

PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

P.O. Box 10 Weston, NE 68070 Phone #: 402-642-5245 Fr.'s Cell #: 402-853-2846
Rev. Matthew Vandewalle, Pastor E-mail address: fr.matthew-vandewalle@cdolinc.net
E-mail address: StJohn-Weston@cdolinc.net
Website address: www.stjohnschurchweston.com

CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment

First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	December 1 st	7:50 am	+ Robert Machacek
Tuesday	December 2 nd	7:50 am	+ LaVerne Wonka
Wednesday	December 3 rd	7:50 am	+ John Meduna
		5:30 pm Touhy	+ All Souls--Novena
Thursday	December 4 th	7:50 am	+ Frank Chloupek
Friday	December 5 th	7:50 am	+ Ed & Helen Stuchlik
Saturday	December 6 th	5:30 pm	+ Don Palensky
Sunday	December 7 th	8:00 am Weston	Missa pro Populo
		10:00 am Touhy	+ Larry Masek

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Immaculate Conception, December 8th – The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, which falls on Monday, is a Holy Day of Obligation. This is the patronal Feast Day of both our country and our diocese. God the Father created Mary without sin. Foreshadowed by the arc of the covenant, He prepared her to be a fitting receptacle and mother for His Son.

Cornucopia - The symbol of the Cornucopia reminds us of bountiful blessings, especially as have just celebrated the wonderful holiday of Thanksgiving and we move on now to Advent. These days give such an idea of perspective and setting within the whole of history. The first half of Advent considers especially the second coming of Christ at the end of earthly time. The second half considers Christ’s entering into time to redeem us so we can have an eternal history. Advent then, while a season of waiting, is a season of joyful anticipation.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus reminds to ‘stay awake’ for his second coming, or of course for the end of our own life which he promises to guide us through. The first reading speaks prophetically of “all nations” streaming toward God’s holy mountain in Jerusalem, pointing to the right worship of God for which every nation and every individual longs.

Now Thank We All Our God – Martin Rinkart, of humble beginnings, served as a pastor in the 1600s. During his time not only did the Thirty Years’ War, but then a plague hit. At one point he had as many as 50 funeral a day including the burial of his beloved wife, and around 4,000 in three years. During this time, he wrote the hymn Now Thank We All Our God. Surrounded by death, scarcity and fear, he lifted his eyes heavenward and taught his congregation not despair but gratitude. His hymn, a spiritual anchor, reminded that God’s faithfulness remains even in times of Trial. It teaches that even when the world seems broken, creation tells of the greatness of God, including the gift of life “Who from our mother’s arms....” And every breath is evidence of God’s care. This was sung in Germany when the war ended, later it was embraced as a harvest hymn and in any times of trouble, a song of gratitude, even in the valley of suffering. If Rinkart could have thankfulness is his difficult conditions, it a reminder that gratitude is not the absence of sorrow, but the presence of Faith. Let us be people of Thanksgiving. [Psalm 103 says “Bless the Lord O my soul and forget not all his benefits”. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us “In everything give thanks for this is the will of God for Christ Jesus in you.” Rinkart’s hymn reflects Thankfulness not because life is easy but because God’s grace never fails.]

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of December 6-7, 2025

Acolyte:	Sat. 12/6 Pat Carroll	Sun. 12/7 Jesse Sabatka
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 12/6 Dec Carroll	Sun. 12/7 Barb Opp
Servers:	Sat. 12/6 Volunteers	Sun. 12/7 Hudson Fortik/Corbyn Zitek
Ushers:	Sat. 12/6 Rich Cherovsky/Joe Janecek	Sun. 12/7 Charlie Jelinek/Don Sabatka
Gifts:	Sat. 12/6 Teresa Virgil Family	Sun. 12/7 Charlie Jelinek Family
Stewardship of Treasure: November 23, 2025 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...		
Total: \$1,065.73 PLUS: Candles: \$20.00 Cloistered Sisters: \$250.00 World Mission Sunday: \$20.00		

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11	Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24	Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37	Sunday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27		

SPIRITUAL CORNER

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.” ~Isaiah 9:2

PRAYERS FOR SISTERS VOCATIONS & SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

Please pray for Sr. Mary Francis, Jr. Sister, Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln; and for Jackson Schaefer of St. Cecilia, Hastings, who attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH COUNCIL

The St. John Nepomucene Parish Council meets the 2nd Wednesday of even numbered months at 6:30pm at the School. Public comment period is from 6:30pm-6:45pm. Anyone can use that time to make any comments to the council. Immediately after public comment, the meeting will take place. Anyone who is not a member or have an item listed on that meeting’s agenda will be asked to leave at that time. To request a specific item be placed on the agenda please email stjohn-weston@cdolinc.net and provide details on your request.

OTHER INFORMATION

Please remember in your prayers and, on occasion, call or send a card to our home-bound/assisted care facilities parishioners: South Haven—Lucille Strizek. Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

SCHOOL NEWS

St. John’s School Christmas Program—Sunday, Dec. 7th at 3:00pm in the school gym. Please come and enjoy the program.

