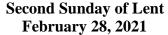
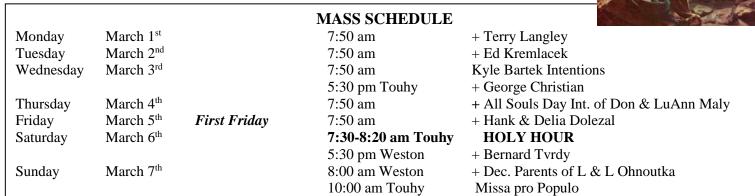
## PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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: <u>StJohn-Weston@cdolinc.net</u>
Website address: <u>www.stjohnschurchweston.com</u>
CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment





### NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

March 5<sup>th</sup>, First Friday Mass and Devotions (Adoration, Stations, and Confessions) will be at Church since there is no school that day.

Hoping your Lent is going well.

**The Transfiguration** reminds us that though there is a suffering to go through, a certain glory awaits if we carry our cross with Jesus. It is good to take time in our mind to "go up the mountain with Jesus" to remember this.

**Congratulations** to all of our Second Graders for completing preparations for their First Confession on February 20<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for their First Communion on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Retired Priests Fund & Cloistered Sisters** — St. John's and St. Vitus together gave to the Retired Priests Fund a total of \$1,500.00 and the Cloistered Sisters a total of \$875.00.

Confirm Culture - On Catholic Spirit Radio in an interview of Carrie Gress, author of "The Anti-Mary Exposed: Rescuing the Culture from Toxic Feminity," she shared – with light-heartedness – how her book had been taken off of a few social media platforms as objectionable. But, as people learned about this, they started to buy it until it was sold out at Amazon and shot up the charts. However, once it was sold out, the normal option of purchasing it in advance, was not offered and the book dropped down. I checked and the option to buy is there again. In fact, I decided – even while I am writing this – to buy it. With the tearing down of religious statues, the passing of "The equality act" which may try to force Catholic institutions and other Christians to accept false gender norms, the attack by the Culture of Death continues. On the other hand there are signs of life from those who support the Culture of Life, such as the passing of a pro-life bill in South Carolina, protecting babies in the womb even longer. St. John Paul II coined the terms "Culture of Life" and "Culture of Death." Behind the Culture of Death is Satan. Sometimes it seems like the Culture of Death is winning. However, behind the Culture of Life is Jesus, Who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Jesus wins out, but we are to play our part to bring this about in our own time. What we do makes a difference. We play our part by being in prayer, learning God's will for us, and working to love God and our neighbor. Even our Lenten practices have a spiritual ripple effect to bring Life to the world. One great practice includes our duty of going to confession during the Lenten or Easter Season. The Transfiguration, in the readings this weekend, was for the apostles and for us. The memory of the shining out of Christ's Glory on Mount Tabor was meant to strengthen the Apostles later on when they would witness the crucifixion and when they would carry their own crosses. This is still true for us as we participate in Life overcoming Death.

**Nebraska Catholic Conference** - To be an advocate for the Culture of Life locally you check out the Nebraska Catholic Conference Website where you can learn how to contact your local senators and about some bills that would be against our faith - LB 20, LB 67 to expand contraception for low income families and school-based health care centers, and LB 120 forcing more institutions to accept transgender and sexual orientation laws – and supporting Faith such as LB 167 "Religion is Essential Act" which seeks to protect religion during states of emergency. St. John Paul II said "It is Jesus within you who stirs the desire to do something great in your life."

## 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, Patsy Sabatka and Albina Kellner; Saunders County Care Center—Julius & Marcella Meduna and Marjorie Rezek. Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

### **SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK**

This week please pray for Matthew Kovar from Appleton Assumption, David City.

# ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

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

Total: \$1,357.25 PLUS: Candles: \$8.00 Southern Nebraska Register: \$60.00 Retired Priests: \$20.00

Guardian Angel: \$35.00 Ash Wednesday: \$395.00 Joy of the Gospel Rebate Period 24: \$3,250.00

#### **SPIRITUAL CORNER**

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor – He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you." --Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

#### READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38 Friday Gn 37:3-4; 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43; 45-46

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12 Saturday Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28 Sunday Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

## ST. VITUS PARISH

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

Total: \$2,300.00 *PLUS:* **Ash Wednesday:** \$75.00 **So. Nebr. Register:** \$115.00 **Joy of the Gospel Rebate:** \$300.00

Water Lease: \$20.00

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

**Altar Society Members**—We are in need of officers: President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. For more information, call Kathy at 402-450-5512.

#### **SCHOOL NEWS**

No School— Spring Break at St. John's & Bishop Neumann, Friday, March 5th.

