

Dec 13, 2015
Third Sunday of Advent

HOLY GHOST



5219 S. 53RD ST. • OMAHA, NE 68117

Parish Office: (402) 731-3176 • ParishSecretary@holyghostomaha.org
Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm, Closed for lunch 12-1pm

PARISH PERSONNEL

Pastor: Rev. William E. Sanderson
Secretary: Carrie Kaczmarek
Maintenance: Jeff Belling
Director Rel. Ed.: Bernice Pfeifer
(402) 731-5174
DRE@holyghostomaha.org
Athletic Director: Chad Gann
(402) 953-6950 chad74@cox.net

DEACON COUPLES

Tom & Kathy Schulte: 731-3599
Paul & Jackie Eubanks: 932-8533
Andy & Chris Sommer: 733-9430
Al & Terri Aulner: 734-4557

MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Thursday: 7:00am
Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: January, March, May, July, September, November: 7:30am
February, April, June, August, October, December: 10:00am

TRUSTEES: John Martinez,
Chuck Morrison

PARISH COUNCIL

President: Tony Widhalm
Vice-President: Mike Philbrick
Secretary: Veronica Rosman
Diane Quaver, Heather Slizoski,
Lacey Merica, Gina Childers,
Mike Brewer, Michaela Drewel



Parish Office: (402) 731-0204 • stmarys36q@cox.net
Office Hours: Open Monday & Tuesday 8am to 4:30pm
Friday 8am to Noon—Closed Wednesday, Thursday all day, Friday Noon

PARISH PERSONNEL

Pastor: Rev. William E. Sanderson
Secretary: Patricia Vasquez

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Wed., & Fri.: 8:00 am
First Friday of the month All-day Adoration 8:30am with Benediction at 6:30 pm
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: January, March, May, July, September, November: 10am
February, April, June, August, October, December: 7:30am

DEVOTIONS TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

Wednesday after 8:00am Mass.
EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS & BENEDICTION Friday after 8am Mass.

CONFESSIONS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday—7:45am, Saturday from 4pm-5pm or call the rectory for an appointment.

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES Please call Rectory for appointment.

SAINT MARY'S



3529 Q ST. • OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68107

FROM THE PASTOR

As you put up your Christmas tree remember the lights and the star are signs which recalls that divine light that dispels the darkness of sin and brings joy to humanity. Pope Francis had this to say about the Christmas tree in an address he gave on December 13, 2013. "Even today Jesus continues to dispel the darkness of error and sin, to bring humanity the joy of the blazing light of God, of which the Christmas tree is a sign and reminder. Let us be wrapped by the light of His truth, because 'the joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and the lives of all who encounter Jesus'".

Annual Appeal: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Please be generous to the 2015-16 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Your contribution is one way to serve as Christ's disciple and to participate in continuing the saving work begun by Jesus. St. Mary's Parish currently has 43 donors who have pledged \$10,505 (92%) towards our goal of \$11,447. Holy Ghost has 61 donors who have pledged \$6,315 (30.3%) towards our goal of \$20,822. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to help us reach our goal!

Are your preparations for Christmas leaving you stressed out? Then consider these beautiful words of St. Anselm (1033-1109) in his work, "Desire for the Vision of God." Insignificant man, escape from your everyday business for a short while, hide for a moment from your restless thoughts. Break off from your cares and troubles and be less concerned about your tasks and labors. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him. Enter into your mind's inner chamber. Shut out everything but God and whatever helps you to seek him; and when you have shut the door, look for him. Speak now to God and say with your whole heart: *I seek your face; your face, Lord, I desire. Lord, my God, teach my heart where and how to seek you, where and how to find you.*" To make this Christmas really meaningful you

need to take time in Advent for daily prayer and take the time to get to church to make a good confession that the real treasure of Christmas —Jesus Christ— will be your focus.

Thank you Holy Ghost Women's Club for sponsoring the St. Nicholas Day party for the children of the parish. This has been a creative way to let our children know they are an important part of our parish.

Church decorating at St. Mary's: Saturday, Dec. 19 at 1:30 p.m. Please come lend a hand.

