



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2018

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan
 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

PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

ENTER THE MASS! Give honor to God!

Monday, January 8

8:10 a.m. +Agnes Bernady

Tuesday, January 9

8:10 a.m. +Mary Lou Kocanda

Wednesday, January 10

8:10 a.m. +Valjean Carpenter

Thursday, January 11

8:10 a.m. +Tom Bumgarner

Friday, January 12

8:10 a.m. +Carl Cooke

Saturday, January 13

8:00 a.m. +Arvilla Scanlan

5:00 p.m. Special Intention for Raumaker family

Sunday, January 14

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. +Roland & Patricia Yost

CONFESSIONS:

Weekdays: 7:45 AM

Saturdays, 3:30-4:45 PM

Sundays, 7:30-7:45 AM and 9:30-10:15 AM

Head Count at Mass last weekend: 665

Contributions for December 31, 2017

| | | |
|------------------------------|----|-----------|
| General Collection at Mass | \$ | 24,597.04 |
| General Online Giving | \$ | 2,295.00 |
| Debt Reduction | \$ | 7,675.00 |
| Debt Reduction Online Giving | \$ | 120.00 |
| Teachers/Staff | \$ | 180.00 |
| Teachers/Staff Online Giving | \$ | 65.00 |
| Utilities | \$ | 20.00 |

Contributions for Jan 1, 2018 Mother of God

| | | |
|----------------------------|----|--------|
| General Collection at Mass | \$ | 569.00 |
| General Online Giving | \$ | 40.00 |
| Teachers/Staff | \$ | 10.00 |
| Utilities | \$ | 40.00 |

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 Friday Communion list?...

...Please let us know at the parish office. 296-3139

Church cleaning reminder: For Jan 13 (at 9:00am): Vigneri, Vinduska, Vinduska, Vulgamott, Wagner, Walker, Walton, Walton, Wampler, Wassinger

CDA Dues You can bring in your annual dues to the CDA Officers on weekends in January, in the Commons.

Attention 9th & 10th graders! Looking for a New Year's Resolution? Why not find out more about your faith with other 9th & 10th graders? Dan & Liz Rubin, our 9th & 10th grade Youth Group leaders, will be hosting a gathering at their house Jan. 21 at 5:00pm. RSVP for direction, 296-7988

The Knights of Columbus will be having their annual Christmas Party on the 14th of January beginning at 5:00pm at the Beaver Lake Clubhouse. Please sign up in the Commons so they can have a head count.

Wine Tasting Event tickets will be for sell this weekend and next, in the Commons after Mass! Look for their table! "Fruit of the Vine", a tasting of wines from around the world....Presented by St. John the Baptist School & Slattery Vintage Estates Vineyard and Tasting Room. Friday, January 19, \$30 per person, 7pm to 10pm, at St. John's. All proceeds benefit St. John the Baptist School. To purchase event tickets, check the Commons after the weekend Masses, or contact Deb Walton at 660-8030 or via email at: deb-walton@cdolinc.net. *Attendees must be at least 21 years of age.*

Reminder: Please check the ads on the back of the bulletins! These wonderful sponsors financially support our mission here at Church of the Holy Spirit and St. John the Baptist School. And... did you notice the ad for Jeff Henry Chevrolet, where they state that they will also donate \$100 to Church of the Holy Spirit if you purchase from them a new or used vehicle, and bring them in the ad from the bulletin?!?!)



The SCRIP sales' net income for November / December was about \$3,180.00. Wouldn't it be awesome if that was our regular income every two months throughout the entire year??!! We will continue to promote SCRIP and pray for continued support in our parish and school!

