

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. 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 - stmarysnebraskacity@windstream.net

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018

PRAY FOR THE SICK - Everett Tjaden, Carline Moles, Ned Cox, Aaron Mayberry, Angie Childers, Shirley Hackett, Trini Lipp, Emmett Christiansen, Sr. Kathleen Kilp, O.S.F., Mike Crunk, Kim Kelly, Lacie & Lexis Bruns-Morris, Kathy Gilbert, Kala Griepenstroh, Albert Burger, Janet McVay, Bill Albert, John Davis, Donna Thoms, Juanita Kreifels, Laurence DuBois, Adam Eppert, 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.

FIRST CONFESSION will be held today, Sunday, March 4 at 3:00 p.m. for our second grade students. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to receive their First Communion on Sunday, April 15.

ST. MARY'S SOUP SUPPER - MARCH 4, 2018 - 4-7 P.M.

ST. MARY'S ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER will be held on Sunday, March 4 from 4-7 p.m. in St. Mary's Church hall. We will again be serving our delicious homemade soups - chili, chicken noodle and cream of potato and homemade salads and desserts. Cost is \$6.00 for adults; \$3.00 for children 3-11 and 2 & under free, not more than \$25.00 per immediately family. Plan to bring the whole family and don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors.

COUNTRY STORE: Will be open Saturday, March 3 following the 6:30 p.m. Mass, Sunday, March 4 following the 8 & 10 a.m. Mass and during the Soup Supper from 4-7 p.m.

RAFFLE: Please help us sell raffle tickets. 23 great prizes will be raffled that were donated by many generous businesses. Books of tickets will be available in the entrance of the church. Thank you to all those that donated prizes.

GIFT BASKET RAFFLE: Chances will be sold to win a gift basket. Containers will be set in front of each basket so you may choose which basket you would like a chance to win. As we draw for the raffle prizes, we will also draw winners for these baskets.

VOLUNTEERS NEED: Please stop in the entrance of the church today to sign-up to help at the Soup Supper and Country Store.

EACH FAMILY is asked to participate by helping with the following:

Sell a book of 25 raffle tickets and return them with the proceeds through the collection, at the parish office or at the supper, but be sure to do so by Sunday, March 4.

Plan to make one homemade pie or fancy dessert, one large salad and something for the Country Store (baked goods, craft items, new or gently used household items such as pictures, dishes, candles, religious items, baskets, etc.). Items for the Country Store can be brought to the entrance of the church between 3:00 p.m. until Mass time, Saturday, March 4. Please price items, if you wish.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, March 4 and plan to take part in this parish event.

In 2017 we cleared \$4468.75, so let's make this year even better. For more information or to volunteer to help, please call our chairpersons, Jeanette Eilers, 402-599-9536, Julia Russell, 402-209-2340 or Vonna Grooman, 308-672-5563.

Thank you to all those that give generously of their time and talent in making this a successful event.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: Today we hear the Gospel story of Jesus' cleansing of the Temple, a familiar story. The prophets Jeremiah, Zechariah and Malachi prophesied that when the Kingdom of God was at hand, the Temple would be cleansed of all activities unworthy of an encounter with God. Christians are often referred to as "Temples of the Lord." As stewards of a "Holy Temple" God has entrusted to each one of us, what are we doing to be cleansed of activities unworthy of an encounter with the Lord? This week, reflect on one thing you can do to cleanse the Temple God has given you so that it becomes a more inviting home for Christ Jesus.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE - MY RETURN TO THE LORD

Feb. 25: Adult Env.: \$7546.00; **Loose:** \$527.78; **Children's Env.:** \$1.50; **Online:** \$4629.00; Building Fund: \$20.00;

Ash Wednesday: \$75.00; **Total: \$7326.75** Franciscan Sisters: \$10.00;

Needed Weekly: \$13,322.48; Short: \$523.20; **Feb. 25: Needed:** \$466,286.82; Received: \$483,591.31; Over: **\$17,304.49** (\$63.39 per family)
Southern Nebraska Register: **Needed:** \$5670.00 - **Rec'd** \$2117.00; **Bal. Needed: \$3553.00** Thank you for your generous support of our parish.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Country Store Opens after Masses 3:00 p.m. First Confession 4:00 p.m. Soup Supper, church hall 5:00 p.m. CCD Grades 7-12, St. Benedict's rectory	Wednesday	8:45 a.m. Legion of Mary, rectory 5:30 p.m. CCD - Grades K-6, Lourdes Primary 7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. Class, Lourdes School
Monday	7:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee meeting, church hall	Friday	5:00 p.m. K of C Fish Fry, church hall 5:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross/Benediction
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. Cup of Grace, church hall 6:30 p.m. CDA meeting, St. Benedict's Church hall		

MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS

	6:20 a.m. (Hospital Chapel)	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Monday	Robin Harding+	Susan & Matthew Heng+	5:15 p.m. Priest's Intention
Tuesday	Gude & Nystrom Families+	Delbert Larson+ (Anniv.)	
Wednesday	Dave Schreiner+	Margaret Heng+	5:15 p.m. Stella Santo
Thursday	Mike Crunk	Ed Mills+ (Anniv.)	
Friday	Carol O'Flaherty+	Dorothy Moore+ (Anniv.)	
Saturday		Dovel & Beccard Families+	6:30 p.m. John & Mary Wenzl
Sunday		Loretta Sarraillon+	10:00 a.m. People of the Parish
	6:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
USHERS/ GREETERS	Arnie Kreifels, Bryan Stukenholtz Jason & Kim Esser	Charlene Reese, Jeff Reese Pete & Nancy Lutz	Richard Gibson, Kent & Cindy McGinnis Jeff & Hettie Funke
SERVERS	Grant, Sam, Miles Draus	Hayden Cline, Brayden Tift, Blayne Rumery	Joseph & Seth Whitney, Jaxson Reese
LECTORS	Frank Volkmer	Tom Wigington	Cindy McGinnis
ACOLYTES	Lynn Heng	Mark Eilers	Bryan Bequette
OFFERTORY	Tom & Linda Weston	Dan & Jean Lucas	Duane & Hope Weninger Family

WEEKDAY SERVERS: - Mar. 5-10 – Gage Schmitz, Brayden Tift, Oscar Krog; **6:20 a.m. Mass at Hospital** – Server: Dave Heng; Reader: Joan Beccard

READINGS: Mar. 5, 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30; Mar. 6, Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35; Mar. 7, Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19; Mar. 8, Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23; Mar. 9, Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34; Mar. 10, Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14; Mar. 11, 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21.

STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE: The Ten Commandments are the basis for Catholic social justice.

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: Adorers needed on **Tuesdays from 2-3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9-10 a.m.** 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, 402-969-0556. Thank you to all of our scheduled adorers.

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall. If you would like to learn more about the stewardship committee or volunteer to serve on the committee, please call Julie Parker, 402-297-0677.

THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA will have their March 6 meeting in **St. Benedict's Church Hall** at 6:30 p.m. Please bring any Catholic or inspirational books that you have that you are willing to lend or share, be sure to put your name in the book so it can find its way back to you. If you haven't been to one of our meetings, come and see what we're all about. Call Barb Stukenholtz, 402-209-4976 or Barb Jensen, 402-321-6919 with questions.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION - CATHOLIC PRESS MONTH: February is designated as Catholic Press month and each household should be receiving our diocesan paper *The Southern Nebraska Register*. Our diocesan paper has international, national and local news including our parish and school along with information on how to grow in our faith. The cost to our parish is \$5670.00. Suggested donation is \$15.00 to help defray these costs. If you are able to contribute more than \$15.00, your help is appreciated. 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!"

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR: March 4 – First Confession – 3:00 p.m. & St. Mary's Soup Supper - 4-7 p.m.; March 8 - Stations and Benediction – 5:15 p.m. & Fish Fry – 5-7 p.m.; Communal Penance Service: March 25 – 2:00 p.m.; April 5-7 – Rummage Sale; April 15 – First Communion – 12:00 p.m.; July 15-20 – Totus Tuus.

ADDITIONAL MASSES DURING LENT – STATIONS AND BENEDICTION: Two Masses have been added - Monday & Wednesday at 5:15 p.m. thru Wednesday, March 21. Daily attendance at Mass is a good, positive undertaking for the season of Lent. On **Fridays at 5:15 p.m.** there will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction.

K OF C FISH FRIES: Come join the Knights of Columbus for the Friday Night Fish Fries during Lent. Fish Fries will be held Friday, March 9 and March 16 from 5-7 p.m. in St. Mary's Church hall. The Knights will be serving baked and fried fish, shrimp, mac and cheese, potato wedges, coleslaw, bread/butter, choice of dessert and drink. As always, it's free will offering. Please come and support the Knights and their worthy projects.