Advent Penance Services in our area:

St. Matthew	Dec. 13	2:00pm
St. Bernadette	Dec. 15	7:00pm
St. Mary, Bellevue	Dec. 15	3:30pm
St. Stanislaus	Dec. 20	1:00pm
Our Lady of Lourdes	Dec 21	1:00pm & 7:00pm
St. Columbkille	Dec. 21	7:00pm
St. Columbkille	Dec. 22	11am—12pm
St. Mary, Bellevue	Dec.22	7:00pm
SS. Peter & Paul	Dec. 22	7:00pm
St. Columbkille	Dec. 23	11am—12pm
St. Columbkille	Dec. 23	6:30-7:30pm
St. Mary's, Omaha	Dec. 23	7:00pm

Due to the holidays and bulletin submission dates being changed the office hours at St. Mary's next week will be:

Open Monday, December 14th, 8am to 4:30pm
Open Thursday, December 17th, 8am to 3:30pm
Open Friday, 8am to Noon
Closed Tuesday & Wednesday, December 15th & 16th

Fr. Sanderson

REFLECTION

Word of Life: Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living. Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all. Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of your mercy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.— *USCCB 2015-16 Respect Life Program Prayer Card: "Every Life is Worth Living"* www.goo.gl/076T65.

Metro Pro-life Advocates and Nebraskans United for Life are co-sponsoring *Carols Around an Empty Manger* on Saturday, December 19. Singing around an empty manger has a dual purpose. First, awareness is raised of the countless abortions, and more importantly, singing carols proclaims hope and victory heralded by the birth of the Christ Child. There is caroling from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at the Bellevue Abortion Clinic, 1002 W. Mission Ave., and from 11:00 a.m.-

12:00 p.m. at Planned Parenthood, 93rd & Maple. Both locations will have hot chocolate and cookies following the caroling.

December 13, 2015—3rd Sunday of Advent:

"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." (Philippians 4:6-7)

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

Yes, I would like to become a member of:

St. Mary's Holy Ghost

Please circle one

Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Please drop in the collection basket.

ST. MARY'S

Christmas Memorial Flowers at St. Mary's

We are again offering our parishioners an opportunity to purchase Christmas flowers for the Altar/Sanctuary and Memorial Chapel. This can be done in memory of a loved one; your own family or yourself. Cost is \$10.00 for a single plant or \$14.00 for a double plant. Just fill out this form and put it in the collection basket with your check or cash. We ask that you please keep this separate from your regular Sunday envelope. Orders are due by Monday, December 21st.

Your Name _____

Flowers For _____

Deceased Living

_____ Qty Single Plant(s) at: \$10 each

_____ Qty Double Plant(s) at: \$14 each

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Christmas Breakfast: Thanks to everyone who came! A beautiful poinsettia was given to 2 lucky plate numbers—a man who stopped by on his way to “play golf”, and a Holy Ghost parishioner! We hope to see many of you at our spring breakfast.



Advent / Christmas Baby Shower: Boxes are available by the doors at St. Mary's for your donations for our annual collection of items for babies to be donated to the Pregnancy Center, Bellevue. Clothing items, blankets, layettes, diapers, baby toys and other appropriate gifts (which need not be wrapped) are welcome. They are distributed to women in crisis situations who have elected to give their babies life rather than abort them.

Remember if you or a family member are entering the hospital, please call the Rectory at 402-731-0204 and notify us so that we may extend care to you.

Prayer Line: please call Bev Donahue for Prayer Requests at 402-731-8628.

ADVENT

(Daily Thoughts and Scripture Readings to Prepare for Christ's coming)

13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Rejoice, God Is with Us	Teach Us Your Ways!	God Is Close to the Brokenhearted	Turn to God and Be Safe	God Brings Justice	Choose Jesus	God Is Our Hope
Our joy begins because we know God is near.	Use God's word daily to discover God's ways.	How can I help those suffering today?	Let us ask God to keep us from danger and harm.	Do something today to help someone in need.	Like Joseph, decide to focus your life on Jesus.	When God comes to us, our lives will change.
<i>Zephaniah 3:16-17</i>	<i>Psalms 25:4-7</i>	<i>Psalms 34:19</i>	<i>Isaiah 45:22-23</i>	<i>Psalms 72:3-4</i>	<i>Matthew 1:18-25</i>	<i>Psalms 71:5-6</i>

HOLY GHOST AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Cinnamon Roll Sunday is this Sunday after 10am Mass. Please join us in the social hall. Cinnamon rolls are \$1 each.

The Knitting and Prayer group will meet this Sunday, December 13th from 2-3pm in the rectory lower level.

If you are ordering Scrip and will need it by Christmas your order will need to be dropped off at the parish office by Monday, December 14th. We will still be taking orders after that date they will just not be delivered by Christmas. Thank you for your support!

2015 Turkey Dinner Results

	Cost	Gross	Profit
Bar	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Meat Wheel	\$362.00	\$1,204.05	\$842.05
Dinner Sales	\$2,293.18	\$3,833.00	\$1,716.44

(Plus \$176.62 donation)

Total Profit: \$2,583.49

Women's Club bread is still being sold for \$3.00 a loaf. Please call the rectory if you would like to purchase some.

