

Witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and living the Sacramental life.

# Those Serving Our Parish



















Priests, Religious Sisters and

Seminarians from Our Parish





Pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

# Find us on Facebook

or use our mobile app.

#### WEEKDAYS

Monday thru Friday 6:40 a.m. & 8:10 a.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m.

#### CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:00-4:40 p.m. and after 5:00 p.m. Mass until finished 15 minutes before each weekday Mass

#### A Note from our Assistant Pastor...

Hello everyone,

I want to begin by taking this opportunity to thank you all for your warm welcome, your prayers, and your willingness to guide me through this transition. Although it has been a few years since I have found myself walking these grounds, I am relieved to notice that it still feels like home!



As you may know, with any big change comes a slew of anxieties and fears, which is what St. Paul talked about in our Second Reading for this Sunday. The word he uses is  $\mu\epsilon\rho\mu\nu\alpha\omega$  (merimnao) which means "to care for" or "to care about." At first, that may not sound like something bad because there are many good things that we care about each day: family dynamics, picking up our kids from practice, buying groceries, etc.

However, St. Paul wants to ensure that your heart is caring about the right things — the best things. When it comes to fear, St. Thomas Aquinas said that there are three parts: our focus is on something evil, that evil thing exists in the future (so the tragedy has not happened yet), and then we acknowledge that the future evil can be avoided with great effort. For example, with the cold temperatures comes the fear that our pipes will freeze. It has not happened yet, but with much diligence and many space heaters, maybe it can be avoided.

Now what St. Paul is speaking about in our Second Reading is not just fear, but a certain type of fear called anxiety. It's when we cannot identify what the specific evil might be, so we decide to fear everything and anything. Speaking from personal experience, that is not the way to live! Paul's remedy to this anxiety is rather simple and beautiful. Instead of focusing on a future evil, turn your attention to a present good – like the Kingdom of God that surrounds you in every moment of every day. Caring for stuff is a good thing, but why worry about something that may not even happen? Rather, turn your attention toward the Heavenly Kingdom and let your God take care of those smaller things that are far beyond your control.

Know of my prayers for you as we move forward and thank you again for making feel like I belong in the North American Martyrs Family.

May God Bless You All,

Fr. Kovar

## TRIVIA QUESTION

Q. Fr. Kovar is named after which two priests?

A. Answer found in the bulletin.



January 29

6:40 AM †Margaret Ruskamp 8:10 AM †Bernadette Benes Tuesday January 30 6:40 AM †George & Marie Cook 8:10 AM Yoko Smith Wednesday January 31 Frank Patrick 6:40 AM 8:10 AM †Joseph Tran Thursday February 1 6:40 AM †Margaret Benes 8:10 AM Ann Schneider Friday Febraury 2 6:40 AM Bill Runyan 8:10 AM †Rosemary Royse Saturday February 3 †Mary Lea Reidel 9:00 AM

#### **Weekend Masses**

Monday

Saturday
5:00 PM
Sunday
7:00 AM
8:00 AM
9:30 AM
11:00 AM

Saturday
February 3
Michael Runyan
February 4

Touglas Kullbom
Our Parish Family
Tystefen Kolodziczyk
David & Thresia Stenzl

## **EMERGENCY NUMBER**

402-540-0398. Please add this number to your contact list. Call in the event of an emergency if a priest is needed.



# STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Received Last Week	01-21-24
Adult Tithe Envelopes	
(156) Families	\$12,434
Adult Electronic Tithe	Φ1 <b>2</b> ((0
(294) Families	\$12,669
Plate	\$1,124
Youth	\$0
Total Tithe Received	\$26,227
Weekly Tithing Goal	\$31,433
Rec'd to date: 01-1-24	\$933,458
Needed for Annual Budget	\$942,990
Annual Budget Overage/Shortage to	
Date	(\$9,532)

#### 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. The next baptism class is scheduled for Sunday, February 11th at 1 p.m. 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.

#### ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

OCIA 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 each Wednesday at 6 p.m. Please contact the parish office for more information.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray with special love and concern for all those who are ill. Remember our sick: Jordan Barry, Margie Belger, Lilly Boeselager, Greg Bothe, Art Brase, Jennifer Brase, Roberta Cook, Carleen Crowe, Sue Coupe, Bella Cox, Jacob & Jaxson DaCunha, Britt Douglas, Steve Douglas, Diane Eankirk, Earl Franklin, Tina Frenzel, Sonja Gates, Marlys Goodwater, Tom Goodwater, Fran Green, Tom Green, Diane Herms, Hayden Higgins, Paul Jueneman, JJ Kalita, Diane Kankirk, Tom Kenjosian, Glee Komenda, Bill Kroll, Mary Langenberg, Judy Lindholm, Clint Lochner, Banks Nelson, Brian O'Dea, Dean Oswald, William Parish, Julie Roberts, Mickey Roscoe, Chris Royal, Derek Ruth, Connie Skoglund, Tamela Skrdlant-Horn, Rose Stehno, Barb Sypal, Nancy Thompson, Raegan Thompson, Paulette Trouba, Lisa Trausch, Sr. Charline Vogel and Mary Wobig.

## Lay Ministry for February 3/4

	READERS	ACOLYTES	Servers	SAFE SANCTU- ARY	GREETERS
5:00 PM	Jensen	Benes, J Tanner	Parr Tanner Fernandes Floyd	Miller Hansen	Van Ackeran Family
7:00 AM	Sousek	Hellbusch Fortik	Nguyen, Thomas Hellbusch	Morrow	
8:00 AM	Becker	Belger Schlautman, D	Rappl Schlautman Unger (2)	Volunteer Needed	Unger Family
9:30 AM	Battiatio	Schlautman, B McManus	Odgaard Havlat (2) Morris	Odgaard Miller	Bliven Family
11:00 AM	Brown	Haug Benes	Nguyen, Ethan Nguyen, Paul Sousek Turek	Hannon Seberger	Hart Family

#### RITES

#### **BAPTISMS**

We welcome those who have been newly baptized. Please pray for them as they continue to grow in Christ.

Theodore Joseph Johnson Son of Brian & Courtney Johnson



#### UNBOUND MINISTRY

Unbound Ministry in the Diocese of Lincoln is hosting a Video Series to introduce Unbound to all seeking greater freedom in Christ. The 8 week series will be held at North American Martyrs in the Parish hall, in Lincoln, starting 6:30pm Thursday, February 1. More information can be found at <a href="mailto:lincolndiocese.org/unbound">lincolndiocese.org/unbound</a> or email Anna Sullivan at: <a href="mailto:asulli-van121919@gmail.com">asulli-van121919@gmail.com</a>

#### **ADORATION NEWS**

\*\*\*Due to renovation, the Adoration Chapel will be closed and the Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed from Jan. 29th-Feb. 2nd\*\*\*

#### Adorers Needed!

We are in desperate need of 1 or 2 adorers for the Friday, Noon, adoration hour. If you are interested, please contact Tamra Tran in the Parish office.

#### Snow Days

If North American Martyrs School and LPS are closing due to a snow day, the Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed and we will close the Adoration Chapel. If a snowstorm develops during the day, we will try to make a call as early as possible.

#### Holidays

The Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed during holidays. The Adoration Chapel will remain open.

<u>Monday</u>: 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. <u>Tuesday</u>: 8 a.m., 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. <u>Wednesday</u>: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. & 12 p.m.

Thursday: 8 a.m.

Friday: Noon (In need of 2 adorers) & 2 p.m.

To sign up for a regular Eucharistic Adoration Hour, please use the signup genius link <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848A9A92B0-perpetual">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848A9A92B0-perpetual</a> 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 join us in the Chapel to adore Him.

"When we go before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, we represent the one in the world who is in most need of God's Mercy." ~St. John Paul II

#### NAM SCHOOL NEWS

<u>January 29– February 2</u>

Catholic Schools Week

FEBRUARY 15

Noon Dismissal

FEBRUARY 16-19

No School





SUPERSTAR CONTEST: Who's ready for Catholic Schools Week? We are! Vote for your favorite Catholic School(s), [Enter local School (s) name(s) here], in Spirit Catholic Radio's Superstar Contest! For 12 years, Spirit Catholic Radio has been shining a spotlight on Catholic high schools and elementary schools in their listening area with the Superstar Contest. Let's get our community talking about the importance of Catholic education by encouraging others in our community to vote! Superstar voting competition begins January 29<sup>th</sup> and lasts through February 9<sup>th</sup>. Voters in this competition will be entered into a prize drawing for a Shell gas gift card! Visit <a href="https://spiritcatholicradio.com/">https://spiritcatholicradio.com/</a> to vote!



