

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Telephone: 402-873-3024

Website: stmarysnebraskacity.com

Pastor: Rev. Jonathan J. Haschke

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, 969-0556 or Kathy Wigington, 209-1341

Confessions: Saturday, 4-5 p.m., 20 minutes before 8 & 10 a.m. Sunday Mass 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

Prayer Chain: email: Patrice Wulf, (prayerchainstm@gmail.com) or calling tree: Kathy Duffy, 873-7576

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018

PRAY FOR THE SICK - Keith Reinhard, Kathy Gilbert, Colene Copeland, Mary Lee Duncan, Kala Griepenstroh, Dan Kaiser, Tom Schreiner, Jack Bakula, Janet Frana, Kenneth Russell, Cheryl Hauptman, Everett Tjaden, 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. Additional names have been moved to our book of intentions. Thank you for your prayers.

PLEASE PRAY for our seminarians James O'Neil, Brian Wirth, 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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: ADORER NEEDED on Wednesdays from 11 p.m. to 12:00 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 or Kathy Wigington, 402-209-1341, Eucharistic Adoration Coordinators. **Beginning December 3**, Eucharistic Adoration will be held 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Please prayerfully consider committing an hour in prayer each week at the hospital chapel. Some people pick a friend to take turns with the holy hour so that you have some flexibility each week. Thank you to all of our scheduled adorers.

THE ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL FOR VOCATIONS: Today is the time provided for us to be generous to our future priests thru this annual appeal. We have been very blessed with three seminarians from our parish studying for the priesthood, Joseph Allen, James O'Neil and Brian Wirth, along with 39 others in the Diocese of Lincoln. As Catholics, we have an obligation to support and pray for these young men who will be instruments of our salvation for years to come. Today you will have the opportunity to assist these young men with their formation of the priesthood. Our parish goal is \$14,730.00. If each of our families would be able to give a minimum of \$60.00, we would reach our goal. This averages \$.16 per day/\$1.15 per week/\$5.00 per month. Some families are able to give larger gifts and some less. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and for all of our seminarians. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

GIVING FROM THE HEART

Dear Parish Family,

These past few weeks we have been promoting the Giving from the Heart Program. Our parish has much to offer to those in the Nebraska City community. How blessed we are to be able to serve so many in our parish and community! God calls us to continue to advance our mission and to build up God's Kingdom here in Nebraska City.

Many of you have already submitted your Commitment Card to the church and have committed your offertory support to continue to advance our parish mission. Thank you! As a reminder, all commitments need to be submitted to the church no later than **November 18** in order to be accounted for in our final Summary Report. Please return your card even if you are unable to make a change in your current level of giving. For those registered parishioners not currently supporting the church with regular offertory gifts, please consider a monthly gift to support the needs of our parish.

I also encourage all parishioners to consider our electronic giving method and to setup your reoccurring offertory gifts electronically.

Thank you for your generosity and your sacrifice. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

May the Lord continue to bless us and bless the work we are doing!

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Jonathan J. Haschke

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: In today's reading, Jesus points out to his disciples the poor widow who has just dropped two simple copper coins into the temple treasury. He then delivers a teaching on stewardship. Despite her poverty, the poor widow in today's Gospel does not refuse God her generosity. Out of her desperately impoverished life she contributes to an earthly institution to give God glory and praise. It is not the monetary value of the gift that was important, but the love, trust and gratitude expressed through the gift. The Gospel asks us similarly compelling stewardship questions: What do we value? In what or whom do we place our trust? How do our own contributions to our community of faith reflect our generosity toward God?

