

# CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

Pastor: Rev. Sean Timmerman  
 Senior Parochial Vicar: Rev. Mark Pfeiffer  
 520 South 18<sup>th</sup> Street Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
 Rectory Phone: (402) 296-3139  
 St. John the Baptist Catholic School: (402) 296-6230  
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 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

**Marriage:** Contact the Rectory at least six months in advance of the expected wedding date.

**For Baptisms or Weddings,** you must be a Practicing Catholic and a member of the parish. To be a Godparent, you must be a Practicing and Confirmed Catholic and, if married, married in the Church.

## PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

#### Monday, December 9 Immaculate Conception

7:00 a.m. Sam & Bernice Nanfито+

8:10 a.m. Living & deceased members of the Morehead family

7:00 p.m. People of the Parish

#### Tuesday, December 10

7:00 a.m. Raymond Hike+

8:10 a.m. Alfred Gaeta+

#### Wednesday, December 11

7:00 a.m. Health of P.M.

8:10 a.m. (Latin) Shirley Pierce+

#### Thursday, December 12

7:00 a.m. Donald & Marilyn March+

8:10 a.m. Laura Barnes+

#### Friday, December 13

7:00 a.m. Dee Spreitzer+

8:10 a.m. Marcene Klein+

#### Saturday, December 14

8:00 a.m. John Holdridge+

4:00 p.m. Janet Pope+

#### Sunday, December 15 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)

8:00 a.m. Dick Vaughn+

10:30a.m. People of the Parish

12:30p.m. (Latin Sung Mass) All Souls Day intentions+

### Confessions:

**Mondays & Fridays, 7:30 - 7:55am**

**Saturdays, 3:00 - 3:45pm**

**Sundays, 9:45 - 10:15am**

### Head Count Last weekend: 583

### Contributions for December 1 & Thanksgiving 2024

<b>General Collection</b>	\$	<b>6,330.01</b>
General <i>Online Giving</i>	\$	3,381.00
Debt Reduction	\$	760.00
Teachers/Staff	\$	232.00
Utilities	\$	70.00
Cloistered Nuns	\$	180.00

## December 9, Holy Day of Obligation

(this year, abrogated to Monday),

### Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Masses: Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm; and

Monday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am, 8:10am & 7:00pm

Please note that this year the 5:30pm Mass on Sunday, Dec 8, can fulfill the Sunday obligation OR the Holy Day obligation, but not both.

### Confession times before Christmas:

- Confessions (regular times) are Saturdays at 3:00pm, Sundays at 9:45am, and Mondays and Fridays at 7:30am
- **Penance Service with many priests hearing confessions on Sunday, December 22 at 3:30pm**
- Extra Confessions on Tuesday, December 24 at noon (until finished) and 2:30pm (until finished).

### Christmas Mass schedule:

Christmas Eve: 4:00pm and 9:00pm

Christmas Day: 8:00am and 10:00am

**Food and Fellowship for Gaudete Sunday** - Join us for the 12:30pm Sung Latin High Mass next Sunday, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, and then stay afterwards for a potluck social of appetizers and refreshments. You are invited (but not required) to bring light or heavy appetizers to share with everyone. Drinks will be provided.

**Last Chance** If you would still like your picture in the upcoming Parish Directory and were not able to be at one of the sittings, you could submit a picture of your own. Please call Pat at 980-9086.

**Christmas Flowers....** Envelopes are in the Commons if you'd like to donate toward Christmas flowers in memory of someone. Then shortly after Christmas, the bulletin will list the names in whose memory the donations were made.

**Mugs & Muffins for Mommas** The Church of the Holy Spirit will be hosting a Catholic mom's Bible study and fellowship group. We will meet at 9am the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month in St. Gabriel's Room (in the school) starting January 18<sup>th</sup>. As a group, we will go through Fearless and Free, a Catholic woman's Bible study. Kids are welcome. Bring your mug. Coffee and muffins on us.

