

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



Father Mark Seiker
3301 Echo Drive
North Platte, Nebraska 69101

Rectory / Office [308-534-5461](tel:308-534-5461)
Parish Hall: 534-0511

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3rd Sunday of Lent ***March 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

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	Mar. 20	8:00 a.m.
Tuesday	Mar. 21	7:00 a.m.
Wednesday	Mar. 22	<u>5:30 p.m.</u>
Thursday	Mar. 23	8:00 a.m.
Friday	Mar. 24	6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Mar. 25	2:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Mar. 26	10:00 a.m.

INTENTIONS

For an end to abortion
Phyllis J. Beckius +
Bob Barron +
Marie Barron +
- No Scheduled Parish Mass -
*** Wedding Rehearsal ***
*** Stations of the Cross ***
Spencer Rowley / Ashton Colton Wedding
Lee & Mary Volkmer
People of our Parish

**While we were
still sinners
Christ died
for us.**

— Romans 5:8

Stewardship: March 12, 2017

Adult Envelopes:\$1,738.00
Loose Plate:.....\$207.42
Children: \$4.75
Total: \$1,950.17

Joy of the Gospel Campaign
Total Pledged:\$958,770.00
Gifts last week:\$450.00
Total Gifts Received:.....\$514,151.74
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:.....\$1,334,895.04
Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... \$401,936.67

Ash Wednesday:.....\$95.00
American Bishops Overseas:.....\$5.00
Black & Indian Collection:\$5.00
Catholic Communication:\$5.00
Catholic Home Missions:\$5.00
Catholic University:\$5.00
Retired Religious:.....\$20.00

Parish Calendar

Sunday	Mar. 19	10:00am	Confirmation Mass (NO CCD)
Monday	Mar. 20	7:00pm	Who Am I To Judge? The Lost "Art of Living". Session #4
Tuesday	Mar. 21	7:00pm	Who Am I To Judge? The Lost "Art of Living". Session #4
Wednesday	Mar. 22	7:00pm	RCIA Class
Friday	Mar. 24	7:30pm	Stations of the Cross (Later time due to Wedding Rehearsal at 6:00pm)
Sunday	Mar. 26	11:00am – 12:15pm	CCD Classes

Catholic School News:

Pray ... Let us pray for all the youth and adults at Going Bananas Youth Rally hosted by the North Platte Catholic Schools. Hope to see you all at the Free Concert Saturday, March 18th 7:30 with Jesse Manibusan and ValiMar Jansen at the McGahan Activities Center.

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.*

Enrollment ... OPEN Enrollment Time is NOW! The NPCS has openings for students at all grade levels from Preschool through 12th Grade. Contact Jennifer Winder at 532-1874 if you have questions regarding the enrollment process.

Coming Up ... Upcoming dates of importance: Big Red Banquet 3/18; SPVA Conference Music at Perkins Co. 3/21; NSAA State Speech 3/23.

Track ... Believe it or not the first IRISH track meet will take place on 3/25 at Hershey. Good Luck Teams!

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

Catholics at the Capitol ... All Catholics across Nebraska are encouraged to attend the **2017 Catholics at the Capitol** on March 21st. Registration begins at 8:30am at St. Mary Church basement (14th & K Streets). There is a 12:10pm Mass at St. Mary Church. Please plan to join in praying the Rosary at Planned Parenthood after lunch.

Lenten Noon Concert Series ... This year, Church of Our Savior, 203 W. 4th Street, North Platte, will sponsor a **Lenten Noon Concert Series**. On the Tuesdays in Lent – March 21, 28 and April 4 – we will gather in the church from 12:15-12:45pm for a concert of meditative music for the Lenten season. Carolyn Cline, organist of Church of Our Savior, and Jan Ekstedt, Pastor of First Christian Church in North Platte, are organizing the series, which will feature musicians from all over North Platte. Plan to join us & make the Lenten Noon Concert Series a part of your observance of Lent.

Thank You ... to everyone who helped in any way following the Rosary and the Funeral Mass for Mary Portz.

A HUGE THANK YOU AGAIN! ... The Daughters of Charity made enough to provide the Altar Breads, wine & candles and provide for the many social events the parish host again because of the successful Family Favorite Dessert Auction last weekend. A big thank you to all those who provided the desserts, bid on any of them, or purchased any of them. It was a FUN PARISH EVENT and very much appreciated. A special thanks to our very own auctioneer, Rex Walz and his bid-takers: Jerry Volesky, Chuck Burr, and Conrad Buhrman. Also for the assistance of Don and Sheila Exner, Toni Barron, Teri Volesky, Sheila Nisley, Margaret Baxa, and our event Co-Chairs: Alice Robinson, Sharon Beckius, and Joan Ryland.