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE - MY RETURN TO THE LORD

Nov. 4: Adult Env.: \$10,753.00; **Loose:** \$356.21; **Children's Env.:** \$.25; **Online:** \$3836.00; All Souls: \$110.00

All Saints: \$1528.00; **Total: \$16,583.46**

Needed Weekly: \$13,644.41; **Over:** \$2939.05; **Nov. 4: Needed:** \$245,599.06; **Received:** \$219,653.59; **Short:** ~~\$25,945.47~~ (\$-95.04 per family)

Thank you for your generous support of our parish.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:40 a.m. Adult Choir Practice	Wednesday	5:30 p.m. CCD Grades 1-6, Lourdes Primary
	5:00 p.m. CCD Class, Grades 7-12, St. Benedict's Rectory		5:30 p.m. K of C Memorial Mass & dinner, St. Benedict's
	6:30 p.m. Eucharistic Studies, Franciscan Sisters		6:30 p.m. Eucharistic Studies, Franciscan Sisters
Wednesday	8:45 a.m. Legion of Mary, rectory		7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. Class, Lourdes School
	9:00 a.m. Cup of Grace, church hall	Thursday	9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Studies, Franciscan Sisters
	3:30 p.m. Children's Choir practice		5:30 p.m. Adult Choir practice

MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS

	6:20 a.m. (Hospital Chapel)	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Monday	Albert Burger+	Bill Gangel+ (Anniv.)	
Tuesday	Gude & Nystrom Families+	Delbert Larson+	
Wednesday	Myron & Velma Henner+	Susan & Matthew Heng+	
Thursday	Juanita Kreifels+	Susie Scholl+	
Friday	Robin Harding+	Margaret Sis	
Saturday		Fred Gress+	6:30 p.m. Johnny & Laurene Bando+
Sunday		Jim Wadsworth+	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, Bill & Mary Jo Olmer
SERVERS	Jackson & Dilan Eppert	Aidan & Tyler Kleineweber Leo Ramold	Sam & Jack Ebmeier Reed Hamling
LECTORS	Lisa Whitten	Jennifer Howard	Cindy McGinnis
ACOLYTES	Lynn Heng	Mark Eilers	Duane Stuhr
OFFERTORY	Jody Honeysuckle Family	Mike & Jenny Kearney Family	Jerry & Suzi Martin

WEEKDAY SERVERS: - Hunter Lackey, Dominic Schizas, Ben Bebout; **6:20 a.m. Mass at Hospital** – Server: Dale Kreifels; Reader: Denise Davis

STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE: Live in faith as a follower of Christ.

READINGS: Nov. 12, Ti 1:1-9/Lk 17:1-6; Nov. 13, Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Lk 17:7-10; Nov. 14, Ti 3:1-7/Lk 17:11-19; Nov. 15, Phlm 7-20/Lk 17:20-25; Nov. 16, 2 Jn 4-9; Lk 17:26-37; Nov. 17, 3 Jn 5-8/Lk 18:1-8; Nov. 18, Dn 12:1-3/Heb 10:11-14, 18/Lk 13:24-32.

STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE: God's word is a gift to us.

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.

GOD BLESS THE USA – VETERAN'S DAY: Thank you to all of our veterans that have served our country in the military as we celebrate Veteran's Day today. We also thank all those men and women that are currently serving our country. May God continue to bless our country and all those that are serving to protect our freedom.

THEATRE AND SWEETS – LOURDES SCHOOL: Enjoy performances of both our competition one act, "The Very Unmerry Adventures of Robin Hood" and the non-competition one act, "Everyone Gets Abducted By Aliens" on Sunday, November 11 at 2:00 p.m. in the Wirth Theatre. Admission is a free will offering and includes both performances and desserts!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: St. Mary's Children's Choir will be singing in the Advent Recital on **Sunday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m.** This is open to students in 2nd grade and older. We will practice for the recital on Wednesday, **November 14 and November 28 from 3:30-4:30 p.m.** We will also practice on **Sunday, December 2 from 11:00-11:30 a.m.** All practices will be at **St. Mary's Church**. If we need additional practices, we will let you know. If you have any questions, please contact Kay DeFreece at kay-defreece@cdolinc.net

ADULT CHOIR: The adult choir will be singing in the Advent Recital on Sunday, December 2. There will be practice for the recital on Thursday, November 15 at 5:30 p.m. and November 28 at 5:30 p.m. If you would like to be a part of the recital but can't be at Thursday's practice, please email Kay DeFreece at kay-defreece@cdolinc.net

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMORIAL MASS: Join the Knights of Columbus at the annual Memorial Mass, Wednesday, November 14 at St Benedict's at 5:30 p.m. We will be honoring our departed Brother Knights. All widows of Knights and any interested parties are invited. There will be a meal provided afterwards in St. Benedict's church hall.

