Holy Spirit Catholic Church

All Are Welcome

2801 West E
Weekend Masses:
Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Holy Spirit Website:
holyspiritcatholicchurch.com
YOUTUBE: Holy Spirit Catholic Church North Platte

In Blaise Pascal's work, ‚Pensées he says: "What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself."

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off center, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Vidya Sagar Arikotla
Parish Permanent Deacons:
Deacon Michael Davis
Deacon Mark Stadler
Secretary: Kelsey Schlichenmayer
Bookkeeper Jeanne Pieper
Religious Education: Laurie Stadler
Custodial/Maintenance: Bill Moore
Custodial: Marcy Davis

Parish Office Hours:
Monday - Friday: 9:00a.m. -5:00 p.m.
Office Contact Information:
Telephone: 308-534-6623
Email: holy1spirit@allophone.com
For all appointments and scheduling, please call Fr. Sagar at the parish office .
*Weddings: *The Diocese of Grand Island requires a four-month preparation period. For other sacraments Please call 543-6623*

Prayer Requests: *Scott Davis:308-530-4366*
Communion to Homebound:
Jim & Marcia Petersen: 308-534-4102
Knights of Columbus: *Lenny Hassel 308-532-7933*
Meetings the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm
Holy Spirit Pantry: *308-532-8800*
Natural Family Planning: *Kathy Burr :308-991-1880*
Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday by 10:00 a.m. *All bulletin information submitted will be subject to review for content and editing due to space availability.*

Parishioners: Welcome! We are very happy to have you as members of our Parish Family here at Holy Spirit. If you are a new member to our church, forms for registration are available in the literature rack in the gathering area. As your parish staff, we look forward to meeting you .

All Are Welcome

MISSION STATEMENT

United in the Sacraments as the Body of Christ, we, members of this parish are called to signify the presence of the Kingdom of God in our community, to spread the Good News of the Gospel and to minister and serve others. Our parish community here at Holy Spirit extends the welcoming arms of Jesus to our community. We welcome others to join us at mass and to feel the presence of God in our Catholic community.

Holy Spirit Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m.
& 11:00 a.m.
Reconciliation Saturdays 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Or by appointment

STUDENT OF THE MONTH: CHLOE GUO

Chloe Guo has been selected as the Student of the Month for December. Teachers and Student Council members vote on a student to receive this honor.
Chloe, a freshman, is the daughter of Ivy Zhang and Neo Guo of North Platte. She is on the "A' Honor Roll and keeps busy with basketball, show choir, chorus, Student Council, S.A.I.N.T.S., and is on the Strutters Dance Team. Chloe has a brother, Ashton, an eleventh grader at St. Pat's High School. Congratulations, Chloe!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 22—END of FIRST SEMESTER
NOON DISMISSAL

SCRIP

It's the holiday season—Purchase **SCRIP**
Please visit: https://apps.npcschools.org/donate-now
Remember to utilize the Endowment's SCRIP program for your holiday shopping!
SCRIP is your one-stop shop for gift cards! SCRIP offers both local and national retailers, with hundreds of options to choose from. PLUS, 2% from all SCRIP purchases is designated for tuition assistance for families at the North Platte Catholic Schools.
There are easy ways to purchase SCRIP gift cards:
1) Purchase in-person at the Endowment Office, 601 S. Tabor Ave. between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily.
2) Create an online SCRIP account at: www.shopwithscrip.com using the NPCS enrollment code 41B837676942
Contact the Endowment office at anytime with your SCRIP questions, or to place your order: 308-534-5939, w.dodson@npcschools.org.

Merry Christmas

'Tis the Season of Giving
Gifts and Payments can now be made online! The North Platte Catholic Schools Endowment has a new online giving website! Memorial donations, Annual Fund gifts, Campaign pledge payments, Year-End donations… can ALL be made securely online! Please visit: https://apps.npcschools.org/donate-now

Dear Parishioners,
Many people will be thinking of year-end-giving when donating……..so please prayerfully consider a financial gift during this Christmas season to off-set some of the larger annual bills that we incur.

1) Priest Health Insurance $17,240.00
2) Facility Insurance $12,970.00
3) Diocesan Priest Pension $1,200.00

Your generous gift toward these larger obligations will help us meet our other monthly bills as well such as;

- Cathedraticum (tax due to the diocese)
- Maintenance -we have had higher than normal maintenance expense due to many unforeseen expenses, Lighting in the Sanctuary, sprinkler system in the church, parking lot; as well as, extra cleaning supplies.
- Payroll and Office Supplies
- PPE (masks, hand sanitizer for the church and Faith Formation.)

