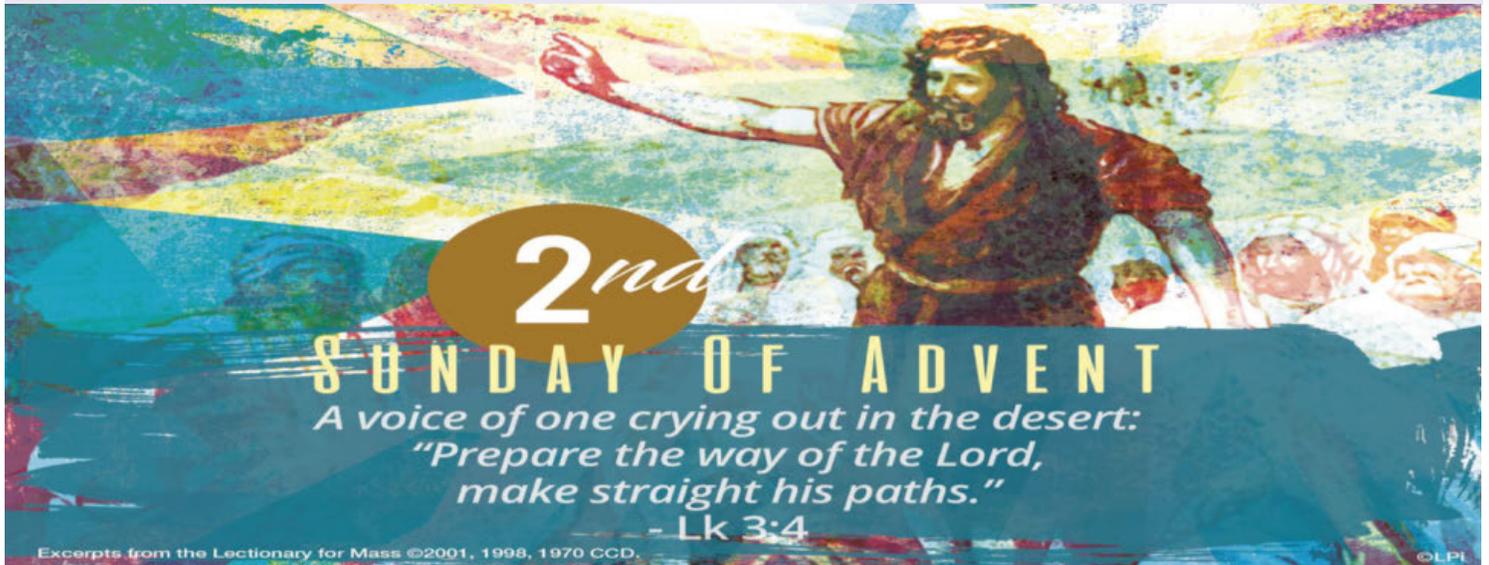


Holy Spirit Catholic Church



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
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St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. "You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him." When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God's gentle

voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God's promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts' doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God's simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Vidya Sagar Arikotla

Parish Permanent Deacons:

Deacon Michael Davis

Deacon Mark Stadler

Secretary: Kelsey Schlichenmayer

Bookkeeper: Jeanne Pieper

Religious Education: Emma Penkava

Custodial/Maintenance: Matthew White

Office: Hours are M-F/ 9-5, Phone Number 308-534-6623



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 \$18,731.00 Jan-Dec 2021
- 2) Facility Insurance \$12,970.00 (10% increase in 2022)
- 3) Diocesan Priest Pension \$1,2.00.00

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

- ◇ Cathedraicum (tax due to the diocese)
- ◇ Maintenance -we have had and will be having higher than normal maintenance expenses, not only the parking lot, repairs on interior lighting and the roof of the church will be needing repairs and possibly replaced,
- ◇ NPCS Financial Obligations
- ◇ Payroll and Office Supplies

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

As Christians we believe that everything we have comes as a gift from God, and that we are merely stewards of those good gifts. So it is natural to spend some time thinking about how to protect those gifts for the future and for our families. Every Christian adult needs a sound estate plan. And the basis of estate planning is a valid Will. A Will is the means by which you can state what you want to happen to your financial and other resources after your death . When making your Will please remember to include your Parish for a 'final gift'. Our Legal; name is :

**Holy Spirit Catholic Church,
North Platte, Nebraska.**



**It's the holiday season—
Purchase SCRIP**

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) SCRIP will be available to be purchased after ALL weekend Masses at St. Pat's and Holy Spirit.
- 2) Purchase in-person at the Endowment Office, 601 S. Tabor Ave. between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily.
- 3) 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.

