

# ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



Father Mark Seiker  
3301 Echo Drive  
North Platte, Nebraska 69101

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Parish Hall: 534-0511

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Webpage: <http://www.seas-np.org>

## ***7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*** ***February 19, 2017***

***Welcome to St. Elizabeth's:*** It is our hope that you feel at home and among friends here at St. Elizabeth. If you are a visitor for a day, we pray God's speed on your journey. If you are looking for a parish community, we would be delighted to welcome you into our parish family. Please introduce yourselves. Registration forms are available in the entry racks or contact us anytime at 308-534-5461.

### **Religious Services**

#### **Mass Schedule** For Sunday Obligation:

Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

#### **Weekdays & Holy Days**

As published in the Bulletin.

#### **Rosary**

Prayed **8:30 a.m.** Monday mornings, and  
30 minutes before weekend Mass.

#### **Sacrament of Confession**

Offered 30 minutes before most all daily Masses  
Saturday 4:00 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.  
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:55 a.m., or by appointment.

#### **Sacrament of Baptism**

Parents are asked to attend a baptism preparation class. This is recommended, and easiest to do before the birth of the child, but must be done before the baptism.

#### **Sacrament of Matrimony**

To assist those who plan to marry, all couples will be required to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation policy, which includes the FOCCUS & Engaged Encounter Programs. This requires a minimum of 4-6 months. The assessment process must be completed before a wedding date is set. Contact pastor early to begin the preparation.

### **Parish Information**

#### **Bulletin Deadline**

All material is to be submitted to the parish office before noon Wednesday prior to the Sunday it is to appear. Email to: [rectory-office@seas-np.org](mailto:rectory-office@seas-np.org)

#### **New or Moving Parishioners**

Please call the office to arrange an appointment with the Pastor to register in the Parish. Please call the office to notify us of any address change.

#### **Your Will**

Ask your attorney to include remembrance of your Church in your will.

#### **Religious Vocations**

Any young woman interested in religious life, or young man interested in a vocation to the priesthood should contact your pastor. Please pray for vocations!

### **Education**

#### **C.C.D. Programs**

Sunday mornings (Sept-May) 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

#### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)**

For those interested in possibly joining the Catholic Church. Usually on Wednesdays (Sept-May), 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. Please contact the parish office for more information.

## SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday	Feb. 20	8:00 a.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 21	<b>7:00 a.m.</b>
Wednesday	Feb. 22	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
Thursday	Feb. 23	8:00 a.m.
Friday	Feb. 24	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
Saturday	Feb. 25	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>
Sunday	Feb. 26	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>

## INTENTIONS

Landon Bliss  
Phyllis Beckius  
Special Intention (j)  
For those who struggle with addictions  
Dec'd Trausch & Seiker Families  
People of our Parish  
Craig Baxter +

**Be holy, for I, the  
LORD, your  
God, am holy.**

– *Leviticus 19:2b*

## **Stewardship: February 12, 2017**

**Adult Envelopes:** .....\$1,553.50  
**Loose Plate:**.....\$166.00  
**Children:**..... \$5.00  
**Total:** ..... \$1,724.50

### Joy of the Gospel Campaign

Total Pledged: .....\$958,770.00  
Gifts last week: .....\$0.00  
**Total Gifts Received:.....\$507,825.92**  
Original DIAL Loan:.....1,485,000.00  
Total Received (CTTF Camp):\$1,025,440.07  
Misc Donations Received:.....\$739,940.31  
Total Payments on Loan:.....\$1,319,895.04  
Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... \$416,936.67

Southern NE Register: ....\$180.00  
Contemplative Sisters:.....\$15.00  
Immaculate Conception:....\$15.00  
Christmas (Parish): .....\$15.00  
Mary, Mother of God: .....\$15.00

## **Parish Calendar**

Sunday	<b>Feb. 19</b>	11:00am	CCD Classes	12:15pm - <b>First Confession</b> for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Students (and Families)
Monday	Feb. 20	6:30 pm	Discipleship Groups #5	of 5 (in Parish Hall)
Wednesday	Feb. 22	7:00 pm	RCIA Class	
Sunday	Feb. 26	11:00am	CCD Classes	

## **Catholic School News:**

**Irish Fest** ... February 26<sup>th</sup> is IRISH FEST! Join us for this important and FUN fundraiser for our schools. There will be games for all ages, plus a Silent Auction for our adult friends in attendance.