**Pecans!** Before and after Mass, Catholic Daughters will be selling our famous Pecans. In addition, we will have our **Prime Rib and Ham raffle** again this year. **Drawing for the Meat Raffle will be December 15<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 Mass.** We have added Chocolate Covered Pretzel Sticks, and a Winter Deco Mesh wreath raffle item. Catholic Daughters appreciates the support of our parish for our fundraiser!

**This week's Featured Seminarian:** Nicholas Hanus, who entered seminary in 2022, now in College 3 at St. Gregory the Great. Please pray for all our sisters in formation and seminarians – especially seminarian Adam Bohan from our parish.



**Ignatius Book Fair** is coming! December 11-15 In St. John's Library & St. Gabriel's Room. Ignatius offers a Christian alternative that is unparalleled to any known youth book fair, teaching lessons of Faith, Hope, and Charity to children.

Dec 11 & 12 before (6:15pm) and after the music programs

Dec 12 & 13, during the school day

Dec 14 & 15 after all Masses.

## CARDINAL MASQUERADE

### Mark your calendars!

The 2025 Spring Dinner and Auction will take place on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025!

This year's theme is **CARDINAL MASQUERADE**, in celebration of St. John the Baptist School's 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Be watching for invites in the mail and information about our new "Flash Sale" for Table Purchases!

**The Spring Dinner committee will be at the Volunteer Fair December 14/15 where you can sign up to help work this amazing event! You can find us at the Evangelization Pillar table!**

### Youth Group Meetings Schedule

Come and join us for faith-filled conversation, camaraderie, and yummy snacks! Open to all Middle School through High School youth.

All meetings are held from 7pm-8:30pm at the Koelzer Residence, 402 Waverly Rd, Murray.

Sunday, December 8

Break for Christmas

Sunday, January 5

Questions? Contact Donette Koelzer, 297-0786

### Dinners for Priests, "Stewardship of Talent"

Dec 9: Monica Yankus, Dec 10: Jesette Berggren, Dec 16: Sandy Kerns, Dec 17: Megan Hanneman, Dec 23: Steph Ball

**Church cleaning reminder:** For Dec 14 (at 9:00am): Koelzer, Kotera, Koubsky, Kragness, Ksiazek, Ksiazek, Kuklinski, Kumm

**Strategies Handout in the bulletin** - If parishioners have any general questions regarding the charitable planning strategies handout, they are welcome to reach out to Derek Sutton, a certified public accountant, at 679-1017 or [Derek.Sutton@rsmus.com](mailto:Derek.Sutton@rsmus.com). This information is offered solely for educational purposes, and there is no need to share any personal financial information.

### Some upcoming dates:

Dec 9 – Holy Day of Obligation, Immaculate Conception

Dec 11-15 – Book Fair, see times elsewhere in the bulletin

Dec 14 – Knight before Christmas – Christmas music, stories, food!

Dec 14/15 – Volunteer Fair, school gym

Dec 15 – Knights' free-will donation breakfast in gym after Masses

Dec 15 – Sung Latin High Mass, 12:30pm, potluck following

Dec 19 – Deadline for returning the Giving Tree tags with wrapped gifts

Dec 21/22 – Holy Land Olive Art for sale in the Commons

Dec 22 – Penance Service, 3:30pm, with many priests from our deanery

**Are you facing tough ethical decisions in health care and biomedical research**, or have been asked for advice on these matters? Try <https://www.ncbcenter.org/consultation-form> for free help from National Catholic Bioethics Center.

**Holy Land Olive Art** will be for sale in the Commons Dec 21/22. Holy Land Catholics are known worldwide for their olive wood carvings. Generation after generation, families have taught their children to carve religious figures by hand from olive wood. For two centuries, Catholics have been able to support their families by selling these unique carvings to pilgrims who visit. Fewer and fewer pilgrims have come now, all due to the bloody military conflicts. Selling this holy unique art has helped Catholics make a living there.