GREAT NEWS!! Our Franciscan Sisters have purchased a beautiful 10-acre parcel of land just north of Arbor Lodge Historical State Park and east of Arbor Day Farms. The entire acreage is enclosed by trees affording an atmosphere of quiet, prayer and meditation. Their goal is to build their new Motherhouse and Ministry Center on this site. Be the first to see the property and help the Sisters! **On Saturday, November 17, starting at 10:00 a.m.** (weather permitting) a crew of workers are needed to help clear some of the dead trees and brush. The address is **6157 Park Road**. Please bring along your chainsaw, hand saws, pole saw, wheelbarrows and gloves if you have any of these. The plan is to have a bonfire, roast hot dogs and enjoy s'mores. All High School students are invited to assist in this clean-up effort as well. Service hours will be given. Please let the Sisters know if you are willing to help by either email: fs93813@gmail.com or by phone: **402-873-3052** so they can better plan for the event. Thank you in advance for your help and assistance with our Religious Sisters. Let's join forces and begin preparing the land for our Sisters' new Motherhouse!

SUSHI & ORIENTAL NIGHT FUNDRAISER: Lourdes Activities Association is hosting a Sushi & Oriental Night on Saturday, November 17 from 5-9 p.m. at Table Creek. Cost of Meal is \$17.95 and includes choice of appetizer – 4 pieces of sushi/2 egg rolls, 4 crab rangoon; salad bar with Miso soup; choice of entrée – California Roll or Nigiri Roll, sesame orange chicken, beef stir fry, or Asian salmon served over fried rice. Please call for reservations – 402-873-7710 ext. 2.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP is traveling to Lincoln Sunday, November 18 for Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas, service at Matt Talbot Kitchen, and lunch in Lincoln. We will be providing a salad bar at Matt Talbot Kitchen, helping to serve during their lunch, and helping with Blessings Bags. We are also collecting deodorant and disposable razors for Matt Talbot Kitchen's Blessing Bags and students can bring donations with them or drop them off at Lourdes. Students will bus from Lourdes Central Catholic School to Lincoln and back. This outing is limited to 20 students, please sign up by contacting Mrs. Brooke Chaney at brooke-chaney@cdolinc.net or 402-873-6154.

TURKEY BINGO AT ST. JOSEPH'S in Paul will be held on Sunday, November 18. Lunch from 12-1 p.m., Bingo 1-3 p.m.

TURKEY DINNER: St. Leo Altar Society in Palmyra invites all to their annual Turkey Dinner fundraiser Sunday, Nov. 18 from 11-1 p.m. \$10 for adults and 12 and under \$5.

FORMED – THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND: Discover all the best Catholic content in one place. Think Netflix for Catholics! EASY & FREE TO REGISTER, Visit: Formed.org/register and enter Parish Code **BHRREJ**. App for your smartphone now available to enjoy great talks, audio books, and more great Catholic content on the GO! <https://app.formed.org>.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS will be at 8:00 a.m. There will not be Mass at the hospital chapel. On this day we give thanks to almighty God for the freedom we have in our country. Around every Thanksgiving table our American families will feel closer to their loved ones and to our blessed Lord. We encourage you to attend this Thanksgiving Day Mass to worship not only as a family, but also as a parish family and give thanks for all the blessings that our Lord has bestowed upon our country and us. All are cordially invited to join in this celebration. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love is everlasting. Give thanks to the Lord of Lords, for his love is everlasting. Cf. *Psalm 136:1*.

