

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; 1st 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.

1st Friday devotions at 7:25 a.m.; *1st 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; 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 21, 2025: *FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

Weekly Highlight: Blessed Christmas Week! Take note of no morning Masses on Wed Dec 24 and no 6:20 a.m. Mass on Fri Dec 26.
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.
Monday	Marcene Klein+	Marv Giittinger+	
Tuesday	Leonard Harris+	Robert Beccard+	
Wednesday	NO MASS	NO MASS	5:00 p.m. Kristina Yost Schildberg+ 10:00 p.m. Howard Weigle+ (Anniv.)
Thursday	NO MASS	NO MASS	9:00 a.m. Albert & Rose Mary Burger+
Friday	NO MASS	Bill Aultz+	
Saturday		Leo & Sonja Heng+	6:30 p.m. Ray, Helen, Janet Frana+
Sunday		Clarence & Anna Mae Kaiser Family	10:00 a.m. People of the Parish
<u>Dec. 27-28, 2025:</u>			
	<u>Sat 6:30 p.m.</u>	<u>Sun 8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>Sun 10:00 a.m.</u>
USHERS/ GREETERS	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)
LECTORS	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)
ACOLYTES	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)	Volunteers (Sign-up Sheets)
SERVERS	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; parish permanent diaconate candidate Dan DeFreece (and wife Kay); Deacon Bradley Moss; Seminarians Jacob Knutson and Daniel Stara; Sr. Joy Le, 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

KINDERGARTEN-3rd GRADE POSADA before the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Students to be Angels, Mary, Joseph, Innkeepers, and Narrator. Contact Brittny Hermann (brittnyhermann@yahoo.com) by **Fri Dec 19**. All need to be at rehearsal: **10:00 a.m. Wed Dec 24**.

POINSETTIAS AND ALTAR FLOWERS: Envelopes in your packet; donations can be made online (then email names to be remembered to parish office) or use a regular envelope marked with poinsettia with names of those you would like remembered. Due by **Sun Dec 21**. The traditional listing of names will appear in the bulletin **NEXT** weekend, due to acceptance of donations/memorials thru this Sun Dec 21.

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.

WEEKLY FLAME OF LOVE ROSARY at the Franciscan Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother Convent will not be held on Tue Dec 23 nor Jan 6. It will be held on Tue Dec 30 and continue each Tuesday beginning Jan 13.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR DEC 24/25, 27/28, DEC 31/JAN 1, AND JAN 3/4 MASSES for lectors, acolytes, greeters/ushers, and altar servers on the table in church entryway. **Note special arrival/practice times for Christmas.**

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).

SOLEMNITY OF "MARY, MOTHER OF GOD" JAN 1 HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASS TIMES: Wed Dec 31 at 6:30 p.m.; Thu Jan 1 9:00 a.m. – no 6:20 a.m. or 8:00 a.m. Mass, nor morning Exposition Adoration.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL CHAPEL ADORATION resumes *Mon Jan 5, 2026 at 6:00 a.m.*

ADORER NEEDED: for Tuesday's at 1pm. to replace Sr. Ana Maria as second/back-up adorer.

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

CHURCH CLEANERS (immediately after Sat 8:00 a.m. Mass): 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. **Jan. 10:** Don & Jackie Loseke, Mark Loseke, Amy Lucas, Dan & Jean Lucas, Randy & Gail Walford, Jane Lutz, Kelly & Sue Madden, Mark & Jennifer Madison, Paul & Angie Madison, Jennifer Marolf. **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. 22: Teresa Albers, Dec. 27: Brenda Baumann, Dec. 29: Kelly Bequette, Jan 3: Jacque Borer; Jan 5: Beth Box; Jan 7: Megan Brehm, Jan 10: Maureen Chance; Jan 12: Kris Chaney; Jan 14: Kay DeFreece; Jan 17: Janie Ebmeier; Jan 19: Jeanette Eilers; Jan 21: Carol Elworth; Jan 24: Mary Farris. 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. 6th St., Nebraska City, NE 68410

Website: 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 (preferred) or to the parish office.

