

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

218 N. 6th St., Nebraska City, NE 68410

Telephone: 402-873-3024

Website: stmarysnebraskacity.com

Pastor: Very Rev. Michael G. McCabe

Associate Pastor: Rev. Michael A. Ventre

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, 402-242-2631

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday-Friday - 9:00-11:00 a.m. & 1:30-4:00 p.m., 873-3024

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017

PRAY FOR THE SICK - Kim Kelly, Lacie Bruns-Morris, Kathy Gilbert, Kala Griepenstroh, Leonard Kreifels, Albert Burger, Boston Thomasson, Janet McVay, Bill Albert, John Davis, Donna Thoms, Lexis Bruns-Morris, Lois Harris, Juanita Kreifels, Laurence DuBois, Adam Eppert, Mary Jo Ventre, Ann Spalti, Pat Bowman, Kenneth Russell 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 Anthony Bedient, James Beran, James O'Neil and Brian Wirth and vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY for the success of the renovation and expansion campaign "Visions for a Vibrant and Faith-Filled Future" of Lourdes Central Catholic Schools.

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 (preferred) or to the parish office.

EUCCHARISTIC 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. If you are not a regular scheduled adorer and would like to be or would like more information, please call Pam Gress, Coordinator, 402-969-0556. Everyone is always welcome to make a visit. Thank you to all of our scheduled adorers.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? Lourdes Hot Lunch Program at St. Mary's is in need of a new two-door refrigerator at a cost of \$3031.00. If you would like to help with this cost, please contact Linda Willson at 402-873-3024. All donations are welcome. Thank you.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRIES: Come join us for the annual Lenten Fish Fries on Friday, March 24, 31 and April 7 from 5-7 p.m. in St. Mary's Church Hall. Featuring fried and baked fish, shrimp, pasta with marinara sauce and potato wedges with choice of dessert. Free will DONATION.

PRAYER CARDS FOR FIRST COMMUNICANTS: Sunday, April 23 at 12:00 p.m. students from our parish will receive their First Communion. The parish family of St. Mary's is invited to pray for our students. Prayer cards are available in the pews with student names on them for you to take home and include them in your prayers. If you would like to send them a card, a box will be available the weekends of April 8-9 and 15-16 for your convenience. Our First Communicants are Marlena Chesterman, Hunter Lackey, Lillian Madison, Reagan Moser, Jaxson Reese, Harper Rutt, Dominic Schizas, Severin Stukenholtz, Addisyn Walters, Harper Weldon, Seth Whitney, Adeline Wigington, Isabelle Willson, Nadine Young.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAS LENTEN PAPER DRIVE: Please join us in collecting paper for Lourdes Central Catholic School. Drop off your reams of paper at St Mary's, St Benedict's or St Joseph's. We will collect until April 17. Thank you.

THANK YOU to all those that helped make our parish rummage sale a great success. Thank you to all those that donated items, purchased items, help prepare items for sale, helped in anyway with the sale, boxed up items on Saturday and helped with clean-up. Thank you to Anna Mae Kaiser for chairing this project. Your many gifts of time and talent are greatly appreciated. Proceeds are used to help the Christian Mothers/Altar Society purchase all the liturgical supplies for the altar, missals and music issues and much more. Thank you.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: Jesus' longest-recorded conversation with anyone is the one he has with the Samaritan woman at the well. She discovers she can be honest with Jesus and goes and tells others about him. She gives witness. She's not the most certain, thorough or even convincing witness. But her witness is enough. It is inviting, humble, non-judgmental and sincere. What is the quality of our witness? How do our words and actions give daily testimony on behalf of Christ? During this season of Lent, how might we do a better job at proclaiming the risen Lord in word and deed?

