

Saint Mary Catholic Church

"The Old Cathedral"



Bruegel, Pieter the Elder, *The Parable of the Blind Leading the Blind*, 1568.
Tempera on canvas. Museo National di Capodimonte, Naples, Italy.

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Saint Mary Catholic Church

"The Old Cathedral"

14th & K Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

Rectory: 1420 K Street

Telephone: 402-435-2125

website: www.stmarylincoln.org

e-mail: 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 build communion in Jesus Christ, with Mary our Mother and guide.

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

A Reflection on Fasting

(I am offering below a reflection on fasting, with ideas taken from an article authored by Fr. Daniel Merz, a former staff person at the USCCB Office of Divine Worship).

Every Lent, we enter again into the discipline of fasting. People choose a variety of things from which to fast: food, entertainment, alcohol, smoking, sleep (hitting the snooze button on the alarm clock) to name a few. Often, the selection is made with regard to a particular habit or weakness that has become part of our behaviors and we judge harmful. Getting rid of a bad habit or cultivating better control in particular area of our life is a good, and something we should pursue. Thus, no electronic games, or dining out, or sugar products is chosen and we embark on a lenten period of fasting in order to gain greater control of our behaviors and perhaps a healthier life.

These are good reasons for fasting. But something deeper and more spiritual is also available to us through the practice of fasting. This is what I share with you, using the insights of Fr. Merz.

Adam and Eve were given the world for their enjoyment, their use, their needs, except the fruit of one tree, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It was a fast, imposed by God. They were to stay away from this tree because it belonged to God alone.

Obviously, this is symbolic language, but it also concerns something very human, namely food, and

the directive to avoid eating it. Food is a life-giving substance. It provides enjoyment in life. It is necessary for life. But the food of this tree is off limits. It is not to be taken.



Except, the temptation was too great. The offer of the devil too desirable: you can be like God—by eating this food. And so, Adam and Eve ate it, disobeying God. They took life into their own hands, as if it belonged to them, rejecting the author and sustainer of life. “Man lives by bread alone” became their answer for human life. Eating means living.

Like all temptations from the devil, there is partial truth in the teaching on eating. It does sustain life. But this temptation concerned something greater. It was about whether God is in charge, even concerning the food of life. It was about whether the spirit within man was to be engaged in the behavior of eating, and whether the Word of God was more important than food.

The New Adam, Jesus, fasted forty days and forty nights prior to beginning His public ministry. At the end of this period, He was hungry. The devil took the opportunity to encourage Him to make bread out of stone. He needed food to live, He needed matter to sustain life. And Jesus’ response was, “One does not live on bread alone but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God” (Mt. 4.4). Jesus didn’t use His power to make bread, but to allow the Father to sustain and provide for Him.

Jesus broke the chains that had enslaved the human family from the time in the Garden of Eden. He prioritized the spirit over matter, the Word over food, God over human nature.

Jesus re-introduced the gift of freedom for us over food and the things of this world as the source life. He encourages us to live *by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God*, and to discover joy and strength in this way of living.

This is a battle, a contest, a fight we must engage and fasting is the way. We will fall on occasion. We’ll become irritated and anxious. The body does not surrender easily. But the spirit must lead, and the Spirit of God will help. Perhaps our Lenten fast is the best exercise we can undertake. It is more than changing “at risk” behaviors or achieving better health. Fasting trains us to depend on God as the source and food of life.

Fr. Walsh

Mass Intentions

Saturday & Sunday, February 26/27

12:10 pm Rachel Miller
 4:00 pm Souls in Purgatory
 8:00 am †Malinda Ratzlaff
 10:00 am People of The Parish
 12:30 pm L. Dee Miller
 5:00 pm †Patricia Bartels

Monday, February 28

12:10 pm Dain Miller
 7:00 pm Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, March 1

12:10 pm Souls in Purgatory
 7:00 pm †Thomas Tinkham

Wednesday, March 2 (Ash Wednesday)

7:00 am †Doris Rowe
 12:10 pm Souls in Purgatory
 7:00 pm Fran Dowd

Thursday, March 3

12:10 pm Millie MacFarland
 7:00 pm Souls in Purgatory

Friday, March 4

12:10 pm Rex Tully
 7:00 pm †Richard Damian Macias



CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, February 28

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

Wednesday, March 2 (Ash Wednesday)

