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 rectory-office@seas-np.org
 www.seas-np.org

ST. ELIZABETH

ANN SETON

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Fr. Rand Langhorst
 Parish Coordinator: Ashley
 Perlinger (Bulletin, website, sign,
 choir, miscellaneous)
 Bookkeeper: Natalie Gifford
 (bookkeeping, Diocesan data
 entry)

Mass Times: Saturday 5:00pm,
 Sunday 10:00am, Weekdays & Holy
 Days as posted in bulletin
 Confession: Saturdays 4:00pm-
 4:35pm, Sundays 9:00am-9:35am
 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: CCD, Sundays 11:30am-
 12:30pm. Rite of Christian Initiation
 of Adults (R.C.I.A), contact office
 or pastor for more information.

Office Hours: Mondays, 8:30am-
 1:30pm

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

July 2, 2023: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

<i>Mass Intentions</i>		
Monday 7/3	8:00 am	Sanctification of Priests
Tuesday 7/4	8:00 am	+Rhett Morlang
Wednesday 7/5	5:30 pm	Liv/Dec Knights of Columbus
Thursday 7/6	8:00 am	+Fred Turner
Friday 7/7	5:30 pm	Peace Among Families/Nations
Saturday 7/8	8:00 am 5:00 pm	Poor Souls Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 7/9	10:00am	Protection of Human Life/Unborn

LITURGICAL MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

July 8 – 9, 2023 (14th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

	Saturday 5:00pm	Sunday 10:00am
Lector	Loren Baxa	Forrest Kain
Acolyte	Ed Rieker	Conrad Buhrman
Server	Nathan Miller	Harmon Johnsen
	Luke Miller	Kolbe Tejral
Music	Greg Vandenberg	Peggy Orr
Gifts	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Ushers	David Gross	Jeff Orr

Stewardship: June 17, 2023: Adult Envelopes- \$2,132.50,
 Peter's Pence- \$495

The Bible Study on Matthew will resume with class on Monday, July 3 at 5:30pm.

The Knights of Columbus Breakfast will be Sunday, July 9. Free Will Offering. Omelettes, biscuits & gravy, and more. 8:30am-12:30pm.

There will be a Knights meeting on Monday, July 10 at 7:00pm. The Knights pre-meeting will be on Friday, July 7 at 1:15pm in the Parish Hall.

The Daughters of Charity will meet on Sunday, July 9 at 11:00am in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

Deanery Meeting for Priests will be Tuesday, July 11 during the afternoon and evening in McCook, to welcome new priests Fr. Matt Kovar in McCook and Fr. Tom Wiedel in Curtis.

Fr. Rand will be taking vacation July 14-26. Direct emergencies to area priests or to our Dean, Fr. Bernard Kimminau, in McCook.

New Parish Directory in Progress! Why become part of the new Parish Directory? There are new families and new faces, we are updating since the last directory (2014), and we are connecting and building our parish family community. Picture taking will occur August 24 & 25 from 2:00pm-8:30pm and on August 26 from 10:00am-4:00pm in the Parish Hall. To schedule, go online (between now and July 31) to www.ucdir.com. Enter church code **NE216** and the password **photos**. If you have no computer access, you can schedule in person July 8-9 or 29-30 after the weekend Masses in the narthex. A mailing with all information will arrive to all registered parishioners this week. If you do not receive a letter, contact the church at seasparishcoordinator@gmail.com. Those participating will receive **free** one 8 x 10 portrait and a free directory. If you choose to use the opportunity, you can also arrange for multiple portrait orders, ranging from wallet size to 20"x24" with customizable options, or a CD with pictures. Arrangements have been made with Universal Church Directories, who recently did a directory for Holy Spirit Church, and have done several throughout our Diocese.

A taxi passenger tapped the driver on the shoulder to ask him a question. The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the footpath, and stopped inches from a shop window. For a second, everything was quiet in the cab. Then the

driver said, "Look, mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the living daylights out of me!" The passenger apologized and said, "I didn't realize that a little tap would scare you so much." The driver replied, "Sorry, it's not really your fault. Today is my first day as a cab driver — I've been driving a funeral van for the last 25 years."

The Mission Coop Appeal for our parish will be the weekend of August 26-27 with Fr. Theotimus Lakra of the Salesians of Don Bosco. Fr. Theo serves currently in Dimapur, India as pastor of two parishes, and also has served as Principal of three schools. In addition, he is the vocation promoter and Youth Director of their Salesian Province.

Give the Knights Your Cans: Profit from recycling the cans is used for KC charitable works. Place cans in the blue barrels in front of the storage shed (SW corner of parking lot).