Students are selling Raffle tickets for the following prizes: \$1000 Cash, \$250 Cash, 50" HDTV, \$500 SCRIP of choice certificate, (2) 50 pounds of 100% ground Chuck from Lincoln Co Feedyard, and \$100 Gift Certificate to Computer Troubleshooters. Raffle Tickets are \$2.00 Each or 10 for \$15 – See a NPCS Student to get yours soon. **A Homemade Roast Beef Dinner will be served from 12:00pm - 2:30pm!**

**Activities** ... Best of luck to all our students as we enter the busy District Season for Basketball and Wrestling. We are also in the middle of Competition season for our Irish Speech Team. Our prayers are with all students, coaches, and fans traveling to events during this incredibly busy playoff season.

**Thank You** ... for helping us celebrate National Catholic Schools Week 2017. Catholic Schools Week 2018 will be celebrated on January 28 – February 3.

**Direct your Dollars to McDaid!** ... Save those receipts from SunMart and turn them in to our school. Once \$150,000 in receipts have been gathered and verified, a check for \$1,000 will be awarded to our schools. *We are still collecting Box Tops for Education as well as Labels for Education.*

**North Platte Catholic School:**  
**Faith and Knowledge for a Brighter Future**

**Confirmation for Grades 5, 6, 7 Students** ... will be on Sunday, March 19, 2017 during the 10:00 am Mass.

**First Confession for 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Students** ... will be on Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 12:15pm.

**Day of Recollection** ... What a great way to start Lent by attending one of the Days of Recollection on Ash Wednesday, March 1, in Hastings & Waverly, or March 18 in Gretna. Take the time to prepare your hearts for remembering the sacrifice Jesus made for us and to thank Him for the suffering so that we could be saved and enter heaven. Remember that a true Lenten sacrifice is not only giving something up for Lent but also doing something extra.

**Sky Camp & Leadership Camp** ... Online registration is open for SKY Camp and Leadership Camp. To register your child or learn more about these camps, go to [www.campkateri.org](http://www.campkateri.org).

**Camp Kateri Benefit Dinner** ... Camp Kateri is hosting its annual benefit dinner on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at Stone Creek Reception Hall in McCool Junction. The entertainment is The Fun Piano Show, by 176 Keys. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm. The Dueling Piano Show starts at 8:00pm. All proceeds will go to new activities for our summer camp. Tickets are \$50 per person and \$500 for a reserved table of eight. To order tickets please email [CampKateriT@gmail.com](mailto:CampKateriT@gmail.com) or call 402-724-2596.

**North Platte Catholic Food Pantry** ... Our local Catholic Food Pantry is undergoing a little renovation to accommodate a more inviting space for those who come in seeking assistance. We are creating a new space in the building for interviews, which will include an office, interview room & remodeled bathroom. We are also painting and replacing the carpet. This is a much needed renovation and it will really make the ministry more effective & welcoming. The cost of this project is estimated at \$5,000 & we are looking for donors from the Catholic community of North Platte to assist us with these costs. If you are able and willing, you may send checks to St. Patrick Church with "**Food Pantry Project**" in the memo area or ledger. Thank you ahead of time for all of your support for this vital ministry in which God is truly present.

## **Last week to Sign up for Retrouvaille ...**

**Stress in Your Marriage?** – *There is less than a week left to sign up for Retrouvaille.* Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness and simply shut down. Others experience conflict and arguments in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the February program beginning with a weekend on February 24-26, 2017, call 1-888-317-5654 or [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) on web.

