

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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4th Sunday of Advent ***December 23, 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

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. 24	8:00 a.m.	For our Benefactors
*** ** * <i>Solemnity of Christmas (Holy Day of Obligation)</i> * ** * ** * ** * ** *			
Monday	Dec. 24	5:00 p.m.	Sheryl Darpoli +
Tuesday	Dec. 25	12:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Book of Memories / Blessings People of Our Parish
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Wednesday	Dec. 26	5:30 p.m. 6:00pm-10:00pm	Bishop Emeritus Fabian Bruskewitz Eucharistic Holy Hour => Spend time with Jesus
Thursday	Dec. 27	6:30 a.m.	Albert + & Lucille Malsbury
Friday	Dec. 28	5:30 p.m.	Elisa Young
Saturday	Dec. 29	5:00 p.m.	Scott Rieker
Sunday	Dec. 30	10:00 a.m.	People of Our Parish

INTENTIONS

***Blessed are you
among women,
and blessed is the
fruit of your womb.***

— Luke 1:42

Stewardship: December 16, 2018

Adult Envelopes:	\$1,414.00
Loose Plate:	\$93.00
Children:	\$5.50
Holy Day: (Immaculate Conception)	\$65.00
Total:	\$2,058.61

<u>Joy of the Gospel Campaign</u>	
Total Pledged:	\$958,770.00
Gifts last week:	\$39,000.00
Total Gifts Received:.....	\$780,923.05
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:.....	\$1,566,480.04
Balance on DIAL LOAN:.....	\$149,296.27

Christmas (Parish)	\$10.00
<u>CCD Information . December. Schedule</u>	
Dec. 23 NO Class (Church Decorating)	
Dec. 30 NO Class (Christmas vacation)	

Parish Calendar				
Sunday	Dec. 23	11:00am	NO CCD CLASSES	<i>Church Decorating & Parish Potluck</i>
Wednesday	Dec. 26	6:00-10:00pm	=Eucharistic Adoration, NO RCIA Class	
Sunday	Dec. 30	11:00am	NO CCD CLASSES	

Catholic School News:

Merry Christmas from your North Platte Catholic Schools Family!

Year-end giving is a multiple blessing! ... During this month, we are especially thankful for all who have blessed our schools with generosity of time, talent, and treasure. We want to remind you that this is also the time of year to maximize your charitable giving opportunities! All gifts made to the North Platte Catholic Schools Endowment-Trust, Inc. by December 31st are tax deductible for 2018.

Here is a look at how YOUR donations benefit our students and staff: ANNUAL FUND: Supports general school operations, teacher salaries, and tuition assistance for students

FORWARD IN FAITH: Allowed for special projects including a new roof and entryway/office renovations at St. Pat's High School, new weight room/bus barn facility, ongoing technology updates, ongoing HVAC upgrades/repairs, Endowment growth

G.R.E.E.N.: Supports general school operations, special appeal for school chapel renovations

IRISH FEST: Supports general school operations

NORTH PLATTE GIVING DAY: Will help fund continuing education for NPCS staff at the National Catholic Educational Association

GREAT TEACHING FUND: Provides financial assistance for NPCS teachers pursuing higher and continuing education

NAMED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS: Provide both college and NPCS tuition funding through donor-designated gifts to the Endowment

PLANNED ESTATE GIFTS: Ensure the stable future of the North Platte Catholic Schools by growing the Endowment *Please contact the Endowment office for more information about any of these giving opportunities. Your support is greatly appreciated!

It's time to think SCRIP for Gifts! Shop the Endowment's SCRIP inventory, order online, or special order through the office. SCRIP has something for everyone on your list! Visit www.shopwithscrip.com to view a complete list of national retailers. Don't forget "SCRIP of Choice" certificates too! You choose the denomination, & the recipient can pick out their own gift cards.

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

Advent Baby Shower: Again this Advent, our parish will participate in the statewide Advent Baby Shower, from **December 1 – January 13**. As we anticipate the good news and great joy of our Savior's birth, you are invited to **Show 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*.

Christmas Poinsettias ... Anyone may donate to poinsettias for the Altar by putting donation in collection, Please mark: *for flowers*.