Catholic Schools Week is at the end of January 2024! We have a week full of activities planned for our students. The Catholic Schools Week Committee would greatly appreciate any donation items for the student raffle and Bingo prizes.

Items could include: art supplies, games, gift cards, Lego sets, snack baskets, markers, candy bars, Gatorade, playing cards, sports equipment, etc.

Items can be sent to the school office marked "CSW raffle" or "Bingo."

Thank you for supporting
North American Martyrs Catholic School!



#### NAM CALENDAR

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

6:00 p.m. OCIA meets in the Parish hall 6:00 p.m. Seeking the Truth Bible Study meets in the Multi-purpose room

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

7:30 a.m. Martyrs Men meets in the Kateri room

#### **CCD News**

#### JANUARY 31

Class-6-7:30 p.m. All CCD Rosary



# ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

In the Gospel today we read that because Jesus spoke with authority his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. As his disciples, we can also speak with authority when we put our faith into actions by helping the poor and suffering.

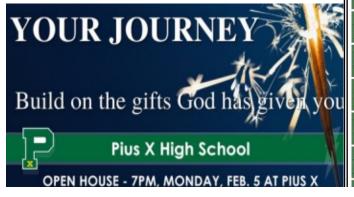
Have you considered answering the call to serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?



With RaiseRight, you can always be fundraising for North American Martyrs, just by doing what you do every day. How it works: Earn by purchasing gift cards at face value from more than 750 top brands. Your earnings come directly from the brands you shop, not your pocket, so your gift cards are worth every penny.

50% of this school year (2023-24) family rebate earnings will be credited toward next school years NAM school tuition (2024-25). This can be used for Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> grade next school year. When logging in, use link: <a href="https://www.raiseright.com/">https://www.raiseright.com/</a>

Enrollment code: 3545FDFE4858



#### LAY MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ministers (Acolytes, Readers/Lectors, Altar Servers, Greeters, and Security), please notify the parish office with your vacation dates for the April-June schedule by March 1st. Thank-you!

#### NAM NEWS

#### 10 POINT PITCH

Do you like to play 10 Point Pitch? NAM has you covered! We are hosting our monthly Pitch Tournament on Friday, February 9th from 7-10 p.m. in the Parish 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).

#### ROSARY VOLUNTEER

A volunteer is needed to help pray the Rosary before 5 p.m. Masses every third week. Please call the parish office for details.

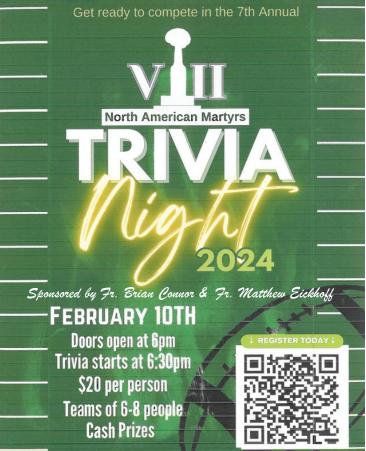
#### MEALS FOR THE PRIESTS

We are so grateful for everything that Fr. Hall and Fr. Kovar do for us and North American Martyrs Parish! They are very busy serving us and bringing us closer to Christ. Help them out by signing up to provide a meal for them during their busy weeks! Sign up here:

https://mealtrain.com/od96o4

#### **MAGNIFICAT**

If you have a Magnificat subscription, your February booklet is ready for pick up in the Sacristy.



#### SISTER OF THE WEEK

Our Sister of the week (January 28-February 3) is Sr. Mary Pacita from the Philippines. Sr. Pacita is a Professed Sister from Holy Spirit Adoration, Pink Sisters. Please pray for Sr. Mary Pacita as she continues her vocation to the Sisterhood.

#### SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

Our Seminarian of the week (January 28-February 3) is Derrek Sumner, son of Dominic & Anne Sumner, from St. John's Catholic Church, Lincoln, NE. Derrek is studying College 3 at St. Gregory the Great Seminary. Please pray for Derrek as he continues his seminary formation.

#### MOTHER DAUGHTER PROGRAM

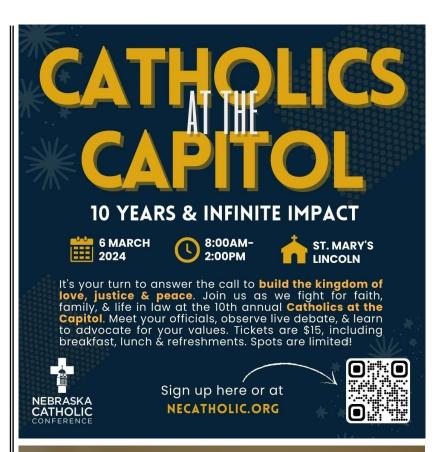
Mother Daughter Program Sunday, February 4th from 1:30-4:30 pm. Registration is now live for our only scheduled mother/daughter program of the 2023-24 school year. It will be held at St. Patrick's parish in Lincoln, with a virtual option available as well. This program is for 9-13 year old girls and their mom or another supportive adult. More information and registration can be found at:

https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/motherdaughter



MARCH 2ND PARISH HALL

9.00AM MASS - SPEAKER -ADORATION & CONFESSION - LUNCH







#### HOW CAN I GIVE TO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS OF NEBRASKA?

Any individual or corporate taxpayer with state income tax liability will be eligible to claim tax credits for contributions to Opportunity Scholarships Nebraska (OSN) beginning in January 2024. Here's how it works:

- Reserve Tax Credits Contact OSN at info@nebraskaopportunity.org for help with this process and to pledge a contribution
  amount. The Nebraska Department of Revenue must approve the credit before contributions are made.
- Remit Payment Once your tax credit is approved, you can send your contribution to OSN via check, wire transfer, ACH, or online.
- . Claim Your Tax Credit You will be provided with a proof of contribution to use when you file your state income tax return.

OSN can also receive 501(c)(3) tax deductible charitable donations at any time at nebraskaopportunity.org/giving.

#### **HOW MUCH ARE TAX CREDITS?**

Through LB753, the state provides a 100% state income tax credit up to \$100,000 or 50% of liability for contributions to SGOs like OSN and \$25 million in total income tax credits.

The nonrefundable tax credit issued to an individual, corporate taxpayer, estates, trusts, or to any partnership, limited liability company (LLC), or subchapter S corporation that is carrying on rental activity or carrying on any trade or business for which deductions would be allowed under IRS § 162; equals the lesser of:

- · 50% of the income tax liability of the taxpayer for such year;
- \$100,000, or \$1 million for estates and trusts; or
- · The total amount of the contributions made to the scholarship granting organizations during the tax year.

Any unused credit may be carried forward for the next five years after the credit was first granted. A taxpayer may only claim a credit on the portion of the contribution that was not claimed as a charitable contribution on their federal return. (From the Nebraska Department of Revenue)

#### CAN MY TAX CREDIT CONTRIBUTION BENEFIT KIDS WHO CHOOSE MY PREFERRED SCHOOL?

The purpose of the Opportunity Scholarships Act (LB753) is to empower families, especially lower-income families, to choose the best nonpublic school option for them. A contributor may give preferences for schools chosen by students applying for opportunity scholarships, which will be awarded according to the priorities in LB753. However, once the need is met for students accepted to those schools, the funds will be moved to the general allotment to meet the needs of eligible students.

#### **CAN I DONATE TO OSN BEFORE JANUARY 2024?**

Yes, OSN is a 501(c)(3) organization and can accept tax deductible charitable contributions at any time without limit. Your generous donations will help OSN get off the ground and educate as many families as possible about the scholarship program. You can also reserve your place in line to apply for a tax credit contribution on our website!

FIND OUT MORE AT NEBASKAOPPORTUNITY.ORG/GIVING



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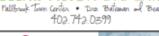




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