Sacrament of Confirmation ... Seven children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday during the 10:00am Mass. After Mass the **Daughters of Charity** will provide a **reception** in the Parish Hall. They will be **servicing: fruit, muffins, juice and coffee.**

The Mother/Daughter “Growing UP and Becoming a Woman Program ...

to will be held **Sunday, March 26, 2017 2:00-4:30pm** at **St Patrick Catholic Parish Hall** in North Platte, NE. The free program is designed for 9-13 year old girls and their mothers / grandmothers / guardians. This program is a time set aside to explore God’s special gift of human fertility, and the beauty & wonder of growing up and becoming a woman.

There have been many positive comments of past mother/daughter programs including “liked the openness,” “Great conversation starter with my daughter”, “helpful, fun”, “liked Christian approach”, & “helped build mother/daughter relationship”.

Several speakers will present changes in a young woman’s body, the onset of ovulation and menstrual periods, female reproductive functions, and the virtue of chastity and sacredness of human life.

The program is sponsored by all 3 North Platte Catholic parishes - St Elizabeth Ann Seton Daughters of Charity; and Holy Spirit & St Patrick Council of Catholic Women Groups and the North Platte Fertility Care Center.

Please register by March 20th by texting, calling, or email to Kathy Burr at 308-991-1880, ckburr240@gmail.com or Laurie Stadler at 308-530-3952 or mlstadler@hotmail.com.

In The Dark ... The following words were written by a young lady who had an abortion, and illustrate a common theme the Church encounters in those who have had abortions. Cases like this show the need for the efforts the pro-life movement makes to counsel those who feel pressured to abort, and to give them alternatives: “The counseling was only pro-abortion. No information was given to me about pro-life choices or agencies at the abortion clinic. They also told me it wouldn’t hurt. It was extremely painful. I was not told anything about how this would affect me for the rest of my 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>.

Project Connect is “a one-stop shop” ... approach to link participants to services and resources, and will take place on April 4, 2017 from 10:00am – 2:00pm at the North Platte Salvation Army. We are currently in need of donations of the following items: Non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, pillows, blankets, laundry products, diapers, smoke alarms, and carbon monoxide detectors. Items can be left in the large box in the Narthex of the Church, and will be collected on March 31, 2017. Questions? Contact Ashley Perlinger at 308-532-3250.

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, & we’ll get them to the Kids (in North Platte or surrounding area communities) This Fall.

Who Am I to Judge? Responding to Relativism

with Logic & Love ... during March & April, parishioners are encouraged to join in a Study by **Dr. Edward Sri** in the Parish Hall on various evenings & (on your own with FORMED.org).

	7:00pm – 8:15 or 8:30pm	7:00pm	7:00pm
#4	The Lost “Art of Living”	Monday Mar. 20	Tuesday Mar. 21
#5	Engaging Moral Relativism	Tuesday Mar. 28	Thursday Mar. 30
Will Not Meet this week – Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions (Apr. 2 - 4)			
Will Not Meet in Holy Week (April 9 – 15)			
#6	“I Disagree” Doesn’t mean “I Hate You”	Monday Apr. 17	Tue 4/18 Fri 4/21
#7	Exposing the Mask	Sunday Apr 23	Tue 4/25 Fri 4/28
#8	What is Truth? Answering Common Questions	Monday May 1	Thursday May 4

Culture of Life ... “The truth of the matter, as attested to by most parents of large families, is that the source of love for children is not limited and not readily exhausted. Each new child becomes an occasion for the expansion of parental affection, with each child contributing to the enhancement of the parents’ capacity for love.” Eugene Diamond, M.D. from “The Large Family, A Blessing and a Challenge”

Thank Your State Senator ... for advancing pro-life legislation. With the advancement of LB46 and its companion appropriations bill, LB46A, Nebraska is one step closer to joining over 29 other states and showing its support for the dignity of human life by adopting “Choose Life” license plates. In the face of vehement opposition, our Legislature ended two filibusters and advanced “Choose Life” license plates to second round of debate. “Choose Life” license plates provide a message of hope and support to those in need and affirms the beauty of human life.

We humbly ask you to take a moment & thank your Senator. We especially thank Sen. Dan Watermeier (Legislative Dist 1) for introducing this pro-life legislation and undertaking the leadership to help advance the pro-life cause. Thanks for taking the time to show your gratitude!

Southern Nebraska Register ... In your Jan–Feb packet of envelopes, there is an envelope for the Southern Nebraska Register. The subscription rate for the Southern Nebraska Register is \$15.00 for one year. At \$15.00, this is an incredible bargain. Please use the envelope for your subscription to the Register. If you are not receiving your copy, please let the office know so we can add you to the list. Please make checks payable to St. Elizabeth Ann Seion Church.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Results of the Parish Council Elections ... Congratulations to the newly elected members of the Parish Council: **Philip Heimann** and **Jim Nisley**. Thank you to all those whose names were on the ballot and to those who voted. Thank you to Jerry Beckius and Molly Walz, who have completed their terms on the Parish Council. I appreciate each of the persons who have served on the parish council, & the gift of time & effort to the Parish through their time given to Council & the many extra ways they shared their talents.

