



## ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1420 K ST., LINCOLN, NE | 402-435-2125 | [STMARYLINCOLN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STMARYLINCOLN@GMAIL.COM)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022**

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

# Saint Mary Catholic Church

"The Old Cathedral"

14th & K Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

Rectory: 1420 K Street

Telephone: 402-435-2125

website: [www.stmarylincoln.org](http://www.stmarylincoln.org)

e-mail: [stmarylincoln@gmail.com](mailto:stmarylincoln@gmail.com)

## Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday | 8:30am-5:00pm

Saturday & Sunday | by appointment only

## Church Hours:

Monday-Friday | Church doors are locked , except  
during Mass and Confession times.

Saturday | doors unlocked 11am-8pm.

Sunday | doors unlocked 7am-8pm.

## Parish Staff & Committees:

Pastor .....	Fr. Joseph Walsh
In Residence.....	Fr. Joseph Finn,
.....	Fr. Andrew Heaslip,
.....	Fr. Stephen Cooney
Parish Secretary.....	Teresa Macias
Music Director.....	Jane Plettner
Director of Religious Ed.....	Margaret Koperski
Knights of Columbus .....	John Franssen
Altar Society .....	Anne Schmidt
Funeral Dinners .....	Sally Williamsen
Legion of Mary .....	Calvin Kroon
Seven Sisters Apostolate .....	Rachel Trevizo
Restoration Chair .....	Ted Czerniak
Finance Council.....	Bernice Polivka
Rectory Cook .....	David Nguyen
Food Net Coordinator.....	Kathy Johnson
Housekeeper.....	Barb Janssen
Pro-Life Coordinators .....	Marv Ward,
.....	Sue Kouma Johnson

## Sunday Obligation Masses:

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:30 pm, 5:00 pm

## Daily Masses:

Monday - Saturday 12:10 pm,

Monday - Friday 7:00 pm

(See bulletin for changes)

## Holy Day Masses:

4:00 pm Vigil (day before Holy Day)

7:00 am, 12:10 pm, 7:00 pm (day of Holy Day)

(See bulletin for Christmas, New Years, & Holy Week)

## Confessions:

Saturday 11:00 am, 3:00 - 4:00 pm, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Monday - Friday 11:30 - 12:00 Noon\*

(See bulletin for Christmas, New Years, & Holy Week)

## Baptism & Marriage:

Please contact the Pastor six weeks before the baptism date and six months before the wedding date. All parish/diocesan requirements must be met before the ceremonies take place.

## Adoration:

Our church doors remain locked during the weekdays, but parishioners may get a passcode for the keypad of the church for adoration daily between the hours of 9:00am – 4:00pm. Please visit or call the rectory for more information.

*The Mission of St. Mary's Catholic Church is to worship, serve, and proclaim Jesus Christ, with the help of our Blessed Mother.*

# LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

## The Town Hall Meetings

On January 23rd (after the 10am Mass) and January 27th (noon and 7pm) the parish will host Town Hall Meetings, open to all parishioners and interested “Friends of St. Mary’s.” My hope is that everyone in the parish will be able to participate. Everyone is important to this process. All are welcome.

## The Backstory

Why are we doing a visioning process at St. Mary’s? This is the backstory. I was named pastor of St. Cecilia in Hastings on August 1, 2008. My goal was to live our Catholic life with vitality and joy. After a few years, I noticed that my enthusiasm wasn’t broadly shared. People didn’t seem to be engaging with me and I wondered, ‘what’s the problem?’ Then it hit me: the walls were too high and too thick for people to gain access. Most decisions were being made in the rectory, communicated from the pulpit, and tolerated by the laity. Not a model to gain enthusiasm and create joy. I needed to open the parish to greater participation by the laity. So, that was what I started to do, with a parish council, a finance committee and a building and grounds committee.

I met John Ferrone early in my pastorate. We worked together forming a leadership board for the school called the Unity Board. We continued to discuss the question of mission and purpose of the parish, and finally, after about 9 years as pastor, the situation crystallized for me when John asked me to write my job description. It was five pages long. Something had to change. The visioning process was the answer.

We built the vision out of people’s insights, desires and capacities, trusting that they too enjoyed the fruits of the Holy Spirit in their lives and that the collective understanding of this should guide our visioning. We began to listen, largely through an initial leadership group and then through the use of 30 or so focus groups that John conducted in the parish. The parishioners talked, dreamed, listened and became engaged. Several accepted leadership roles in different areas of the parish. Committees formed. Leaders took the initiative to develop plans, create budgets, and present their ideas to the governance committee. We were starting to roll, and then I got word that I was to move to another assignment.