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE - MY RETURN TO THE LORD

Mar. 12: Adult Env.: \$6268.00; Loose: \$1305.99; Children's Env.: \$3.00; Online: \$1556.00;

Building Fund: \$20.00; Ash Wednesday: \$30.00; Total: \$9182.99 Guardian Angel Fund: \$25.00

Needed Weekly: \$13,561.64; Short: \$4378.65; Mar. 12: Needed: \$497,780.40; Received: \$403,068.39; Short: **\$-94,712.01** (350.79 per family)

Lourdes Building & Renovation - Match Contributions: Needed: **\$500,000.00**; Received: **\$176,111.09**; Balance Needed: **\$323,888.91**

Franciscan Sisters: \$10.00; Southern Nebraska Register: Needed: \$5685.00; Received: \$2421.36 Thank you for your generosity.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	5:00 p.m. CCD Class, Grades 7-12, St. Benedict's Rectory	Wednesday	6:30 p.m. Lenten Spiritual Enrichment, Franciscan Sisters
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Tuesday	9:00 a.m. Cup of Grace, church hall	Thursday	9:00 a.m. Lenten Spiritual Enrichment, Franciscan Sisters
Wednesday	8:45 a.m. Legion of Mary, rectory	Friday	5:00 p.m. K of C Fish Fry, church hall
	5:30 p.m. Grades K-6 CCD, Lourdes Primary		5:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross/Benediction

MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS

	6:20 a.m. (Hospital Chapel)	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Monday	Delora Roland+	Special Intention	5:15 p.m. Lourdes Class of 2019
Tuesday	Poor Souls+	Annette Plumer Woods+	
Wednesday	Walt & Rita Wenzl	Patria Yacabin+	5:15 p.m. Dec'd Priests of Lincoln Diocese
Thursday	Leonard Van Liew+	Eleanora Bischof+	
Friday	Carl Heng, Jr.+	Lourdes Faculty & Staff	
Saturday		Karen McQuillan+	6:30 p.m. Agnes Heng+
Sunday		Bill Carroll+	10:00 a.m. People of the Parish
	6:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
USHERS/ GREETERS	Rosemarie Pfeiffer, Mary Lee Duncan Maggie Griepenstroh, Juli Lechner	Jackie Smith, Cathy Thomas George & Mary Kay Hengen	Ric Sevening, Steve Stukenholtz Larry Lance, David Schmitz
SERVERS	Tristian & Alex Peter Trevor Bennett	Tanner Kochanowicz, Caleb Stukenholtz Sam Williams	Jack & Will Funke
LECTORS	Barb Stukenholtz	Gail Walford	Ron Schmitz
ACOLYTES	Tom Gude	Mike Kearney	Bryan Bequette
OFFERTORY	Ron & Kathy Lechner Family	Tony & Michelle Kaiser Family	Dan & Richarda Giittinger

WEEKDAY SERVERS: - Mar. 20-25 – Gage Schmitz, Kevin Ramirez, Oscar Krog; **6:20 a.m. Mass at Hospital** – Server: Marv Penning; Reader: Terry Smith

READINGS: Mar. 20, 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a; Mar. 21, Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35; Mar. 22, Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19; Mar. 23, Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23; Mar. 24, Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34; Mar. 25, Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38; Mar. 26, 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41.

STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE: When we build our lives around material possessions, we always want more.

A THOUGHT FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT - DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT? ■ Fast from hurting words and say kind words. ■ Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude. ■ Fast from anger and be filled with patience. ■ Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope. ■ Fast from worries and trust in God. ■ Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity. ■ Fast from pressures and be prayerful. ■ Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy. ■ Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others. ■ Fast from grudges and be reconciled. ■ Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO THIS LENT? Pray the Rosary at St. Mary's Church. The Rosary is prayed every morning at 7:30 a.m.

COMBINED COLLECTION: Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Combined Collection. Each year during the holy season of Lent as a means of providing an additional opportunity for almsgiving, the national "Combined Collection" is taken up in the parishes of our Diocese. These are all national collections directed to be taken up by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Although some of the collections are used to help the Church outside of our country, most all of it is to help the cause of the Catholic Church in the United States and some of it stays here within our Diocese. All of us are asked to prayerfully consider the various needs for each of these collections. Thank you.

FISH FRY: St. Paulinus Knights of Columbus are hosting a fish fry on Friday, March 31 from 5-8 p.m. in the church hall. Serving carp, Pollock, catfish nuggets, scalloped potatoes, vegetable and dessert.

THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES (CSS) DONATION TRAILER will be at St. Mary's Church thru March 24. This is your chance to donate your good, used items to CSS. All useable donated items will be distributed to the needy across southern Nebraska or sold at one of Catholic Social Services' Gift & Thrift Stores with proceeds used to support our Emergency Services program. Even well used clothing will be accepted for recycling. **We are not able to accept any Gas appliances, televisions or toys.** A great many of the toys are made in China and have problems with toxic materials in their manufacture. Since we do not have a repair facility, we are looking for gently used items that are immediately usable and not broken. Let us share God's love for us by serving people in need. Thank you for your generosity.

