



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 17, 2019

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan
 Senior Priest in Residence: Rev. Valerian Bartek
 Priest in Residence: Rev. Gary Gross
 520 South 18th Street Plattsmouth, NE 68048
 Rectory Phone: (402) 296-3139
 Parish office email: plattsmouthHSC@cdolinc.net
 Website: www.holyspiritplattsmouth.com
 School website: www.stjbcatholic.com
 Parish Facebook page: [facebook.com/CHSPlattsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/CHSPlattsmouth)
 School Facebook page: [facebook.com/STJBCatholic](https://www.facebook.com/STJBCatholic)

PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

ENTER THE MASS! Holy, Holy, Holy Lord!

Monday, November 18

8:10 a.m. +Lowell Daisley
 +George P. Miller

Tuesday, November 19

8:10 a.m. +All Souls Day Intentions
 +Anne Izokaitis

Wednesday, November 20

8:10 a.m. +Doris Bouc
 +Stanley & Rose Bartek

Thursday, November 21

8:10 a.m. Special Intention for G & T
 +Kenneth Meisinger, Jr.

Friday, November 22

8:10 a.m. +Deceased members of Ricke family
 Special Intention for Raumaker family

Saturday, November 23

8:00 a.m. +Becky VanKirk
 5:00 p.m. +Clem & Evelyn Pfeiffer

Sunday, November 24

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
 10:30 a.m. +Deceased members of the Olberding
 and Rolfson families

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: 625

Contributions for November 10, 2019

General Collection at Mass	\$	7,230.44
General Online Giving	\$	10,242.00
Debt Reduction	\$	425.00
Debt Reduction Online Giving	\$	895.00
Teachers/Staff	\$	130.00
Teachers/Staff Online Giving	\$	110.00
Prop'tion of Faith Online Giving	\$	15.00
Utilities Online Giving	\$	35.00
Military Archdiocese	\$	1,070.00

Church cleaning reminder: For Nov 23 (at 9:00am): Ryan, Sachs, Salazar, Sand, Sand, Sarrailon, Scanlan, Scaturro

On behalf of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for the Military Services, USA (AMS), thank you to those who contributed to the National Collection for the AMS. Your generosity will assist Archbishop Broglio in the mission, "Serving Those Who Serve," and will help make it possible for Catholic men and women, and their families, currently serving in the U.S. Military, to receive the sacraments and pastoral care no matter their location around the globe. Your support will also provide the sacraments and pastoral care to those who are wounded, or as veterans receive care in one of the 153 Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers. Thank you for supporting the men and women, and their families, from our own parish and diocese who serve and protect this great nation, and who defend the freedoms we hold dear.

Winter help During the month of November, our CDA will have a large basket out in the Commons for donations of gloves, mittens, hats and scarves to be given to Open Door Mission or a similar organization, for them to distribute to the homeless.

PCCW Meeting: Thursday, Nov. 21 at 6:00 pm in St. Joseph's Room. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

A new parish directory is being planned for 2020. Help will be needed in a number of areas. A planning meeting will be scheduled soon. If you would like to be part of the planning team, please call/text Terry Little at 402-297-2127 or email tlmusic@windstream.net.

Some upcoming dates:

November 17 – Knights Free-Will Breakfast after the Sunday Masses
 November 17 – High School Youth Group meets, 7-9pm
 November 28 – Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00am
 December 1 – Children's Choir at 10:30am Mass
 December 1 – High School Youth Group meets, 7-9pm
 December 2 – Children's Choir at 8:10am Mass
 December 6-8 – 40 hours devotion, various times, Fr. Tom McGuire
 December 9 – Holy Land Pilgrimage meeting, 7pm in the Commons
 December 11 – Pre-K to 3rd grade Christmas Concert, 7pm
 December 18 – 4th to 8th grade Christmas Concert, 7pm

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.

Knights of Columbus – Council 1966 / George Johnson GK 402-235-3518
Knights 2019 Fall Fund Raiser Winner – Thanks for your support this year! Bye week – no winner

Officers Meeting – This Sunday – 10:00am, between Masses, in the gym.
November Breakfast – This Sunday after the 8:00 & 10:30am Masses. The Knights will be serving sausage gravy & biscuits, scrambled eggs and fruit casserole. Chicken pot pie will be served after the 10:30 Mass. The proceeds will go to the Church Debt Fund.

Christmas Cards – there's still time. See a Knight after Mass.