Some upcoming dates:

- January 14 – 1st class of Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, 5:30pm
- January 19 – Wine tasting event, gym;
- January 21 – Knights' free-will donation breakfast, after the 8:00 & 10:30 Masses
- January 26 – Catering event, ROTC Military Ball
- January 27 – Walk for Life, 10am, Nebraska Stae Capitol, Lincoln
- January 28 – Catholic Schools Week begins
- February 2 – Blessing of candles at Mass
- February 3 – St. Blaise Feast Day, blessing of throats at morning Mass
- February 6 – Catering event, Wiles Brothers dinner
- February 14 – Ash Wednesday

Be sure to check the front table in the Commons for most current notices' details.

Are you looking for something new for the New Year? Consider joining Life Runners!

(read below for more information)

Life Runners is a Pro-Life running/walking team open to Christians of all ages and abilities who respect life from conception to natural death. Becoming a Life Runner is easy, all you need is a Life Runners jersey (for as little as \$10.89 + shipping) and to register at liferunners.org (be sure to select the NE-Plattsmouth chapter). Once a member, wear your jersey on the first Wednesday of the month in unity with Life Runners around the world, then take pictures in your jersey and post to Facebook with **#remembertheunborn**. Additionally, the Plattsmouth chapter will meet once a month for a public huddle. At public huddles, we will wear our jerseys and pray the Life Runners creed. The monthly huddle can also include a group run/walk during which members pray for an end to abortion. Other huddle options may include, but are not limited to gathering at public events such as the Harvest Festival, praying outside the abortion clinic in Bellevue, and participating in an organized run/walk in the Omaha area.

Students of St. John's School who wish to join will have their jerseys provided by the Life Runners organization (be sure to select NE- Plattsmouth St John the Baptist School Chapter) and will be allowed to wear them at school on the first Wednesday of the month with their uniform pants, skirt, or jumper. The students will meet before school on the first Wednesday to pray the Life Runners Creed and take a group photo. Students who participate in walking club are encouraged to wear their jersey while walking and to pray for choosing life while they walk. More information for students will be sent soon.

For questions, contact Michelle Vulgamott by email mvulgamott3@hotmail.com, phone or text (402) 630-2501. Be sure to like our Facebook page Plattsmouth NE Life Runners!



Time to plan for the 2018 Walk for Life, set for Saturday, January 27 at 10am at the Nebraska State Capitol. Keynote speaker is Ann McElhinney, co-author of "Gosnell: the Untold Story of America's Most Prolific Serial Killer." She'll speak at the Nebraska Union, 14th & R streets after the Walk.

Sandra Merritt, who participated with David Daleiden in an undercover video sting that exposed Planned Parenthood's sale of aborted human body parts, will be tell of the remarkable undertaking that remains, and the historic legal battle that is underway. Friday, January 12 at DC Centre, 11930 Stonegate Dr., Omaha. Information about this "Celebration of Life Dinner" and to order tickets: nufl.org.

- *Nebraskans United for Life*.

My Neighbor's Closet, our thrift store, during the month of January, they will be having a Free Bag Sale, one per family. Happy New Year from My

Neighbor's Closet! Open Thurs, Fri & Sat, 10:00am – 2:00pm.

Marriage Encounter weekend in Lincoln Feb. 9--11. "Heighten our heart-to-heart-communication" – an opportunity for ongoing renewal of your marriage! Contact couple: Pat & Janelle Benson. Janelle: 308-940-1105; Pat: 308-940-0670

Knights of Columbus – Council 1966 / Pat Carroll GK (402) 296-4706

General Business Meeting – Thursday, January 11th, 7:00pm in SJR.

Christmas Party – DATE CHANGE - Sunday, January 14th, 2018 at the Beaver Lake Clubhouse. Spouses are invited. Please sign up in the commons so we have a count. It will be potluck with the Knights providing the meat entree's and refreshments.

January Breakfast – Sunday, January 21st, after the 8:00 and 10:30 AM masses. The breakfast proceeds will go to support the K of C One Rose, One Life campaign. The Knights will be serving pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs and apple sauce.

Annual Clergy Dinner - All Knights are invited to honor our Priests and Seminarians at the Annual Clergy Dinner, Feb 2nd at our Cathedral in Lincoln, 6:00pm. Special guests Bishop Conley and Bishop Emeritus Bruskewitz. RSVP by Jan 29. For more information, contact Manny Gallardo, mgallardo@windstream.net.

