

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2017

PRAY FOR THE SICK - Sr. Kathleen Kilp, O.S.F., Shirley Gruber, Mike Crunk, Kim Kelly, Lacie Bruns-Morris, Kathy Gilbert, Kala Gripenstroh, 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 the happy repose of the soul of Richard Oelke, Sr.

PLEASE PRAY for our seminarians 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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: ADORERS NEEDED on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 3-4 p.m. If you are able to be an adorer during these hours, please call Pam Gress. 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. 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.

CARNATIONS FOR MOTHER'S DAY: The Southeast Nebraska Right to Life will offer carnations after each Mass today for a donation of \$2.00 each. Proceeds will go to the Southeast Nebraska Center for Pregnancy Counseling and for the annual pro-life scholarship. For more information, call Noreen Harris, 873-9392.

BISHOP'S CHARITY & STEWARDSHIP APPEAL: Last weekend our parish began the annual Bishop's Charity & Stewardship Appeal/DDP. Just as we are one in the Body of Christ, we must remember that we are one with other parishes in our diocese. Once a year, our bishop asks each of us to make a commitment to support the work of our diocesan programs and ministries that provide services that no one parish could provide on its own. This effort is a means by which we can all work together to care for the Church by sharing the gifts God has granted us.

Our goal for 2017 is again \$55,000.00. Of that, \$7122.40 will help in funding the diocesan programs and the remaining balance will be returned to our parish. Experience the joy of giving and join us as we work to continue God's work of spirituality, charity and education. **All** parishioners are asked to please sign a CSA pledge card. Please take a few minutes after Mass to stop in the entrance of the church and help make this a successful effort in support of our parish and the diocese. Thank you to all those that generously give to this annual appeal.

THE INTERNATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF FATIMA - ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24: The "world-famous" International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is currently on a two-year Fatima Centennial US Tour for Peace, marking the 100th Anniversary of the apparitions at Fatima, visiting more than 100 dioceses in all 50 states through December 20, 2017. The historic statue was sculpted in 1947 by Jose Thedim. The image reflects the description of Sr. Lucia, the oldest of the three Fatima seers. On October 13, 1947, more than 150,000 Fatima pilgrims witnessed the blessing of this image of Our Lady by the Bishop of Leiria at Fatima, Portugal as he commissioned it to serve as the Pilgrim Virgin who would carry the blessings of Fatima and Our Lady's message throughout the world to the many millions of her children who would never have an opportunity to visit Fatima. The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue has traveled the world many times visiting more than 100 countries, including Russia and Red China, bringing the great message of salvation and of hope, "the peace plan from heaven," to countless millions of people. So many miracles and signal graces have been reported wherever the statue has traveled that, in 1951, Pope Pius XII remarked: "In 1946, we crowned Our Lady of Fatima as Queen of the World and the next year, through Her Pilgrim Statue, She set forth as though to claim Her dominion, and the favors She performs along the way are such that we can hardly believe what we are seeing with our eyes." Patrick L. Sabat, who has served as one of the custodians of this statue for many years, is its principal custodian. See the US Tour for Peace Calendar at <https://www.fatimatourforpeace.com/the-tour>.

SCHEDULE AT ST. BENEDICT'S - MAY 24: A procession into the church with the statue begins at 10:45 a.m. and Mass at 11:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration will follow and conclude prior to the 7:00 p.m. Mass. There will be a vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. in English and 7:00 p.m. in Spanish. An ending procession of the statue will occur following the 7:00 p.m. Mass. All are invited to attend Mass or make a visit to our Lord and Lady anytime during the day. The US Tour of Peace is a nation-wide call to prayer and penance for peace in our nation and conversion of hearts. That's because prayer is more powerful than any army on earth. Our Lady promised, "in the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph." The tour and your prayers will create an outpouring of grace to allow Our Lady of Fatima to claim her dominion over our country through her Immaculate Heart. **PRAYER FOR THE U.S. TOUR:** *O Queen of the Rosary, Sweet Virgin of Fatima, who has deigned to appear in the land of Portugal, we beg you to watch over our dear homeland and assure its moral and spiritual revival. Bring back peace to all the nations of the world so that all, our own nation in particular, may be happy to call you their Queen and the Queen of Peace. Amen. Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for our country. Our Lady of Fatima, obtain for all humanity a lasting peace.*

