

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan
 Senior Priest in Residence: Rev. Valerian Bartek
 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
 School Facebook page: facebook.com/STJBCatholic
 Prayer requests: CHSPrayerChain@gmail.com or 402-943-9959

PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

ENTER THE MASS! Worship the Risen Lord!

Monday, April 19

8:00 a.m. +Betty Conley
 +Carrie Lynn Laney

Tuesday, April 20

8:00 a.m. +Zack Narmi
 +All Souls Day Intentions

Wednesday, April 21

8:00 a.m. +Audrey & Matthew Smith
 +Celia Jay (Peterson) Whitford

Thursday, April 22

8:00 a.m. +Steve Zweibahmer
 +Mary Kolesik

Friday, April 23

8:00 a.m. +Idalene Brink
 +Ruth Roby

Saturday, April 24

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of PCCW
 5:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Sunday, April 25

8:00 a.m. +Evelyn Stern
 10:30 a.m. Special Intention for CHS's Legion of Mary

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays, 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Head Count at Easter Masses: 113, 135, 184

Communion at church doors: 6

Contributions for April 11, 2021

General Collection	\$	6,977.10
General Online Giving	\$	2,782.00
Debt Reduction	\$	310.00
Debt Reduction Online Giving	\$	15.00
Teachers/Staff	\$	133.00
Teachers/Staff Online Giving	\$	25.00
Holy Land	\$	225.00
Holy Land Online Giving	\$	25.00
Combined Relief	\$	75.00
Franciscan Sisters	\$	593.00
So. Neb. Reg. Online Giving	\$	20.00

Online amounts are shown about 2 wks after donation, due to processing time.

Church cleaning reminder: For Apr 24 (at 9:00am): Rasmussen, Raumaker, Reed, Reese, Reicks, Reiling, Reineke, Reineke

On our way to getting back to normal! ...Taking it slow, but steady!

On Pentecost, May 23rd, the obligation to attend Mass for Sundays and Holy Days will be reinstated in Nebraska. More information as the weeks go by. But even now, we can celebrate small things like: Singing has already been okayed! Holy Water is in our Holy Water font! Collection baskets are being passed, bulletins handed out, missalettes in the pews. Coming soon.... altar servers. We are on our way, slow and sure!

About reinstating the Mass obligation: We remember Bishop Conley's gentle message, "The reason all Catholics have a grave obligation of being physically present for Mass on Sundays and holy days is because the Eucharist is at the heart of what it is to be a Christian. In the Eucharist, Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord is truly present. When the Mass is celebrated, heaven comes to earth and the redemption Jesus attained on the cross comes to us personally. When the scriptures are proclaimed, God Himself speaks to His people.

In Holy Communion, when we receive him worthily, that is, without mortal sin, we are physically and spiritually united to Him and to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Likewise, participation in the celebration of the Eucharist on Sundays is the primary way that we keep the Lord's Day holy and so live out the third Commandment. These are some of the deepest reasons why there is an obligation and why we should freely want to fulfill this obligation."



Charcuterie Boards

2021 Spring Virtual Extravaganza

April 24 - May 1



What is charcuterie? In the French tradition, charcuterie (pronounced "shahr-ku-tuh-ree") is the art of preparing and assembling cured meats and meat products. The idea of charcuterie has become very popular outside of France, and the term has evolved to include a variety of foods besides meat. A charcuterie board is an assortment of meats, cheeses, artisan breads, olives, fruit, and nuts, all artfully arranged on a serving board. Ready to dig in? Order one through Qtego!

<https://qtego.net/qlink/sjbs>



2021-2022 Enrollment now open! At St. John's, our students perform at the highest academic levels, with a focus on academic excellence, faith, and service to others. We'd love to have your family join ours! If you are interested in learning more about St. John's, please contact the school office.

- Classes available for Preschool through 8th Grade.
- Before and After School Childcare Programs available.
- Affordable Monthly or Quarterly Payment options.
- www.StJBCatholic.com or 402-296-6230

Volunteer cemetery mowers needed! If you would like to be on the cemetery mowing team, please call or text Larry Rolfson, 402-619-0029, and he will meet with you to talk about it. If you mowed last year, please also contact Larry and let him know whether or not you are able to continue for this mowing season. Thank you!

