

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

218 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Nebraska City, NE 68410

Telephone: 402-873-3024

Website: [stmarysnebraskacity.com](http://stmarysnebraskacity.com)

Pastor: Very Rev. Michael G. McCabe

Associate Pastor: Rev. James J. Morin

Sunday Mass - Schedule: Saturday: 6:30 p.m. & Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule: St. Mary's Hospital Chapel - Monday-Friday - 6:20 a.m.; St. Mary's Church - Monday-Saturday - 8:00 a.m.

Perpetual Adoration - St. Mary's Hospital Chapel: Monday - 6:00 a.m. thru Saturday - 12:00 a.m. - Pam Gress, 402-969-0556

Confessions: Saturday, 4-5 p.m. or by appointment CCD Coordinator - Diane Denniston, 402-209-2498

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday-Friday - 9:00-11:00 a.m. & 1:30-4:00 p.m., 873-3024 - [stmarysnebcity@windstream.net](mailto:stmarysnebcity@windstream.net)

Prayer Chain: email: Patrice Wulf, 873-6848 ([wulfpak@windstream.net](mailto:wulfpak@windstream.net)) or calling tree: Kathy Duffy, 873-7576

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

**PRAY FOR THE SICK** - Shirley Hackett, Trini Lipp, Dean Hauptman, Emmett Christiansen, Sr. Kathleen Kilp, O.S.F., Mike Crunk, Kim Kelly, Lacie & Lexis Bruns-Morris, Kathy Gilbert, Kala Griepenstroh, Leonard Kreifels, Albert Burger, Janet McVay, Bill Albert, John Davis, Donna Thoms, Juanita Kreifels, Laurence DuBois, Adam Eppert, Mary Jo Ventre, Pat Bowman and all parishioners who are homebound, hospitalized, in nursing homes and all the intentions listed in our Book of Intentions. Please feel welcome to add names to our prayer list by calling the parish office. Due to the privacy act, the person must grant their permission for their name to be printed in the bulletin. Thank you for your prayers.

**PLEASE PRAY** for our seminarians James O'Neil, Brian Wirth and Joseph Allen and vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Thank you.

**WELCOME** to all our visitors and guests. If you have recently moved to Nebraska City and would like to register as a member of St. Mary's Church, we invite you to stop by or call the parish office.

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** Please submit all bulletin notices by **Monday at 11:00 a.m.** in writing either by e-mail to [stmbulletin@windstream.net](mailto:stmbulletin@windstream.net) (preferred) or to the parish office.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: ADORERS NEEDED** on Mondays from 3-4 p.m. If you are able to be an adorer during these hours, please call Pam Gress, Coordinator, 402-969-0556. Eucharistic Adoration is held beginning on Monday following the 6:20 a.m. Mass and ends at 12:00 a.m. Saturday morning at CHI Health-St. Mary's Hospital Chapel. Everyone is always welcome to make a visit. If you are not a regular scheduled adorer and would like to be or would like more information, please call Pam Gress. Thank you to all of our scheduled adorers.

**37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ADVENT RECITAL:** You are invited to celebrate the start of the Advent season with beautiful music provided by local church choirs and vocal groups at Nebraska City's annual community-wide Advent Recital on Sunday, December 3 from 6-8 p.m. at St. Mary's Church. Refreshments will be served following the Recital in the church hall.

**POINSETTIAS & CHRISTMAS TREES** will be purchased to decorate our church for Christmas. We are purchasing two large permanent pre-lite trees at a cost of \$650. Donations are being accepted to purchase the trees and poinsettias (suggested donation \$10.00 per flower) as a memorial to a deceased loved one or to honor someone living. Special envelopes are available in the entrance of the church for your convenience. Please make donations by **Sunday, December 17** either through the collection basket or to the parish office. Thank you.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS CHRISTMAS PARTY!** Come join us on December 5 at the Keeping Room at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and fun. We will play Cardo! So bring a \$5 wrapped gift. We will also be collecting small games for the Tutwiler Education Center in Mississippi, these do not need to be wrapped. See you the 5th! If you have any questions contact Barb Stukenholtz at 402-209-4976.

**CONFIRMATION** will be celebrated at St. Mary's Church on Sunday, December 10 at 12:00 p.m. **CONFIRMATION PRACTICE** will be held on Wednesday, December 6 at 5:15 p.m. All students being confirmed are to attend and wear your confirmation attire. Please bring your sponsor if they are able to attend. Individual and group pictures will be taken. Please pray for all of our students that will be confirmed.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE,** a holy day of obligation, will be celebrated on Thursday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m., and Friday, December 8 at 6:20 & 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. all at the church.

**RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION:** Next weekend there will be second collection for the retired priest's collection. Each year you are invited to help with the support of those who serve and that have served at our parish. Our annual assessment for the retirement fund is \$7487.00. This is your opportunity to show your support of our parish priests. An envelope is attached to the bulletin today for your convenience. Thank you.

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** December 6 - Confirmation Practice - 5:15 p.m.; December 9 - Cookie Walk - 8:30 a.m.; December 10 - Confirmation - 12:00 p.m.; December 17 - Communal Penance Service - 2:00 p.m.; January 26 - Pitch Party - 6:30 p.m.; March 4 - First Confession & St. Mary's Soup Supper; April 15 - First Communion; April 21-22 - Ministry Fair.

### 25TH ANNIVERSARY - ANNUAL COOKIE WALK

Mark your calendars and plan to participate in the 25th Annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 9 starting at 8:30 a.m. in St. Mary's Church hall. Start looking for those famous, fancy and colorful Christmas cookie recipes!! Get a group together for a cookie bake.

This event is an opportunity to involve the whole family. Each family of the parish is asked to bake 6-10 dozen cookies. Keep the size small—big ones break easily. Bring your cookies to the church hall anytime Friday, December 8 but, **please before 8:00 a.m.** on Saturday. If you need someone to pick up your cookies, please call Mary Mills, 873-6247 or call Linda Lollmann, 873-3986. If you are unable to bake cookies, please consider making a donation of \$20.

On Saturday, come and bring your friends and family to walk around the tables and choose those special cookies for your bucket. If you have not been to our "Cookie Walk" before, you will be amazed at the sight of all the tables full of beautiful and delicious cookies. Buckets are available for \$8.00 or if you bring last year's bucket, the cost is \$7.50. They make great Christmas gifts.

This is a great fundraiser for our parish, so please plan to participate in this annual event. Since this is our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, let's make this the best year yet!!! Thank you in advance for sharing your time and talent for your parish. May God Bless you for your gifts.

Fr. Michael McCabe, Mary Mills and Linda Lollmann, Co-Chairmen.

**GREETERS/USHERS NEEDED:** Two people or a couple is needed for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday at the 6:30 p.m. Mass and one person is needed for the 3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. If you would be willing to serve as a greeter/usher, please call Wayne and Brenda Kreifels, 402-873-6001.

**THANK YOU** to Arvon & Lu Marcotte for your many years of decorating our church so beautifully for the Advent & Christmas season and throughout the year. Your many gifts of time and talent are greatly appreciated.

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:** The season of Advent is upon us, and in today's Gospel Jesus delivers a simple message through the pen of Saint Mark: "Be watchful! Be alert!" Christian stewards understand what Jesus meant when he said, "It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task." Good stewards realize that to each one a task is assigned by God. They have been set in a particular place and station in life, and have been gifted with unique relationships. How do we respond to the tasks or cultivate our relationships in a way that keeps us alert for the return of Christ?

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE - MY RETURN TO THE LORD

**Nov. 26: Adult Env.:** \$8220.50; **Loose:** \$457.18; **Children's Env.:** \$2.48; **Online:** \$4716.50; Building Fund: \$20.00; **Total: \$13,446.66**  
**Needed Weekly:** \$13,322.48; **Over:** \$124.18; **Nov. 26: Needed:** \$293,094.60; **Received:** \$273,743.33 **Short: \$-19,371.27** (\$-71.75 per family)  
Franciscan Sisters: Need: \$8400.00; Rec'd \$5010.00; Bishop's Appeal for Vocations: \$1400.00  
Thank you for your generosity.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	11:00 a.m. Children's Choir practice	Wednesday	5:15 p.m. Confirmation Practice
	6:00 p.m. Advent Recital		5:30 p.m. CCD - Grades 1-6, Lourdes Primary
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. Cup of Grace, church hall		7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. Class, Lourdes School
	6:30 p.m. CDA Christmas Party, Keeping Room	Saturday	8:30 a.m. Cookie Walk, church hall
Wednesday	8:45 a.m. Legion of Mary, rectory	Sunday	12:00 p.m. Confirmation

