

# St. John's Church

DECEMBER 26, 2021



## The Church

307 EAST MEIGS  
VALLEY, NE 68064  
402-359-5783

In Case of Emergency: 402-359-8915  
Website: [www.stjohnvalleyne.com](http://www.stjohnvalleyne.com)



## Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00 am– 3:00 pm

## Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm;  
Sunday 7:30 am and 10:00 am

## Weekday & Holy Days

Daily Masses 8:30 am Tue, Thurs, Fri.  
9:30 am Weds at Valhaven  
See bulletin & website for Holy Day  
schedule

**Bulletin Deadline** Tues. at 1:00 pm

## Staff

### Pastor-Lloyd Gnirk

[elgn52@cox.net](mailto:elgn52@cox.net)  
402-359-5783 ext. 217

### Deacon-Tom Manhart

[dcntom@stjohnvalleyne.com](mailto:dcntom@stjohnvalleyne.com)  
402-359-5783 ext. 216

### Office Secretary-Brenda Thiessen

[stjohn@stjohnvalleyne.com](mailto:stjohn@stjohnvalleyne.com)  
402-359-5783 ext. 210

### Business Manager-Sue Morse

[businessmanager@stjohnvalleyne.com](mailto:businessmanager@stjohnvalleyne.com)  
402-359-5783 ext. 215

### Faith Formation-Molly Zach

[molly@stjohnvalleyne.com](mailto:molly@stjohnvalleyne.com)  
402-359-5783 ext. 212

### Music-Tamera Loftis

402-359-5783

### St. Vincent dePaul Assistance Hotline

402-669-7118

**New Members:** Welcome! Please visit our website or call the office at 402-359-5783 to register and join our faith family.

### Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Vince Kirby (President), Jenny Boothe (Vice President), Pauline Pesek, Pat Costello, John Leise, Rachael Urban, Jim Mangimeli, Tom Oehler and Quentin Bliss

### Archdiocese of Omaha Vision Statement

**One Church:** encountering Jesus, equipping disciples, living mercy

### Parish Mission Statement

*"St. John is a welcoming Catholic faith community with a spirit of generosity, offering nourishment for the body and soul through the Good News of Jesus Christ."*

## December 26, 2021 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.”  
(1 JOHN 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God’s children, it’s in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

Through our participation in the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, our parish has committed \$39,077 towards our goal of \$43,588. We are at 17.68% of our participation goal of 33.5%. We will be able to achieve our participation goal as well. Thank you all for your generosity.

Masses for New Years will be 8:30am on Dec 31 and 9:30am on Jan 1.

Blessings,  
Fr. Gnirk



### Hey Deacon! Where did the Nativity Scene come from?

Saint Francis of Assisi is credited for creating the first Nativity

Scene in 1221. He was so moved by what he saw in Bethlehem when he was on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land that he wanted others to have the same experience he did of the Child Jesus, who was born into the world in such poverty, humility, and simplicity. Francis founded his new religious Order to imitate these very virtues.

St Bonaventure, one of two well-known biographers of St. Francis, tells of this event in his writings saying “*St. Francis got permission from Pope Honorius III to set up a manger with hay and two live animals—an ox and an ass—in a cave in the Italian village of Greccio. He then invited the villagers to come gaze upon the scene while he preached about “the babe of Bethlehem.”* Through these visual aids he wanted everyone to impress more deeply into their understanding how Christ came into the world in such poverty and simplicity.

The idea caught on quickly and in 1291, seventy years after Francis displayed his first nativity scene, the first Franciscan pope, Nicholas IV, commissioned statues to create the first permanent Nativity scene in the Basilica of St. Mary Major. Ever since, Nativity scenes in all shapes and sizes have been created throughout the world and they are one of the most popular Christmas traditions.

Merry Christmas!



Readings for the week of  
December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

**Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

**Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

**Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

## St John's Church



The next St. John's **First Friday Eucharistic Holy Hour** will be **Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>** from **6:00pm until 7:00pm.**

Please come and spend one hour with Jesus at Eucharistic Adoration.

Please plan on bringing your entire family!



St. John the Evangelist's  
St. Vincent dePaul Conference

Hotline Number: 402.669.7118

The St. Vincent dePaul Society helps those in need. Please call our hotline if you or someone you know needs help.