**Self-Sacrificing Love ...** Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical "God is Love" teaches that "agape, which [is]...the typical expression for the biblical notion of love...expresses the experience of a love which involves a real discovery of the other, moving beyond the selfish character that prevailed earlier. Love now becomes concern and care for the other. No longer is it self-seeking, a sinking in the intoxication of happiness; instead it seeks the good of the beloved: it becomes renunciation and it is ready, and even willing, for sacrifice" (n. 6). This kind of love is seen in a particular way when we care for the weak and defenseless, both born and unborn. May the Pope's encyclical encourage us to build a culture of life!

**QUEST Retreat ...** QUEST is a retreat for young Catholics between the ages of 14 and 16 who are freshmen and sophomores in high school. It is woven around the theme of the Three Circles of Love: Love of Self, Love of Others, and Love of God. The name QUEST implies "searching for" and "seeking out." As such, this retreat is designed to bring young people together and invites them to search for and seek out a deeper understanding and appreciation of themselves, others, and God. Cost is \$80 for the retreat. The next QUEST Retreat is March 23-26 at St. Joseph Church in Auburn, NE. For more info., call Youth Ministry Office 402-473-0625. To register, go to <http://www.lincolndiocese.org/retreats/quest>.

**Reflection ...** Internationally known author and retreat master Fr. Jacques Philippe will give a reflection at St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center, Lincoln, 8:00pm on Monday, February 20, on the topic of "Personal prayer and a deep with relationship with God". Includes Adoration and a brief reception with Fr. Philippe. Free will offering. A member of the Community of the Beatitudes in France, Fr. Philippe's books on the spiritual life have sold over 500,000 copies, and will be available for sale. Visit his website "A guide for the spiritual life" at [www.fjacquesphilippe.com](http://www.fjacquesphilippe.com).

**Men you don't want to miss this!!! ...** "Prayer and Battle: a Man -- to -- Man perspective" – Feb. 24 - 26, 2017 Man - to - Man for Men only with Fr. Sean Kilcawley.

Fr. Sean Kilcawley is the Director of the Family Life Office for the Diocese of Lincoln. He was ordained a priest in 2005 for the diocese. In 2013 Fr. Kilcawley completed a License in Sacred Theology at the John Paul II institute for marriage and family studies in Rome. He is a nationally known speaker on the Theology of the Body and is currently serving as theological advisor for Integrity Restored.com - a non-profit organization that seeks to restore the integrity of families affected by pornography by providing education and resources to individuals, spouses, parents and clergy; to both heal and prevent wounds inflicted by the sexualized culture.

Don't be left out --- don't delay— sign up today! You can register at [www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com) and receive immediate confirmation or call Good Counsel Retreat House at 402-786-2705 to register now.

**Cursillo Weekends ...** Cursillo came to the Lincoln Diocese more than 50 years ago with the first three-day weekend being held at Pius X High School in Lincoln on July 22-25, 1965. Born out of a spirit of renewal in the Church that preceded the Second Vatican Council, the Cursillo Movement originated in Spain in the early 1940s, which is why many Cursillo terms are of Spanish origin. Cursillo came to the U.S. in 1957 and spread rapidly throughout the United States, and provided the catalyst for such movements as **Marriage Encounter, Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), Christians Encounter Christ, Residents Encounter Christ (REC), and KAIROS**, each of which addressed the needs of a specific group. Cursillo Weekends are scheduled at St. Patrick Parish in McCook, NE, March 16-19, 2017 (Men) and on March 23-26, 2017 (Women). If you would like more information, about Cursillo or the 2017 Weekends, call or email John Springer, Lay Director for the Lincoln Diocese (402-826-2699; [jejspringer@windstream.net](mailto:jejspringer@windstream.net)). There is also information on the Lincoln Diocese Cursillo webpage: <http://www.seas-np.org/cursilloregistrations.html>.

**Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Campaign ...** each year in the Fall, the Knights of Columbus gathers **Coats for Kids in need**. Last year at Catholic Social Services in Lincoln, more than 800 coats were distributed by the Knights of Columbus. **This is a good time to buy coats while the prices are so good.** Let us store them for you, and we'll get them to the Kids (in North Platte or surrounding communities in this area) This Fall.

**About Best Lent Ever 2017 ...** We all know the things that make us happy, but we don't always do them. Lent is an opportunity to change that. This year we invite you to do something different. Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times bestselling author Matthew Kelly. From Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, Matthew will help you identify what stands between you and happiness ... and what to do about it. Are you ready for your best Lent ever? Go to <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/>.

## **FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:**

**New Lectors in Training ...** four of our Lectors have moved out of the Parish in the last 6 months. Four men are in the process of being trained to be Lectors. The Installation will be in April 2017 in McCook. Because of the need, we will have a ceremony of "temporary appointment as Readers" until they are Installed in April.

**Discipleship Groups ...** Cultivate & enrich your faith with fellow parishioners to become a motivated and passionate disciple of Christ. Thinking with the mind of Jesus and loving with His heart.

**MONDAYS, Jan. 23-Feb. 20, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall.**

**6:30pm = Food:** Gather and Fellowship over food provided for you.

**7:00pm = Teaching ...** Video Talks by Fr. John Riccardo.

**7:45pm – 8:30pm = Discussion ...** Members are given the chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic, discussing in their group. Discussion is guided by prepared questions from the curriculum. The session wraps up with five minutes of closing prayer and intentions.

**Fr. Seiker gone from parish ...** **Sunday, Feb. 26 –** **Tuesday, Feb. 28,** I will be with family, friends at the Catholic School Services Banquet in Lincoln on Sunday. **On Monday, Feb. 27 –** **Tuesday, Feb. 28,** I will be meeting with the priests in my **Jesus Caritas Fraternity** in Waverly. I will return on Tuesday afternoon.

## Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Feb. 25, 5:00pm	Sun., Feb. 26, 10:00am
<b>Lector</b>	TBD – Reader in Training	Chuck Burr
<b>Acolyte</b>	Jon Walz	Jerry Cooper
<b>Server</b>	Volunteer	Drew Connelly
	Volunteer	Lakeland Lowrey
<b>Music</b>	Greg Vandenberg	Greg Vandenberg
<b>Gifts</b>	Laura Dickinson/Robin	Derek / Jennifer Bantam
<b>Ushers</b>	Steve Fear	Shane Lowrey
	Janeet Fear	Duane Johnsen

## *Readings for the Week*

Monday:	Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Thursday:	Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16
Sunday:	Is 49:14-15; Ps 62:2-3, 6-9; 1 Cor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34

**Prayers for the sick:** David Bratton, John Kahl, Victoria Brenneis (Emily Krondak's niece), Mike & Kim Paul, Pat Sexton, Special Intention, Kade Folchert (grandson of Bob Folchert), Margaret Schuckert, Ella Ochoa, Eileen Boltz, Jim Beckius.

**Prayers for the deceased:** Phyllis Beckius, Sheryl Darpoli, Patricia Dancer (Mary Bratton's mother), Lonnie Schmid (Jon Schmid's brother), Jose Luis Rodriguez, (Fr. Rafael Rodriguez's father), Barbara Barak, (Fr. Chris Barak's mother), Alexis Heaslip, (Fr. Andrew Heaslip's mother), Gerald Wiedel, (Fr. Tom Wiedel's father), Gene Donoho (Melissa Johnson's uncle).

**Birthdays:** 2/18 - William Krondak, 2/23 - Alexis Clouatre.

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ...** In brushing up for “Catholic Jeopardy,” it might help to know that there is only one feast on the calendar for a thing, rather than a person or mystery. It’s for a chair: Saint Peter’s chair in fact.

