

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>

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 31, 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

INTENTIONS

**** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year) ****

Sunday	Dec. 31	5:00 p.m.	William & Francis Whisler +
Monday	Jan. 1	10:00 a.m.	People of our Parish
* * * * *			
Tuesday	Jan. 2	7:00 a.m.	Kelsey Bliss
Wednesday	Jan. 3	5:30 p.m.	Loretta Pilakowski +
Thursday	Jan. 4	8:00 a.m.	Phyllis J. Beckius +
Friday	Jan. 5	5:30 p.m.	Mary Portz +
<i>followed by: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & all night Adoration</i>			
Saturday	Jan. 6	9:00 a.m.	1 st Friday Holy Hour & Benediction
		5:00 p.m.	People of Our Parish
Sunday	Jan. 7	10:00 a.m.	Allan & Marlene Burr +

**My eyes have seen
your salvation,
which you prepared
in the sight of
all the peoples.**

— Luke 2:30-31

Stewardship: December 24, 2017

<p>Adult Envelopes:\$1,538.80 Loose Plate:.....\$102.35 Children: \$0.00 Total: \$1,641.15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Joy of the Gospel Campaign</u></p> <p>Total Pledged:\$958,770.00 Gifts last week:\$4,520.00 Total Gifts Received:.....\$602,049.05 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:.....\$1,379,295.04 Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... \$368,758.78</p>	<p>Christmas (Parish):\$1,897.93 (Christmas) Retired Priests :.. \$270.00 So NE Register:\$15.00</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>LastWk Donations "Farm" Sewer.....\$0.00</u> <u>Total Donations "Farm" Sewer\$3,005.00</u></p>
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Parish Calendar

Wednesday Jan. 3 7:00pm RCIA Class		
Sunday Jan. 7 11:00am CCD Classes		5:00pm = Parish Buffet Dinner

Catholic School News:

A Blessed New Year from your North Platte Catholic Schools Family!

Mark your calendars for upcoming events at NPCS.

- School Resumes on Thursday, Jan. 4th regular times.
- Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated Jan. 28th through February 2nd.
- Sunday, February 25th is IRISH FEST.

Stay up to date on all NPCS activities by searching North Platte Catholic Schools on Facebook or visiting our website at NPCSCHOOLS.ORG. Currently Enrolled Families please be certain you are able to log in to Sycamore! Contact Jennifer Winder at j.winder@npcschools.org if you need assistance with Sycamore. Important online Re-Enrollment things happen in the Spring; be sure you're comfortable navigating Sycamore.

From the Endowment: Thank you to all who have been a part of the "Forward in Faith" campaign for the North Platte Catholic Schools Endowment. We are nearing the end of the campaign, and are so thrilled with the progress to-date! With your generosity, we have been able to make some incredible and much-needed improvements to St. Pat's High School, Built a new bus barn and weight room facility, Added new technology to our classrooms, and have grown our endowment. But, it's NOT TOO LATE if you'd like to donate to the campaign! There are still campaign projects on our to-do list, such as continued replacement of HVAC units, additional technology, facility maintenance, and continued growth of the endowment for future needs of the school. End-of-year is a great time to complete your campaign pledge (or make a one-time gift)! Please contact the Endowment office if you are curious about your campaign balance or would like more information about donating to the North Platte Catholic Schools Endowment-Trust, Inc. Donations can be made at anytime, and credit card donations are accepted. Contact Wendy Dodson at: 308-534-5939, w.dodson@npcschools.org.

North Platte Catholic School:

Faith and Knowledge for a Brighter Future

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Buffet Dinner ... Sunday, January 7, 2018, 5:00pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Hall. Bring your favorite dishes. Meats & desert will be furnished. This is for the entire parish. Hope to see you there.

Nebraska Walk for Life ... Jan. 27, 2018, at the Capital in Lincoln, sponsored by the NE Right to Life.

- 9:00am Pro-Life Mass at St. Mary Church (14th & K)
- Keynote Speaker: Ann McElhinney of "Gosnell", Book & Movie.

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.

Advent Baby Shower: our parish is participating in the statewide ADVENT BABY SHOWER, from December 2 - January 8. As we celebrate 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 in Church Narthex. Gifts will be donated to *Women's Resource Center*.

