



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan
 Associate Pastor: Rev. Timothy Danek
 520 South 18th Street Plattsmouth, NE 68048
 Rectory Phone: (402) 296-3139
 Parish office email: plattsmouthHSC@cdolinc.net
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 School website: www.stjbcatholic.com
 Parish Facebook page: [facebook.com/CHSPlattsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/CHSPlattsmouth)

PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

ENTER THE MASS! Holy, Holy, Holy Lord!

Monday, December 3

8:10 a.m. +Stephen Ptacek
 +Elmore Brink

Tuesday, December 4

8:10 a.m. Safety of babies in the womb
 +Linda Brink

Wednesday, December 5

8:10 a.m. +All Souls Day Intentions
 +John Aschenbrenner

Thursday, December 6

8:10 a.m. +Stacey Case
 +Margaret Ball

Friday, December 7

8:10 a.m. Living & Deceased members of the
 Morehead family

6:00 p.m. Living & Deceased members of the
 Manley family

Saturday, December 8 Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

12 Noon +Mildred Johnk

5:00 p.m. +Bety Meisinger (Sunday Vigil Mass)

Sunday, December 9

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. +Don Garnett

CONFESSIONS:

Weekdays: Before Mass

Saturdays, 3:30 - 4:45 PM

Sundays, 7:30 - 7:45 AM and 9:30 - 10:15 AM

Head Count at Mass last weekend: 424

Contributions for November 25, 2018

General Collection at Mass	\$	7,133.75
General Online Giving	\$	8,471.33
Debt Reduction	\$	770.00
Debt Reduction Online Giving	\$	307.50
Teachers/Staff	\$	73.00
Teachers/Staff Online Giving	\$	355.00
Utilities	\$	50.00
Utilities Online Giving	\$	20.00

Contributions for Thanksgiving Day

Cloistered Sisters	\$	522.10
Cloistered Sisters Online Giving	\$	235.00
Local Food Pantry	\$	100.00

Do you have a new address or phone number?...

...Please let us know at the parish office. 296-3139

This coming Saturday, December 8, Holy Day of Obligation

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Masses: December 7 at 6pm; December 8 at 8:00am and Noon



Christmas Eve Children's Choir Mrs.

Lewandowski and Mrs. Owens invite all children in 3 grade and above to sing in the Children's Choir at the 5:00pm Mass on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals will take place Mondays after school in December. (December 3, 10, and 17) Practice will begin immediately after school and end at 4:00. On Christmas Eve, children will need to arrive at church by 4:25. It is important that students attend as many of the rehearsals as possible, as we will learn music that is in addition to traditional carols.



Christmas Giving Tree An opportunity to give joy to families in need. See the Giving Tree in the Church Commons. Please place your wrapped gift with the tag attached under the tree by December 18. Thank you for your generosity.

Christmas flowers: If you'd like to contribute toward these flowers, in memory of loved ones, envelopes are available in the Commons.

Penance Service with about 9 priests available for Confession will be at Church of the Holy Spirit on December 23, beginning at 3:30pm. Father Houlihan will also have some extra Confession times available the third week of December. That schedule will be in a later bulletin.

SCRIP Dec. 17 at 10:00am will be the last order day for SCRIP cards in time for Christmas.

Fruit of the Vine

a tasting of wines from around the world



FRIDAY, JANUARY 18
\$30 UNTIL 12/31 | 7PM TO 10PM
500 SOUTH 18TH STREET, PLATTSMOUTH

"Fruit of the Vine" Tickets now on sale St. John the Baptist's second annual "Fruit of the Vine" wine tasting event is just around the corner — Friday, January 18th from 7-10 p.m. Presented by Slattery Vintage Estates, the amazing community event will feature wines, paired with light appetizers, inspired by the country and region.

Tickets are on sale now! Tickets are only \$30 each, if you purchase them before December 31st. After December 31st, tickets are \$35 each. Stop by the "Fruit of the Vine" table located in the church Commons after all Masses, to purchase tickets. Or, you can contact deb-walton@cdolinc.net to purchase tickets as well.

Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect

Nebraska law requires all suspicions of child abuse or neglect to be reported to law enforcement or DHHS (Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-652-1999).

Reporting Misconduct

Notify the Diocese of Lincoln of any misconduct involving diocesan personnel by calling the misconduct hotline: 844-527-0596.