After the Resurrection, there can be no doubt that the disciples reserved a special place for Simon Peter in the upper room. Later, Peter became the bishop of Antioch in today’s Syria, the place where we were first called “Christians.” From there, he went to Rome, the center of the Empire, where it is said that Peter sat in a chair in the house of Priscilla and Aquila to instruct his flock. Jesus, in entrusting the keys of the Kingdom to Peter and his successors, entrusted his compassion and mercy to them, and charged them with pointing to the Kingdom of God. Compassion and mercy are to resonate through their teaching.

Since the ancient sign of a teacher is the chair (“disciple” literally means one who sits at the feet of a teacher), Peter’s chair has long been treasured. Today there is a symbolic shrine of Peter’s chair above the main altar of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. This monument is the last work of Bernini, a huge bronze throne supported by four doctors of the Church: Augustine and Ambrose from the Western Church, and Chrysostom and Athanasius from the East. High above it is the alabaster window of the descent of the Holy Spirit. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**DIVINE WISDOM ...** The Lord’s message, through Moses, was to “take no revenge and cherish no grudge ... love your neighbor as yourself” (Leviticus 19:18). We might think, “Great in theory, but not always realistic!”

Then Jesus in today’s Gospel goes even further. Take a slap in the face and then turn the other cheek? Treat enemies the same as friends? Again, we’re tempted to think that those are nice ideals, but not very practical in the “real world.”

Paul echoes Jesus when he tells the Corinthians that what passes for human wisdom is absurdity to God. Divine wisdom casts sunshine on the good and the bad, showers rain on the honest and the dishonest – without distinction. We must examine our wisdom and common sense to see how they compare to the wisdom of God, and make adjustments accordingly. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**Martyrdom ...** Live as though today you may die a martyr’s death. —Charles de Foucauld

**The Heaviest Load ...** A chip on the shoulder is the heaviest load anyone can carry. —Anonymous

**Pray for our Seminarians:** Allan Nguyen Phan, from Sacred Heart Parish, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2011. He is in Theology 3 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Matthew Ryan Prochaska, from Assumption Parish, Dwight. He entered the Seminary in 2010. He is in Theology 3 at Mount St. Mary Seminary.

## **HOLY FATHER’S INTENTIONS:**

**(February) Comfort for the Afflicted:** That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.



# You're invited to **IRISH FEST 2017**

An annual fundraiser for McDaid and St. Patrick's Schools

**Sunday, February 26th**

12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

St. Patrick's High School, 500 S. Silber

Homemade Dinner served 12:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Mini Carnival Games & Prizes

Fun Jumpz & Silent Auction—Bake Sale & Raffle

**Fun for ALL ages!**

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## **IRISH FEST RAFFLE PRIZES:**

♣\$1,000 CASH   ♣\$250 CASH   ♣50" HDTV

♣\$500 SCRIP of Choice Certificate

♣50 lbs of 100% ground chuck from Lincoln Co. Feedyard

♣50 lbs of 100% ground chuck from Lincoln Co. Feedyard

♣\$100 Gift Certificate to Computer Troubleshooters

**TICKETS ARE \$2.00 EACH OR 10 FOR \$15.00**

Tickets for sale at the Endowment Office (601 S. Tabor), McDaid or St.

Pat's HS Offices, after Weekend Masses (at the SCRIP table) at

Holy Spirit & St. Patrick's Churches.

