

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

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment



## First Sunday of Lent February 21, 2021

### MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7:50 am	+ All Souls Day Int. of Dolores Maly
Tuesday	February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7:50 am	+ John & Mayme Machacek
Wednesday	February 24 <sup>th</sup>	7:50 am	Lee & Mary Volkmer Intentions
		5:30 pm Touhy	+ Frank Bartek, Jr.
Thursday	February 25 <sup>th</sup>	7:50 am	Ron Vasa
Friday	February 26 <sup>th</sup>	7:50 am	Nancy Elbracht
Saturday	February 27 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm Weston	+ Francis & Anne Albin
Sunday	February 28 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am Touhy	+ Jim Bartek
		10:00 am Weston	Missa pro Populo

### NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

**Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving** - During Lent the Church asks us to increase these three. Here's some ideas that I borrowed from Bishop Barron. Of course you can't do all, but perhaps one, or one from each category, or of course creatively make your own: **Prayer** - "What the best way to improve my life of prayer? Take the time," says Thomas Merton. As with any friendship, it includes time spent with the other. There a thousand ways to pray. Here are some. (1) The daily rosary will change your life suggests Bishop Barron. (2) The "Jesus" prayer recited a number of times consecutively is another: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner." (3) Meditation - A few minutes each day reflection on the gospel. Or simply sitting in the presence of the Lord: "here I am Lord, listening." Thomas Merton recommended "a half hour each day, unless you are busy, then an hour!" But any extra minutes are great! (4) Attend Daily Mass. **Fast** - The material good of the body are good, but lessening them can allow the spiritual desires to emerge. It helps order all the other things to God. Of course after the church days of fast or abstinence, Bishop Barron's ideas include some (1) food or (2) drink, (3) perhaps alcohol. (4) Some sin that you have been struggling with. To give it up for life, you might start with lent. The inventors of (5) social media meant for it to be addictive. Many choose to lessen their social media during lent. **Give Alms** - Alms express love in action, choosing the good for another. Those in need aren't just the poor. (1) Any service to someone in need is good. (2) Give 10% of your income during Lent to the poor. (3) Increase your normal tip by 5%. (4) Give to the charities that come in the mail for Lent. (5) Have loose money with you to give to those in need (6) Have a poor box at your door to drop money in whenever you leave the house, whether a dime or a dollar. It is a reminder to give to those in need. (7) Or choose one of the corporal or spiritual works of mercy to do more intensely for Lent.

**A few changes for the Green Category** - On January 30<sup>th</sup>, Governor Rickett's placed Nebraska in the "green category" opening up the state more. As a result, the Diocese changed some of its policies, leaving them up to the discretion of each pastor and recommending they consult with their parish council. Some things remain the same. The use of face masks when unable to maintain six feet of social distancing is still encouraged. Hand sanitizer is available at entrances. Priests and Acolytes will still use face masks when distributing Holy Communion. No shaking hands at the sign of peace. And Guidelines for school masses are still in place. After communicating with a number of parish council members about those things that were discretionary, here are some of the things we are implementing. Holy Water will be available in fonts. Of course these are optional for people to use or not. Missalettes will be available in the pews or in back of church. We have enough missalettes that those who wish to take them back and forth from home may still do so. We will remove some of the ropes; this will allow those who are still concerned about Covid-19 to have the social distancing space they may wish to have. We will monitor the need to remove more ropes depending on attendance. We'll use the confessional again, unless you call for an appointment. We won't pass collection baskets yet. We will continue to have the choirs sing. Please be respectful of those who may still have concerns.

### 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 Loudon Redinger from Sacred Heart, Shelton/Kenesaw.

### ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

**Stewardship of Treasure: February 14, 2021** We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...  
Total: \$6,065.00 **PLUS: Candles: \$105.00 Southern Nebraska Register: \$240.00 Retired Priests: \$100.00**  
**Guardian Angel: \$20.00 Ash Wednesday: \$85.00**

**St. John's PCCW Members**—Please pick up your 2021 Yearbooks (they are in alphabetical order) that are in the back of church. Thank you.

### READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19	Friday	Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15	Saturday	Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32	Sunday	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116; Rom 8:31b-34;
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12		Mk 9:2-10

## SPIRITUAL CORNER

"Prayer is reaching out after the unseen; fasting is the letting go of all that is seen and temporal. Fasting helps express, deepen, confirm the resolution that we are ready to sacrifice anything, even ourselves to attain what we seek for the kingdom of God." --Andrew Murray

## ST. VITUS PARISH

**Stewardship of Treasure: February 14, 2021** We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$907.00 **PLUS: Retired Priests:** \$100.00 **So. Nebr. Register:** \$15.00

**St. Vitus February Church Cleaning**—Chairman: Myra Bartek. Group: Barb Rezac, Mary Bartek and Elizabeth Hanks.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**PreK & Kindergarten Roundup**—Tuesday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm at St. John School in Weston. Bring your future student and join us for an informational meeting! To register, please call St. John School 642-5234 or email [barb-rezac@cdolinc.net](mailto:barb-rezac@cdolinc.net).

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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: [stwencoffice@wahoocatholic.org](mailto:stwencoffice@wahoocatholic.org)

**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 [frbhol@gmail.com](mailto:frbhol@gmail.com)

**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 [www.spiritcatholicradio.com](http://www.spiritcatholicradio.com) for a station near you.

**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 the Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House in Waverly or at-home, live stream and on demand recordings. It will be held on Tuesdays through March 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm-9:00pm. This series is free and registration is requested at <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/lent2021>. Any questions call 402-473-0615 or email [Annette-Wemhoff@cdolinc.net](mailto:Annette-Wemhoff@cdolinc.net). Participants are welcome to attend even if they cannot come to each event. Everyone is warmly invited to attend!

**Catholic Daughters** will meet at 6:30pm on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at St. Wenceslaus in Wahoo starting with mass. Following mass, we will recognize our Education Contest winners, followed by our meeting. We would like everyone who attends this meeting to make their own decision as to wearing a mask and social distancing. We welcome anyone interested in CDA to join us. For anyone who has not paid their 2021 dues, you may do so by sending your money to Cathy Cecava, P.O. Box 92, Davey, NE 68336. Dues are \$22 plus optional \$5 for bakeless bake sale.

**Saunders Catholic Schools will be hosting two Scholarship Night Meetings** to review tuition and scholarships for the 2021-2022 school year. The first one will be at Bishop Neumann High School on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the cafeteria. The second 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 one of these meetings 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: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83212863508?pwd=d2d3T2hDWXNpbUQrdTcxN1laMmRiZz09>

**Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House** near Waverly offers weekend retreats both in-person and online, see the schedule of retreats at [www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com) or call 402-786-2705. Upcoming Lent Retreats include nationally known retreat masters: Johnnette Benkovic Williams, February 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>; Bishop Robert Finn March 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> and Fr. John Anthony Boughton of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal March 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.

**Bishop Neumann Music Boosters – The Waffleman**—Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm-7:00pm and Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-Noon. "You've Got Talent" showcase Saturday at 7:30pm. See flyer in back of church for more information.

**Sts Mary & Joseph, Valparaiso**—PCCW Breakfast Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. Drive-thru 8:45am-11:00am. Biscuits 'n gravy, scrambled eggs & ham. FREE WILL DONATION. Sts Mary & Joseph parking lot—South Parish Hall Doors to put in your order.

**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](http://emmausinstitute.net)

**Free Marriage Enrichment Seminar**—Great idea for couples during Lent—from your home, at your pace. MarriageinChrist.com is an easy to use online program with video presentations, a downloadable workbook, discussion starters etc. It is simple, practical and fun! Just 5 sessions. Free for couples who register by March 31 (\$40 value). Once registered, access is free through May 31.

**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 [rika-ryan@cdolinc.net](mailto:rika-ryan@cdolinc.net) 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

Question on a second-grade math quiz: "Tony drank 1/6 of a glass of juice. Emily drank 1/4 of a glass of juice. Emily drank more. Explain." My grandson's answer: "She was more thirsty."