A note from Fr. Asitha...

I have always loved the season of Advent as it is a time of Holy waiting. Even the Word of God speaks of "WAITING" as a faithful act of a grateful people (Psalm 27 and Isaiah 40:31). It is also amazing to reflect how God waited for us, patiently expecting us to come to Him forsaking our sinful ways. As the letter to the Hebrews 1:1 -2 says *"in the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son"*

God also awaited for this amazing day of Christmas to send His only son to us. Now during this Advent as we await with expectation of the coming of our Lord now and in the future, let's not lose another minute of waiting. God still waits for us and we wait for God. But do we wait for my family, friends and those who do not believe the same way I do? Do I make myself available for others as God does? Speaking of availability I thought of sharing my office hours with you.

Tuesday – Friday 9:00 am -12:00 am and 2:00 pm -4:00pm

Wish you all a blessed time of waiting!

Mark your calendars!

We need Parishioners to help decorate the Church for Christmas on **Friday, December 23rd** at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and help. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lay Ministry Announcements

Ministers (Lectors/Readers, Altar Servers, Safe Sanctuary, & Greeters), please notify the parish office with your vacation dates for the January-March schedule by December 16th. Thank you!

Lay Ministry for December 17/18

	Readers	Acolytes	Servers	Safe Sanctuary	Greeters
6:00 PM	Barnes	Boesen Matulka	Hardin Ernst Myers Schroeder	Hardin Becker	Benes Family
7:00 AM	Kuta	Shonka Fry	Parr Huynh Pfeifer Teeters	Eastman	
8:00 AM	Becker	Nguyen Belger	Unger Becker Ackermann Guenther	Hellbusch	Hart Family
9:30 AM	Battiato	Korus Bassinger	Morris Murphy Simanek Korus	Hansen Feldhaus	Patzel Family
11:00 AM	Lewan-dowski	Johs Drehs	Valish Nguyen, E Marroquin Donato	Hannon Kane	Rupiper Family

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	**December 12**
6:40 AM	† Richard Connor
8:00 AM	† Pat Brancheau
Tuesday	**December 13**
6:40 AM	All Souls
8:00 AM	† Bob Anderson
Wednesday	**December 14**
6:40 AM	† Dolores Lyons
8:00 AM	† Jerry Givens
Thursday	**December 15**
6:40 AM	† George Wenzl
8:00 AM	† Ernie & Doris Shonka
Friday	**December 16**
6:40 AM	Makayla Krings and Zach & Alexa Krings
8:00 AM	† Peter Miller
Saturday	**December 17**
9:00 AM	Joan Runyan

Weekend Masses

Saturday	**December 17**
6:00 PM	Tim Miller
Sunday	**December 18**
7:00 AM	Our Parish Family
8:00 AM	† Douglas Jensen
9:30 AM	Grady Simants
11:00 AM	† Andrew & Genevieve Kusek

The Nativity of the Lord Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., Midnight Mass
Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25
7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

Advent Confessions

Sunday, December 11: 4:00-4:50 p.m.
Saturday, December 17: 5:00–5:45 p.m.
Sunday, December 18: 4:00-4:50 p.m.
Wednesday, December 21: 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 22: 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Friday, December 23: 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 24: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

NAM Calendar

Sunday, December 11
5-8 p.m. Christmas Caroling, Meet in the Parish Hall.

Tuesday, December 13
6:30 p.m. Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) meets in the Kateri room