Advent Angels are due today Sunday, December 13th. We will be sorting and packaging the items after 10 a.m. mass on December 13 in the rectory you are welcome to come and help. Thank you for sharing Christ's Love. Questions: Call Deacon Al or Terri Aulner at 402-734-4557.

Nazareth Thrift Store: The new Nazareth Thrift store is now open. Located just south of L St., on 25th, between M and N (4821 S. 25 St.), money will be used to do the spiritual and corporal works of mercy of the Church. Until Christmas we are donating 1/2 the money from purchases by parishioners back to each parish. Just mention what parish you are from and half the money you spend will be donated to that parish.

Mercy High School students present the holiday classic, "It's a Wonderful Life." The saga of Georgina Bailey, whose guardian angel comes on Christmas Eve to remind her that her life has been a wonderful life, is December 4 and 5, 7:00 p.m., December 6, 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and December 11 and 12, 7:00 p.m. All performances are at the school, 1501 S. 48th St., Omaha. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$6 for children and students, and \$4 for Mercy students.

HOLY GHOST NEWS

Religious Education classes will be held on Wednesday, December 16th from 6:30-7:45pm. **Parents and students are reminded to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation preceding the Holy Day of Christmas.**



Choir practice is scheduled for Monday, December 14 and Monday, December 21 at 7:00 PM at Holy Ghost. Anyone planning to sing at the 10:00 Christmas Day mass is invited to attend.



Would You Like a Guaranteed Seat at the 4:00 Christmas Eve Mass??



Since the 4:00 Christmas Eve Mass ends up being standing room only, here is a perfect option for a guaranteed seat:

Join the choir as a family (couples too), and you'll be guaranteed the best seat in the house! *The music will be mostly Christmas carols, and a few members of the "regular" choir will be present also.*

No pressure! Just FUN!

If your family or you would like to participate in the Christmas Eve Liturgy, please contact Ben Baber:

- Home phone: (402) 731-2643
- E-mail: benandmarybaber@cox.net

ADULTS—PLEASE READ! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Since the closing of the school we have relied on adult Altar Servers to serve at Mass when we have a funeral. We currently have only 4 adult Altar Servers who cover the funeral Masses and occasionally it is not possible for some to be there to help on a particular date.

We need to add more adult Altar Servers to the group so everyone's load is lightened and we are ensured coverage of the funerals. We also use adult Altar Servers at the 7:30am Mass on Sundays every other month and it would make it more convenient for everyone if we had a few more men and women from the parish step up to help. **Would you be able to help serve** at 7:30am Mass occasionally?

Do you have mornings available to help with an occasional funeral?

BENEFITS:

- Free, friendly training
- Be of service to others in the parish
- Take part in a rewarding ministry
- Belong to a team of dedicated Altar Servers
- Receive God's blessings in "surprising" ways

DON'T DELAY—CALL TODAY

Please call Tom Schulte (402-731-3599) and we can visit about how you can fit in to help with this important ministry to our parish!

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES: Please call the Rectory for an appointment.

If you, a family member, or someone you know is ill, homebound or hospitalized and would like to receive the Eucharist please call the Parish Office at 402-731-3176.

Pray for

The following members of our Parish, or loved ones of our Parishioners are now or recently have been in the hospital. May our Lord grant them a speedy recovery and return them to their families in perfect health:

Steve Belmudez <i>(brother of Kathy Mentzer, uncle of Michael Balkus)</i>	Ethan Eihersen <i>(great grandson of Dee Clapp)</i>	Joyce Pace <i>(sister of Kathy Mentzer)</i>
Brent Bertrand	Ann Fitzgerald	Thelma Padilla
George Bogatz	Larry Hahn	Maxine Riskowski
Robert Broich	Ed Hazuka	Gladys Sedlak
Judy Budka	Cheryl Koziel <i>(daughter of Jackie Peroutka)</i>	Oliver Albert Smith
Curt Buechler	George Kurlmel	Michaela Swartzell
Colin Burkhalter	Joyce Lacroix	James Sykora
Phil Busch <i>(Brother of Norita Byrne)</i>	Dorlene Marode	Charlotte Vintson <i>(sister of Brenda Tylkowski)</i>
Carol Cheloha	Darlene McKinley	Danny Watkins <i>(brother of Brenda Tylkowski)</i>
Chuck Cheloha	Harry Olsen	

Let us also remember in our prayers the following that are in care centers, homebound or need healing:

