

PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment

**First Sunday of Lent
 February 22, 2026**

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	February 23 rd	7:50 am	+ All Souls Day Int. of Ron & Donna Furasek
Tuesday	February 24 th	7:50 am	+ Julius Meduna
Wednesday	February 25 th	7:50 am	Priest's Intentions
		5:30 pm Touhy	+ Leonard Snitily
Thursday	February 26 th	7:50 am	+ Don Ohnoutka
Friday	February 27 th	NO MASS	
Saturday	February 28 th	5:30 pm	+ Henry Machacek, Jr.
Sunday	March 1 st	8:00 am Weston	Missa pro Populo
		10:00 am Touhy	+ Larry Masek

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Stations of the Cross – No mass or stations are scheduled this Friday morning, but there will be Stations booklets out for those who wish to do the Stations on their own during the day. There will be Stations at 5:45pm at St. Vitus. Come join us!

Sunday Readings Reflections – After His Baptism the Holy Spirit led Jesus to the desert for 40 days so that He could overcome the devil's temptations to recapitulate (re-do) where Adam and Eve had fallen to the devil's temptations, except this time victorious. Jesus always turned to His Father's love to strengthen his humanity. Adam and Eve, however, let 'trust die in their hearts.' But God is trustworthy. He promises that even when we fail, we can return to Him. Each time He renews us for joyful victories in the spiritual battle. God is so good that He helps us profit even from our faults. We learn: (1) how good God is to forgive us repeatedly; (2) humility, not to rely only on our own strength, and (3) over time, to be wiser to how the devil attacks our weaknesses. What would the Lord have us learn from His victory in the desert? Lent, like the desert, has a kind of 'emptiness' that may be unpleasant. However, if we allow a certain amount of emptiness, especially in silent prayer, Jesus can teach us how good and trustworthy the Father is.

Three-fold Victory – Evangelist Hector Malina explains that in our readings, Adam and Eve gave in to the Devil's temptation. Jesus is the New Adam who recapitulates their temptations, but this time defeats Satan. With Jesus' help we can also have victories and the resultant joy. The Three practices of Lent (fasting, prayer, and almsgiving) help us with this. (1) Lust of the Flesh tempts us to choose pleasure too much. But **fasting** helps us attain **self-mastery** over pleasure. (2) Lust of the Eyes tempts us to choose possessions too much. But **Almsgiving** (giving some of our possessions to those in need) helps us attain **detachment** from possessions. (3) Pride of Life tempts us to choose our self over God. **Prayer** helps us attain **humility** as we learn that God is the most loveable. <https://youtu.be/wdF9nFc4EEo?si=3XkJfsB12o8ZQ33o>

Three Lenten Pillars to Attain Victory with Jesus over Temptations

Temptations in Eden	Temptations in the desert	Lusts	Temptations	Lenten Pillars (Antidotes)	Virtues Attained
Good to eat	Make bread to fill his hunger	Of the flesh	Pleasure	Fast	Self-Mastery
Delightful to the eyes	Have the Kingdoms of the world without the Passion	Of the eyes	Possessions	Alms – Give some of possessions to needy	Detachment
Wisdom like God	Win admiration without suffering the Passion	Pride of Life	Pride	Prayer	Humility – to love God most

Some Other Great things for Lent (1) A Daily Mass during the week (2) Visit Jesus in the Tabernacle (3) Confession to restore the youth of our soul (4) Litany of Surrender

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of February 28-March 1, 2026

Acolyte:	Sat. 2/28 Pat Carroll	Sun. 3/1 Jesse Sabatka
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 2/28 Deb Carroll	Sun. 3/1 Barb Opp
Servers:	Sat. 2/28 Volunteers	Sun. 3/1 Brayden Pleskac/Landon Pleskac
Ushers:	Sat. 2/28 Paul Virgl/Volunteer	Sun. 3/1 Charlie Jelinek/Don Sabatka
Gifts:	Sat. 2/28 Bill Laughridge Family	Sun. 3/1 Charlie Jelinek Family

Stewardship of Treasure: February 15, 2026 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$2,281.51 **PLUS: Ash Wednesday:** \$40.00 **Candles:** \$29.00 **Southern Nebraska Register:** \$88.00
Guardian Angel Fund: \$110.00

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	Lev 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46	Friday:	Ezk 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15	Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32	Sunday:	Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9
Thursday:	Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12		

SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

Please pray for Jaden Wilsey of St. Mary, Ashland, who attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

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.

SPIRITUAL CORNER

“The ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us to make a complete gift of self to God.” ~Pope Benedict XVI

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of February 28-March 1, 2026

Acolyte: Sun. 3/1 Dan Furasek
Lector/Reader: Sun. 3/1 Adam Furasek
Servers: Sun. 3/1 Cody Furasek/Justin Furasek
Ushers: Sun. 3/1 Nick Bartek/Allen Stanek
Gifts: Sun. 3/1 Steve Niemann Family

Stewardship of Treasure: February 15, 2026 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$1,691.00 **PLUS: Southern Nebraska Register:** \$48.00 **Guardian Angel Fund:** 50.00 **Retired Priests:** \$20.00

St. Vitus Altar Society—Coffee & Rolls after the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, February 22nd at the School House. Group 2 serving.

