CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

4th Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Rev. Sean Timmerman Senior Parochial Vicar: Rev. Mark Pfeiffer 520 South 18th Street Plattsmouth, NE 68048 Rectory Phone: (402) 296-3139 St. John the Baptist Catholic School: (402) 296-6230 Email for Fr. Timmerman: Fr.Sean-Timmerman@cdolinc.net Email for Fr. Pfeiffer: fr.markpfeiffer@gmail.com 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 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 4th Sunday of Advent Monday, December 23 7:00 a.m. Terry & Judy Wiles+ 8:10 a.m. Linda McCollam+ Tuesday, December 24 8:10 a.m. Alfred Gaeta+ 4:00 p.m. People of the Parish+ Christmas Vigil 9:00 p.m. Special intention for Pro-Life Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. Joan Aylor+ 10:00a.m. Living & deceased members of the Reinig family Thursday, December 26 7:00 a.m. Stuart Meisinger+ 8:10 a.m. Barbara Wilimon+ Friday, December 27 7:00 a.m. Shirley Pierce+ 8:10 a.m. Cliff & Shirley Hildebrand+ Saturday, December 28 8:00 a.m. Laura Barnes+ 4:00 p.m. Paul Mestl+ Sunday, December 29 (Holy Family) 8:00 a.m. The All Souls Day intentions+ 10:30a.m. People of the Parish Confessions: Mondays & Fridays, 7:30 - 7:55am Saturdays, 3:00 - 3:45pm Sundays, 9:45 - 10:15am Head Count last weekend: 588 Contributions for December 15, 2024 **General Collection** 8,330.50 \$ General Online Giving \$ 3,651.00

\$

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515.00

365.00

120.00

315.00

25.00

Debt Reduction

Teachers/Staff

Cloistered Nuns

Utilities

Flowers

Confession times before Christmas:

December 22, 2024

• 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 this Sunday, <u>December 22</u> at 3:30pm

• Extra Confession times on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>December 24</u> 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

Each Mass will have prelude music – come early! (The 9pm Mass's Ensemble Christmas songs begin at 8:20pm)

Christmas Masses There will be prelude music (caroling) before all the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses by our parish musicians and singers. Plan to come early and enjoy! **JJJ** Note: At the 9pm Christmas Eve Mass, the Choir will begin particularly early, at 8:20pm. Good prayer readiness for the Holy Mass!

Are you new to the parish? Welcome!

Maybe introduce yourself to one or both of our priests after a 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!)

Christmas Mass and Confession times for parishes across the Diocese of Lincoln can be found at: lincolndiocese.org/Christmas

<u>2025 Calendars with Catholic notations are here!</u> Our thanks to Roby Funeral Home for making them available to us.

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

Huge Thank You! ... To all who helped with the Knight Before Christmas, the Volunteer Fair, and the Cinnamon Roll Breakfast this past weekend. **January Parish Rosary** – Wednesday, Jan 8th, at 6:30pm in the church. Bring the whole family.

Men's Faith Development – Wednesday, Jan 8th, at 7:00pm in SJR.

January General Meeting – Wednesday, Jan 8th, at 7:30pm in SJR.

Epiphany Dinner - Saturday, Jan 11th in the Commons after the 4:00pm Mass. Pot Luck for sides and desserts. All else provided. Open to all Knights and their Ladies.

Nebraska Walk for Life - Save the Date. The annual pro-life walk will be Saturday morning, Feb. 1, 2025, in Lincoln.

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- advance directives
 infertility (IVF, etc.)
- hospice & palliative care
- nutrition & hydration
 refusal of treatments
- pregnancy complicationsbiomedical research

contraception & sterilization

- organ donation
- gender dysphoria
- cooperation with evil
 and much more...

Dinners for Priests, "Stewardship of Talent" Dec 23: Steph Ball, Dec 30: Deb Warga, Jan 6: Bonnie Seyfer, Jan 7: Emilee Schlickau

<u>Church cleaning reminder</u>: For Jan 4 (at 9:00am): Ludwig, Ludwig, Lusso, MacTaggart, Malfait, Malterer, Marcotte, Marmie

Youth Group

Next meeting: Sunday, January 5. 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. Questions? Contact Donette Koelzer, 297-0786

<u>Strategies Handout in the bulletin</u> - 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 <u>Derek.Sutton@rsmus.com</u>. This information is offered solely for educational purposes, and there is no need to share any personal financial information.

