

# 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

Parish email: [rectory-office@seas-np.org](mailto:rectory-office@seas-np.org)  
Webpage: <http://www.seas-np.org>

## ***19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*** ***August 12, 2018***

***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 Aug. 13 8:00 a.m.  
 Tuesday Aug. 14 **7:00 a.m.**  
 \*\*\* \*\* *Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)* \*\*\* \*\*  
 Tuesday Aug. 14 **7:00 p.m.**  
 Wednesday Aug 15 7:00 a.m.  
 12:10 p.m.  
 5:30 p.m.  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 Thursday Aug. 16 8:00 a.m.  
 Friday Aug. 17 **12:10 p.m.**  
 Saturday Aug. 18 3:00 p.m.  
**5:00 p.m.**  
 Sunday Aug. 19 **10:00 a.m.**

**INTENTIONS**

Alvin Kosmicki +  
 Anna Lee  
 For our Benefactors  
 Elizabeth (Liz) Haag  
 Bernadine Torres +  
 People of our Parish  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 Roma Seiker  
 Martha Burbach +  
 Wedding: John Marquardt / Ellie Lee  
 Mike Foley (bap)  
 People of our Parish

*I am the living  
 bread that came  
 down from heaven;  
 whoever eats  
 this bread  
 will live forever.*  
 — John 6:5

**Stewardship: August 5, 2018**

<p><b>Adult Envelopes:</b> .....\$2,560.00  <b>Loose Plate:</b> .....\$331.38  <b>Children:</b> .....\$1.25  <b>Holy Day ():</b> ..... \$0.00  <b>Total:</b> ..... \$2,892.63</p>	<p><b><u>Joy of the Gospel Campaign</u></b>                  Total Pledged: .....\$958,770.00                  Gifts last week: .....\$1,050.00  <u>Total Gifts Received:</u> ..... <b>\$697,503.05</b>                  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:.....\$1,513,860.04                  Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... <b>\$239,508.28</b></p>	<p><b>Mission Coop:</b>.....\$20.00</p>
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**Parish Calendar**

Sunday Aug. 12 11:00am **Knights of Columbus Family BBQ Picnic** (11:00am – 1:00pm)  
 2:30pm MT Cursillo Ultreya at St. Patrick, Imperial  
 5:00pm Opening Mass for St. Patrick School at McGahan Activities Center  
 Monday Aug. 13 7:00pm **Knights of Columbus Meeting** in Parish Hall.

**Catholic School News:**

**Back to School Mass & Open House** ... scheduled for Aug. 12. Please join us for **Open House at 3:30pm** to drop off school supplies and **Mass** will be held in McGahan Activities Center at **5:00pm**.

**Students to Report** ... Freshman Report on **Monday, Aug. 13** and all student grades Kindergarten - 12 Grade will report on **Aug. 14**.

**All School Mass for the Feast of the Assumption** ... on Aug. 15th will be held at St. Patrick's Parish at **10:00am** on Wednesday.

**Little Leprechaun Preschool Contract Day** ... Little Leprechaun Preschool will hold contract day on **August 16 9:00am** with their first day of school for 3 & 4 year olds on **August 21**, which also marks Picture Day. The 4/5 year old class will begin on **Monday, August 20** with Picture Day being on **Wednesday, August 22**.

**Up with People** is returning to North Platte on **Sept. 3-10 2018!** We are excited to bring Cast B 2018 back to North Platte for performances and educational opportunities for local students. We have been bringing Up with People to your community since the early 1980s and are thrilled to perform our newest production for you at the Fox Theatre. The performance will be benefiting three non-profits in the efforts to keeping the arts in the community and schools. The organizations are: Fox Theatre, North Platte Public Schools Foundation and North Platte Catholic Schools Endowment-Trust.

\*NPCS students will be invited to attend one of the Up With People productions, and students will also be involved in special events with Up With People cast members.

\*The North Platte Catholic Schools have been asked to provide some HOST FAMILY housing for the Up With People cast members during their stay in our community. Hosting these international cast members would be a fun and educational experience for your family!! Would you please consider opening your home? We ask host families to provide: a place to sleep; Breakfast; Dinner; Limited transportation.

If you or someone you know may be interested in hosting an international participant please reach out to Carlos Vazquez cvazquez@upwithpeople.org 308.349.1327.

