

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



Father Mark Seiker
3301 Echo Drive
North Platte, Nebraska 69101

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Parish Hall: 534-0511

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The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord *January 10, 2021*

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

Family Formation Program

Sunday mornings (Sept-May) 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 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	Jan. 11	8:00 a.m.	Elli (Fugate) Schmidt
Tuesday	Jan. 12	7:00 a.m.	Rick Ryan
Wednesday	Jan. 13	5:30 p.m.	Louis Coppersmith +
6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hours => Spend time with Jesus			
Thursday	Jan. 14	8:00 a.m.	Anna Lee
Friday	Jan. 15	12:10 p.m.	Special Intention (jls)
		5:30 p.m.	Susan Foley (-bap)
Saturday	Jan. 16	5:00 p.m.	Eloise Kramer +
Sunday	Jan. 17	10:00 a.m.	People of our Parish

INTENTIONS

**Faith is a way of walking,
not a way of talking.**

***If we claim God as our
Father, we should act
as God's children.***

Stewardship: January 3, 2021

Adult Envelopes:\$1,950.00
Loose Plate:\$96.00
Children:\$0.00
Holy Day: (Mary, Mother of God), **\$678.00**
Total:\$2,724.00

Joy of the Gospel Campaign

Total Pledged:\$958,770.00
 Gifts last week:\$100.00
Total Gifts Received:\$929,653.05
 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:.....\$1,759,678.04
 Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... **\$8,568.02**

Contemplative Sisters:\$0.00
 Retired Priests:.....\$130.00

Parish Calendar

Sunday	Jan. 10	11:30am: Daughters of Charity Meeting, in person in Parish Hall (observing a social distance) and via Zoom
Monday	Jan. 11	7:00pm: Knights of Columbus Meeting, in person in Parish Hall (observing a social distance) and via Zoom
Wednesday	Jan. 13	6:00pm – 10:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration; 7:00pm – 9:00pm: RCIA Classes in Person and via Zoom
Thursday	Jan. 14	1:00pm: Adult Bible Study (contact Teri Volesky)

Catholic School News:

Upcoming Events: Jan 11: 4:00pm- JH G & B Bball vs. Hershey, Jan 12: 4:30pm- G & B Bball vs. Mullen, Jan. 13: 1:00pm- JH G & B Bball @ Maxwell, Jan 14: 5:00pm- JH G & B Bball vs. Chase County, 5:30pm- WR @ Hershey (Quad), Jan. 15: 2:30pm- WR @ Elm Creek, 4:30pm- G & B Bball vs. Overton, Jan. 16: 10:00am- WR @ Sandhills-Thedford.

God is Here: Many thanks to all of the individuals and families that have toured our school, shared an interest in transferring and especially to those that have made the decision to transfer to NPCS. We were excited to share the free-tuition program with so many. We are happy and feel blessed that we have families starting 2021 as part of our Irish school community! Thank you!

Thank You: Your generous gifts to the North Platte Catholic Schools Endowment-Trust, Inc. directly supported the following missions and projects at NPCS: *Tuition Assistance for Families, *Faculty Salaries, *Facility Operations, *Campus Improvements, *Technology, *Great Teaching Fund Scholarships for Educators, *Alumni Relations. Gifts to the Endowment directly support the students, families, and staff of the North Platte Catholic Schools. Thank you for being a part of our success in 2020! We hope you will continue help us fulfill the mission of the North Platte Catholic Schools in this new year as well. Gifts to the Endowment's Annual Fund can be made online at any time by visiting: <https://npsc.schools.org/donate-now>.

Catholic Schools Week: Catholic Schools Week will be Jan. 31-Feb. 6! This week gives us the opportunity to recognize and thank everyone for helping us keep our school successful. This week is also another opportunity for us to share all that a Catholic education has to offer. If you have ever considered NPCS, please contact us today! A faith-based education is a decision you won't regret making!

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

Spousal Hearts: Renewed in Love ... Marriage Encounter presenting Virtual weekends 2021, Feb. 19-21, April 23-25. Contact Pat & Janelle Benson, Pat 308-940-0670, Janelle 308-940-1105, pjbbben@yahoo.com.

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

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) Meeting:

will be **Sunday, January 10, at 11:30am** in person in the Parish Hall (*observing a Social Distance*) **and** via Zoom. All women are invited & encouraged to participate either in person or virtually through Zoom. All of the women (*for whom we have emails*) will receive an email invitation to join the Zoom meeting later this week. *If you have never used Zoom before or have questions, please contact Fr. Seiker BEFORE the meeting begins.*

Knights of Columbus Meeting ... Mon, Jan. 11,

7:00pm, in person in the Parish Hall (*observing a Social Distance*) **and** via Zoom. All Knights are invited to participate. *If you have never used Zoom before or have questions, please contact Fr. Seiker BEFORE the meeting begins.*

Nebraska Walk for Life ...

