

# CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 18, 2021

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan  
 Senior Priest in Residence: Rev. Valerian Bartek  
 520 South 18<sup>th</sup> 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! Give glory to God!**

### Monday, July 19

8:00 a.m. +Mary Lou Rerucha  
 +Jack Haller

### Tuesday, July 20

8:00 a.m. +John Harris  
 +All Souls Day Intentions

### Wednesday, July 21

8:00 a.m. +Margaret Stransky  
 +Dorothy Hula

### Thursday, July 22

8:00 a.m. +Michael Hausladen  
 +Zack Narmi

### Friday, July 23

8:00 a.m. +Stanley & Rose Bartek  
 +Audrey & Matthew Smith

### Saturday, July 24

8:00 a.m. +Judy Wiles  
 5:00 p.m. +Andy Reichart

### Sunday, July 25

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

## CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays, 3:30 - 4:30 PM

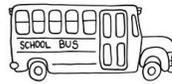
Head Count last weekend 453

### Contributions for July 11, 2021

General Collection	\$	6,669.99
General Online Giving	\$	10,957.00
Debt Reduction	\$	285.00
Debt Reduction Online Giving	\$	1,120.00
Teachers/Staff	\$	228.00
Teachers/Staff Online Giving	\$	140.00
Peter's Pence	\$	500.00
Peter's Pence Online Giving	\$	25.00
So. Neb. Register Online Giving	\$	10.00
Utilities	\$	275.00
Utilities Online Giving	\$	35.00
Memorials	\$	25.00

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

**Dinners for Fr. Houlihan & Fr. Bartek, "Stewardship of Talent":** Jul 19: Liz Holstein, Jul 21: Bill Boyle, Jul 22: Sandy DiSomma, Jul 26: Glennia Sand, Jul 28: Steph Ball, July 29: Pam Reinsch, Aug 2: Bonnie Seyfer, Aug 4: Megan Hanneman, Aug 5: Monica Yankus  
 Thank you!



**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, has retired from that service with the end of last school year. So that means we are looking for a new driver (or two?) beginning this coming school year. To drive the bus, the driver would need a CDL license, and pass a training course. This is a volunteer service, with costs for the license & training paid by the parish.

The round-trip times it would take for driving would be about 7:00am - 8:30am, and about 3:00pm - 4:30pm. If unable to do the afternoon run, even just the morning run would be helpful. 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!

**Knights of Columbus** – Council 1966 / Steve Riese GK (402)298-8264  
**Officer's Meeting** – Thursday, July 22, 7pm in SJR.

**Annual Fall Fundraiser** – Booklets are ready for you to purchase. See a Knight in the Commons.

**Upcoming Council 1966 Strategy Meeting** – We will be meeting on the upcoming year's strategy for our council. Looking for ideas for our council for the upcoming year.

**Breakfast, THIS Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup>** – The Knights will be serving pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs and sausage. Proceeds will go toward the church utilities.

## Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament (August 7<sup>th</sup>)

### Information... in the Church Commons

The raffles and prizes we know you will like. Just keep that in mind and ask for Knight Mike! St. John's School is what the Tournament is for.

Teams and Sponsors are needed, and more.

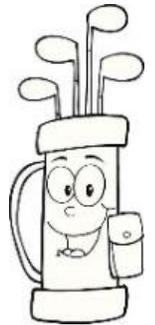
Stop at the table before you exit the door...

See some of the prizes displayed on the floor!

Dinner and pies that night, for the taking.

A full night of fun, there will be no mistaking.

To join this event that is sure to ignite, call 402-296-5422, ask for Mike the Knight.



**This week's featured Sisters in Formation:** From the Sisters of the Carmel of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph: Sr. Carmen Teresa of Jesus from Basehor, KS, and Sr. Maravillas of Jesus from Lake Elmo, MN. Please pray for all our sisters in formation, and for our seminarians, especially Adam Bohan from our parish.

