

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>

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time *July 26, 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 July 27 8:00 a.m.
 Tuesday July 28
 Wednesday July 29 **5:30 p.m.**
6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hours => Spend time with Jesus
 Thursday July 30 8:00 a.m.
 Friday July 31 **12:10 p.m.**
 Saturday Aug. 1 2:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.
 Sunday Aug. 2 **10:00 a.m.**

INTENTIONS

John G Perlinger +
 - No Scheduled Parish Mass -
 Parishioners with Birthday in July
 Mary Martinez +
 Martha Burbach +
 Confirmation Mass
 People of our Parish
 Jesse & Bernadine Torres +

*All things work
 for good for those
 who love God.*

— Wisdom 12:19

Stewardship: July 19, 2020

Adult Envelopes:\$2,170.00
Loose Plate:\$241.00
Children:\$0.00
Holy Day: \$0.00
Total:\$2,411.00

Joy of the Gospel Campaign

Total Pledged:\$958,770.00
 Gifts last week:\$560.00
Total Gifts Received:\$892,533.05
 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

Peter's Pence:.....\$20.00
 Mission Coop:.....\$75.00
 Southern NE Register:\$0.00

Parish Calendar

Wednesday July 29 6:00pm – 10:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration
 Thursday July 30 1:00pm: Adult Bible Study via Zoom (contact Teri Volesky)

Catholic School News:

Superintendent Dodson wants to share a few updates with you. Remodel progress continues in the high school, along with regular summer repairs and campus improvements. Enrollment for all grade levels is open. To register, contact Gwen Covey at 308-532-1874. Students have started summer weight training and follow all required COVID guidelines. The 2019-20 school year is being closed out and we are preparing for the Fall registration days. Families will receive letters with info about tuition and registration dates in late July. There is no need to do anything prior to those dates unless contacted by the school office. Mr. Dodson has weekly meetings with the state regulators regarding COVID-19 restrictions and what our Fall schedule may look like. At this time, nothing has been determined ... we repeat ... nothing has been determined. As we have experienced since March, everything changes on a daily basis. However, we are optimistic and plan to keep our start date of Tuesday, August 18th. So, for now just enjoy family. Progress continues in the High School along with the regular summer time, sunshine and these lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer! God Bless.

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

Knights of Columbus Family Picnic ... Due to the COVID virus, regrettably, the picnic is canceled for this year. There is no way that we can ensure everyone's safety, so we felt it was best to cancel.

Peter's Pence Collection ... has usually been taken up the last Sunday of June. However, this year, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Peter's Pence Collection will be October 3-4, 2020.

"How to Pray" Series ... (by Father Gary Coulter, director, Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House). If you missed any of the How to Pray Series. They are available on our webpage in one pdf file under the Resources Tab under COVID-19 Resources and also under the Faith Resources. The Application: Prayer Exercises Series is also available there.

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 Mass; 60 minutes before Sat/Sun Mass.**

Catholic Social Services Assistance ... Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska has funds available for rent, utilities, and emergency cash assistance help. They have funds set aside for every region of southern Nebraska, not just the towns where they have offices. If you know of anyone that needs help, please have them call in for assistance. There is an application process for those wanting to receive assistance. Imperial and SW Nebraska area, please call (402) 327-6299 during daytime hours. [see inserts in 07/12/20 online Bulletin]

Immaculate Heart of Mary Counseling Center ...

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Counseling Center (IHMCC) with Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska continues to support mental health for the Diocese of Lincoln through the use of telehealth. If you or someone you know is experiencing mental health difficulties that adversely impact daily functioning or shadow the joy of living, please reach out. Visit their website at www.immaculateheartcounseling.org for more information or call 402-489-1834. [see inserts: 07/12/20 online Bulletin]

Marriage Saving – the Weekend Phase ...

During the weekend phase of Retrouvaille (*pronounced retro-vi*) a series of presentations are given by a team of three couples and a priest. The team presents a technique of communication that enables you to take a good look at most areas of your relationship. After each presentation you have time in the privacy of your room to discuss the previous presentation. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning **August 21-23, 2020**, in Schuyler, Nebraska call 1-888-317-5654 or 308-986-2351 or www.retrouvaille.org on the web.

The First Human Right ... Cardinal Renato Martino, when serving as President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, said the following in an interview conducted for Priests for Life in May 2004: "The Holy Father speaks of the protection of life as the fundamental realization and respect for human rights. Without that realization, without that respect for the right to life, no other discussion of human rights can continue; it must be based upon the foundation of human dignity and the right to life."

