

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

2nd Sunday of Advent December 10, 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	Dec. 11	8:00 a.m.
Tuesday	Dec. 12	7:00 a.m.
Wednesday	Dec. 13	5:30 p.m.
Thursday	Dec. 14	8:00 a.m.
Friday	Dec. 15	5:30 p.m.
Saturday	Dec. 16	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Dec. 17	10:00 a.m.

INTENTIONS

Gabe Ryland
Elli Fugate
Louis & Agnes Cooper +
Anna Lee
Elizabeth (Liz) Haag
People of Our Parish
Megan Niesen & Seth Wardyn

**Prepare the
way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.**

—Mark 1:3

Stewardship: December 3, 2017

Adult Envelopes:	\$1,961.00
Loose Plate:	\$153.56
Children:	\$6.50
Total:	\$2,121.06

<u>Joy of the Gospel Campaign</u>	
Total Pledged:	\$958,770.00
Gifts last week:	\$515.00
<u>Total Gifts Received:</u>	<u>\$591,959.05</u>
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:	\$1,379,295.04
Balance on DIAL LOAN:	\$368,758.78

Contemplative Sisters:	\$0.00
Propagation of Faith:	\$40.00

<u>LastWk</u> Donations "Farm" Sewer	\$0.00
<u>Total</u> Donations "Farm" Sewer	<u>\$3,005.00</u>

Parish Calendar

Sunday	Dec. 10	<u>NO CCD</u>	<u>11:00 am Knights of Columbus Breakfast</u>
		<u>1:30 pm = McDaid Christmas Program at the Neville Center</u>	
		<u>3:30 pm Cursillo <u>Ultreya</u> at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall</u>	
Monday	Dec. 11	<u>7:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting</u>	
Wednesday	Dec. 13	<u>7:00pm RCIA Class</u>	
Sunday	Dec. 17	<u>NO CCD</u>	<u>11:00 am = Potluck Dinner and Church Decorating</u>

Catholic School News:

The McDaid Christmas Program is at 1:30 Sunday, Dec. 10th ... May we all be reminded of the excitement and anticipation of Christmas when we see our young students perform for you this Sunday. Thank You Mrs. Ward for all your work.

Join us for an IRISH Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00pm. This concert will feature all your favorite carols both traditional and a twist on the traditional. Performances by the 7th and 8th grade General Music students who have worked hard to master the art of hand bells, Chorus, Bands, Swing Choir, along with several solo works. This concert is free and open to the public. Let the IRISH Musicians help you get in the Holiday Spirit!

IRISH Rosary Group December Schedule is as follows: **12/12** – Jacob Granger @ St. Pat's Chapel; **12/20**-Amy Honerman @ McDaid Chapel. Remember this Rosary group is open to Parents, Students, Faculty, and all school supporters & begins at 7:30am. *Rosaries and prayer cards are provided.*

Stay up to date on all activities of NPCS by searching North Platte Catholic Schools on Facebook or visiting our website at npcschools.org.

North Platte Catholic School:

Faith and Knowledge for a Brighter Future

Nebraska Walk for Life ... January 27, 2018, at the Capital in Lincoln, NE.

Western Catechist Retreat ... at St. Patrick, McCook, on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, 9:45am – 3:30pm. Father Jay Buhman is the Retreat Director. All CCD Teachers are encouraged to participate. The Parish will pay for the \$10 Registration Fee. Parents are also encouraged.

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) Info ...

Thank you ... to all that provided cookies and fruit for the trays that were taken to the home bound. Also thanks to those that assembled and delivered the trays.

Knights of Columbus Meeting ... Mon, Dec. 11, 7:00pm, Parish Hall. All Knights are invited to attend.

Breakfast by Knights of Columbus ... Sunday, Dec. 10, in the Parish Hall after 10:00am Mass; serving pancakes, eggs, fixings, biscuits & gravy, coffee & juices. Free Will offering accepted ... Proceeds go to the purchase of Missalettes.

Keep Christ in Christmas! ... Knights sell Christmas cards after Mass. Send cards that express true meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Gift for Dad or Husband ... if he belongs to the Knights of Columbus Council here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, you could pay his Membership Dues to Jim Griffin, 2401 N Buffalo Bill Ave, North Platte, NE 69101 and Jim will send your Dad's or husband's 2018 Membership Card with a Christmas Greeting from you before Christmas. Thank you and God Bless. Loren Baxa, Grand Knight, Father McGivney Council #12530. Dues are \$25 / yr.

Advent Baby Shower: Again this Advent, our parish will participate in the statewide ADVENT BABY SHOWER, from December 2 through January 8. As we anticipate the good news and great joy of our Savior's birth, you are invited to SHOWER HIS LITTLE ONES. Place the items in the bassinet at the Narthex of the church. Gifts will be donated to the *Women's Resource Center*.

Annual Parish Buffet Dinner ... Sunday, January 7, 2018, 5:00pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Hall.

