



# CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2020

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan  
 Senior Priest in Residence: Rev. Valerian Bartek  
 Priest in Residence: Rev. Gary Gross  
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 School website: [www.stjbcatholic.com](http://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!** *Encounter Jesus!*

### Monday, January 6

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

### Tuesday, January 7

8:10 a.m. +Jennifer Otte  
 Safety of babies in the womb

### Wednesday, January 8

9:00 a.m. +Roland & Patricia Yost  
 +William F. A. Bartek

### Thursday, January 9

8:10 a.m. +Anne Izokaitis  
 +Roger & Helen Halmes

### Friday, January 10

8:10 a.m. Special Intention for A.R.  
 +George P. Miller

### Saturday, January 11

8:00 a.m. +Kenneth Meisinger, Jr.  
 5:00 p.m. Intentions of Charles & Irene Warga

### Sunday, January 12

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish  
 10:30 a.m. +Cece Jelinek

## 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: 585

### Contributions for Dec 29, 2019

General Collection at Mass	\$	7,537.60
General Online Giving	\$	3,178.00
Debt Reduction	\$	250.00
Debt Reduction Online Giving	\$	75.00
Teachers/Staff	\$	155.00
Teachers/Staff Online Giving	\$	15.00
Flowers Online Giving	\$	45.00

## Head Count at Mother of God Holy Day: 400

### Contributions for the Holy Day

General Collection at Mass	\$	4,005.00
General Online Giving	\$	25.00
Debt Reduction	\$	220.00
Teachers/Staff	\$	40.00
Utilities	\$	10.00

**A powerful short film** "The Veil Removed" is an approximately 7 minute film which is currently trending online. It is the film-maker's depiction of what happens at the Consecration of the Mass. You can find it on [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) with a search for "The Veil Removed" A film can't do justice to the reality of the Mass, but this is a nicely done film! It will give you a visual aid for the next Mass you attend. The Mass – how amazing it is!



## Pro-Life Mass and Nebraska Walk for Life,

**January 18** The Nebraska Walk for Life begins at 10 a.m. at the north steps of the State Capitol. From there, we will walk to the UNL Student Union, where the Keynote Speakers, Jennifer and Jeff Christie,

will speak at 11:30 a.m. Prior to the Walk, is the annual Pro-Life Mass starting at 9 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, 1420 K Street, Lincoln. Reverend Scott Harter, Pastor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Ord, NE will be the celebrant and the homilist for the Mass.

## *"Fruit of the Vine" Tickets On Sale now* *Date of Event is January 17<sup>th</sup>*

**Please join us for our third annual "Fruit of the Vine" community event, a tasting of wines from around the world.** The event is presented by St. John the Baptist School and Slattery Vintage Estates Vineyard and Tasting Room.

Take a trip around the globe in one night. Amazing wines will be paired with light appetizers inspired by the country or region. Tickets are \$35 a person.

Tickets can be purchased through Monday, January 13 by contacting Deb at: [Deb-Walton@cdolinc.net](mailto:Deb-Walton@cdolinc.net).

Due to the nature of this event, attendees must be at least 21 years of age.

**A variety of religious goods** for you to choose from, for a free-will donation! They are displayed in the Rectory Office, Mon-Fri, 9:00am - 4:30pm. Many rosaries – some are brand new, some slightly used, some so old that they are a treasure! Also Bibles, including a One-Year Bible and an audio Bible set, Crucifixes, Baptism cards, First Communion cards, ornate Holy Cards, and other objects. Additional items will be rotated in at different times. Check it out!

**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.)

**Washing machine** Do you have a used working washing machine that you are getting rid of? The school's machine has broken. We use it to wash mop heads, kitchen towels, etc. If you have one that you would consider giving us, please call Linda Monahan at 296-6230.

**End of the Year Giving** During this time of year many people consider end-of-the year gifts to the Parish and school. We ask that you please remember the **St. John the Baptist Tuition Assistance Fund** as part of your charitable giving.

The St. John the Baptist Tuition Assistance Fund is carefully managed by the Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska and is invested within the guidelines of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

**To make a one-time gift, or to set-up a reoccurring donation, please complete a donation form (forms are located in the Parish Commons or at the school office). Or, donations can be made online by visiting [www.catholicgift.org](http://www.catholicgift.org).**

Because of the generous support to this fund, St. John the Baptist was able to provide tuition assistance to 10 families this year. Thank you for your support!

We are grateful for your continued commitment to our school and for helping ensure we can provide an affordable Catholic education to families in our community.

**Matching Gifts:** If you work for a company that matches employee contributions, you can double the impact of your end of the year gift! Most companies will match your contribution dollar for dollar and some even match the donation of spouses and retirees! Check with your company's Human Resources office to find out if the company you work for has a matching gift program.

**Wee Worship, Children's Liturgy**, during Sunday 10:30am Mass, 4yrs thru 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Daycare for 1-3yr olds for all of Mass is also offered during the 10:30am Mass, in St. Joseph's Room.

**Are you new to the parish?** Welcome! Come in to the rectory office to register, or...Registration Forms are in the Commons. Bring or mail it in, or put it in the collection basket at Mass!