LEGION OF MARY ACIES: All Auxiliary and Active members of the Legion of Mary are invited to the Acies at St. Mary's in Nebraska City on Saturday, March 25. Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. with lunch in the church hall to follow. Bishop Conley will be the celebrant at the Mass. **Acies:** The Latin word meaning, an army arranged in battle array. Mary, Queen of the Legion's army, calls her soldiers, active and auxiliary members, to assemble and renew their fealty to her and from her to receive strength and blessings for yet another year's battle with the forces of evil. To draw up her Legion in united array! The whole worldwide Legion seeks each year to celebrate the Acies on or near the Feast of the annunciation, March 25. The essential idea of the Legion, upon which all else is built, is that of working in union with and in dependence on Mary, its Queen. The Acies is the solemn expression of that union and dependence. "I am all yours my Queen, my Mother, and all that I have is yours." The project of the true devotion to Mary is never done once and for all but must keep going back to the basic principles and trying to live them better throughout our lives. This ceremony is one of the most beautiful and profound functions of the Legion – An act of renewal of dependence on our Mother Mary.

90TH BIRTHDAY: Ruth Pfeiffer will be celebrating her 90th birthday on Friday, March 31. If you would like to help her celebrate, a card shower is being hosted by her family. Her address is 1824 14th Ave Villa #111, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE - RICE BOWL: We encounter Fernando in El Salvador where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, youth are pursuing their dreams of building businesses to better the lives of their families. How have you worked to better the lives of others this Lent? Rice Bowls are still available in the entrance of the church. Don't forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl app or visit crsricebowl.org for more information.

EASTER FLOWERS & LILIES: We are accepting donations of \$10.00 to purchase Easter Lilies and flowers to decorate the altar. Special envelopes are in the entrance of the church for your convenience. Contributions may be dropped in the collection basket. Please indicate along with your contribution if you wish to make a memorial or dedication to someone; kindly do this by **Sunday, April 2**. Thank you.

ST. MONICA'S PRAYER: During the month of March, all ladies of the parish are urged to attend daily Mass and pray this Prayer of St. Monica each day: "O God, You are the comfort of those who mourn and the Savior of all who trust in You. Blessed Monica's loving tears moved you to convert her son, Augustine. Help us who pray to You for the salvation of our sons and daughters, too. May we also grieve for our own sins and win the grace of your pardon through the intercession of this loving Saint, through Christ our Lord. Amen. St. Monica, pray for us!"

LADIES MARK YOUR CALENDAR: The Lincoln Diocese Counsel of Catholic Women will be here to assist our Deanery in leadership training on Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. All women, all parishes are invited to attend. We will meet in St. Benedict school basement. Questions contact, Dotti Easter 402-297-1211. Training for individual parishes is also available.

MATCHING GRANT – LOURDES SCHOOL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: The Paul, John, Anton and Doris Wirth Foundation has pledged a matching grant of \$500,000 for the Lourdes Capital Campaign. For example, if you donate \$1000.00, your contribution will be equal to \$2000.00. Donations can also be given in memory or in honor of a friend or family member – birthday or anniversary. Gifts of grain, appreciated stock or if you are 70½, you could use your IRA minimum distribution for the year. Currently we have received **\$176,111.09**. **Balance Needed: \$323,888.91**. Please consider a gift to help reach our match and complete our loan payments to the diocese. Thank you to all those that have generously given to this campaign.

A LENT TO REMEMBER is a parish wide study of the newly released program **FORGIVEN – The Transforming Power of Confession**. With beautiful film-making and teaching on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, FORGIVEN will move your heart and give you plenty to discuss as a family or as a group of friends. The reviews of FORGIVEN have been strong. **A Lent to Remember** will be a 4-week study, with a 30-minute episode to watch each week. There are accompanying discussion guides that help penetrate the beauty and mystery of God's mercy and the importance of regular confession. The final week of the study is capped with an episode from the stunning video series SYMBOLON. *SYMBOLON Episode 6: The Paschal Mystery* dives deep into the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection and the difference it makes in our day to day life as Catholics. If you have not visited **FORMED.ORG**, do so today! Sign-up using our parish code, "BHRREJ."

