

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Mother Mary Immaculate, our patron, pray for us!*

***Holy Sacrifice of the Mass: Saturday 6:30 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.***

**Weekday Mass:** Mon-Fri 6:20 a.m.; Mon-Sat 8:00 a.m.      **Holy Day Mass:** See bulletin, website & Facebook group page

**Confession:** Saturday: 4-5 p.m.; Sunday: 20 minutes before 8 & 10 a.m. Mass; 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday 7-8 a.m.; or by appointment with priest

**Eucharistic Adoration (in church):** Mon thru Fri between 6:20 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Mass.

**Eucharistic Adoration (St. Mary Hospital Chapel):** Mon 6:00 a.m. to Thu 11:59 p.m.

(Call/Text Janie Ebmeier, jstukenholtz@hotmail.com, 402-450-1993 or Brooke Chaney, brooke-chaney@cdolinc.net, 402-209-1965)

**Devotions:** *Rosary* 30 mins before Mass; *Flame of Love Rosary* Cenacle Thu at 1:30 p.m.

*1<sup>st</sup> Friday devotions* at 7:25 a.m.; *1<sup>st</sup> Saturday devotions* at 7:15 a.m. (led by Legion of Mary)

New parents should contact the rectory for *Baptism* – a class may be required before Baptism.

Engaged couples *planning to get married* in our parish need to contact the rectory at least 6 months in advance of your preferred wedding date.  
Contact a priest for *Confession* and/or especially *Sacrament of the Sick* when you or a loved one are preparing for a medical procedure or are seriously ill.  
*Sacrament of the Sick* is not only for those nearing the end of their life.

Diocesan Retreats (Waverly): **OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL RETREAT HOUSE:** 402-786-2705; [www.goodcounselretreat.org](http://www.goodcounselretreat.org); [office@olgcretreat.org](mailto:office@olgcretreat.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Thomas J. Schultes      **Associate Pastor:** Rev. Jonah A. Brox

**In Residence (Chief Administrative Officer of Lourdes School):** Rev. Jonathan J. Haschke

## *SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025:* *GAUDETE (3<sup>RD</sup>) SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

**Weekly Highlight:** Thanks to those who attended and were leaders/participants in the Community Advent Recital, TEC retreat, Feast Day Candlelight Mass, Catholic Daughter's Advent/Christmas outing, Thursday evening Advent Movie Series, and assisted with our multiple funerals lately. Always activities to volunteer, organize, and be a part of! *Thanks for your continued attention & devotion! ~ Father Schultes*

*# 1: WE PRAY AND WORSHIP TOGETHER! (Mark 12:30)*

### **NEXT WEEK** MASS SCHEDULE/PRIEST INTENTIONS & **NEXT WEEKEND** LITURGY HELPERS

	6:20 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
<b>Monday</b>	Poor Souls+	Special Intention	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Bob & Mary Lee Duncan+	Brendan Frey+	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Kent & Cindy McGinnis Family	Anna Klusaw+ (Anniv.)	
<b>Thursday</b>	Fritz & Joan Wichman+	Jacki Oelke+	
<b>Friday</b>	Ashton Nanninga+ & Family	Mary Jo Olmer+	
<b>Saturday</b>		Karen Lowe+	6:30 p.m. Virginia Heng+
<b>Sunday</b>		Dovel-Beccard+	10:00 a.m. People of the Parish
<b><u>Dec. 20-21, 2025:</u></b>			
	<b><u>Sat 6:30 p.m.</u></b>	<b><u>Sun 8:00 a.m.</u></b>	<b><u>Sun 10:00 a.m.</u></b>
<b>USHERS/ GREETERS</b>	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)
<b>LECTORS</b>	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)
<b>SERVERS</b>	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)