EDUCATION—the gift on everyone's Christmas List!

Join our NPCS Family—It's a decision you won't regret!

Our NPCS Enrollment for 2022-2023 is now OPEN!

A great education is the ultimate gift a parent can give to a child, and we are committed to helping provide exceptional students with the opportunities an education from North Platte Catholic School offers. We aim to educate the whole child, and promise that you will be making a priceless investment in your child's future.

If you or someone you know would be interested in learning more about our schools, please contact PR/Enrollment Director, Gwen Covey @ **308/532-1874** or g.covey@npcschools.org.

Due to the positive response, some grade levels have limited space available.

Enroll today and Give the Gift of Education!



STUDENT OF THE MONTH:

Will Krondak has been selected as the student of the month for November.

Teachers and Student Council members vote on a student to receive this honor.

Will, a sophomore, is the son of Michael and Emily Krondak. His school activities include Cross County, Speech, Band, Choir, Swing Choir and Track.

Outside of school he finds time to volunteer at church events and is an Altar Server. His family belongs to the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

Will has an older sister, Sophia, who is in college. Other siblings include, Nicholas-8th, Alex-5th, James-3rd, Anna-Kindergarten and Rebecca—2 1/2 years old. All the students attend North Platte Catholic Schools.

CONGRATULATIONS WILL!

Ladies of Holy Spirit Christmas Party

December 14, 2021, at 6PM

Occasions, 125 E North Lake Road,
North Platte

TACO BAR - we will have the fixings for a taco bar, you may bring a side dish or dessert (you are welcome to bring your own alcoholic drink, water/tea will be available)

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT EXCHANGE - bring a \$5 or less Christmas ornament to exchange

CHRISTMAS CLOTHES - wear your festive Christmas clothes - ugly Christmas sweater - cute Christmas outfit - Christmas jammies

GAMES/ENTERTAINMENT

Please join us for the evening to celebrate Christmas together. We hope to see many of you there and it is always lots of fun!

ALL ladies of the parish are invited.

If you have any questions, feel free to call Spencer Green 660-4139 or Mary Derickson 530-3742.

We are in the season of Advent and will soon be approaching a New Year. What a wonderful gift it would be to honor your loved ones, both living and deceased, with a Mass! A Mass can be designated for a \$10.00 stipend. Please contact the parish office, 534-6623 with your request.

CCD/Faith Formation:**St. Nicholas | Feast Day December 6**

St. Nicholas of Bari (March 15, 270 – December 6, 343), the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after. Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters.

According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today.

2021 Advent Schedule**December 4 - 5: (Second Week of Advent)**

Toy Mass: Bring new toys and place them at the altar, they will be delivered to the Salvation Army by our Knights
Ministry Fair
Knights Of Columbus Breakfast

December 8: 6:00 p.m.: Immaculate Conception (Day of Obligation)**December 19: (Sun.): 3:00 p.m.: Communal Penance Service for both churches at St. Patrick's, North Platte**Christmas Schedule**December 24:**

Children's Mass - 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Caroling - 6:30 pm.
Christmas Vigil Mass - 7:00p.m.

December 25:

Christmas Day Mass - 11:00 a.m.

Note: There is no Dec. 31st New Year Mass as it is not a day of obligation this year.



Have you been looking for some great stocking stuffers. For those of you that missed John Hanna's concert at Holy Spirit in May now have the opportunity to purchase some of his CD's. Available as a 2 pack is Hanna "Heart of Worship" and "Acoustic Piano" for \$15.00. John Robert Hanna "The Whisper in The Other Ear" for \$10.00 or all 3 for \$20.00. Please see Kelsey in the Parish Office at Holy Spirit to get your copies.

Holy Spirit Shawl Ministry:

We continue to lift all in our prayers. The Shawl Ministry has been inactive this past 18 months.

There is a wonderful amount of yarn for projects in the Faith Formation Building as well as a history of the Shawl Ministry.

Please contact the Parish Office 308-534-6623 or email holy1spirit@allophone.com if you are interested in this ministry or if you are interested in taking leadership of this wonderful group.



