PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 1, 2021



NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

The Chohons expressed their appreciation for the prayers and the love poured out by so many in the community. Thank you for those prayers and gestures and I am sure we will continue to keep them in prayer. It may have been St. John Paul II or St. Teresa of Calcutta that said "Man cannot live without love." I think this becomes all the more apparent as we see the trials and tragedies of life and it becomes more apparent that God made us to love others.

Jesus in the Eucharist, Source of Mature Love – As we consider this Sunday's Gospel from the 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Jesus told the people "For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.... "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." One of the most radical teachings of the Catholic Faith is that Jesus is really present in the Eucharist as the Bread of Life. We call this the "Real Presence." Jesus is present in the Eucharist in his "body and blood, soul and divinity." Because He is present with His glorified, resurrected Body, this means that He is not present in a way that He gets broken, but in a way that He can be received. Because we have not yet been made perfect as we shall be in heaven, when we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, we do not yet experience the complete bliss we will have in heaven. In heaven we will experience complete love and so we cannot help but love back. During our time on earth, however, we have an opportunity to love God for more pure motives; that is, we don't love God simply because we experience good things from Him, we can love Him for Himself. Notice that in the Gospel, people were not looking for Jesus for eternal motives, but for food: "Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you." A traditional question asks if our motivations are pure: Are we loving the "consolations of God" or the "God of consolations"? It is easy to love someone who only does good for us and makes us feel good, but what about when we have a bad experience of someone? That is when true, mature love is required. Because God wants for us to love maturely, He allows us on earth to, at times, to go without good experiences and even to have great challenges - so that we have the opportunity to love more maturely. We will fail at this at times, but then God is quickly there with His Mercy and Grace to forgive (especially through Confession) and renew our ability to love as He loves. This kind of love is based not upon feelings but on the decision to choose love. With God's grace we can even love those most difficult for us to love, even our enemies – for they too are made in the image of God and loved by God. Since the Eucharist IS Jesus Himself ... is Love Himself, therefore, receiving the Eucharist is a source of Grace to be able to have more mature love and to love as God loves.

Car needed for Marian Sisters – We are blessed to have the Marian Sisters living at the Wahoo Convent and working in Wahoo, Weston and David City. Sr. Veronica will be serving at the jail and other apostolic work in Wahoo. Sr. Peggy Kucera will be teaching at St. John Nepomucene School. Sr. Mary Kansier will be teaching at David City Aquinas. A new Sister will be teaching at Bishop Neumann. There are four sisters in Wahoo with one car. We want to provide them with a second car. They will need a dependable vehicle for winter driving conditions. (Mother Superior told me that unicycles were not an option). Please let Father (Vandewalle, Jirovsky, Eickhoff) know if you have such a vehicle to donate, or a lead about a dependable, affordable one, or if you would like to donate money to this. Monetary donations can be made to St. John Nepomucene School at PO Box 10 Weston, Nebraska 68070.

Fr. Rand Langhorst's mom, Ruby Langhorst, passed away on July 24, 2021. Her Memorial Service was held on Saturday, July 31st at the Milligan United Methodist Church in Milligan. If you wish to send your sympathies to Fr. Rand, his address is 612 High Street, Beatrice, NE 68310

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of August 7-8, 2021

Acolyte:Sat. 8/7 Pat CarrollSun. 8/8 Matt TvrdyLector/Reader:Sat. 8/7 Deb CarrollSun. 8/8 Bob Masek

Servers: Sat. 8/7 Volunteers Sun. 8/8 Sam Adams/Noah Huisman

Ushers: Sat. 8/7 Volunteers Sun. 8/8 Volunteers

Gifts: Sat. 8/7 Joe Janecek Family Sun. 8/8 Gene Adams Family

Stewardship of Treasure: July 25, 2021 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$2,144.18 *PLUS:* Candles: \$35.80

St. John's PCCW Group - Coffee & Rolls—Please join us for coffee and rolls after the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, August 1st.