### The Eucharist and Eucharistic Adoration



"The spiritual lives of our families are strengthened through our Holy Hour."  
-Saint Pope John Paul II

Are you ready to scheduled, regular time of prayer? And in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament!?!?! Do you have questions about our Perpetual Adoration? Call Traci: 297-2295

### Current open Adoration Hours at CHS:

Sundays at 1am, 2am & 3am; Tuesdays at Midnight; Wednesdays at 2am & 9pm; Thursdays at Midnight & 2am; Saturdays at 3am, 4am & 11am

**Knights of Columbus** – Council 1966 / Steve Riese GK (402)298-8264 / [www.KofC1966.org](http://www.KofC1966.org)

**Christmas Cards** -- Help Keep Christ in Christmas. Available for sale in the Commons after all Masses until they are gone!

**December Parish Rosary** – Wed, Dec. 11, at 6:30pm in the church.

**Men's Faith Development** – Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7:00pm in SJR.

**December General Meeting** – Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7:30pm, SJR

**The Knight Before Christmas** – Back by popular demand! Saturday, Dec. 14 about 5:30pm (after the 4:00pm Mass) in the Commons. Christmas music, stories, and food. Bring the whole family!

**December Breakfast** -- Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> after the 8:00am and 10:30am Masses. Free-will donations go to support our Foreign Priests.

**December Planning Meeting** – Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> between Masses in the gym



### Christmas Giving Tree

*Give joy to a family in need.*

Please return your wrapped gift with the tag attached and place it under the Giving Tree in the Church Commons no later than December 19<sup>th</sup>.

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## Creative Ways to Give to Church of the Holy Spirit

As the calendar year draws to a close, many parishioners are thinking about the many blessings we have been given and charitable giving. Our Church of the Holy Spirit is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that can accept most contributions. Following are a few practical and creative ways of making contributions to our parish and school.

1. **Pray the Holy Mass every Sunday and go to Confession once a month.** Above and beyond any material/financial contributions you can make to CHS, Mass on Sunday and regular confession speaks to us deeply as a Catholic people, and has spiritual benefits that reach into eternity.
2. **Give to causes that are important to you.** As an outreach of the Church established by our Lord Jesus Christ, CHS is our spiritual home and exists to be His visible presence in the world through humanitarian, educational, religious, and pastoral undertakings. For many of us it is our second home.
3. **Make closet cleaning charitable.** Go through your closet and dressers and if you haven't worn something for a year, wash it, and take it to "My Neighbor's Closet", a charitable outreach of our parish. Or set it aside for a bit to donate to our PCCW's rummage sale.
4. **Double your donation.** Many employers offer matching funds for employee's charitable contributions. Check your workplace human resources department for details.
5. **Itemize.** In order to claim a charitable deduction on your tax return, you must itemize your deductions.
6. **Appreciated Assets.** Consider donating appreciated assets or securities. Donating property held long-term (one year or more) that has appreciated in value, can result in a double benefit, and not for just big donors:
  - A.) You can deduct the fair market value of the asset as of the date of the gift.
  - B.) You can avoid paying capital gains tax.
  - C.) Church of the Holy Spirit can accept virtually any assets of value - bonds, real estate, grain, vehicles, jewelry, stocks, etc.
7. **Grain.** Farmers, in particular, should prayerfully consider donating grain to CHS that the Lord has blessed them with from their recent harvest. This results in a double benefit as farmers are able to exclude the grain income on their tax return and CHS does not pay taxes on the sale.
8. **Cash....** a simple and much appreciated charitable contribution. It goes directly to the mission of CHS.
9. **ACH online giving.** Would you consider setting up an automatic gift to CHS in making your regular contribution? Scheduled automatic withdrawals assures CHS a more consistent cash flow, especially when you are out of town. 209 parish families already do this. Worksheet and instructions to set it up are in the Commons, or please contact us at 296-3139 if you'd like assistance in setting it up.
10. **Scrip.** Would you please consider using Scrip in making your holiday purchases or in giving gifts? **Employers,** would you consider giving your workers Scrip gift cards purchased here at CHS? Participating retail vendors give us a certain percentage of all sales purchased through Scrip.
11. **IRA.** Do you have an IRA? Along with your children, include CHS as an additional beneficiary. Contact your IRA trustee and ask for change of beneficiary forms to include our parish. Donating an IRA to CHS can also be an estate planning strategy to minimize the ordinary income that is passed to heirs. Another common strategy with IRAs for people 73 and older is to send their required minimum distribution (RMD) directly to CHS. This is known as a qualified charitable distribution which allows taxpayers to contribute up to \$100,000 from their IRA directly to a charity and avoid paying income taxes on the distribution.