**PRAY FOR** parish seminarians Colter Fulton & Joseph Whitney; parish missionaries Joe Allen & Libby (Fulton) Callen; Deacon Bradley Moss; Seminarians Jacob Knutson and Caleb Hansen; Sr. Benedicta Hawkins, and an increase in vocations to priesthood, religious life, & Jesus-centered marriages! *From our prayer chain*, continue praying for: native son Father John Cooper, Ryan Scharp, Phil Timothy, Renee Stehlik and all the sick, homebound, hospitalized, those in nursing homes and in our Book of Intentions. *To add names to this prayer list, call the parish office.* Due to privacy, the person must grant their permission for their name to be in the bulletin. Thanks for your prayers. **If seriously ill or hospitalized and would like a visit from our priests, contact the parish office.** St. Mary Church Prayer Chain: [prayerchainstm@gmail.com](mailto:prayerchainstm@gmail.com)

**PRAY** for the happy repose of the souls of Marv Giittinger and Ginger Roddy (former rectory housekeeper) and consolation to their families.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION THU DEC 18 (EACH 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> THU) 6:45-8:00 P.M.** at St. Benedict Abbey. Fr. Brox main priest.

**ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL CHAPEL ADORATION** concludes Thu Dec 18 at 11:59 p.m.; Resumes Mon Jan 5, 2026 at 6:00 a.m.

**KINDERGARTEN-3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE CHRISTMAS EVE POSADA** before the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass on Wed Dec 24. Students to be angels and play the role of Mary, Joseph, Innkeepers, and Narrator. If interested, please contact Brittney Hermann at [brittnyhermann@yahoo.com](mailto:brittnyhermann@yahoo.com) by **Fri Dec 19.** All participating need to be at rehearsal at **10:00 a.m. on Christmas Eve day Wed Dec 24.** Thank you!

**SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR DEC 20/21, 24/25, 27/28 MASSES** for lectors, acolytes, greeters, and altar servers on the table in church entryway. Please be generous in assisting with our liturgies. **Note arrival/practice times for Christmas.** Coming later: Dec 31/1 and Jan 3/4 sign-ups.

**EXTRA CHRISTMAS WEEK CONFESSION TIMES:** Sun Dec 21: 1:30-2:30 p.m. (multiple priests); Mon Dec 22: 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Tue Dec 23: 6:30-7:30 p.m.; and Wed Dec 24: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:** Wed Dec 24 at 5:00 p.m. (Children's Mass with Posada); 10:00 p.m.; and Thu Dec 25 at 9:00 a.m. (No Incense).

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** Donations accepted as a memorial to a deceased loved one or to honor someone living. Envelopes in your packet; donations can be made online (then email names to be remembered to parish office) or you can use a regular envelope marked with poinsettia with names of those you would like remembered. Make donations by **Sun Dec 21** Thank you.

*# 2: WE SERVE EACH OTHER! (Matthew 23:11)*

**NEW PARISH/FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Thanks to Lu Marcotte, Hope Weninger and John Langley who join in 2026! Thanks again to Derooy Harshman, Adam Howard, and Mary Wurtele (moved out of town) for their input, care, and service the past three years! Full listing in parish info box below. Next meeting Tue Feb 10, 2026. Projects in progress (in addition to repetitive/annual tasks): church and rectory window replacements; framing of artwork for "Visitation" Church Hall; rectory painting/flooring work. *The council is a consultative body to the resident priests and a representative group of and to the entire parish, with members involved in a variety of activities of our parish.*