The 48th Annual Nebraska Walk for Life will be held on Saturday, **January 16, 2021**. The outdoor event begins on the north steps of the State Capitol at 10:00am where there will be speakers & greetings from elected officials. The Walk proceed to Newman Center (16th & Q St). Keynote speaker, **Sarah Zagorski** will give testimony to her challenging childhood & why every life matters. For more information, see www.nebraskarighttolife.org or call 402-438-4802.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration ... 6:00pm

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

O, Come Let Us Adore Him, Christ the Lord! ...

May the words of our Christmas hymn help us to find the real meaning of Christmas and live it throughout the whole year!!

in-person and online retreats including:

Give The Knights Your Cans ... Profit from recycling the cans used for Knights of Columbus charitable works. Place cans in the barrels in front of the storage shed (southwest corner of parking lot).

Good Counsel Retreat House Retreats Register for Online & in person Retreats sponsored by Good Counsel Retreat House www.goodcounselretreat.com, 402-786-2705, or goodcounsel@cdolinc.net.

Upcoming January Schedule:

- Jan. 15-17 Fr. Thomas MacLean Men / Women
“*Perspectives on the Gift of Life* (and Jan. 16 Walk for Life)”
Jan. 21-24 Matt Simmons Men / Women
“*4-day Private Directed Ignatian Retreat*” (Thur-Sun)
Jan. 23 Kendra Von Esh **Online Retreat** .. Men / Women
“*Finding Joy in Prayer*” (Sat, 9:30am-2:30pm)
Jan. 28-31 Regnum Christi & Fr. Peter Krezalek, LC. Women
“*Live the Mystery: Triduum of Renewal*”
Feb. 5-7 Fr. William Holoubek Men / Women
“*Unbound: Freedom in Christ*”
Feb. 11-14 Fr. Gary Coulter Men / Women
“*4-day Private Directed Ignatian Retreat*” (Thu-Sun)
Feb. 17 Ash Wednesday Day of Reflection ... Men / Women
(\$10, in-person or online)
Feb. 20 (Sat) Fr. Benjamin Holdren Moms of Young People
“*Holiness is for Everyone (Seriously)*”
Feb. 26-28 Johnnette Benkovic Williams Men / Women
“*Living His Life Abundantly in Today’s World*”

Baptism and Life ... “Whoever is moved by love begins to perceive what “life” really is. He begins to perceive the meaning of the word of hope that we encountered in the Baptismal Rite: from faith I await “eternal life” - the true life which, whole and unthreatened, in all its fullness, is simply life. Jesus, who said that he had come so that we might have life and have it in its fullness, in abundance (*cf. Jn 10:10*), has also explained to us what “life” means: “this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent” (*Jn 17:3*). Life in its true sense is not something we have exclusively in or from ourselves: it is a relationship. And life in its totality is a relationship with him who is the source of life. If we are in relation with him who does not die, who is Life itself and Love itself, then we are in life. Then we ‘live’” – *Pope Benedict XVI, Encyclical on Hope, November 30, 2007.*

Rediscover Your Marriage ... *Retrouvaille* (pronounced retro-vi) means ‘rediscovery’. The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. *Retrouvaille* is a not spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. *Retrouvaille* helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. It will give you the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped tens or thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the February program beginning with a weekend on February 19-21, 2021, call 1-888-317-5654 or 308-986-2351 or www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Christmas Thank You’s ... to those who helped with decorating the Church, arranged the flowers, set up outdoor decorations, the Cantors, 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 who gave cards, gifts, & Christmas goodies to me, and especially for your prayers. Your kindness is appreciated!

Children’s Envelopes ... are available for every child (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’ll give children a statement of their contributions for 2020 in Jan. 2021. **Please use these envelopes for the new year 2021, not old envelopes.** Please teach the children about giving to the Lord!!

RCIA Classes ... (Inquiry class in Faith) on Wednesdays in Parish Hall 7:00pm – 9:00pm, will continue until mid-May 2021. **It is not too late to join!** Classes for Catholics & non-Catholics. Come, learn more about your faith; offered in **person (with social distance) & virtually.**

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: Mickey Morlang, Jeff Orr, Kanen Hammond, Spencer Hampton, 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. We have 2 veteran members & 2 new members on the parish council each year. Hopefully there will be at least 4 parishioners’ names on the ballot.

Joy of the Gospel Campaign ... The five year Combined Joy of the Gospel Campaign (Nov. 3, 2014 – Dec. 31, 2019) officially concluded on December 31, 2019. Our Parish Goal was \$750,000. We received **pledges of \$958,770.** **By December 31, 2019 we received payments/gifts totaling \$880,183.05.** At the end of last year, we still had a balance due on our DIAL Loan of \$61,613.45.

