

PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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 CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment



First Sunday of Advent November 28, 2021

MASS SCHEDULE		
Monday	November 29 th	7:50 am + Don Palensky
Tuesday	November 30 th	7:50 am Saunders County Catholic Schools
Wednesday	December 1 st	7:50 am + Mike Kinnett
		5:30 pm Touhy + All Souls - Novena
Thursday	December 2 nd	7:50 am + All Souls - Novena
Friday	December 3 rd <i>First Friday</i>	7:50 am Special Intentions
Saturday	December 4 th	7:30-8:30 am Touhy Holy Hour
		5:30 pm + Ken Masek
Sunday	December 5 th	8:00 am Weston Missa pro Populo
		10:00 am Touhy + Donald Soukup

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Happy New Year – The First Sunday of Advent begins the Church’s new liturgical year. We might consider as a new liturgical year’s resolution: How is this year a year that you will grow closer to Christ? Also, Advent being a penitential season, we might choose one prayer to do during each day of Advent and small sacrifice(s). (One family is going to focus on the Joyful mysteries of the rosary during Advent; and they have a crib to which they add straws per each sacrifice to get ready the crib for Christmas. The dad jokes that partway through Advent there was only 4 straws; but at least they are trying something. They also have little gifts in their car, like mints or small things, ready to give away to people, especially the homeless. Another family watches religious movies during Advent, often on Formed.org)

Advent – The first part of Advent (until December 17th) we focus more on the SECOND coming of Christ. Then from December 17th onward we focus on the second phase of Advent which carries a special emphasis for our Advent preparation for Christmas. St. Augustine says we focus our lives on the first coming of Christ so that we might be prepared for His second coming. We can also talk about the third coming of Christ, the coming of Christ into our hearts. Jesus came the first time to prepare us for His second. In His first coming he came as a child so that we might not be fearful to approach Him. He came to suffer and die for us so that we might see the lengths to which his love for us goes. To say that He loves us a lot is the biggest understatement. Focusing on His particular love, helps our hearts to respond to the only one who can fulfill them. The last words of the last book of the bible are Marana tha, “Come Lord Jesus!” A great reflection to prepare for those last words are these first prophetic words of the famous Advent song: “O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice, rejoice, Emanuel shall come to thee O Israel.”

Advent Resources – (1) FORMED.org Our Parish password is 68NGD: Our parish pays a yearly subscription for this great resource. It has from series to movies for all ages to learn and enjoy. I invite you to check it out at least once during the Advent Season. (2) <https://www.catholicculture.org/> under the “Liturgical Year” tab under “Advent Season Overview”.

Christmas Flower Envelopes - If you would be interested in giving a contribution to the Christmas flowers that will be on display in the churches at Christmas, there is an envelope in your tithing packet for this donation.

Thank you – Thank you to the Jim & Carlene Svoboda Estate Memorial for the gift of \$75,000 to St. John’s School. It is very much appreciated.

St. John & St. Vitus Churches will again participate in the statewide **Advent Baby Shower** through December 24th. Suggested gift ideas are bottles, receiving blankets, hooded bath towels, crib sheets/heavy blankets, disposable diapers (especially med. & lg.), bibs, rattles/toys, sleepers, socks/booties, snow suits, formula, & undershirts/onesies. **Please bring only new, not used items.** Place them in the container that is in back of each church. Thank you.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of December 4-5, 2021

Acolyte:	Sat. 12/4 Pat Carroll	Sun. 12/5 Matt Tvrdy
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 12/4 Deb Carroll	Sun. 12/5 Marvin Wiese
Servers:	Sat. 12/4 Volunteers	Sun. 12/5 Mason Wiese/Cameron Woita
Ushers:	Sat. 12/4 George Wonka/Joe Janecek	Sun. 12/5 Don Sabatka/Jesse Sabatka
Gifts:	Sat. 12/4 Bill Laughridge Family	Sun. 12/5 Chuck Lacey Family

Stewardship of Treasure: November 21, 2021 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$4,210.34 **PLUS: Candles: \$8.00 Cloistered Sisters: \$120.00 Guardian Angel Fund: \$50.00**
Christmas Flowers: \$100.0 All Saints Day: \$30.00

St. John’s PCCW Group will have *Coffee & Rolls* after the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, December 5th.

PCCW Members—Please join us for the next PCCW Meeting/Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 14th at 6:00pm in the school. We will have a potluck meal, short meeting and play bingo. Chicken and drinks will be furnished with potluck of sides/desserts. Also please bring a \$10.00 gift for exchange.

St. John’s PCCW is looking for ladies who are interested in becoming the Vice President and/or Treasurer for the upcoming year. If you are interested, please contact Peg Bouc at: (402) 480-2962.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11	Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
Tuesday:	Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22	Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Wednesday:	Is 25: 6-10a; Mt 15:29-37	Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27		

SPIRITUAL CORNER

“Lord, as Advent begins, help me to put my eyes on You. Help me to open my ears to Your voice. And help me to open my heart to Your glorious presence. May I be attentive to You in every way You desire to come to me. Jesus, I trust in You.”

