

# PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment

## Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

March 2, 2025



### MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7:50 am	+ Bonnie Kadavy
Tuesday	March 4 <sup>th</sup>	7:50 am	+ Mike Glanz
Wednesday	March 5 <sup>th</sup> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>7:50 am</b> <b>6:00 pm Touhy</b>	+ LeRoy Ohnoutka + Rose Bohac
Thursday	March 6 <sup>th</sup>	7:50 am	+ Fr. Anthony Stammitti
Friday	March 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:50 am	+ All Souls Day Int. of Bonnie Kadavy
Saturday	March 8 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	+ Helen Hedges
Sunday	March 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am Touhy 10:00 am Weston	+ Joe & Stacie Bohac Missa pro Populo

### NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

**Congratulations** to all our children who made their First Confession. Bravo! We will have First Communion the weekend after Easter on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Soup Dinner Results!** With income and expenses still coming in, we are currently at \$58,200!! Thank you to everyone for working, donating, bidding, buying, supporting the St. Vitus Soup Dinner! The socializing and polkas were enjoyed by all! Great job everyone!!!

**Next weekend March 9<sup>th</sup>**, Daylight Savings Time, turn clocks ahead one hour.

**Stations of the Cross** – Fridays after morning mass at St. John's and 5:45pm at St. Vitus.

**Lenten Study Groups** – Sign up in back of churches (or call) for one of our Lenten study groups: (1) St. Vitus Mondays of Lent at 6:15pm; (2) St. Johns Tuesday's of Lent at 6:30pm! More in parish news and back of church.

**Statue Delivery** – We have the last 3 statues in the sanctuary at St. Vitus (Baptismal font, Saints Ann and Mary, the Infant of Prague) ready to be repainted by Kris Haase when she gets a chance. Is there anyone willing to drive them up to her sooner than later (in next week or two-ish)? It is about 1.5 hours from Touhy. 4597 325th Street Neola, IA 51559.

**Reflection on the Readings:** For lack of space, I'll just give the 'top hits' from the readings. See if you agree? *"Tribulation is the test of the Just"* (Sirach). *"Know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."* (Paul). *"For every tree is known by its own fruit... A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good."* (Jesus). *"Lord, it is good to give you thanks!"* (Psalm 92). Would one of these be good to take with you this week?

**SEEK Conference, Part 1** – Our own St. Vitus' parishioner, Adam Furasek, along with 21,000 others, attended SEEK (primarily for young adults) in Salt Lake City from January 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>. I asked him to share some of his highlights with us. Here is his first installation of the 5-day conference. Thanks, Adam!

**Day 1** - We arrived in Salt Lake City in the afternoon on January 1<sup>st</sup>. We began the conference with Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. There were two keynote speakers to end the first night. Arthur Brooks gave the first talk. He talked about enjoyment, satisfaction, and meaning. Our earthly happiness and satisfaction are temporary. He posed two questions about our meaning. (1) Why are you alive? (2) For what would you give your life for right now, *happily*? Sr. Mary Grace gave the second keynote. Humans are always searching for meaning, and until we find Christ, we are always searching. Jesus is the meaning of our lives. This stuck out to me: *"Jesus is not fixated on fixing you. He is focused on finding you."* She also said that: *Our life is not a performance to show our worth. God is not impressed by our perfection.* And finally: *Before every act of trust is a motion of surrender. Jesus says come to Me, and I will give you rest.* Here are some links – (1) Watch Arthur's talk at [SEEK Replay at Video - Arthur Brooks: The Science of Happiness - SEEK Replay](#) or (2) Sr. Mary Grace's talk at [Video - Sr. Mary Grace, SV: What It Means to be Sons and Daughters - SEEK Replay](#). (3) 2-minute 'taste' of SEEK 2025 [SEEK25 | Nothing Else, and Nothing Less](#)

**Lent starts Wednesday - Lenten Regulations: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are days of fast and abstinence. **All Fridays in Lent are days** of abstinence. **Fasting** means only one full meal with two smaller meals, which together do not equal the full meal. No snacking or eating between meals is allowed. Fasting obliges all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. **Abstinence** means eating no meat, and no soup or gravy made from meat. Abstinence obliges all Catholics over the age of 14. Sickness, hard manual labor, pregnancy, etc. automatically excuse a person from these obligations. Nevertheless, it should be pointed out that these are **serious** obligations. In cases of doubt or question, the priest who hears a person's confession should be consulted.

### ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

#### Liturgical Ministries for Ash Wednesday and the weekend of March 8-9, 2025

	<u>Ash Wednesday—7:50am Mass</u>	<u>Weekend Masses</u>	
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Wed. 3/5 Paul Virgl	Sat. 3/8 Paul Virgl	Sun. 3/9 Matt Tvrdy
<b>Lector/Reader:</b>	Wed. 3/5 St. John School Children	Sat. 3/8 Ginger Laughridge	Sun. 3/9 Barb Opp
<b>Servers:</b>	Wed. 3/5 St. John School Children	Sat. 3/8 Volunteers	Sun. 3/9 H Fortik/E Kavan
<b>Ushers:</b>	Wed. 3/5 St. John School Children	Sat. 3/8 J Janecek/R Walla	Sun. 3/9 P Pleskac/M Bartek
<b>Gifts:</b>	Wed. 3/5 St. John School Children	Sat. 3/8 Ron Walla Family	Sun. 3/9 Paul Pleskac Family

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

**Total:** \$1,653.17 **PLUS: Candles:** \$3.00 **Guardian Angel Fund:** \$6.00 **Southern Nebraska Register:** \$15.00

**St. John's PCCW Group** will have *Coffee & Rolls* after the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Lenten Bible Study**—*A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* by Edmund Sri. The study will start Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30pm for 5 sessions. Workbooks are \$27 if you wish to purchase them. A sign-up sheet is in the back of the Church so we can get a rough head count. Anyone can attend the bible study at St. Vitus or St. John. Contact Donna Janecek at 402-642-5449 or Ginger Laughridge at 402-642.5115 for more information.