## Plan for St. Mary’s

When I accepted the Bishop’s invitation to become pastor of St. Mary’s on June 14, 2021, I had my St. Cecilia experience in mind. I quickly learned that parishioners were desiring a revitalized parish community. My best approach was to begin at the beginning with a visioning process that could help us articulate our mission and develop the components and plans we would need to accomplish it. We held our first parish council meeting on June 22nd, and the following week, John Ferrone was in front of us, explaining how the process worked and what we could do on our own or what he could help us accomplish. We invited more people to the table and John volunteered his time to take us through the first part of visioning process. Over the next several months we articulated a proposed mission statement for the parish. Ultimately, we made the decision to undertake this process and hire John to facilitate it for us.

## The Stages Forward

With the Town Hall Meetings, we are engaging in an idea and information sharing process with the broader community. We will inform you of what is happening, ask your input, invite your participation, and give you the experience of working closely with one another in building the future of the parish.

Insights from the Town Hall Meetings will be used to develop a parish-wide survey, followed by focus groups about specific content areas we have discovered. John is a master at eliciting, gathering, collating, refining and summarizing huge amounts of data. He will be able to draw us a picture of what we have said, what we hope to do, and some initial ideas about how to move forward. He will help us form a governance structure and coach us on how collaborative leadership works in the Catholic system.

I believe St. Mary’s has a profound role in the life of each of us, in the Diocese, and in the Catholic community of Nebraska. It isn’t an accident that St. Mary’s is located where it is and is so beloved by those who pass through her doors or share in her life. Together, we need to articulate what that means. The most important word in the prior sentence is “together.” It’s foundational, it’s essential, it’s powerful. It makes possible the work the Holy Spirit has entrusted to us. See you at one of the Town Hall Meetings!

*Fr. Walsh*

# Mass Intentions

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## Saturday & Sunday, January 8/9

12:00 pm	Gil Trevizot
4:00 pm	Van Nguyen
8:00 am	Fr. Mark Huynh Nguyen†
10:00 am	People of The Parish
12:30 pm	John Kilts
5:00 pm	Denise, Scott, and Family

## Monday, January 10

12:10 pm	Michael & Rita Sand and Family
7:00 pm	Makeena Hughes

## Tuesday, January 11

12:10 pm	Alphonsus Nam†
7:00 pm	Souls in Purgatory

## Wednesday, January 12

12:10 pm	Nam Tu†
7:00 pm	Souls in Purgatory

## Thursday, January 13

12:10 pm	Fr. Mark Huynh Nguyen†
7:00 pm	Denise, Scott, and Family

## Friday, January 14

12:10 pm	John Kilts
7:00 pm	John Cox†



## CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Monday, January 10

6:00 pm	Legion of Mary Meeting
6:30 pm	Pro-Life Rosary

### Tuesday, January 11

7:00 pm	Visionary Meeting
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### Wednesday, January 12

4:15 pm	CCD
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### Saturday, January 15

11:00 am	FoodNet
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## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

JANUARY 15/16

### Saturday, 4:00 pm

Acolyte	John Franssen
Reader	Pat Walbrecht

### Sunday, 8:00 am

Acolyte	Alan Pendleton
Reader	Jessica Pendleton

### Sunday, 10:00 am

Acolyte	Randy Ksionzek
Acolyte	Ron Grose
Reader	Margaret Scheideler

### Sunday, 12:30 pm

Acolyte	Marv Ward
Reader	Kathy Johnson

### Sunday, 5:00 pm

Acolyte	Tim King
Reader	Mike Kluck

### Sunday, EME



## Parish Support

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### DECEMBER 25/26

Weekly Envelopes	\$4,429.00
Loose Plate	\$5,432.48
Faith Direct	<u>\$4,978.22</u>
Collection Total	\$14,839.70



## Parish eGiving—Sign up Today!

Enroll online at [faith.direct/NE1128](http://faith.direct/NE1128)

or

Text "Enroll" to **402-226-1026**

or

Use the QR code for easy donating!



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
- Monday:** 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday:** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday:** 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday:** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday:** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17
- Next Sunday:** Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11 Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

## BAPTISMAL BIB

### Question:

At my grandson's Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?

### Answer:

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers and this is symbolized by the white garment.