Christmas Poinsettias ... Anyone wishing to donate to the poinsettias for the Altar may do so by putting it in the collection. Please mark: *for flowers*.

Catholics to Pray Rosary across U.S. to Protect Nation from 'Islamic jihad' and 'Abortion' ... (excerpts copied from www.lifesitenews.com)

There will be a mass Rosary service throughout the United States on Dec. 12, the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, inspired "100 percent" by the Rosary on the Borders in Poland. The "Rosary on the Coasts and Borders" is the initiative of a group of Church Militant fans, and one of the organizers is Patricia Lemmon. Patricia said: "I am in constant admiration of Poland. Over and over again, (the Poles) show their allegiance to reality. Their pro-life laws and initiatives encouraging families to have children, supporting families when a Down syndrome child is expected, welcoming Christian refugees but barring (jihadist) incomers, these are a beacon of intelligence coupled with goodness in the midst of so much truly dark news out of dying secular western Europe." The intention of the prayers will be "to ask Our Lady to save the USA from Islamic jihad, from the denial of the Christian faith, and for an end of abortion."

The USA Rosary on the Coasts and Borders will not literally surround the nation's massive territory. Instead, Lemmon said, it will put up "a prayer shield by representation." We need as representatives one person or group from each of the 50 States, plus D.C., plus Puerto Rico, plus Guam or other territory. By Dec. 12, that will be all 53 of us, representing the whole USA to Our Lady of Guadalupe." In this way, the organizers hope to match a state or protectorate to each of the Hail Marys in a five decade rosary.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe was chosen for a few reasons. First, the only Marian apparition in the New World pronounced authentic by the Catholic Church was witnessed in Villa de Guadalupe in 1531. Next, Pius XII named Our Lady of Guadalupe the Patroness of the Americas in 1946. Finally, an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe was taken by Don Juan of Austria's Christian army into the Battle of Lepanto in 1571. The Battle of Lepanto represented a major defeat to the Ottoman Empire.

"The New World's Lady sailed to confront jihad in the Old World," Lemmon said. "Is this not mindblowing? That battle, against all odds, saved Europe from imminent invasion. ... As Don Juan fought under that banner, the pope prayed the rosary." The anniversary of the Battle of Lepanto on Oct. 7 is also the Feast of the Holy Rosary and the date chosen by the organizers of the Polish Rosary to the Borders.

"So the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, victor of Lepanto, seems the ordained date for America to link with Poland ... " said Lemmon. "Thus we will jointly block jihad and embrace faith and life." Lemmon described the lay-led event as "a Wild West Rosary."

Western Nebraska Community for Life ...

PRAYER GATHERING Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 7:00pm

December 12th is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the day in 1531 when this image miraculously appeared on a simple Mexican peasant's cactus fiber tilma which is still quite intact in Mexico City in spite of a bomb and the ravages of time.

The Western Nebraska Community for Life will join Christians throughout the United States and Canada to seek the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, following the amazing examples of the national rosaries recently achieved in Poland, Italy and Ireland. We will pray the Rosary along with others on the Coasts and Borders of the USA.

The intention is: "to ask Our Lady to save the USA from Islamic jihad, from the denial of the Christian faith, & for an end to abortion."

Please join us as we beseech our Lord Jesus Christ to hear our prayers for our Country as we pray at **Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00pm.**

Stuff Your Bags! ... The next **Bargain Bin EVENING Bag Sale** is this **Monday, Dec. 10, 5:00pm-8:00pm.** The next **Day Time Bag Sale** is Friday, Dec. 15, 10:00am-3:00pm. Daytime Bag Sales are the 15th and 30th of each month. If those dates fall on Sunday or Monday, it will be the preceding Saturday. Includes all you can stuff in a bag for \$3 excluding jewelry, antiques & Christmas decorations.

The Divine Child's Birth ... Advent leads the Church to the Silent Night when God Himself is revealed as one of us. This season leads us to the joy of His birth. If God has joined His nature to ours, how can we ever allow our nature to be despised? If He has come to bring us Divine Life, and will return to take us to the skies, how can it be all right to throw people in the garbage? May His birth shed protection on all about to be born, and as we work to end abortion, may we "wait in joyful hope for the coming of Our Savior, Jesus Christ."

