



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

First Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2019

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan
Associate Pastor: Rev. Timothy Danek
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School website: www.stjbcatholic.com
Parish Facebook page: facebook.com/CHSPlattsmouth

PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

ENTER THE MASS! Encounter Jesus!

Monday, March 11

8:10 a.m. +Robert G. Kiser
+Christopher Chudy

Tuesday, March 12

8:10 a.m. +Marcia Holdridge
+Ernest Sabatka

Wednesday, March 13

8:10 a.m. +Christine Yankus-Eng

Thursday, March 14

8:10 a.m. +Dick & Stacey Case
+Alfred Gaeta

Friday, March 15

8:10 a.m. +Stephen Ptacek
+Margaret Ball

Saturday, March 16

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of PCCW
5:00 p.m. +Rita Kiser

Sunday, March 17

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. +All Souls Day Intentions

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: 528

Contributions for March 3, 2019

General Collection at Mass	\$	10,259.84
General Online Giving	\$	2,248.00
Debt Reduction	\$	1,300.00
Debt Reduction Online Giving	\$	15.00
Teachers/Staff	\$	253.00
Teachers/Staff Online Giving	\$	15.00
Combined Relief	\$	165.00
Utilities	\$	60.00
Southern Nebraska Register	\$	210.00

"Stewardship of Talent" Dinners for Fr.

Houlihan and Fr. Danek: We have a great team set up – thank you! Mar 11: Carla Wehling, Mar 13: Irene Warga, Mar 14: Liz Rubin, Mar 18: Sandy Kerns, Mar 20: Kacie Groshans, Mar 21: Monica Yankus, Mar 25: Bonnie Seyfer, Mar 27: Deb Warga, Mar 28: Nicole Ernest

A Lenten Spiritual Exercise Are you looking for a spiritual exercise this Lent? Fr. Danek would like to take you on a journey of prayer by exploring some of the historic and theologically rich churches of Rome. Inspired by the book "Roman Pilgrimage" by George Weigel, we will explore the spiritual vastness of Roman churches. Each church will have particular Scripture readings to reflect on along with a history of the church. This exercise will give us a greater understanding of the ancient Lenten practices by our Christian brothers and sisters and will give us the opportunity to allow the Lord into our hearts in a deeper way this Lent. Meetings will be in the Commons **Sunday evenings from 7-8pm**. The dates are as follows: **March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7**. There is a sign-up sheet in the Commons. Father looks forward to seeing many of us there!

The Annual St. Joseph Altar Food Drive ... for canned and dry goods donations. It will be set up in the Commons through the March 23/24 weekend. All donations will go to the Food Bank right here in Cass County, helping families in our community. We will also be accepting packages of disposable diapers & baby formula. These items are in short supply.

Have you noticed the beautiful new blinds on the Commons windows? They were purchased by PCCW with proceeds from their last rummage sale.

Spring Dinner - A Southern Soirée



What exactly is a soirée?

Soirée, pronounced "swah-RAY," is a French word. *Soir* means "evening" in French, and *soirée* is literally an "evening party." A social gathering, especially one held for a particular purpose.

What is our purpose? The annual Spring Dinner is when we gather as a community in support of Catholic education in Plattsmouth and the surrounding area. It is the biggest fundraising event of the year for the Church of the Holy Spirit / St. John the Baptist School!! Mark your calendars and plan to attend on Saturday, April 27, 2019!

Raffle tickets are now available through St. John's students, and at the Fish Frys! They will be available in the Commons after the Masses beginning March 23/24.



St. John the Baptist School registration, all grades including Pre-School...

...has begun. See the school website, www.stjbcatholic.com or call the school office, 402-296-3620, with any questions! For Kindergarten: they must be age 5 by July 31, 2019.


The annual Red Mass with Bishop Conley to pray for all in the legal profession is Monday, March 18, 7 am at the Newman Center, Lincoln. A breakfast will follow Mass, with a talk given by Mike Scaperlanda on "Lessons from the Life of American Martyr Bl. Stanley Rother". All are invited to this free event sponsored by the Catholic Lawyers Guild.