PASTOR'S NOTES:

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many, many people who brought things to me and Sue and Noni for Christmas. Beggar that I am, I am poor even in thanks, if I may steal a line from Shakespeare. From the bottom of my heart, I want to extend sincere thanks to each and every one of you. It has been a joy to serve here, from my point of view. I hope the feeling is mutual. You are in my prayers and thoughts because of your prayers and thoughts for me. God bless you all!

Congratulations to Bruce and Jessica Schuette Schultze, married in Christ this weekend at the Church of the Holy Spirit. May you have many happy years together! God bless you!

This weekend we celebrate the “twelfth day of Christmas,” the day also known as “little Christmas”, or the Epiphany. Traditionally, it falls on January 6, but like certain other feasts, it has been moved (at least in the United States) to the nearest Sunday. That has probably, in the long run, been a good thing, because more people can now participate in the “mysteries” that the day reveals (much like Corpus Christi and Ascension, in many places, which have been moved to Sunday). This day commemorates three “mysteries”—the coming of the Wise Men (the biggest emphasis in the West), the wedding feast of Cana where the Lord worked His first public miracle, and the Baptism of the Lord by St. John the Baptist (the biggest emphasis in the East). The Church in the West (which is us) gives us the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord as a separate (but not unrelated) celebration, usually on the Sunday following, but in some years (such as this one), on the day following (Monday, January 8). In all three, the splendor and divinity of Jesus is revealed to the world. Christmas is about the humility and poverty of Jesus’ birth—Epiphany is about how glorious and divine His presence is among us, shown when he was revealed to the Magi (symbolizing the Gentile nations). At the beginning of His public life at His Baptism, the Father spoke and the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove. And his divinity showed at the time when He was induced by His mother to work His first public miracle at the wedding of Cana. There is a prayer that can be used in each household to remember the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and which especially reminds us of the presence of God in our midst. Thanks to Debra Baumert, our art teacher, and Sue for making the blessed chalk and the prayer

available for those who want to pick it up in the Commons. Any prayer which brings families together in prayer, especially in ways related to the liturgy (the official public prayer) of the Church is a plus! It is still not wrong to sing Christmas carols today and tomorrow!

There is currently a committee within the parish meeting to discuss the challenge of security in our church building. We cannot do everything to be completely safe in all things (no one can do that in this life), but we may be able to do a number of things that would prudently try to plan for certain situations. I think this is a good idea. If you have any suggestions, contact Mike Bridges, a current member of the parish council.

The recent cold snap, along with comfort issues on New Year’s Day interrupted (but did not disrupt) our perpetual adoration program. I am glad that we are back to normal and congratulate those who are filling in for an hour (or more!) each week. I have been in several parishes with this program, but the commitment of those who are taking part in the program here is truly inspiring. We know that the Lord is never truly alone ever since “the Word became Flesh and made His dwelling among us” (the “Incarnation,” the great “mystery” we are celebrating during the Christmas and Epiphany season), but it is beautiful to see many people taking advantage of the opportunity to grow spiritually by the sacrificial act of the giving of an hour a week (or more!) to spend in spiritual communion with our Eucharistic Lord. We spend time with Him, so He is never “alone”, because He came to us so that we would never be alone. Our God is not a distant God Who only wants us to seek Him, but, as Christianity uniquely points out, He is first and foremost a God Who is seeking us. That became clear to the early Christians who reflected on the coming of Jesus into our world. He remains transcendent God in His divine nature, but He is also fully human (“in all things but sin”) in His human nature—two natures united in one Divine Person. Some of the early Christian writers pointed out that God became Man so that Man might become divine. That does not mean that we become little “gods” or “goddesses,” but that we have been lifted up (“supernatural grace”) to share in the very life of God. Praise Him!

Father Houlihan