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

**Save the Date for our Pro-Life Banquet and Conference! October 26, 2018 ...**

Archbishop Lucas, Bishop Conley and Bishop Hanefeldt invite you to join them for the annual Bishop's Pro-Life Banquet & Conference on Oct. 26! Our featured speaker for the banquet and conference is Dr. George Delgado, an Abortion Pill Reversal pioneer and Medical Director of Culture of Life Services (COLFS) in San Diego County. Please see flier on Narthex bulletin board. Registration details to follow.

**Knights of Columbus Family BBQ Picnic ...**

Knights of Columbus Council #12530 will serve lunch on **Sunday, August 12, 2018**, after 10:00am Sunday Mass (**11:00am – 1:00pm**). All are invited. Free Will offering accepted ... Proceeds go to the purchase of Missalettes. **August is Family Month for Knights!**

August 12 is the birthday anniversary of Fr. Michael McGivney (*founder of the Knights of Columbus, bd=08/12/1852*). The new officers of the Knights of Columbus will be installed during the 10:00am Sunday Mass at announcement time.

**Knights of Columbus Meeting ... Mon., Aug. 13, 7:00pm**, Parish Hall. All Knights are invited to attend.

**Parish Council Meeting ... Thu Aug. 16, 7:00pm**, Rectorry Conference Room. (Members: Ken Bjornstad, Diane Gregg, Philip Heimann, Jim Nisley. Trustees: Jerry Volesky, Duane Johnsen).

**Put a Retreat into Your Schedule ...** In an effort to remove some obstacles that might be keeping parishioners from enjoying a retreat, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church will be making a donation of \$1,500.00 to Good Counsel Retreat House. This donation will cover the Registration Fee for 9 parishioners. Car-pooling is also encouraged. If you are interested in attending a particular retreat, perhaps someone else is also interested. Let me know and a note can be put in the bulletin mentioning that there is a vehicle going to Good Counsel Retreat House for a particular Retreat. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will also pay for the gas to a Retreat. Please put a Retreat into your schedule this year!

You can register at [www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com) & receive immediate confirmation or call Good Counsel Retreat House at 402-786-2705 to register now.

### **August – June Schedule:**

Aug 24-26..... Fr. Sean Kilcawley ..... Women  
*“Divine Daughterhood/Merciful Motherhood Retreat”*  
 Aug. 31 - Sept 3 Fr. Gary Coulter/Fr. Chris Barak Men / Women  
*“3 or 4-Day Directed Ignatian Retreat”*  
 Sep 13-16..... Opus Sanctum Angelorum..... Men / Women  
*Work of the Holy Angels (4-Day)*  
 Sep 27-30 Fr. Zachary, SOLT/Knights of Holy Eucharist .Men/Women  
*“Love Made Visible; Eucharistic Adoration Retreat”*  
 Oct. 6-7 ..... St. Gianna Physician’s Guild Men / Women  
*“For Catholic Doctors, Nurses, Medical Professionals & Students*  
 Oct 19-21 ..... Fr. Andrew Heaslip / Matt Simmons Men/Women  
*“Catechists Retreat for Educators, Teachers, Catechists & Parents”*  
 Nov 2-4..... Fr. Craig Doty ..... Men / Women  
*“Jesus, Please Heal Me (Pryaer Teams available)”*  
 Nov 16-18..... Fr. Sean Kilcawley..... Men / Women  
*“Learning to Love from the Beloved Disciple”*  
 Nov 30–Dec 2 Deacon James Keating Couples (Married/Engaged)  
*“Marriage & Intimacy: How God Wants to Secure Your Love”*  
 Dec. 14-16 ..... Bishop Conley & Fr. Coulter .... Men/Women  
*(The Mysteries of Christmas)*  
 Jan 11-12 ..... Fr. Lux & Fr. McGuire..... Women  
*(LDCCW Winter Symposium)*  
 Jan 18-20 ..... Fr. Eric Clark / Knights of Holy Eucharist ..... Men  
*“Acolyte / Lector Retreat: Discipleship at the Foot of the Cross”*  
 Feb 1-3..... Fr. William Holoubek ..... Men / Women  
*“Unbound: Breaking Free from Spiritual Wounds”*  
 Feb 15-17..... Sr. Ann Shields..... Men / Women  
*“Faith: More Precious than Gold”*  
 Feb 22-24 Fr. Angelus Montgomery, CFR. Men/Women  
*“American Saints and Heroic Virtue”*  
 Mar 8-10..... Fr. Karl Millis..... Men / Women  
*“St. Teresa of Avila in Light of the Joy of the Gospel”*  
 Mar 18-21 ..... Fr. Gary Coulter ..... Men / Women  
*“Silent Directed Ignatian Retreat (Mon-Thur)”*  
 Mar 22-24 ..... Fr. Sean Timmerman..... Men / Women  
*“Awareness of Christ: the Rosary and the Eucharist”*  
 Mar 29-31 ..... Sharon Doran. .... Men / Women  
*“Scriptural Lenten Retreat on the Boundless Mercy of God”*  
 April 18-20 ..... Marian Sisters..... Young Women  
*Triduum Retreat*  
 May 10-11 ..... Janette Howe ..... 2 Day Retreat for Women  
*“In Quiet and Trust Your Strength Lies”*  
 Summer 2019 8 Day Silent Ignatian Retreats... Men / Women  
 July 1-9; July 10-18 Fr. Dennis Brown, OMV