OTHER INFORMATION

Please remember in your prayers and, on occasion, call or send a card to our home-bound/assisted care facilities parishioners: South Haven—Charles Kadavy, Rose Walla, Mary Lou Woita, Albina Kellner and George Furasek, Jr.; Saunders County Care Center—Marcella Meduna; David’s Place—Patsy Sabatka. Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of December 4-5, 2021

Acolyte:	Sun. 12/5 Dan Furasek
Lector/Reader	Sun. 12/5 Jeff Walla
Servers:	Sun. 12/5 Coy Furasek/Adam Furasek
Ushers:	Sun. 12/5 Pat Bartek/Bryan Woita
Gifts:	Sun. 12/5 Deon Thoene Family

Stewardship of Treasure: November 21, 2021 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$1,300.00 **PLUS:**

Reminder to all St. Vitus parishioners: There was a "cut off" portion in the last Altar Society letter meant to accommodate the need for any changes in our annual booklet as well as meeting time/days for the women. Please fill these forms out and send back to Skye Rezac in the envelope that was included with the letter. We would like to have these back **NO LATER THAN** December 12th. Thank you!

SCHOOL NEWS

St. John’s School Christmas Program—Sunday, December 5th at 3:00 pm in the school gym. Please come and enjoy the program.

Scrip—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. 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 15th of each month. You will get your cards approx. 2 weeks after order is placed. Please email stjohnscrip19@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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 off all your labels and receipts.

AREA NEWS

Mobile Device Specialist—The Education Technology department for the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Lincoln has an opening for a Mobile Device Specialist. Applicants must have an Associate’s degree or higher in a technology-related field and be at least 19 years of age. This position will be responsible for the preparation, installation and configuration of iPads at the schools and will involve remote diagnostics and traveling to the different schools, for on-site deployment as needed. For more information, see the full job description at <https://www.lincolndiocese.org/school-employment>. To apply, send letter of interest and resume to jobs@cdolinc.net. No calls, please.

Saunders Catholic Schools are looking for a volunteer to become our TeamMates Coordinator. This person will work collaboratively with the Wahoo Chapter board, TM Central Office, and school administration to grow the TM mentoring program. Our coordinator will assist with mentor recruitment, coordinate training and the matching process between mentors and mentees, and ensure accurate and updated recordkeeping. Please reach out to Fr. Vandewalle, Mike Weiss, John Kreikemeier, or Missy Chvatal for additional information or to volunteer.

Advent with Spirit Catholic Radio: How are you celebrating Advent this year? The four weeks of Advent are meant to give us hope and reassurance that the Lord is coming, and also the opportunity to give hope to those around us. This year, Spirit Catholic Radio is focusing on a theme for every week of Advent: Hope, Joyful Expectation, Prayer, and Peace. Follow us on social media, subscribe to our e-newsletter, The Halo, and visit <https://spiritcatholicradio.com/advent/> as we share with you ideas for bringing these themes to life in your own special way either with your family, coworkers, or community. You can also tune in to Spirit Catholic Radio on weekday mornings, during our Spirit Mornings show, to hear inspirational guests discuss what Advent can mean in our lives. Tune in on Sundays for special Advent programming from EWTN. More info at <https://spiritcatholicradio.com/>

Catholic Daughters will meet at 6:30pm on Monday, November 29th at St. Wenceslaus in Wahoo starting with a special mass honoring our deceased members, meeting will follow. If you know anyone that does not get this email or saw the notice in the bulletin, please help us out by letting them know of our meeting. Reminder: Please **bring grocery items for the Marian Sisters**. If you want to donate, but won't be able to attend this meeting please contact another member or an officer to help you.

Advent Series in Brainard—Holy Trinity Church in Brainard will be hosting three talks for the Advent season given by members of the Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies. The talks, entitled “What Shall We Call Him?” will focus on the three titles given to Jesus before his birth: Jesus, Christ, and Immanuel. The first talk will be given by Vern Steiner on December 2nd, at 7:00pm. The second talk will be given by Chad Steiner on December 9th, at 7:00pm. The third talk will be given by Joshua Burks on December 16th, at 7:00pm. All are welcome. Talks will take place in the parish hall. Free will offering optional.

Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies will lead a Weekend Retreat "Awaiting Emmanuel" at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly on December 3rd-5th. Registration and info at goodcounselretreat.org or call 402-786-2705.

Sidewalk Advocates for Life - Lincoln will host their next training on December 4th, 8:45am-4:00pm at Lincoln Right to Life's Pro Life Center. Please contact Cathy Turner at safclathy896@gmail.com to register or go to <http://evite.me/c4th8v5mZ7> for details. Please join in this important ministry to help abortion-minded women find life-affirming resources, turn all business away from Planned Parenthood of Lincoln, and also help abortion workers leave the industry. See sidewalkadvocates.org for more information about this ministry.

On December 6th at 7:00pm please join Sandy Danek, founder of Healing Hearts Grief Ministry, as she explores "Grief and the Holidays" from a Catholic perspective. Open to anyone who has experienced a loss of a loved one, is suffering from infertility or miscarriage, or those who want to know how to better support a loved one experiencing grief. More information and registration is at <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/grief>. This event will be at the Harbor Coffeehouse and livestreamed, and is free.

The Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 28th. All are invited to attend this Memorial Mass, especially those families who have suffered the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion. Reading of names will begin at 6:30pm with Mass at 7:00pm at John XXIII Diocesan Center Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln. If you would like your child's name to be remembered & placed on the banner, please call the Office of Family Life at 473-0620 **before 5:00pm on December 17th**. If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

Every time a little boy went to a playmate’s house, he found the friend’s grandmother deeply engrossed in her Bible. Finally his curiosity got the better of him. “Why do you suppose your grandmother reads the Bible so much?” he asked. “I’m not sure,” said his friend, “but I think she’s cramming for her finals.”