Dinners for Fr. Houlihan & Fr. Bartek, "Stewardship of Talent": Apr 19: Bonnie Seyfer, Apr 21: Sandy Kerns, Apr 22: Liz Holstein, Apr 26: Sandy Fischer, Apr 28: Sandy DiSomma, Apr 29: Gay Lepert, May 3: Glennia Sand, May 5: Deb Warga, May 6: Monica Yankus *Thank you!*

Altar servers! Polish off those patens and iron your albs (*only figuratively!*). We will be starting back to serve at Holy Mass on Saturday May 1, 2021 at the 5:00pm Mass. Please watch the bulletin for the Server Assignments. And parents of servers, please contact Joe DiSomma (Mr. Joe) via email if you have any questions. joedisomma1013@icloud.com

This week's featured Seminarian: Christian Schwenka from Heartwell, who entered seminary in 2016 and is now in Theology 3 at Mount St. Mary Seminary. We pray, too, for Adam Bohan from Plattsmouth, who entered seminary for the Society of Jesus in 2015.

Looking for Old Photos and Stories! Two historians, Chase Becker (originally from Exeter) and Ron Sack (originally from St. Paul) are writing a book on the history of Catholic Churches in Nebraska. They are visiting Plattsmouth next Sunday, April 18 and would like to meet with anyone who can share photos, items, or stories of the church buildings, traditions, and family connections from St. John, Holy Rosary, and Holy Spirit Parishes. To meet with them, please contact Chase at chasembecker@gmail.com or 402-363-2982. If you cannot make it on Sunday, please email Harlan Seyfer at: plattsmouthHistorian@gmail or call 402-296-2376. Please help share the story of our parishes with future generations of Nebraskans!

Thanks from Sister Cynthia: "I wish to thank everyone who prayed, acknowledged and thought of me for my 25th Anniversary of Religious Profession. You are a blessing to serve and together we build up the Kingdom of God. May He shower you with graces!"

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

April Breakfast – This Sunday, April 18th, after the 8:00 and 10:30am Masses. The Knights will be serving sausage gravy and biscuits, scrambled eggs, and applesauce. After the 10:30 Mass, they will serve chicken pot pie. The breakfast will be held **in St. John's gym**. The proceeds will go to the Franciscan Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother's roof repair for an existing barn for their new retreat center in NE City.

Officer's Meeting – Thursday, April 22nd, 7:00pm via Zoom meeting. Steve Riese will provide the meeting credentials / see Mike Vaughn's email.

Franciscan Sisters Roof Projects in NE City – Plans are 2 weekends of work, May 1/2, May 15. We need a few skilled folks in carpentry, as the roof will require repairs around the gable, trusses and fascia. Please let Mike Vaughn know if you can support. Any or all of those days.

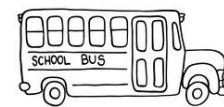
Parish Council Elections: *A way to serve God and our parish is being on the Parish Council. See the application form for details – it can be found in the Commons by our information board as you enter the church. The candidates should be dedicated to the welfare and spirituality of our Parish. All forms must be turned in by Friday, Apr 23. If you have any questions or are interested in running for Council, contact Bill Bohan 402-297-0522 or Pat Vaughn 402-980-9086.*

St. John's school is in need of DVD/VCR combo players (a flash from the past!). If you have one to donate, please take it to the school or church, or call the school at 296-6230. Thank you!

RUMMAGE For the next PCCW rummage sale: donation dates are Sunday, July 11th, Noon to 4pm and Monday, July 12th, 9am-7pm. Complete details to follow later.



We welcome through the waters of Baptism Alys Rose, daughter of Paul & Valerie Armstrong, on April 10, 2021. May she always live for the Lord!



Volunteer Bus driver wanted! Our current bus driver between Church of the Holy Spirit and our high school, Our Lady of Lourdes in Nebraska City, will be retiring from that service with the end of this school year. *Thank you, George Sachs, for your care of our students, your reliability, and your generosity with your time!* So that means we are looking for a new driver (or two?) beginning next school year. The driver would need to have a CDL license, and pass a training course. This is a volunteer service, and costs for the license and training would be paid by the parish. The times it would take for driving would be about 7:00am - 8:30am, and about 3:00pm - 4:30pm. Occasionally, St. John's might have a class field trip, and it would be great if you could drive for that, also – which means the driver might also get to see the fun! ☺ This service is a great help to students who need a ride to and/or from Nebraska City. *Please consider doing this for them!* If interested, or if you have questions, please let Fr. Houlihan know, or call Sue at the rectory office, 296-3139. Thank you!

Holy Communion outside-of-Mass distribution ...Father is currently distributing Holy Communion on the weekends to those who feel they shouldn't attend Mass due to COVID, but yet treasure the Eucharist and would like to receive. The time for this is 10:00am on Sundays. Meet Father at the front doors of the church. Please be ready for him right at 10:00.