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.

LENTEN REGULATIONS: ABSTINENCE: All Catholics who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat on All Fridays of Lent. **EASTER DUTY:** All the faithful who have received First Communion are to receive Communion at least once through the Easter Season that is between the First Sunday of Lent and Holy Trinity Sunday.

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, March 25**. Thank you.

K OF C FISH FRY & ALTAR SOCIETY BAKE SALE hosted at St. Paulinus Church, Syracuse from 5-9 p.m. will be held March 16. Serving carp, pollock, catfish nuggets, scalloped potatoes, vegetable and dessert.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE - RICE BOWL: In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Pick up your family's rice bowl from the entrance of the church today. Visit crsricebowl.org for more information.

NO CCD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14 FOR GRADES K-6

FALLS CITY FISH FRY, FRIDAY, MARCH 16: The Knights of Columbus is hosting their annual Lenten Fish Fry at Prichard Auditorium, 312 West 17th St, in Falls City. Serving from 5-8:00 p.m., fish, au gratin potatoes, coleslaw, bread & butter, ice cream, and drink. Cost is \$11 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under with takeout orders available for \$1 extra. Proceeds support Catholic education at Sacred Heart School.

MAGNIFICAT is sponsoring a **Women's Life In the Spirit Retreat at Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House**, Waverly, on March 16-18 with Susan Potvin and members of the Living Praise Worship Team (livingpraiseworship.com) who have produced six CDs and traveled around the world. Register at goodcounselretreat.com, 402-786-2705, or goodcounsel@cdolinc.net.

THE 4TH DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet on Sunday, March 18 for the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's Church.

MAGNIFICAT WINTER PRAYER MEAL: Sunday, March 18 at 4:00 p.m. at Hillcrest Country Club, 9401 East O St, Lincoln. Special guest speaker is Susan Potvin, Worship Leader for the Living Praise Worship Team. Susan longs for all women to know the power of God's Love and Healing in the midst of their lives and their families. Come hear Susan's testimony of adopting four children, her son's battle with drug addiction, and how **the Lord can heal broken families** through the power of His forgiveness! Register by sending a \$25 check payable to Magnificat c/o Tina Colgan, 521 N 56 St, Lincoln NE 68504 (students \$15). Deadline is March 13. For information call or text Rhonda Litt at 402-525-6396 or Barb Bechtolt at 402-489-6905.

PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM: Lord and Master of my life. Take away from me the will to be lazy and to be sad. The desire to get ahead of other people and to boast and brag. Give me instead, a pure and humble spirit, the will to be patient with others and to love them. Grant, Lord, that I may realize my own mistakes and keep me from judging the things other people do, for you are blessed, now and forever. Amen.

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO GROW SPIRITUALLY DURING LENT? Attend daily Mass, pray the Rosary at St. Mary's Church each morning at 7:30 p.m. or at home, or sit with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary's Hospital Chapel. Check out **WORD ON FIRE** - Sign-up for free Gospel reflections from Bishop Robert Barron during Lent <http://www.lentreflections.com/>; **BEST LENT EVER** - A free email program that will guide you on an incredible 40-day journey to become the best-version-of-yourself, making this a truly life-changing Lent <https://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever>; **CATHOLIC FAMILY FAITH** <http://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/len.html>; **AVE MARIA PRESS** - Lent is a great time to do some spiritual reading, find plenty of books at <https://www.avemariapress.com/category/PM70/Lent-Resources/>

A FATHER/SON PROGRAM FOR AGES 10-14 YRS will be held at Lourdes School on March 18 from 2-4 p.m. Guest speakers will be Fr. Cyza, Dr. DeFreece, and Dr. Crotty. Questions, contact Patrick Gress @ 402873-0326 or patrickgress@yahoo.com.

HOLD THE DATES MOTHERS OF GIRLS 10-13 YRS: Please join us for the upcoming "Fearfully & Wonderfully Made Mother-Daughter Program" Saturday, March 24 from 9-12 p.m. This program is designed to educate and empower girls as they approach and experience puberty; all in light of God's design. Cost is \$20/girl or \$30/family. Registration required by March 17. To register contact Jennifer Davis at 402-261-6375 or jmdavis17@gmail.com

ATTENTION LEGAL PROFESSIONALS -THE RED MASS WITH BISHOP CONLEY to pray for all in the legal profession will be Thursday, March 22 at 7:00 a.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center, Lincoln. A breakfast will follow Mass, with a talk given by Joshua McCaig on religious liberty issues for lawyers. All are invited, see redmass2018.eventbrite.com.