Our monthly collections have so far been able to keep up with most of the monthly expenses of operating the church. Gifts at this time will go toward fully meeting those expenses, the unforeseen expenses incurred, as well as, the larger annual bills.
If you are an EFT giver and wish to help you can place your Christmas offering in the collection., designate your Christmas gift in the memo section of your check. Thank you for all your generosity and support to our Parish. It is very much appreciated.

Father Vidya Sagar Arikotla

Notice: Due to the New Year Holiday, the bulletin items will need to be in to the office earlier than normal for January 3rd; items must be in by **Wednesday Dec. 23rd by 10 am**.. Thank you .

Scott and Marcy Davis both celebrating December 20th

Monday	**December 21**
No Mass	**No Mass**
Tuesday	**December 22**
6:00 p.m.	**+Glynn Ward**
Wednesday	**December 23**
7:30 a.m.	**+Joyce McConahay**
Thursday	**December 24**
See Advent Schedule	
Friday	**December 25**
9:30 a.m.	**+Vera Keith**
(At the church not Centennial)	
Saturday	**December 26**
5:00 p.m.	**+Merle Honerman**
Sunday	**December 27**
7:30 a.m.	**+Deacon Robert Puhalla**
11:00 a.m.	**Parish Needs**

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Minister List For December 26th & 27th

5:00 p.m. Mass
Rosary: B. McGahan
Eucharist: E. Perlinger & I. Budke

Greeter: J. & G. Swift
Lector: G. Fruhwirth
Servers: None

7:30 a.m. Mass
Rosary: Deacon Stadler
Eucharist: B Gilsdorf

Greeters: D. & K. Wenz
Lector: S. Dodson
Servers: None

11:00 a.m. Mass
Rosary: Deacon Davis
Eucharist: P. Lee & D. Lee

Greeters: M. & C. Wiegand & G. Bayer
Lector: T. Dolan
Servers: None

Father's Christmas Gift. This year we are going to start a **new tradition**. If you would like to give a gift to Father Sagar please wrap it and bring it to the office I will have a box to place it in. If you would like to give a financial gift or gift card, place it in a card or envelope and write Father's gift and either drop it off at the office in the gift box or mail it to **Holy Spirit, 2801 West E Street, North Platte, NE 69101.** Please, write at the bottom of the envelope **ATTN: Father's Gift** so I can place it in the box. Thank You, so much for your help. Kelsey Schlichenmayer Parish Secretary

Holy Spirit Parish/North Platte

Parish Goal:	$51,000.00
Total Raised:	$31,715.00
Total Received:	$27,575.00
Donor Goal:	125
Current No. of Donors:	83

Diocese of Grand Island

Diocese Goal:	$1,200,000.00
Total Raised:	$607,050.00 51% 0f Total Goal
Total Received:	$532,319.00
Donor Goal:	4,191
Current Donors	2,134

November Total	$25,738.00
December 6th	$13,408.00

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER

For Dot Koubek a speedy recovery.
For all those celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries during the month.
For the ill of the parish.
For all those who have passed from death into New Life.

Dot Koubek and family would like to Thank everyone for the Prayers, Cards and Phone Calls she received for her 91st Birthday, on December 13th.

Thank You

During the month of December 2020, the members of the St. Maria group may be called upon to provide food or serve for a funeral or other event. Thank you.

2020 Advent Schedule

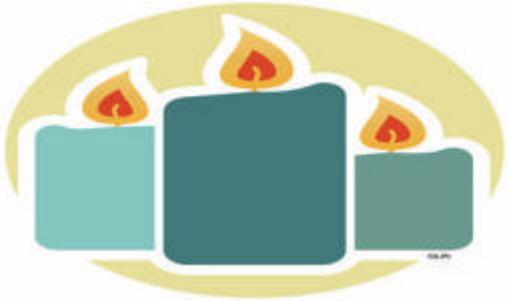
Christmas Schedule:

December 24: Children's Mass - 4:00 pm.
Christmas Caroling - 6:30 p.m.
Christmas Vigil Mass - 7:00 p.m.
December 25: Christmas Day Mass - 11:00 a.m.

New Year's Schedule:

December 31: New Year's Eve Mass - 6:00 p.m.
January 1, 2021: No Mass

Penance Service: There will be no Advent communal penance service this year. You are urged to utilize our penance schedule: Saturdays (3:30 - 4:30), Tuesdays (4:15 - 5:15) or by appointment.



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