Christmas gift bags will be delivered to the known homebound of our parish by PCCW on Wed., Dec 12. If you would like to donate items or help pack and deliver the bags, please sign up in the Commons after Mass this weekend. Donated items need to be brought to the Commons by Dec. 11. We will fill and deliver the baskets after the 8:10am Mass on Dec. 12.

Thank you to all who put a smile in front of their amazon.com shopping site, and designating Church of the Holy Spirit as the charity to support! Please remember that smile.amazon is the same in all ways as the original amazon, except that under the smile title, they give a percentage back to the charity designated! Sign up once, then log in to "smile" after that! ☺ Maybe ask family and friends to do the same, if they are Amazon shoppers! Oh! And we have Amazon gift cards in our SCRIP supply! They also work on Amazon's "smile" site.

This week's featured Seminarian: Caleb Hile from Lincoln, who entered seminary in 2013 and is now in Theology 3 at St. Charles Borromeo. We pray, too, for Adam Bohan from Plattsmouth, who entered seminary for the Society of Jesus in 2015. Please keep all our seminarians and sisters in formation in your prayers.

A Healing Mass at Sts Cyril & Methodius in Clarkson, NE on December 20. For more information, please see the bulletin board in the Commons.

COOKIE WALK: You are invited to the parish hall at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 218 N. 6th St. in Nebraska City, on Saturday, December 15 beginning at 8:30am until the cookies are gone for the 26th Annual Cookie Walk. Walk around all the tables and fill your bucket with delicious, colorful Christmas cookies. Cost is \$8.00 for a bucket or \$7.50 if you bring last year's bucket.

The Institute for Priestly Formation Join them for an Advent Morning of Reflection, Sat, Dec 15 at Christ the King Church, Omaha. The morning begins with the 8:15 parish Mass, includes a continental breakfast, presentations by Deacon James Keating and the IPF Staff, time for silent reflection and concludes at noon. There is no charge for the event. For planning purposes, please register online at PriestlyFormation.org or call Linda at 402-280-3901.

CDA's Pecan or Pumpkin pies Through the weekend before Christmas, you can order your holiday pie! See their table in the Commons.

Baptism Congratulations...

We welcome through the waters of baptism, and on these dates:
Evalyn Louisa, daughter of Bruce & Jessica Schultze, 9-29-2018
Gabriel Joachim, son of Drew & Kayla Davison, 10-14-2018
Olivia Marie, daughter of Jeff & Kacey Groshans, 11-3-2018
and Hayden Thomas, son of Jeff & Kacey Groshans, 11-3-2018
May they always live for the Lord!

'Tis (almost) the Season Rediscover the joy of Christmas with BEST ADVENT EVER, a free email program that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. This is the first Sunday of Advent; you'll receive short inspirational videos, practical tips, and real-life encouraging stories. Register: www.BestAdventEver.com/AlmostChristmas.

"Stewardship of Talent" Dinners for Fr. Houlihan and Fr. Danek:

We have a great team set up – thank you! Dec 3: Chrissy Faller, Dec 5: Irene Warga, Dec 6: Monica Yankus, Dec 10: Katie Bourret, Dec 12: Kacey Groshans, Dec 13: Nicole Ernest, Dec 17: Bonnie Seyfur, Dec 19: Deb Warga, Dec 20: Glennia Sand, Dec 24: Kacey Groshans, Dec 26: Sandy Disomma, Dec 27: Gay Lepert

Prayer requests? Please call or text 943-9959, or call 296-3039, or email chsprayerchain@gmail.com

Do you know of anyone who is no longer healthy enough to be able to come to Sunday Mass, and would like to be on the Sunday Communion? ...Please let us know at the parish office. 296-3139

Are you new to the parish? ...We love that you are here!!! Maybe introduce yourself to Father!?! Parish Registration Forms are in the Commons; look for green papers on a table! Bring or mail it in, or put it in the collection basket at Mass!

Knights of Columbus – Council 1966 / George Johnson GK 235-3518
Fall Fund Raiser Winner – Last week's winner from the NE vs Iowa game was Marlene Haller. Thanks, Marlene, for your support!

December Breakfast – On December 16th, the Knights will be serving breakfast after the 8:00 and 10:30am Masses. The Knights will be serving cinnamon rolls, egg bake and fruit salad. December's breakfast proceeds will go to the Foreign Ministry.

Keep Christ in Christmas: We would like to thank all of the parishioners who purchased Christmas Cards through our Keep Christ in Christmas Program. We again sold out our supply.