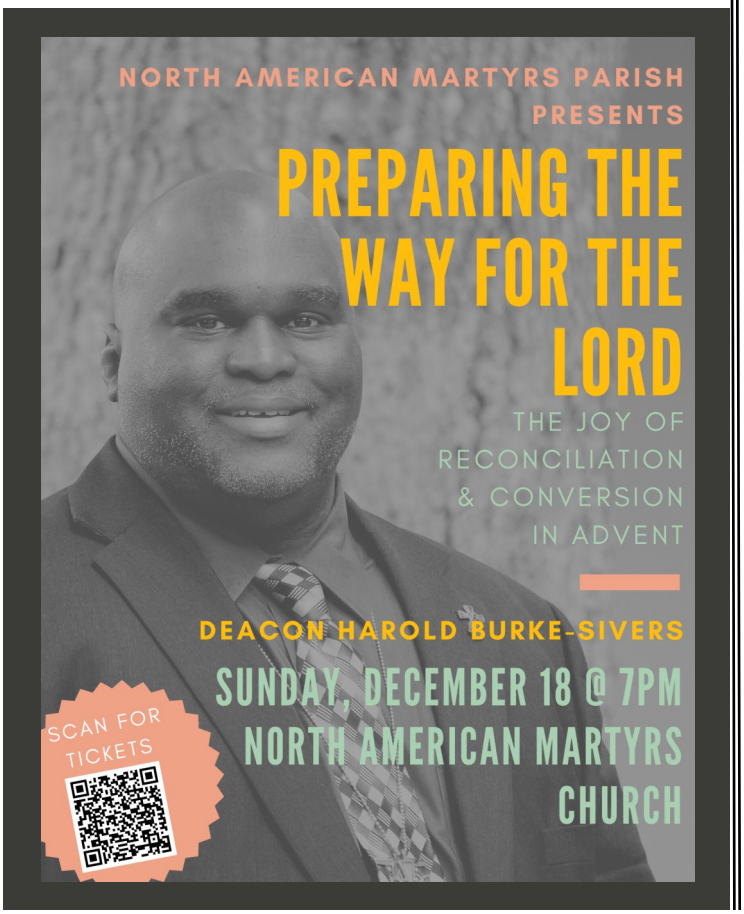
Wednesday, December 14
6 p.m. Seeking the Truth Bible Study in the Multi-purpose room
6 p.m. RCIA in the parish hall. Topic: Love of God: The First Three Commandments. Presenter: Fr. Hall

Saturday, December 17
7:30 a.m. Martyrs Men in the parish hall

Sunday Stewardship

Stewardship Received Last Week

Adult Tithe Envelopes	$17,513
Adult Electronic Tithe	$13,008
Plate	$904
Youth	$3
Total Tithe Received	**$31,428**
Weekly Tithing Goal	$32,229
Received to date	$670,432
Needed for Annual Budget	$741,267
Annual Budget Shortage to Date	($70,835)



St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that the good news can be seen, touched felt and heard through the lives of God's people. We are now charged to take up the ministry of Jesus, but we can't just ask people to take our word for it; our actions must speak for us.

Since Christmas is a time of love and gift giving, please share in Jesus ministry by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who are poor can know the good news of Jesus.

Trivia Question

Q. What was the name of Jesus cousin who helped pre-pare the way for the Messiah?

A. Answer is hidden in the bulletin.

Pro-Life Updates

January 17-21- Pilgrimage to March for Life in DC . Please contact Lisa McInerrney at 402-525-9360 or LISAPAL24@AOL.COM

January 27- Nebraska Walk for Life Gala at Embassy Suites by Hilton, Lincoln, from 6-8:30 p.m. Please see link for more details: https://nebraskarighttolife.ticketspice.com/2023?fbclid=IwAR1NMBdfoR6pu79WXQqyK-p41bU01rHUQze2TeG-2vU2HeT0XjDyqxbC6gI

January 28- Nebraska Walk for Life at 10 a.m. at State Capitol Rally and Walk. 11:30 a.m. will be the keynote speaker at UNL Student Union. Meet on north side of K street directly across from capitol steps so we could be together for rally and walk. Look for the NAM banner.

February 11- Sidewalk Advocates for Life Training from 11:45 a.m.-6 p.m. Location provided upon RSVP to Lisa at 402-525-9360 or LISAPAL24@AOL.COM The training is helpful for anyone, even if they cannot come to the abortion facility on a regular basis. We often need subs and the training is helpful for anyone who finds themselves in a situation where they are helping/guiding an expectant mother, especially one who is abortion minded. See sidewalkadvo-cates.org for more info and for their stats that show effectiveness of the program.

February 21- 40 Days for Life Spring 2023 Campaign Kickoff Event. Time to be determined.

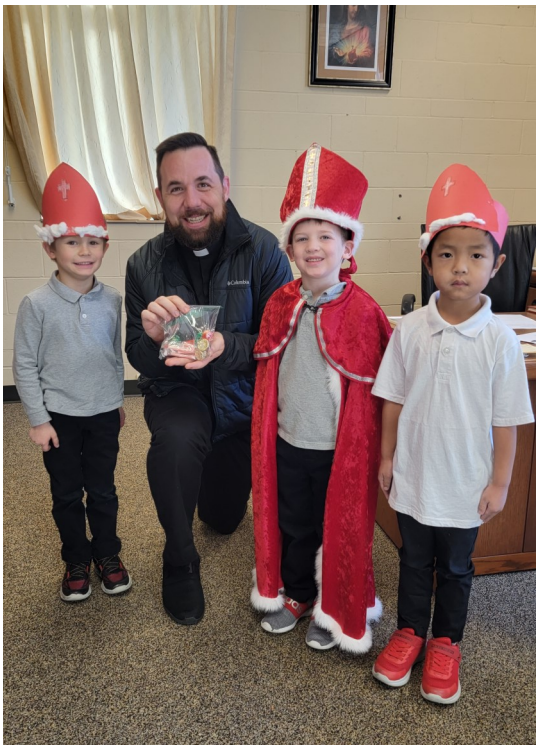
February 22 to April 2- 40 Days for Life Spring 2023 Campaign. We desperately need more Christians from Lincoln and the surrounding areas to participate in this important program of prayer, fasting and public witness for life. Our location only covers 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily for 40 days. Some locations cover 24 hours per day, and some cover 365 days per year. See 40daysforlife.com for more info and for their stats that show effectiveness of the program.