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OF COLUMBUS**  
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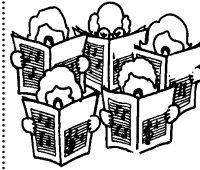
Windows into Heaven: Encountering and Encountered by Jesus in Icons, *January 28 - 30, 2022*, retreat at *Saint Benedict Center*, Schuyler, with Father James L. Secora, MDiv, MEd, Obl OSB, from Ames, IA. It has been said what the written word of Scripture is to the ears, icons are to the eyes. Learn a brief history of icons and then spend a weekend with scripture and these "windows to heaven," which can offer greater "insight" on your spiritual journey." This retreat includes presentations on a variety of icons, personal and group reflection, *lectio divina* and *visio divina*. – Social distancing and wearing a mask is recommended. Friday, 7:30 p.m. to Sunday after lunch. Register now at [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com) or call (402) 352-8819.

The Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) and its Deaneries are accepting scholarship applications from high school senior girls who are Catholic and plan to attend a public or private college or university. Each deanery may award a scholarship, and the application and essay of the winner of each deanery scholarship will be sent to the OACCW Scholarship Chair to compete for a \$500 OACCW scholarship. Requirements and mailing addresses for each deanery contact are available from high school guidance counselors. Scholarship application forms are available on the OACCW Facebook page in "Photos" in the menu bar on the left side of the page. All documentation should be submitted to the applicant's Deanery Council of Catholic Women contact and be Postmarked by **January 15, 2022. Late applications will not be considered.**

Update  
your  
Information



Have you moved this year? Changed phone numbers? Contact the office at 402-359-5783 to update your information!!



Many thanks to the Choir for sharing their God given talents with us!

*Big Thanks to the environment committee for decorating the Church. All the behind the scene people and anyone I may have left out who helped make the Holiday season brighter.*

*Thank You*

January 28, 48th Annual Nebraskans Embracing Life Celebration of Life with Steven Mosher of the Population Research Institute, St Vincent de Paul Parish Center, 14330 Eagle Run Dr, 6p social, 7p dinner and program. "You can save a life today!"

SAVE THE DATE!! Essential Pregnancy Services 26<sup>th</sup> Annual GLOW Benefit Dinner on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Mid America Center in Council Bluffs, IA. For more information visit [bidpal.net/glow22.com](http://bidpal.net/glow22.com)



Set Your House in Order: A Program to Organize Finances and Plan Estate, February 5, one-day retreat at *Saint Benedict Center*, Schuyler, with Columbus attorney *James A. Fehringer*. If you have possessions, you have an estate. Their orderly care during your lifetime represents financial management. Their disposition after your lifetime is called estate settlement. Deciding in advance how this will be done is known as estate planning. Capitalize on this opportunity to learn how to plan your estate. A thorough analysis of asset ownership, Wills, Trusts, Asset Management Powers of Attorney, Health Care Powers of Attorney, Long-Term Care Protection and Charitable Gift Planning will be presented. – Social distancing and wearing a mask is recommended. Program fee: \$35. Lunch is available at the Center for \$ 12.08 (includes tax). Register at [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com) or call (402) 352-8819.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS

Call or email Molly Zach with questions  
402-359-5783 or [molly@stjohnvalleyne.com](mailto:molly@stjohnvalleyne.com)

*The Full RF Calendar can be found our website!*



RF Monthly Outreach:

Registering on FORMED is easier than ever!

1. got to [FORMED.org/signup](http://FORMED.org/signup)
2. Enter your parish zip code (68064)
3. Enter your name and email



**Keep in touch with us**

VIA EMAIL OR TEXT MESSAGE

To join simply text: *StJohnValley* to 84576 or connect online at [stjohnvalleyne.flocknote.com](http://stjohnvalleyne.flocknote.com)

Visit Nativity Scenes: Jan. 2 – 7, 2022, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. Benedict Center. Everybody is invited to make a pilgrimage to St. Benedict Center, view God's Love made visible in nativity scenes from the Holy Land, from Africa, Asia, South & North America and Europe and pray for the peace which our world so urgently needs. No admission fee. For more information visit [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com) or call (402) 352-8819.

## Siena/Francis Meal

Thank you, Siena/Francis House Volunteers!

**Next meal is: January 13<sup>th</sup>!**

We will continue to provide one meal a month to the Siena/Francis House and are temporarily making changes to the collection process. Boxes and coolers will be available OUTSIDE the South entrance of the Church on Wednesday from 8 am until 4 pm; and on Thursday from 8 am until Noon.