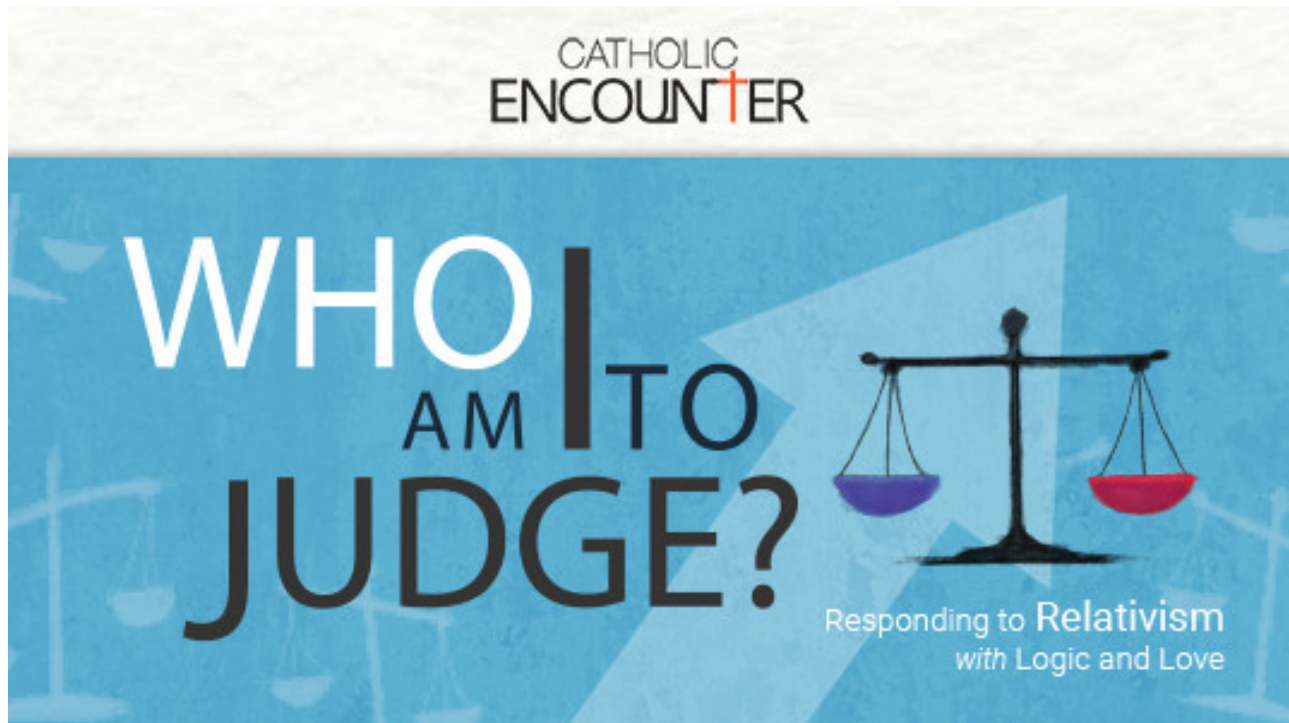
\*Raffle drawing at 2:50 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26th \*You do NOT have to be present to win

\*All proceeds benefit the North Platte Catholic Schools



# Who Am I to Judge?

## Responding to Relativism with Logic & Love



During March, April, May, parishioners are encouraged to join in a Study by **Edward Sri** in the Parish Hall on **Sundays (and one Saturday) / Mondays / Tuesdays** OR **Tuesdays / Thursdays (and one Friday)** OR **(on your own with FORMED.org)**. 02/18/17

	<i>Study Guide books will be available for \$5.00 each.</i>	Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays 7:00pm	<u>Tuesday, Thursday</u> (& 1 Friday) 7:00pm
	<b>7:00pm – 8:15 or 8:30pm</b>		
<b>#1</b>	<p><b>Don't Impose Your Morality on Me</b> (30 minutes)</p> <p><i>What is "right" &amp; "wrong"? Is what's right for you right for me? Is there a right &amp; wrong for everyone, all the time? These are difficult questions to discuss in our culture. We live in a society that supports the opinion that each person should make up his or her own morality—that there is no moral truth that applies to everyone.</i></p> <p><i>Many of us have been affected by the relativistic outlook that pervades the modern world. Maybe some of us wonder whether there really is an absolute right and wrong for everyone. Or maybe we accept that there is a moral standard for all, but we don't know how to explain our moral convictions in a convincing way. Maybe some of us are afraid of saying something is immoral because we're afraid of offending others or of being labeled intolerant. How do we talk about morality in a relativistic world? That's what we begin to explore in the opening session of this study.</i></p>	<b>Saturday</b> Feb. 25	<b>Friday</b> March 3
<b>#2</b>	<p><b>Recovering the Basics: Virtue and Friendship</b> (27 minutes)</p> <p><i>Each one of us is created for love. The good news is that we don't have to figure out how to live up to this purpose on our own. In this session, we'll discover that there really is a set of skills that will make us capable of living our relationships well and eventually building up a great society: the virtues, and that these virtues are the skills we need for life.</i></p>	<b>Monday</b> March 6	<b>Thursday</b> March 9
<b>#3</b>	<p><b>Real Freedom, Real Love</b> (27 minutes)</p> <p><i>Do you think that you are free to live your life to the fullest and achieve ultimate happiness? In the last session we examined the virtues as the skills necessary to live our relationships well. These same skills make us truly free. In this session we'll look at what real freedom means and discover what kind of instructions God has given us for living in that freedom.</i></p>	Sunday March 12	<b>Tuesday</b> March 14