CURSILLO RETREAT is not just a weekend...it's a way of life... daily growing in relationship with Christ... If you are interest in deepening your faith and/or discovering a simple way to live your Baptismal promises in everyday life, Cursillo may what you're searching for. The retreat will be in in McCook for women on March 23-26. Those who already belong to Cursillo should explain Cursillo to others and encourage them to attend the Cursillo retreat. To register call John Springer (402) 826-2699.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE - DISHES NEED OWNERS!!! Many dishes are waiting for their owners in the church hall. If you have brought a dish for a parish function or for dinner for the priests and have not picked it up, please do so at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

SKY CAMP: For those who will entering grades 6 thru 8 next year, you can register your child now for Sky Camp. All camps will fill up fast. Cost of camps is \$120 and \$160. Go to www.CampKateri.org. To help aid you, Katie Dubas can help drive kids to and from sessions 3 and 4.

CATHOLICS AT THE CAPITOL: All Catholics across Nebraska are encouraged to attend the 2017 Catholics at the Capitol on March 21. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Church basement (14th & K Streets). Please plan to join in praying the Rosary at Planned Parenthood after lunch.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL RETREAT HOUSE: The retreats are silent or preached retreats providing the retreatant guidance in prayer, as well as ample opportunity to be alone with God. Retreat typically begins with Rosary and Mass at 8:00 p.m. on Friday evening and end with Mass on Sunday followed by noon lunch. Each retreat includes: Celebration of the Eucharist, meditations given by a retreat master, adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, Sacrament of Reconciliation, silence, prayer, recollection, and opportunities for meeting/spiritual direction with the retreat master. Upcoming retreats are for men and women on March 20-24 FOCCUS Campus Ministry, and March 24-26 for men and women with Fr. Mark Cyza "Healing in the Heart of Christ." For more information or to register, go to www.goodcounselretreat.com or call 402-786-2705. Schedules are available in the entrance of the church.

THE RED MASS with Bishop Conley to pray for all in the legal profession will be Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 a.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center, Lincoln. A breakfast will follow Mass, with a talk given by Andy Barry, "St. Thomas More and the Idea of a Constitution". All are invited. More info at: redmass2017.eventbrite.com

CELEBRATION OF SPIRIT DINNER: All are invited to join the Notre Dame Sisters for an evening of merriment and thanksgiving at our 23rd Annual Celebration of Spirit Dinner! This event will honor Jo Williams with our Mother Qualberta Service Award and celebrate all of our guests for being faithful servants of the Lord. Sunday, April 2 from 4-7:30 p.m. Social, Program, Dinner, Silent Auction. ST. Robert Bellermine Social Hall, 11802 Pacific St., Omaha, NE 68154. Tickets: \$85 per person / \$680 per table. RSVP by March 24, by contacting Mary Brown at 402-455-2994 or online at www.notredamesisters.org by clicking on the "Donate Now" link in the top right corner (please put the names of guests attending in the comment section). Cocktail Attire.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE: Want to join the 10 day pilgrimage to Lourdes, Spain and Fatima taking place this summer July 5-14? Please call Fr. Gary Coulter (402) 786-2705.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE: Fr. Mark Cyza will be leading a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land July 10-23, 2017. Cost is \$2,999.00. Visit stbens.org or call 402-873-3047 for more information.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF LOURDES AND FATIMA – NOVEMBER 3-13: Join veteran pilgrimage leader Father John Vakulskas in this meaningful journey to Spain, Portugal and France. Includes Barcelona (Sagrada Familia), Salamanca, Avila, Madrid, Montserrat and much more. Time for devotion and prayer. Includes daily Mass, R/T Air, First Class Hotels, daily tours, most meals, comprehensive sightseeing and Gov't taxes/airline surcharges. \$3189 from Chicago. \$3289 from Omaha. Seats are limited. This will fill up fast. For complete information: Fr. John Vakulskas, Box 347, Okoboji, IA 51355; 712-490-8047 – johnvakulskas@gmail.com – www.carnivalpriest.com

QUEST is a retreat for young Catholics between the ages of 14 and 16 who are freshmen and sophomores in high school. It is woven around the theme of the Three Circles of Love: Love of Self, Love of Others, and Love of God. The name QUEST implies "searching for" and "seeking out." As such, this retreat is designed to bring young people together and invites them to search for and seek out a deeper understanding and appreciation of themselves, others, and God. Cost is \$80 for the retreat. The next QUEST Retreat is March 23-26 at St. Joseph Church in Auburn, NE. For more information, call the Youth Ministry Office at 402-473-0625. To register, go to <http://www.lincolndiocese.org/retreats/quest>.

