

PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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 CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment



The Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2019

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	January 7 th	7:50 am	+ Ted Uhlik
Tuesday	January 8 th	7:50 am	+ All Souls Day Int. of Rich & Joann Cherovsky
Wednesday	January 9 th	7:50 am	Priest's Intentions
		5:30 pm Touhy	+ Ludvik Walla
Thursday	January 10 th	7:50 am	Fr. Vandewalle & His Intentions
Friday	January 11 th	7:50 am	+ Ed & Helen Stuchlik
Saturday	January 12 th	5:30 pm Weston	+ Arvella Woita
Sunday	January 13 th	8:00 am Touhy	Missa pro Populo
		10:00 am Weston	+ Albert Cihal

5:00 pm Weston Exposition of Eucharist with Evening Prayer & Benediction

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

The Feast of the Epiphany – This weekend we celebrate the Visit of the Magi who visited the Christ-child on behalf of the Gentiles. “Wise men still seek Him!”

Epiphany Blessing of the Threshold – Here is a powerful blessing for the threshold of your home, a tradition of the Church in the East. I was reminded of it at a recent priest study day (We have four a year for continuing education for priests). It is very powerful it is against the powers of evil. Not only are powers of evil real and tempt all of us, but sometimes there are also deeper manifestations. Fortunately God's Good is stronger than any evil. While God permits temptations and evils so that we might overcome them, He also gives us graces (especially through the Sacraments) to aide us against them. Additionally, He gives sacramentals (holy places, prayers and things: such as holy pictures, crosses, statues, medals, rosaries, holy water, etc...) to inspire goodness and overcome evil. One such sacramental is the Epiphany Blessing of the Threshold. Blessed Chalk (which I will have at the back of Church) is used to mark on or above the doorframe of the entrance of one's home (and other doors if you so wish) and the blessing is prayed by a priest or the head of the family. Here is what is written in chalk above the door (with the accompanying prayer). It includes the current year, the first initials of the wise men, interspersed with the cross:

20 †C †M †B †19

(And here is the prayer that is said)

Blessing of the threshold: Sacred is this threshold of our home and holy is this door. This is the meeting place of friend, neighbor, and stranger. May it be a bridge for our comings and goings. Whenever we stand in its sacred circle, may our eyes be granted new vision, so that we can see in friend or stranger the God of ten thousand disguises. May this threshold be a sacred space where we come to celebrate the Sacrament of Hospitality. May the spirits of evil never cross this threshold, and may the Name of the All-Holy-One protect our home from harm. May God's angels stand guard at the right and the left of this opening to grace our comings and goings. May we who live in this home guard the sacredness of this doorway. May our hearts be always alert to the danger of falseness and pretense as we greet those who come to our door. Let our affection be graced with honesty and reverence, and may the oil of truth burn in the lamp of our eyes. Help us to remember that our ancestors were strangers and exiles in Egypt, that Joseph and Mary came knocking at a door like this, weary and in search of kindness. May we receive all at this door as Godly guests. May the blessing of God, and peace and grace of the All-Holy-One, surround this threshold and rest upon all who shall pass across it. R: Amen.

Thanks again – Wow! Thank you again for your generosity to me during Christmas with cards, prayers, gifts, and goodies! And of course many thanks to all who decorated, removed snow and assisted liturgically for Christmas and New Year's!

Here is a notice we are required to publish: *The Diocese of Lincoln* requires that its employees and volunteers report any allegations of abuse or neglect of a minor or elder connected with church related activity to law enforcement, consistent with the requirements of Nebraska law. If anyone has information that a minor or elder is being or has been subjected to abuse or neglect please report it immediately to local law enforcement or to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services toll-free number 1-800-652-1999, and also to any Parish Pastor, School Administrator, Teacher, or to any Diocesan official at the Catholic Chancery (402) 488-0921, so that immediate steps may be taken for the protection of the minor or elder.

WEEKLY TITHING COLLECTIONS

	<u>St. John Nepomucene</u>	<u>St. Vitus</u>
Amount Budgeted per Week (\$2,636.54) in December	\$ 13,182.70	
Amount Budgeted per Week (\$1,740.00) in December		\$ 8,700.00
Amount Received in December	\$ 20,956.65	\$ 9,016.10
Net Excess (Deficit) for the month of December	\$ 7,773.95	\$ 316.10

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25	Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44	Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52	Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38;
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Lk 4:14-22		Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

OTHER INFORMATION

Please remember in your prayers and, on occasion, pay a visit or send a card to our home-bound/assisted care facilities parishioners: Home—Rose Furasek; South Haven—Charles Kadavy, Rose Walla & Mary Lou Woita; Saunders County Care Center—Julius & Marcella Meduna. Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

SPIRITUAL CORNER

"Led by the Spirit, they come to realize that God's criteria are quite different from those of men, that God does not manifest himself in the power of this world, but speaks to us in the humbleness of his love." -Pope Francis speaking of The Epiphany

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of January 12-13, 2019

Acolyte:	Sat. 1/12 Paul Virgl	Sun. 1/13 Matt Tvrdy
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 1/12 Ginger Laughridge	Sun. 1/13 Cork Vasa
Servers:	Sat. 1/12 Volunteers	Sun. 1/13 Noah Huisman/Sam Adams
Ushers:	Sat. 1/12 Rich Virgil/Ron Walla	Sun. 1/13 Paul Pleskac/Jim Woita
Gifts:	Sat. 1/12 Pat Carroll Family	Sun. 1/13 Steve Breunig Family

Stewardship of Treasure: December 30, 2018 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$3,071.28 **PLUS: Candles:** \$28.00 **Christmas:** \$3,083.00

Collection Counter for Sunday, 1/6—Dotty Virgl
Sunday, 1/13—Lorene Stuchlik

SCHOOL NEWS

Neumann's Athletic Boosters Club Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 9th, at 7:00 pm

Please Keep Saving Your Labels/Box Tops—Please continue to save the Box Tops for Education labels, the Our Family UPC's, the Best Choice UPC's, and store receipts from Sun Mart, Wahoo Super and Corner Market. There is a basket in back of church to drop all your labels and receipts off in.