Men and Women of the Parish: Men of our Parish: Is the Holy Spirit calling you to the ministry of acolyte, lector, or reader? Women of our parish: Is the Holy Spirit calling you to be a reader at Mass? If you are interested, please let Fr. Rand know. One must be able to receive Holy Communion and meet the training requirements. In the cases of acolyte and lector, one must be available to be installed by the Bishop during a Mass in McCook, set for Sunday, November 19 at 11 am or in Lincoln, set for Saturday, February 10 at 10 am at the Cathedral.

THE PUMPKIN FESTIVAL will be Sunday, October 1 from 11:00am-2:00pm. Preparations are underway. Thank you to all those who have accepted positions of leadership, and to those who have come forward to already volunteer. Sign-ups are in the narthex. Please participate in our parish's biggest fundraiser! More information will be coming in the weeks ahead. Please begin saving grocery bags for the Bake Sale/Food stand, watching for sales on liters of pop or bags of candy (these can be donated for the Games), and cans of pop or bottled water (beverage station). Everything can be left at the office door. Continue saving glass jars with lids. These will be used to sell soups to take home from Bake Sale/Food Stand. It is not too early to consider what you can bring to the Bake Sale/Food Stand! In addition to the normal array of sweet treats and baked items, homemade noodles, homemade salsas, and soups are welcome. This year, all festival workers will be given a Pro-life sticker to display while working. We have

invited the Women's Resource Center again, along with others, to highlight their efforts and existence in our community. We will, for the first time, have "Hospitality Coordinators," who will circulate to greet and make our guests feel welcome, and will also answer any questions. Thank you to those who offered ideas of new explorations for our festival.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and the American Spirit:

Some key virtues that made Elizabeth Ann Seton a great saint also happen to be American virtues. On July 4th, it's good to remember what those American virtues are, because they stem from the Declaration of Independence. As Pope Francis put it when he spoke at Independence Hall in 2015, "The history of this nation is also the tale of a constant effort, lasting to our own day, to embody those lofty principles." St. Elizabeth Ann was a pioneer, willing to go outside what's comfortable. Americans—from the Native peoples who lived on what God's providence provided, to the settlers and immigrants who came from distant lands—have always been people who journey and build. ... Elizabeth Ann Seton's life was marked by this same willingness to journey and create. At age 29 she left New York for Italy, and that led to her conversion to Catholicism upon her return. At age 31, she started a school for young women in New York. At age 34 she was ready to leave the country for Canada, but went to Baltimore instead. From there, she settled a year later in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she would found the first free Catholic school for girls, and the first congregation of women religious founded in the United States, as well. That also shows another American virtue. St. Elizabeth Ann had the American ability to turn a "land of exile" into a home. Americans are also people of exile. The first Europeans who moved here were all fleeing something—religious persecution, political despotisms and economic dead ends. Ironically, of course, we turned American Indians' native land into a land of exile for them as we expanded west. Catholics understand living in exile. We long for "that blessed fatherland from which we are all exiles," while we call down blessings on our earthly homes. Especially after her conversion to Catholicism, Elizabeth understood how America was both her home and a place of exile. "Oh joy joy joy a Captain B will take us to America!" she wrote, when planning to return home from Italy. Her daughter, she said, was "wild with joy — yet often whispers to me 'Ma is

there no Catholics in America? Ma won't we go to the Catholic Church when we go home?'" Years after becoming Catholic, she still found herself a stranger in her homeland. "I am gently, quietly and silently a good Catholic," she wrote. "The rubs, etc., are all past ... only a few knotty hearts that must talk of something — and the worst they say is 'so much trouble has turned her brain.' Well ... I kiss my Crucifix which I have loved for so many years and say they are only mistaken." St. Elizabeth Ann Seton also embraced new identities like an American. Changing identities has become a cliché—from Taylor Swift's new persona on every new album to our own new personas in our profile pictures. But there is also a praiseworthy aspect to this flexibility. Forging yourself anew with no foundations comes from rootlessness or narcissism. Forging yourself anew in Christ comes from authentic freedom and humility. The virtue of daily conversion requires that we stretch our definition of ourselves, getting rid of what holds us back from Christ. St. John Paul II called this "becoming who you are. Elizabeth, of course, embraced conversion in her own life. She went from Episcopalian to Catholic, from wife and mother to religious sister, from sister to Mother, from Mother to foundress. She also taught this conversion of life to others, in her school and in her community. This is very Catholic, and very American. As John Adams said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." Self-government only works for a moral people who are able to improve themselves, and don't require others to intervene. St. Elizabeth Ann thought big. Americans have always had a genius for thinking bigger and bolder, from the desire to build a new nation from scratch in the wilderness, to modern America where everything is literally big compared to the rest of the world: Our houses are bigger, our washing machines are bigger, and our stores are bigger. Clearly, this is a mixed blessing. Thinking big often shows a lack of humility and an insensitivity to the weak and vulnerable. But Catholicism is a beautiful marriage of the big and the small. The same reality enlivens St. Peter's Basilica as it does your parish's tabernacle, the universal church and your parish council, the great saints and the volunteers at the local soup kitchen. Thinking small, but focused on the immensity of God, lands us in a big place. St. Thérèse of Lisieux's Little Way leads to big change. Small contributions to the Church from immigrants led to big, beautiful churches. Each of our