Holy Spirit Parish/North Platte

Parish Goal:	\$47,901.00
Total Raised:	\$32,117.00
Total Received:	\$31,257.00
Donor Goal:	120
Current No. of Donors:	81

Diocese of Grand Island

Diocese Goal:	\$1,200,000.00
Total Raised:	\$ 581,946.00
Total Received:	\$ 545,274.00

Donor Goal:	4,191
Current Donors	2,008

Change in date and times—

December Bulletins: information for Dec. 12th bulletin must be to the office by Dec. 6th at 10:00 am. Information for Dec. 19th bulletin must be in by Dec. 10th at 10:00 am. Information for Dec. 26th bulletin must be in by Dec. 16th And bulletin information for January 2nd is due to the office by Dec. 22 at 10:00 am.

The Christmas Season is nearing and Holy Spirit is in need of new Christmas Trees for decoration. If you'd like to donate or dedicate a tree in remembrance of a loved one during this Christmas Season, we are looking for new pre-lit Christmas Trees. They can be of any size and can be flocked or evergreen. Please contact Environment Director Chrissy Wiegand 308-530-7782 if you have any questions or would like to make a donation. Thank you for helping to make Holy Spirit's environment beautiful.



**Confirmation 2021
Certificates and Pictures
are available in the Parish Office
M—F, 9 am—5 pm.**

Photos and news from "Around the Diocese" can be found at <https://www.gidiocese.org/local-news>

Homebound Holy Communion

**December 12th
Bill O'Malley**



Mass Intentions

**Monday
NO MASS**

**December 6
NO MASS**

**Tuesday
NO MASS**

**December 7
NO MASS**

**Wednesday
6:00 p.m.**

**December 8
+Jane Campbell
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

**Thursday
7:30 a.m.**

**December 9
+Charlotte Markwardt**

**Friday
9:30 a.m.**

**December 10
Zeke Martin
(at Centennial for residents, only)**

**Saturday
5:00 p.m.**

**December 11
+Norma Blakely**

**Sunday
7:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.**

**December 12
Those in Care Homes and Homebound
The Cabela Family**



Minister List For December 11th & 12th 5:00 p.m. Mass

Rosary:	Deacon Stadler
Eucharist:	Deacon Stadler & I Budke
Greeter:	D. & K. Miller
Lector:	G. Gilsdorf
Servers:	S. Budke

7:30 a.m. Mass

Rosary:	M. Troshynski
Eucharist:	A. Halling
Greeter:	A. & J. Halling
Lector:	S. Dodson
Servers:	

11:00 a.m. Mass

Rosary:	Deacon Davis
Eucharist:	Deacon Davis & N. Baluyot
Greeters:	C. & S. Ningen
Lector:	L. Sullivan
Servers:	C. & B. Denny



During the month of December 2021, the members of the St. Clare group may be called upon to provide food or serve for a funeral or other event. Thank you.

Holy Spirit

November 28

Adult	\$4,267.00
Children	\$36.00
Misc. Collections	\$270.00

THANK YOU
for your generosity

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER

For all those who have passed
from death to New Life.



For all the ill of our parish.

For All who are suffering in silence.

The Synod poses the following, fundamental question: ***A synodal Church, is announcing the Gospel, "journey's Together." How is this "journeying together happening today in your local Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in 'journeying together?'"*** Bishop Hanefeldt is inviting us to reflect on our experience of the Church. What joys do they bring? What difficulties or obstacles have they encountered? What wounds did they reveal? What insights have they elicited? Where in these experiences does the voice of the Holy Spirit resound? Watch for ore information about attending a parish consultation and join us as we journey together in faith! <https://gidiocese.org/synod>

If you are interested in learning more about the **"Domestic Church."** We will meet the first Wednesday of each month from 5:40-6:40 pm, for a power hour of fun, information and fellowship as we dive into the rich traditions of our Catholic Faith! Each lesson will provide a priceless pearl that we can take home to share with kids or family members. "Live Catholic" is brought to you by Aaron and JoBeth Halling and Deacon Mark and Laurie Stadler. Please join us on the first Wednesday of each month in Nelson Hall.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Special
COLLECTIONS

December 12th
Religious Retirement Fund

Father's Christmas Gift.. 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

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 minimum of four-months preparation period. For other sacraments Please call 534-6623**

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 .

MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Spirit Catholic Church strives to be a compassionate and welcoming presence empowering all through prayer and action as we grow into a family of faith.

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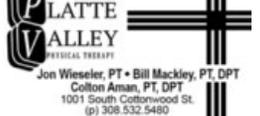
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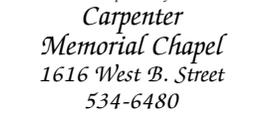
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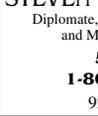
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