**CHURCH CLEANERS (immediately after Sat 8:00 a.m. Mass):** **Dec. 20:** Lynn & Sharon Heng, Rachel Coyan, Elise Buck, Lauren Bennett, Marco & Samantha Fabietti, Drew Holtmeyer, Adam & Jennifer Howard, Taylor & Sarah Johnson, Bryan Kreifels, Tim Kreifels. **Dec. 27:** Anthony & Michelle Kaiser, Clarence & Anna Mae Kaiser, Joseph Kaiser, Clare Kincaid, Bradley & Catherine Kassube, Mike & Jenny Kearney, Brian Kochanowicz, Dan Kostka, Ron & Loretta Kubik, Grant & Shana Lackey. **Jan. 3:** Larry & Debbie Lance, Doug Wichman, Richard Wichman, John & Brielle Langley, Janelle Lechner, Juli Lechner, Ronald & Katherine Lechner, Tim & Tamara Levins, Jeff Lollmann, Linda Lollmann, Mike & Natasha Lollmann. **If unable to clean when assigned, families/individuals are responsible for finding a replacement or contacting and paying \$20 for a sub.** Substitutes: Mary Mills 873-6247; Sharon Crunk 873-4568; Julia Russell 209-2340; Sharon Heng 873-5105; Kris Chaney 209-1186; Loretta Kubik 984-5646. *(Entire current quarterly schedule on bulletin board, in weekly Flocknote bulletin email, and on Facebook page.)*

**DINNER FOR OUR PRIESTS:** Dec. 15: Kathy Wigington, Dec. 17: Cheryl Wirth, Dec. 20: Emily Wolken, Dec. 22: Teresa Albers, Dec. 27: Brenda Baumann, Dec. 29: Kelly Bequette, Jan 3: Jacques Borer; Jan 5: Beth Box; Jan 7: Megan Brehm, Jan 10: Maureen Chance; Jan 12: Kris Chaney; Jan 14: Kay DeFreece. Please bring dinner between 5:30-6:00 p.m. If you do not use disposable dishes, please put your name on the dishes and pick them up in the church hall. It is preferred that meals be taken to the back door of the rectory. If priests are not home, please put meals in the refrigerator. Questions/to volunteer, call Donna Murphy, 402-639-0397. If you are unable to take a meal on your scheduled day, please find a replacement, donate a gift card, or order a meal to be delivered to the rectory. Thank you.

**# 3: WE ARE IN COMMUNITY TOGETHER! (Matthew 18:20)**

**WELCOME visitors & guests!**

*If you have moved to Nebraska City, please stop by, or call the parish office to register.*

**Parish Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00-11:00 a.m. & 1:30-4:00 p.m.**

**PARISH OFFICE LIMITED HOURS** beginning Wed Nov 12 due to our secretary, Linda Willson, being on medical leave for 4-6 weeks. Emails and phone messages will be monitored and responded to as soon as possible. Volunteers will be available to answer phone and door visits following daily Mass to 11:30 a.m. on Mon, Wed, and Fri. You may also leave a message for the priests at 402-873-3024.

**Telephone:** 402-873-3024

**Mailing Address:** 218 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Nebraska City, NE 68410

**Website:** [stmarysnebraskacity.com](http://stmarysnebraskacity.com)

**Facebook Group Page:** "St. Mary's Catholic Church, Nebraska City, NE"

**Cemetery Database included here:** <https://www.windyprairie.com>

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** Submit by **Mon at 11:00 a.m.** in writing either by e-mail to [stmbulletin@windstream.net](mailto:stmbulletin@windstream.net) (preferred) or to the parish office.

**Parish Corporate Trustees:** Colin Albers & Mary Mills

**Parish/Finance Council:** Derooy Harshman, Adam Howard (*thru 2025*); Loretta Kubik, Emma Rettig, Kent Schreiner (*thru 2026*);

Beth Box, Lynn Heng, Jenny Kearney (*thru 2027*); Jason Esser, Mary Mills, Ed Stukenholtz, Pam Boes (*annual organization reps*)

**Cemetery Board:** Tom Gude, Tyler Gude, Jeff Lollmann, Dave Ramold, Kevin Rettig, Mike Riege,

Ed Stukenholtz, Frank Volkmer, Linda Willson.

**Knights of Columbus Grand Knight (Council 3152):** Matthew Nienaber; **Catholic Daughters of Americas Regent (Court Emmanuel 1122):** Julie Volkmer

**PARISH FANTASY FOOTBALL:** Playoff Week 1: No Chance Lance defeated Team Allgood; The Wild Borers defeated Fr. Schultes. Semifinals this week: 1 seed Fr. Brox versus 4 seed The Wild Borers; 2 seed Late Round Kicker (Tyler Gude) versus 3 seed No Chance Lance.