7:00 am Mass (w/Ash Distribution)
 12:10 pm Mass—Bishop Conley Presiding
 4:15 pm CCD
 7:00 pm Mass (w/Ash Distribution)

Friday, March 4

6:30 PM Stations of The Cross
 5:00-7:00 PM Fish Fry in Flynn Hall

Saturday, March 5

11:30 am FoodNet

MINISTRY SCHEDULE MARCH 5/6

Saturday, 4:00 pm

Acolyte John Franssen
 Reader Pat Walbrecht

Sunday, 8:00 am

Acolyte Richard Brunner
 Reader Steve Daly

Sunday, 10:00 am

Acolyte Luis Fernandez
 Acolyte Ron Grose
 Reader Margaret Scheideler

Sunday, 12:30 pm

Acolyte Paul Edwards
 Reader Kathy Johnson

Sunday, 5:00 pm

Acolyte Tim King
 Reader Mike Kluck

Sunday, EME



FEBRUARY 13

Weekly Envelopes	\$4,188.00
Loose Plate	\$1,613.62
Faith Direct	\$.00
Collection Total	\$5,801.62



Parish eGiving—Sign up Today!

Enroll online at faith.direct/NE1128

or

Text "Enroll" to 402-226-1026

or

Use the QR code for easy donating!



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday:	Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45
Monday:	1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday	Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [cf. 15b]/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What did Judas receive as payment for betraying Jesus?

Answer: 30 pieces of silver.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	8 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	NA
Tuesday:	NA
Wednesday:	Ash Wednesday
Thursday:	St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Friday:	St. Casimir
Saturday:	NA
Next Sunday:	1 st Sunday of Lent

CHURCH BELL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 4

09:00	Attende Domine
12:00	Lord, Who Throughout These 40 days
15:00	Beautiful Savior
18:00	All Glory Laud and Honor

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS



Ernie Polivka, Alice Gyhra, Zerita Hendricks, Ray Navratil, Ida Gomes, Richard Fischer, Duane Thoene

Bulletin report on the Finance Council Meeting By Bernice Polivka, Chair

The Finance Council met on February 2, 2022. Present were Fr. Walsh, Bernice Polivka, Vishu Reddi, Cathy Maestas Graham, and Mark Kilts.

Q1 & Q2 Review. We reviewed the financial performance of the parish over the first six months. In aggregate, our expenses are running 51.6% of the budgeted numbers. Income for operations is running a deficit of \$42,660 or about 8% behind budget. The Council recommended that we keep parishioners informed of the financial status of the parish and that the parish office promote end-of-year giving and our Faith Direct program.

Old Business. The Council accepted the proposal from Fr. Walsh to pay the Catholic parishes (excluding Blessed Sacrament) that provide Catholic school education to our children in the amount of \$1,000 per child. The parish will honor its \$100,000 financial commitment to Blessed Sacrament in 2021-2022 school year. In the coming school year, Fr. Walsh will work with the pastors of these schools and determine an amount for payment.

Other Financial Matters. Fr. Walsh recommended and the Council agreed that financial decisions of the parish, in excess of \$5,000 over budget, would include a review and approval step by the Finance Council prior to signing or paying for these items/services. As the new governance structure emerges in the parish (from the work of John Ferrone) this will be standard operating procedure for all budget and extra-budget expenditures by committees in the parish.

Infant Jesus of Prague Devotion. Bernice Polivka recommended that the parish entrust its financial needs to the Infant Jesus of Prague, including the restoration project. Bernice will take the lead on developing a plan for how this devotion might be practiced in the parish.

The next meeting of the Finance Council will be April 19, at 7pm in the downstairs classroom of the rectory.

SAINT MARY'S PARISH NEWS

Volunteers representing Nebraska Family Alliance from our parish will be distributing flyers and seeking signatures after Mass in support of the referendum petition allowing the citizens of Lincoln to vote on the Fairness Ordinance recently passed by the Lincoln City Council. This petition drive has our full support.



ST. MARY HISTORY 101



Bishop Bonacum intended to sell the 13th and M property to finance the remodeling of the church of Christ building into a suitable cathedral for the diocese. That was to include adding an Apse on the North side for a sanctuary. Finally in 1906, the 13th and M property sold and the

Bishop left for Canada to enlist the help of the Grey Nuns to establish the orphanage which was also to be built. Less than one week later on August 28, 1906 at 6:30 in the morning, a passerby saw the building engulfed in flames. The fire department fought the fire, but had problems with low water pressure. When the fire was under control, all that was left was the southwest bell tower and parts of the walls. To Be Continued...