THE STAMP COLLECTION GOES THROUGH LENT! Catholic Daughters of America are collecting new postage stamps for Lourdes School. Our Lenten drive will last until April 2. There will be a tote box in the back of church if you would like to donate. Lourdes School is such a blessing to our community, we are happy to help support them anyway we can. Please call Barb Stukenholtz with questions, 402-209-4976.

ALL CATHOLICS ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE AN ANNUAL RETREAT: Upcoming retreats at Good Counsel Retreat House in Waverly: March 16-18 for women, Magnificat with Susan Potvin, "Life in the Spirit Retreat," March 19-22 for men and women with Fr. Gary Coulter, 4-Day Ignatian Retreat and March 29-31 for men and women with Fr. Thomas Dunavan, "Saints for Today." Register at www.goodcounselretreat.com

CAMP KATERI DUELING PIANOS BENEFIT: Camp Kateri is hosting its annual benefit dinner on Friday, April 13 at Stone Creek Reception Hall in McCool Junction. The entertainment is The Fun Piano Show, by 176 Keys. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. The Dueling Piano Show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person and \$350 for a reserved table of eight. To order tickets, please email CampKateriT@gmail.com or call [402-724-2596](tel:402-724-2596).

ELECTRONIC GIVING: Do you use online banking? Do you use online bill pay? If so, try St. Mary's Church Online Giving. With our online giving program, you have the choice of when and how often you give to the church. All the special collections are available for you to plan your year of giving. Your gifts are directly deposited into the church's bank account and your contribution is directly downloaded to your contribution record. So there is no depositing of checks, no recording of envelopes, no errors in posting and a savings in mailing envelopes. You save time, checks, and also have access to your contribution record at any time. So, if you haven't set up your Online Giving account, please give it a try. To start your account, go to stmarysnebraskacity.com and click on the Online Giving button. Then follow the directions. If you don't use a computer or you need help in setting up an account, please call the parish office and Linda will be glad to assist you. Currently we have 88 families that use Online Giving. Over \$669,000.00 has been contributed through our Online Giving program. 26% of Thank you to all those that use Online Giving. **TRY IT TODAY!!! PLEASE NOTE:** If you bank at **Premier Bank**, and are still using Farmers Bank checks, please make sure that you use this routing number: 104000870

YOUTH SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES: Visit www.lincolndiocese.org under the tab "YOUTH MINISTRY" to find out youth spiritual growth opportunities scheduled for this summer. **SKY CAMP, RETREATS, CANOE TRIP, ETC**

YOUR DISHES ARE WAITING FOR YOU: There is a large number of dishes waiting for their owners in the church hall. If you have brought a dish for a parish function or for dinner for the priests recently and have not picked it up, please do so at your earliest convenience. All dishes remaining at rummage sale time will be donated. Stop and pick yours up today. Thank you.

PARISH RUMMAGE SALE: Declutter the house and garage and bring all those good clean new or used items for St. Mary's rummage sale scheduled for Thursday and Friday, April 5 & 6 from 9-5 p.m. and Saturday, April 7 from 9-1 p.m. Items can be brought to the church hall **beginning March 5**, but please by Monday, April 2 so items can be priced and displayed. To help our volunteers to prepare for the sale, please sort your donations and **fold or hang clothing**. If you would be willing to help prepare or work at the sale, please call Anna Mae Kaiser, 873-6454. **Volunteers are also needed on Saturday, April 7 at 1:00 p.m.** to box all remaining items. Thank you.

LOURDES CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to our Knights Boys Basketball Team on their District Championship! They begin play in the State Basketball Tournament Thursday, March 8 at 9:00 a.m. at Lincoln Northeast High School. Please join us at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7 for a Pep Rally to "Case the Trophy" of our State Championship Academic Decathlon Team and send off our State Qualifying Boys Basketball Team!