**THOUGHTS TO PONDER:** *Love and charity, are service, helping others, serving others.* Pope Francis

## MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS

	6:20 a.m. (Hospital Chapel)	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
<b>Monday</b>	Gude & Nystrom Families+	Ernest Volkmer+	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Delrosa Riege+	Herbert & Rosa Volkmer+	
<b>Wednesday</b>	John Stukenholtz+	Jakeb Myers+	
<b>Thursday</b>	Lois Brown+ (Anniv.)	Paul & Patricia Volpe+	<b>6:30 p.m.</b> People of the Parish
<b>Friday</b>	Rita Stukenholtz+ (AT CHURCH)	Helen Volkmer+	<b>5:30 p.m.</b> Bonnie Zellmer+
<b>Saturday</b>		Rose Schreiner+ (Anniv.)	<b>6:30 p.m.</b> Betty Beckman+
<b>Sunday</b>		Delbert Larson	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> People of the Parish <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Confirmation Students
	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>USHERS/ GREETERS</b>	Arnie Kreifels, Bryan Stukenholtz Jason & Kim Esser	Charlene Reese, Jeff Reese Pete & Nancy Lutz	Richard Gibson, Kent & Cindy McGinnis Jeff & Hettie Funke
<b>SERVERS</b>	Tyler Lechner, Johnny Heng	Ben & Blake Miller	Quinten Vasa, Tyler Mucha, Alex Bebout
<b>LECTORS</b>	Buck Shawhan	Gail Walford	John Dubas
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Matt Nienaber	Mike Kearney	Duane Stuhr
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	Bob & Debbie Lechner, Juli Lechner	David, Janet, Marlene Frana	Carissa Phillips Family

**WEEKDAY SERVERS:** - Dec. 4-9 – Maverick Weninger, Jagar Matson, Brady Schnitzer; **6:20 a.m. Mass at Hospital** – Server: Pat Gress; Reader: Sharon Crunk

**READINGS:** Dec. 4, Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11; Dec. 5, Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24; Dec. 6, Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37; Dec. 7, Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27; Dec. 8, Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38; Dec. 9, Is 30:19-21,23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8; Dec. 10, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8.

**STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE:** Become aware of the gifts of love from God.

**JOYFUL LIVING, GRATEFUL GIVING PROGRAM:** Commitment cards are still being accepted. If you have not returned your card, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you to all those that have returned your commitment card and have committed your offertory support to continue to advance our parish mission. Please return your card even if you are unable to make a change in your current level of giving. Please pray for our parish and the success of this program. Thank you.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS ADVENT DRIVE:** The Catholic Daughters would like your help collecting slightly used or new sleeping bags and blankets for the Catholic Social Services to distribute to the homeless. Please bring items to the entrance of the church by December 31. Call Barb Stukenholtz with any questions, 402-209-4976.

**CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE:** St. Mary's Church, along with the Nebraska City Ministerial Association is participating in the Christmas Angel Tree Project again this year. The Angel Tree Project helps families in need by providing gifts for their children. The tree in the entrance has paper ornaments with items listed on them. Please consider taking an ornament(s) and purchasing the item listed. Place UNWRAPPED items in the box located near the Angel Tree no later than **December 10**. MAKE SURE TO ATTACH THE ORNAMENT TO THE GIFT SO IT GETS TO THE CORRECT FAMILY. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy McGinnis at 402-209-0531. Thank you for helping make their Christmas a little merrier!

**DO YOU NEED SOME EXTRA HANDS?** Do you need your Christmas presents wrapped? Do you need someone to watch your kids so you can get extra things done or go shopping? Do you need extra set of hands to get some work done around the house? Some high school students from Lourdes Central Catholic are looking for some jobs to earn extra cash to defray the cost of their trip to Washington D.C. to attend the March for Life. If you would have opportunities for them to earn some extra cash, contact Kay DeFreece at 402-209-0321. She will set you up with a student.

**FOOD PANTRY - HARVEST/HOLIDAY OFFERING SHOPPING LIST:** The Nebraska City Food Pantry is preparing holiday gift boxes to be given to those in need for the holidays. A shopping list has been prepared of items needed for the baskets. Items are to be taken and left on the stage at the First United Methodist Church prior to December 4 and December 18. Value of all items needed is approximately \$20. Shopping lists are available in the entrance of the church.

**"A TIME FOR ANGELS,"** the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday, December 3 at 2:00 p.m. at Marshall Funeral Chapel. It is a program for the entire community dedicated to those who have lost a loved one. Each family attending will be given a beautiful angel in memory of their loved ones, available for use as a Christmas tree ornament or a decoration for the home. Words of comfort will be given by Fr. Michael Ventre and Rev. David Butz. Refreshments to follow. Questions? Call Marshall Funeral Chapel, 873-5331.