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of January 12-13, 2019

Acolyte:	Sun. 1/13 Tom Rezac
Lector/Reader	Sun. 1/13 Ron Furasek
Servers:	Sun. 1/13 Lane Bohac/Chase Bohac
Ushers:	Sun. 1/13 Brian Byers/Ted Bohac
Gifts:	Sun. 1/13 Ernie Osmera Family

Stewardship of Treasure: December 30, 2018 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$489.00 **PLUS: Children:** \$10.00 **Christmas:** \$2,622.10 **Vigil Lights:** \$44.90

Collection Counter for Sunday, 1/6—Shawn Strizek
Sunday, 1/13—Bryan Woita

Friendly reminder to St. Vitus Parishioners: St. Vitus Soup Dinner is Sunday, February 10th. Just a reminder to turn in your monetary raffle donations. Please put donations in the collection plate or bring to Oak Creek Valley Bank in Valparaiso, Attn: Greg Walla. Raffle tickets will be coming your way soon! Please be generous and also donate an item to either the live or silent auction. We would like to have items by Sunday, Feb. 3rd. If you know what you are going to donate but don't have the item yet, please call one of the committee members and let them know. A work sign-up sheet will be available in the back of St. Vitus soon. Thank you in advance for everyone's hard work, time, and talent in putting on the soup dinner! Monica & Gerald 642-5629; Tom & Barb Rezac 642-5525; Steve & Linda Niemann 642-5428

AREA NEWS

The Catholic Coffee House is an adult faith formation series held at Gianna Java and Gelato, 2241 O Street, Lincoln, from 7:00-8:30pm. The theme for this year is "Navigating the Church Now." The January presentation (January 13th) is entitled "The Necessity of Forgiving and How To Do It" by Ian Butler. This series is oriented towards being in the church in the current climate of scandal. Each session includes prayer, a presentation, and Q & A. There is no fee or registration. Please call 402-473-0619 for questions.

Introduction to Deliverance—Have you ever wondered...exactly what **IS** deliverance and how does it fit into our Catholic Faith?

The Diocesan Office of Evangelization/Unbound Ministry will be hosting an evening consisting of four 20 minute talks. This is open to ALL: laity, religious, clergy, members of the Christian community & anyone who would like a better understanding of the meaning of deliverance and how each person can benefit from it. Join us at Lourdes Elementary School-Nebraska City, NE on Thursday, February 7th, from 7:00-8:30pm. Questions? Contact Annette at annette-wemhoff@cdolinc.net or call 402-473-0615.

Divorced? Come find comfort, counsel, hope and healing consistent with Catholic Church teachings. The twelve-week video series & facilitator led **Surviving Divorce** program begins on February 4th, 7:00-9:00pm, at John XXIII Diocesan Center, 3700 Sheridan Blvd. A suggested donation of \$50 covers the cost of the program and includes the **Surviving Divorce** personal guide and all materials. Classes are kept small and may be registered for by contacting the Family Life Office at 402-473-0620 or catholicflo@cdolinc.net

Religious Award Ceremony for Boys & Girls! Scout, American Heritage Girl, Schoenstatt Youth and 4-H Leaders--obtain your religious award books for **girls** from the Youth Ministry Office and for **boys** from your Local Cornhusker Council office. The Diocesan Mass and Award Ceremony is scheduled for March 24, 2019 at 2:00pm with Bishop Finn presenting. Award applications are due to the Youth Ministry Office **by February 8, 2019**. Visit www.lincolndiocese.org/scouting for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Michele at 402-473-0625.

Joy & Hope Anniversary Recognition Mass and reception for all married couples will be held Sunday, February 10th, at the regular 9:00am Mass at the Cathedral of the Risen Christ in Lincoln. Bishop James Conley will be the Main Celebrant at the Mass for this celebration of Christian Marriage. Special recognition will be given to those couples celebrating 10, 25, 40 and 50 years or more **who have registered**. Suggested donation of \$10 per couple appreciated! Family guests are welcome. Registration forms are available at the back of church or call the Family Life Office at 402-473-0620.

St. Vitus Parish (Touhy) Soup Dinner will be held on Sunday, February 10th, at St. John School Gym in Weston. Serving from 11:00am-1:30pm. Chili, Chicken Noodle, Ham & Bean Soups. Live and Silent Auction, Raffle, Kids games! Polka Music! Adults \$8; Kids 5-12 \$5; Under 4 years Free!

Marriage Encounter Weekend— February 15th-17th, 2019 at the Lied Center in Nebraska City. Contact couple Pat (308-940-0670) & Janelle (308-940-1105) Benson, or email them at: pjbben@yahoo.com **Need to call well in advance for facility reservations.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old grandson asked, "Did you marry Grandpa because he was good-looking?" "Not really," I replied. "Did you marry him for his money?" "Definitely not," I laughed. "He didn't have any." "So," he said, "you just felt sorry for him."