

- Expanding outreach in the parish by making phone calls to homebound neighbors and nursing home residents.
- Praying with others over the phone.
- Offering to go grocery shopping for others who need to stay at home.
- Increase giving to Catholic Social Services, local foodbanks, and St. Vincent de Paul.
- Consider donating blood or plasma.

We will get through this time of crisis through the grace of God. Let us invoke the intercession and protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary for the health and well-being of our brothers and sisters who are ill, for their caretakers, and for all doctors, nurses, medical and emergency preparedness personnel and elected officials.

Father Nicholas Kipper, Director of Communications