

PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment

**Baptism of the Lord
 January 12, 2025**



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	January 13 th	7:50 am	+ Ed & Helen Stuchlik
Tuesday	January 14 th	7:50 am	+ Courtney Caudill
Wednesday	January 15 th	7:50 am	+ LeRoy Ohnoutka
		5:30 pm Touhy	+ Lewis & Cheryl Kavan
Thursday	January 16 th	7:50 am	+ Cecilia Cather
Friday	January 17 th	7:50 am	+ Betty Turner
Saturday	January 18 th	5:30 pm	+ Rose Furasek
Sunday	January 19 th	8:00 am Weston	Missa pro Populo
		10:00 am Touhy	+ Jon Allen

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - (1) The Baptism of the Lord ends the Christmas season and begins Ordinary time, which makes sense because... (2) While at Christmas Jesus was born privately in a stable, after his Baptism, Jesus is ‘born’ publicly as He began his 3-year public ministry. (3) Jesus didn’t need to be baptized to be holy. Rather, “Christ is baptized, not to be made holy by the water, but to make the water holy” ... for our baptism. (4) Even though Jesus is divine (God), He also is human, so it was uplifting for him to hear the words at his baptism from the Father: “This is my beloved Son.” (5) Baptism puts God’s life in us making us sons and daughters of the Father. (6) An uplifting meditation: Imagine the goodness and spiritual attractiveness of Jesus at His baptism: Jesus was attractive by his presence, words, kindness, strength, demeanor, etc.... God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, are completely attractive to our souls. (7) Jesus’ surpassing goodness is strong enough to overcome my sins, disordered feelings, weaknesses. Ask for his strength and goodness when you are weak (8) It is generally encouraged to choose a biblical, Saint, or Christian name for children so they might have ‘big brother’ or ‘big sister’ saint. If not, the child can choose one at Confirmation. (9) On a humorous note, one meme with a picture of a child (after being baptized) said: “So this guy in a dress tried to drown me ... and, I kid you not, my family just stood there taking pictures.” (10) An uplifting meditation #2: Spend prayer time imagining, Jesus under the water at his baptism, then arising from it and as the sun shines, hearing the words “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” Then imagine it is you (arising from water) who hear these words from God “You are my beloved child!”

Effects of Baptism - (see the Catechism of the Catholic Church #1262-1280): (1) Baptism takes away original sin (from Adam and Eve), all personal sins, and all punishment due to previous sin. (2) Makes the baptized person a participant in the divine life of the Trinity – We call this “Sanctifying Grace.” (3) Incorporates one into Christ and His Church. (4) Gives one a share in the priesthood of Christ (5) Unites a person to all Christians (6) Bestows the theological virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity into a person’s soul. (7) Gives the Gifts of the Holy Spirit for the first time (which will be received more fully at Confirmation). (8) A baptized person belongs to Christ. He or she is marked with an invisible and indelible (unremovable) seal of Christ. This is called the “Sacramental Character” of Baptism.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of January 18-19, 2025

Acolyte:	Sat. 1/18 Paul Virgl	Sun. 1/19 Jesse Sabatka
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 1/18 Ron Walla	Sun. 1/19 Barb Opp
Servers:	Sat. 1/18 Volunteers	Sun. 1/19 Rhett Bouc/Easton Kavan
Ushers:	Sat. 1/18 Rich Cherovsky/Volunteer	Sun. 1/19 Don Sabatka/Justin Sabatka
Gifts:	Sat. 1/18 Teresa Virgil Family	Sun. 1/19 Chris Bouc Family

Stewardship of Treasure: January 5, 2025 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...
Total: 2024: \$2,115.00 / **2025:** \$2,771.17 **PLUS: Solemnity of Mary:** \$685.76 **Candles:** \$26.00 **Christmas:** \$300.00
Guardian Angel Fund: \$345.00 **Southern Nebraska Register:** \$36.00 **Retired Priest Fund:** \$170.00

The PCCW is in need of a Vice President for the 2025-2026 year. Please consider helping out the parish with your time, talent and service. If you are interested, please contact Peg Bouc at (402) 480-2962. Thank you!

Prayer Chain Calling Tree—We are revising the prayer chain calling tree this year. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church, if you would like to be added to the list by either phone or text, please leave your name and phone number. Or please contact Shelly Pleskac at 402-480-3056 or Mary Ann Tvrdy at 402-642-5530.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20	Friday:	Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12
Tuesday:	Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28	Saturday:	Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17
Wednesday:	Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39	Sunday:	Is 62:1-5; Ps 96; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11
Thursday:	Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45		

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.

SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

This week please pray for Joshua Jeffrey of Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln, who attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of January 18-19, 2025

Acolyte: Sun. 1/19 Tom Rezac
Lector/Reader: Sun. 1/19 Jeff Walla
Servers: Sun. 1/19 Simon Strizek/Caleb Osmera
Ushers: Sun. 1/19 Brian Byers/Ted Bohac
Gifts: Sun. 1/19 Brian Byers Family

Stewardship of Treasure: January 5, 2025 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...

Total: \$1,443.50 **PLUS: Solemnity of Mary:** \$50.00 **Christmas:** \$285.00

Altar Society Meeting—Sunday, January 19th after the 10:00am Mass in the back of church. Please try attend if you can.