ROSARY DURING AUGUST ... Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ. It has been said that we live in unprecedented times. But do we really? After all, any amateur student of history and especially Church history can attest that Holy Mother Church has already experienced everything we are living through and even far worse, things like plagues and pandemics, persecutions of Christians, violent attacks against persons for reason of color or other discriminatory traits, the shameless desecration of churches and statues and acts that cause scandal, even by those who are called to serve as leaders of the faith. These are among the things that are clearly seen in our modern day, but the Church has been here before. The only difference between then and now is us. We are the ones whom God has chosen and destined to live at this time in history, bringing our faith to bear, as did our predecessors, so that with God's grace and by God's grace alone, we too will triumph and overcome all adversity and grow stronger in faith, hope and love in the process.

My dear brothers and sisters, for this reason, as your bishop, I want to invite each of you to reaffirm or discover anew the importance of your spiritual life, so important for us in all seasons but never more so than in this current season of uncertainty, fear, and dismay. The spiritual life is our source of strength, consolation and courage. The spiritual life calls for growth and development. How does this happen? Most obviously, by the life giving Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession. Mass, even daily Mass must be the source of our strength to meet the challenges of our times; regular confession, at least monthly helps to cleanse the soul from sin, but it also equips us for the spiritual battle in which we are presently engaged; and make no mistake, ours is a spiritual battle: it always has been and always will be.

In addition to these essential sacramental opportunities for grace and reconciliation, the spiritual life is developed slowly and gradually through daily devotions and prayers. The Church is replete with many worthy and time honored devotions, but one among them I think has particular relevance for us in our times and that is the Holy Rosary. The Rosary has been recommended to the faithful for centuries as a prayer of contemplation, a weapon against evil and a source of divine strength and consolation.

For these reasons, I want to invite and encourage you to join me in a special diocesan Rosary crusade for the month of August. I want to sincerely ask that everyone who so chooses, to join me in praying at least five decades of the Holy Rosary every day during August. I am encouraged to know that many in this diocese are already devoted each day to the Rosary. I would be so grateful to learn that those who infrequently pray the Holy Rosary might be inspired to join us in this diocesan Rosary crusade.

The Rosary is a simple but powerful prayer, which many of the saints identified as our greatest spiritual weapon, second only to the Sacraments. St. John Paul II called the Rosary his most favorite prayer and promoted it during his long pontificate. In 2002, he wrote a beautiful and inspiring encyclical letter on the Rosary. It is called *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, a letter which I highly recommend. The young visionaries at Fatima were asked by Mary to pray many Rosaries each day. Through the centuries, this devotion has connected us to Mary and to each other as a bond between heaven and earth. You may be interested to know that I recently received a letter from a Protestant pastor, who told me that he prays the Rosary every day. I cannot adequately express how inspired and edified that news left me.

Although the month of October is traditionally dedicated to the rosary, and given our current circumstances, I am of the mind that we should not wait until then, but use this August and its 31 days to deepen our devotion to God through the Blessed Virgin Mary's prayer and her intercession. The month of August also contains some wonderful liturgical feasts and observances that relate well to this special diocesan crusade. Among them are the following: the memorial of St. John Vianney, patron of priests, who himself always prayed the rosary, night and day; we priests

should never let a day pass without praying the Rosary, uniting our hearts to Mary and asking Her to bless our ministry. In August, we also celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration, the fourth Luminous Mystery, the memorial of St. Dominic, to whom tradition tells us Mary gave the rosary to use in defense of the heresies of his day, the memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe, who founded the Militia of Mary Immaculate, the Solemnity of the Assumption, the fourth Glorious Mystery, the memorial of St. Bernard, who gave the Church one of my favorite prayers, the Memorare, the memorial of the Queenship of Mary, the fifth Glorious Mystery and at the end of the month, the memorials of St. Monica and St. Augustine, who lived long before the Rosary was popularized throughout the Church, but whose intercession we can also entreat to pray for the conversion and reconversion of members of our families and parishes. I hope that you will agree that August is a very appropriate month to use the Rosary to deepen our spiritual lives.

Friends, we might be tempted to think that we can do little or nothing in the face of so many modern day trials and challenges; sometimes we feel helpless but as Christians, we can and must always pray. Prayer is not a passive response to life's challenges, or something we do in the absence of something more productive or beneficial; no prayer in all its many forms is an active engagement, calling upon the powers of heaven to come to our assistance. Jesus showed us this example in the Gospels; all the saints demonstrated this spiritual truth and mystery. Might God be calling each of us to deeper prayer and a more God centered life by means of the trials and struggles of our times? I believe God is doing just that.