PRAY THE ROSARY - THE MONTH OF MAY is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy comes down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1). You are encouraged to pray the rosary daily, especially in the month of May. The rosary is recited each day at 7:30 a.m. here at St. Mary's Church and you are invited to come and join other parishioners. Mary, Queen of the Holy Angels - Pray for Us.

CEMETERY COLLECTION: During the month of May each family of the parish is given an opportunity to help with the care and upkeep of our cemetery. We customarily beautify and decorate the graves of our deceased friends and loved ones during this time of year. A special envelope has been placed in your set of contribution envelopes for cemetery care. There will be a second collection during all Masses next weekend. Donations can also be given through On-Line Giving. Thank you for your continued support.

LOURDES BACCALAUREATE MASS & GRADUATION: Everyone is invited to attend the Baccalaureate Mass at St. Mary's Church on Tuesday, May 16 at 8:00 a.m. and Lourdes graduation on Sunday, May 21 at 4:30 p.m. in the gym. Come and join in the celebration of the accomplishments of the Class of 2017. Congratulations to all of our graduates.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles we see how the first community of Christians gathered together to discern and resolve how to care for each others' needs. As good stewards of the sisters and brothers who gathered around the Eucharistic table, the community of faith selected those among them who were to ensure that no one was neglected. How do we resolve to serve the needs of our parish family? How do we ensure that those who might be perceived to be the least of our brothers and sisters are not left alone and neglected?

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE - MY RETURN TO THE LORD

May 7: Adult Env.: \$9057.40; Loose: \$502.98; Children's Env.: \$1.00; Online: \$2541.00; Building Fund: \$20.00; Total: **\$12,122.38** Needed Weekly: \$13,215.48; Short: \$1093.10; May 7: Needed: \$594,696.64; Received: \$494,344.99; Short: **-\$100,351.65** (371.68 per family)
Lourdes Building & Renovation - Match Contributions: Needed: **\$500,000.00**; Received: **\$178,886.09**; Balance Needed: **\$321,113.91**
Franciscan Sisters: \$10.00 Thank you for your generosity.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday Mother's Day Carnations available following weekend Masses
Wednesday 8:45 a.m. Legion of Mary, rectory

MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS

	6:20 a.m. (Hospital Chapel)	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Monday	Charles & Lorraine Gude+	Carl & Nora Kreifels+	
Tuesday	Myron Henner+	Robert Schreiner+ (Anniv.)	
Wednesday	Poor Souls+	Jack Willson+ (Anniv.)	4:00 p.m. Christian Mothers/Altar Soc., Liv. & Dec'd & Father Directors (NC Care & Rehab Ctr)
Thursday	Christina Barteki	Tom Funke II	
Friday	Delorosa Riege+	Special Intention	
Saturday		Raymond & June Yost+	6:30 p.m. Robin Heng
Sunday		Linda Schreiner+	10:00 a.m. People of the Parish
	6:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
USHERS/ GREETERS	Danny & Robin Heng Family	Tim & Jill Travis Mary Mills, Linda Lollmann	Mike Heng, Joe Miller Bill & Mary Jo Olmer
SERVERS	Tristian & Alex Peter, Trevor Bennett	Colby & Caleb Howard	Jack & Will Funke
LECTORS	Barb Stukenholtz	Mary Kay Hengen	John Dubas
ACOLYTES	Tom Wigington	Paul Madison	Tom Funke
OFFERTORY	Bryan & Shawn Stukenholtz	Pete & Nancy Lutz	Martin & Elaine Heng

WEEKDAY SERVERS: - May 15-20 – Tyler Kleineweber, Maverick Weninger; **6:20 a.m. Mass at Hospital** – Server: Marv Penning; Reader: Denise Davis

READINGS: May 15, Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26; May 16, Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a; May 17, Acts 16:1-6/Jn 15:1-8; May 18, Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11; May 19, Acts 15:22-31/Jn 15:12-17; May 20, Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21; May 21, Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/1 Pt 3, 15-18/Jn 14:15-21.

STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE: We are called to be Good Shepherds to all those with whom we come in contact.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD, a holy day of obligation is Wednesday, May 24 at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, May 25 at 6:00 and 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. all at the church.

ALL LADIES OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED TO THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN GUEST DAY/LUNCHEON on Thursday, May 18 at 11:30 a.m. in Gage Hall. Guest speaker is Dr. Sara Crook, Chair of the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission speaking on "Nebraska is 150-Let's Celebrate." Please RSVP to Keith Thomson, 402-873-7889 by May 15.

FLAGS FOR CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND – VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help put up flags on Friday, May 26 at 5:30 p.m. and to take down on Monday, May 29 at 5:30 p.m.

INDULGENCE OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPARITIONS OF OUR LADY IN FATIMA, PORTUGAL: Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence opportunity for the 100th anniversary of the Fatima apparitions throughout the centennial year until November 26, 2017. There are three ways to obtain the indulgence. To obtain the plenary indulgence, the faithful must also fulfill the ordinary conditions: go to Confession and Communion, be interiorly detached from sin, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father. **1. Make a pilgrimage to the Shrine in Fatima, Portugal** - To the faithful who make a pilgrimage to the Fatima Shrine in Portugal and participate in a celebration of prayer dedicated to the Virgin. In addition, the faithful must pray the Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke the Mother of God. **2. Pray before any statue of Our Lady of Fatima** - To the faithful who visit with devotion a statue of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly exposed for public veneration in any church, oratory or proper place during the days of the anniversary of the apparitions, the 13th of each month from May to October 2017, and there devoutly participate in some celebration or prayer in honor of the Virgin Mary. In addition, the faithful must pray the Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke Our Lady of Fatima. **3. The elderly and infirm** - To the faithful who, because of age, illness or other serious cause, are unable to get around, may pray in front of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima and must spiritually unite themselves to the jubilee celebrations on the days of the apparitions, the 13th of each month, between May and October 2017. They must also "offer to merciful God with confidence, through Mary, their prayers and sufferings or the sacrifices they make in their own lives." From World Apostolate of Fatima website: <https://wafusa.org/pope-francis-grants-plenary-indulgence-for-jubilee-year-of-fatima/> **Our Lady of Fatima Statue** will remain in St. Mary's Church through May 24. You are welcome to stop by for a visit.