Since, December 31, 2019, some parishioners have continued to make payments/gifts to the Joy of the Gospel Campaign for a total of over \$50,000.00. Due to cash flow situations during this past year, we were not able to make many payments on our DIAL Loan. However, we were still accumulating interest on our loan.

On the opposite page of this bulletin, you will notice that in the last few weeks, some parishioners made donations to the Joy of the Gospel Campaign and/or the New Church Building Fund. **Thank you to those Parishioners who made donations!** With these donations, our DIAL Loan has been reduced to \$8,568.02. One of our Parish families said a few weeks ago that they would make a donation a few thousand larger than this remaining debt (*we are not sure about how much interest we will need to pay for October – December 2020*). With this promised donation, we should be able to retire our DIAL Loan completely. That would mean that St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church will be totally debt free when this remaining balance & interest are paid sometime in the next few months!

For a Parish of about 100 families (*average over 26 years*), to do what we have done is very remarkable! **Thanks to all of our Parishioners (past and present)!**

Payments on our DIAL Loan ... We have been able to make **payments of \$1,759,678.04 on our DIAL Loan** (2012 = \$472,000.00; 2013 = \$209,600.00; 2014 = \$330,990.70; 2015 = \$187,735.50; 2016=\$114,068.84; 2017=\$132,465.00; 2018=\$176,620.00; 2019=\$80,948.00; 2020=\$55,250.00). These payments have **reduced our new Church loan from the original amount of \$1,485,000.00 to \$8,568.02.**

Liturgical Ministers

Lector					
Acolyte					
Server					
Music					
Gifts					
Ushers					
Rosary					

Liturgical Calendar & Saints

Saturday:	Jan. 9	Christmas Weekday
Sunday:	Jan. 10	The Baptism of the Lord (Feast)
Monday:	Jan. 11	Weekday in Ordinary Time (Wk 1)
Tuesday:	Jan. 12	Weekday in Ordinary Time (Wk 1)
Wednesday:	Jan. 13	Weekday in Ordinary Time (Wk 1) St. Hilary (Opt. Memorial)
Thursday:	Jan. 14	Weekday in Ordinary Time (Wk 1)
Friday:	Jan. 15	Weekday in Ordinary Time (Wk 1)
Saturday:	Jan. 16	Weekday in Ordinary Time (Wk 1) Blessed Virgin Mary (Opt. Memorial)
Sunday:	Jan. 17	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayers for the sick: Rick Ryan, Becky Harold, Pat Wessell, Vinette Tenopir (Mickie Morlang's mother), Sheila Exner, Cathy Leathers, Tucker Smith, Robert Wessell, J.D. Troyer, Cindy Ryan, Dean & Janice Large, Jennifer Schmid, Sharon Beckius, Those affected with/by COVID-19, Theresa McCarthy-Garth, Troy Tickle, Peggy Lawler, Matt Reisen (Matt & Ashley Perlinger's friend), Special Intention, Carolyn Cohen, Tim Garth (Theresa McCarthy-Garth's son), Those struggling with Alcoholism, Renate Nordquist, Kim Paul.

Prayers for the deceased: Carolyn Cohen, Steve Haman (Matt Perlinger's uncle), Betty Conley (Bishop Conley's mother), Mike Paul, Sammy Medinger, Mary Lou Robles (Toni Barron's sister), Leo Walz, Ardis "Jo" Ginapp, Verna Kellogg, Bonnie Greco (Ashley Perlinger's grandmother), Shirley Lindekugel, Beatrice Estrada, Eloise Kramer (Monica Kramer's mother), Nellie Rodriguez (Toni Barron's sister), Reyes Robles (Toni Barron's brother-in-law), Margaret Ruskamp (Donna Bode's mother), Dolores Kosmicki, Patricia Zamora (Toni Barron's sister), Teresa Clouatre, Gordon Swanson (Cindy Swanson's father), Florena Schneeweis (Emily Krondak's mother), Carlos Fleury (Steve/Janet Fear's son-in-law).

Birthdays/Anniversaries: 1/9 - Patrick McGrath, 1/11 - Lucy Wartman, 1/12 - Corinne Hammond, 1/13 - David Lott, 1/14 - Marinn Niesen.

Catechism of the Catholic Church (Second Edition) PART FOUR – CHRISTIAN PRAYER

SECTION ONE – PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

CHAPTER ONE – THE REVELATION OF PRAYER

God's Promise and the Prayer of Faith

2570 When God calls him, Abraham goes forth "as the Lord had told him"⁸; Abraham's heart is entirely submissive to the Word and so he obeys. Such attentiveness of the heart, whose decisions are made according to God's will, is essential to prayer, while the words used count only in relation to it. Abraham's prayer is expressed first by deeds: a man of silence, he constructs an altar to the Lord at each stage of his journey. Only later does Abraham's first prayer in words appear: a veiled complaint reminding God of his promises which seem unfulfilled.⁹ Thus one aspect of the drama of prayer appears from the beginning: the test of faith in the fidelity of God.

8 Gen. 12:4 Abram went as the LORD directed him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.

9 Cf. Gen. 15:2f. But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what good will your gifts be, if I keep on being childless and have as my heir the steward of my house, Eliezer?"

2571 Because Abraham believed in God and walked in his presence and in covenant with him,¹⁰ the patriarch is ready to welcome a mysterious Guest into his tent. Abraham's remarkable hospitality at Mamre foreshadows the annunciation of the true Son of the promise.¹¹ After that, once God had confided his plan, Abraham's heart is attuned to his Lord's compassion for men and he dares to intercede for them with bold confidence.¹²

10 Cf. Gen. 15:6 Abram put his faith in the LORD, who attributed it to him as an act of righteousness.

Cf. Gen. 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said: I am God the Almighty. Walk in my presence and be blameless.

11 Cf. Gen. 18:1-15 The LORD appeared to Abraham by the terebinth of Mamre, as he sat in the entrance of his tent, while the day was growing hot. ²Looking up, he saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them; and bowing to the ground, ³he said: "Sir, if I may ask you this favor, please do not go on past your servant. ⁴Let some water be brought, that you may bathe your feet, and then rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Now that you have come this close to your servant, let me bring you a little food, that you may refresh yourselves; and afterward you may go on your way." "Very well," they replied, "do as you have said." ⁶Abraham hastened into the tent and told Sarah, "Quick, three seahs of fine flour! Knead it and make rolls." ⁷He ran to the herd, picked out a tender, choice steer, and gave it to a servant, who quickly prepared it. ⁸Then he got some curds and milk, as well as the steer that had been prepared, and set these before them; and he waited on them under the tree while they ate. ⁹"Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There in the tent," he replied. ¹⁰One of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah will then have a son." Sarah was listening at the entrance of the tent, just behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years, and Sarah had stopped having her womanly periods. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself and said, "Now that I am so withered and my husband is so old, am I still to have sexual pleasure?" ¹³But the LORD said to Abraham: "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I really bear a child, old as I am?' ¹⁴Is anything too marvelous for the LORD to do? At the appointed time, about this time next year, I will return to you, and Sarah will have a son." ¹⁵Because she was afraid, Sarah dissembled, saying, "I didn't laugh." But he said, "Yes you did."

Cf. Lk 1:26-38 ²⁶In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. ³³and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" ³⁵And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren: ³⁷for nothing will be impossible for God." ³⁸Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

12 Cf. Gen. 18:16-33 ¹⁶The men set out from there and looked down toward Sodom; Abraham was walking with them, to see them on their way. ¹⁷The LORD reflected: "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, ¹⁸now that he is to become a great and populous nation, and all the nations of the earth are to find blessing in him? ¹⁹Indeed, I have singled him out that he may direct his sons and his posterity to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD may carry into effect for Abraham the promises he made about him." ²⁰Then the LORD said: "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great, and their sin so grave, ²¹that I must go down and see whether or not their actions fully correspond to the cry against them that comes to me. I mean to find out." ²²While the two men walked on farther toward Sodom, the LORD remained standing before Abraham. ²³Then Abraham drew nearer to him and said: "Will you sweep away the innocent with the guilty? ²⁴Suppose there were fifty innocent people in the city: would you wipe out the place, rather than spare it for the sake of the fifty innocent people within it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to make the innocent die with the guilty, so that the innocent and the guilty would be treated alike! Should not the judge of all the world act with justice?" ²⁶The LORD replied, "If I find fifty innocent people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." ²⁷Abraham spoke up again: "See how I am presuming to speak to my Lord, though I am but dust and ashes! ²⁸What if there are five less than fifty innocent people? Will you destroy the whole city because of those five?" "I will not destroy it," he answered, "if I find forty-five there." ²⁹But Abraham persisted, saying, "What if only forty are found there?" He replied, "I will forebear doing it for the sake of the forty." ³⁰Then he said, "Let not my Lord grow impatient if I go on. What if only thirty are found there?" He replied, "I will forebear doing it if I can find but thirty there." ³¹Still he went on. "Since I have thus dared to speak to my Lord, what if there are no more than twenty?" "I will not destroy it," he answered, "for the sake of the twenty." ³²But he still persisted: "Please, let not my Lord grow angry if I speak up this last time. What if there are at least ten there?" "For the sake of those ten," he replied, "I will not destroy it." ³³The LORD departed as soon as he had finished speaking with Abraham, and Abraham returned home.

Pray for our Seminarians: **Patrick Seth Winter**, from St. Joseph Parish in Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2018. He is in College 4 at St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS ... (January) Prayer intention for evangelization - Human fraternity:

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.