JOIN US FOR TRIVIA NIGHT WITH LOURDES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION (LAA): Teams of eight will compete for prizes on Saturday, March 17 from 7-9 p.m. at Table Creek Clubhouse. Join us to participate in Trivia Night or just for the fellowship and food and drink specials. Cost is \$80 per team of 8 or \$15/person. For more information or to register your team, contact Emily Wolken 402-713-9236 or email gsm3703@aol.com

LOURDES CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN NEBRASKA CITY IS ENROLLING NOW FOR PRESCHOOL-12TH GRADES FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR! Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment & Information Night is March 7 at the Primary Campus, 411 5th Rue. Enrollment & Information for the 3-4 year old program begins at 6:30 p.m. and Enrollment & Information for the 4-5 year old program begins at 7:15 p.m. We are excited to be offering new days/times and more options for our Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten programs, please visit the school website for more information, www.lourdescentralcatholic.org. New families can join us for an Information & Application Night on March 6 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Main Campus, 412 2nd Avenue. For more information call 402-873-6154.

LOURDES CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL has the following full time positions available for the 2018-2019 school year: 1st Grade Teacher, Middle School Language Arts Teacher, Middle School Social Studies Teacher and Director of Technology. Lourdes Central Catholic is a preschool-12th grade Catholic Life Preparatory School whose mission is "To assist parents in the development of their children by providing a Christ centered environment which promotes spiritual, academic, and social growth in order to prepare students for active participation in the church, in their families, and in society." If the opportunity to be a part of our mission and the Lourdes family is exciting to you, please visit our webpage at www.lourdescentralcatholic.org for more information. For questions or to apply, contact Mr. Feilmeier, Principal, at 402-873-6154 or curt-feilmeier@cdolinc.net.

RESERVE YOUR TICKET TODAY FOR THE LOURDES EVENT, "ESCAPE TO THE TROPICS" ON APRIL 7 AT LOURDES CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL. The Lourdes Event is our annual fundraiser that supports the goals and operations of Lourdes Central Catholic School. The Event is a fun evening that starts with Mass at St. Mary's Church, followed by a social hour and silent auction, dinner and grand auction at Lourdes. We hope you will join us for the evening and we also welcome any donations for the silent or live auction! We appreciate any item handmade or purchased, large or small, vacations, weekend getaways, tickets to sporting events or concerts, etc. If you would like to volunteer, have a gift you would like to donate, or would like more information about the Lourdes Event, please contact Brooke Chaney 402-873-6154 or brooke-chaney@cdolinc.net

PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN, LOURDES & FATIMA: Come along November 5-15, 2018, to some of the most sacred places in all of Europe! We'll visit both of the great Shrines to Mary, Lourdes in southern France and Fatima in Portugal, and many great places in Spain. Mass each day in great Churches and Cathedrals along the way. Cost is \$3,249 with departure from Omaha. For a brochure and more information, contact Fr. Dan Guenther, St. Mary's Parish, 311 - 4th St. N., Humboldt, Iowa 50548 or call 515-332-2856 or email frdanguenther@gmail.com

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS AT ST. MARY'S:

Baptism: Please call the pastor to arrange for a baptismal instruction (of first child) and to schedule a baptism.

Marriage: The Diocese of Lincoln asks couples to participate in a program of preparation, which lasts from 4-6 months. Before setting a wedding date, the couple needs to contact the parish 6-12 months before the wedding date and begin the program of preparation with one of the priests.

Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick: People who are home-bound, even temporarily, are encouraged to call the rectory to arrange for a visit from one of the priests; shut-ins are ordinarily visited on the First Friday of the month.

Holy Order/Religious Life: Please see one of the priests for spiritual guidance in discerning whether God may be calling you to serve in one of these ways. As always, pray for vocations—for those already studying for the priesthood and religious life as well as for those God is calling.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR PARISH RECORDS UP-TO-DATE - CHANGED ADDRESSES, PLANNING TO MOVE? DROPPED YOUR LAND LINE, ADDED A CELL, CHANGED PHONE NUMBERS OR EMAIL ADDRESS? Please call the parish office with your new information. If you are planning to move out of our community, please also, let us know. Thank you.