small, focused sacrifices yields big results. St. Elizabeth Ann embraced this paradox. "We must often draw the comparison between time and eternity," she said. "This is the remedy of all our troubles. How small will the present moment appear when we enter that great ocean." Her formula was simple: "The first end I propose in our daily work is to do the will of God;" she wrote, "secondly, to do it in the manner he wills it; and thirdly to do it because it is his will." So, how to sum up St. Elizabeth Ann Seton? She had an adventurous spirit, she made a home in hard circumstances, she "became all things to all" for Christ, and she left a giant legacy. She embodied many of the best virtues of being American. As Pope Paul VI said when he canonized her in 1975: "Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton is an American." --*article by Tom Hoopes (July 2022), author most recently of The Rosary of Saint John Paul II, in residence at Benedictine College in Kansas.*

Introducing Gift Gatherings for the Pumpkin

Festival: Gift Gatherings have been popular in many parish and school fundraisers to raise donations for auctions, bazaars, festivals, etc. This year, Fr. Rand will facilitate a couple Gift Gatherings to help with our Pumpkin Festival. In essence, the host invites who they wish to an event/meal on a date of their choosing at a place of their choosing. Guests will be requested to either make a monetary donation (to be used to pay bills/purchase items, usually for an auction), or to bring material items requested by the host for Silent Auction baskets or to use at the Festival. These Gift Gatherings are held throughout the year with many being themed to the holidays or activities, with better prospect of good weather or outdoors. Gift Gatherings also are a way to invite those not of the parish to participate, as well as increase fellowship within the parish. If you are intrigued in helping with these, contact Fr. Rand.

Called to the Silence: 3 Day Directed Ignatian Retreat Opportunities: God speaks to you in the silence. Are you ready for some quiet time away to pray, to listen, to be? Steep yourself in our sacred space, to be still and open yourself up to the graces God has for you. You will meet with an Ignatian-trained spiritual director daily to reflect on what's stirring in your heart. Opportunity for mass daily and confession. Retreat cost including room and meals is \$375. Choose one of the 2 opportunities to attend: July 16-19, 2023, October 26-28, 2023. Retreats begin at 6:00 p.m. the first evening, and ending the last day

by 3:00 p.m. Register at www.creighton.edu/retreatcenter/scheduleofretreats

Catholic Daughters Court of our Lady Fatima 1549 are planning an Ice Cream Social, Card Bingo, and optional White Elephant Gift Exchange (\$5 limit), immediately following our July 3 meeting in the St. Patrick's Spiritual Life Center at 6:00pm. Come see if you want to be a part of our organization.

"Experiencing a heart-to-heart exchange inside our couple-love." Marriage Encounter Experience Sept. 22-24 in Hastings. Call right-away to reserve a place Contact Gary & Brenda Granger 303-604-6202.

Join Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House on Saturday July 29th from 1:30-6:30pm for "Day for Dad's" with Fr. Eric Clark and Jeremy Ekeler. Other upcoming retreats are Men's TLM Preached Spiritual Exercises retreat on July 7-9 and 4-Day or 8-Day Ignatian Directed Retreat July 12-16, July 16-20, or July 12-20 with Matt Simmons or Fr. Coulter. Read more and register at www.goodcounselretreat.org, email office@goodcounselretreat.org or call 402-786-2705.

Magnificat Summer Prayer Meal—Saturday July 15, 9:30 a.m. at Hillcrest Country Club, 9401 East O Street, Lincoln, with guest speaker Michele Chambers. Your hearts will be moved by the Holy Spirit as Michele shares her Faith journey, especially the 37 years of prayer that culminated in her husband, Brian, coming into the Catholic Church this last Easter Vigil. (Michele beat St. Monica by several years!) She is well known in the Lincoln Diocese through the Youth Ministry and Religious Education Offices and teaching the Creighton Model Method of Natural Family Planning. Come to hear Michele's powerful testimony of patience, perseverance and prayer in God's Love! Register by mailing your \$30 check payable to Magnificat c/o Tina Colgan, 521 N 56th St, Lincoln, NE 68504. (students \$15) Deadline is July 8. For more information, text or call Rhonda Litt at 402.525.6396.

Prayer Intentions: Prayer intentions will remain in the bulletin for three weeks. += repose of soul. +Rob Dineen +Fr. Phil Rauth +Mary Cabela +Rose Walla