

PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	December 22 nd	7:50 am	+ All Souls--Novena
Tuesday	December 23 rd	7:50 am	+ Poor Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday	December 24 th Christmas Eve	5:00 pm Weston 10:00 pm Touhy	Missa pro Populo + Joe & Rose Furasek & Stan & Nancy Karel
Thursday	December 25 th Christmas Day	Midnight Weston 9:00 am Touhy	+ Stanley & Patsy Sabatka + Larry Masek
Friday	December 26 th	NO MASS	
Saturday	December 27 th	5:30 pm	+ All Souls--Novena
Sunday	December 28 th	8:00 am Touhy 10:00 am Weston	+ Rose Bohac Missa pro Populo

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Christmas Greetings! My prayers and wishes for you and yours to experience a blessed Christmas and many graces! During this season, Jesus wants to give many special graces. He invites us to ask Him (and Mary and Joseph) for them. In prayer we learn of Jesus’ goodness through His answers, but also through getting to know Him and how He is and how He thinks and feels. While God wants to fulfill the greatest longings of our hearts, He also helps us to learn those deepest desires as we get to know Him. At Christmas we remember that Christ came not only to die for our redemption, but also for relationship. As a poor baby, he showed himself approachable. In a family himself, he showed that he identifies with us. On the cross, he showed how much he loves each of us and invites us to love Him back. There is a song that invites us to wonder at these Christmas mysteries. It seems that its rudiments were a North Carolina man, John Jacob Miles, who in 1933 attended an evangelical meeting, forced out of town by authorities. In this area he witnessed an impoverished, young girl in rags singing, with a smile, the line of a song for quarters. He wrote: *A girl had stepped out to the edge of the little platform attached to the automobile. She began to sing. Her clothes were unbelievable dirty and ragged, and she, too, was unwashed. Her ash-blond hair hung down in long skeins. ... But, best of all, she was beautiful, and in her untutored way, she could sing. She smiled as she sang, smiled rather sadly, and sang only a single line of a song.* From this Miles composed a hymn, “I Wonder as I Wander,” with its haunting melody:

- I wonder as I wander out under the sky, / How Jesus the Savior did come for to die. / For poor simple people like you and like I... / I wonder as I wander out under the sky.
- When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall, / With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. / But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, / And the promise of ages it then did recall.
- If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, / A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing, / Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, / He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

Deanery Advent Adoration and Penance Services – We will have Adoration and Confessions (with a few priests) this Sunday, December 21st at St. John’s from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. Here is the schedule for the Wahoo area Deanery of priests: Sunday, December 21st... 9:45am Mead; 2:00pm Ashland, Morse Bluff; 4:00pm Colon, Prague, Davey; 5:00pm Weston; 5:30 pm Valparaiso. Monday, December 22nd, at St. Wenceslaus in Wahoo at 7:00pm.

Christmas Books - The book that we’ll give out this year is *The Fountain of Youth, Confession: The Only Key to Living Forever* by Dave Durand. I invite each family to take one or more.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56	Thursday:	Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Tuesday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66		Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
Wednesday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a-16 Lk 1:67-79	Friday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
	Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;	Saturday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
	Mt 1:1-25	Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21;
Thursday:	Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14		Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

SPIRITUAL CORNER

“My prayer for you is that when Christ comes to you in Christmas, He may find in you a warm home, warm love like that of a heartful of love, like that of a simple shepherd who was the first one chosen to see Christ..” ~St. Teresa of Calcutta

PRAYERS FOR SISTERS VOCATIONS & SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

Please pray for Sr. Joy Le, Jr. Sister, Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln; and for Daniel Stara of St. Mary, David City, who attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for Christmas and the weekend of December 27-28, 2025