**Top the Tote**, through Aug 1<sup>st</sup> ...with school supplies for St. John the Baptist School K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The CDA is sponsoring a school supply drive for the 2021-2022 school year. Look for the tote in a corner of the Commons. There is a list of needed supplies on the table next to the tote, and at this point, especially needed are bottles of glue, boxes of markers and 2 pocket folders. In August, supplies will be at the school so *parents can come before shopping to see if they'd like to use some of the donated supplies!*

**Church cleaning reminder:** For July 24 (at 9:00am): Weeda, Wehling, Welch, Wessel, White, Whitmore, Widman, Wiese

**Are you new to the parish? *Welcome!*** Maybe introduce yourself to Father after Mass??? Come in to the rectory office to register, or...look for green Registration Forms on the Welcome table 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/or email?** Please let the parish office know: 296-3139

**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 Call list?.....Please ask them to call the parish office: 296-3139

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

**To be on the Holy Hour of Adoration schedule,** (or if you have questions about it) please leave a message for Traci at 297-2295.

**Are you traveling this summer?** You can find their local Mass times at: [www.MassTimes.org](http://www.MassTimes.org) or [www.CatholicMassTime.org](http://www.CatholicMassTime.org)

## **PASTOR'S NOTES**

We are tempted to say that these are the worst of times, but history teaches us (if we may paraphrase Charles Dickens) that it is also the best of times. As a wise teacher (Fr. John Tracy Ellis, the “dean of American Catholic historians”) I once had in the seminary used to remind us: “Gentlemen, we have been here before.” Last week I wrote about St. Paul and the Corinthians as a way of remembering this. St. Paul, it could be argued, was actually wildly successful in his missionary efforts to bring the message of Jesus Christ to the world. After all, Christianity (in all its various “flavors”) is still the largest world religion, not only in large areas of the old Roman Empire (which it conquered with the Cross rather than the sword), but also in many other places where it is growing and flourishing in various “newer” parts of the world today—Africa and Asia come to mind. And we should not forget that many of the places where people like Paul labored—as in Asia Minor, which is now Turkey, or like Augustine in Hippo in North Africa, there are now few or no Christians, and many of the cities that once flourished as Christian centers are now gone from our maps. Once again, success is not the key—faithfulness to God and His “great commission” (“Go out to all the world and tell the Good News”) is. That means that we must see through all the hoopla and recognize that God is continuing to work in many and mysterious ways in our lives and that the Holy Spirit continues to inflame and enlighten human hearts, and that the Church, the Body of Christ, is very much alive. Is it possible to be “spiritual, but not religious”? Perhaps, but a branch not joined to the vine is very likely to wither and die, no matter how well intentioned that “dry stick” may be. We need the one God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We need the Church. We need to be faithful. If we are planting the seeds that another will harvest, that is all right. The “plan” is bigger than any one of us and any one time or place in human history.

Some people “give up” on God and/or the Church because they did not think God did what He was supposed (by them) to do. The suffering or death of a loved one, the disappointment with leadership, the inability to keep the commandments (“our religion is too hard”) have all been contributing factors. As a priest, I can look back on times in my life when I may have been part of the problem rather than part of the solution. Most of us, if we are honest, could say the same. We need to keep remembering that the Church is not a society of the perfect, but a society of those who are seeking to be perfect, as our heavenly Father is perfect (see Mt. 5:48). It is not a collection of the spiritually strong and healthy, but a hospital for the spiritually weak and sick (see Mt. 9:12f; Mk. 2:17; Lk. 5:31f). If we do not see that weakness and sickness in ourselves, we need to do a checkup with the Divine Physician and get a true assessment of the state of our soul. We also need to remember what Job heard after he questioned God—questioning God is not a problem for God, but we need to be ready to hear His answer, which would easily humble us, as it did Job (see Job, chapters 38-41). We do not have all the answers, but we need to be respectful of the One Who does. We are not in the Church only for our own good (although that is certainly something that comes with it), but in order to serve, in simple gratitude and joy, the One Who makes our existence possible, and Who wishes to share His own divine life with us. He is not here to serve us, but we are here to know, love, and serve Him.

Congratulations to Sean and Jennifer Vance Sommer, married in Christ this Saturday. May God bless you and keep you close to each other and to Him for many, many years. God bless!

**Father Houlihan**