Knights of Columbus Council #12530 ... has earned the distinction of **Star Council**, one of the organization's top awards, for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. The award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership recruitment, and retention, promotion of the fraternal insurance program, and sponsorship of service-oriented activities. The award was presented by District Deputy Mike Stromitis to three Knights of our Knights of Columbus Council at announcement time of the 10:00am Mass on Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD ... "It is a holy & pious thought to pray for the dead." 2 Macc 12:45. The best prayer of all is the Mass. Envelopes are available in the Narthex.

Sanctuary of Life ... This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Though he was conceived of a virgin, Jesus nevertheless lived as a son in a human family -- a family which points the way for the rest of us.

The family is the sanctuary of life. There can be no life without family, and there can be no family without life. The family, above all, is where life is to be welcomed, no matter how fragile or inconvenient it may be.

One of the many reasons why the Pope and bishops identify abortion and euthanasia as pre-eminent issues is because these crimes are committed by one family member upon another.

May the Holy Family lead us to a Culture of Life!

Introduction to Deliverance ... Have you ever wondered what exactly deliverance is or how it fits into our Catholic Faith? The Diocesan Office of Evangelization is 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 matthew-simmons@cdolinc.net or 402-805-9668 with questions.

UNBOUND Retreat ... Jan 19-21, 2018 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House, with Fr. William Holoubek. This weekend retreat is geared towards men & women who have already read the book or watched the video series, & will provide opportunities to pray the five keys with a prayer team. Register <http://goodcounselretreat.com/>

Put a Retreat into Your Schedule ... register at www.goodcounselretreat.com & receive immediate confirmation or call Good Counsel Retreat House at 402-786-2705 to register now.

January – May Schedule:

- Jan 12-13 Fr. Lux & Fr. McGuire..... Women
(LDCCW Winter Symposium)
- Jan 19-21 Fr. William Holoubek Men / Women
“Unbound: Breaking Free from Spiritual Wounds”
- Feb 2-4..... Fr. Joseph Walsh Men / Women
“Stewardship: Sharing the Master’s Joy (Mt 15:21)”
- Feb 14..... LDCCW Women
Day of Reflection (10am–3pm) “Ash Wednesday”
- Feb 16-18..... Fr. Sean Kilcawley Women
“Divine Daughterhood / Merciful Motherhood”
- Feb 23-25..... Bishop Fabian Bruskwewitz Men
“Lenten Outlooks on Pleasure, Power, and Possessions”
- Mar 2-4..... Fr. Joseph Faulkner Men / Women
“The Bible lets you talk to God better”
- Mar 16-18..... Magnificat with Susan Potvin Women
“Life in the Spirit Retreat”
- Mar 19-22..... Fr. Gary Coulter Men / Women
“Silent Directed Ignatian Retreat (Mon-Thur)”
- Mar 23-25..... Fr. Robert Young, O.F.M. Men / Women
“Finding Peace in the Will of God”
- Mar 29-31 Marian Sisters Young Women *Triduum Retreat*
- Apr 6-8 Fr. Christopher Kubat..... Men / Women
“Divine Mercy Weekend”
- Apr 20-22 Fr. Benjamin Holdren..... Men / Women
“Deepening your Prayer Life”
- May 4-6 Fr. Anthony Baetzold, CFR... Men / Women
“Totus Tuus: A Retreat with Mary, Mother of the Church”

NATIONWIDE MASS TIMES/Locations ...
Call Mass Times (1-734-794-2100) or Internet www.Masstimes.org

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Christmas Thank You’s ... to those who helped with decorating the Church and arranged the flowers, those who set up outdoor decorations, the Choirs, Cantors, Servers, Lectors, Acolytes, Ushers, & all who gave of themselves to the Lord to make the feast day of our Lord’s birth a special day. Also thanks to all those who gave cards, gifts, & Christmas goodies to me, and especially for your prayers. Your kindness is appreciated! (Fr. Mark Seiker)

Children’s Envelopes ... are available for every child (that we know of) from Kindergarten-Seniors in High School. If someone doesn't receive a box of envelopes, please contact the rectory. Also, if there are pre-school children who would like to receive envelopes, please contact the rectory. We will give children an individual statement of their contributions for 2017 in Jan. 2018. **Please use these envelopes for the new year 2018, not old envelopes.** Please teach the children about giving to the Lord!!

Parish Books Close Dec. 31, 2017 ... I ask you to please remember that the Parish books will be closed on **Sun., Dec. 31 at Noon!** Any contributions that you want to be recorded on your 2017 contribution statement must be received in the parish office before Noon, Dec. 31, 2017.

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: Jerry Beckius, Shane Lowrey, 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. Jerry Beckius and Shane Lowrey are finishing their terms. Philip Heimann and Jim Nisley 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.

