



3301 Echo Drive
 North Platte, NE 69101
 rectory-office@seas-np.org
 www.seas-np.org

ST. ELIZABETH

ANN SETON

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Fr. Rand Langhorst
 Parish Coordinator: Ashley
 Perlinger (Ministries, website,
 sign, choir, miscellaneous)
 Mass Times: Saturday 5:00pm,
 Sunday 10:00am, Weekdays & Holy
 Days as posted in bulletin

Confession: Saturdays 4:00pm-
 4:30pm, Sundays 9:00am-9:30am
 Offered any time by appointment.
 Half hour before Friday Masses
 for 15 minutes

Baptism
 Contact priest to set up
 appointment.

Matrimony
 Contact priest first before date is
 set and at least 6 months prior.
 Classes and retreat required.

Anointing of the Sick
 Contact priest or parish office.

Education: Family Home Study or
 Catholic School ; Adult Entry into
 Catholic Faith (O.C.I.A), contact
 office or pastor for more
 information.

*All bulletin news due at noon the
 Wednesday before the Sunday it is
 to appear. Email rectory-
 office@seas-np.org.*

December 15, 2024: 3rd Sunday of Advent

<i>Mass Intentions</i>		
Monday 12/16	8:00 am	+Relatives/Friends of J & M Safford
Tuesday 12/17	7:00 am	+Ralph Meyer
Wednesday 12/18	5:30 pm	Megan & Seth Wardyn & family
Thursday 12/19	8:00 am	Seven Sisters/Fasting Brothers of Fr. Rand
Friday 12/20	8:00 am	Liv/Dec DOC Members
Saturday 12/21	5:00 pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 12/22	10:00 am	Mike & Erika Sindorf

LITURGICAL MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS December 21-22, 2024 (4th Sunday of Advent)

	Saturday 5:00pm	Sunday 10:00am
Lector/Reader	Jim Nisley	Cindy Swanson
Acolyte	Volunteer Needed	Duane Johnsen
Server	Luke Miller	Johnathan Birulkin
	Nathan Miller	Jacob Birulkin
Music	Volunteer Needed	Greg Vandenberg
Gifts	Volunteer – Ask Ushers	Volunteer – Ask Ushers
Ushers	Alice Robinson	Dave Beran

Stewardship: December 8, 2024: Adult \$1568.00, Christmas
 Flowers \$315.00 Immaculate Conception \$ 930.00 Advent
 Challenge \$1275.00

A hungry mountain lion is chasing a rural politician and a farmer. The politician makes some quick calculations and says, "It's no good trying to outrun it. It's catching up!" The farmer keeps a little ahead and replies, "I'm not trying to outrun the lion. I'm trying to outrun you!"

Starting Jan. 8 (Wednesdays), the Emmaus Institute is teaching a five-week course on our Blessed Mother, titled The Mother of the Word: A Biblical Study of Mary. Discover how the Old and New Testaments reveal the person and mission of Mary. Register at www.EmmausInstitute.net.

Marriage Encounter Weekends: Learn how to love your spouse by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on: Feb. 14-16, 2025, Lincoln, NE; Aug. 8-10, 2025, Littleton, CO. For questions, feel free to contact: Brenda & Gary Granger: 402-370-5839. For more info about Worldwide Marriage Encounter, visit www.wwme.org

All Parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend our Parish celebration on St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's Feast Day, Saturday, January 4. Immediately after the 5:00pm Mass, we will have a potluck meal in the Parish Hall with fried chicken, drinks, and table service provided by the Daughters of Charity. The remainder of the meal will be potluck, with those attending being asked to bring a side dish, dessert, or both. This is a time to deepen our ties as a spiritual family and for fellowship. Please mark your calendars to attend.

Additional Confession times at SEAS to prepare for Christmas: After Masses on Monday, December 16, Wednesday, December 18, Saturday, December 21 and Sunday, December 22, until the last in line is heard for each; also Friday, December 20 from 7 am-7:30 am.

Additional Confession times at St Patrick's in North Platte- December 18, 19, and 20 from noon-1 pm and the Penance Service on Sunday, December 22 from 3-4 pm.

Christmas Flowers & Poinsettias-- If you would like to honor your loved one(s) by donating to have Christmas poinsettias and flowers in our church, please make your donation by putting it in an

envelope marked for Christmas Flowers along with the name(s) of those you are remembering, to be put in the bulletin December 22. **Deadline for the Christmas bulletin is Wednesday, December 18 at noon.** Suggested donation is \$10 per name or couple.