An Easter Monday Pilgrimage with Fr. Gary Coulter for a pilgrimage on Monday, April 22. Departing 7am from St. Patrick's in Lincoln, the charter bus will stop at St. Peter in Omaha on the way to Trinity Heights in Sioux City; on our return pray the magnificent Stations of the Cross at Cloisters on the Platte. Mass and prayers throughout the day, return by 6:15pm. \$50 includes snacks and lunch. To register: frcoulter.com/EasterMonday for online registering, or email goodcounsel@cdolinc.net or call Good Counsel Retreat House at 402-786-2705. Make your reservations early!

Church cleaning reminder: For Mar 16 (at 9:00am): Baggenstoss, Ball, Barnes, Barnes, Baroni, Baroni, Barrios, Barry

Next rummage sale It's still early, but for your planning purposes.... the next PCCW rummage sale is July 17-18-19, with donations being accepted July 14th & 15th.

This week's featured Seminarian: Matthew Schilmoeller from Lincoln, who entered seminary in 2016 and is now in College 4 at St. Gregory the Great. 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.

 **Fish Frys:** We are in the season of Lent! Now is your chance to attend our time-honored tradition of the Lenten Fish Fry. The Fish Frys are on the Fridays in Lent through April 12. The dinners includes walleye, carp, jumbo shrimp, grill cheese, and all the fixings. Soups, mac and cheese, desserts and beverages will also be available. Family prices as well. Live entertainment and raffles. Come join you community for great food and fun!

 **Donations of homemade desserts & cases of pop** are needed. For desserts, please bring cookies, bars, or cupcakes that are wrapped individually. Or you can also bake cakes and we will cut them the evening you bring them. Please keep in mind that they will be sold for 50-75 cents apiece. For pop, Pepsi or Coke products sell best. THANK YOU!

Remaining Stations of the Cross dates this Lent:

Wednesdays at 5:30pm: Mar 13, 20, 27 & Apr 3, 17
Fridays at 1:45pm: Mar 22, 29 & Apr 5, 12
Good Friday, Apr 19 at Noon

Institute for Priestly Formation for a Lenten Morning of Reflection: Join them on Saturday, March 16 at Christ the King Church in Omaha. The morning begins with the 8:15 parish Mass, includes a continental breakfast, presentations by 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 (see the first banner "For God So Loved the World") or by calling Linda at 402-280-3901.

Rosary Repair Sundays March 9 - April 14 (Palm Sunday). 9am-10:30am and 11:30am - Noon. If you want to bring in broken rosaries during the week, please put the pieces in a baggie and label with your name and phone number.

Knights of Columbus – Council 1966 / George Johnson GK 235-3518
General Business Meeting – will be Thurs., March 14, at 7:00pm in SJR.
March Breakfast – Will be held, March 17th after the 8:00 and 10:30am Sunday Masses. The Knights will be serving cinnamon rolls, egg casserole and fruit salad. Corned beef, cabbage and potatoes will be served after the 10:30am Mass. The proceeds will go to Church Maintenance.

Some upcoming dates:

March 9-24 – St. Joseph's Altar food drive
March 10 – A Lenten Spiritual Exercise with Fr. Danek, 7-8pm
March 13 – Stations of the Cross, 5:30pm
March 14 – PreK - 3rd grade Spring Concert, in the gym, 7pm
March 15 – Fish Fry, serving 5:00 – 7:30pm
March 17 – Knights' free-will donation breakfast after both Masses
March 17 – A Lenten Spiritual Exercise with Fr. Danek, 7-8pm
March 20 – Stations of the Cross, 5:30pm
March 20 – Grades 4-8 Spring Concert, in the gym, 7pm
March 22 – Stations of the Cross, 1:45pm
March 22 – Fish Fry, serving 5:00 – 7:30pm
March 24 – A Lenten Spiritual Exercise with Fr. Danek, 7-8pm
March 27 – Stations of the Cross, 5:30pm
March 29 – Stations of the Cross, 1:45pm
March 29 – Fish Fry, serving 5:00 – 7:30pm

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.