Parish Corporate Trustees: Colin Albers & Mary Mills

Parish/Finance Council: Loretta Kubik, Emma Rettig, Kent Schreiner (thru 2026); Beth Box, Lynn Heng, Jenny Kearney (thru 2027); John Langley, Lu Marcotte, Hope Weninger (thru 2028); 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 2: Both upsets: No Chance Lance defeated Late Round Kicker (Tyler Gude) and The Wild Borers defeated Fr. Brox. Two Week Championship Game: 4 seed The Wild Borers versus 3 seed No Chance Lance.

"YES, SOUP FOR YOU!" The date has been set for the St Mary's Soup supper, **Sun Jan 25, 2026 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.** We welcome monetary donations for the making of the soup. You can drop an envelope in the offertory marked "Soup Supper Donation." Any amount helps! We are still looking for people to donate baskets full of fun items for our raffle that night. Please contact Sally DuBois 402-209-0789. Thank you to the families who have already volunteered to create a basket. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be out after the 1st of the year.

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. 14: Adult Env.: \$3,527.00; **Loose:** \$237.75; **Online:** \$3,240.00; **Stock:** \$38,383.52;
Immaculate Conception: \$645.00; **Total:** **\$46,033.27** **Franciscan Sisters:** \$25.00; **Retired Priests:** \$380.00

Weekly amount needed for our 2025-2026 budget: \$ 14,500.00; **Amount needed for budget to date (24 weeks):** **\$348,000.00**

Total Contributions July 1, 2025 thru June 30, 2026: **\$343,922.94** **YTD Shortfall:** **-\$4,077.06**

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.

ANNUAL RETIRED PRIEST COLLECTION: All parishes support our retired priests (same salary & health insurance as active pastors). Our assessment this fiscal year is \$11,002. A December/Christmas envelope in your monthly packet and available near our bulletins. Donations can also be placed through our Online Giving program or an envelope marked "Retired Priests." Thank you.

THANK YOU once again to the Laurine Volkmer Foundation for the grant of \$12,000.00 to our parish. Your annual gift is appreciated!

2025 CSA(DDP): 24 open pledges for \$4,685.00 – payments before Dec 31 rebated in Jan 2026. <https://lincolndiocese.aware3.net/give/>

2025 ALMOST OVER: Have you included your parish on your Christmas List/year-end planning? Save on your taxes via gifts of appreciated stock, grain, or IRA required minimum distributions. For more info (including our FEIN), contact parish office. If you plan to make a significant year end gift and use our Online Giving program, **please consider writing a check instead** – to help us save on processing fees.

5TH ANNUAL "PARISH WISH LIST" ANGEL TREE: Ornaments on tree to support 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 seasonal Angel trees!

FORMED – THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND – FOR ALL AGES with 24/7 access to thousands of Catholic movies, children's programs, e-books, audio talks and Bible studies direct to your browser, mobile device or TV. FORMED provides the very best Catholic content to help families and individuals explore their faith. Our subscription cost is \$1,099.00 for 2026. If you enjoy Formed, please consider a contribution to help defray our cost. Place contributions in an envelope marked "Formed" in the collection basket, mailed, dropped by the parish office or Online Giving. If you have not visited the Formed.org website, go to Formed.org and click on "Sign-up." Get the FREE FORMED APP.

LOURDES ANNUAL APPEAL: This Advent, join us in sharing the gift of a faith-filled Catholic education! Tuition alone does not cover the full cost of education; it is through the unity of many generous hearts that we provide every student the opportunity to grow in knowledge, faith, and character. Your gift supports every student, every program, and every aspect of school life. Guided by our theme, *"In the One Christ We Are One,"* your generosity strengthens our community and helps shape hearts, minds, and souls for generations to come. **Give today to make a lasting difference. Visit LourdesCentralCatholic.org or use the donation envelopes at the back of church.**