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE ANNUAL CELEBRATION SUN DEC 14** at St. Benedict Church and Abbey: Noon Mass, with potluck celebration to follow in the Abbey. All are welcome! If you have never gone before, you should go – dancing, music, culture, people, and FOOD!

**KC SPONSORED ALTAR SERVER-DAD-GRANDPA TAILGATE PARTY SUN DEC 14 5:00 P.M.** in St. Mary Church Hall. Watch Fr. Brox (Lions) and Fr. Daro (Vikings) versus Fr. Schultes (Cowboys). Food, games, prizes. Wear your favorite NFL team gear. **RSVP to St. Mary Parish Office by Dec 12** at 873-3024 or [stmbulletin@windstream.net](mailto:stmbulletin@windstream.net).

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY GATHERING WED DEC 17 7:00 P.M.** in the church hall. Rosary at 6:30 p.m.

**ADVENT THURSDAY MOVIES** in church hall at 6:30 p.m. Bring beverage and snack. Dec 18: *Field of Dreams*.

**2026 CALENDARS** are available in church – courtesy of Gude Mortuary. Thank you to Tom & Tyler Gude for furnishing calendars each year!

**SAVE THE DATE!** St. Mary Soup Supper is back! **Sun Jan 25 2026 from 4-7 p.m.** in our church hall. We need volunteers to chair desserts, drinks, dining room, soup servers and cleanup. We also need baskets for our raffle. Please call Barb Stukenholtz, 209-4976 or Sally DuBois, 209-0789, if you are interested in donating a basket or would like to help.

**# 4: WE SHARE GOD'S GIFTS TO US! (Prov 3:9)**

**"STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE" – MY RETURN TO THE LORD**

*Thanks for your generous support of our parish and its apostolates.*

**Dec. 7:** Adult Env.: \$7,291.00; Loose: \$776.85; Online: \$5,390.00; IRA: \$13,305.00; Sol. of Mary: \$10.00; All Souls: \$10.00; Christmas: \$10.00; Immaculate Conception: \$670.00; **Total: \$27,462.85**

Parish Endowment: \$1,000.00; Franciscan Sisters: \$25.00; Cloistered Sisters: \$20.00; Retired Priests: \$60.00

**Weekly amount needed for our 2025-2026 budget:** \$ 14,500.00; **Amount needed for budget to date (23 weeks):** **\$333,500.00**  
**Total Contributions July 1, 2025 thru June 30, 2026:** **\$297,889.67** **YTD Shortfall:** **-\$35,610.33**

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS ADVENT FOOD DRIVE** to benefit the Knights of Columbus Food Bank. Nonperishable items accepted in special boxes in the entry of the church. Canned meats, vegetables, fruits, soups, and stews are the most needed items.

**KNIGHTS BOOSTER CLUB** annual cinnamon roll sales! Pre-orders only – \$20/pan. Available for pick-up the evening of Fri Dec 19! To place a pre-order, envelopes and information are in the entrance of the church. **Deadline to return envelopes to the offertory is Dec 14.** Or, online orders are available through Lourdes socials media and web site. <https://www.lourdescentralcatholic.org>

**SIGNIFICANT YEAR END GIFTS PREFERENCE:** If you plan to make a significant year end gift and use our Online Giving program, please consider writing a check instead. We can save on our processing fees and receive your entire gift – thank you for your consideration of such.

**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "PARISH WISH LIST" ANGEL TREE:** Ornaments coming soon with items for our church and rectory (maintenance, office supplies, priest meals, etc.). Items can be left by the tree or at the parish office. Thanks for supporting our angel trees.

**2025 CSA(DDP):** 35 open pledges for \$8,025.00 – payments before Dec 31 rebated in Jan 2026. <https://lincolndiocese.aware3.net/give/>