Last call for "Living Faith" pamphlet renewal If interested in subscribing, at bulk rate (\$5.00/year), to the quarterly Living Faith pamphlet, contact Sue at the rectory office by *** **November 18th** ***. Subscriptions will run Jan 2020-Dec 2020. As with the Magnificat, these will not be sent to your home; instead, you will need to pick them up at the rectory office. You can put a check for \$5.00, made out to Church of the Holy Spirit, in a clearly marked envelope via the collection basket at Mass or bring it to the rectory office.

Runza SCRIP cards! Stop at the SCRIP table after the weekend Masses to see all the gift cards available, including – at least temporarily, and maybe on-going – \$25 & \$5 Runza cards.

“Stewardship of Talent” Dinners for Fr. Houlihan, Fr. Bartek, Fr. Gross: *We have a great team!* Nov 18: Glennia Sand, Nov 20: Kacey Groshans, Nov 21: Liz Rubin, Nov 25: Bonnie Seyfer, Nov 27: Monica Yankus, Dec 2: Nicolette Kerns, Dec 4: Sandy DiSomma, Dec 6: Gay Lepert

PASTOR’S NOTES:

In three short weeks, we will be in the middle of Advent, preparing for the coming of the Lord. We plan to have our usual Forty Hours devotion. The last year we did this, I managed to get back one of the priests that served here, Fr. Lee Jirovsky (who is now the “superintendent” of Falls City Sacred Heart—he went from his first assignment here with Fr. O’Byrne to me in Hastings). This year we will be happy to welcome back Fr. Thomas McGuire, who served here under Fr. York from 1990-92. Fr. McGuire is one of the priests that I have vacationed with almost every summer, and he is currently working in Tecumseh and St. Mary. We are planning on having him the weekend of the Second Sunday of Advent, from Dec. 6-Dec. 8, as our leader. We have Perpetual Adoration already, but it is good to refresh our appreciation for the Gift of the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, given to us in Holy Communion and present for us in the Tabernacle and in the Monstrance. Jesus, help us to know You, to love You, and to serve You. Amen!

A few days ago we celebrated Veterans’ Day (formerly Armistice Day, from the day marking the end of the First World War at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918). That day, by happy coincidence, is also the day on which we commemorate the first saint who was venerated who was not an apostle or a martyr. Martin, who became the venerable bishop of Tours in what is now France, had been a soldier in the Roman army before he joined a different “army.” Thanks to all the men and women who have served in our Armed Forces, in peacetime or in wartime, and thanks to all of those family members who supported them on the home front. There are some Christian groups that are “pacifists,” but most realize (and have realized since the earliest days of the Church) that there is a vital and important role that members of the military play in defending the innocent and those who are rather defenseless in the face of strong people with little or no conscience. It is not wrong to fight unjust aggression in legitimate self-defense. That is true of nations as well as of individuals.

Next Sunday is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, the last Sunday of Ordinary Time. It is the end of the liturgical calendar year, with the new one beginning with Advent, although it could be argued that the real “New Year” of the

Church year is Easter (The One Who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new” (Rev. 21:5)). There is the theme found in Advent as well as in the readings of these last Sundays in Ordinary Time that things as they are will not be this way forever—our lives, as we know them, will come to an end. This is not meant to discourage us, but to encourage us, to remind us that this life is a preparation for something much bigger than anything we know now. We were made, not just for temporary things, but for eternal things. This is perhaps the most important consequence of being believers—that we understand our lives now in the context of something much greater than our own individual lives. In practical terms, when confronted with the death of a loved one, for example, some people will grow closer to God, as a result of their experience, while others will turn away, at least for awhile, angry at God for not doing what they want done. Someone once said that what we see of life amounts to only a few pieces of a large jigsaw puzzle—we only see the irregular colors or shapes and do not know how everything fits together, but the Last Day, the day of the Final Judgment, is the day when we will finally see how all the pieces fit together and come to appreciate the beauty of the whole. Remember that everything and everyone that God made was good, and that evil entered the world through our own turning away from the Master’s plan, not only with our First Parents, Adam and Eve, but also with our own personal decisions to do so—sin, in other words. The wonder of our God is that He can piece even the ugly and brutal things that come from our sins and make something that is still beautiful. As the Easter Proclamation (the “Exsultet”) states: “O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ! O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!” In other words, even our accidental mistakes and deliberate sins cannot destroy God’s creation. The wonder of this mystery will be shown by the way that God chose to intervene in our world, and it all begins with cooperation of a young and courageous Virgin, and is shown to the world in a humble birth in the little town of Bethlehem some two thousand years ago. The little Child will be pointing us toward heaven and eternal life. Not a bad way to end things—when the door opens to so much more!

Father Houlihan