New Envelope Numbers for 2018 ... Envelope Numbers have been re-assigned to everyone by Alphabetical order. You may or may not have the same number. Please DO NOT USE any OLD envelopes from previous years. Thanks for all you give to the Lord!

The Christmas Season ... lasts from the Christmas Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 8. 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 8). 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!

Epiphany / News Years Blessing ... is inserted into the Bulletin this week. Families are encouraged to pray together and encourage each other in living our Catholic Faith! Perhaps make a plan to include daily prayer together as a family in your daily schedule.

A Catechism in Song ... Did you ever wonder why the carol "A Partridge in a Pear Tree" is sung at Christmas? It's because the twelve days between Christmas and Epiphany (originally Epiphany was always on Jan. 6), were used by the English Catholics in 1558 after the religious persecutions, to explain their faith without exciting suspicion. The "true love" of the carol is God; the partridge is a symbol of Christ. The two turtle doves represent the sacrifice Jewish parents made in the Temple -- the Mass is the new sacrifice. The three French hens symbolize the Magi and their gifts, but also Faith, Hope, and Charity, the prime virtues. Four calling birds mean the four Gospels, while the five gold rings hint at the first five books of the Bible. The six geese a-laying are the six days of creation. The seven swans a-swimming are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit & the seven works of mercy. The eight milk maids are the eight beatitudes, while the nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit. The ten lords a-leaping symbolize the ten commandments and the eleven pipers, the eleven apostles without Judas. The twelve drummers point to the twelve (Articles) beliefs of the Apostles' Creed. How is that for a Catechism?

Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Jan. 6, 5:00pm	Sun., Jan. 7, 10:00am
Lector	Loren Baxa	Chuck Burr
Acolyte	Ed Rieker	Kevin Bantam
Server	Volunteer	Tyler Bantam
	Volunteer	Nicholas Niesen
Music	Volunteer	Peggy Orr
Gifts	Charles & Toni Barron	Sophie & Logan Morris
Ushers	Paul Nordquist	Volunteer
	Charles Barron	Jeff Orr

Readings for the Week

Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
 Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Prayers for the sick: Martha Burbach, Carol LaBrie (Loren Baxa's sister-in-law), Peggy Fleecs, Gordon Swanson (Cindy Swanson's father), Dan Homan (Cindy Swanson's son-in-law), Bernadine Duryea (Ben Heskett's mother), Luke Ranck, Patti Caudillo, Leona Clouatre, Renate Nordquist, Julie (Kellogg) Buehler (Molly Walz's aunt), 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: Gerald Vap (Msgr. Ivan Vap's brother), 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, Mary Portz, Phyllis Beckius, Sheryl Darpoli.

Birthdays: 12/31 - Dallas Grunden, 1/2 - Rebecca Nordquist, 1/4 - Tessa Nordquist, 1/5 - Obie Wartman, Nicholas Krondak.

Congratulations: to Stephen & Corinne Smock who celebrate their 5th Wedding Anniversary Jan. 5.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

BEARERS OF THE WORD ... The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

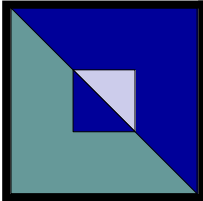
Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TIME ... Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of. —Benjamin Franklin

Pray for our Seminarians: **Caleb Daniel Hile**, from St. Joseph Parish, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2013. He is in Theology 2 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. **Santiago Jose Izquierdo**, from St. Peter Parish, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2016. He is in College 3 at St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS

(January): Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia - That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.



