

# ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



Father Mark Seiker  
3301 Echo Drive  
North Platte, Nebraska 69101

Rectory / Office 308-534-5461

Parish Hall: 534-0511

Parish email: [rectory-office@seas-np.org](mailto:rectory-office@seas-np.org)

Webpage: <http://www.seas-np.org>

## ***1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent December 1, 2019***

***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](mailto: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	Dec. 2	8:00 a.m.	Margaret Vizcaino +
Tuesday	Dec. 3	<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	Protection of Marriage of 1man/1woman
Wednesday	Dec. 4	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	Otto, Virginia, Lynn Westkamp +
<b>6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hours =&gt; Spend time with Jesus</b>			
Thursday	Dec. 5	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	Jacob Buhrman
Friday	Dec. 6	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
followed by: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & all night Adoration			
Saturday	Dec. 7	9:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday Holy Hour & Benediction
		<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	People of Our Parish
<b>8:00pm - Midnight:</b> Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Nat'l Night Prayer for Life			
Sunday	Dec. 8	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Virginia Marie Waechter +

## INTENTIONS

***“You ... must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”***

— Matthew 24:44

*Spend time with Jesus (Eucharistic Adoration)*  
*Are you preparing for a **Person** or for a **Day**?*

## **Stewardship: November 24, 2019**

**Adult Envelopes:** .....\$1,572.00  
**Loose Plate:** .....\$129.61  
**Children:** .....\$0.00  
**Holy Day:** .....\$0.00  
**Total:** .....\$1,701.61

### Joy of the Gospel Campaign

Total Pledged: .....\$958,770.00  
Gifts last week: .....\$770.00  
**Total Gifts Received: .....\$836,118.05**  
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: .....\$1,648,428.04  
Balance on DIAL LOAN: ..... **\$112,052.11**

**Contemplative Sisters:** ..... \$40.00

## **Parish Calendar**

Wednesday	Dec. 4	6:00pm – 10:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration	7:00pm – 9:00pm: RCIA Classes in Parish Hall
Thursday	Dec. 5	1:00pm: Adult Bible Study in Parish Hall	
Friday	Dec. 6	5:30pm: Mass followed by First Friday Holy Hours (from Friday 5:30pm Mass - Holy Hour at 9:00am on Sat)	
Saturday	Dec. 7	8:00pm – 12:00am: <b>National Night of Prayer for Life</b>	
Sunday	Dec. 8	11:00am: K of C Breakfast	11:30am: Daughters of Charity Meeting 3:30pm: Cursillo SW NE Ultreya=SEAS

## **Catholic School News:**

**Upcoming Events:** 12/2- 5:00pm - JH GBB @ Ogallala, 12/3- 5:00pm - JG GBB @ Perkins County, 12/4-10:30am - D1-5 District One-Act @ Southwest Public School, 12/5- 2:00pm - WR @ Maxwell, 5:00pm - 9th G&B Bball vs Ogallala, 12/6- 4:00pm - G&B Bball @ Broken Bow, 12/7- 10:30AM - WR @ Mullen, G&B B-ball vs. Sutherland (time change & No JV Girls Game), 5:00pm-JV Boys, 6:00pm-Varsity Boys (Varsity Girls follows)

**God is Here:** Advent helps us focus on the spiritual preparation for Christmas and on the coming of Our Lord. Let us ask God to guide us more deeply into the beauty of Advent. Please join us for Daily Mass in the McDaid Chapel at 7:00am every weekday from Dec. 2 – Dec. 20.

**SCRIP:** Purchase SCRIP gift cards for a variety of local and national retailers. Everything from grocery, to dining, to gas, to clothing ... SCRIP has your shopping list covered! SCRIP gift cards also make excellent gifts, with many retailers available in smaller (stocking-stuffer) denominations. Visit the SCRIP table after weekend Masses or call the Endowment office at 308-534-5939.

**Capital Campaign:** The Endowment is kicking off a new capital campaign to make necessary and urgent improvements at the North Platte Catholic Schools, including: Plumbing repair and restroom renovations at St. Patrick's High Schools, Kitchen renovations at St. Pat's High School, Roof repair at McDaid Elementary, and locker room updates at St. Pat's High School. Watch for more information coming soon, or contact the Endowment office to learn more at 308-534-5939.