ARE YOU 70 ½ OR OLDER AND REQUIRED TO TAKE A MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION FROM YOUR IRA? Are you aware that you do not have to claim your annual required minimum distribution as income, if you donate it or a portion directly to St. Mary's Church? You can make up to \$100,000.00 or \$200,000.00, if your spouse is also 70 ½, in donations to a charitable organization. Direct-from-your-IRA donations are called qualified charitable distributions, or QCDs. They are tax-free and no deductions are allowed for them, so QCDs don't directly affect your tax bill. However, they count as withdrawals for purposes of meeting the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules that apply to your traditional IRAs after age 70 1/2. For more information, contact your investment manager or the parish office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: St. Francis Gift & Thrift in Auburn is in need of more volunteers during the Christmas shopping season. Volunteers will be working at or running the cash register or helping wrap & bag purchases. There are also jobs to do in the back room, especially testing small appliances & cleaning them as well as cleaning other donations. Your gift of time & talent can be two hours a week, two hours every other week, two hours a month--whatever time works into your schedule. Please stop by the store (1014 Central Ave.) during business hours (Tues, Thurs, Fri.--2:00-6:00; Wed. & Sat.--10 am-2 pm) or call the store: 402-274-4818 or Lana Fulton, 402-274-7462 for more information or to ask questions. Many thanks to all our faithful volunteers for the countless hours you have dedicated these last 14 1/2 years bringing God's work come to fruition at the St. Francis Center. We would not be there without you! All the volunteers, shoppers & donors are in our prayers of thanksgiving.

ST. GIANNA'S ART AND GIFT GALLERY: Looking for interesting Christmas gifts? Come support your local artists and a great cause while you get your Christmas shopping done. Artists will display and sell their unique collection of Christian artwork and gifts on Friday, December 7 from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, December 8 from 9-6 p.m. in the Guadalupe Center by Gianna's Java & Gelato, 2241 O St, Lincoln, NE. 15% of all proceeds will be donated to benefit St. Gianna's Women's Homes in Lincoln.

CHEERS TO 25 YEARS! The 25th annual Lourdes Event will be April 6, 2019. We hope you will join us for a fun evening to support and celebrate Lourdes Central Catholic School. Donations are needed and greatly appreciated! If you have a donation for our silent and live auction, please contact Brooke Chaney at 402-873-6154. See the school's website for more information, www.lourdescentralcatholic.org

MEMBERSHIP IN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Are you a Catholic man 18 years or older? If not a member of the Knights, please note that joining the Knights will provide you with exceptional spiritual and fraternal benefits. The Knights also provide significant Church, Family, Community and other programs and support. Joining the Knights could be one of the greatest decisions in your life. The active KOC Council in Nebraska City is backed by a State and International organization including highly rated insurance. For more info, please contact Ed Stukenholtz (402 873-9027) or get visit the new website (kofc.org).

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.

FOOD PANTRY: Donations of non-perishable foods and personal care products are always needed for our local Food Pantries. 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.

STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT – DINNER FOR FR. HASCHKE AND FR. MORIN: Nov. 12: Lynn Gibson, Nov. 14: Lana Gilson, Nov. 17: Maggie Gripenstroh, Nov. 19: Vonna Grooman, Nov. 21: Kathy Grundman, Nov. 24: Stephanie Hackett, Nov. 26: Noreen Harris, Nov. 28: Pat Heng, Dec. 1: Sharon Heng, Dec. 3: Elaine Heng, Dec. 5: Mary Kay Hengen, Dec. 8: Alyce Hollesen, Dec. 10: Jennifer Howard, Dec. 12: Anna Mae Kaiser, Dec. 15: Jean Kreifels, Dec. 17: Jenny Kearney, Dec. 19: Tamara Levins, Dec. 22: Linda Lollmann, Dec. 26: Jackie Loseke, Dec. 29: Amy Lucas. 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 CLEANING – JUST A REMINDER TO ALL FAMILIES OF THE PARISH: YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!!!