January 2018

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

3301 Echo Drive
North Plate, NE 69101
Phone: 308-534-5461

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5:00pm Vigil Mass Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God	1 10:00am Mass Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God	2	3 RCIA 7-9pm	4	5 5:30pm First Friday Mass Followed by All night Adoration	6 9:00am Holy Hour
7 The Epiphany of the Lord CCD 11:00am 5:00pm Parish Buffet Dinner	8 7:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting	9 7:00pm Western Nebraska Community for Life Prayer Service	10 RCIA 7-9pm	11	12 LDCCW Executive Board Meet'g and Winter Symposium for Altar Society Retreat House, Waverly (W)	13 Cursillo Secretariat Meeting, Doniphan LDCCW Full Board Meeting and Winter Symposium for Altar Society Retreat House, Waverly (W)
14 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time CCD 11:00am Knights of Columbus Breakfast Cursillo SW NE Ultreya at St. Patrick, McCook (3:30pm)	15	16	17 RCIA 7-9pm	18 7:00pm Western Nebraska Community for Life Organizational Meeting	19 Retreat at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly (M/W) Rev. William Holoubek	20 Western Catechist Retreat 9:45am—3:30pm at St. Patrick, McCook Retreat at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly (M/W) Rev. William Holoubek
21 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time CCD 11:00am Retreat at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly (M/W) Rev. William Holoubek	22 Day of Penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life.	23	24 Indianola Deanery Priests Meeting RCIA 7-9pm	25	26	27 Nebraska Walk For Life 9:00am Mass at St. Mary 10:00am Walk in Lincoln
28 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time CCD 11:00am Catholic Schools Week	29 Catholic Schools Week	30 Catholic Schools Week	31 Catholic Schools Week RCIA 7-9pm	Catholic Schools Week	Catholic Schools Week	

USHERS

**If you cannot make your assigned hour
please call a sub. Thanks!!**

Charles Barron	530-0042
Jerry & Sharon Beckius	532-0763
Steve & Janet Fear	534-6397
Spencer Hampton	386-6316
Duane Johnsen	386-8944
Heather Johnsen	386-8530
Shane Lowrey	529-0249
Paul Nordquist	532-0159
Jeff Orr	520-1824
Mike Paul	530-9315
Alice Robinson	530-3114
Cindy Swanson	660-2065

Substitute when Schedule allows:

Kevin Budke	660-2255
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Coffee & Rolls List

Saturday

January 6	Alice Robinson
January 13	Alice Robinson & Toni Barron
January 20	Paul Nordquist
January 27	Claudette Wielechowski

*To volunteer for Saturday night,
please call Alice Robinson 530-3114*

Sunday

January 7	Tracy Ryland
January 14	Knights of Columbus
January 21	Emily Krondak
January 28	Estrada Sisters

*To volunteer for Sundays,
please call Emily Krondak 520-6673.*

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH, North Platte, NE

LAY MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

January 2018

Dec. 31, 2017 – Jan. 1, 2018 (Mary, Mother of God)

	Sunday 5:00pm	Monday 10:00am
Lector	Volunteer	Volunteer
Acolyte	Volunteer	Volunteer
Server	Volunteer	Volunteer
	Volunteer	Volunteer
Music	Volunteer	Volunteer
Gifts	Volunteer	Volunteer
Ushers	Volunteer	Volunteer
	Volunteer	Volunteer
Rosary	Volunteer	Volunteer

January 20 - 21, 2018 (3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

	Saturday 5:00pm	Sunday 10:00am
Lector	Jerry Beckius	Shane Lowrey
Acolyte	Jerry Volesky	Jerry Cooper
Server	Volunteer	Xavier Pieper
	Volunteer	Nicholas Niesen
Music	Greg Vandenberg	Matt & Ashley Perlinger
Gifts	John & Molly Walz	Michael & Carissa Lafleur
Ushers	Cindy Swanson	Shane Lowrey
	Alice Robinson	Volunteer
Rosary		

January 6 - 7, 2018 (Epiphany of the Lord)

	Saturday 5:00pm	Sunday 10:00am
Lector	Loren Baxa	Chuck Burr
Acolyte	Ed Rieker	Kevin Bantam
Server	Volunteer	Tyler Bantam
	Volunteer	Nicholas Niesen
Music	Volunteer	Peggy Orr
Gifts	Charles & Toni Barron	Sophie & Logan Morris
Ushers	Paul Nordquist	Volunteer
	Charles Barron	Jeff Orr

January 27 - 28, 2018 (4th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

	Saturday 5:00pm	Sunday 10:00am
Lector	Mike Krondak	Justin Pieper
Acolyte	Jon Walz	Duane Johnsen
Server	William Krondak	Lakeland Lowrey
	Nicholas Krondak	Harmon Johnsen
Music	Greg Vandenberg	Buhrman/Niesen/Gregg
Gifts	RichClaudette Wielechowski	Ryan & Kate Wartman
Ushers	Steve Fear	Duane Johnsen
	Janet Fear	Heather Johnsen

January 13 - 14, 2018 (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

	Saturday 5:00pm	Sunday 10:00am
Lector	Jim Nisley	Michael Lafleur
Acolyte	Jerry Volesky	Conrad Buhrman
Server	William Krondak	Jace Grunden
	Nicholas Krondak	Weston Hammond
Music	Greg Vandenberg	Matt & Ashley Perlinger
Gifts	Phillip & Kelsey Heimann	Spencer Tiffany Hampton
Ushers	Jerry Beckius	Spencer Hampton
	Sharon Beckius	Jeff Orr