**#iGiveCatholic on Giving Tuesday!** - Giving Tuesday, Dec. 3, is an international day of charitable giving, held every year on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. This year, the Diocese of Grand Island is joining together to promote giving through #iGiveCatholic. Find the North Platte Catholic Schools online by visiting: [www.igivecatholic.org](http://www.igivecatholic.org). Donations to the North Platte Catholic Schools on Giving Tuesday will be designated for the Endowment's "Great Teaching Fund" for educators. Please join us online on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>!

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

**Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) News:** On **Sunday, Dec. 8** after enjoying the Knights of Columbus breakfast, **Holiday plates for the homebound** will be assembled & delivered Dec. 8 (after 11:30am Daughters of Charity meeting) around 12:30pm. Plates will contain a prayer card, an ornament, cookies, & a fruit cup. (Sign up sheet on table in the Narthex) Please place your items in K-1 classroom before Sunday, Dec. 8. If you have any questions call Jan Daniel: 308-660-9407. Thankfully, Daughters of Charity.

**List of items for homeless shelter** (1/2 to Lincoln and 1/2 to North Platte); please have items brought to the Church by December 15. (Sign up sheet on table in the Narthex)

**Church Decorating ...** Plan ahead! **Church decorating will be Dec. 22.** There will be a **potluck for all parishioners following the 10:00am Mass, followed by decorating.** This is a great opportunity for our parish families to share in the joy of Advent & foster wonderful memories for your families. **Join us!**

**Knights of Columbus Meeting ... Mon, Dec. 9, 7:00pm,** Parish Hall. All Knights are invited to attend.

**Breakfast by Knights of Columbus ... Sunday, Dec. 8,** in the Parish Hall after 10:00am Mass; serving pancakes, eggs, fixings, biscuits & gravy, coffee & juices. Free Will offering accepted ... Proceeds go to the purchase of Missalette.

**Coats for Kids ...** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton **Knights of Columbus Council** will give away new coats to needy kids **Saturday, Dec. 14, 9:00am** in Parish Hall. Sizes for girls 4-6 & 7-16, & for boys 4-7 & 8-18, while supplies lasts. Please come early. Thank you & God bless. *Loren Baxa, GK.*

**Keep Christ in Christmas!** The Knights of Columbus will sell religious Christmas cards after Mass. Send your relatives and friends a card that expresses the true meaning of the Christmas season.

**Healing Mass: Sunday, Dec. 15, 4:00pm St. Patrick, McCook ...** All are welcome to receive physical, spiritual, & mental healing. Celebrant: Rev. Christopher Barak, Lincoln. Come early to participate in 3:30pm=singing of Divine Mercy Chaplet & Confessions.

**Advent Baby Shower:** During this Advent Season, as we anticipate the good news and great joy of our Savior's birth, please express this joy with gifts for His little ones. Our parish is hosting an Advent Baby Shower. All gifts will be donated to the Women's Resource Center. Please leave unwrapped, new or gently used items in the crib in the narthex from **Dec. 1 – Jan. 12.**

**Catholic Daughters ...** Catholic Daughters will hold their regular meeting on **Monday, December 2nd at 7:00pm** in the Spiritual Life Center at St Patrick Church. All Catholic women are invited and encouraged to come. Members, please remember your handbooks.

**Mass of the Holy Innocents ...** The annual Mass of the Holy Innocents will be celebrated on **Saturday, Dec. 28.** All are invited to attend this Memorial Mass, especially those families who have suffered the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion. Reading of names will begin at 6:30pm with **Mass at 7:00pm at John XXIII Diocesan Center Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln.** If you would like your child's name to be remembered & placed on the banner, please call the Office of Family Life (473-0620) before 5:00pm, Dec. 19. If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.

**Active Waiting...** The Second Vatican Council reflects upon the relationship between the coming of Christ and our activity to prepare for it. In the Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, we read, "Far from diminishing our concern to develop this earth, the expectancy of a new earth should spur us on, for it is here that the body of a new human family grows, foreshadowing in some way the age which is to come ... When we have spread on earth the fruits of our nature and our enterprise -- human dignity, brotherly communion and freedom -- according to the command of the Lord and in his Spirit, we will find them once again, cleansed this time from the stain of sin, illuminated and transfigured, when Christ presents to his Father an eternal and universal kingdom..." (LG #39). In other words, the spirit of Advent should naturally bolster our pro-life efforts, and the progress we make in promoting human dignity becomes the "building blocks" for the eternal kingdom.