Every Saturday following the 8:00 a.m. Mass parishioners gather for a very important part of stewardship -- to clean our Lord's home. Eight to ten families are scheduled per Saturday and the names for the next three weeks are listed in the bulletin. Scheduling is done alphabetical and with over 400 families in the parish, each family is scheduled one or three times per year. Each family is asked to help clean, exchange with someone else or provide a substitute for a \$15.00 donation. As Jesus says, "When two or more are gathered in my name, I am in your midst." When you offer your time to clean the church (1-2 hrs), one to three Saturdays per year, you are offering a gift of your time to our Lord. Those that are physically unable to help clean may either provide a substitute or call the parish office, 873-3024, and have their name removed. Some of the physically unable continue to have their names listed and provide a substitute as a way of being a steward for the church. Volunteers may call families as reminders that they are scheduled. If the family does not come to help the day assigned, a friendly postcard may be sent asking for a \$15.00 donation. In this way, each family is participating in the needs of the church. These funds are used to purchase cleaning supplies and equipment. **Please help, by planning to do your part as a member of St. Mary's Church, when your scheduled time to clean the church comes. If unable to help, please call one of the substitutes listed in the bulletin or Kathy Duffy, 402-873-7576, for assistance.** If there are any problems or concerns, please call the parish office. Thank you to the many families that help each week and for those who help on a regular basis. Your gift of time is always appreciated. **(Also, the day you help clean, please sign the book in the entrance of the church. If you substituted or traded with someone, please write this information in, also.)**

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME – CHURCH CLEANERS (following the Saturday 8:00 a.m. Mass {8:30 a.m}): **Nov. 17:** Brett & Melanie Schnitzer, Donald & Lynell Schomaker, Kevin & Elizabeth Schomerus, Ronald & Diane Schomerus, Clarence & Carol Schram, Steve Schreiner, Keith & Arlene Schreiter, Ted & Carmen Schreiter, James & Ellen Shank, Buck & Amber Shawhan. **Nov. 24:** Elizabeth Slagle, Shannon Slater, Jackie Smith, Linda Smith, Jolene Spevak, William & Teresa Stanberry, Bruce Stanley, Carol Stehlik, Jena Stoll, Kori Stuck. **Dec. 1:** Duane & Shelli Stuhr, Bryan & Shawn Stukenholtz, Ed & Barb Stukenholtz, Steve Stukenholtz, Larry & Maria Talmon, Cami Tedrow, Cathy Thomas, Gerald & Donna Thoms, Judy Thorne, Phillip & Mary Timothy. **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.



Knights of Columbus
Council #3152 Nebraska City

District Deputy, Patrick O'Shea 402-296-4787
Insurance Agent, Spencer Ashburn 402-430-7999
Grand Knight Ken Carlstedt 402-209-3025
Financial Secretary Jerry Jensen 402-874-0581

You're invited to the next Meeting
November 28th 7:00 P.M. St. Mary's Church Hall

Thank you to all the Knights who helped make this years Tootsie Roll drive a big success. Special thanks to Mark Bakula for chairing the event and thanks to the following Knights for helping at various locations: Jason Miller, Fred Allen, Bill Grundman, Frank Volkmer, Ryan Beccard, Ron Osovski,, Pat Gress, Doug Kreifels, Nile Farris, Tim Baragary, Jesse Dorman, Wayne Kreifels, Kelly Madden, Jason Esser, Rylan Esser, John Hogeland, Addison Bakula, Tom Gude, Allan Lerdahl, Lynn Heng, James Lowe, Bob Moser, Horacio Perdomo, Ben Jensen and Jerry Jensen.

The Memorial Mass to honor our Knights who have passed away will be at St. Benedict's Church on Wednesday, November 14 at 5:30 p.m. This is open to all Knights, widows of Knights and all interested parties. A meal will be provided following Mass in St. Benedict's Church Hall.

We are planning to have a First Degree Induction prior to our next meeting on November 28. We will have more details as we get closer to our meeting date. If anyone knows of someone interested in joining the Knights, please contact one of the officers noted above.

We will also be discussing the following items at our meeting: 1) Second approval for payment of \$1400.00 for St. Mary's Cemetery improvements Eagle Scout Project by Caleb Stukenholtz. (Approx. half the total cost). 2) Second approval for payment to help fund the Senior Trip to Indianapolis for the Focus Convention. Fr. Morin is hoping to get most of the Senior Class to go on the January 2019 trip. So far there are 12 students signed up. The Knights are planning to give up to \$1500.00. 3) Planning for the Free Throw Contest in January and 4) Possible Sub Sandwich Fund Raising for Super Bowl Sunday.