	<u>Christmas Eve: 5:00 pm Mass</u>	<u>Christmas Day: Midnight Mass</u>
Acolyte:	Wed. 12/24 Matt Tvrdy/Chris Tvrdy	Thurs. 12/25 Paul Virgl
Lector/Reader:	Wed. 12/24 Bill Laughridge	Thurs. 12/25 Volunteer
Servers:	Wed. 12/24 Volunteers	Thurs. 12/25 Volunteers
Ushers:	Wed. 12/24 Volunteers	Thurs. 12/25 Don Sabatka/Jesse Sabatka
Gifts:	Wed. 12/24 Pat Carroll Family	Thurs. 12/25 Don Sabatka Family
Acolyte:	Sat. 12/27 Pat Carroll	Sun. 12/28 Milton Bouc
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 12/27 Deb Carroll	Sun. 12/28 Peg Bouc
Servers:	Sat. 12/27 Volunteers	Sun. 12/28 Brooks Lanik/Landon Pleskac
Ushers:	Sat. 12/27 Joe Janecek/Volunteer	Sun. 12/28 Ron Brazda/Paul Pleskac
Gifts:	Sat. 12/27 Joe Janecek Family	Sun. 12/28 Ron Brazda Family
Stewardship of Treasure: December 14, 2025 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...		
Total: \$5,446.00 PLUS: Candles: \$58.00 Christmas Flowers: \$70.00 Immaculate Conception: \$195.00		

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

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 Christmas and the weekend of December 27-28, 2025

	<u>Christmas Eve: 10:00 pm Mass</u>	<u>Christmas Day: 9:00 am Mass</u>
Acolyte:	Wed. 12/24 Volunteer	Thurs. 12/25 Zach Kastl
Lector/Reader:	Wed. 12/24 Volunteer	Thurs. 12/25 Pat Bartek
Servers:	Wed. 12/24 Volunteers	Thurs. 12/25 Corbyn Kastl/Caleb Kastl
Ushers:	Wed. 12/24 Volunteers	Thurs. 12/25 Pat Bartek/Bryan Woita
Gifts:	Wed. 12/24 Volunteer	Thurs. 12/25 Steve Bartek Family
Acolyte:	Sun. 12/28 Drew Niemann	
Lector/Reader:	Sun. 12/28 Jeff Walla	
Servers:	Sun. 12/28 Caleb Osmera/Simon Strizek	
Ushers:	Sun. 12/28 Pat Bartek/Bryan Woita	
Gifts:	Sun. 12/28 Ted Bohac Family	
Stewardship of Treasure: December 14, 2025 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...		
Total: \$440.50 PLUS: Immaculate Conception: \$135.00		

St. Vitus Christmas Decorating—Tuesday, December 23rd at 5:00pm. All ladies are welcome! We would enjoy and appreciate help from anyone available.

St. Vitus Catholic Church Soup Dinner is being planned for Sunday, February 8, 2026! Silent and Live Auctions & Raffle will be held! Shop Christmas sales! Raffle tickets will be distributed soon! If you plan on donating an item to the Live Auction, we would request that it be worth \$100 or more. Thank you!! The Soup Dinner Committee!

AREA NEWS

Christmas Mass and Confession times for parishes across the Diocese of Lincoln can be found at:

lincolndiocese.org/christmas

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.

Need the perfect gift for your spouse this Christmas? Give your spouse the gift of your time and love by taking them on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend to make your relationship even better than it is today! Upcoming **2026** dates: **February 20-22, Lincoln, NE**; April 18-19, Lakewood, CO; June 19-21, Golden, CO; August 7-9, Wichita, KS; September 18-20, Grand Island, NE; November 6-8, Grand Junction, CO. Call or text 402-370-5839 for more information and to purchase a gift certificate to give to your spouse, or married family and friends! For information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter, please visit www.wwme.org

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

Actual children's versions of Christmas Carols:

"...sleep in heavenly peas";
"Joy to the world, the Savior rains";
"This is he whom Sears of old...";
“Round John Virgin, mother and child”
"While shepherds washed their socks by night”