#4	<p><b>The Lost “Art of Living”</b> (27 minutes)</p> <p><i>What do you do when you want to learn how to do something really well? Do you get along by trial and error, with nothing to help you except your own determination to succeed? Or do you find someone to teach you, read books on the subject, or perhaps watch a tutorial? We generally learn best when we have a worthy example to follow. The same goes for the art of living.</i></p> <p><i>In this session, we'll learn how God has created each one of us for love, &amp; we learn how to truly live a life of love from others who have gone before us and already mastered the necessary skills.</i></p>	<p><u>Monday</u> March 20</p>	<p><u>maybe</u> <u>Tuesday</u> March 21</p>
#5	<p><b>Engaging Moral Relativism</b> (30 minutes)</p> <p><i>In his letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul reminds us that we are to “[speak] the truth in love” (Eph 4:15). If we try to share the truth without love, we are very likely to do more harm than good.</i></p> <p><i>In this session, we'll discuss how the goal of engaging with moral relativism is to share a beautiful message of hope and healing, not just to win an argument. The first two keys to doing this are to lead with mercy and to contrast the classical and relativistic worldviews so that each can be clearly seen for what it is. When we are able to do both of these, we are well on our way to a respectful, open, and honest dialogue.</i></p>	<p><u>maybe</u> <u>Tuesday</u> March 28</p>	<p><u>Thursday</u> March 30</p>
<p><b>Will Not Meet this week – Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions (April 2 - 4)</b></p>			
<p><b>Will Not Meet in Holy Week (April 9 - 15)</b></p>			
#6	<p><b>“I Disagree” Doesn’t Mean “I Hate You”</b> (33 minutes)</p> <p><i>When we love people, we want the best for them—we don't want them to make choices that will lead to them getting hurt or being unhappy. But how do we find the right balance between expressing concern and sounding judgmental? And what can we do when someone accuses us of being intolerant just because we disagree?</i></p> <p><i>In the previous session we began looking at some tools for engaging moral relativism. In this session we will examine the next three keys to help us communicate our love and respect for other people when having a dialogue about moral issues—and also to resist having the relativistic worldview imposed on us.</i></p>	<p><u>Monday</u> April 17</p>	<p><u>maybe</u> <u>Tuesday</u> April 18</p> <p><u>maybe</u> <u>Friday</u> April 21</p>
#7	<p><b>Exposing the Mask</b> (30 minutes)</p> <p><i>Over the course of this study we have explored the classical view of morality and compared it to a relativistic worldview. But it's one thing to lay the philosophies out side by-side for comparison, and it is quite another thing to be in the midst of the difficulties and brokenness of this world trying to deal with temptation and sin.</i></p> <p><i>As we will see in this session, many people are relativists not because they have impartially compared classical morality and relativism and decided to adopt relativism as a comprehensive worldview, but rather because relativism gives them a way to cope with sin and brokenness in their own lives. The alternative to relativism is not just an alternative worldview—the real alternative is God's love and compassion. Engaging moral relativism is all about showing people how much Jesus loves them—he is “the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6) for everyone, not just “for me.”</i></p>	<p>Sunday April 23</p>	<p><u>maybe</u> <u>Tuesday</u> April 25</p> <p><u>maybe</u> <u>Friday</u> April 28</p>
#8	<p><b>What is Truth? Answering Common Questions</b> (23 minutes)</p> <p><i>Challenging our relativistic culture is not easy. We must have a clear understanding of the classical view of morality and the importance of virtue and friendship, a picture of what real freedom looks like, and a vision for learning the art of living. And most importantly: the guiding and unifying principle for every encounter must be love. Love not only guides what we say and how we say it—it is our reason for saying anything at all.</i></p> <p><i>In this final session we will look at several common questions about moral relativism and how we talk about it to others. These questions will help us reflect on what we have learned in the study and begin to tie it all together in order to go out and engage moral relativism.</i></p>	<p>Monday May 1</p>	<p><u>Thursday</u> May 4</p>

