

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

3rd Sunday of Advent ***December 16, 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. 17	8:00 a.m.	Ryan Bale
Tuesday	Dec. 18	7:00 a.m.	Tyler Golden
Wednesday	Dec. 19	5:30 p.m.	Elizabeth (Liz) Haag
6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hour => Spend time with Jesus			
Thursday	Dec. 20	8:00 a.m.	Jerry Kenny +
Friday	Dec. 21	1:00 p.m.	Martha Burbach +
		5:30 p.m.	For our Benefactors
Saturday	Dec. 22	5:00 p.m.	Jerry & Sharon Beckius (-Anniv)
Sunday	Dec. 23	10:00 a.m.	People of Our Parish

INTENTIONS

***The King of Israel, the LORD,
is in your midst, you have
no further misfortune to fear.***

— Zephaniah 3:15b

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 9, 2018

Adult Envelopes:\$848.50
Loose Plate:.....\$122.11
Children:.....\$3.00
Holy Day: (Immaculate Conception) **\$1,085.00**
Total: \$2,058.61

Joy of the Gospel Campaign

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:.....\$1,609,480.04
 Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... \$149,296.27

CCD Information ... December Schedule

Dec. 16 CCD Class (regular schedule)
 Dec. 23 **NO Class** (Church Decorating)
 Dec. 30 **NO Class** (Christmas vacation)

Parish Calendar

Sunday Dec. 16 11:00am CCD CLASSES *Healing Mass 4:00pm St. Patrick, McCook*
 Wednesday Dec. 19 6:00-10:00pm=Eucharistic Adoration, **6:15pm=Choir Practice**, 7:00pm=RCIA Class
 Sunday Dec. 23 11:00am **NO CCD CLASSES** *Church Decorating*

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>.

Christmas Food Drive: The St. Pat's High School Student Council is doing a Christmas food drive through Wed-12/19 at Noon. Items collected will be going to the local Animal Shelter and the Salvation Army. Suggested items include: pet food / treats; litter or canned veggies, rice, dried beans or other non - perishable food items.

Activities for the Week of Dec 17 - 21st: Mon-12/17: 2:00pm Citizenship Assembly - *5th and 6th Grade Bands will Perform; *4:00pm 9th G&B Bball vs Gothenburg. Tue-12/18: 4:30pm G&B Bball @ Valentine; *7:00pm School Board Meeting. Thu-12/20: 6:00pm - WR Tri @ Brady. Fri-12/21: 8:15am Winter Picture Day; 11:00am Retired Friends Dinner; *End of 1st Semester Noon Dismissal for Christmas Break.

Listen to Tanner Struckman: Listen to the Voice of the IRISH Tanner Struckman on KODY 1240AM, 106.1FM, or online at Huskeradio!

7:30am I.R.I.S.H. December Rosary Dates: 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.

December Student of the Month: Congratulations Freshman Ashton Guo for being selected as the December Student of the Month. Ashton is involved in One Act, S.A.I.N.T.S., Elite Jazz Band, Chorus, Swing Choir and Student Council. Ashton is consistently on the A Honor Roll. He is the son of Shuihang & Ivy Guo.

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

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)

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.

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.*

Practice for Christmas Choir ... The next practice is **Wednesday, Dec. 19, 6:15pm in Parish Hall.** Please contact Matt Perlinger (308) 289-3187.

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

Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents ... on Fri., Dec. 28. All are invited to this Memorial Mass, especially families who have suffered the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion. Reading of names begins 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 remembered & placed on banner for this year, please call 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.*

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.*

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 Lesson of Advent ... When the year 1000 was about to dawn, people fled to mountains, expecting the return of Christ. When 2000 came, people feared major computer -- and hence societal -- breakdowns. Neither happened. Yet both moments in history remind us of something deeper, the lesson of Advent. Advent means "coming." The Lord wants us to anticipate and prepare for His coming, not as something that we hinge on a particular date or identify with a particular calamity, but as an ordinary aspect of our daily Christian living. On the one hand, we know He is coming; on the other, we don't know when. Yet every moment is an opportunity to make that coming more central to our lives. Lord, may we welcome you daily in your Word, your Sacraments, and in all our brothers and sisters!

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.

Meal for New Parents ... Matt & Ashley Perlinger's new baby, Zelle, 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 Zelle, 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.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Advent Confession Schedule ...

- 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
- Wed. Dec. 19, 5:00pm-5:25pm
- Thu. Dec. 20, 7:30am-7:55am, & 5:00pm-6:00pm
- Fri. Dec. 21, 5:00pm-5:25pm
- Sat. Dec. 22, 11:00am – 12:30pm, & 3:00pm-4:55pm
- 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!

***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!

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 \$1,250.00 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.

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.

Friday Mass Time Change This Week ...

1:00pm Mass (not 12:10pm) and also a 5:30pm Mass.

Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Dec. 22, 5:00pm	Sun., Dec. 23, 10:00am
Lector	Mike Krondak	Justin Pieper
Acolyte	Ed Rieker	Jerry Cooper
Server	William Krondak	Xavier Pieper
	Nicholas Krondak	Nicholas Niesen
Music	Volunteer	Buhrman/Niesen/Gregg
Gifts	Steve & Janet Fear	Karl & Lyuba Hendricks
Ushers	Steve Fear	Duane Johnsen
	Janet Fear	Heather Johnsen
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Thursday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
Friday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Saturday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

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: 12/15 - Henrietta Boots, Colleen O'Shaughnessy, 12/16 - Jennifer Belgum, 12/18 - Kevin Boots, 12/19 - Vanessa Pineda, 12/20 - Jennifer Bantam, Vanessa Cloutre.

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

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Years ago, the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, "Gaudete Sunday," is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts: Gaudete is Latin for "Rejoice!" This year's Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary's visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy. Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent, but many parishes employ different hues for each season, trying to keep them distinct. In medieval times, dye was costly, and poor parishes used unornamented plain cloth for vestments. Dyes were expensive and some colors, particularly purple, difficult to achieve. In England, purple dye was made from mollusks, yielding at best a deep indigo or blue and not the desired violet. Thus, the color of Advent in the British Isles has long been a deep blue, reminding many people of Mary's presence at the heart of the Advent mystery. That theology is largely unplanned: it's all because of the clams! —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

REJOICE! ... Today has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday." The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to "rejoice always in the Lord," and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work. Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy. This, we are assured on all sides, is "the season of joy." Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.. —Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

IMPRESSIONABLE ... A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every passerby leaves a mark. —Ancient Chinese proverb

WITNESSES ... Our actions are the best witnesses of our thoughts. —Anonymous

Pray for our Seminarians: Robert William Johnson, from St. Thomas, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2014. He is in Theology 3 at Mount St. Mary 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.