**National Night of Prayer for Life ...**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 8:00pm – 12:00am (Midnight)**  
is the National Night of Prayer for Life. It begins with Exposition at 8:00pm, followed by the Mysteries of the Rosary at the top of each hour, ending with Benediction at Midnight. The hours are chosen to coincide with the feast of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance to St. Juan Diego. We will be praying to bring the world back to Christ and to bring an end to abortion. We invite you to come when you wish and stay as long as you like during the service.

## **FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:**

**Thank You ...** to all those who gave gifts, cards, & offered prayers for my birthday. All are much appreciated. Thank you!

**Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Joseph ...**  
video on our webpage; meditation & journal book available for \$3.00.

**Celebrate ADVENT ...** a time of preparation and longing for Christ's coming at Christmas. As Catholics we recognize the need to celebrate **four weeks of Advent**, preparing for Christmas, and then to extend the celebration of our Lord's birth throughout the **twelve days of Christmas**. Teach the children the real meaning of Advent, & the real meaning of Christmas. Use the booklets in the Narthex & pray the Advent Wreath prayers as a family each day.

**Contemplative Sisters ...** If you missed Thanksgiving collection, please help financially support the Sisters who spiritually support us!

**Dec. 6 = Day of fasting, prayer, and reparation ... see insert.**

## **Looking Back and Moving Forward ....**

During the six weeks before Lent 2013 (*in January and February*), parishioners were encouraged to join in a Bible Study in the Parish Hall entitled "The Year of Faith: A Bible Study Guide for Catholics" by Fr. Mitch Pacwa. Also during the Year

of Faith, parishes in the Indianola Deanery participated in Eucharistic Holy Hours with reflections on the documents of Vatican II. Our Parish hosted Wednesday Suppers after the 5:30pm Mass & before the 7:00pm Holy Hours with free will offerings for the suppers going to the "Rice Bowl" for the poor.

In September 2013 workers from Ambiance by Design installed the remaining corbels in the sanctuary, some lettering on the frieze in the sanctuary, and the statues on St. Gabriel and St. Michael on the front façade. The quotes on the frieze in the sanctuary are:

- "See this Heart which has loved so much" ... *words of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque as He revealed His Sacred Heart.*
- "Our look of love at Him draws back a look of love on us" ... *words of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, our patron Saint.*
- Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who inspires and perfects our faith." ... *words from the letter to the Hebrews 12:2.*
- "I say nothing to him, I love him" ... *St. Therese of Lisieux.*

In October 2013, Stulich's Asphalt Sealing System LLC, from Ogallala, NE, repaired 470 lineal feet of large cracks, some small cracks in the Church parking lot & apply a sealing coat of Protector Sealant to the entire parking lot at a cost of \$15,923.45.

The existing siding on the "Farm" Garage and the wood sills on some of windows of the "Farm" House were deteriorated & needed to be replaced. The Parish Building Committee and the Parish Council it was decided to have H & H Seamless Gutters install LP Smart Side siding on the "Farm" Garage & install one small Andersen window and three large Andersen windows on the "Farm" Rental House at a combined cost of \$20,500.00. This project will be paid for with money on hand in the Parish checking account, \$10,000.00 withdrawn from the Parish DIAL Operating Savings Account, and \$955.00 from Catholic Mutual (*an insurance claim*). These projects were done in November-December.

In January-February 2014, parishioners joined in a study by Fr. Robert Barron called: CATHOLICISM: The New Evangelization Study. During Lent, parishioners joined in a Study in the Parish Hall called "Oremus: A guide to Catholic Prayer" presented by Fr. Mark Touns.

In February 2014, our Parish purchased a new commercial dishwasher for the Parish Hall Kitchen at a cost of \$3,936.60. It will wash a load of dishes in about 3 minutes. It has been very helpful for Parish dinners hosted by the Daughters of Charity and the Knights of Columbus Breakfasts.

In March 2014, our Parish sponsored three different showings of the beautiful movie, Mary of Nazareth at the Carmike 6 Theater.

In March 2014, a new Listen Hearing Assist Transmitter was installed in the Parish Hall Sound System and the Sound System was adjusted. The quality of the sound was greatly improved and the same Hearing Assist Receivers that are available for use in the Church will also work in the Parish Hall.

In May 2014, Fr. Seiker began sending out emails to parishioners requesting prayers for the sick and deceased as well as providing current announcements of events in our parish.