The annual Mass of the Holy Innocents ...

will be celebrated on **Thursday, December 28th.** All are invited to attend this Memorial Mass, especially those families who have suffered the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion. Reading of names will begin at **6:30pm** with Mass at **7:00pm** at **John XXIII Diocesan Center Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln.** If you would like your child's name to be remembered & placed on the banner for this year, please call the Family Life Office (473-0620) **before 5:00pm Dec. 19th.** *If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.*

Introduction to Deliverance ... Have you ever wondered what exactly deliverance is or how it fits into our Catholic Faith? The Diocesan Office of Evangelization will be hosting this free event consisting of four 20 minute talks. This is open to ALL: laity, religious, clergy, members of the Christian community & anyone who would like a better understanding of the meaning of deliverance, the Unbound ministry & how each person can benefit from it. Join us in **Beatrice at St. Joseph Parish Hall on Thursday, Jan. 4th 7:00-8:30pm.** No registration needed. Contact Matt at mattew-simmons@cdolinc.net or 402-805-9668 with questions.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

CELEBRATE ADVENT ... a time of preparation and longing for Christ's coming at Christmas. As Catholics we recognize the need to celebrate **four weeks of Advent**, preparing for Christmas, and then to extend the celebration of our Lord's birth throughout the **twelve days of Christmas.** Teach the children the real meaning of Advent, & the real meaning of Christmas. Use the booklets in the Narthex & pray the Advent Wreath prayers as a family each day.

Advent Confession Schedule ...

- Sat. Dec. 16, 4:00pm-4:55pm
- Sun. Dec. 17, 9:00am-9:55am
- Sun. Dec. 17, **3:00pm** (2 Priests available at St. Elizabeth)
- Sun. Dec. 17, **7:00pm** Penance Service St. Patrick, McCook
- Mon. Dec. 18, 7:30am-7:55am, & **11:00am-12:30pm**
- Tue. Dec. 19, 6:30am-6:55am
- Wed. Dec. 20, 5:00pm-5:25pm
- Thu. Dec. 21, 7:30am-7:55am, & **5:00pm-6:00pm**
- Fri. Dec. 22, 5:00pm-5:25pm
- Sat. Dec. 23, **11:00am - 12:30pm**, & 4:00pm-4:55pm
- Sun. Dec 24, 9:00am-9:55am & 3:00pm-4:00pm

If these times don't fit your schedule, make an appointment to have your confession heard in the Rectory. Come Home for Christmas! Rejoice in the Lord's forgiveness!

***O Divine Babe of Bethlehem,
Come and take birth in our hearts!***

Christmas Mass Schedule ...

Dec. 24, 5:00pm = Vigil Mass

Dec. 25, 12:00am=MIDNIGHT MASS (Yes, Midnight Mass is at MIDNIGHT!).

Dec. 25, 10:00am=Mass during the Day. You may receive communion at the Vigil or Midnight Mass, and still receive Communion at the 10:00am Mass. Come to Mass, not just Christmas Eve, but also Christmas Day!

Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Dec. 16, 5:00pm	Sun., Dec. 17, 10:00am
Lector	Jerry Beckius	Shane Lowrey
Acolyte	Jerry Volesky	Jerry Cooper
Server	Volunteer	Xavier Pieper
	Volunteer	Harmon Johnsen
Music	Greg Vandenberg	Greg Vandenberg
Gifts	Jan Daniel/Alice Robinson	Jim & Shirley Nisley
Ushers	Cindy Swanson	Duane Johnsen
	Alice Robinson	Heather Johnsen

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde,19; Lk1:26-38 or Lk1:39-47
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Prayers for the sick: Bernadine Duryea (Ben Heskett's mother), Luke Ranck, Patti Caudillo, Leona Cloutre, Renate Nordquist, Julie (Kellogg) Buehler (Molly Walz's aunt), David Swayne (Robin Bartlett's friend), Jerry Steffes, Virginia Waechter (mother of Peggy Orr), Sharon Beckius, Frank Schneweis (Emily Krondak's father), John Kahl, Mike & Kim Paul, Special Intention, Kade Folchert (grandson of Bob Folchert), Margaret Schuckert, Eileen Boltz, Jim Beckius.

Prayers for the deceased: Robert Inlow (Joanne Bollish's son), Mickey Kirwan (Teri Volesky's brother), Margaret Baxa, Betty Ganzel (Mike Krondak's grandmother), Bradley Folchert (nephew of Bob Folchert), Virgil Einsphar (grandfather of Derek Bantam), Loretta Pilakowski, Pat Sexton, Norma Pfeiffer (Shane Lowrey's grandmother), Mary Portz, Phyllis Beckius, Sheryl Darpoli, Lonnie Schmid (Jon Schmid's brother).

Birthdays: 12/9 - Grace Ryland, 12/10 - Rodrigo Werle, 12/11 - Gabe Ryland, 12/12 - Chuck Burr, Weston Hammond, 12/14 - Eileen Boltz, 12/15 - Henrietta Boots, 12/16 - Jennifer Belgium.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us! —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

NEWS OF COMFORT ... In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ... I am the Immaculate Conception. —Words of Our Lady to St. Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes, 1858

Pray for our Seminarians: **Anthony Robert Bedient**, from St. Joseph Parish, York. He entered the Seminary in 2013. He is in Theology 3 at Mount St. Mary Seminary. **James Michael Beran**, from Cathedral of the Risen Christ Parish, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2013. He is in Theology 1 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS

(December): The Elderly- That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.