

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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4th Sunday of Lent ***March 22, 2020***

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 Mar. 23
 Tuesday Mar. 24
 Wednesday Mar. 25
 Thursday Mar. 26
 Friday Mar. 27
 Saturday Mar. 28
 Sunday Mar. 29

INTENTIONS

Fr. Brad Zitek +
 Maria Barron +
 MaKenna Ketter
 Braulio Barron Sr +
 Mrs Dorothy Turner +
 *** Stations of the Cross *** in your homes as a family
 People of Our Parish
 Frank & Florena Schneweis +

6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hours => Spend time with Jesus

*The Lord is
 my shepherd;
 I shall not want.*

— Psalm 23:1

Stewardship: March 15, 2020

Adult Envelopes:\$1,760.00
Loose Plate:\$242.00
Children:\$0.00
Holy Day:\$0.00
Total:\$2,002.00

Joy of the Gospel Campaign

Total Pledged:\$958,770.00
 Gifts last week:\$0.00
Total Gifts Received:.....\$883,503.05
 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:.....\$1,702,428.04
 Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... \$61,613.45

Southern NE Register:\$15.00
 Combined Collection:\$5.00

Parish Calendar

Monday Mar. 23 7:00pm: **Lectio: Salvation** (Lent/Easter Study ... via ZOOM)
 Wednesday Mar. 25 6:00pm: Rosary with the Bishops broadcast live on Spirit Catholic Radio
 6:00pm – 10:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration 7:00pm – 9:00pm: RCIA Classes ... via ZOOM
 Thursday Mar. 26 7:00pm: **Lectio: Salvation** (Lent/Easter Study ... via ZOOM)

Catholic School News:

Note from Superintendent, Kevin Dodson: It is in difficult times that true character and community togetherness shine. I want to thank the entire staff of St. Patrick's and McDaid, along with our awesome students and parents for their ability to work together and help navigate through such an unprecedented time in education. We will continue to navigate our way through this and be better teachers, a better school system, and a stronger community. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT WE ARE TRYING OUR BEST TO HELP CONTROL THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS. At this time our school will NOT be in session through Friday, April 3rd. However, our students will be learning through a variety of resources our school has implemented over the last few days. Video chats and online learning are not ideal, but all involved are truly exceeding my expectations. Thank you to all of our Irish families and our community for your continued support.

Campaign Update: All of us are indebted to previous generations for their sacrifices in making possible what we enjoy today. We have all worshipped in churches we did not establish, attended schools we did not build, and studied from books we did not buy. Now we have the opportunity to provide for our current needs and for the needs of future generations at the North Platte Catholic Schools. THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the NOW is the Time Campaign with gifts of time, talent, and treasure. You have helped us pass the \$1 million mark! But there is much work to be done to achieve our goal. The Endowment needs a total of \$1.6-\$2 million to ensure completion of all campaign projects and goals. Please consider getting involved! Your gift to this campaign will support current and future generations of students at NPCS with updated plumbing, improved facilities, and a secure financial foundation. Contact the Endowment office to make your pledge: 308-534-5939, w.dodson@npcschools.org, or visit the North Platte Catholic Schools on Facebook or online at: www.npcschools.org.

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

Meal for New Parents ... Brent & Nikki Downey's new baby, Luke Gregory, was born 2/15/20. A meal schedule has been established for them online via TakeThemAMeal.com. If you want to make them a dinner go to <https://www.takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=GLUC6874>, or call Hanna at 660-0543. **There are still several spots available.**

Eucharistic Procession Postponed ... surrounding Planned Parenthood in Lincoln (48th & Old Cheney) on March 31 at 2:00pm. This event has been POSTPONED.

FREE Magnificat App ... during this challenging time, many faithful may be unable to attend Mass. Magnificat is honored to provide complimentary access to our online version to help people pray from home.