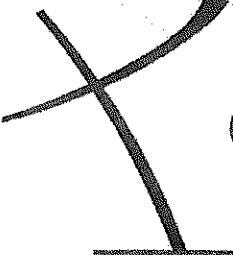
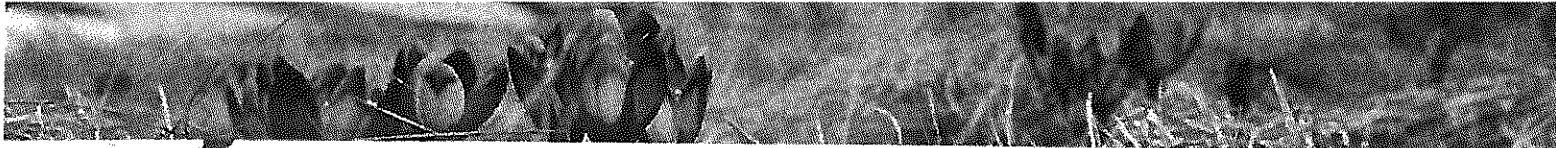
PRAYMORENOVENAS.COM Get Novena prayers delivered to your inbox! Feel the power of praying together with 282,262 people! Never forget to finish a Novena again!

STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT – DINNER FOR FR. MCCABE & FR. MORIN: Mar. 5: Jennifer Howard, Mar. 7: Anna Mae Kaiser, Mar. 10: Jean Kreifels, Mar. 12: Jenny Kearney, Mar. 14: Tamara Levins, Mar. 17: Linda Lollmann, Mar. 19: Jackie Loseke, Mar. 21: Amy Lucas, Mar. 24: Suzi Martin, Mar. 26: Patricia McConnell, Mar. 28: Cindy McGinnis, Mar. 31: Mary Mills. 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.

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE: All families of the parish, except those unable due to health, are scheduled on a rotating basis according to the alphabet to clean the church two or three times per year on Saturday mornings following the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Those scheduled for the next three weeks are listed in the bulletin along with a list of substitutes. If you are not able to clean the date assigned, please be considerate of the others that are scheduled and find a substitute prior to your scheduled day. Thank you to all those that faithfully help in keeping clean our Lord's home.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME – CHURCH CLEANERS (following the Saturday 8:00 a.m. Mass {8:30 a.m}): **Mar. 10:** Brett & Jessica Leibhart, Jeff Lollmann, Linda Lollmann, Mike Lollmann, Don & Jackie Loseke, Mark Loseke, James & Bonnie Lowe, Amy Lucas, Dan & Jean Lucas. **Mar. 17:** Gail Walford, Jane Lutz, Kelly & Sue Madden, Mark & Jennifer Madison, Paul & Angie Madison, Emily Magel, Arvon & Lu Marcotte, Clint & Lori Martin, Jerry & Suzi Martin, Tyler & Kelli Mason. **Mar. 23:** , Rita Mathews, Aaron & Dana Mayberry, Bailey Mazzulla, Riannon Jeffery, Roger & Patricia McConnell, Derek & Taylor McGinnis, Kent & Cindy McGinnis, Susan McGowen, Jason & Molly McNeely, Brett & Emily Meyer. **Mar. 30:** Laci Meyer, Stephen Meyer, Tom & Cindy Mick, Joe & Marliiss Miller, Scott & Kristin Miller, Mary Mills, Robert & Kristine Moser, Charles Moyer, Robert Moyer, Jennifer Mucha, Sam & Pat Nanfito. **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.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is "What are you doing for others?" Martin Luther King Jr.



INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP

March 2018 • e-Bulletin

A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER for March

Lord Jesus,

We journey with you this Lenten season,
through prayer, fasting and almsgiving,
ever closer to Jerusalem,
ever closer to your death on the cross.

We hear your words:

"Deny yourself,
take up your cross
and follow me,"
but we are unsure of their meaning,
or anxious about their true intent.

Through the power of your Spirit,
give us the strength
to deny the "self"
that keeps us from being good stewards
of those who need our love and
compassion.

Give us a deeper awareness
of the cross in our own lives
so that we may embrace it
and join our sufferings with yours
and a world in need of your redemption.

And give us the confidence to follow you
no matter the cost;
knowing that if we die with you,
we will also live with you
and eternally rejoice in your resurrection.

We humbly ask this of you
who live and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Embracing the Cross of Jesus Christ



The Lenten season offers us a unique opportunity to focus more intently on the gift of the cross. Do you ever think about how you experience the cross of Jesus Christ? Do you ever think about the power of that cross in your daily life? Is the cross even relevant to your life? It is to stewards of the Lord, who recognize the hope Christ brings through the gift of his cross. They acknowledge that for them, the cross is their only hope. Being

Christ emptied himself completely in humble obedience, allowing himself to suffer and die out of compassion for the world (Philippians 2:6-11).

good stewards of our life in Christ is not easy, but to embrace the cross is not only countercultural, it seems absurd. Then again, we cannot avoid what Jesus said to his disciples:

If you wish to come after me you must deny yourself and take up your cross daily and follow me. For if you wish to save your life, you will lose it; but if you lose your life for my sake you will save it (Luke 9:23-24).