In April our Parish hosted a Christian Passover Meal in the Parish Hall. This meal helped many persons to better understand the deep spiritual significance of some of the rituals of the Mass. Some parishioners observed that: "*it was a most memorable experience! Thanks go out to: Fr. Seiker for his guidance; the prayerful assistance of Greg Vandenberg, Stephen Smock, Evan Mohr, Michael Krondak and Teri Volesky; the purchasing of a stupendous meal by Joan Ryland and Alice Robinson, which was prepared by Renate Nordquist, and served by Teri Volesky, Toni Barron, Joan Ryland and Alice Robinson. Thanks to all who gathered, prayed and feasted together!*"

## Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Dec. 7, 5:00pm	Sun., Dec. 8, 10:00am
<b>Lector</b>	Jim Nisley	Michael Lafleur
<b>Acolyte</b>	Jerry Volesky	Conrad Buhrman
<b>Server</b>	William Krondak	Jace Grunden
	Nicholas Krondak	Weston Hammond
<b>Music</b>	Volunteer	Peggy Orr
<b>Gifts</b>	Volunteer – Ask Ushers	Volunteer – Ask Ushers
<b>Ushers</b>	Jerry Beckius	Jeff Orr
	Sharon Beckius	Volunteer
<b>Rosary</b>		

## *Readings for the Week*

Monday:	Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-27; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

**Prayers for the sick:** Dolores Kosmicki, Matt Reisen (Matt & Ashley Perlinger's friend), Margaret Ruskamp (Donna Bode's mother), Special Intention, Carolyn Cohen, Tim Garth (Theresa McCarthy-Garth's son), Those struggling with Alcoholism, Mary Lou Robles (Toni Barron's sister), Renate Nordquist, Sharon Beckius, Mike & Kim Paul, Jim Beckius.

**Prayers for the deceased:** 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), Fr. Paul Rutten, Fr. Brad Zitek, Eileen Boltz, Peggy Fleecs, Carol LaBrie (Loren Baxa's sister-in-law), Leona Clouatre, Virginia Waechter (Peggy Orr's mother), Bob "Junior" Barron (Toni Barron's brother), Bernadine Torres, Father Jim Novakowski, Martha Burbach, Luke Ranck, Margaret Baxa, Mary Portz, Phyllis Beckius.

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** 12/1 - Denise Burbach, Kate Wartman, 12/5 - Cindy Swanson, Mike Paul, 12/6 - Adam Burbach, 12/7 - Leigha Burbach, Philip Heimann, 12/8 - Jessica Devore.

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ...** Before the Second Vatican Council in the mid-1960s, Advent had a strong penitential tone, reminiscent of Lent. From as long ago as the fourth century, some Christians began a solemn fast on St. Martin's Day, November 11. This "Saint Martin's Lent" extended all the way to Christmas, and was widely followed in the dioceses of France and Germany, and in the Middle Ages in England. Fasting was required, and dancing and similar activities were banned for the duration. The fast had a social function, too, assuring that the winter food supplies would stretch into spring.

At the Second Vatican Council, some bishops argued that a revival of the long winter's fast would give the Church a chance to establish the message and themes of the Incarnation long before the holiday hubbub took hold. This proposal didn't pass, and Advent emerged as a four-week period of reflection, expectant waiting, and joyful preparation for the coming of the Lord. The season has two principal phases, with the first beginning this Sunday. The second phase commences on December 17, when the liturgy begins to unfold the story of the Savior's coming. Interestingly, the Eastern Church maintains a strongly penitential note in Advent, which is called "Winter Lent," "The Nativity Fast," or "Christmas Lent," and has laws forbidding people to absent themselves from liturgy from December 17 onward.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**BE PREPARED ...** Be prepared. It's that simple. As this Advent season opens before us, the Lord Jesus summons us to stand ready for his coming. At this time of year much of our attention is focused on being prepared for the details that accompany the holiday season. We purchase gifts; we decorate our homes, inside and out; we prepare foods that we eat only during the holidays; we write and send Christmas cards; we attend holiday concerts; we prepare either to welcome family and friends into our homes or arrange for visits to their homes. We really can't escape the details that make up the season. Perhaps this Advent is a time to attend to all those details with a different spin. As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Christmas, why not be deliberate about acknowledging the presence of the Lord as we go about these tasks? The Lord often comes to us in wonderfully surprising ways. Let us be prepared. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**TIME OF PREPARATION ...** This life is the time of our preparation for our future state. Our souls will continue forever what we make them in this world. —John Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury

**FULFILL TODAY ...** If what you did yesterday still looks big to you, surely you have not done much today.  
—Anonymous

**Pray for our Seminarians:** Dale Jonathan Alder, from St. Peter Parish in Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2014. He is in Theology 3 at Mount Saint Mary 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 ...**

**(December) Universal:** That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.



Four exorcists have issued a joint statement asking Catholics worldwide to **dedicate December 6 as a day of fasting, prayer and reparation**, “for the purpose of driving out any diabolic influence within the Church that has been gained as a result of recent events.”