**LIVE NATIVITY:** Experience the true meaning of Christmas! Bethel United Church of Christ is pleased to present this live nativity as a Christmas gift to our community of Sunday, December 10 & 17 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 24 at 6:00 p.m. Drive through, stay warm in your car and come to witness the story of Christ's birth by seeing the manger scene with costumed characters and live animals. Kid's will love the live animals. Admission is a food item to be donated to the Nebraska City Food Pantry. There will also be a free will offering to help support an annual live nativity.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:** Sunday, December 24 - 5:00 p.m. – Children's Mass & 10:00 p.m. – Traditional Mass; Monday, December 25 - 9:00 a.m. Mass.

**NEED A CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA? NEW INSPIRATIONAL CATHOLIC CDS AND BOOKS:** Want to enrich and strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ and your understanding of the Catholic faith? Stop in the entrance of the church today to see what is new from Lighthouse Catholic Media. CDS are only \$4 and books are \$6. Your generous donations help continue our ministry and we are able to purchase additional CDs, books and booklets.

**FORMED.ORG?** FORMED, the Catholic Faith on Demand with 24/7 access to the best Catholic teaching content on any device, including your computer, tablet or smart phone with internet access. With FORMED you will find video programs that explains the Catholic faith, explore the deepest meaning of marriage, receive Bible studies on a variety of topics and inspiring audio talks. To get FORMED, go to [Formed.org](http://Formed.org) and click on "Register. Sign-up using your parish code."BHRREJ." Get the FREE FORMED APP.

**ALL CATHOLICS ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE AN ANNUAL RETREAT:** Upcoming retreats at Good Counsel Retreat House in Waverly: December 1-3 for men and women with Bishop Robert Finn "Baptize, Teach and Know I am With You" (Catechists), December 7-10 for men with Fr. Michael Mitchell, LC and Fr. Peter Krezalek, LC "Regnum Christi: Spiritual Exercises and December 15-17 for men and women with Bishop James Conley and Fr. Gary Coulter – Advent Retreat. Register at [www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com)

**ABORTION TUESDAYS:** PLEASE! We need people praying for the abortion mothers to choose life for their babies on Tuesday. One half of all abortion mothers going in on Tuesdays are married mothers. From Helpers of God's Precious Infants and Mothers Sidewalk Counselors/Prayer People.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT – DINNER FOR FR. MCCABE & FR. MORIN:** Dec. 4: Marcia Talmon, Dec. 6: Julie Volkmer, Dec. 9: Allison Weddle, Dec. 11: Hope Weninger, Dec. 13: Kathy Wigington, Dec. 16: Cheryl Wirth Dec. 18: Emily Wolken, Dec. 20: Teresa Albers, Dec. 23: Maureen Chance, Dec.27: Vonna Grooman, Dec. 30: Heather Bakula. The time to bring dinner for your designated day is between 5:30-6:00 p.m. If you do not use disposable dishes, please put your name on the dishes and pick them up in the church hall. It is preferred that meals be taken to the back door of the rectory, and if the priests are not home, please put the meals in the refrigerator. Questions or to volunteer, please call Maureen Chance, 874-9411. Thank you.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TIME – CHURCH CLEANERS (following the Saturday 8:00 a.m. Mass {8:30 a.m}): Dec. 9:** Mike & Patti Alex, Fred & Sheryl Allen, Evelyn Alonso, William & Kathy Aultz, William & Roberta Aultz, Mark & Heather Bakula, Chris & Tammy Bando, Tim & Nancy Baragary, Colleen Barrett, Tim & Brenda Baumann. **Dec. 16:** Aaron & Mary Bennett, Adam & Anne Bennett, Aric & Tara Bennett, Larry & Nan Benscoter, Bryan & Kelly Bequette, Ted Bernard, Dallas & Shelley Beshaler, Jack & Jeanine Blevins, Richard Blobaum, Caroline Bolin, Richard & Gail Bond, Marcia Boone. **Dec. 23:** Jennifer Booth, Ronda Booth, Daren & Beth Box, Roger & Ranae Brandt, Theresa Brown, Jody Honeysuckle, Carolyn Bryant, Ken & Paula Carlstedt, Mary Causgrove, Sean & Maureen Chance, Joe & Brooke Chaney, Richard Sevensing, Kris Chaney, Marianne Chesterman. **If you are unable to clean the week assigned, families or individuals are responsible for finding a replacement or contacting and paying a substitute \$15.00. Substitutes:** Kathy Duffy, 873-7576, Linda Smith, 873-7576, Sharon Crunk, 873-4568, Julia Russell, 402-209-2340, Mary Mills, 873-6247, Sharon Heng, 873-5105.