April 12th is the Catholics at the Capitol. Time to be determined. Nebraska Catholic Conference's annual legisla-tive advocacy day.

John the Baptist

The Feast Day of Saint Nicholas

Feast Day is a time of excitement for many children, and the excitement grew as three jolly St. Nick's came to Martyr's Church bearing gifts for the Priests on Tuesday, December 6. Pictured below are three Martyrs students dressed as St. Nicholas visiting Fr. Nathan Hall.



School News

December 19/20	Christmas Programs
December 21	Noon Dismissal for Christmas Break

NAM Catholic School is selling Calendar Lottery tickets through December 12th! This is an annual fundraiser for our school. Each $50 ticket is entered for a chance to win a daily prize based on our "Catholic Calendar". The top prize is $1,000! Winners go back into the drawing for a chance to win each of the 365 days of 2023! Winners will be notified by letter and are listed on www.namartyrs.org/school and the NAM School Facebook page. Use the link -or- QR code below to purchase a Calendar Lottery ticket and help support North American Martyrs Catholic School!
Link: https://www.namartyrs.org/school/nam-calendar-lottery-form/

CCD News

December 14	Class 6-7:30 p.m.
December 21	Christmas Party
December 28	No Class, Christmas Break

NAM News

2023 Calvary Calendars

The 2023 Calvary Calendars are available for pick up. Stop by the information table in the Narthex and pick up your free calendar today.

Adopt-A-Family time again!

There is still time to Adopt-A-Family this year! At the back of the church you'll find angels on the Advent giving tree. Each angel is connected to the wish list of one of these families in need. Select an angel and follow the instructions listed to contact Rachel Tvrdy at 402-277-6299 to receive your selected family's Christmas wish list. If you don't want to adopt a family, but would still like to assist Catholic Social Services in the work we do, there are also empty gift card sleeves on the tree. Please take a sleeve, purchase a gift card, put it back in the sleeve and drop it off at your parish. A CSS staff member will collect them. Thank you and have a blessed Advent season!

Financial Peace University

Have you been looking for a way to finally get on top of your money? This. Is. Your. Time. Just visit fpu.com/1156871 to join the Financial Peace University class starting on Sunday, January 8, 2023 at North American Martyrs Catholic Church. Make today the day you decide to own your money—not the other way around. You've got this! Call Joe Brandl with question(402-477-1895). Babysitting and scholarships available.

Choir for Midnight Mass

We are forming a choir for Midnight Mass and welcome anyone who would like to sing Christmas music. Practices will be on Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the choir loft. Contact Carol Ruskamp at 402-770-3915 or Carrie Odgaard at 402-782-1428 for any questions.

Youth Christmas Caroling

Please join us for Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 11th at 6 p.m. Meet in the Parish Hall. All youth are invited, and parents are welcome to join us! We will carol for about an hour, then go back to the parish hall for hot cocoa and games. Youth are able to use the caroling for service hours.

Holiday Bake Sale

The Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW – Altar Society) is having their annual Holiday Bake Sale fundraiser on December 17/18. Please donate your favorite holiday treats (marked for the Altar Society) and stop by to purchase others. Treats should be packaged and wrapped for individual sale; and marked "bake sale". Please drop off treats anytime on Saturday after 4:30 p.m. or on Sunday morning. Thank you for you generous support of the Altar Society! Merry Christmas to all!!

Blood Drive

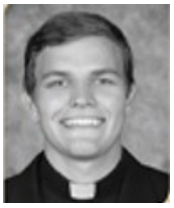
The Red Cross and Knights of Columbus invite you to shake up your holiday tradition by donating blood on Thursday, December 29th, from Noon– 6 p.m. in the parish hall. Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: NorthAmericanMartrysLincoln to schedule an appointment.