Chapters Book Fair—St. John’s School is hosting a Chapters Book Fair. Thursday, December 4th through Wednesday, December 10th. Come shop our book fair!! Think Christmas!!!

Support Our School with Scrip Gift Cards—We have scrip cards for sale in the office year round. To purchase immediately: **RaiseRight app** Enrollment Code for St. John's- **259F58BL632L1** Every business gives a percentage back to St. John School! Thank you for purchasing! If you have any questions, about Scrip, or want it explained more, just ask!

Please Keep Saving Your Labels/Box Tops—Please continue to scan receipts for Box Tops for Education labels, Our Family UPC's, and Best Choice UPC's. There is a basket in back of church to drop off all your labels.

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of December 6-7, 2025

Acolyte: Sun. 12/7 Mark Walla

Lector/Reader: Sun. 12/7 Jeff Walla

Servers: Sun. 12/7 Corbyn Kastl/Caleb Kastl

Ushers: Sun. 12/7 Bryan Woita/Pat Bartek

Gifts: Sun. 12/7 Shawn Strizek Family

Stewardship of Treasure: November 23, 2025 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$972.00 **PLUS: Children:** \$.50

AREA NEWS

Advent Baby Shower—St. John & St. Vitus Churches will again participate in the statewide event through December 24th. Suggested gift ideas are bottles, receiving blankets, hooded bath towels, crib sheets/heavy blankets, disposable diapers (especially med. & lg.), bibs, rattles/toys, sleepers, socks/booties, snow suits, formula, & undershirts/onesies. ***Please bring only new, not used items.*** Place them in the container that is in back of each church.

St. John Nepomucene & St. Vitus ~ Knights of Columbus JPII are hosting a Tootsie Roll Drive for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities in the back of church November 29th & 30th. Donating Never Tasted So Sweet!

Knights of Columbus Pancake Feed, Valparaiso—Sunday, November 30th from 8:30am-11:30am at Sts. Mary and Joseph Parish Hall. We will be serving Eggs, Ham, and Pancakes. Free will donation. Any support would be appreciated. Proceeds will go to scholarships for local high school seniors who are planning on attending a post-secondary school.

Knights of Columbus Toy Drive—There is a box in the back of St. John’s Church and St. Vitus, to put your new or gently used toys in. Donations will be accepted until December 19th.

The Veterans of Foreign War will once again be sponsoring a project for the community. The VFW and the Christmas Drive Committee are asking that, if you are in need this holiday season, you complete the referral form in the back of St. John and St. Vitus churches and mail it to the address on the form. The VFW Christmas Drive will cover all of Saunders County communities other than Ashland. Please send your completed form by December 15th to VFW Christmas Drive, 271 N. 31st Street, Ashland, NE 68003. Deliveries will be made during the afternoon on December 20th.

“Warmth” Drive by Val/Touhy Knights of Columbus – The big box at the back of St. Vitus is to donate used or new ‘warmth’ clothing such as mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, long underwear, jackets, coats, socks, etc... any sizes from kids to adults. It will be picked up after Sunday Mass of November 30th. These go to a few charitable distribution places in Lincoln.

Waiting for Jesus with Mary – Women’s Retreat—Friday, December 5th, with a 6:00pm check-in, 6:30pm First Friday Mass, and 7:15pm conference. The retreat concludes Sunday, December 7th, with Mass and a final brunch at 11:00am. Join the Marian Sisters for a peaceful Advent retreat designed for women of all ages and vocations. This weekend offers a time of rest, reflection, and spiritual nourishment in the presence of Christ. The retreat aims to strengthen attendees’ intimacy with Jesus and renew their faith during this holy season.

Masses of Healing—Sunday, December 7th at John XXIII Diocesan Center, 3700 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln. Confession 1:15pm; Divine Mercy Chaplet 1:30pm; Blessing of Articles 1:50pm; Healing Mass 2:00pm.

Desert Day ~ Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly—Tuesday, December 9th. Not everyone has the same 9-to-5 schedule, so we invite you to consider taking a Desert Day even if it’s shorter or longer, earlier or later. Simply arrive by 9:00am and depart at your convenience in the afternoon. A suggested donation of \$20 includes the day and lunch (or \$10 and bring your own food); \$50 if you would like a private room for the day (advance registration required). The basic schedule is 7-9am check-in and coffee, 10am; Confessions, 11:15am Mass; Noon lunch; 1-4pm Adoration with conference, departure anytime. For more information go to goodcounselretreat.org or contact the retreat office at office@olgcretreat.org or call 402-786-2705.

American Red Cross Community Blood Drive—Thursday, December 11th, 7:30am-6:00pm at The Shed, 570 N. Elm Street. Please contact Verna at 402-277-6243 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: WAHOONEB to schedule an appointment. Bring your Donor Card or Photo ID.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

At our supermarket, I noticed a woman with four boys and a baby. Her patience was wearing thin as the boys called out, “Mommy! Mommy!” while she tried to shop. Finally, she blurted out, “I don’t want to hear the word mommy for at least ten minutes!” The boys fell silent for a few seconds. Then one tugged on his mother’s dress and said softly, “Excuse me, miss.”