## WEEKLY TITHING COLLECTIONS

### St. John Nepomucene

### St. Vitus

Amount Budgeted per Week (\$3,054.89) in February	\$12,219.56	
Amount Budgeted per Week (\$2,021.94) in February		\$ 8,087.76
Amount Received in February	\$ 7,726.88	\$ 7,789.03
Net Excess (Deficit) for the month February	\$(4,492.68)	\$(298.73)
<b>2025 Year-to-Date Total</b>	<b>\$16,788.05</b>	<b>\$16,785.33</b>

## OTHER INFORMATION

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

## READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Mk 10:17-27	Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25
Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31	Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32
	Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

## SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

This week please pray for Joseph Heimbrecht of St. John, Lincoln, who attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

## ST. VITUS PARISH

### Liturgical Ministries for Ash Wednesday and the weekend of March 8-9, 2025

#### Ash Wednesday--6:00 pm Mass

#### Weekend Mass

<b>Acolyte:</b> Wed. 3/5 Tom Rezac	<b>Acolyte:</b> Sun. 3/9 Tom Rezac
<b>Lector/Reader:</b> Wed. 3/5 Pat Bartek	<b>Lector/Reader:</b> Sun. 3/9 Pat Bartek
<b>Servers:</b> Wed. 3/5 Simon Strizek/Caleb Osmera	<b>Servers:</b> Sun. 3/9 Justin Furasek/Cody Furasek
<b>Ushers:</b> Wed. 3/5 Nick Bartek/Allen Stanek	<b>Ushers:</b> Sun. 3/9 Nick Bartek/Allen Stanek
<b>Gifts:</b> Wed. 3/5 Gerald Osmera Family	<b>Gifts:</b> Sun. 3/9 Paul Rezac Family

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

**Total:** \$1,288.00 **PLUS: Southern Nebraska Register:** \$16.00

**Lenten Group Study**—Study Group will be held Mondays during Lent, starting Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm. Sign-up sheet available at the back of church. Contact Shelly Mayo at 402-784-0548 for more information.

**Knights of Columbus Meeting**—Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Sts. Mary & Joseph Parish Hall, Valparaiso, 7:30pm. NO LUNCH.

## SPIRITUAL CORNER

“Never forget that there are only two philosophies to rule your life: the one of the cross, which starts with the fast and ends with the feast. The other of Satan, which starts with the feast and ends with the headache.” ~Archbishop Fulton Sheen

## 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.

## AREA NEWS

**Ash Wednesday (Desert) Day of Reflection**—Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am-3:00pm. Fr. Tom Brouillette will be leading this Ash Wednesday Day of Reflection with a focus on hope, a theme that resonates deeply with the spirit of the **Jubilee Year**. Begin your Lent with a day of prayer. Contact the Retreat House at [office@olgcretreat.org](mailto:office@olgcretreat.org) or call 402-786-2705 for information or registration.

**Knights of Columbus Fish Fry**—Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm-7:30pm, St. Wenceslaus Church Basement. Dine-In or Take-Out Fish, Baked Tilapia or Shrimp with choice of sides. \$15/plate or All-You-Can-Eat for \$20 (dine-in only); Kids 10 & Under: \$7; Pre-School: Free. Beer & wine for sale as well.

**Sts. Mary & Joseph PCCW Soup Dinner –Valparaiso**—Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, FREE WILL OFFERING. Parish Hall: Serving 10:30am-1:30pm (best to come early!) All you can eat Soups: Homemade soups: Chili, Chicken Noodle and Veg. Beef, Assorted Sandwiches & desserts with beverage. Raffle, Silent Auction, Fishpond and Cake Walk. Raffle tickets \$2.00 each---1st Prize - Hutchison Fireplace Stand, 2nd Prize - \$200, 3rd Prize -\$100, 4th & 5th Prize -\$50 each - Jones Bank -Local Business Certificate.

**3 Day Silent Ignatian Retreat**—Come away to the quiet and be present to what God wants to offer you. Creighton University Retreat Center, located one hour east of Omaha in Griswold, IA is offering 3 Day Silent Ignatian Retreat March 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> with Fr. Larry Gillick, S.J. Retreat check-in between 3:00pm-5:00pm on Thursday and concludes on Sunday at 2:30pm. The cost is \$425 for room and all meals. Register at <https://www.creighton.edu/retreatcenter/scheduleofretreats/3-day-silent-ignatian-retreat>

**St. John Nepomucene Weston PTA is having a pre-order online Plant Sale!** Pre-order online by **March 31<sup>st</sup>**. Pick up plants on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>. Hanging baskets, Planters and Garden Veggies available! Scan the QR code on flyer in the back of church or go to [Plant Sale Order Form](#) Plants and Veggies locally sourced by Burr Oak and Great Plains Nursery.

**St. John Nepomucene PCCW Annual Salad Supper**—Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "God Bless America". Doors open at 5:00pm, serving salads from 6:00pm-7:00pm. Come early and enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and check out our coffee can raffle items. We will also be featuring several “Mystery Raffles”, a wine cork pull, split-the-pot and have plenty of door prizes! Tickets are \$12 each at the door only. We thank the First Catholic Slavic Ladies Association-Life for being a sponsor of our event.

## A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

During a science lesson, my sister-in-law picked up a magnet and said to her second-grade class, “My name begins with the letter M, and I pick things up. What am I?” A little boy answered, “You’re a mommy.”