12. **Life Insurance.** Don't cancel life insurance you no longer need! Name CHS or SJB as owner of the life insurance, or instruct your life insurance agent to include CHS as a primary or secondary beneficiary on your policies– which can provide future financial support and possibly qualify for tax free benefits as well.
13. **Memorial donation.** Make a charitable contribution to CHS in memory of a loved one. More and more Catholic families are making substantial gifts or designated gifts to parish endowment funds and/or other areas in *memory* of parents and other relatives.... Consider starting your own family endowment fund for CHS, where the principal is restricted, and the parish receives the interest as a regular distribution in perpetuity.\)
14. **Our parish has recently (Late November 2024) been blessed with a generous donation to start a brand-new parish Fund!** The new **HOLY SPIRIT FUND** directly supports the ongoing operations of Church of the Holy Spirit parish. The funds are invested and CHS receives regular distributions throughout the year. The Holy Spirit Fund is something that all parishioners can donate towards with cash or ANY ASSET. Stocks, Grain, Depreciated Equipment, Real Estate, etc. This is something that all parishioners can continue to donate to.
15. **Donor Advised Funds** – This can be set up through the Catholic Foundation. When you make a charitable contribution of assets, the funds are invested and grow tax-free. Then at your request, the Foundation distributes the funds to the charity of your choice.
16. **Planned giving.** Bequests to the parish, gifts of real estate and life insurance, stocks, bonds and certificates of deposit can help perpetuate your faith commitment. Please remember the ongoing and long-range needs which exist here at CHS and St. John the Baptist School. Contact Fr. Timmerman or the Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska for more information about planning. At the Foundation, contact Chris Raun or Scott Yates at 402-488-2142 for free advice to all Catholics in our Diocese.
17. **Will.** Have you included CHS and/or SJB in your will? Making a will isn't expensive! But not having one may cost your family a great deal. Please be a good steward of your resources by using wisely the Lord's gifts given to you. Make a will or revise the one you have if you haven't done so in the last five years. Including CHS or our Catholic schools as “an extra child” in your will is an easy choice to create a will that can benefit the family *and* CHS.
18. **Residual of your will.** Name CHS last. In your will after all your family and friends have been taken care of, name your parish as recipients of the residuary (the amount that is left).
19. **Gift Annuities.** A charitable gift annuity can be an excellent tool for charitable giving because it combines the benefits of an immediate income tax deduction and a lifetime income stream. With a gift annuity, the donor makes a gift of cash or other property to a charity in exchange for an annual annuity to an individual for the remainder of the individual's life.
20. **Charitable trusts.** A charitable remainder trust provides a unique opportunity for a donor to retain lifetime income from property while obtaining a current income or estate tax deduction for the remainder interest that will eventually pass to charity. If you own an appreciated asset and have thought about donating to CHS consider setting up a charitable trust during your life and to receive income payments back. This is a great way to financially benefit both you and CHS during your life. There are certain complexities that arise with charitable trusts and you should work closely with an estate planning attorney and CPA if you are interested in this type of giving.

**These ideas are for your consideration. Always consult your attorney in conjunction with your accountant/tax preparer in preparing a proper will and making of contributions to the Church in estate planning.**



A generous donor has recently established “The Holy Spirit Fund” to support our parish's ongoing operations. This fund is unique in the following ways:

- The Holy Spirit Fund earns a market rate of return like the school endowment, but is liquid like our bank account.
- The Holy Spirit Fund is actively invested to ensure an attractive market rate of return.
- The Holy Spirit Fund investments are screened to ensure adherence to Catholic moral teaching.
- The Holy Spirit Fund is liquid, and our parish has immediate access to the funds.
- The Holy Spirit Fund can accept gifts of cash or more strategic tax-advantaged gifts of non-cash assets such as:


- § QCDs (RMDs) from Traditional IRAs
- § Appreciated Stock
- § Life Insurance Policies (Cash Value or Death Benefit)
- § Real Estate
- § Depreciated Business or Farm Equipment
- § Grain & Other Agricultural Products
- § Remainder Amounts from Investment, Retirement, or Bank Accounts
- § Annuity Payments or Remainder Amounts
- § Royalties
- § Other Marketable Assets

- The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska can arrange to appraise, liquidate, and pass 100% of the proceeds of the gifts mentioned above into The Holy Spirit Fund and will do so at no charge.