Counters:

January 7: Bob Ryland; Jerry Cooper
 January 14: Philip Heimann; Alice Robinson
 January 21: Shirley Nisley; Don Exner
 January 28: Greg Vandenberg; Jarrod Connelly

Servers:

Kevin Bantam..... (308) 367-6475
 Tyler Bantam..... (308) 367-6475
 Drew Connelly..... 532-9436
 Jace Grunden..... (308) 367-4214
 Weston Hammond..... 530-1074
 Harmon Johnsen..... (308) 386-8530
 Brock Johnsen..... (308) 386-8530

Lectors:

Loren Baxa..... 308-390-8891
 Jerome Beckius..... 532-0763
 Chuck Burr..... 308-991-3064
 Jerome Cooper..... 963-4477
 Jim Griffin..... 340-0564
 Mike Krondak..... 520-4353
 Michael Lafleur.... 402-992-4396
 Shane Lowrey..... 308-529-0249
 Jim Nisley..... 530-3260
 Michael Paul..... 530-9315
 Justin Pieper..... 660-0435
 Robert Ryland..... 520-0046

Acolytes:

Conrad Buhrman..... 532-6947
 Jerome Cooper..... 963-4477
 Robert Folchert (Sub).... 532-1217
 Duane Johnsen..... 386-8944
 Michael Paul..... 530-9315
 Edward Rieker..... 534-9211
 Robert Ryland..... 520-0046
 Greg Vandenberg..... 530-7587
 Jerry Volesky..... 530-2195
 Jon Walz..... 636-6211
 Rex Walz..... 530-5512

Music Leaders:

Gisele Barger..... 308-414-2119
 Sharon Beckius..... 532-0763
 Carmen Buhrman..... 532-6947
 Diane Gregg..... 530-6079
 Teresa Niesen..... 532-4151
 Marcie Minchow..... 660-7867
 Peggy Orr..... 520-7843
 Matt Perlinger..... (308) 289-3187
 Ashley Perlinger..(402) 202-9214
 Greg Vandenberg..... 530-7587

Nicholas Krondak..... 520-6673
 William Krondak..... 520-6673
 Lakeland Lowrey..... 308-529-0249
 Nicholas Niesen..... 532-4151
 Xavier Pieper..... 660-0543

Please call a substitute if you can't make your assigned hour. Thanks!

FAMILY BLESSING ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

Leader: Christ is the beginning & the end, the first & the last, all seasons & years & ages belong to Him. Glory to God in the Highest!

ALL: AND PEACE TO HIS PEOPLE ON EARTH.

(Leader then uses these or other words:) The old is finished and done away with; Christ comes to make all things new. We all need new beginnings. Let us pause for a few moments to reflect on ways that we want our lives to be different this year, and then let us make some practical resolutions. Let us especially remember that recent popes have designated New Year's Day as a day of prayer for peace. May we always be instruments of Christ's peace and reconciliation.

(All pause for a few moments reflection.)

(Reader then proclaims the Scripture reading: Revelation 21:1-5)

Leader: Give us a new spirit of love, a more fervent hope, and a deeper faith during this new year. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Leader: Help each of us to have a greater spirit of cooperation with each other. May we always support each other and forgive each other, we pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Leader: May we be as patient with each other as we want others to be with us. May we be as understanding of each other as we want others to be of us. May we be as loving toward each other as you are toward us. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Leader: Give us a good conscience; give us a horror of sin; give us a passion for justice and for reverence for every precious human life. Give us peace of soul, peace in the home, peace in our community among all groups, peace in our nation, and peace in the world. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(All then pray together the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. AMEN.

BLESSING OF HOMES ON EPIPHANY

(In the Universal Church, Epiphany is a Holy Day of Obligation, Jan. 6, the "Twelfth Day of Christmas". In the United States and other countries which do not observe Epiphany as a Holy Day, the celebration is usually transferred to the Sunday after New Year's Day. If desired, the following explanation may be used as an introduction to the blessing of homes.)