TEC is a weekend retreat for Juniors and Seniors in High School. The retreat is designed to draw young people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The experience of Christ on the weekend will leave you yearning for more in your daily life. The retreat begins on Saturday morning and concludes Monday afternoon. If the TEC weekend is full, please call or email the Family Life Office to be placed on the waiting list. Registration cost: \$90. Registration is all on line at <http://www.dioceseoflincoln.org>, Tab on Family Life Office, then Youth Ministry. The next TEC is April 6-8 at Camp Kateri, McCool Junction.

TRAVELING OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE: The Legion of Mary is sponsoring a traveling statue of Our Lady of Fatima for families to host in their home for one-two weeks. A special prayer to be said each day will be supplied. It is said that Our Lady has bestowed special graces on the host families. If you would like to host Our Lady of Fatima in your home or would like more information, please call Nora Gottwald, 402-209-0322 or Cathy Sawyer, 402-873-7250.

STUDENTS – SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 25-30 - TOTUS TUUS (TOTALLY YOURS), for another fun, faith-filled summer catechetical youth program for students entering grades 1-12. More details to come.

INDULGENCES: The faithful can receive a partial indulgence if they recite the following prayer after Communion before a crucifix or other image of Christ crucified. On the Fridays of Lent, the indulgence is plenary. **Prayer Before A Crucifix:** Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus, while before Your face I humbly kneel, and with burning soul pray and beseech You to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity, true contrition for my sins, and a firm purpose of amendment; while I contemplate with great love and tender pity Your five wounds, pondering over them within me, and calling to mind the words which, long ago, David the prophet spoke in Your own person concerning You, my Jesus: "They have pierced My hands and My feet; they have numbered all My bones." To receive an indulgence, the recipient must go to confession a few days before or after, receive holy communion and recite one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be for the intentions of the Pope.

NEED SOME HEALING: We read in the letter of St. James, "Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up; and if they have committed any sins their sins will be forgiven them." (James 5:13-15) The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is an awesome encounter between God and His ailing children. Throughout the gospels we see Christ meeting the sick, forgiving their sins and curing them. In the early days of the Church, the faithful have sought the prayers of the Church's ministers, calling on the priests to continue the healing work of Christ. Today, the sick encounter Christ just as those in the Gospels have through this wonderful Sacrament.

The Anointing of the Sick imparts the grace of strength, peace and courage "to overcome the difficulties that go with the condition of serious illness or the frailty of old age." (Catechism, 1520) This grace helps the sick against temptations of discouragement and anguish by bringing about healing of the soul, echoing Christ's words to the woman suffering from hemorrhages "your faith has saved you." (Mk 5:34) The primary purpose of this Sacrament is the healing of the soul, but if it is God's will, the healing of the body as well. For those who are gravely ill, the Sacrament provides the strength needed for the final journey to the Father.

The Anointing of the Sick is available for all Catholics who desire that encounter with Christ at a time of physical sufferings. As ministers of Christ, a priest's desire is to bring Christ to the sick and the sick to Christ but many times we do not know those who are suffering physically. Therefore if you should become seriously sick or maybe going in for surgery, call the rectory and ask to receive this awesome Sacrament. Due to federal guidelines, the hospitals no longer inform Churches if a member is in the hospital unless the patient specifically asks for a priest. If you or a family member should ever be in the hospital, send for the priest who will pray over them and anoint them and the Lord will raise them up.

FOOD PANTRY: Donations of non-perishable foods and personal care products are always needed for our local Food Pantries and especially during the holidays. Items needed each month are laundry soap, toilet tissue, shampoo, soup, macaroni and cheese. A box is available in the entrance of the church. **(Please, no expired items.)** Thank you for your generosity.