We are asking all of those who participate to do the following for this intention:

- 1.) Pray the Rosary;
- 2.) Take on some form of penance, such as fasting, abstinence and other forms of mortification;
- 3.) To offer the prayers to the Sacred Heart, as seen below.

Other recommended acts which we encourage others to do for this intention is make a Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament and attend Mass that day, offering the merits of the Mass for this intention.

May the Divine Mercy rest upon all of us.

### **Act of Consecration of the Human Race to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

Most sweet Jesus, Redeemer of the human race, look down upon us humbly prostrate before Thy altar. We are Thine, and Thine we wish to be; but, to be more surely united with Thee, behold each one of us freely consecrates himself today to Thy Most Sacred Heart. Many indeed have never known Thee; many too, despising Thy precepts, have rejected Thee. Have mercy on them all, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to Thy Sacred Heart.

Be Thou King, O Lord, not only of the faithful who have never forsaken Thee, but also of the prodigal children who have abandoned Thee; grant that they may quickly return to their Father’s house lest they die of wretchedness and hunger.

Be Thou King of those who are deceived by erroneous opinions, or whom discord keeps aloof; call them back to the harbor of truth and unity of faith, so that soon there may be but one flock and one Shepherd.

Be Thou King of all those who are still involved in the darkness of idolatry or of Islamism; refuse not to draw them all into the light and kingdom of God. Turn Thine eyes of mercy toward the children of that race, once Thy chosen people: of old they called down upon themselves the Blood of the Savior; may it now descend upon them a laver of redemption and of life.

Grant, O Lord, to Thy Church assurance of freedom and immunity from harm; give peace and order to all nations, and make the earth resound from pole to pole with one cry: Praise to the Divine Heart that wrought our salvation; to It be glory and Honor forever. Amen.

### **Act of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

O sweet Jesus, Whose overflowing charity for men is requited by so much forgetfulness, negligence and contempt, behold us prostrate before Thy altar eager to repair by a special act of homage the cruel indifference and injuries, to which Thy loving Heart is everywhere subject.

Mindful alas! that we ourselves have had a share in such great indignities, which we now deplore from the depths of our hearts, we humbly ask Thy pardon and declare our readiness to atone by voluntary expiation not only for our own personal offenses, but also for the sins of those, who, straying far from the path of salvation, refuse in their obstinate infidelity to follow Thee, their Shepherd and Leader, or, renouncing the vows of their baptism, have cast off the sweet yoke of Thy Law.

We are now resolved to expiate each and every deplorable outrage committed against Thee; we are determined to make amends for the manifold offenses against Christian modesty in unbecoming dress and behavior, for all the foul seductions laid to ensnare the feet of the innocent, for the frequent violations of Sundays and holidays, and the shocking blasphemies uttered against Thee and Thy Saints.

We wish also to make amends for the insults to which Thy Vicar on earth and Thy priests are subjected, for the profanation, by conscious neglect or terrible acts of sacrilege, of the very Sacrament of Thy Divine Love; and lastly for the public crimes of nations who resist the rights and teaching authority of the Church which Thou hast founded.

Would, O divine Jesus, we were able to wash away such abominations with our blood. We now offer, in reparation for these violations of Thy divine honor, the satisfaction Thou didst once make to Thy eternal Father on the cross and which Thou dost continue to renew daily on our altars; we offer it in union with the acts of atonement of Thy Virgin Mother and all the Saints and of the pious faithful on earth; and we sincerely promise to make recompense, as far as we can with the help of Thy grace, for all neglect of Thy great love and for the sins we and others have committed in the past. Henceforth we will live a life of unwavering faith, of purity of conduct, of perfect observance of the precepts of the gospel and especially that of charity. We promise to the best of our power to prevent other from offending Thee and to bring as many as possible to follow Thee.

O loving Jesus, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our model in reparation, deign to receive the voluntary offering we make of this act of expiation; and by the crowning gift of perseverance keep us faithful unto death in our duty and the allegiance we owe to Thee, so that we may one day come to that happy home, where Thou with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest God, world without end. Amen.