The graphic below, “Gifts of Grain”, works not only for farmers and grain, but for any strategic tax-advantaged gifts of non-cash assets that are listed above in the bullet points.

The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska works in the best interest and benefit of the donors and the charities they wish to support. Please remember the ongoing and long-range needs which exist here at our parish. Contact Chris Raun or Scott Yates at 402-488-2142 for free advice to all Catholics in our Diocese.

# Gifts of Grain



For God is the One who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, He will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

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**1000 Bushels of Corn @ \$3.50/Bushel = \$3,500**

**Corn is Sold at the elevator**

12% Federal Income Tax  
15.3% Self Employment  
6.64% State Income Tax

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Total Taxes = 33.94%  
Paid in Taxes = \$1,188

**Gift to Parish = \$2,312**


**Corn is Donated to the Parish account or Catholic Foundation account at the elevator**


0% Federal Income Tax  
0% Self Employment  
0% State Income Tax

---

Total Taxes = 0%  
Paid in Taxes = \$0

**Gift to Parish = \$3,500**





**Maximize Your Tax Benefits**

Additional Tax Incentive: Donor is able to write off 100% of the cost of raising the crop.  
\*Always consult your tax advisor for your specific operation

Dear Parishioners,

Please plan on attending our Volunteer Fair next weekend, December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The many different ministries and groups in our parish will have booths set up in the Gym where you can learn more about them and sign up to help in those areas where your personal talents are needed. Our parish depends on the good stewardship of time, talent and prayer from our people, so please come by and learn more about what our parish has to offer you, and then what YOU can offer our parish by your stewardship!

We are blessed in our parish with many amazing and dedicated people who lead and help out in a lot of different ways, but they need your help! Please stop by and learn more about the different opportunities available for you to volunteer for the church and the school. Speaking of the school, it will also be the weekend for the Ignatius Press Book Fair at St. John the Baptist! Stop by there as well and find some great Catholic books for Christmas gifts!

This is the same weekend that our Knights of Columbus are hosting both a “Knight before Christmas” celebration of food and music on Saturday evening in the Commons, and then on Sunday morning, providing warm and delicious cinnamon rolls in the Gym for breakfast. I invite you to do both, especially Saturday night after Mass by coming to the Gym first for the Volunteer Fair, and then over to the Commons for the Christmas party hosted by the Knights.

Why the Volunteer Fair now? Firstly, because our Parish Strategic Plan is now complete, and it is time to get to work on the goals for our church and school. We want parishioners who desire to see our church and school grow and flourish to become involved and help us achieve the mission and vision laid out in the strategic plan.

Secondly, stewardship will always be very important in our parish because it is a way of life and of experiencing our relationship with God. And frankly, our parish needs it. We depend upon good people and their stewardship to do what we believe the Lord is calling us to do in the church and school.

At the same time, each of us needs it. We all have a need to give and help out where we can benefit others. We need to give of ourselves for the good of the Church, because it is in giving that we receive. So often those who give generously find that they receive far more in return. I know that is the case for many of you, because you have told me!

Lastly, our Father God is expecting a reply to His invitation to do something wonderful with the talents that He has given us, explained so well in the parables of Jesus in the Gospel. The Father invites each of us personally to share in the love of His Son, a love that is made present in many different ways in the life of the Church, right here in Church of the Holy Spirit parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Fr. Sean M. Timmerman

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Good morning, World.

This is God!

I will be handling all of your problems today.

I will not need your help.

So relax and have a great day!

## Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW / Altar Society)



As Mary & Martha gave of their time and talents, we too give ours.

Join Us!