TRY ONLINE GIVING!!! Online Giving gives you the opportunity to share your gift of treasure with St. Mary's Parish Community weekly, twice per month, monthly or a one-time gift. It helps you support your parish even when you travel out of town. It's easy to create and manage your account. It's convenient since you do not need to write a check, as your contribution will be withdrawn from your checking or savings account and you receive a reminder email in advance of each debit from your account. It also permits users to make changes to amounts quite easily as a family's budget shifts and to make contributions to special collections. It is a cost-saving program from the perspective of the parish administration and a convenient resource for members of the parish community. Please take a few moments today and check it out by visiting our website at stmarysnebraskacity.com and click on the **Online Giving** link. **Don't use the computer, but would like to try it?** Call Linda at the parish office and she will be glad to help get it set up for you. Online giving is safe and secure, and you decide exactly when your gift is made and where it goes. When you as Online Giver feel the need to have an envelope for the collection basket, use one of the Online Giving cards available in the pews. Thank you to all those that use Online Giving. **TRY ONLINE GIVING TODAY!!!**

ICON PAINTING WORKSHOP, Sponsored by the Office of Evangelization - Come experience a unique opportunity of a six-day intensive course in traditional painting techniques of Byzantine iconography! Focusing on the art of egg tempera painting, participants will be led through a process of demonstrations, the stages, as well as the whole method of painting an icon. The students will then put into practice these skills under the guidance of instructor, Theodore Papadopoulos, Byzantine iconographer with over 20 years of experience from Larissa, Greece, who returns for the third year. **June 12-17, 2017, John XXIII Diocesan Center, 9-5pm daily. Cost is \$680** which includes icon board, pigments, brushes and professional instruction not available locally. The course is of interest to adults of any level of artistic education. Space is limited, so register now. For enrollment/information contact: Mr. Terrence St. Hilaire, 402-817-8996 or email info@terrencesthilaire.com

WITHOUT CHANGING YOUR WILL, YOU CAN LEAVE A GIFT TO OUR PARISH: Designate St. Mary's Church as the beneficiary of all or a portion of your IRA or 401K. Your funds have grown tax free in your IRA or 401K, and your heirs could be taxed at a high rate when the funds are distributed. If you donate these funds, the money passes directly to our parish, tax-free. Contact your IRA or 401K plan administrator for a change of beneficiary designation form. Leave your Savings Account or Certificate of Deposit (CD) to our parish. Simply change the beneficiary to make the Savings Account or CD payable upon death to the parish. The parish will receive the funds when you are deceased. For more information contact your financial institution. Contact Les Mach, Planned Giving Officer Diocese of Lincoln, les-mach@cdolinc.net or 402-443-3866 for help and additional options for planned gifts.

STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT – DINNERS FOR FR. MCCABE & FR. VENTRE: Mar. 20: Kelly Bequette, Mar. 22: Beth Box, Mar. 25: Maureen Chance, Mar. 27: Suzanne Cooksey, Mar. 29: Kay DeFreece, Apr. 1: Sally DuBois, Apr. 3: Janie Ebmeier, Apr. 5: Jeannette Eilers, Apr. 8: Mary Farris, Apr. 10: Joan Fedoris, Apr. 12: Marlene Fey, Apr. 15: Janet and Marlene Frana, Apr. 17: Judy Francois, Apr. 19: Hettie Funke, Apr. 22: Lynn Gibson, Apr. 24: Lana Gilson, Apr. 26: Maggie Gripenstroh, Apr. 29: Kathy Grundman. 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 if you would like 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}): **Mar. 25:** Carissa Phillips, Robert & Heather Popish, Robert & Sarah Racek, Tom & Rachele Ragland, Merle & Muriel Rakes, David & Sonja Ramold, Amanda Rayhel, Charlene Reese, Dean & Diane Reese, Jeff Reese. **Apr. 1:** Ellen Reeves, Kevin & Deb Rettig, Nicole Richardson, Mike & Janis Riege, Luke & Colleen Ritz, Charles & Margaret Rumery, Christine Runyon, Duane & Julia Russell, Matt & Audra Rutt, Teresa Schlorholtz. **Apr. 8:** David Schmitz, Nick Schmitz, Nick Schmitz, Ron Schmitz, Donald & Lynell Schomaker, Kevin & Elizabeth Schomerus, Ronald & Diane Schomerus, Clarence & Carol Schram, Steve Schreiner, Keith & Arlene Schreiter, Ted & Carmen Schreiter. **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, 873-9160, Mary Mills, 873-6247, Sharon Heng, 873-5105.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER: "When a person doesn't have gratitude, something is missing is his or her humanity. A person can almost be defined by his or her attitude toward gratitude." Elie Wiesel