General Business Meeting – Thursday, December 13th in SJR.

Some upcoming dates:

December 3 – Christmas Sock Exchange Party, after 8:10am Mass
December 5 – Christmas concert, grades PreK-3rd, 7:00pm in gym
December 8 – Holy Day of Obligation, The Immaculate Conception
December 12 – Christmas concert, grades 4-8, 7:00pm in gym
December 16 – Knights' free-will donation breakfast, after 8 & 10:30 Masses
December 23 – Penance Service, about 9 priests for Confession 3:30pm
December 24/25 – Mass: Christmas Eve, 5pm & 10pm; Christmas Day, 9am
December 31 – Holy Mother of God Vigil Mass: 5:00pm
January 1 – Holy Mother of God. Mass: 9:00 am

For a more detailed list of upcoming church events and meetings, please visit www.holyspiritplattsmouth.com and/or check the front table in the Commons.

PASTOR'S NOTES:

This coming Saturday is our national patronal feast, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a holy day of obligation and there will be three Masses available to fulfill that obligation—at 6 P.M. Friday evening, at 8 A.M. Saturday morning, and at 12 Noon on Saturday. This is a separate obligation from our weekly Lord's Day obligation. Mary is conceived without sin so that she can be the New Eve who, by her faith and faithfulness, prepares the way for the Savior, her Son and the New Adam. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us!

The priests of the deanery will be in Palmyra on late Tuesday afternoon and early evening for a scheduled deanery meeting. Friday is the First Friday of December, and Thursday is the feast of the real Santa Claus, St. Nicholas.

We are happy to welcome back Fr. Jirovsky to the Church of the Holy Spirit. He was under Fr. O'Byrne in his last year here from 2006-07, Fr. J's first year in the priesthood, after which he served with me at St. Michael's in Hastings for two years. We ask that the regular adorers come to the church proper this weekend and, of course, all others are welcome to come at any time to "make a visit." There is a strong tradition of Eucharistic adoration in our parish, and the Forty Hours time (reminding us of the time Jesus spent in the tomb) is a chance for us to deepen our appreciation of the gift that is given to us in our adoration time, and especially at the time we receive the Lord in the Holy Eucharist in Holy Communion. There is no greater gift that we could have been given by God the Father than the Gift of His only-begotten Son (except the Gift of the Holy Spirit!). The doors will be locked and unlocked at the regular hours, but you are free to stop in, especially during the day. We do ask that the regular adorers sign up at the usual place outside the Adoration Chapel.

We are currently in the process of trying to make some modifications to the Adoration Chapel so that it is better insulated to help keep our adorers warm (in the winter) and cool (in the summer), along with some adjustments to the confessionals so that the availability of the priest will be visible from the Commons, as well as providing separate access from the Commons. This is an idea that we are working with at the present time. The priests will still enter through the

Chapel, but the screen will be more prominent. The reason that the Church used screens in the first place was to protect the integrity of the penitent and the priest. The "face-to-face" option will be preserved, but behind a screen. We hope that the changes will make the Sacrament of Penance, the great sacrament which gives us a new start after our first start in Baptism, more "user-friendly" in our parish. These changes had been discussed for several years by several priests who had been here, but now is the time to act, it seems.

Our finance committee people are putting together figures to make sure that we can accomplish all of our immediate maintenance goals—those pointed out by the buildings and grounds committee a couple of years ago in connection with the strategic plan to keep our school open and growing and thriving, along with our parish. Due to some unexpected additions (the rooftop units that had to be replaced on the school, the insulation in the adoration chapel, the modification of the confessionals, the additional work required to fix the drainage problem in the new addition of the school), and due to other, already-identified or future maintenance needs, it is important to have a good plan in place so that we can swing things financially. We are basking in the gift of \$640,000 over the last four years from the diocesan Joy of the Gospel Francis Fund—it has helped us to "catch our breath" and get focused on the changes that need to happen to ensure a bright and stable future here. We do have to plan to pay for all these things in cash, since the old system of borrowing from the diocese is not as easy as it used to be—if it is even possible for us to use at the present time at all—and I continue to be grateful to the excellent people we have working for our parish in the finance and building and grounds areas. We have great advice coming from great people who are very consciously trying to be good stewards with the funds with which we have been entrusted. Thank you for helping us in so many good and necessary things that will keep us as a "light" in the area for many years to come. God bless! Come, Lord Jesus!

Father Houlihan