The Franciscan Sisters have recently purchase land here in Nebraska City to build a Spiritual Center. They are looking for volunteers to help in clearing the property on November 17 at 10:00 a.m. They will present their plans after the Masses the weekend of November 10-11. They will also have an "Overall Project Presentation" at the beginning of our meeting on the 28th. If you are able to help on the 17th, please contact the Sisters at: fs93813@gmail.com or by calling 402-873-3052.

WISHING A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OUR KNIGHTS WITH BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER/

JANUARY: December: Marv Giittinger, Ken Ramold, Steven Schreiner, Joe Kaiser, Joe Wenzl, Orville Oelke Jr., Ed Stukenholtz, Douglas Wichman, Thomas Giffey, Donald Loseke, Pete Bell, Salvatore Trombino, Jason Esser, Fr. Michael Ventre, Keith White, Craig Davis, Fr. Jonathan Haschke, Clyde Wilberger. **January:** Leonard Kreifels, Richard Blobaum, Dave Ramold, Richard Kingery, Andy Fedoris, Clarence Schram, James Jameson, Kent Mc Ginnis, Arnold Kreifels, Daren Box, Mark Francois, Adolfo Aldana, Ron Osovski, John Hogeland, Steve Stukenholtz, Jacob Staroscik, Tim Baumann, Allan Lerdahl, Dr. Brett Meyer and Bruce Stanley.

KNIGHTS WITH MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER/JANUARY: December: Floyd Kreifels-58 years, Ed Bade and Thomas Wigington-40 years, Jerome Smith-39 years, Joseph Kaiser-38 years, Donald Loseke-37 years, Norbert Esser-30 years, William Grundman, Jerry Stukenholtz and David Ullsperger-29 years, Duane Weninger-28 years, Clyde Wilberger and William Daniel-22 years, Paul Flock, Michael Gilson, Steve Hackett, Brad Kreifels and Charles Moyer-21 years, Jason Esser, Vaughn Hammond, Bruce Stanley and Douglas Wichman-16 years, Brett Gay, Kaleb Bruggeman, Randy Denniston and Joe Osovski-15 years, Tim Baumann-8 years. **January:** Arnold Kreifels - 55 years, Orville Oelke Jr. and Steve Schreiner - 54 years, Tom Gude, Loren Moore, Robert Moyer and Michael Riege - 33 years, Paul Lemrick - 31 years, John Wenzl - 27 years, Colin Albers - 26 years, Don Green -3 year.

Next Meeting will be January 30 2019. No meeting scheduled for December

Vita Jesus

*****CHARITY***UNITY***FRATERNITY***PATRIOTISM*****

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP

November 2018 • e-Bulletin

A THANKSGIVING BLESSING

Good and gracious God,

As we gather together this Thanksgiving, we pause from the normal routines of our daily lives to give thanks and praise for the abundant blessings you have bestowed upon us. You have entrusted us with the wonders of your creation and given us the freedoms and opportunities to creatively collaborate in your divine plan.

Bless all of us who gather here in your name. Give us the grace to be good stewards of your bounty, the courage to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed, and the wisdom to claim nothing for ourselves, but return all to You with increase.

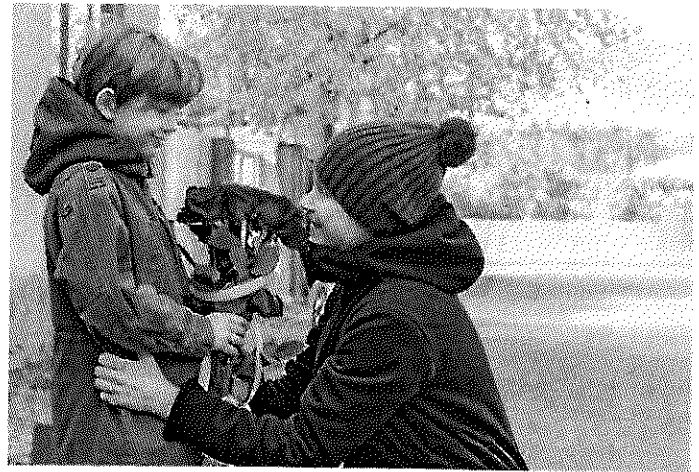
Bless this food we are about to share and all those who brought it to our table. Bless our loved ones, family and friends who are not with us this day, and on those who travel, that they may reach their destinations safely.

