

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>

2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy) ***April 19, 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 Apr. 20 7:00 a.m.
 Tuesday Apr. 21 7:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Apr. 22 **5:00 p.m.**
6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hours => Spend time with Jesus
 Thursday Apr. 23 7:00 a.m.
 Friday Apr. 24 7:00 a.m.
 Saturday Apr. 25 **5:00 p.m.**
 Sunday Apr. 26 **8:00 a.m.**

INTENTIONS

Ben Seiker (-bap)
 Nancy Rieker
 Steven Seiker (bap)
 Liv/Dec mem. Bode/Ruskamp families
 MaKenna Ketter
 People of our Parish
 Joan Ryland (bd)

*Blessed are those
 who have not seen
 and have believed.*

— John 20:29b

Stewardship: April 12, 2020

Adult Envelopes:\$3,110.00
Loose Plate:\$0.00
Children:\$0.00
Holy Day: (Easter)..... \$330.00
Total:\$3,440.00
 Southern NE Register:\$30.00
 NP Catholic Food Pantry: ..\$14.00

Joy of the Gospel Campaign
 Total Pledged:\$958,770.00
 Gifts last week:\$0.00
Total Gifts Received:.....\$884,833.05
 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

Rice Bowl:\$59.70
 Holy Land:\$450.00
 American Bishops Overseas:.....\$30.00
 Black & Indian Collection:\$30.00
 Catholic Communication:\$105.00
 Catholic Home Missions:\$30.00
 Catholic University:\$30.00
 RFFR Retired Religious:\$30.00

Parish Calendar

Sunday Apr. 19 **3:00pm: Divine Mercy Holy Hour** ... via ZOOM (4:15pm – 4:45pm = Benediction in your vehicle in Parking Lot)
 Monday Apr. 20 **7:00pm: Lectio: Salvation (Lent/Easter Study** ... via ZOOM)
 Wednesday Apr. 22 **6:00pm – 10:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration** **7:00pm – 9:00pm: RCIA Classes** ... via ZOOM
 Thursday Apr. 23 **7:00pm: Lectio: Salvation (Lent/Easter Study** ... via ZOOM)

Catholic School News:

The doors may be closed, but a high-quality, faith-based education is still the mission of the North Platte Catholic Schools. The quote, "Tough times never last, but tough people do," has rang true on our Irish campus. To our Little Leprechaun, McDaid, and St. Patrick's families, we miss you and want to thank you for your patience, kindness, and support. To our administrators and teachers: thank you for your hard work and dedication. We are growing in faith, we are finding new ways to learn, and we are doing it together. We're looking to the future with great hope, and can't wait to open our doors to our students next fall. Enrollment is NOW open. Contact Gwen Covey, for information 308-532-1874. Many prayers from our Irish family to yours, and remember every moment is a fresh beginning.

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

Divine Mercy Afternoon Reflection... with Fr. John Rooney and Seminarian Choir **Sunday Apr. 19, 1:00pm-4:00pm** on The ABC's of Divine Mercy. At-home live-stream Reflections at 1:00pm and 2:00pm, Holy Hour with the Seminarians at 3:00pm. Sponsored by Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House - free-will donation - www.goodcounselretreat.com.

Private, Directed Ignatian Retreat ... with Fr. Gary Coulter and Fr. Chris Barak **Apr. 20-23, 2020.** (at Good Counsel Retreat House in person, not virtual). Monday evening to Thursday noon. Spiritual Exercises by St. Ignatius of Loyola. To learn more about Ignatian Retreats or read a full description of Ignatian Retreats see <https://goodcounselretreat.regfox.com/ignatian>.

Volunteer Mowers ... We are looking for some volunteer help to mow the Catholic Cemetery on State Farm Road. We have set some dates for mowing. Sunday April 19, May 3, and May 17, all at 1:00pm. If you can help on other days and times, that is fine too. Questions call Mike Montgomery (530-7917).

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) Meeting:

will **TENTATIVELY** be **Sunday, April 26, at 11:30am** via ZOOM. All women are invited & encouraged to participate virtually through ZOOM. The time might be adjusted ... more to discuss, and decide. You will be kept updated through emails and in next week's Bulletin.

Group / Bulk Subscription to MAGNIFICAT ...

MAGNIFICAT is a monthly publication containing a short morning, evening, & night prayer, & a short daily meditation; as well as the Scripture readings for the Daily & Sunday Masses, essays on the lives of the saints, and spiritual insight into masterpieces of sacred art. Magnificat is a good way to learn more about your faith & deepen your prayer life and your relationship with God. The **annual group subscription rate is \$23.00/each.** That is a savings of \$24.00 off regular (individual price of \$47.00). If you would like to be a part of the group / bulk subscription, please turn in your payment to the Rectory or see Fr. Seiker. The group subscription runs from August 2020 – July 2021. Those in our Group may also read Magnificat either online or on their iPhone or iPod. **Please contact Fr. Seiker by Wed., April 22, 2020.**

Lectio: Salvation: Unveiling Scripture & Tradition ...

these sessions are conducted via ZOOM. Persons who have been participating have joined via ZOOM this past week. **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 spend time sharing your faith with other Catholics & learning what "salvation" means.