Infertility retreat There will be a Day-Long Retreat for couples or individual spouses experiencing primary or secondary infertility held on May 1st, 2021 from 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., led by Fr. Tim Danek with other guest speakers at John XXIII Diocesan Center in Lincoln or virtually. Cost is \$15/35/60 for virtual/individual/couple and in person includes Mass and brunch. Sign up/more information at <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/ifretreat>

Did you catch in the bulletin for last week that we counted 96 individuals who helped at one or both of the Christmas / Easter Masses? Their help made it all go smoothly. BUT, we goofed last week! Afterwards, we remembered another great helper, so it's 97 individuals! ...Not necessary to make that correction, *except that it's a fun opportunity to re-state the amazing example of STEWARDSHIP!* ☺ Thank you, all!

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!

PASTOR'S NOTES

This weekend caps and completes the sacramental “bonanza” that many of our boys and girls have experienced during the last week. Thanks to all the wonderful parents and teachers that made all of this possible. We appreciate your cooperation and help for First Holy Communion and the three group Confirmation Masses. We are finishing a few others today. God bless!

A few weeks ago, I mistakenly said that Friday, March 19, was a day of abstinence. This year it was the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the patron of the Universal Church, the spouse of the Virgin Mary, and the foster-father of Jesus. As with another solemnity that frequently falls during Lent, the Annunciation (March 25), it is of such an order that even if it falls on a Friday, it is NOT a day of abstinence. However, every Friday, as a rule, is a day when we are asked to make some sacrifice in honor of the great Sacrifice that was offered on our behalf by Jesus on the Cross on Good Friday. Just as every Sunday is a “little Easter,” so every Friday is a reminder of sacrificial love, even during Eastertide (which is what we are celebrating now). The Friday on which that act of sacrificial love was made on our behalf is called “Good” Friday for a reason. Our meager response (also of sacrificial love) is a token of respect and love for the love that has been poured out in our lives for our redemption. Alleluia!

The parish council has received and commented on the plans that have been drawn up for the new confessionals in fulfillment of the last great project that was planned to bring our facility up to speed after past financial pressures caused many of these things (the roof, the lighting, the sidewalks, etc.) to be delayed far past normal maintenance times. Those pressures have not gone away, although we were fortunate to “catch our breath” with four annual grants from the Joy of the Gospel diocesan program Francis Fund for \$160,000 each and \$193,000 from the federal government last year to ensure that we could meet payroll during the early months of the pandemic. We are not planning to take any funds from the regular parish income for this project—there have been funds set aside from the spring dinner, from memorials, and so on, and some parishioners have expressed interest in helping with this project as well. Just as we in Nebraska finished our State Capitol in the middle of the Great Depression (and it was completely paid for!), that is our intention with the project coming up in the next few months. The philosophy would be: have the funds you need at the beginning or “pay as you go,”

if we should not be able to do everything at once. We also need diocesan approval and would like all of you to have a chance to see what is proposed. The heart of the matter is the confessionals—the old ones simply are not workable in these times. The traditional confessional (which we did not have) always had the grille to protect penitent and priest from any untoward accusations of impropriety. We certainly want to preserve the opportunity for people to go face-to-face if they wish, and that will be preserved in the new confessionals. We also want to ensure good soundproofing. In addition, the proposal turns the St. Joseph Room back into a true meeting room—better utilizing its space, and provides more possibilities for meeting spaces and storage. And, of course, there is the insulation and updating of the Adoration Chapel, so that it will be ready when we are ready to return. These are just some of the considerations that were in play. As a pastor, I very much appreciate having wonderful advice and expertise from our Building and Grounds Committee, our Finance Committee, and our Parish Council. We have a good plan. I am anxious to go forward. Thank you for your prayers and support!

This is the time of the year when we are given the gift of courage in abundant supply. We realize that if Jesus is truly risen from the dead—and this is the reason the Church exists—to proclaim that fact to all the world—we do not have to be afraid of anything or anyone. It has been said that our Catholic faith—and that of all Christians—has been under severe stress and attack from some of the current forces in our culture. That is certainly true now—and it has always been true in some way or another over the last two thousand years—and our challenges are unique to our place and the age in which we live—but we can always speak and act in confidence. The love that has been given to us and which we are called to share with the rest of the world is the greatest force, bar none, that exists. Period. Alleluia!

Father Houlihan