Creighton Model NFP Introductory Sessions ... are held throughout the Diocese. Single women, engaged or married couples are welcome to attend to learn more about this revolutionary form of women's health tracking and natural family planning. Sessions meet Diocesan requirements for marriage prep. For more information visit www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp

Nebraska Walk for Life ... **Jan. 26, 2019** Keynote speaker=Catherine Adair (former Planned Parenthood employee).

Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents ... will be celebrated on **Friday, Dec. 28**. 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 (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 on Dec 19**. *If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.*

Meal for New Parents ... Matt & Ashley Perlinger's new baby, Zelie, was born in November. A meal schedule has been established for them online via TakeThemAMeal.com. If you would like to make a dinner for them to bless them on the birth of Zelie, you can sign up online at the site (search last name: Perlinger; password: 1117), via link St Es FB page, or call Emily Krondak 520-6673.

Put a Retreat into Your Schedule ... You can register at www.goodcounselretreat.com & receive immediate confirmation or call Good Counsel Retreat House (402-786-2705). Our parish made a \$1,500 donation to the Retreat House (which covers 9 persons).

January – July Schedule:

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

The Incarnation... "By his incarnation the Son of God has united himself in some fashion with every human being" (Vatican II, GS 22). This saving event reveals to humanity not only the boundless love of God who "so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (Jn 3:16), but also the incomparable value of every human person. The Church, faithfully contemplating the mystery of the Redemption, acknowledges this value with ever new wonder. She feels called to proclaim to the people of all times this "Gospel", the source of invincible hope and true joy for every period of history. *The Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a single and indivisible Gospel*" (Pope John Paul II, *The Gospel of Life*, n.2).

Journey Through Faith: Grief, Suffering, Salvation ...

Grief work, though very painful, is good and holy. Jesus tells us, "Blessed are those that mourn for they shall be comforted." (Mt 5:5) Grief is the way God intended us to deal with loss. Come join a small group of presenters as they share their faith journey through grief & suffering at St. Patrick Parish Hall on Saturday, January 5, 10:00am - 2:00pm. Bring your family and friends. (includes a Free Lunch). RSVP's are welcome; call Robin (532-0942 = St Patrick Office). Father Josh Brown will be sharing his personal story of grief and his experiences walking with others through their grief. Father Mark Seiker will speak on the Redemptive Power of Suffering. Other presenters: Moriah Eickhoff, Monica Kramer, Karen O'Connor, Romano Polanco.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration ...

Wednesdays of the year, 6:00pm (after the 5:30pm Mass) - 10:00pm. We need at least one (1) person present during each of those four hours. Anyone is invited to just "drop in" to spend some time with our Eucharistic Lord ... but we need 4 persons each week.

Holy Land Pilgrimage ... Steve & Janet Ray, Producers of the Footprints of God documentaries & Fr. Mark Seiker invite you on a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Wed, May 8 – Fri., May 17, 2019. Brochures will be available soon, there is an electronic brochure on our webpage, pray about being on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Advent Confession Schedule ...

- Sun. Dec 23, 9:00am-9:55am
- Sun. Dec. 23, **3:00pm** (2 Priests available at St. Elizabeth)
- Sun. Dec. 23, **7:00pm** Penance Service St. Patrick, McCook
- Mon. Dec. 24, 7:30am-7:55am, & **11:00am-12:30pm**

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!

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!

Retired Priests Collection ... Attached to the Bulletin is an envelope for our **retired diocesan priests.** We're reusing old envelopes. Please use this envelope to help us meet our \$1,452.00 assessment for the support of our retired diocesan priests.

Some of those retired Priests (who have substituted here), that some of you might remember are: Msgr. Ivan Vap, Msgr. Adrian Herbek, and Fr. Nick Baker. Please give generously to these retired Priests, these other Christs, who have given of their lives to the Church. Also please remember them in prayer. If anyone would like to write to them, the addresses are: Msgr. Ivan Vap, Bonacum House, 3301 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68506; Msgr. Adrian Herbek, Bonacum House, 3301 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68506; Rev. Nicholas Baker, 3301 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68506. **The collection is on Christmas Eve & Day.**

Parish Books Close Dec. 31, 2018 ... I ask you to please remember that the Parish books will be closed on **Mon., Dec. 31 at Noon!** Any contributions that you want to be recorded on your 2018 contribution statement must be received in the parish office before Noon, Dec. 31, 2018.