If you join me in this Rosary crusade for the Diocese of Wichita, you may choose to pray the Rosary anytime and in any manner, either individually or in groups or even better as a family. You may also pray for any intentions you wish, but I might suggest any or all of the following intentions:

- The speedy end of the pandemic
- For persecuted Christians
- In reparation for the desecration of churches and religious symbols
- For students to return to school in a safe and fruitful manner and for their parents and teachers
- For peace and justice for all, especially the unborn, the new born, the elderly, the immigrant and refugee, the marginalized, victims of racism and discrimination, prisoners, and the poor and powerless
- In reparation for the sins and failures of our spiritual leaders
- For the strength and perseverance of married persons, for unity of families, parishes, neighborhoods, cities, states and nations
- That all our leaders will lead with integrity and courage
- For priestly and religious vocations
- For the dying and the dead to be found holy and worthy of heaven

Thank you for receiving this invitation. I ask that our pastors help me in promoting this crusade by means of their parish bulletins and announcements, as well as through social media. I am praying and hoping that thousands from all over the diocese will choose to participate so that together and through the powerful intercession of Mary, we will emerge from this present darkness with renewed faith and confidence in God. May God bless you all.

+The Most Reverend Carl A. Kemme (Bishop of Wichita)

Man of the Shroud Display ... after much prayer, discernment & consultation, Spirit Catholic Radio has made the decision to POSTPONE the tour until 2021 due to the uncertainty of COVID-19.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Fr. Seiker at Jesus Caritas meeting ... with priests in my Jesus Caritas Fraternity in Waverly, Mon, July 27. I will spend time with my family on Tuesday and Wednesday. I will return for the Wednesday 5:30pm Mass (& 5:00pm confessions).

Liturgical Ministers

Lector		
Acolyte		
Server		
Music		
Gifts		
Ushers		
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Jer 13:1-11; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Jer 15:10, 16-21; Ps 34:2-11; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Thursday:	Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1b-6ab; Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Jer 26:11-16, 24; Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 14:1-12
Sunday:	Is 55:1-3; Ps 145:8-9, 15-18; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

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: **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 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: 7/25 - Audrey Frary, 7/30 – Nikki Downey, Jerry Bush, Joy Chilcott, 8/1 - Nicholas Niesen, Jim Griffin.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Most parishes are now aware of the catechumenate and the journey of new faithful in the RCIA, but this form of sacramental initiation disappeared from view in the thirteenth century along with many other ancient practices. Life back then was hard, and often too short, and priests were increasingly insistent about the responsibility of parents to baptize children in danger of death. Since everyone in that society was under unimaginable threat from famine, warfare, and plague, the liturgical rites changed quickly. Everyone was in danger of death all the time. No longer were babies immersed in fonts, being lowered into the water, although the ritual books never backed down from immersion. Infusion was the new way, a simple pouring of a few drops of water on the child's forehead. The catechumenate collapsed, being reduced to the recitation of the Creed and an Our Father at every baptism. Amazingly, any provision for adult baptism was shelved, so that as late as the 1950s, a person being baptized was presumed to be an infant, unable to answer for him or herself. Questions of creed and commitment were put to the godparents, not to the person being baptized. Even Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton, famous adult converts, remained mute at their baptisms while their sponsors answered for them. In hindsight all this appears strikingly odd, yet it was accepted as the way things were. We have good reason to give thanks for the vigorous reforms of the last fifty years! — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

A SHARE IN GOD'S KINGDOM ... Today concludes a three-week series of Gospel texts in which we have listened to a total of seven parables about the Kingdom. The believer is asked to consider the request that God made of Solomon in today's first reading: "Ask something of me and I will give it to you" (1 Kings 3:5). Today's parables about the treasure buried in the field and the pearl of great price should prompt us to answer, "A share in your kingdom, O God!" Today we discover that the kingdom of God is beyond value, a priceless treasure. Unfortunately, our culture bombards us with things that it believes are priceless treasures—the bigger and better SUVs, anti-aging and anti-balding creams and salves, miracle diets, and so much more. Having a share in God's kingdom and helping to bring about that kingdom are the greatest treasures that we can ever hope to gain. —Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WISDOM ... Nine-tenths of wisdom consists in being wise in time. — Theodore Roosevelt

GO ... Go forth and set the world on fire. —St. Ignatius of Loyola

Pray for our Seminarians: **Dominic Ian Winter**, from St. Joseph and St. Mary Parishes in Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2015. He is in Theology 2 at St. Charles Borromeo 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 ... (July) Universal prayer intention - Our Families: We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS ... (August) Universal prayer intention - The Maritime World: We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.