The blessing of homes on Epiphany is a very old Catholic custom. When the Wise Men or Magi became an important focus of the celebration of Epiphany, the blessing of homes was a natural conclusion: The Wise Men came to bring gifts to honor the King of Kings; but when they entered the home at Bethlehem, they were blessed by Him whom they came to bless! Since the high Middle Ages, the names Caspar, Melchior, and Baltassar have been given to the Magi, and they have been honored as saints; there is a magnificent reliquary of their alleged remains behind the high altar of the Cathedral of Cologne, Germany. The actual facts and history of the Magi are not nearly so important as the celebration. We, too, are always blessed by those whom we go to bless. To give is to receive. To dedicate our homes to Christ is to gain untold blessings from Him who manifested Himself in glory to the world on Epiphany. In the golden age of liturgy, two other mysteries were also celebrated on Epiphany: the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist and the Wedding Feast at Cana. Each of these mysteries gives meaning to the blessing of homes. By sharing in the wedding feast of Cana. Each of these mysteries give meaning to the blessing of homes. By sharing in the wedding feast of Cana, Jesus blessed married life and family life in the home. By His baptism, Jesus was consecrated as the Suffering Servant of the Lord. He began His mission to reconcile and to save; we begin our mission as Christians from our family life in the home.

Leader: Peace be to this home and to all who live here! Blessed be God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit who live within us!

ALL: NOW AND FOREVER!

Leader: In the third Mass of Christmas Day, we heard the opening words of the Gospel according to John: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God! He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through Him, and without Him, nothing came to be. And the Word was made flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only-begotten Son of the Father." When the translation says that He "made His dwelling among us", the real words are "He pitched His tent among us." It teaches the very down-to-earth and personal presence of Christ with us. He is here in this home. May He always be in our hearts. Today in signs and symbols, we renew our realization of the presence of the Lord in our home.

The family gathers at the front door. The leader marks over the door, with a piece of chalk, the following: 20 + C + M + B + 18. He then says:

Leader: We have written the number of this year together with the initial of the Magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Baltassar. May God always send His angels to dwell in this home. May He keep us always in His peace and love. May we provide welcome to strangers and to those in need. May He bless our coming and our going so that everything that comes to this home or goes forth from this home may always be guided by the light of faith, hope, and love. We ask all these things through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

The family then goes from room to room sprinkling each room with holy water. If the room is more significant to one member of the family, that member of the family may sprinkle that room, and lead the petition. As the family goes from room to room, the following -- or other petitions (more suited to the family) may be used. Petitions below which are not relevant should be omitted. After sprinkling all the rooms (or representative rooms) the family gathers back in the living room or family room.

(Dining Room) Bless us, Lord, when we eat our meals together. May the food we take here make us long for the Bread of Life, and may our meals here be a pledge and foretaste of the banquet you prepare for us in heaven. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Kitchen) Families must work together and cooperate in preparations for meals and in cleaning up afterward. May God bless the work of each of us, and make us appreciate the work that each contributes for the good of this family. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Parents' Bed Room) Fathers and Mothers are given the awesome responsibility of guiding their children in this world to the world to come. May the Father and Mother of this house always be guided by the Holy Family. May God give them wisdom and strength to guide this family always in truth and in love. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Baby's Room) God gives the precious gift of life. May we always reverence every life, and care for those who need our care the most. May God watch over and keep our baby safe from all harm. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Boys' Room) Jesus was a boy. He understands and knows each of us better than we know ourselves. May He guide us always and help us to grow. May He make us humble in good times, and may He give us strength and humility in bad times. In everything may we serve Him as best we can. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Girls' Room) The greatest human person who ever lived was a woman. Before she was a woman, she was a girl. Mary did not always know what God had in store for her, but she followed in faith. May God bless our femininity, our girlhood, our young womanhood. May He guide us always so that our lives may give Him glory. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Garage) From here we go, to here we come. May God protect us on our journeys and bring us safely back home. May He give us wisdom and skill and patience in driving so that we shall always respect our lives and the lives of others. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Bathrooms, closets, utility rooms) So many rooms are necessary for the good functioning of the home. May each room always show forth our respect for each other. May we work together to keep them clean so that the entire family may always enjoy this home in its fullness. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

(Family Room or Living Room) In this room we watch television, we read, we talk, we entertain friends, we relax, we hear music. May everything that we do in this room be done for the glory of God. may all that we hear and all that we see be worthy of His presence in our home. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

The family then joins hands and prays together the Lord's Prayer. A favorite hymn may be sung. Then all say:

MAY GOD BLESS US AND KEEP US IN HIS LOVE
THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE YEAR. AMEN.

An appropriate time for the removing of the Christmas crib and other decorations is at the completion of Epiphany, i.e. on the night before the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord.