

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>

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ *June 14, 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	June 15	8:00 a.m.
Tuesday	June 16	7:00 a.m.
Wednesday	June 17	5:30 p.m.
6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hours => Spend time with Jesus		
Thursday	June 18	8:00 a.m.
Friday	June 19	5:30 p.m.
<i>followed by: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Prayers for Sanctification of Priests</i>		
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.		
Saturday	June 20	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	June 21	10:00 a.m.

INTENTIONS

Elizabeth (Liz) Haag
Liv/Dec mem. Bode/Ruskamp families
Braulio Barron Jr +
Kathy Becker
Seven Sisters Group
* opportunity=Confession/prayers for priests *
People of our Parish
All Priests

*Not by bread alone
does one live,
but by every word
that comes forth from
the mouth of God.*

— Deuteronomy 8:3b

Stewardship: June 7, 2020

Adult Envelopes:	\$1,512.50
Loose Plate:	\$126.00
Children:	\$0.00
Holy Day: (Ascension Thursday) .	\$50.00
Total:	\$1,688.50

<u>Joy of the Gospel Campaign</u>	
Total Pledged:	\$958,770.00
Gifts last week:	\$150.00
<u>Total Gifts Received:</u>	<u>\$886,893.05</u>
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:

Parish Calendar

Sunday	June 14	11:30am: Daughters of Charity Meeting via Zoom <u>or</u> in person at Parish Hall
Wednesday	June 17	6:00pm – 10:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration
Thursday	June 18	1:00pm: Adult Bible Study via Zoom (contact Teri Volesky)
Friday	June 19	5:30pm Mass (followed by Exposition & Prayers for the Sanctification of Priests)

Catholic School News:

St. Pat's Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament! ... When: Friday, July 3rd, 2020 *Shotgun Start at 1:00pm. Where: River's Edge Golf Course Cost: \$200 per team *Registrants may pay in advance by check, OR Pay with cash, check, or credit card the day of the event *E-mail team registration info to: w.dodson@npcschools.org or call 308-534-5939 Teams: 4 players per team *Players do not have to be St. Pat's Grads. ALL are welcome! *Team Check-In begins at 12:30pm in the clubhouse *Carts provided *Mulligans available for purchase. *Send registration fee to: SP Alumni Golf PO Box 57 North Platte, NE 69103. *Proceeds benefit the St. Pat's Activities Association.

Reception: Join us for a reception following golf to honor retiring Principal/AD Mark Skillstad! 5:30pm – 7:30pm at Another Round. Cash bar & light hors d'oeuvres. Stop by to wish him well! Contact NPCS Endowment Director Wendy Dodson: 308-534-5939, w.dodson@npcschools.org.

*The NPCS Campus will be open for the Alumni Open House on Saturday, July 4th from 11:00am – 1:00pm. Refreshments and yearbook display in the SPS Cafeteria. The Saturday evening alumni reunion banquet has been cancelled.

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

Retreat for Moms of Young Children ...

Join Fr. Ben Holdren on July 11th at Good Counsel Retreat house for a one-day retreat specifically for moms of young children. Babies are welcome & rooms available for pack n plays, etc. More info at <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/ymretreat>. Questions? Contact marilyn-klein@cdolinc.net

Couples' Retreat ...

The Family Life Office is offering a one-day retreat for couples experiencing infertility on June 27th at St. Patrick Parish in Lincoln. Retreat will also be live-streamed. See <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/infertilityretreat> for more information. Questions? Contact marilyn-klein@cdolinc.net

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) Meeting:

will be **Sunday, June 14, 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 (that 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.*

Totus Tuus ... will NOT be in North Platte or any of the parishes this year due to COVID-19.

Crossroads Walkers ... will NOT be in North Platte this year due to COVID-19. They MIGHT have a shortened walk East of us.

Creighton Model FertilityCare System ...

Creighton Model is a women's health science that allows users to learn more about their fertility and, in conjunction with NaProTECHNOLOGY, treat many reproductive disorders. Introductory sessions for July are scheduled for 7:00pm on the 9th and 28th at John XXIII Diocesan Center. For more info or to register, visit <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/creighton-introductory-session>.

Scheduled Masses: All Masses are being livestreamed over ZOOM. See Meeting ID at <http://seas-np.org/covid-19-mass-videos-at-seas/> Videos of Masses available on parish webpage 1 hr after Mass ends - <http://seas-np.org/covid-19-mass-videos-at-seas/>

Scheduled Times for Confession (in Parish Hall):

- **30 minutes before Daily Masses and 60 minutes before Saturday and Sunday Masses.**

Seven Sisters Apostolate Recommitment ...

on Friday, June 19, 2020, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, women who belong to the Seven Sisters Apostolate and invited to participate in the Holy Hour following the 5:30pm Mass. At the beginning of the Holy Hour, the Seven Sisters will recommit themselves to their weekly prayer for Priests for the coming year.