Marian Shrines Pilgrimage June 9-20, 2025 with Fr Sagar of Holy Spirit Parish. Starting at \$3,599.00. See Lisbon, Fatima, Santiago, and Barcelona. For more information, contact Holy Spirit Parish in North Platte.

Announcing a Raffle for two Carnival Cruise Gift Cards (worth \$500.00 each), to be used on any Carnival Cruise to any of their destinations on any of their ships. It can be put toward the cost of the cruise or anything purchased onboard. Each raffle ticket is \$5 and worth the chance to get away or regift to a family member or friend. Drawing will be held December 29, 2024. If you would like to buy a ticket or more, contact Fr. Rand and, even better, if you are willing to take some and sell them, let Fr. Rand know. Proceeds will be put in the Gift Gathering for Pumpkin Festival 2025.

Upcoming dates and times for your calendars:

December 24: Holy Day of Obligation Vigil, Christmas Eve, Vigil Mass, 5:00pm

December 25: Holy Day of Obligation, Christmas, 10:00am Mass

December 31: Holy Day of Obligation Vigil, Solemnity of Mary, Vigil Mass, 5:00pm

January 1: Holy Day of Obligation, Solemnity of Mary, Mass 10:00am

There will be an All Faiths Christmas Choir at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church (305 W 5th St) on Sunday, December 15 at 7 pm. All are invited to attend.

"O Holy Night" 24-Hour Retreat On December 20-21, Fr. Gary Coulter, Retreat House Director, will guide us through the beauty and theology of beloved Advent and Christmas hymns. Discover the rich history behind these songs that prepare our hearts for the holy season. Questions? Call 402-786-2705 or email office@olgretreat.org.

S.T.A.G.E. to Present “The Custodian of Art”

S.T.A.G.E. Student Theatre announces its holiday production, “The Custodian of Art,” to be held at 7:00 pm January 2-4 and at 2:00 pm on January 5 in Lincoln at St. Teresa’s Church Kaczmarek Hall.

This original musical features student actors ages 8-15. Set in an art gallery full of famous paintings, patrons realize the purpose of art as it comes to life through clever depictions and silly antics.

Following the show, guests will enjoy an art exhibit by local artists and S.T.A.G.E. students. Reserved seating can be purchased at www.stage4kids.com/purchase-tickets.

What It Means to be a Knight

By Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, I am often asked what it means to be a Knight of Columbus. My answer is simple. A Knight lives by faith and leads by creative courage. Faith and courage compel us to be men of charity. It is often said “Where there is a need there’s a Knight.” And we prove it every day. We feed hungry families, give coats to kids, protect the vulnerable from catastrophe, and defend the unborn. We rebuild church in the Middle East and built homes for the homeless in our communities. But we are not merely volunteers. We are servants of Christ who see his face in those we serve. Ours is a charity that evangelizes. Our is a charity that brings people to faith, even as it springs from our own. Faith and courage inspire us to be men of unity. The Knights are known as the “strong right arm of the Catholic Church.” We have always been firmly united with the pope, the Vicar of Christ. We stand with our bishops, support our priests and aid in the formation of seminarians and religious. We strengthen the family — the domestic church — helping men build strong marriages and raise faithful children. We strive to be the family’s first line of defense, encouraging men to embrace their vocation to heroic generosity and self-sacrifice. We are called to protect the truth from those who deny it, and bring the truth to those who need it. Our fidelity to Christ is the source of our unity; we are proud to proclaim it, far and wide. Finally, faith and courage bind us together in fraternity. A Knight of Columbus is never alone. Each one of us stands side-by-side with brothers in our Parish and around

the world. At a time when men are increasingly isolated, we offer solidarity. At a time when men are searching, we offer meaning and mission. Fraternity amplifies all we do. Alone, a man can do good works. Alongside his brother Knights, he can rise to greatness. So what does it mean to be a Knight? It means a life of faith in action, a life boldness in brotherhood, a life worth living. Catholic men are looking for nothing less, and they will find it.