English: <https://us.magnificat.net/free>
 Spanish: <https://latina.magnificat.net/gratis>

Also available is complimentary access to MagnifiKid: See www.magnifikid.com/free to view and download each weekly booklet of our colorful Sunday missalette for children ages 6 through 12. While so many children are missing formal religious instruction and are unable to attend Mass, MagnifiKid! can be their special guide, accompanying them through each week as they prepare to attend Mass or watch it at home.

Wisdom from a President ... "Simple morality dictates that unless and until someone can prove the unborn human is not alive, we must give it the benefit of the doubt ... and, thus, it should be entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." (President Ronald Reagan, 1982).

Upcoming Schedule of Events ...

April 19 ... First Holy Communion at St. Elizabeth.
April 25 ... Confirmation at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.
April 28-29 ... Unplanned Movie at Neville [Postponed]
June 20-21 ... Crossroads Walkers at St. Elizabeth
July 12-17 ... TOTUS TUUS at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.
July 18, 2020 ... Seven Sisters Apostolate Retreat

Southern Nebraska Register ... subscription rate is \$15.00/1 yr. Make checks to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. Thank you!

Charity & Stewardship Appeal CSA 2020

(DDP)... due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, there is a different approach to CSA this year. In the near future, your pledge card for the Charity and Stewardship Appeal (CSA 2020) will be mailed to you. More information will be available this week and next week. The goal for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is **\$9,010.00**. These funds will be used for various programs funded by the Charity & Stewardship Appeal (CSA 2020).

Our Diocese is holding to CSA Appeal 1 month earlier than in the past!

Since we support a Catholic Grade School & High School, **80% of our goal & everything over our goal comes back to us, to help us provide Catholic education through our local Catholic School!**

Just as we are one in the Body of Christ, we must remember that we are one with other parishes in our diocese. Once a year, our bishop asks each of us to make a commitment to support the work of our diocesan programs/ministries that provide services that no one parish could provide on its own. This effort is a means by which we can all work together to care for the Church by sharing the gifts God has granted us. Our goal is 100% participation. Please experience the joy of giving & join us as we work to continue God's work of spirituality, charity & education.

Over the last 26 years, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church has greatly benefited from The Charity and Stewardship Appeal (CSA): we have borrowed \$436,457.04 for Parish Hall, Rectory, & Farm. We borrowed \$1,485,000 for the new Church at very low interest rates. We have paid off loans for Parish Hall, Rectory, & "Farm". We still owe \$61,613.45 on Church loan. Though many parishioners have made significant contributions to Joy of the Gospel Campaign through pledges & other gifts, we need to continue to make a gift to CSA 2020 at a similar level as in previous years, & also use regular Sunday envelopes!

Lectio: SALVATION: Unveiling Scripture and

Tradition ... these sessions will be conducted via ZOOM. Those persons who have been participating in past weeks will be contacted and prepared to set up ZOOM. Anyone who wants to participate is invited to contact Fr. Seiker. It is not too late to begin the study. Some of us have a little more time now. Please consider spending time sharing your faith with other Catholics and learning what "salvation" means.

	7:00pm –8:15 or 8:30pm	7:00pm	7:00pm
#4	Not Just Personal	<u>Monday</u> March 23	<u>Thursday</u> March 26
#5	Not Just a Legal Transaction	<u>Monday</u> March 30	<u>Thursday</u> April 2
Will Not Meet in Holy Week (April 5 – 11)			
#6	Not a Spectator Sport	<u>Tuesday</u> April 14	<u>Thursday</u> April 16
#7	Not Simply a Moment	<u>Monday</u> April 20	<u>Thursday</u> April 23
#8	Not Inevitable	<u>Sunday</u> April 26	<u>Monday</u> April 27
#9	Not Just for Other People	<u>Thursday</u> May 7	<u>Friday</u> May 8
#10	Not Only About the Future	<u>Tuesday</u> May 12	<u>Thursday</u> May 14

Write Your Senator ... Last week, Senator Suzanne Geist of Lincoln filed a pull motion to bring her pro-life bill, LB814, out of committee. LB814 would end dismemberment abortion in Nebraska. A pull motion is an attempt to "pull" a bill out of a committee to the full Legislature for debate. It is used when the committee has failed to take action or is deadlocked on a vote. To succeed, a pull motion needs a simple majority of the full body (25 votes). This is a procedural vote, but more importantly, a "yes" vote is a vote to advance pro-life legislation in Nebraska. Please take this time to write a personal and unique message to your State Senator asking for their support if you haven't already.

Join the Bishops for an Annunciation Rosary ...

Archbishop Lucas and Bishop Hanefeldt are inviting the faithful across the state to pray the Rosary together as a family (90.1 FM) and invoke the intercession of Our Blessed Mother on the Feast of the Annunciation.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

The Graces of the Rosary ...

"After holy Mass the Rosary is one of the most beautiful & efficacious forms of prayer. ... The mysteries recall the whole life of Jesus and Mary and their glory in heaven. ... [It] reminds us of how much Jesus has suffered for love of us and teaches us to follow him by bearing the cross which divine providence has sent us to purify us. It takes us finally from our earthly hopes and ambitions and makes us think of the true object of Christian hope – eternal life and the graces necessary to arrive there. The Rosary is more than a prayer of petition. It is a prayer of adoration inspired by the thought of the Incarnate God, a prayer of reparation in memory of the Passion of our Savior, a prayer of thanksgiving that the glorious mysteries continue to reproduce themselves in the uninterrupted entry of the elect into glory.

A more simple and still more elevated way of reciting the Rosary is, while saying it, to keep the eyes of faith fixed on the living Jesus who is always making intercession for us and who is acting upon us in accordance with the mysteries of his childhood, or his Passion, or his glory. He comes to us to make us like himself. Let us fix our gaze on Jesus who is looking at us. His look is more than kind and understanding: it is the look of God, a look which purifies, which sanctifies, which gives peace. It is the look of our Judge and still more the look of our Savior, our Friend, the Spouse of our souls. A Rosary said in this way, in solitude and silence, is a most fruitful conversation with Jesus. It is a conversation with Mary too which leads to intimacy with her Son.

Copied from Magnificat from: Father Garrigou-Lagrange (+ 1964) was a Dominican theologian who produced numerous books and articles. He was the theology doctoral advisor of the future Saint John Paul II.

What do we do during this COVID-19 Pandemic and/or Quarantine? ...

Some authors / speakers have reflected that this time that we are journeying through is giving us a foreshadowing of or a remembrance of Holy Saturday when we do not receive Holy Communion all day until the Easter Vigil ... and we wait in the "empty tomb". This is a good time to pray and reflect in an experience of emptiness without the sacramental union with our Lord. *[the following is a quote from TOBET]:*

TOBET's [Theology of the Body Evangelization Team] (soon-to-be-released) new book for 8th graders, Catholicism for EveryBODY, contains this text about Holy Saturday: "Because Catholicism takes the body so seriously, when the Church says we cannot receive the Body of Christ, there must be a serious reason. The Church wants us to meditate on life without the Eucharist" (p.41).

And here we are. What is life without the Eucharist? The Sunday obligation creates in my imagination, in my day, and in my week a touchstone, a center, the space and time upon which my life revolves. No Mass this past weekend means I didn't need to wake up at a certain time. I didn't need to fast before Mass. I didn't need to get dressed up or get in my car. I felt empty, alone, not needed. Mystically speaking, I didn't need to be attentive to the mysterious union and communion with Jesus's Body (Eucharistic and Mystical) at Mass. I felt empty, alone, not needed.

Of course, I made a spiritual communion. Thankfully, God can reach us in other ways. Yet, God prefers the sense-perceptible and communal. He made us body-persons (St. John Paul's term) so as to experience the spiritual manifested in and through the body, particularly the senses. The sacraments provide that spiritual-through-the-physical encounter. In His generosity, this encounter can occur outside of the sacraments as well. Perhaps that can be our take-away. In the midst of this isolation (which is the opposite of what we are made for, union and communion), a family who is isolated from others can still glimpse the spiritual and eternal when they share a meal and play games together, when they talk and when they pray together.

My hope is that the "domestic Church" of the family will be nourished by each other, all the while knowing that such communion is only a sign of our need for the ultimate nourishment and ultimate Communion, Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. While we await Mass being celebrated again, let's remember that after the isolation of Holy Saturday comes the joy of the Resurrection of the Body at Easter. *Monica Ashour, MTS; M Hum*

Liturgical Minister

Lector		
Acolyte		
Server		
Music		
Gifts		
Ushers		
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

Prayers for the sick: Theresa McCarthy-Garth, Young woman (with many difficult situations), Rose Jurado, Troy Tickle, Iris Wyman Lloyd, Sherry Kahl (Yvette Troyer's mother), Derek Caster (brother of Jan Daniel's daughter-in-law), Peggy Lawler, J.D. Troyer, Matt Reisen (Matt & Ashley Perlinger's friend), **Special Intention**, Carolyn Cohen, Tim Garth (Theresa McCarthy-Garth's son), Those struggling with Alcoholism, Mary Lou Robles (Toni Barron's sister), Renate Nordquist, Mike & Kim Paul, Jim Beckius.

Prayers for the deceased: 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 Schneewis (Emily Krondak's mother), Carlos Fleury (Steve/Janet Fear's son-in-law), Ruby Ramirez (Toni Barron's sister), JoAnn Bode Waters (John Bode's sister), Eileen Boltz, Leona Clouatre, Bernadine Torres, Martha Burbach, Luke Ranck.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: 3/23 - Johnathan Troyer, 3/25 - Eidren Hampton, Keaton Hampton, 3/26 - Felicity Heimann, 3/29 - Bob Ryland.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Centuries ago, these Lenten days were a time of intense final preparation for the candidates for baptism. By now, they had already been numbered among the "elect" for Easter baptism, and were daily challenged to excel in prayer, in fasting, and in works of charity. As is true today, at a certain point in the weekly assembly for Eucharist, the nonbaptized were dismissed from the assembly for their own learning and prayer. While they might have had impressions about the Eucharist, they had no direct experience. The rites of the church were secret and its worship places off-limits. For the Easter Vigil, those to be baptized arrived very hungry from long fasting, and perhaps very apprehensive as to how initiation was to be accomplished. A long night of vigil and storytelling, a shimmering pool of baptism, the anointing with oil and clothing with white robes came as something of a surprise. At the end of a long, life changing night of embrace by Christ and the community, as the eucharistic feast ended, a final surprise was brought forward. To address the deep hunger of the newly baptized, the church offered a bowl of milk and honey, sign of promises fulfilled, sign of community, prosperity, and peace, and yet another foretaste of heaven's banquet. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LIGHT ... "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light" (Ephesians 5:14). We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey of conversion. As always, God never gives up on us, especially those who have "fallen asleep" along the road to conversion. The most powerful stories of conversion are proclaimed during these final weeks of Lent. They have the power to shake us out of our sleep. Today's Gospel story of the healing of the man born blind exposes the real blindness in the time of Christ — the blindness of the self-righteous religious leaders. In a few weeks, at the Easter Vigil, the Church will proclaim "Christ our Light" as the paschal candle is carried into darkened churches throughout the world. May the darkness of sin that still pervades our lives, communities, and world, be dispelled by the Christ who comes to bring sight to the blind and light to the world. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CHARITY ... If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask him simply to fill you with charity, the greatest of all virtues; with it you can accomplish what you desire. — St. Vincent Ferrer

FILL US ... Open wide the windows of our spirits and fill us full of light; open wide the door of our hearts, that we may receive and entertain Thee with all our powers of adoration. — Christina Rossetti

Pray for our Seminarians: James Robert O'Neil, from St. Mary Parish in Nebraska City. He entered the Seminary in 2014. He is in Theology 3 at The North American College in Rome.

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 ... (March)

Prayer intention for evangelization - Catholics in China: We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.