<u>Mugs & Muffins for Mommas</u> The Church of the Holy Spirit will be hosting a Catholic mom's Bible study and fellowship group. We will meet at 9am the 3rd Saturday of the month in St. Gabriel's Room (in the school) starting January 18th. 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. **Holy Land Olive Art** will be for sale in the Commons **THIS weekend**, 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.

This week's Featured Seminarian: Tyler Johnson, who entered seminary in 2019, now in Theology 2 at Mount St. Mary. Please pray for all our sisters in formation and seminarians – especially seminarian Adam Bohan from our parish.

Some upcoming dates:

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

Dec 22 – Penance Service, 3:30pm, with many priests from our deanery Dec 24 – Note that there is no 7am Mass this day.

Dec 24/25 – Christmas Masses – songs before each Mass – come early! (The 9pm Mass's Ensemble Christmas music starts at 8:20pm)

December 31 – Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass: 5:30pm January 1 – Mary, Mother of God. Mass: 8:00am & 10:00am

January 5 - Youth Group, 7pm at Koelzer's

<u>PCCW will be collecting 2025 dues (\$10) in the Commons</u> during January. Please use the envelope provided with your monthly

January. Please use the envelope provided with your monthly envelopes or you can use your own envelope. Mark it PCCW dues (with your name if paying with cash) and either bring it to the table in the Commons during January or you can drop it in the collection basket. Only about 25% of PCCW members paid their 2024 dues. We are required to send a stipend to the Lincoln Diocese for ALL members whether their dues were paid or not. You can still pay your 2024 dues if you did not pay them. And be sure to sign up for the FREE raffle at the table in the Commons.

The Eucharist and Eucharistic Adoration



"Come, my soul, redouble your ardor! You are here alone to adore your God! His look rests on you alone! Ah! If we only had the angels' eyes! Seeing our Lord Jesus Christ here, on that altar, and looking at us, how we should love him! We should want to stay always at his feet; it would be a foretaste of heaven." - *St. John Vianney*

Are you ready to have a 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:

<u>Sundays</u> at 1am, 2am & 3am; Mondays at 11am; Tuesdays at Midnight; <u>Thursdays</u> at Midnight & 2am; <u>Saturdays</u> at 3am, & 4am

<u>Christmas Flowers....</u> 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.

Pecans! Before and after Mass, Catholic Daughters are selling our famous Pecans, regular and chocolate-covered. We also have Chocolate Covered Pretzel Sticks! Catholic Daughters appreciates the support of our parish for our fundraiser!

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.

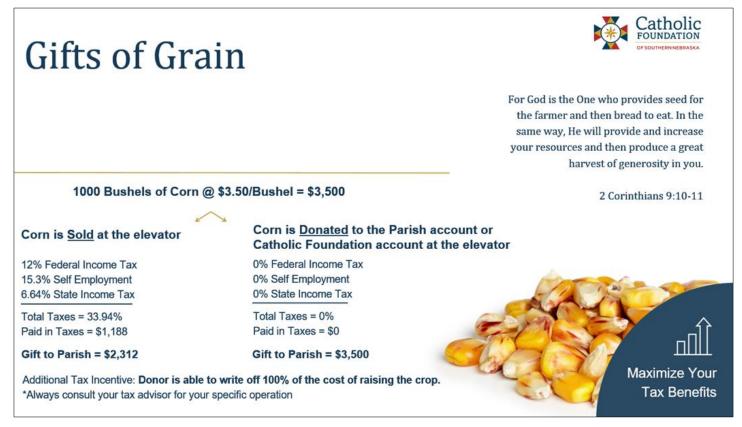
• The Holy Spirit Fund can accept gifts of cash <u>or</u> more strategic tax-advantaged gifts of non-cash assets such as:

- § 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 taxadvantaged 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.



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.