The Eucharist and Unity ... Imagine a person who receives Communion, accepts the Host when the priest says, "The Body of Christ," says "Amen," and then breaks off a piece, hands it back, and says, "Except this piece, Father!" This is what the person who rejects other people may as well do. In receiving Christ, we are to receive the whole Christ, in all his members, our brothers and sisters, whether convenient or inconvenient, wanted or unwanted, born or unborn. As St. John remarks, Christ was to die "to gather into one all the scattered children of God." Sin scatters. Christ unites. The word "diabolical" means "to split asunder." Christ came "to destroy the works of the devil" (1 Jn 3:8). The Eucharist builds up the human family in Christ who says, "Come to me, feed on My Body, become My Body." Abortion, in a reverse dynamic, says, "Go away! We have no room for you, no time for you, no desire for you, no responsibility for you. Get out of our way!" Abortion attacks the unity of the human family by splitting asunder the most fundamental relationship between any two persons: mother and child. The Eucharist, as a Sacrament of Unity, reverses the dynamic of abortion.

#8 The Battle of Prayer ... (by Father Gary Coulter, director, Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House)

On helicopters there is the large nut by which the long blades are fitted to the main rotor of the helicopter, known as the "Jesus nut". "Jesus nut" is slang, probably coined by American soldiers in Vietnam; the technical name is the main rotor retaining nut (MRRN). The origin of the slang term refers to how critical this nut is, because if the "Jesus nut" were to fail in flight, the rotor blades would detach from the helicopter, and catastrophe is inevitable. Without the Jesus nut, the only thing the crew could do is pray to Jesus before the helicopter crashed.

Using the image of the vine and the branches (cf. John 15), Jesus explains why He must be the pivotal point in our lives. Without Him we can do nothing; but with Him we bear great fruit.

It is through prayer that we experience a living relationship with Him. The quality of our prayer life thus is a measure of our relationship with God. Prayer is talking with God. Prayer is listening to God. Prayer is enjoying the presence of God. It can take many forms: praise, adoration, contrition, thanksgiving, petition; and sometimes it is a prayer of silence, listening and awareness of God's presence.

The Catechism defines prayer as "the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." (CCC #2559) Christian prayer is a covenant relationship between God and man in Christ, thus it is both a gift from God, who helps us to pray, and it is the action of our heart, the habit of placing ourselves in God's presence.

The great figures of prayer, in the bible as well as the saints, teach us that "prayer is a battle." (CCC #2725) While prayer is a gift of grace, and we ask the Holy Spirit to help us to pray – it also requires a determined response on our part: as we know all too well, prayer takes effort, it requires 'discipline' in the sense of training: building habits of behavior and virtue, including the habit of prayer.

One reason prayer is a fight, is because there are many temptations we must overcome; three common obstacles to prayer are distractions, dryness and doubts.

First, we all have distractions at times when we pray, so do not beat yourself up, but rather decide: what am I going to do when distractions come? Distractions can even sometimes help us see what we're attached to: what is keeping my heart from God? Is this something I need to bring to Him and entrust to Him? In any case, whenever we experience distractions, we simply turn back to God, we choose him over anything else.

Second, at times prayer may be dry: we may not feel the presence of God or receive any consolations. We have to battle the feeling of failure in prayer, those times of discouragement or difficulty. Yes, we must pray even we do not feel like praying – and if we remain faithful to prayer in times of darkness and dryness, the Lord will surely reward our perseverance.

A final temptation is doubt, because we all have a thousand things urgently vying for priority, and we will start to ask: am I wasting my time? Is prayer truly important? Why should I make it a priority? When those doubts come, we need to humbly remember Jesus words: "Apart from me, you can do nothing." (John 15:5).

To live the Christian life requires that we enter into this spiritual battle of prayer. And to help us face these difficulties, there are three characteristics our prayer should have: prayer must be vigilant, it requires trust, and we must persevere.

Prayer must first be vigilant because our prayer needs to be regular, consistent, and faithful. The good news is that prayer does not require elaborate schemes or take decades to learn, but it does not happen by accident. We need to make a place and time to pray. We learn to pray by praying. And we remain watchful for the distractions, dryness, and doubts, so that we do not give up.

Second our prayer must be trusting, because we will have doubts in prayer and start to wonder: does God really hear my prayers? Why doesn't He seem to answer me?

We are called to confident trust: not only does God hear our prayers, but He always gives us what is best for us and our salvation. Therefore when it seems he doesn't immediately grant what you ask, it is because "he desires to do something even greater for you" (CCC #2737), we must deeply trust that he will give us even better than what we ask for.

Finally, against our dullness and laziness, the battle of prayer must be persevering. Indeed St. Paul says that we should pray without ceasing, at all times. Paul is not saying prayer should be long and multiplied: most of us are not called to sit in church for hours on end. Rather, God is looking for a heartfelt relationship; and Paul is saying it is always possible to pray, because the risen Christ is with us, no matter what trials may arise. Given that prayer is vitally necessary to help us bear fruit and do God's will in all things, we should learn that it is possible to pray while walking or waiting in line, while driving or even cooking.

