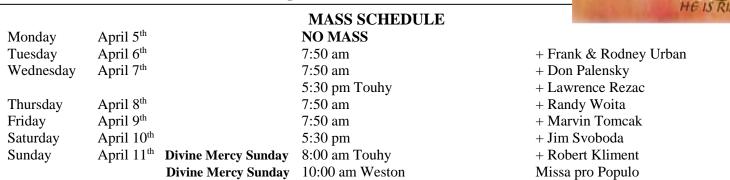
PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord April 4, 2021



NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Easter Monday – There will be no mass Monday, April 5th. I will be out of town.

Happy Easter Everybody! Jesus, our hope, has arisen! Since Jesus has conquered sin and death it means we do not need to be afraid of them or other things. Easier to say than do, we can't do that without His Grace. Nor does Jesus expect perfection of us, only that we keep trusting and persevere at growing in love of God and neighbor. I love the words someone recently told me: "We leave the past to His Mercy." We can only do that because Jesus has Risen! Alleluia!

Easter Sunday – At the end of Lent, it is nice to celebrate the end of our penances. But more importantly it is about the good we receive, for which Lent has opened us up. I know one family that does a great job in making many Lenten sacrifices (better than myself). After the Easter Vigil they banquet on goodies, especially those they gave up, while they rejoice in and discuss the Vigil and what inspired them. Since they often have family members that participated whether through serving, readings, etc.... they'll even laugh together over the little imperfections they may have done in serving, though they take it very seriously. Joy comes more from Good received than suffering lessened. Pope Benedict emeritus said: "We are not made for comfort; we are made for greatness!" We might liken it to the dad who was away from a year serving in the military in Iraq. He surely was glad to be done with that challenging service in the desert, but when he surprised his family on National TV at the sporting event, not only did he have a message on the jumbo screen while his wife and kids watched with the stadium and television audience, but then suddenly they found him right there present with his wife and kids in the stands, what a surprise! Their tears of joy were not just because his tour of duty was over, but because he was present body and soul, better than expected! Compare that with the resurrection, far more unexpected. When the disciples had witnessed what seemed the crushing of all hopes for which they had hoped from Jesus, imagine when they saw Him again! His suffering passed, and the unexpected joy of His presence. Jesus tells them and us: "I did this for you!" Not so that you may have no suffering in this life, but so that you might share the Father's goodness and joy, forever! Someday, suffering will end and that is wonderful to think about, but much greater than that will be the Good experienced.

First Communion – We can't wait for our second graders of St. John's and St. Vitus' to join us as they receive their First Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday next week!

Divine Mercy Sunday is next weekend - I encourage you to pray the Divine Mercy Novena leading up to it. Jesus asked St. Faustina and us to pray the Chaplet on nine consecutive days for the intentions he gave her. If you didn't start it on Good Friday, you can still catch up, or even do some of it. Novena pamphlets are at the back of Church or easily found on-line.

The Holy Land Collection - Still feel free to give to the Good Friday Holy Land collection this year which goes to both helping Christians who have a tough road to hoe due to discrimination and up keeping the shrines through the ministry of the Franciscans. This past year they have had less income due to lack of tourism.

Year of St. Joseph - "St. Joseph, with the love and generosity with which he guarded Jesus, so too will he guard your soul, and as he defended Him from Herod, so will he defend your soul from the fiercest Herod: the devil! All the care that the Patriarch St. Joseph has for Jesus, he has for you and will always help you with his patronage. He will free you from the persecution of the wicked and proud Herod, and will not allow your heart to be estranged from Jesus. Go to Joseph with extreme confidence, because I do not remember having asked anything from St. Joseph without having obtained it readily." - St. Pio of Piertrelcina ("Padre Pio") from *Consecration to St. Joseph*

WEEKLY TITHING COLLECTIONS		
	St. John Nepomucene	St. Vitus
Amount Budgeted per Week (\$2,636.54) in March	\$10,546.16	
Amount Budgeted per Week (\$1,740.00) in March		\$ 6,960.00
Amount Received in March	\$ 8,644.50	\$ 5,366.79
Net Excess (Deficit) for the month of March	\$ (1,901.66)	\$ (1,593.21)

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 Scott Nemec from St. Vincent de Paul, Seward & St. Wenceslaus, Bee.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Stewardship of Treasure: March 28, 2021 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$1,948.00 *PLUS*: Candles: \$26.00 Holy Land: \$50.00 Easter: \$50.00 Southern Nebraska Register: \$15.00

Easter Flowers: \$50.00 **Combined Collection:** \$370.00

SPIRITUAL CORNER

"Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth her song begin: Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein; Invisible and visible, their notes let all things blend, for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end." -Saint John of Damascus

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15 Friday Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14 Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18 Saturday Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35 Sunday Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

ST. VITUS PARISH

Stewardship of Treasure: March 28, 2021 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$1,484.00 PLUS: Southern Nebraska Register: \$30.00 Combined Collection: \$130.00

2021 Altar Society Booklets—Please remember to pick up your Altar Society Booklets in the back of church, those not picked up will be mailed out.

St. Vitus April Church Cleaning—Chairman: Lori Woita. Group: Kim Turnwall, Janet Bartek and Sharlet Pekarek.

SCHOOL NEWS

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

The Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies is presenting its spring seminar, "I Believe in the Holy Spirit": Meeting the Breath of God in Scripture, from 9:00am-Noon on Saturday, April 10th, at St. Peter Parish in Lincoln. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Learn more and register at www.emmausinstitute.net

Marriage Encounter Presenting Virtual Weekend—Reaching a 'Oneness of heart' we long to see. April 23rd-25th. Contact Pat & Janelle Benson. Pat 308-940-0670 or Janelle 308-940-1105 or pbjbben@yahoo.com

Gala 2021 – Saturday Night Fever—Save the Date: Sat., April 24th at Starlite Event Center. Please help Saunders Catholic Schools GALA event by donating funds and gifts. Donations can be dropped off at any of our three schools. Questions about sponsorships or would like to contribute to GALA, contact: Rika Ryan at <u>rika-ryan@cdolinc.net</u> 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. Only 375 tickets SOLD! To purchase tickets, contact Development Office, any Saunders Catholic School office or sellers.

St. Wenceslaus Parish, Bee—Spring Chicken Dinner and Auction. Sunday, April 25th at the States Ballroom from 10:30am-2:30pm. Serving Pan-Fried Chicken and Grilled Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Bars, Rolls & Kolaches. Mass in Bee at 8:00am. Adults: \$10.00/Carry-out \$10.50; Children: \$5.00/Carry-out \$5.50. See poster in back of church.

Camp Kateri: Summer Camp Registration—Registration is now open for SKY Camp (rising grades 5th-9th), Catholic Adventure Camp (rising grades 4th-6th) and the Tekakwitha Games (rising grades 5th-9th). For more information, or to register for camp, go to www.campkateri.org. Flyer in the back of church.

High School Volunteer Counselors Needed For Camp Kateri—Camp Kateri is now accepting applications for volunteer high school counselors for SKY, Catholic Adventure Camp and the Tekakwitha Games. For more information, or to download an application, please go to www.campkateri.org. Flyer in the back of church.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

Last Easter, my youngest daughter's daycare teacher gave each of her pupils a little basket of chocolates carefully wrapped in cellophane. Before we were even out of the daycare center, I saw Lily—who was four at the time—trying to open the much-desired package. "Didn't Bonnie tell you not to eat them until you got home?" "Yes, she did," said Lily, "but I didn't hear her."