# World Marriage Day 2017

## Couples Married More Than 60 Years in 2017

Charles & Toni Barron

Reiny & Martha Burbach

## Couples Married More Than 50 Years in 2017

Loren & Margaret Baxa

Luke & Fran Ranck

Dennis & Trudy Brosius

John & Billie Rouzee

Gary & Jan Bush

Jerry & Betty Steffes

Don & Sheila Exner

John & Carol Torruella

Paul & Renate Nordquist

## Couples Married 30 Years in 2017

Rex & Kristie Walz

## Couples Married 10 Years in 2017

Justin & Hanna Pieper

## Wedding Prayer

*Father, as we prepare for World Marriage Day, we thank you for your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Help us to witness to its glory by a life of growing intimacy. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so we may become more and more ONE IN HEART mind and body. Strengthen our dialogue and help us become living signs of your love. Make us grow more in love with our Church so we may renew the Body of Christ. Make us a sign of unity in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and brother. AMEN.*

**For Your Marriage website ... The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have a new website: [www.foryourmarriage.org](http://www.foryourmarriage.org). It has a wealth of excellent information and interactive offering for couples preparing for marriage and for marriage enrichment.**

## Marriage Survey

A survey on Marriages :

- \* Couples married by a Justice of the Peace ... one out of two marriages break up
- \* Couples married by the Church ... one out of three marriages break up
- \* Couples married by the Church and attend Church together ... one out of 50 marriages break up
- \* Couples married by the Church, go to Church together and pray together ... one out of 1,429 marriages break up.

*(from The Denver Catholic Register, August 12, 1987, vol. LXIII No. 31)*

## **The grace of the sacrament of Matrimony** (from Catechism of the Catholic Church)

- 1641 "By reason of their state in life and of their order, [Christian spouses] have their own special gifts in the People of God." This grace proper to the sacrament of Matrimony is intended to perfect the couple's love and to strengthen their indissoluble unity. By this grace they "help one another to attain holiness in their married life and in welcoming and educating their children."
- 1642 Christ is the source of this grace. "Just as of old God encountered his people with a covenant of love and fidelity, so our Savior, the spouse of the Church, now encounters Christian spouses through the sacrament of Matrimony." Christ dwells with them, gives them the strength to take up their crosses and so follow him, to rise again after they have fallen, to forgive one another, to bear one another's burdens, to "be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ," and to love one another with supernatural, tender, and fruitful love. In the joys of their love and family life he gives them here on earth a foretaste of the wedding feast of the Lamb:

How can I ever express the happiness of a marriage joined by the Church, strengthened by an offering, sealed by a blessing, announced by angels, and ratified by the Father? ... How wonderful the bond between two believers, now one in hope, one in desire, one in discipline, one in the same service! They are both children of one Father and servants of the same Master, undivided in spirit and flesh, truly two in one flesh. Where the flesh is one, one also is the spirit.