And in a special way, bless those who are less fortunate than we are today. Grant that we who are filled with Your abundance never close our hearts to those most in need of Your mercy, particularly the hungry, the homeless and the poor.

We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen.

November: A Month to Focus on Gratitude



November brings raking leaves, mid-term exams, plenty of football, and the beginning of our Christmas plans. But for those in the U.S., November's highlight is that great national holiday, Thanksgiving. It's wonderful to have a day to call attention to the need for gratitude, but this holiday also reminds the Christian steward that every day should include thanksgiving because gratitude is essential to discipleship. Feeling a deep appreciation for the giftedness of our lives can't be confined to one holiday when we spend a few minutes around a laden table remembering our many blessings. Neither can gratitude become a rote response.

The mere daily act of focusing on our blessings makes us more mindful, more present to God's mystery and gifts, and more aware of the needs of others around us.

Gratitude is good for our spiritual lives in so many ways. It reminds us of our neediness before the Lord, without whom we have nothing. The mere daily act of focusing on our blessings makes us more mindful, more present to God's mystery and gifts, and more aware of the needs of others around us. Gratitude is best achieved by daily, focused attention. So perhaps a good exercise for November would be to write down, each day, some things for which



Continued on page 2



we are truly grateful. Your list will no doubt include people – a teacher who inspired you, a coach who believed in you, an aunt who made you feel special, an employer who mentored you. Your notes might include simple things – the aroma of freshly ground coffee, a lunch invitation that brightened your day, a phone call that brought a smile. Focus on things you sometimes take for granted – the warm

Feeling a deep appreciation for the giftedness of our lives can't be confined to one holiday when we spend a few minutes around a laden table remembering our many blessings.

home in which you live, the sunshine that peeked through a cloudy day, the bright redness of a leaf on the lawn, the faithful presence of your spouse.

And during this month of thanks, remember to give thanks to the risen Lord:

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Colossians 3:15-17).

Be a Good Steward of Thanksgiving Day

Your Thanksgiving Day can be more than just enjoying a great meal and turning on the television to search for the traditional parades and football games. How about expressing your stewardship of this day in a more meaningful way? Here are some suggestions for making Thanksgiving an opportunity for expressing our gratitude to the Lord in creative ways:

- **Go to Mass and count your blessings.** Start the day off on a positive note and celebrate the Eucharist. In your prayer reflect on five things you are most grateful for in your life. Then reflect on how you can be an even better steward of these gifts.
- **Write "I'm thankful for you" cards** and give them out or e-mail them on Thanksgiving (or mail them beforehand).
- **Share your Thanksgiving meal** with someone who is alone this Thanksgiving. Look for someone, such as a neighbor, co-worker, fellow parishioner, college student or armed services personnel who may be separated from family and ask them to join in your Thanksgiving dinner.
- **Practice ecumenism!** Many parishes make Thanksgiving an opportune time to join in ecumenical services with other Christian worshipping communities, or inter-faith activities and programs with non-Christian centers of worship. Find one nearby and experience something new and enriching.
- **Visit the sick.** Check with hospitals, assisted living facilities or nursing homes in the area to see if there are volunteer opportunities to visit with patients or residents on that day.
- **Help someone if you can.** Extend your generosity and blessings beyond your own family. Be part of an adopt-a-family effort, help distribute food baskets, or bring canned foods or clothing to St. Vincent de Paul centers.
- **Volunteer your time** at a soup kitchen to help prepare and serve Thanksgiving dinners to others.
- **Take a walk.** Find a place to enjoy God's gift of creation. Head out the door for a refreshing walk. Invite family, friends or others to share the experience too.
- **Most important!** Take advantage of the Thanksgiving holidays to focus on what you're grateful for and the things you appreciate about yourself and others. It is an ideal time to remember and to celebrate the many blessings in our lives.