It is absolutely impossible for a helicopter to fly without rotors. And it is equally impossible for us to soar to the heights of holiness, to fully do God's will and attain eternal life, unless we remain in Christ Jesus like branches united with the vine. We foster this relationship with Him through a life of prayer, by fighting the battle against distractions, dryness and doubts. Prayer that is vigilant, trusting, and persevering will lead us to a deep and intimate union with Jesus Christ.

Application: Prayer Exercise ... (by Father Gary Coulter)

Making the time and place for prayer, choose in advance a Gospel passage that teaches us about prayer, such as:

- The Lord's Prayer.....Matthew 6:5-14
- Do not be anxious, your Father knows you.....Matthew 6:25-34
- A father gives good gifts to his childrenMatthew 7:7-11
- Luke 11:1-13
- Parable of the widow and the unjust judge Luke 18:1-8
- Parable of the pharisee and tax collector..... Luke 18:9-17

Use some preparatory steps to enter prayer: 1. Put yourself in God's presence. 2. Ask for his help. 3. Offer God this time & yourself. 4. Picture the scene of the Gospel story. 5. Tell God of your longing & desire.

- Slowly read the scripture passage.
- Listen for something that attracts you and is true.
- Rest in that word, image or sentence; sit and stay with this truth.
- Talk with Jesus about what you heard. What does this teach me about my own life, my own prayer?
- Write it down.

To conclude: Take time to evaluate your prayer. Find your personal way of praying by being aware of what helped in prayer, what worked or did not work. How did I prepare for prayer? Was this time of day of helpful? This place? This posture? What steps did I use?

Also record any gifts, insights and blessings received, how God spoke in prayer; and any resolution, the fruit of prayer: What I am going to do? What changes to my prayer do I want to make?

Liturgical Ministers

Lector		
Acolyte		
Server		
Music		
Gifts		
Ushers		
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday:	1 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-7; Mt 5:38-42
Tuesday:	1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-6ab, 11, 16; Mt 5:43-48
Wednesday:	2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-7; Mt 6:7-15
Friday:	Dt 7:6-11; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 10; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30
Saturday:	2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-34; Lk 2:41-51
Sunday:	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

Prayers for the sick: Jennifer Schmid, Steve Haman, Sharon Beckius, Those affected with/by COVID-19, 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 Cloutre, 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 Cloutre, Bernadine Torres, Martha Burbach, Luke Ranck.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: 6/13 - Ignatius Wartman, Chris Barger, 6/17 - Donna Bode, 6/19 - Lana Vlasin, 6/20 - Spencer Hampton, Xavier Pieper.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Ordinary Time beckons, and so on this Sunday we surrender the last glimmers of paschal joy as we celebrate the renewal of our life around the table of the Eucharist. This feast reminds us that the goal of the catechumen's journey through Lent is not the baptismal font at Easter, but rather the experience of Pentecost. It is all about life lived in the Spirit's embrace in relationship to the Body of Christ, which is found both "on the table" and "at the table." The season of confirmation is also drawing to a close, and this feast serves as a reminder that this sacrament, a solemn sending from font to table, is keyed to renewed vigor. Confirmation has sometimes been sadly misunderstood as a kind of graduation from religious formation, but it is nothing of the sort. It is about being led by the Lord Jesus to the place where the Spirit flourishes, and where the gifts of the Spirit are most easily detectable. After next week we will resume our consideration of the sacrament of confirmation, its rich and somewhat tangled history, its challenging theology, and its changing celebration. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

FOOD FROM HEAVEN ... God sustained the people of Israel for forty years in the desert with manna sent down from heaven, and Moses doesn't want them to forget it. God brought forth water from stone for them to drink, and Moses doesn't want them to forget this, either. And Moses tells them – twice – that the food that God sent was a food that neither they nor their ancestors before them had ever experienced before. Jesus too speaks of food come down from heaven, food that the Jewish people had never experienced before. Recalling the manna in the desert, Jesus doesn't want them to forget it either, explaining that he is the food and drink of eternal life. And Paul reiterates to the Corinthians and to all of us that in the bread and in the cup, we share in the body and blood of Christ. – Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TRANSFORMATION ... The effect of our sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive. — Pope St. Leo the Great

SHOELESS ... I wept because I had no shoes, until I saw someone who had no feet. — Ancient Persian saying

PRAYING ... One prays best who does not know that one is praying. — St. Anthony of Padua

Pray for our Seminarians: Scott Thomas Sullivan, from St. Teresa Parish in Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2018. He is in College 3 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 ... (June)

Prayer Intention for Evangelization: The Way of the Heart: We pray that all those who suffer may find their way of life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.