

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
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2nd Sunday of Advent *December 9, 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. 10 8:00 a.m.
 Tuesday Dec. 11 **7:00 a.m.**
 Wednesday Dec. 12 **5:30 p.m.**
6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hour => Spend time with Jesus
 Thursday Dec. 13 8:00 a.m.
 Friday Dec. 14 **12:10 p.m.**
 Saturday Dec. 15 **5:00 p.m.**
 Sunday Dec. 16 **10:00 a.m.**

INTENTIONS

Elli Fugate
 Fr. Mark Seiker (-bap)
 John L. Sullivan +
 Anna Lee
 Martha Burbach +
 Bernadine Torres +
 People of Our Parish

**God has commanded
 that every lofty mountain
 be made low.**

— Baruch 5:7

It's not about presents.

It's about His presence!

Spend time with Jesus (Eucharistic Adoration)

Are you preparing for a Person or for a Day?

Stewardship: December 2, 2018

Adult Envelopes:\$1,864.50
Loose Plate:\$55.00
Children:\$0.00
Holy Day (Immaculate Conception) **\$20.00**
Total: \$1,939.50

Joy of the Gospel Campaign

Total Pledged:\$958,770.00
 Gifts last week:\$1,175.00
Total Gifts Received:\$741,923.05
 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:..... \$192,296.27

Contemplative Sisters \$10.00

CCD Information . December. Schedule

Dec. 9 **NO Class** (McDaid Christmas Program)
 Dec. 16 **CCD Class** (regular schedule)
 Dec. 23 **NO Class** (Church Decorating)

Parish Calendar

Sunday Dec. 9 11:00am Knights of Columbus Breakfast **NO CCD CLASSES** 11:30am=Daughters of Charity
 1:30pm NPCS Christmas Program 3:30pm=Cursillo SW NE Ultreya at SEAS
 Monday Dec. 10 7:00pm **Knights of Columbus Meeting** in Parish Hall.
 Wednesday Dec. 12 6-10pm Eucharistic Adoration, **6:15pm=Choir Practice**, 7:00pm=RCIA Class
 Saturday Dec. 15 Cursillo School of Leaders at IHM, Lincoln
 Sunday Dec. 16 11:00am **CCD CLASSES** *Healing Mass 4:00pm St. Patrick, McCook*

Catholic School News:

Find a full list of activities or follow our IRISH as they compete ... follow North Platte Catholic Schools on Facebook or visit <http://npcschools.org>.

McDaid Christmas Program: This Sunday is the McDaid Christmas Program at the Neville Center beginning at 1:30pm. Free will offering will be accepted at the door.

SP High School Christmas Concert: Wed -12/12 also marks the SP High School Christmas Concert. Students from 7-12 will perform in various groups including 7th and 8th grade General Music Class on Handbells. Join us for these festivities to help boost your holiday spirit!

End of Semester: End of the 1st Semester will be on Fri - 12/21. We will dismiss at noon for the Christmas Break and return to school on Thu - 1/3.

7:30am I.R.I.S.H. December Rosary Dates: Tue-12/11; Wed-12/19. *Mon & Wed at McDaid. *Tues & Thurs at St. Pats HS Chapel

It's time to think SCRIP for the holidays!: 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. Perfect for teachers! Call Endowment office (534-5939) with SCRIP questions.

North Platte Catholic School:

Faith and Knowledge for a Brighter Future

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).

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) Meeting:

will be **Sunday, Dec. 9, at 11:30am** in Rectory Conference Room. All women are invited & encouraged to attend.

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) News:

On **Sunday, December 9** after enjoying the Knights of Columbus breakfast, the Daughters of Charity will have a brief meeting, then they will assemble 'cookie plates' to be delivered to our home-bound Parish friends. The Daughters of Charity ask the following; parish families with the last name of:

- **A to H** ... bring one, six-count pack of single-serve applesauce, peaches, pears or mixed fruit. (This will keep better than fresh fruit.)
- **I to Q** ... bring one dozen, home-made cookies.
- **P to Z** ... bring one, CHRISTmas ornament.

Join together with your parish family to spread the JOY of Christmas with others! Please place your items in the K-1 classroom before Sunday, Dec. 9. If you have any questions call Heather Johnsen: 308-386-8530. Thankfully, The Daughters of Charity.

Breakfast by Knights of Columbus ... Sunday,

Dec. 9, 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.

Knights of Columbus Meeting ... Mon, Dec 10,

7:00pm, Parish Hall. All Knights are invited to attend.

Keep Christ in Christmas!

The Knights of Columbus will sell religious Christmas cards after Mass. Send your relatives and friends a card that expresses the true meaning of the Christmas season.

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

Healing Mass: Sunday, Dec. 16, 4:00pm St. Patrick, McCook ...

All are welcome to receive physical, spiritual, & mental healing. Celebrant: Rev. Christopher Barak, Lincoln. Come early to participate in 3:30pm=singing of Divine Mercy Chaplet & Confessions. (postponed from 12/2)

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).

December – February Schedule:

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"

Retreat with Bishop Conley Dec. 14-16 ...

Bishop James Conley & Father Gary Coulter will lead a retreat Dec. 14-16 at Good Counsel Retreat House for men & women of all ages.