Annual Chili Cook-off

Please mark your calendar for our 4th Annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, January 21 in the Parish Hall following the 6 p.m. Mass. We will again be pairing up with the Annual G.I.F.T Texas Hold'em Championship! The cook-off will offer two divisions again this year... Adult and Youth! Contact Stacy Pfeifer at stacyleedickes@hotmail.com if you would like to compete in the chili cook-off.

10 point pitch

Do you like to play 10 Point Pitch? NAM has you covered! We are hosting our monthly Pitch Tournament on Friday, January 13 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. All skill levels are welcome, you can bring a partner or come by yourself and we will match you up with a partner. A $5 entry fee is suggested and prizes will be given out. Snacks and lemonade will be provided, but feel free to bring snacks or a party food to share with others along with your own refreshments (no alcohol).



Seminarian of the Week

Our Seminarian of the week is Rev. Mr. Scott Nemec, son of Mark & Beth Nemec of St. Wenceslaus, Bee NE. He is studying Theology 4 at Mount St. Mary Seminary. Please pray for Rev. Mr. Scott Nemec as he continues his seminary formation.

Seven Sisters Group

We are looking for seven ladies to form a Seven Sisters Group to pray for Fr. Asitha while he is here at NAM. We need prayers for Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursdays. This involves one lady praying one hour on a given day of the week, every week. You can go to the website, sevensistersapostolate.org for more details. Please contact Pat Lanik, 402-429-4187 or pschied@mac.com if you are interested or have questions.

Prayer List

We pray with special love and concern for all those who are ill.
Remember our sick: Julie Anciaux, Christy Avery, Jordan Barry, Lilly Boeselager, Jennifer Brase, Cari Cobler, Sue Coupe, Bella Cox, Jacob & Jaxson DaCunha, Britt Douglas, Kathy Everman, Steve Frey, Marlys Goodwater, Trish Goodwater-Parish, Fran Green, Ila Hergott, Mary Jarecke and family, Glee Komenda, John Kool, Mary Langenberg, Clint Lochner, Dean Oswald, David Pape, William Parish, Marcia Redler, Jesse Roberts, Chris Royal, Bob Ruskamp, Derek Ruth, Suzie Schlautman, Connie Skoglund, Pat Steiner, Rose Stehno, Barb Sypal, Paulette Trouba, Alice Verzal and Sondra Wall.

PCCW Poinsettia Plants

The Parish Catholic Women (PCCW) invites you to purchase a Poinsettia plant to honor or remember a loved one. These beautiful Poinsettias will be gracing our altar throughout the Christmas Season. If you would like to purchase a plant, please drop your donation of $15.00 per plant along with this completed form in the collection basket or at the Parish Office. The deadline is Monday, December 19th. Merry Christmas to all!

Donated in honor of: _____

Donated in Memory of: _____

Donated by: _____

Rites

Marriage

May God grant a happy and prosperous life to you both as you embark on your journey together as husband and wife. All the best for your wedding, as you are united in Christ on December 10th, 2022 at North American Martyrs Church.

Taylor Rothgeb & Matthew Gilreath

Sacramental Preparation

Baptism

The sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated for our parishioners on Sundays after the 11 a.m. Mass. First time parents must attend a preparation class. To inquire, contact Tamra Tran in the parish office.

Matrimony

To be married at North American Martyrs, one or both persons of the engaged couple must be a practicing Catholic. To inquire about celebrating a wedding at NAM, call Fr. Nathan Hall at 402-476-8088.

First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, & Confirmation

To register for preparation for the sacraments or for more information about catechesis for children for ages 3-18, call Carrie Odgaard at 402-782-1428.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is modeled after how people were brought into the Church in the first centuries. The process is designed for those seeking baptism or confirmation as well as anyone simply wanting to learn more. Classes are Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome.

Adoration News

To sign up for a regular perpetual adoration hour, please use the signup genius link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848A9A92B0-perpetual There you will be able to sign up for the available hours. In addition to those who have signed up for a Holy hour, all are welcome to come and adore Him.

Monday: 10 a.m., 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Tuesday: 1 p.m.
Wednesday: 12 p.m. & 4 p.m.
Thursday: 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m. & 4 p.m.

"*Eucharistic adoration is the greatest of actions. To adore is to share the life of Mary on earth when she adored the Word Incarnate in her virginal womb, when she adored Him in the Crib, on Calvary, in the divine Eucharist." -Peter Julian Eymard*