	7:00pm –8:15 or 8:30pm	7:00pm	7:00pm
#7	Not Simply a Moment	Monday April 20	Thursday April 23
#8	Not Inevitable	Sunday April 26	Monday April 27
#9	Not Just for Other People	Thursday May 7	Friday May 8
#10	Not Only About the Future	Tuesday May 12	Thursday May 14

Do You Struggle to Pray? Make a Plan ... (by Father Gary Coulter, director, Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House)

Do you struggle in your prayer life? That means you're human like the rest of us ... Do you ever have times where prayer seems dry or repetitive? Do you sometimes in prayer do all the talking, making it more like a monologue than a conversation? These problems in prayer are a common experience, at least for me, and I'm sure for many of you.

You may be familiar with the popular speaker and author Matthew Kelly, and his book, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*. In reading through the first of those signs on the prayer of Dynamic Catholics, something really struck me. I had long advocated exactly what Matthew Kelly does, encouraging people who aren't praying daily to start by carving out ten minutes a day to spend in silent prayer and reflection.

Yet what I never realized, is that without any further guidance, what do most people do: they go find their quiet place, try to put themselves in the presence of the Lord, and nothing happens. So they try a second day, and still nothing happens. After a week they give up making time for daily prayer.

What I had never really thought about, which Matthew Kelly brings out so well, is that people who pray daily always have a routine to their prayer, a plan if you will. You don't show up for your prayer time empty handed - because if you do it is no surprise that 'nothing happens'. Sometimes that literally means you have a something in your hand - the Gospel of the Day, morning prayers, a chapter of the bible, a favorite devotional book. For others it's just having a routine, starting with the morning offering, and talking through the day's schedule with God.

And we must remember that prayer is a conversation, and in a good conversation we can't do all the talking: we also need to listen. I once heard Matthew Kelly speak, and he told about when he first made the commitment to pray 10 minutes each morning, but his prayer was basically planning the events of the day, and saying: "God help me to get through today."

Only with time he came to realize that instead he needed to be asking a question: "God, what do you want me to do today?" In his book he calls this the big question: "God what do you think I should do?"

Now there are probably as many different methods and ways to pray as there are saints. Matthew Kelly recognizes that most people find a routine that works for them by trial and error, and then he goes on to suggest his own six-step prayer process, which if you're interested in you can read more in his book. Those six steps are: 1. Gratitude (thankfulness), 2. Awareness (examination), 3. Significant Moments (experiences), 4. Peace (asking forgiveness), 5. Freedom (conversation), 6. Others (intercession).

If you are beginning to make a commitment to regular, daily prayer, do not make the mistake of thinking, wrongly, that unless you can undertake much, you should not do it at all. Many abandon prayer, not realizing the Lord delights in even short moments offered to him out of love. If you think you must pray hours upon end you will risk becoming discouraged and end up doing nothing. Rather it is better to begin by doing a very little, trusting that even little moments of adoration and of love glorify Him.

Finally, keeping in mind the principle that prayer is a gift and grace of God, we will realize that there is no magic formula for prayer. Yet some methods of prayer have been found helpful by many people over time. Not that we have to use any one method of prayer, nor should we solely depend on methods, for we never want the method to get in the way of our goal of union with God.

Scheduled Liturgies: All Masses are being livestreamed at <https://www.facebook.com/seasnorthplatte/>. Videos of Masses are also available on parish webpage 1 hr after the end of Mass at <http://seas-np.org/covid-19-mass-videos-at-seas/>

• **Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri. ... 7:00am; Wed. ... 5:00pm**

Scheduled Times for Confession (in Parish Hall):

• **Monday, Thursday, Friday ... 12:00pm-1:00pm**

If these times don't fit your schedule, make an appointment to have your confession heard in the Parish Hall. **Be Forgiven!**

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

Divine Mercy & Pro-Life ... Pope Saint John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday. Many of the faithful pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy regularly. There is a link between this devotion and the pro-life movement. Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC, who was a principal translator of St. Faustina's diary, and the postulator of her cause of canonization, writes the following: "On at least three occasions, from 8:00-11:00 in the evening, she felt like her insides were being torn apart. She suffered so much that she thought she was going to die. The doctors couldn't figure out what was ailing her, and no medication was able to alleviate her sufferings. Later, she was given to understand that she was undergoing those pains for mothers who were aborting their children (Diary, 1276). "On another occasion, she had a vision of an angel coming with thunderbolts to destroy one of the most beautiful cities of her country. And she felt powerless to do anything about it (Diary, 474). What antidote did the Lord give her? The Chaplet of Divine Mercy. [She explained] that the city was to be chastised for its sins, primarily the sin of abortion." ("Wombs of Mercy," *Marian Helpers Bulletin*, Summer 1995, p.13).

Salvaton: What Every Catholic Should Know ... a book by Dr. Michael Barber (*who spoke at our 2019 Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions*) is available for parishioners and friends as an Easter gift from the parish. Please pick up your copy & enjoy reading it. Learn more about Salvation and how to answer the questions people ask you like: "Are you Saved?" There are also only 40 copies of the "audio book" of *Salvation: What Every Catholic Should Know* available for download for free. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Seiker and he can get you the "download code" and the information.