**Do you have a new address/phone number?...**

...Please let the parish office know: 296-3139

**Prayer requests?** Call or text 943-9959, call 296-3039, or email [chsprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:chsprayerchain@gmail.com)

**To be on the Holy Hour of Adoration schedule**, please leave a message for Sue at 296-5047.

### **Some upcoming dates:**

January 5 – High School Youth Group meets, 7-9pm

January 17 – Wine Event, "Fruit of the Vine"

January 18 – Walk for Life, Lincoln 10am

January 19 – Knights' free-will donation breakfast, after 8 & 10:30 Masses

*For a more detailed list of upcoming church events and meetings, please visit [www.holyspiritplattsmouth.com](http://www.holyspiritplattsmouth.com) and/or check the front table in the Commons.*

**Parish Council members' pictures** are on the bulletin board in the Commons. See who they are and if you have something you'd like to bring to the attention of the Parish Council, feel free to visit with Father Houlihan or one of the Parish Council members.

**Knights of Columbus** – Council 1966 / George Johnson GK 402-235-3518

**General Business Meeting** – Thursday, January 9 at 7:00pm in SJR. This month's Faith Development topic is "Catholic beliefs concerning capital punishment".

**Knights' Christmas Party** – This Sunday at the Beaver Lake Clubhouse. Social hour 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm. Food and drink provided. Main course will include beef tenderloin and chicken.

**January Breakfast** – Sunday, January 19, after the 8:00 & 10:30am Masses. The Knights will be serving cinnamon rolls, egg bake and fruit salad. Chili will also be served after the 10:30 Mass. The proceeds will go to Nebraska One Rose, One Life campaign, a Prolife cause.

**Church cleaning reminder:** For Jan 11 (at 9:00am): Tierney, Tilson, Tilson, Trebon, Trent, Troia, Ulrich, Vaccaro

**"Stewardship of Talent" Dinners for Fr. Houlihan, Fr. Bartek, Fr. Gross:**

*We have a great team!* Jan 6: Glennia Sand, Jan 8: Liz Holstein, Jan 9: Monica Yankus, Jan 13: Carla Wehling, Jan 15: Sandy DiSomma, Jan 16: Gay Lepert, Jan 20: Rita Vigneri, Jan 22: Deb Warga, Jan 23: Bill Boyle

**This week's featured Seminarian:** Rev. Mr. Robert Froeschl from Fall City, who entered seminary in 2014 and is now in Theology 4 at St. Mount St. Mary. 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 new Parish Directory** is being planned for 2020. Family photos will be taken by LifeTouch photographers on Feb 24, 25, 27, 28 & 29 and March 3, 4 & 5. Sign-ups will begin the weekend of January 11/12, 2020.

## **PASTOR'S NOTES:**

We wish you all a very merry “little Christmas,” as the Epiphany has been called. It is not so much a completely different celebration than Christmas itself (although today is the traditional time, at least for western Christians, to remember the coming of the Magi). It is the day that gifts are given in many Christian places, and among eastern Christians, it is the original day to celebrate Christ our God coming among us, the Incarnation, just as Christmas is among western Christians. In the early Church, the west adopted the feast of the east and vice-versa, so we now have two celebrations, or, perhaps a better way to describe it, two “poles” of the Christmas season. In addition to the theme of the visit of the Magi (a symbol of the coming of the non-Jews, or Gentiles, to God, to join the Jews), there are two other themes—the changing of the water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana—the first public miracle of Jesus, at least according to the Gospel of John—and the Baptism of Jesus by His cousin, John the Baptist. This last theme is found most prominently among eastern Christians. It was probably a very surprising thing for the early Christians to have to explain and defend—why did Jesus, Who is said to be sinless, submit to baptism by John? He did it, as we will see next weekend, on a feast dedicated to this very theme, in order to announce His mission to the world—with the Father and the Holy Spirit present to witness as well. Jesus was not cleansed by the waters, but made them a source of blessing for us when we are baptized into Him. The Father is saying: “This is My beloved Son. My favor rests on Him.” The Spirit of God will descend like a dove and hover over Him. In all three of these Epiphany themes, the message is clear—God is showing Himself to His people. He is letting us know that He is here, in our lives, and He is planning to stay. That is more than reason enough to celebrate!

I want to take this opportunity, on behalf of myself and the other two priests, to thank all of you for your many kind cards, notes, and gifts to us during the last few weeks. It is always humbling to me personally to witness the generosity of so many of

God’s holy people, and it is a sign that they are capable of generosity in so many ways throughout the year to extend the message of God’s Presence among us to all the world. We receive our faith, not to “keep” as a family heirloom of some kind, but to share it with others—with all. In some Christian communities, this is a day to remember the missions—the places where we extend our love as God’s family—just as we recall the “mission” of Jesus, being sent by the Father to our cold world. He brings light and warmth to all. Thank you and God bless all of you! You yourselves are the greatest gift to us that we could ask for.

Speaking of thanks, I would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for helping to sponsor a dinner for many of our good parish volunteers—not all of them at once, for we can only have room for so many at a time—maybe you will be asked next year, if you were not asked this year or last. All of you are second to none!

Congratulations to Dustin and Erin Vannurden Smith, and to Tim and Christine Dietl Faircloth, both couples married in Christ during the last month. We were also happy at that time to welcome Tim into the fullness of the Catholic faith and confirm him and give him his First Holy Communion. May God bless you and yours always!

Work is proceeding on our directory, thanks to Terry Little and his hard-working committee. If we do a parish directory this year, that will keep us on track with having a new one every five years or so. Many things change in five years—old friends moving out or dying and new friends moving in or being born. Since we do a national census this year, it is quite fitting that we do an update as well. I hope that many of you have your picture taken, with family living with you, so that we can have a pictorial photo of you. What better way to get to know the rest of your parish family?

**Father Houlihan**