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** The Baptism of The Lord
- Monday:** NA
- Tuesday:** NA
- Wednesday:** NA
- Thursday:** St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Friday:** NA
- Saturday:** NA
- Next Sunday:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## CHURCH BELL SCHEDULE

### JANUARY 10-14

- 09:00 All Creatures of Our God and King
- 12:00 Beautiful Savior
- 15:00 Here Am I Lord
- 18:00 Holy Patron Thee Saluting

## ST. HILARY OF POITIERS, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH | JANUARY 13

Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phrygia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy.

Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.

## PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Ernie & Bernice Polivka, Alice Gyhra, Zerita Hendricks, Ray Navratil, Ida Gomes, Richard Fischer



# SAINT MARY'S PARISH NEWS



## What to Expect at the Town Hall Meeting

Hopefully you're planning to attend one of the Town Hall meetings to learn about the process for discerning our parish Vision and how to participate in that process:

**Sunday, January 23rd** following 10am Mass, in Flynn Hall. Refreshments provided. On-site babysitting in the Legion Room available with advanced notice.

**Thursday, January 27th** noon brown-bag lunch session, in Flynn Hall. Bring your own lunch; beverages and dessert provided.

**Thursday, January 27th**, 7 p.m., in Flynn Hall. Refreshments provided. On-site baby-sitting in the Legion Room available with advanced notice.

*To request babysitting, please email the rectory at [stmarylincoln@gmail.com](mailto:stmarylincoln@gmail.com) by Sunday, January 16.*

At the Town Hall, the Planning Team will share a short presentation about how this initiative began and the initial insights that a group of 30+ parishioners shared when Father Walsh invited them to think about the future. We will also share the a breakdown of the draft Mission, meaning that we will take each of the words in the draft Mission statement, and we'll add definition and meaning to them. We are excited to share that with you, because you'll see just how powerful this draft Mission statement is! We will then explain the process for discerning the Vision for our future, as well as what we'll need to do to prepare to actually pursue that Vision.

The best part of the Town Hall meeting though (besides the home-baked goodies and refreshments), will be the opportunity for parishioners to break into small groups and discuss some key questions with each other. We will then "report out" to the bigger group and get a feel for what's on the minds and in the hearts of our parishioners. This Town Hall will kick off the process by which parishioners will be engaged to generate ideas about the future of our beloved St Mary's parish. We really hope you plan to attend.

For now, think about the following questions and let them percolate in your mind as you pray about what God is calling our parish to do.

1. Who is our community? Do we have more than one community? If so, who are they?
2. What role should we play in our community(ies)?
3. What does it look like for us as a parish to worship, serve, and proclaim Jesus Christ?
4. How does our parish invite and support us and others to worship, serve, and proclaim Jesus Christ?
5. How will we show that we are inviting the help of our Blessed Mother?

In 5 years, what will our parishioners be pleased with about our parish, and what will visitors and community members say about our parish?

See you at the Town Hall!

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# COMMUNITY NEWS



**EMMAUS INSTITUTE**

BIBLICAL STUDIES

Let the Word of God illuminate your new year with an **online or in-person class** from the Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies. January "Short Courses" include: *Introduction to the Bible I: What It Is and How We Got It* (January 10-14); *Reading Scripture with the Fathers of the Church* (January 17-21 – online and in-person); and *Introduction to the Bible II: What It Says and How to Read It* (January 24-28). Classes are in Lincoln and run Monday-Friday from 9:30-11:30am. Learn more and register at [www.EmmausInstitute.net](http://www.EmmausInstitute.net).



Marian Mantle Silent Strength Prayer Group January 11th at 4pm at Cathedral of the Risen Christ. Meet in Rectors Hall. The Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary and Mass is at 5:00 for those who wish to attend. Contact [kneugeba@gmail.com](mailto:kneugeba@gmail.com)



Join thousands of pro-life Nebraskans for the **48th Annual Nebraska Walk for Life** held on Saturday, January 29th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the north steps of the State Capitol. Keynote speaker, Ashley Bratcher, the actress that played Abby Johnson in the movie "Unplanned," will share her own pro-life story at the Nebraska Student Union. Pro-life information tables, food and drink will be available. Bake Sale donations are needed; volunteers will be available curbside to collect baked goods from 8-9 a.m. in front of the Student Union the morning of the walk, or call 402-438-4802 to make arrangements. Mass at St. Mary's at 9a.m.

Pius X High School will host an open house at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 7 for eighth-grade students, incoming upperclassmen, and their parents/guardians. Students at Pius X can choose from more than 100+ courses in 13 academic departments. This includes 10 advanced placement courses. Students start taking electives their first year to explore their interests, while gaining a core knowledge from quality, faith-filled teachers. Learn more at [PiusX.net/explore](http://PiusX.net/explore).