**CCD CLASSES ...** for **2018-2019** for both the **Grade School (Gr K–8) & High School (Gr 9–12)** will be held on **Sunday after Mass from 11:00am–12:15pm.** The **first class is Sunday, August 19, 2018 at 11:00am.** **We are in need of a few more teachers ... please visit with Fr. Seiker.**

**The Bargain Bin ...** is now open **Mondays** as well as **Tue - Sat 10am - 3pm.** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday evening 5pm - 8pm continues to be a **BAG SALE** with the next one being **August 13.** All of this is made possible by our devoted volunteers, generous donors and all of you shop for your treasures at the Bargain Bin! Thank you to ALL of you!

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sacred Music Clinic ...** The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be hosting the Third Annual Sacred Music Clinic on **Saturday, August 25, 2018** at the **Newman Center in Lincoln.**

This year all presentations will be given by local priests / musicians. Parish musicians, cantors, & choir members, as well as interested Parishioners are invited to participate: please mark your calendars.

**2 weeks to Sign up for Retrouvaille ...** Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? 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 August program beginning with a weekend on August 24-26, 2018, call 888-317-5654, 308-986-2351 or [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).

**Novena for the Legal Protection of Human Life ...** will include prayer and fasting for the intention that this change in the membership of the Supreme Court will move our nation closer to the day when every human being is protected in law and welcomed in life. The Novena will also include information to help educate the public about how legal abortion is not health care, is bad law, and fails women. The Novena is **Friday, Aug. 3, - Friday, Sept. 28.** Please sign up for the Novena as part of the USCCB Call to Prayer at [www.usccb.org/pray](http://www.usccb.org/pray). You will receive weekly email or text message reminders to **pray and fast** along with a fact about Roe to share with others. Marion Miner, Associate Director for Pro-Life & Family, NE Catholic Conference.

**Sanctuary of Life ...** “From within the heart of the world, the family has a decisive and determinative relationship with life. As a Sanctuary of life, the family must welcome it, defend it, accompany it during its development, especially during the whole process of its education....The family lovingly bears witness to the uniqueness of new life....The instruction of the Didache, “Thou shalt not kill the child in its mother’s womb” (2, 1), incorporated into the living tradition of the Church, must resound even today from the heart of every household. Only God is the Lord of life!” (Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, President, Pontifical Council for the Family, Homily to Pontifical Academy for Life, February, 1997).

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

**2018 Pumpkin Festival ...** will be on **Sunday, October 14, 2018.** The Pumpkin Festival Committee will be meeting soon to discuss preparations for the Pumpkin Festival. Work is beginning on the Raffle and we will have the Raffle Tickets ready to distribute in early September.

Please pray for good weather for the Pumpkin Festival. Ask the Lord to send us the weather that He knows we need and to get us ready to accept lovingly from His hands the weather that He sends us, and to work together as a Parish Family to build up the Kingdom of God.

**RCIA Classes ...** Fr. Mark Seiker will be leading an RCIA process (Inquiry class in the Faith) **beginning in Sept, 2018** until a few weeks after Easter (mid May 2019). Classes will usually be held on **Wednesdays in the Parish Hall from 7:00pm – 9:00pm.** These classes are open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. For Catholics, it is a good opportunity to learn more about your faith. If you are interested call the Rectory or see Fr. Seiker. Begin praying and thinking about persons that you want to invite to study our faith with you. Our faith is to be treasured, preserved, and lived, but it is also to be shared ... share your faith with a friend by coming to these RCIA classes.

## Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Aug. 18, 5:00pm	Sun., Aug. 19, 10:00am
<b>Lector</b>	Mike Krondak	Shane Lowrey
<b>Acolyte</b>	Jerry Volesky	Duane Johnsen
<b>Server</b>	Volunteer	Lakeland Lowrey
	Volunteer	Harmon Johnsen
<b>Music</b>	Volunteer	Peggy Orr
<b>Gifts</b>	Ed Reiker & Loren Baxa	Michael & Carissa LaFleur
<b>Ushers</b>	Cindy Swanson	Volunteer
	Alice Robinson	Spencer Hampton
<b>Rosary</b>		

## *Readings for the Week*

Monday:	Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday:	Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday:	<u>Vigil:</u> 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54-57; Lk 11:27-28 <u>Day:</u> Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56
Thursday:	Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 - 19:1
Friday:	Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12
Saturday:	Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 19:13-15
Sunday:	Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-7; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

**Prayers for the sick:** Sherry Kahl (mother of Yvette Troyer), Mary Lou Robles & Patricia Zamora (sisters of Toni Barron), Kelly Henry (Mitch Gregg's sister), Peggy Fleecs, Patti Caudillo, Leona Clouatre, Renate Nordquist, Virginia Waechter (mother of Peggy Orr), Sharon Beckius, John Kahl, Mike & Kim Paul, Eileen Boltz, Jim Beckius.

**Prayers for the deceased:** Bob "Junior" Barron (Toni Barron's brother), Father Casey Porada, Father Jim Cooper, Bernadine Torres, Father Jim Novakowski, Margaret Schuckert, Martha Burbach, Jerry Kenny (Charles/Toni Barron's son-in-law), Bernadine Duryea (Ben Heskett's mom), Luke Ranck, Mary Portz, Phyllis Beckius.

**Birthdays:** 8/11 - David Bratton, Angela Johnston, Steve Fear, 8/12 - Mary Bratton.-8/13 - Diane Gregg, 8/14 - Hunter Vaught, Isaiah Heimann, Conrad Buhrman, 8/17 - Craig Burbach, 8/19 - Ava Lowrey.

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ...** Careful readers of the "Treasures" will have noticed that the two columns about the oldest monastic communities in the United States refer to the colonial states. The Louisiana Purchase gained a great treasure for our nation, the Ursuline monastery of New Orleans. Among the greatest pioneers of that city were nuns who came from France on a perilous voyage in 1727, pestered by pirates and tossed by fearsome storms. These were genteel, well-educated Ursulines, yet their first task was to roll up their sleeves and open a hospital to care for the pestilence-ridden colony. Next, they opened a school for girls and launched a plan to educate the women being shipped over from France to marry settlers. In this way, they had enormous influence in molding patterns of family and domestic life. At Christmastime in 1814, the threat of a British assault on the city was growing. On the terrifying night of January 7, 1815, the women of New Orleans gathered in the monastery chapel to pray that the city be spared from destruction in battle. The mother superior made a vow to have a Mass of Thanksgiving on that date every year should the Americans win. That night, Our Lady of Prompt Succor, to whom the nuns had great devotion, became the protector and patron of this great city. The convent in the French Quarter is the oldest standing building in the Mississippi valley, and the only surviving building of the French colonial period. The nuns relocated in 1824, but their old monastery is preserved as a museum and archives for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The school the nuns began, Ursuline Academy, is the oldest continuously operating Catholic school, and school for women, in the United States. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**STRENGTHENED BY THE BREAD OF LIFE ...** Today we resume the "Bread of Life" discourse from John's Gospel that began two weeks ago. He makes reference to the Jews' ancestors who ate manna in the desert. These days we would think primarily of Israel wandering in the desert, but faithful Jews would also have known the story of Elijah that we hear today. Strengthened by food and drink in the desert, the angel of the Lord sends him on his forty-day and forty-night journey (the biblical number for a preparation time). Like the food given to Elijah in the desert, Jesus tells his listeners that he is bread for the life of the world. It is very important that we not stop listening to Jesus after his promise of eternal life — a marvelous promise, but this "reward" is not the only reason we feast on the Bread of Life. We also come to the table to be made strong for the journey of mission, that the whole world might have life in the fullness of Christ. We are compelled, if we have eaten of the bread of life, to go forth in service to all. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**ANGER'S OFFSPRING ...** As long as anger lives, she continues to be the fruitful mother of many unhappy children.