Pray for Our Seminarians

Rev. Mr. Liam Sebastian O'Shea-Creal from St. Teresa Parish in Lincoln NE, entered the Mount St. Mary Seminary in 2015, and is currently a Theology IV student. His parents are Robert & Mary Creal and he has 2 brothers and 2 sisters.

Rev. Mr. Christian Thomas Schwenka from Holy Family Parish in Heartwell, NE, entered the St. Gregory the Great Seminary in 2016, and is currently a Theology IV student. His parents are Dean & Mary Schwenka, and he has 2 brothers and 2 sisters.

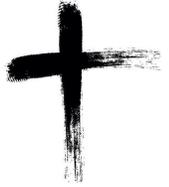
ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

MARCH 2, 2022

7:00 AM

12:10 PM—Bishop Conley Presiding

7:00 PM



Lenten Regulations for the Diocese of Lincoln:

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting. Fasting means eating only one full meal with two smaller meals. No snacking or eating between meals. Fasting obliges all Catholics between aged 18-59 years.

Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and ALL Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. Abstinence means eating no meat, no soups, broths, or gravies made from meat. Abstinence obliges all Catholics over the age of 14.

Sickness, hard manual labor, and pregnancy automatically excuse a person from these obligations. If there is a situation of doubt or question, consult Fr. Walsh.



Stations of The Cross will be every Friday of Lent, beginning March 4th. Stations will be in the Church at 6:30pm right before the 7pm Mass.



Fish Fry—Join us every Friday of Lent in Flynn Hall from 5-7pm. We will be serving Baked or Fried Fish, Mac-n-cheese, Tuna Casserole, with a choice of potato, pickle, rye bread and dessert.



Join us in prayer for the happy repose of the soul of **Dianne L. Effle**

June 17, 1951—February 14, 2022

Eternal rest grant unto her, Oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen



Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Clements, Married February 19th, 2022.

Be devoted to one another in Love. Honor one another above yourselves. ~Romans 12:10

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sts. Mary & Joseph Catholic Church in Valparaiso is hosting a parish Lenten Mission called "Such a Time as This". Johnnette Benkovic Williams will be presenting the mission on March 12th, 13th, and 14th from 7-8:30pm. All are invited to take part in a deepening of your Faith during Lent.



Schoenstatt Cor Mariae Shrine -Lenten Day of Reflection, March 12, 2022 from 10:00am—2:00pm. Come away to pray and be strengthened on your Lenten journey. Open to Men and Women, the day will include Mass, talks, lunch and time for confession and reflection. Cost is \$20/person. Call to register 402-826-3346 or email cor.mariae.shrine@gmail.com



St. Patrick's Church will hold a modified St. Patrick's Festival on Saturday, March 12th from 11:00am – 3:00pm. Raffle and drive-thru meal pickup only. Two meal options will be available: 1-Corned Beef or 2-Ham. Fixings include scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, dinner roll and dessert. \$8/Adult and \$5/Child. Raffle drawing will be at 4pm. The Raffle will be live streamed on Facebook at [@StPatrickFestivalLincoln](https://www.facebook.com/StPatrickFestivalLincoln).

Looking for a way to boost your spiritual life this Lent/Easter? Take an **online*** or **in-person class** from the Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies. Courses include *The Whole in One: A Survey of the New Testament** (Mondays, 2/28–5/9, St. Michael Church, Lincoln); *Creation to New Creation: Hebrews – Revelation** (Tuesdays, 3/1–5/10, Location TBD); *A Biblical Journey Through Lent and Easter** (Wednesdays, 3/2–5/11, John XXIII Center, Lincoln); and *The Ten Commandments: God's Blueprint for Life, Love, and Liberty* (In-person only, Thursdays, 3/3–5/12, St. Peter Church, Lincoln). Learn more and register at www.EmmausInstitute.net.



Join a **12-day Pilgrimage to Ireland** and Our Lady of Knock June 15-26, 2022 with Fr. Gary Coulter, Fr. Ronald Homes, Fr. Bernard Lorenz and Fr. Matthew Zimmer, daily Mass, and a Catholic guide. Round trip from Omaha: \$4,225. More info: www.frcoulter.com/ireland or contact Fr. Gary Coulter, frcoulter@gmail.com / 402-786-2705.