The cross is more readily embraced by people of faith who suffer, are poor, broken, or are the victims of such things as violence, oppression or natural disaster. They see the cross as the hope that no matter what has happened to them, God will see them through. The Father did it for Jesus who hung on the cross, so surely their sufferings will be redeemed by Jesus' sufferings.

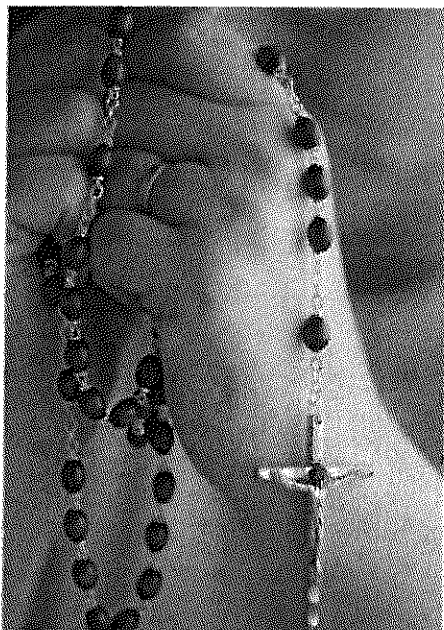
Where people possess much material abundance, comfort and leisure, however, there is a tendency to de-emphasize the cross, to draw away from it. They can't touch it or feel it so they wish to "save" their lives by looking to other things: power, wealth, fame, relevance, being the center of attention. What is preached about the cross from the pulpit

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sounds good, but in reality something more tangible is desired.

Christ emptied himself completely in humble obedience, allowing himself to suffer and die out of compassion for the world (Philippians 2:6-11). Good stewards follow his example and work day-to-day to empty themselves and live compassionately; most noticeably by sharing their lives with others.



Is the cross even relevant to your life? It is to stewards of the Lord, who recognize the hope Christ brings through the gift of his cross.

As we approach the climax of our liturgical year, the Easter triduum, let us ask the Holy Spirit for an even deeper awareness of the cross in our lives. Let us find hope in the cross and pray that as we embrace it, we too will experience in a special way the joy of new life in the risen Lord.

STEWARDSHIP SAINT *for March*

Saint Frances of Rome

Francesca dei Roffredeschi was born in Rome in 1384, a time when the city was, arguably, at its worst. With a population of only about 25,000, it was no longer a center of power and international commerce. The popes had long departed to Avignon, France. The skyline was littered with the ruins of once spectacular structures. Wild animals ran free through the overgrowth dominating the city.

When Francesca was 13, her parents arranged for her to be married to the wealthy and aristocratic commander of the city's army. Her husband's family estate would be her home for the next 40 years and when her mother-in-law passed away, Francesca was entrusted with running the estate. She and her husband would have six children.



Francesca and her sister-in-law turned part of their family estate into a hospital and distributed food and clothing to the poor from there.

The estate included her husband's brother and his family, and Francesca discovered that her sister-in-law shared her devout faith and passion to serve the less fortunate. Together they devoted themselves to ministering to the poor and the sick. Francesca and her sister-in-law even turned part of the family estate into a hospital and distributed food and clothing to the poor from there. In time, they inspired other women to join them in their ministry.

The papacy returned to Rome in 1420 and the city's revival would begin. In 1425, Francesca established a society of women committed to serving the sick and the poor. She employed the Rule of St. Benedict for the community, but without taking vows. They were known as the Oblates of Mary. Eight years later she established a convent for the women who wished to live in community and in the same year, they received papal approval to establish a formal religious congregation. The community eventually became known as the Oblates of St. Frances of Rome.

After her husband's death in 1436 Francesca herself entered the convent and became its superior until her own death on March 9, 1440. She was buried in the church now called Santa Francesca Romana, where her relics still rest and where there is a recumbent statue of her sculpted by Bernini.

St. Frances of Rome is the patron saint of widows and motorists. During her life, she is said to have had a recurring vision for several years of her guardian angel using a lantern to light the road in front of her when she drove her wagon, keeping her safe from hazards. It is thought that this may be the reason why she was named patron saint of motorists by Pope Pius XI.

Her feast day is March 9.