SPIRITUAL CORNER

"Let your door stand open to receive Him, unlock your soul to Him, offer Him a welcome in your mind, and then you will see the riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace, the joy of grace. Throw wide the gate of your heart, stand before the sun of the everlasting light." - St. Ambrose

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21 Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36 Saturday: Dt 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35; Mt 15:21-28 Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34; Eph 4:30—5:2; Jn 6:41-51

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13; Mt 16:13-23

RELIGIOUS SISTER OF THE WEEK

This week please pray for Sr. Gemma of St. Mary Magdalene, Novice, from Piedmont, OK and Sr. May Elizabeth of the Trinity, Novice, from Park Hills, KY, who will be entering Sisters of the Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

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—Marcella Meduna. Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of August 7-8, 2021

Acolyte: Sun. 8/8 Steve Bartek **Lector/Reader** Sun. 8/8 Ron Furasek

Servers: Sun. 8/8 Nolan Thoene/Cade Grant

Ushers: Sun. 8/8 Volunteers
Gifts: Sun. 8/8 Pat Bartek Family

Stewardship of Treasure: July 25, 2021 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$0000.00 PLUS: The July 25th totals will be in next week's bulletin.

St. Vitus August Church Cleaning—Chairman: Monica Osmera. Group: Heather Walla, Lexi Walla and Jan Bohac.

St. Vitus Altar Society Meeting—Wednesday, August 4th at 6:30pm at the Schoolhouse following 5:30 Mass. Cookies and drinks will be provided. Please plan to attend!

SCHOOL NEWS

Bishop Neumann School begins on Wednesday, August 11th.

St. John Nepomucene School begins on Thursday, August 19th at 7:40am. Mass will be at 8:00am.

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

Holy Trinity Parish in Brainard will hold a Chicken Dinner & Bazaar on August 15th from 10:30am-2:30pm. The day will begin with a Mass at 10:00am. The bazaar will feature a Bake Sale, Games for Children, Raffle and Polka Music. The activities will be held in the air-conditioned Church and Klein Center and on the Parish grounds. The dinner features chicken, homemade rolls, kolaches, fresh tomatoes and cucumbers, coleslaw, pies/desserts. Tickets: \$15.00-Adults, \$8.00-Children 12 & under. (Take out-\$15.00) New this year: Drive thru meals. Enter alley on north side of the church and west side of the Klein Center. Spaced seating in the dining area. Flyer is in the back of church.

20th **National Conference for Single Catholics**—August 20th-22nd at the Omni Interlocken Hotel in Denver, CO. Visit www.NationalCatholicSingles.com for more information and to register or call 512-766-5798.

Fresh Fire---Come join us for an evening of adoration, praise, worship, teaching and intercessory prayer on Thursday, August 26th, from 7:00pm-9:00pm at the John XXIII Chapel. Opportunity for time with prayer teams will be available. Come, Holy Spirit, come and fill us with the fire of your love.

Roast Beef Dinner—Enjoy a fun-filled day with the Plasi Parishioners on Sunday, August 29th from 11:00am-2:00pm! Make the trip to the Prague Parish Hall for a roast beef dinner with loads of sides, including kolaches! Try your hand at our bake walk and \$1,000 raffle! Purchase delicious baked goods from our masterful bakers! A wide variety of unique items will be waiting for your bid at our auction! Meal prices: Adults-\$14, Children (5-10 years)-\$6, Preschool-Free. Flyer is in the back of church.

2021 Catholic Marriage 2.0—Catholic Marriage 2.0 aims at the prevention of risky language and behaviors that damage or prevent fruitful communication. The program seeks to enhance a couple's relationship by teaching effective communication skills and by clarifying the essential components of a healthy Christian marriage. Sessions are held on Sundays from 1:00pm-6:00pm four times a year at John XXIII Diocesan Center, 3700 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln. The last two dates are July 25th and October 24th. Refreshments will be provided. Registration forms in the back of church.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

When my three-year-old son opened the birthday gift from his grandmother, he discovered a water pistol. He squealed with delight and headed for the nearest sink. I was not so pleased. I turned to mom and said, "I'm surprised at you. Don't you remember how we used to drive you crazy with water guns?" Mom smiled and then replied..."I remember!"