Rick Becerra	Debra Iwanski	Larry Petersen
Annette Beetham	Sophie Johnson	Jim Philbrick
Jean Buechler	Sally Krance	Kathy Sheldon
Irene Butts	Bernie Krawczyk	John Skocpol
Drew Callahan	Mary Lampe	Charles Skokan
Ronald Cisar	Joanne Leutzinger	Andy Sommer
Joe Conrad	Edward Machacek	Shirley Stodolka
Patty Dworak	Mary Makara	Lucille Stuczynski
John Farrell	Dorlene Marode	Irene Suchy
Grant Flott	Fran McLaughlin	Melissa Tylkowski
Jacob Fraser	Marian Nekuda	Richard Van Sant
Betty Gentile	Janet Nicholas	Mari Ann Wilke
Kim Hall	Margaret Nicola	Joann Winkler
Marian Hannan	Marjorie Niedbaski	
Ed Hazuka	Marie Pallas	



Please also pray for our loved ones who are currently serving our Country:

Lenny Arenas V.	Tim Gouger	Chase Pofahl
Jacob Aulner	Greg Graham	Tyler Pofahl
Michael Aulner	Jesse Gustafson	Timothy Robertson
Michael J. Baker	Daniel Homan	Gary Smith
Robert Blume	Suzie Homan	Becky & Zach Spurgeon
Nick Burton	Kevin Kersey	Joseph M. Vickers
Sean Byers	Nick Lokamas	Justin M. Vickers
Ty Campbell	Allen M. Novotny	Mike Vickers
Dane Flott	Lexi Oropeza	Jim White
Stephen Gonifas	Mike Pihlgren	

HOLY GHOST

MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday, December 12
5:00 pm † Richard Barrett - Mary Ann Barrett

Sunday, December 13
10:00 am † Dominic, Helen, & Cliff Swertzic - Family

Tuesday, December 15
7:00 am † Shirley Cheloha & Diane Flint—Family

Thursday, December 17
7:00 am † Julia Bober—Family & Friends

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 19
5:00 pm † Ladislaus Tylkowski—Tylkowski Family

Sunday, December 20
10:00 am † Lynn Kwasniewski—Gary Kwasniewski

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, December 19 5:00pm

Deacon	Tom Schulte
Sacristan	Kathy Schulte
Lector	Deb Ray
EMHC	Marita Grebl, Marcus Madej, Ron Madej, Keli Smith
Altar Servers	Mia Childers, Cody Gann, Haley Gann
Gift Bearer	Chad & Amy Gann
Greeter	Margie Stoysich-Noordam, Josh Noordam, Joe Noordam

Sunday, December 20 10:00am

Deacon	Andy Sommer
Sacristan	Ray & Glenda Sempek
Lector	Tom Sobczyk
EMHC	Stephanie Huckins, Teresa Riskowski, Marie Savine, Janet Sobczyk
Altar Servers	Corey Allen, Zoey Huckins, Jeremiah Wallace
Gift Bearer	Eric & Liz Wagman
Greeter	Bob & Gretchen White

WEEKLY OFFERINGS—DECEMBER 6 NEW FISCAL YEAR BEGAN JULY 1, 2015

Needs: \$5,500.00
Collection 12/6/15: \$5,037.00
YTD Needs: \$126,500.00
YTD Collection: \$94,868.00
Shortage: \$31,169.00

ST. MARY'S

MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday, December 12
5:00 pm † Sr. Catherine Krakowski, OSF
† Sr. Rose Krakowski, OSF

Sunday, December 13
7:30 am † Walter Swierczek

Monday, December 14
8:00 am People of St. Mary's & Holy Ghost

Wednesday, December 16
8:00 am † Cliff Swertzic

Friday, December 18
8:00 am † Matthew Rath

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 19
5:00 pm † George Cherek

Sunday, December 20
7:30 am † Mildred Lorenz
† Al Skarda

LITURGICAL ROLES

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Saturday, Dec 19 5:00pm Rich & Pat Owens
Sunday, Dec 20 7:30am Bill Smith

Readers of the Word

Saturday, Dec 19 5:00pm Mary Hayes
Sunday, Dec 20 7:30am Lois Nemec

Mass Servers

Saturday, Dec 19 5:00pm T Gardner/M Ficenech
Sunday, Dec 20 7:30am Gema & David Ramirez

SEVEN DAY VOTIVE LIGHT

The votive lights burning by the Statues in the Sanctuary are for:

Legal Problems

NEW FISCAL YEAR BEGAN JULY 1, 2015

Week of: December 6.....	\$	3,414.00
Budgeted.....	\$	3,185.00
Difference.....+/-	\$	229.00 +
Year to Date.....	\$	7,679.90 -