Nominations for Parish Council ... are being accepted for the next few weeks. Please contact one of the current Parish Council members or Parish Trustees (Members: Ken Bjornstad, Diane Gregg, Philip Heimann, Jim Nisley, and Trustees: Jerry Volesky & Duane Johnsen) or Fr. Seiker to nominate another parishioner or yourself. Normally the terms for the parish council are for two years. Philip Heimann and Jim Nisley are finishing their terms. Ken Bjornstad and Diane Gregg, are completing the first year of their two year term. We have 2 veteran members and 2 new members on the parish council each year. Hopefully there will be at least four parishioners' names on the ballot.

Fr. Seiker's schedule ... Tue. Dec 25–Wed. Dec. 26, I will spend time with family in Lincoln; Thu. Dec. 27 – Fri. Dec. 28, 10:30am Funeral in Fairbury, meeting with Jesus Caritas Priests in Lincoln; Sun. Dec. 30 – Mon. Dec. 31, with family for Mom's birthday. If there is an emergency for which you need a Priest, please call: Fr. Bernard Kimminau, Curtis (308-367-4280), Fr. Tom Bush, Grant (308-352-4803), Fr. Josh Brown, St. Patrick(532-0942), Fr. Sauger, Holy Spirit(534-6623).

The Christmas Season ... lasts from the Christmas Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 13. It has been a custom of the Church to celebrate ADVENT during the Advent Season without any Christmas decorations, & to celebrate CHRISTMAS during the Christmas Season, by leaving the manger scene & trees up until the end of the Christmas Season (Jan 13). May we all walk the path of God, not the path of man! May each of you have a HOLY Christmas season and a Blessed New Year!

Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Dec. 29, 5:00pm	Sun., Dec. 30, 10:00am
Lector	Loren Baxa	Mike Krondak
Acolyte	Ed Rieker	Greg Vandenberg
Server	William Krondak	Volunteer
	Nicholas Krondak	Jace Gunden
Music	Volunteer	Matt & Ashley Perlinger
Gifts	Jim & Shirley Nisley	Justin & Hanna Pieper
Ushers	Paul Nordquist	Duane Johnsen
	Volunteer	Spencer Hampton
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday: 2Sm7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16; Ps89:2-5,27,29; Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17,22-25; Mt 1:1-25
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps97:1, 6,11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31; Mt 10:17-22
Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28;
Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21
or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Prayers for the sick: Dave Hoedel (Reiny Burbach's son-in-law), Annie Vieyra, Theresa McCarthy-Garth, Mary Lou Robles & Patricia Zamora (Toni Barron's sisters), Kelly Henry (Mitch Gregg's sister), Peggy Fleecs, Patti Caudillo, Renate Nordquist, Sharon Beckius, John Kahl, Mike & Kim Paul, Eileen Boltz, Jim Beckius.

Prayers for the deceased: Carol LaBrie (Loren Baxa's sister-in-law), Leona Cloutre, Virginia Waechter (Peggy Orr's mother), Mary Jane Vitt (Chris Behm's mother), Bob "Junior" Barron (Toni Barron's brother), Bernadine Torres, Father Jim Novakowski, Martha Burbach, Jerry Kenny(Charles/Toni Barron's son-in-law), Bernadine Duryea, Luke Ranck, Margaret Baxa, Mary Portz, Phyllis Beckius.

Birthdays: 12/24 - Gary Bush, 12/25 – John Bode, 12/26 - Ryan Wartman, 12/27 - Lucia Pineda, 12/29 - Andrew Lott.

Congratulations: to Jerry & Sharon Beckius who celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary Dec. 23.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on. Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most. —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

MEMORIES AND DREAMS ... Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go. Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected. Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

O COME, LONG FORETOLD ... O come, desired of nations, whom priest and prophet long foretold will break the captive fetters, redeem the long-lost fold. Dear Savior, haste; come, come to earth, dispel the night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. —Simon J. Pellegrin (1663-1745), Tr. by Mary of St. Philip (1825-1904)

Pray for our Seminarians: Rev. Mr. Carson Jerome Kain, from St. Patrick, McCook. He entered the Seminary in 2012. He is in Theology 4 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

Pray for our Religious Sisters: School Sisters of Christ the King, Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln, Sisters at the Carmel of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, Pink Sisters, Sisters of Mary, Queen of Mercy.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS ...

(December) Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith - That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.