St. Pat’s School News: Monday, December 16 4:00PM--JH G BB vs NPHS 5:00PM--Res G & B BB @ Gothenburg, Tuesday, December 17 4:30PM-JV/V BB @ Ogallala Wednesday, December 18 4:00AM--JH G BB @ NPMS, Thursday, December 19 4:30PM--JV/V BB vs. Gothenburg Friday, December 20 End of 1st Semester 10:00AM--WR @ Sutherland Sunday, December 22-Thursday, December 26--NSAA Moratorium. Endowment News: It's the holiday season.... We hope you will add the North Platte Catholic Schools to your Christmas list this year! There are many ways to support St. Patrick's, McDaid, and Little Leprechaun Preschool during the holidays & at year-end... We hope you'll prayerfully consider one, or each of them! * SCRIP for holiday shopping and gifting! SCRIP gift cards make excellent gifts with many retailers available in smaller (stocking-stuffer) denominations. Purchase at the Endowment Office (601 S. Tabor Ave) Monday-Friday 8:00-4:00, call 308-534-5939, or visit www.raiseright.com. * Year-End Donations Be sure to maximize your tax benefits by contributing to the NPCES Endowment before the year's end. Gifts to the Endowment are 100% tax deductible and are put to immediate use for our students and faculty. *The Endowment's Annual Fund supports the general operations of the North Platte Catholic Schools by providing nearly 1/3 of the school's annual operating budget (roughly \$600,000). Annual Fund donations are vital to sustaining NPCES on a yearly basis. Give online at: apps.npcschools.org/donate-now, mail to PO Box 57, North Platte, NE 69103, or stop by the Endowment office at 601 S. Tabor Ave.

When the year 1000 was about to dawn, people fled to mountains, expecting the return of Christ. When 2000 came, people feared major computer -- and hence societal -- breakdowns. Neither happened. Yet both moments in history remind us of something deeper, the lesson of Advent. Advent means "coming." The Lord wants us to anticipate and prepare for His coming, not as something that we hinge on a particular date or identify with a particular calamity, but as an ordinary aspect of our daily Christian living. On the one hand, we know He is coming; on the other, we don't know when. Yet every moment is an opportunity to make that coming more central to our lives. Lord, may we welcome you daily in your Word, your Sacraments, and in all our brothers and sisters!

FOR THOSE 70 ½ OR OLDER: A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) can come directly from an IRA or from a traditional or Roth IRA. A QCD may satisfy the required minimum distribution, and up to \$105,000 of QCDs may be excluded annually from an individual's taxable income. Consider talking to your financial advisor about donating your IRA distributions to a charity, such as St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church.

Mark your calendars: Spirit Catholic Radio Three Days of Christmas Music will be heard on Thursday, December 26, Friday, December 27, and Monday, December 30. Listen at 90.1 FM North Platte.

Thank you to all involved before and during this weekend in preparing for Christmas by decorating the church and providing soups during the coffee and roll times. Many hands working together make less work for all.

Thank you to all who helped sign Christmas cards from our parish to the area nursing home and homebound recipients. Please add to your prayers all those who are benefitting from this DOC endeavor.

Marriage Encounter: We are reaching out to couples across the Diocese, making preparations for Valentines Weekend. "Finding a heart-to-heart-exchange" Feb. 14-16 at Lincoln, North American Martyrs Church Call right away to reserve a place. Contact Gary & Brenda 402-370-5839

December 12, 2024 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe: To our migrant brothers and sisters, In the season of Advent we are aware of the closeness of our savior Jesus Christ. As pastors, we know that Jesus wants to draw close to you during this challenging and perhaps fearful time. We are with you, too, to support and accompany you in the name of Jesus. As we hear of the possibility of mass deportations, which causes fear and uncertainty, we want you to know that we will advocate in Nebraska and in Washington for the respect for human dignity and for family relationships, as well for the special care owed to children that should characterize a just and lawful community. We invite our neighbors to join in advocating for respectful treatment of all within the law. You have generously spoken with us of the experiences of your life's journey. It is often characterized by a sense of abandonment, uncertainty, and fear. At the same time, there are many stories of resilience, hard work, faith, and hope for yourselves and for your children. We remember that the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph became migrants, fleeing with the infant Savior to escape violence and persecution. In those difficult and dangerous days, they put all their hope in the promises of God. Migrants have come to Nebraska from a variety of countries and cultures. Many of you have looked to the mother of Jesus for protection and strength. It is good that we do so now, as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We remember the words of the Virgin to St. Juan Diego nearly five hundred years ago, "Am I not here, I who am your mother?" At this moment, you are not alone. You have the protection of Mary and the saints, and you have the prayers of many of your neighbors. May the grace of Advent and Christmas strengthen us all as we journey together to the fullness of God's Kingdom.

With our prayers, we are sincerely yours in Christ,
Omaha Archbishop George J. Lucas Lincoln Bishop
James D. Conley Grand Island Bishop Joseph G.
Hanefeldt

Prayer Requests: Linda Maly (ill) Ermalinda Torres (ill) Diane Zeleny (ill) Sharon Beckius (ill) David Zalewski (ill) +Don Neuman +Kathy McBroom +Raymond Meiergard +Pat Sanley +Ryan Hunter +Val Dworak