St. Vitus Catholic Church Soup Dinner is Sunday, February 9, 2025 in the St. John School gym (Weston)! Soup Dinner letters were recently mailed! Silent and Live Auctions & Raffle will be held! If you plan on donating an item to the Live Auction, we would request that it be worth \$100 or more. Also, the worker sign-up sheet will be in the back of St. Vitus on the weekends of Jan 18/19 and 25/26. Thank you!! The Soup Dinner Committee!

SPIRITUAL CORNER

“O Lord, wishing to fulfill all things that You ordained before the ages, You received the servants of Your mystery, from among the Angels, Gabriel, from among Men, the Virgin, from among the Heavens, the Star and from among the Waters, the Jordan, in which You washed away the sin of the world, O our Saviour, glory to You.” ~St. John Damascene

SCHOOL NEWS

St. John's Parent-Teacher Assn. (P.T.A.) meeting is on Wednesday, January 15th, at 6:30 pm in the school gym.

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!

AREA NEWS

Join us on a Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City led by St. Wenceslaus Parishioner Scott Watts of Guadalupe Missions & St. Wenceslaus Pastor Fr. Jeff Eickhoff ~ May 18-23rd, 2025. Journey to one of the most visited Catholic pilgrimage sites in the world. Encounter Christ in the poor and walk in the very footsteps of Our Lady and St. Juan Diego, at the heart of where the conversion of the Americas began. For more information, contact: Scott Watts of Guadalupe Missions at: 402-312-5808 or Email: scottwatts@guadalupemissions.org or website: GuadalupeMissions.org

St. Wenceslaus School Breakfast Burrito Drive—Our annual winter fundraiser is just a couple weeks away! School families will be preparing and packaging breakfast burritos ready for your freezer. They will be sold in 5 packs for \$25. We are taking pre-orders that will be ready for pickup at St. Wenceslaus School on Friday, January 17th from 3:00pm-7:00pm or will be delivered by your designated student. To pre-order please complete the form at <https://bit.ly/stwencburritodrive> or contact a committee member: Jill Divis at 402-304-6093 / Sarah Divis 402-443-8249 / Jen Sabatka 402-297-3522 / Krista Cullen 308-379-7541.

St. John's in Prague is hosting "Polka Night in Prague"—Saturday, January 18th, at the National Hall! Enjoy dinner from 6:00–8:00pm and live music by the Leo Lonnie Band from 7:00–10:00pm. All are welcome, fun for all ages—FREE admission!

All men are invited to an Exodus 90 Kickoff—Sunday, January 19th, 1:00pm-6:00pm at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly. Learn about Exodus 90, hear testimonies, and find or form a fraternity if you don't have one. No pre-registration required. Free-will donation for fellowship supper. Questions contact the Retreat House at 402-786-2705, office@olgcretreat.org

The St. Wenceslaus School Teachers will be hosting BINGO at the Bishop Neumann cafeteria on Sunday, January 26th from 12:00 noon to 1:30p.m. Doors open at 11:30 so you can come early to get your cards, tickets and food. The proceeds will benefit the St. Wenceslaus School teacher's classroom wish lists. We enjoy sharing this fun day of food, fun and prizes with students, parents, grandparents and community friends!

The 3rd Annual Walk for Life Gala—Friday, January 31st, the night before the annual Walk for Life. Come join your fellow profilers for either or both events. Speaking at the Gala will be Jim Caviezel, the actor who portrayed Jesus in “Passion of the Christ” and most recently starred in the movie “Sound of Freedom.” Tickets for the Gala, which will be at the Embassy Suites Convention Center, LaVista, NE, are \$75 and can be purchased at nebraskarighttolife.ticketspice.com/2025, or you may send a check made out to Nebraska Right to Life (noting it is for the Gala), PO Box 80410, Lincoln, NE 68501-0410. **Registration deadline is January 17th (no ticket sales after this date).**

Pro-Life Mass and Nebraska Walk For Life—Saturday, February 1st, the day begins with Mass at St. Mary's Church downtown at 9:00am, offering an opportunity for pro-life advocates to unite in prayer and receive the Eucharist before the Walk. Following the Mass, the annual Nebraska Walk for Life, sponsored by Nebraska Right to Life, will start at 10:00am. Please meet near the steps north of the Nebraska State Capitol. A new route this year will take us to the Cornhusker Hotel where you can browse informational booths and hear speaker Elizabeth Gillette's keynote speech at 11:30am. Questions? Contact Nebraska Right to Life: 402-438-4802 or at nebraskartl@gmail.com.

Marriage Encounter Experience ~ Bring the Holy Spirit into your marriage. Sign up today to attend the next upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience: Valentine's weekend, February 14th-16th, Lincoln. Space is limited, so reserve your weekend early. Questions, contact: Brenda & Gary Granger: 402-370-5839. For more information, please visit www.wwme.org

St. Vitus (Touhy) Soup Dinner—Sunday, February 9th at St. John's School Gym in Weston. Serving Chili, Chicken Noodle and Ham & Bean soups, sandwiches and dessert from 11:00am-1:30pm. Free Will Offering. Live and Silent Auctions, Live polka music, Bake Sale, and Raffle! Live Auction begins at 12:30pm. Fun for all!!

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

Why was the snowman looking in the bag of carrots? He was picking his nose!
How did the snow globe feel after listening to a scary tale? A bit shaken up.