**Support Our School with 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**

**St.** Wenceslaus Catholic Parish and School in Wahoo has an immediate opening for an energetic person. Must have strong knowledge of accounting to include: QuickBooks, payroll and financial reports. Work 25-30 hours/week. Hourly rate based on experience. Qualified candidates may request a more detailed job description of duties and responsibilities and/or send resume to: <a href="mailto:stwencoffice@wahoocatholic.org">stwencoffice@wahoocatholic.org</a>

**Part-Time Paid Position!** Secretary/admin assistant for St. Mary Ashland and St. Joseph Greenwood parishes. Work at St. Mary Rectory in Ashland approximately 10-15 hours per week. Could turn into more. Computer, communication and organizational skills a must. General secretarial/admin duties including weekly bulletin. Please leave a message if interested at 402-469-2893 or 402-944-3554 or email <a href="mailto:frbhol@gmail.com">frbhol@gmail.com</a>

**Change your station. Change your life!** This Lent, listen to Catholic Radio for one hour each week. Jesus will change your life! Already a listener? Tell a friend about the life-changing station you've been listening to. Visit <a href="https://www.spiritcatholicradio.com">www.spiritcatholicradio.com</a> for a station near you.

**Bishop Neumann Music Boosters** – **The Waffleman**—Saturday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm-7:30pm and Sunday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-12:30pm. "You've Got Talent" showcase Saturday at 7:30pm. See flyer in back of church for more info.

**Sts Mary & Joseph, Valparaiso**—PCCW Breakfast Sunday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. Drive-thru 8:45am-11am. Biscuits 'n gravy, scrambled eggs & ham. Free Will Donation. Sts Mary & Joseph parking lot—South Parish Hall Doors to put in your order.

**Bishop Conley will join Chris Stefanick on Real Life Catholic** this Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm for a live call-in show. Please join in watching at <u>reallifecatholic.com/live/</u> and enter your questions online or call 330-732-5228.

**2021 Lenten Series:** *An Introduction to Spiritual Life*—Matt Simmons, diocesan director of the Office of Evangelization and Spiritual Formation, will lead the series. The series will be in-person at Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly or at-home, live stream and on demand recordings. It will be held on Tuesdays through Mar. 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm-9:00pm. This series is free and registration is requested at <a href="https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/lent2021">https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/lent2021</a>. Any questions call 402-473-0615 or email <a href="mailto:Annette-Wemhoff@cdolinc.net">Annette-Wemhoff@cdolinc.net</a>. Participants are welcome to attend even if they cannot come to each event. Everyone is invited to attend!

**Saunders Catholic Schools will be hosting a Scholarship Night Meeting** to review tuition and scholarships for the 2021-2022 school year. It will be held in Weston at St. John's School in the gymnasium on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please plan to attend this meeting either in person or remotely. There are many opportunities for scholarships for Saunders Catholic School families, including scholarships from the Diocese of Lincoln, Bishop Neumann, St. Wenceslaus and St. John's. All safety precautions will be followed. To attend remotely, the video link will be: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83212863508?pwd=d2d3T2hDWXNpbUQrdTcxN1laMmRiZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83212863508?pwd=d2d3T2hDWXNpbUQrdTcxN1laMmRiZz09</a>

**Emmaus Institute**—Looking for a way to boost your spiritual life during Lent and Easter? The Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies is accepting registrations for its 10-week Online & In-Person Courses starting March 8<sup>th</sup>. Learn more at: emmausinstitute.net

Now Available in the David City Area: Support for Divorced Catholics—Divorced? Come find comfort, counsel, hope and healing consistent with Catholic Church teachings. The 12-week series & facilitator led Surviving Divorce program begins on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm-8:00pm, at St. Mary's Rectory in David City. A suggested donation of \$50 covers the cost of the program and includes the Surviving Divorce personal guide and all materials. Classes are kept small and may be registered for by contacting the Family Life Office at 402-473-0620 or <a href="mailto:catholicflo@cdolinc.net">catholicflo@cdolinc.net</a>

Gala 2021 – Saturday Night Fever—Save the Date: Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at Starlite Event Center. Please help Saunders Catholic Schools GALA event by donating funds and gifts. Donations can easily be dropped off at any of our three schools. If you have questions about sponsorships or would like to contribute to GALA, contact: Rika Ryan at <a href="mailto:rika-ryan@cdolinc.net">rika-ryan@cdolinc.net</a> or 402-443-4151.

**Gala Raffle Tickets Are On Sale!** Now is your chance to win \$5,000-\$1,000 while supporting your school. Price: \$100.00 Only 375 tickets SOLD! Contact Development Office, any Saunders Catholic School office or sellers to purchase your tickets.

### A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

A teacher asked her Sunday school class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by a boy's picture which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent. 'The flight to Egypt,' he replied. 'I see... And that must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus,' she said. 'But who's the fourth person?' 'Oh, that's Pontius – the Pilot!'