Forty Hours Eucharistic Adoration ... **Sunday, Apr. 2 – Tuesday, Apr. 4.** **Steve Ray** will talk each evening (Sunday 7:00pm, Monday 7:00pm, & Tuesday 7:00pm).

Fr. Seiker working on Cursillo Weekends ... I will be on the Team for the **Men’s Cursillo Weekend**, at McCook, Thursday, Mar. 16 – Saturday, Mar. 18 and also on Sunday afternoon.

I will be on the Team for the **Women’s Cursillo Weekend**, at McCook, Thursday, Mar. 23 – Sunday, Mar. 26. I will be leaving **Thu, March 16** around 11:00am: & return Sunday evening late. Fr. Nick Baker, a retired priest of the Diocese, will be here for Sat/Sunday Confessions & Masses, March 25-26, 2017.

Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Mar. 25, 5:00pm	Sun., Mar. 26, 10:00am
Lector	Mike Krondak	Justin Pieper
Acolyte	Jon Walz	Jerry Cooper
Server	Volunteer	Drew Connelly
	Volunteer	Lakeland Lowrey
Music	Sharon Beckius	Buhrman/Niesen/Gregg
Gifts	Rex & Kristie Walz	Stephen/Corinne Smock
Ushers	Steve Fear	Shane Lowrey
	Janet Fear	Duane Johnsen

Readings for the Week

Monday:	2 Sm 7:4-5,12-14,16; Ps 89:2-5,27,29; Rom 4:13,16-18,22; Mt 1:16,18-21,24 or Lk 2:41-51
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25,34-43; Ps 25:4-5,6,7,8-9; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1,5-9; Ps 147:12-13,15-16,19-20; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6-11,14,17; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Sunday:	1 Sm 16:1,6-7,10-13; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Prayers for the sick: Sharon Beckius, Frank Schneweis (Emily Krondak's father), John Kahl, 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: Mary Portz, 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: 3/19 - Stephen Smock, 3/21 - Ashley Marquez, 3/22 - Courtney Beckius, Rosemary Jones, 3/23 - Johnathan Troyer, 3/24 - Kristie Walz, 3/25 - Keaton Hampton, Eidrey Hampton, Anne Kain, 3/26 - Felicity Heimann.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Long ago, the custom of sending some pieces of consecrated bread from the Lord's table began to take hold. Originally it was a way of assuring the sick and imprisoned of their bonds of faith and affection with the community from whom they were separated. By the third century, at least in Rome, we have evidence that the bishop would consign some of the sacred elements to presbyters or deacons.

There was a crisis in the unity of the church early on, called the quartodeciman controversy, since some people wanted to celebrate the Pasch on the fourteenth day (quartodecima) of the Jewish month Nissan, even if it didn't fall on a Sunday. The debate so fractured the church that the historian of the era, Eusebius, reported a new development to the pope. He wrote that the churches holding to the Lord's Day sent out consecrated bread to the disgruntled people of the quartodeciman pastors with whom they were quarreling. Meanwhile, bishops complained about people taking the Eucharist home. St. Cyprian told a cautionary tale of a sinful woman who tried to open the "casket" containing the consecrated bread in her home. She was deterred from receiving, he said, by flames erupting from the box. Clearly, he wanted people to think twice before bringing Communion home!

The Council of Nicaea defined the "old rule of the church" as allowing for reserving the eucharistic bread for the sake of the dying. The same council could foresee circumstances of persecution when people might have the Eucharist on hand to administer to one another in a time of great danger, literally, at the point of a sword. The first and enduring purpose for reserving the Eucharist is viaticum for the dying. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THIRSTING FOR LIFE-GIVING WATERS ... Especially during the Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter seasons, the prayer texts of the Eastern Church revel in paradoxical images of Christ: the eternal life who is put to death, the host of the supper who is also its meal, the thirsty crucified one with living water streaming from his side. These images flow from the evangelists' portrayals of Jesus and from his very ministry, during which he often upset or reversed people's expectations about him or the ways of God. This "reversal" is at play in today's Gospel, as Jesus speaks to an enemy foreigner who is also a woman beneath his status. In addition he, the thirsting one, shows the woman to be the one truly thirsting. He – whose parched lips will say "I thirst" before he dies – is the source of life and life-giving water. Lent calls upon us to dwell on how each of us is thirsting for Christ, and it leads us, ultimately, back to the life-giving waters of our baptism into his Body. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

SPRING ... The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month. —Henry Van Dyke

Pray for our Seminarians: *at St. Gregory the Great Seminary; at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary; at Mount St. Mary Seminary. Pray for the Priests teaching in the Seminary and the Formation faculty and the staff.*

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS:

(March) Support for Persecuted Christians: That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.