THE FRUITS OF THE FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION: "You at least try to console me..." The five first Saturdays is about reparation, but the fruits of this devotion are of great spiritual benefit to us. The devotion leads us into the sacramental life of the Church, where God pours out His Divine power; into the interior life, where God pours out His personal love for us, and into the apostolic life, where God sends us forth. **The Sacramental Life:** The sacramental life starts with confession, where we renew the innocence once given us in Baptism. Here we renounce Satan, reject sin and its ability to separate us from God, and demonstrate a desire to be with Christ. Our attitudes are reshaped by the Sacrament of Penance. Remember, this is a time for us to confess all of our mortal sins and God wipes them away. Next is Holy Communion. Reception of Holy Communion establishes us as members of the Mystical Body of Christ, intimately united with the Divine Head and entirely disposed to be Mary's own children, having that precious blood flow within us. **The Interior Life:** Through the rosary, we have recourse to Our Lady in prayer and it follows the office that she continually fills at the side of her Divine Son as mediatrix of all graces. When we pray the rosary we are filled and protected with Mary. Some will say, "Oh it's so repetitious." But Fr. Benedict Groeschell, C.F.R. said the prayer form is actually called a 'mantra.' We use the words of God, but we go beneath the words and enter into the meaning of the words. And as the beads slip through our fingers we enter into the mystery of the Incarnation, the mystery of the birth of the God-man, the mystery of the Eucharist. All of these things we enter into far deeper than we could have if we only sat there with our own pious meditations. So the rosary is a powerful prayer. At the end of the rosary there is often peace. Our Lady brings us peace and she'll do this in times of great temptation. The additional 15 minute mediation allows us to enter deeply within the mysteries. **The Apostolic Life:** In all of this, Fatima is a school of prayer. It becomes this friendship with Our Lady; it's her divine maternity over us; it's the school of the sacraments; it's the interior life, the very place where you and I enter deep within. But it also leads us out of ourselves to an apostolic life. We are sent out to speak the Word, to call people back from a world of darkness. Perhaps they won't like it, but they need to hear the words anyway. There are moments in the apostolic life when we are summoned to do something more, summoned to greatness, to be apostles, to be ambassadors to Christ. Fatima is this wonderful place where we are drawn into the heart of Our Lady and there we are made her true children filled with her own life. We find ourselves there entering the sacramental life, the interior life and the apostolic life, all for the good of the Church. If you have not already started practicing the First Saturday Devotion, start this year, during the Fatima Centennial, and give **Our Lady the gift** of your consolations.

LOURDES ELEMENTARY PTO'S SPRING FUNDRAISER HAS BEGUN! Thru May 18 our school will earn 20% of Schwan's purchases and 40% of Schwan's eGift Card sales. If you are a current Schwan's customer, please use our Campaign ID #31697 with your next order and support Lourdes Central Catholic elementary. If you are new to Schwan's, you can order by phone or online. Simply call 1-855-870-7208 or visit www.schwans.com and provide campaign ID #31697 at checkout to support our fundraiser. After your initial order, Schwan's will automatically give our fundraiser credit for any future orders you place. Schwan's will continue to contribute 5% of all orders to our school through August 18. Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school!

STUDENTS – PLAN TO ATTEND – JUNE 25-30 - TOTUS TUUS (TOTALLY YOURS), for another fun, faith-filled summer catechetical youth program for students entering grades 1-12. Registration forms are available in the entrance of the church.

STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT – DINNERS FOR FR. MCCABE & FR. VENTRE: May 15: Alyce Hollesen, May 17: Jennifer Howard, May 20: Anna Mae Kaiser, May 22: Mary Kaiser, May 24: Jean Kreifels, May 27: Jenny Kearney, May 31: Linda Lollmann, June 3: Jackie Loseke, June 5: Amy Lucas, June 7: Rosie Marcotte, June 10: Suzi Martin, June 12: Cindy McGinnis, June 14: Mary Mills, June 17: Kilee Olson, June 19: Mary Penning, June 21: Mary Pargett, June 24: Rachelle Ragland, June 26: Margaret Rumery, June 28: Julia Russell. 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}): **May 20:** Carl Abbott, Sally Abbott, Colin & Teresa Albers, Mike & Patti Alex, Fred & Sheryl Allen, Bret & Kathy Allgood, Evelyn Alonso, William & Kathy Aultz, William & Roberta Aultz, Mark & Heather Bakula. **May 27:** Chris & Tammy Bando, Tim & Nancy Baragary, Colleen Barrett, Tim & Brenda Baumann, Helen Beccard, Aaron & Mary Bennett, Adam & Anne Bennett, Aric & Tara Bennett, Larry & Nan Benscoter, Bryan & Kelly Bequette. **June 3:** Ted Bernard, Dallas & Shelley Beshaler, Jack & Jeanine Blevins, Richard Blobaum, Caroline Bolin, Richard & Gail Bond, Marcia Boone, Jennifer Booth, Ronda Booth, Daren & Beth Box, Roger & Ranae Brandt. **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.