SCHOOL NEWS

PT Conferences—Tuesday, February 24th at St. John's from 4:00pm-6:30pm. Early dismissal Wednesday, February 25th at 1:15pm.

No School—Friday, February 27th. This is a “Bishop's Day Off” added to the calendar.

St. John Nepomucene School in Weston will host PreK and Kindergarten Roundup—Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:30pm. To register, please call St. John School at 642-5234 or email barb-rezac@cdolinc.net Bring your future student and join us for an informational meeting and FUN!

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

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry—Fridays during Lent, 5:00pm-7:30pm, St. Wenceslaus Church Basement, Wahoo. Dine-In or Take-Out Fish, Shrimp, Baked Tilapia, Mac & Cheese. \$16/plate or All-You-Can-Eat for \$21; Kids 10 & Under: \$7; Pre-School: Free. Pop, beer & wine for sale as well.

Bishop Neumann Music Boosters presents The Waffleman—Saturday, February 21st, 5:00pm-7:00pm and Sunday, February 22nd, 8:30am-Noon at the Neumann High school cafeteria and gym. Adults \$10, Kids \$7, 4 & under free. Enjoy unlimited waffles, flavored syrups, whipped cream, sausages, and drinks. Kids games, bucket raffle, silent auction, wine grab bags, cupcake lottery and traditional raffle. Plus a “You've Got Talent” showcase performance every 30 minutes on Saturday and Sunday.

Catholic Daughters Meeting—Monday, February 23rd at **2:00pm** at St Wenceslaus in Wahoo. We will start by saying the rosary, (Father can't make it) and then have the meeting. We'd love to have some guests join us, we really would like to increase our membership. Dues (\$22 plus \$5) for 2026 can be paid to Alice Pecka (20303 NW 56th St, Raymond, 68428).

Living the Good Life Retreat with Fr. Nicholas Kipper—Retreat begins on Friday, February 27th with an 8:00pm Rosary and Mass. Retreat concludes Sunday, March 1st with Mass and noon lunch at Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly. Fr. Nicholas Kipper guides participants through an exploration of what it truly means to live the good life as a follower of Christ. In a world that offers countless definitions of happiness and fulfillment, this retreat returns to the timeless wisdom of the Church to discover the path to authentic joy and holiness. Contact: office@olgcretreat.org or 402-786-2705

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast—The annual Davey Knights of Columbus All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast; Sunday, March 1st from 8:00am-11:30am at the Ceresco Community Center (217 S 2nd St). Fresh buttermilk pancakes, sausage, eggs, and drinks will be served. Freewill offering at the door. A bucket raffle will also be held. Hope you can make it!

Save The Date ~ 2-Part Parish Lenten Retreat—March 6th & 7th. The retreat will be a Friday evening from 7:00pm-8:30pm in **Bruno** with a talk and a holy half-hour. Then, Saturday morning in **Abie**, 8:00am-12:00pm. Saturday will start with Mass, followed by breakfast, two inspiring talks, and a holy hour. The retreat will be given by Matt Simmons. Matt has a beautiful conversion story as a former tattoo artist turned FOCUS missionary, who is now a husband, father, and full-time spiritual director with over 20 years' experience leading individuals to know their identity as beloved children of the Father. All are welcome to attend both of the events, or only one of the events as your schedule allows. The retreat is a free-will donation event.

White Mass with Bishop Conley—Saturday, March 7th at 9:00am. Attend the White Mass for Health Care Professional with breakfast and meeting following at St. John XXIII, 3700 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln.

Parish Mission ~ St. Wenceslaus Church, Wahoo—March 9th-12th with Fr. Zachery of The Mother of God. No registration necessary. For more information, call St. Wenceslaus at 402-443-4235.

Holy Hour for Peace—With all of the turmoil happening in our country and the world, the Bishops of the United States have asked for Catholics around the country to have a Holy Hour for Peace. Bishop Conley is requesting that each county have a combined holy hour. Saunders County will be having the Holy Hour for Peace at St. Wenceslaus in Wahoo on **Thursday, March 12th at 6:30pm**. There will be Eucharistic Adoration, prayers, and opportunity for confession. Please try to come with your family in order to help pray for peace in our world.

Save the Date ~ Spring Magnificat Prayer Meal—March 21st, 9:30am to Noon in the new Sacred Heart Parish Center, 3127 T Street, Lincoln. **Rosemary Clements** will share her Testimony, her Magnificat! Be a friend and bring a friend as in the Visitation when Mary and Elizabeth shared the Joy of the Holy Spirit in Gratitude and Praise of Our Lord! The Morning Star Chapter of Magnificat is celebrating our 30th Anniversary 1996-2026! A special thank you to all the women of our Diocese who have supported the Ministry! *“Glorify the Lord with me. Let us together extol His Holy Name!” Ps 34:4* Register by **March 15th** at <https://www.osvhub.com/magnificatmorningstarchapter/forms/prayermealmar21> Please contact Coordinator Rhonda Litt by text at 402.525.6396 for further information.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

A ship carrying red paint and a ship carrying blue paint collided in the middle of the ocean. Both crews were marooned.