—St. John Climacus

**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, the Formation faculty and staff.*

**Pray for our Religious Sisters:** School Sisters of Christ the King: **1st Vows: Sister Peter Marie Lewandowski**, from Ascension Parish, Overland Park, KS; **Sister Mary Immaculata Bader** from Immaculate Conception, Parish (Ulysses, NE), Gresham, NE.

## **HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS ...**

**(August) Universal: The treasure of Families** - That any far-reaching decisions of economists and politicians may protect the family as one of the treasures of humanity.

**Bishop Conley Statement**  
**August 10, 2018**  
**Wahoo, NE**

I want to thank you for inviting me to address some recent issues in the Lincoln Diocese that has to do with priest wrongdoing.

These allegations have already resulted in the start of a thorough review of our policies and procedures regarding how we respond to allegations made against diocesan priests.

In communicating to you about these allegations in a pulpit letter read last Sunday at all parishes in the diocese, I promised you that I was going to be transparent in what I learn about these allegations and how future allegation of inappropriate behavior made against priests will be investigated.

Already I have taken the following actions:

I presented to the Diocesan Review Board cases that I will discuss briefly with you tonight. I met with the Review Board last Tuesday, and I will be meeting with them again on Monday for further counsel.

I celebrated and preached at all the Masses at St. Peter's Parish last weekend. On Monday night I held a listening session before 500 people at St. Peter's. The topic was Father Townsend's behavior. Their message to me was clear and honest: they desire transparency and objectivity, and that is my promise to you and all the faithful in the diocese as I move forward.

I assembled a group of senior advisors to help me evaluate abuse allegations. The advisors include members of my staff, officials from the Archdiocese of Omaha, and a mental health expert.

This transparency and objectivity I promise you will include a thorough review of our safe environment policies and procedures by an outside investigator. This investigation will include an investigation of the most recent incident involving Fr. Townsend, an evaluation of my staff and their response to improper behavior made against a priest, and an evaluation of my response to and readiness for sexual abuse allegations.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, I want to repeat to you that I am sorry for the manner in which I have responded to allegations of improper behavior brought against Lincoln priests. I hope you forgive me.

Tonight I want to talk specifically and briefly about four cases. Please understand that Fr. Townsend's incident is under investigation, thus I am limited in what I can share with you:

Father Townsend – Fr. Charles Townsend has resigned his pastorate. The matter has been reported to authorities and is being investigated. I cannot comment further because of this investigation. I will share more information at the conclusion of the civil and Church investigation.

Father Barvick– I previously instructed Fr. Patrick Barvick that he was not to be alone with females. His behavior concerns me and the Diocesan Review Board. I have asked him to temporarily step aside from his parish while I evaluate this situation. Father Cyrus Rowan will cover the parish pending the outcome of this evaluation.

Father Thomlinson – In a meeting with Fr. Steve Thomlison to discuss a past incident in the military that was a concern to me and the Diocesan Review Board, Father submitted his resignation as pastor of St. Stephen in Exeter and St. Wenceslaus in Milligan. I want to make it clear that Father's behavior did not involve an offense against a minor or a parishioner. Father received an honorable military discharge. I am committed to getting Father the care he needs. Please join me in praying for Father Thomlinson.

Father Benton – Fr. James Benton was accused in 2002 for inappropriately touching a minor on a camping trip between 1980-1982. That matter was fully investigated by the Lincoln Diocese. The allegations could not be substantiated.

In the fall of 2017, Fr. Benton resigned his pastorate following allegations of sexual abuse of two family members that occurred over 25 years ago. These allegations were addressed by the Diocesan Review Board and referred to the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The CDF returned the matter to me to take appropriate action. I prohibited him from exercising public ministry in the diocese. I also restricted him from being alone with minors. He is now retired.

To report allegations of sexual abuse by any person affiliated with the Lincoln Diocese, we encourage you to contact your local law enforcement agency or the Nebraska Child Abuse Hotline (1-800-652-1999).