Thrivent If you happen to have your insurance, annuity, etc., with Thrivent Financial, please know that Church of the Holy Spirit is now enrolled in Thrivent Choice. If you're an eligible Thrivent Financial member and have Choice Dollars available to direct, please keep us in mind. (Search Plattsmouth, Church of the Holy Spirit.)

Holy Spirit Catering

Sign up to help! Next Events:

Wednesday, March 27, Chamber Award Banquet
Thursday, April 4, Plattsmouth Community Foundation
Saturday, April 27, St. John's Spring Dinner
Friday, June 7, Knights of Columbus 100 year banquet
•To help, look for all Holy Spirit Catering events at SignupGenius.com
Click on the search symbol in the upper right. Search by email: holyspiritcatering@gmail.com. Or text or call Laurie at 402-679-2457.



PASTOR'S NOTES:

This is the first of the Sundays of Lent, and the Church always lets us hear the story of the Lord going out into the desert for forty days after his baptism by his cousin John the Baptist. In a sense, we pick up now where the Christmas season left off—Jesus is beginning the work that He came to do—to preach, teach, heal, suffer, die, and rise for us. He always made prayer with His Father an important part of anything big that He did, and so a forty-day “retreat” was a good way to begin. That is what those who are preparing to join us in the Church (as well as those already baptized who are seeking to come into full communion) are doing now and, of course, we who already “belong” should be seeking to renew and regenerate our relationship with God. After all, we will all be asked to renew our baptismal promises at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday. Please pray for those who are going to Lincoln today as they are received by the Bishop at the Cathedral.

Today also begins Daylight Saving Time, when we “spring forward” and lose one hour of sleep. I suppose there will be plenty of time to sleep after we die, as one smart-aleck once observed. If you did not “spring forward,” you were one hour late this morning.

Wednesday is the last day of our third quarter of the school year here, and there will be no school on Friday due to the teacher inservice day.

Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat for those aged 14 and older. Although you are practicing self-denial, you can still enjoy the companionship and the good food at the fish fry in the gym that evening. The “all you can eat” that some fish fries use to advertise sounds more like gluttony than penance however.

Today we also read about the Transfiguration. We celebrate this feast of the Lord separately on August 6, but we hear about it this weekend because it happened, traditionally, about forty days before Good Friday, giving at least the Apostles Peter, James, and John the opportunity to see the divinity of Jesus shining through, something that would probably help them in the darkness of Good Friday. This is the day when those who are seeking full communion are blessed at Mass in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Penance for the first time.

For those who are long-time Catholics, we might compare this sacrament to taking a bath. This was a Saturday night tradition in our house when we were little before the advent of showerheads there. Saturday was also the day we went to confession as well. I suppose one bath a year might be sufficient for some—like some of the grizzled old prospectors or mountain men on the old Westerns—but most would say that it might be good to do it a little more often. I think one of the Popes used to go every day to the sacrament, but once a month is probably a good practice for anybody. Prayer and the reception of Holy Communion helps to “freshen up” in the meantime if there is only venial sin. The key is that we want to hunger for holiness. “Minimalism” is not a good spiritual practice in anything (except maybe sinning). Let the divine light of Mt. Tabor shine on you and through you!

This week we have Stations of the Cross celebrated communally at 5:30 on Wednesday evening. There will be no Stations on Friday since there is no school.

Thanks to Deb Walton, who recently organized a dinner and presentation for the people of the parish who were interested in end-of-life issues. It included information from the Catholic Foundation with Chris Raun and Les Mach and a presentation by Fr. Steven Major, the pastor in Crete, who is our diocesan expert on these things. Thanks also to our ever-faithful and generous catering group, who had another excellent meal for the participants. Taking care of this business is not always pleasant, but it is a tremendous help to other family members and to those you bless with your charity. Great!

Father Houlihan