Entitled, "The Mysteries of Christmas," the retreat theme ties in with the Rosary Crusade that Bishop Conley has invited the diocese to participate in this year, encouraging families to take time in daily prayer and the rosary. "The rosary is a powerful weapon," Bishop Conley said. "Praying the rosary allows us to meditate on the life of Jesus as we reflect upon the mysteries of the rosary."

Several of the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary are typically associated with Christmas, such as the Annunciation, Nativity, and Presentation in the Temple, but what not everyone knows is that Epiphany is traditionally associated not only with the wise men but also two other mysteries: the Baptism of Jesus and the Miracle at the Wedding in Cana are also 'Epiphanies' that make Jesus known.

Fr. Coulter points out, "Although Mary plays a key role in the Christmas story, and occupies a central focus in the Rosary, she always leads us to know and love her son, Jesus. As Mary's last recorded words in the gospels say, 'Do whatever he tells you.' (John 2:5)"

As both great books for Advent reading, and as source for the retreat, Bishop Conley recommends Jesus of Nazareth: the Infancy Narratives by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Fr. Coulter recommends Joy to the World: How Christ's Coming Changed Everything (and Still Does) by Dr. Scott Hahn.

The retreats begin 8:00pm Friday with a Rosary and Mass, and end at Noon Sunday with Mass and lunch, for a suggested donation of \$170. Note: Bishop Conley will present 3 talks, Father Coulter will present 4 talks. See the full schedule of retreats and register at www.goodcounselretreat.com. Also listen to free recordings of past retreats, sign-up for a monthly email newsletter, leave a prayer request, make a donation, and more. One can also email goodcounsel@cdolinc.net or call 402-786-2705.

The pain of abortion – from one who knows ...

"When I found out I was pregnant, I was so scared and felt like I didn't know where to turn. I felt like I had no other choice. After I had my abortion I felt relief at first. But after 7 years of denial it finally hit me. I was so scared when I found out what an abortion really [is]. I was so angry at my family and boyfriend (now husband). I felt like nobody was there for me. I was angry at the clinic personnel for saying everything would be fine. I found Project Rachel and they helped me start to grieve [for] my child. So many women feel that if they had more support and truth during their crisis pregnancy many lives would have been saved." **Help is available: Call 1-800-712-HELP.**

Practice for Christmas Choir ... The next practice is **Wednesday, Dec. 12, 6:15pm in Parish Hall.** Please contact Matt Perlinger (308) 289-3187.

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 2019 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.

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.*

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 Spiritual Life Center (in Parish Hall if needed) 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.

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 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.*

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Advent Confession Schedule ...

- Sat. Dec. 15, 4:00pm-4:55pm
- Sun. Dec. 16, 9:00am-9:55am
- Mon. Dec. 17, 7:30am-7:55am, & **11:00am-12:30pm**
- Tue. Dec. 18, 6:30am-6:55am
- Thu. Dec. 20, 7:30am-7:55am, & **5:00pm-6:00pm**
- Sat. Dec. 22, **11:00am – 12:30pm, & 3:00pm-4:55pm**
- Sun. Dec. 23, **3:00pm (2 Priests available at St. Elizabeth)**
- Sun. Dec. 23, **7:00pm Penance Service St. Patrick, McCook**

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. 15, 5:00pm	Sun., Dec. 16, 10:00am
Lector	Mike Krondak	Shane Lowrey
Acolyte	Jerry Volesky	Duane Johnsen
Server	Volunteer	Lakeland Lowrey
	Volunteer	Harmon Johnsen
Music	Matt & Ashley Perlinger	Greg Vandenberg
Gifts	CindySwanson/AliceRobinson	Michael & Emily Krondak
Ushers	Cindy Swanson	Volunteer
	Alice Robinson	Spencer Hampton
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
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:	Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

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: 12/9 - Grace Ryland, 12/12 - Chuck Burr, Weston Hammond, 12/14 - Eileen Boltz, 12/15 - Henrietta Boots, Colleen O'Shaughnessy, 12/16 - Jennifer Belgum.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Look around most Catholic churches, and you will discover an image of John the Baptist, often in the old baptistery, or in a window near where the font is or was located. He has two feast days in the calendar: one commemorating his birth, and the other his death. There are only three nativities in our calendar: for Jesus, for Mary, and for the Baptist. John's birthday is reckoned according to the schedule given in Luke's Gospel of the angel's announcement to Mary. The angel tells her that her cousin Elizabeth is in the sixth month of pregnancy, and so Mary hastens to help her. Reckoning Christmas as December 25, we count backwards nine months to March 25 for the Feast of the Annunciation. Then we count forward three months to June 24 for John the Baptist's birth. Halfway to Christmas, his nativity gives ample reason for rejoicing in the summer, and his symbols of fire and water are used playfully in bonfires and dives into the sea. Even at the polar opposite of Christmas in the calendar, the energy of Christ's birth in the Incarnation provides cause for rejoicing. —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

AWAITING THE SALVATION OF GOD ... The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn't big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God's salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters. According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God's salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees. It can't get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God. —Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

RICHES ... Riches are the instrument of all vices, because they render us capable of putting even our worst desires into execution. —St. Ambrose

YET TO DO ... One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done. —Marie Curie

Pray for our Seminarians: Santiago Jose Izquierdo, from St. Peter, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2016. He is in College 4 at St. Gregory the Great 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.