Sign up for FORMED Daily ... (<https://formed.org/daily>)

Receive a daily email with the best of FORMED content - right in your inbox! Join us for a 10-day journey through the story of Divine Mercy. FORMED Daily is coming back with a powerful reflection series based on highlighted clips from the Augustine Institute Original Series, *Divine Mercy: The Second Greatest Story Ever Told*. Starting on Divine Mercy Sunday, encounter God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative messages of Saint Faustina, Mary at Fatima, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope Saint John Paul II.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

MERCY SUNDAY Holy Hour ... please participate in the **Holy Hour, Sunday, Apr. 19, 3:00pm-4:00pm, either in person at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church** [limit of 10 healthy persons at a social distance in Church] **or virtually** [through Facebook Live]. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Monstrance, the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be sung, 15-20 min of quiet time with our Lord (even virtual quiet time!), one song, 15 minutes of quiet time, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr. Seiker will be available in the Parish Hall for Confessions from 3:05pm - 3:50pm.

After Benediction, for anyone who would like ... Fr. Seiker will be available at the Southwest corner of the Parish Hall with the Blessed Sacrament in the Monstrance from **4:15pm - 4:45pm**. Parishioners (*or any persons*) are invited to drive through the Parking Lot [*a map will be sent through email on Saturday afternoon/evening*] stopping at the corner of the Parish Hall to receive Benediction [*everyone remains in the vehicle*], then the vehicle proceeds to the front door of the Church [*the outside doors or the Church will be open (providing there is very little wind)*], and ONE person from the vehicle may enter the Narthex of the Church and pick up one of the Easter Books **Salvaton: What Every Catholic Should Know**, also one of the **plastic Holy Water bottles of the Blessed Easter Water**, one of the **Five Minutes with the Word Easter books**, and the **May Magnificat** (*for those who subscribe to this*).

Parish Council Meeting ... *Tentatively scheduled Friday, April 24, 7:00pm, via ZOOM.* (Members: Mickey Morlang, Jeff Orr, Kanen Hammond, Spencer Hampton. Trustees: Jerry Volesky, Duane Johnsen).

Liturgical Minister

Lector		
Acolyte		
Server		
Music		
Gifts		
Ushers		
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday:	Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday:	1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
Sunday:	Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

Prayers for the sick: Sharon Beckius, Those affected with/by COVID-19, Eli Skoch (nephew of Maggie [Skoch] Butler), Theresa McCarthy-Garth, Young woman (with many difficult situations), Troy Tickle, Iris Wyman Lloyd, 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: 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 Schneweis (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: 4/18 - Bridger and Mina McCormick, 4/25 - AJ Pineda, 4/26 - Joan Ryland.
Congratulations: to Jim & Henrietta Boots who celebrate their 45th Wedding Anniversary April 19.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... One of the great Easter traditions is "mystagogy," an ancient word meaning "reflection on the mysteries." It is a style of catechesis, or passing on the faith. People who have shared an experience, in this case those who have been baptized at Easter, are urged to recall their experience, reflect on its meaning, and apply their insights to their new way of life. There is an aspect of an experience that is simply not available until you've had it. For example, you may think you know weddings inside out; you've been to dozens, seen hundreds in the movies or on television, but until you've said "I do" to another, there is a certain knowledge unavailable to you. Those who go down into the waters of baptism as adults have similar experiences; they have all taken baths before, but not like this one! Mystagogy helps such persons to uncover the deep meaning of the experience, their sense of a new beginning, of God's abundant love, of forgiveness, of community. It takes time for the power of the Easter Vigil to work its wonders for us. Those who are newly baptized are called "neophytes," meaning "newly planted." The tender buds of spring need care and nurturing, and our new brothers and sisters need your prayer and your faithful example. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

GET REAL! ... Those of us who flatter ourselves that we have a "realistic" view of the world may listen to the first reading today and say, "Get real!" when we hear Luke's account of the early, Elysian days of the Christian movement. All seems to be rosy, lots of wonders are performed, everyone shares selflessly, they eat together in "exultation," and the Lord added to their numbers? Well, who wouldn't be attracted to a group like this? From the wind that swept through the upper room at Pentecost as the Spirit of God blew over the face of the waters in Genesis, and the fire that appeared over each disciple as the light appeared at the dawn of creation, Luke's intent in Acts is to show a new creation, a restoration of creation's original goodness through the working of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who continues to make us into the Body of Christ. We may occasionally, like Thomas in the Gospel, say, "Get real!" but our ultimate reality in the Spirit is to work continually to make our Christian community a new creation, one in which others will find God's joy and beauty. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

EASTER ... It is the hour to rend thy chains, the blossom time of souls. —Katherine Lee Bates

FIRE ... Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire. — St. Catherine of Siena

Pray for our Seminarians: Daniel Steven Reiter, from St. Peter Parish in Bellwood. He entered the Seminary in 2018. He is in College 2 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 ... (April)

Universal Prayer Intention: Freedom from Addiction: We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.