For further information, call the parish office or email Linda Jankowski: [lindajank44@yahoo.com](mailto:lindajank44@yahoo.com)

or

Beth Kudlacz: [msmek1@gmail.com](mailto:msmek1@gmail.com)

*Planning a baptism?* The next baptism class will be held on be held on :

**February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Register by calling the parish office at 402-359-5783 or online at [stjohnvalleyne.com](http://stjohnvalleyne.com), under 'sacraments'

Men's Retreat: Your Word is a Light for My Path (cf. Psalm 119:112), *January 21 – 23, 2022*, retreat at *Saint Benedict Center*, Schuyler, with Benedictines *Brother August Schaefer* and *Father Thomas Leitner*. With so much happening in our lives, what is really important can get sidelined. This retreat is about putting first things first in this coming year. Saint Benedict and other spiritual masters can show us how to live a life of balance and a life directed toward God. Get to know and practice useful spiritual tools for this journey in 2022 and beyond. The schedule includes brief conferences, silence, Mass, Confession, fellowship, and spiritual direction. Open to all ages. Scholarships are available. – Social distancing and wearing a mask is recommended. Friday, 7:30 p.m. to Sunday after lunch. Register now at [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com) or call (402) 352-8819.



*Thank you for your generosity!*

*~Collection from 12/12/21~*

SUNDAY COLLECTION: \$ 17,555.00  
 SVdP: \$ 100.00  
 CHILDREN: \$ 45.00  
 BUILDING FUND/CAP. CAMPAIGN: \$ 11,100.00  
 IMMACUALTE CONCEPTION: \$ 910.00

*If you would like more information or to visit about parish finances contact Fr. Gnirk*



### Mass Schedule and Intentions

**MON 8:30am** NO MASS  
**TUES 8:30am** +PHILIP PROROK  
**WED 9:30am** VALHAVEN (Residents Only)  
**THUR 8:30am** +ED KOJDECKI  
**FRI 8:30am** +STELLA KUHNEL  
**SAT 9:30am** +JUDY WOLFF WEINFURTNER  
**SAT 5:00pm** NO MASS  
**SUN 7:30am** +HYNNIE & HELEN WINKLER  
**SUN 10:00am** OUR POARISH FAMILY

Ministry Schedule January 1 <sup>st</sup> & January 2 <sup>nd</sup>			
	Saturday 5:00 PM	Sunday 7:30 AM	Sunday 10:00 AM
SACRISTAN		S. SMITH	E. GOTTUSO
GREETERS	N	S. JANOVSKY	BLISS'
LECTOR	O	D. HUNTER	M. McCLEERY
EMHC		S. JOHNSON	M. McCLEERY
	M	P. STAUP	M. ZACH
		B. MILLER	P. PESEK
GIFTS	A	USHER'S	GOTTUSO'S
USHERS	S	C. MICHEL	E. GOTTUSO
		J. JOHNSON	R. PETERSON
SERVERS	S	H. HUNTER	B. ZACH
		VOLUNTEER	A. BELLAR
VALHAVEN	No Valhaven at this time	No Valhaven at this time	No Valhaven at this time
VALLEY LAKES	No Valley Lakes at this time	No Valley Lakes at this time	No Valley Lakes at this time

December's Calendar Dates
<b>December 29<sup>th</sup></b>
No RF
<b>January 1<sup>st</sup></b>
Solemnity of Mary Mass at 9:30am No 5pm Mass
<b>January 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
No Sunday RF No Donut Sunday
<b>January 4<sup>th</sup></b>
Parish Pastoral Council at 7pm
<b>January 5<sup>th</sup></b>
RF-6:45-8pm
<b>January 7<sup>th</sup></b>
Frist Friday Eucharistic Adoration at 6pm
<b>January 9<sup>th</sup></b>
SVdP Meeting at 8:15am-St. Cecilia Conference Room Sunday RF (Pre-K & K) at 10am
<b>January 12<sup>th</sup></b>
Siena Francis House Meal Drop Off RF-6:45-8pm
Siena Francis House Meal Drop Off RF-6:45-8pm
<b>January 16<sup>th</sup></b>
Sunday RF (Pre-K & K) at 10am

**St. John's Prayer Line:**  
 Call with prayer requests  
 Pat 402-359-5336 or Sally 402-660-6702

### SACRAMENTS

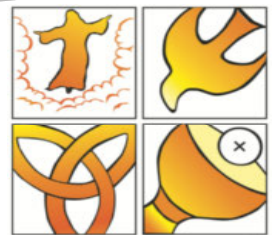
**Reconciliation:** Half hour before weekend Masses or by appointment

**Baptisms:** Baptism classes are offered quarterly. Plan to make these classes part of preparing for the birth of your child. Make arrangements with the office

**Marriage:** Six month preparation for sacrament prior to the event. Contact parish office to make arrangements

**Funeral Rites:** Please contact Father

**Sacrament of the Sick:** As needed in individual cases



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