

Holy Spirit Catholic Church



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.

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

Confession: 3:45 pm—4:30 pm Sat. or by Appointment



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "**The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**" It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— *Father John Muir*



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: John Harris

Parish Office Hours:

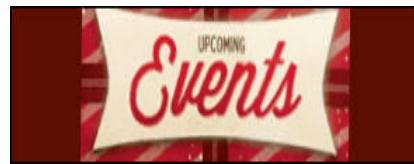
Monday - Friday: 9:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Office Contact Information:

Telephone: 308-534-6623

Email: holy1spirit@allophone.com

For all appointments and scheduling, please call Fr. Sagar at the parish office .



Monday, December 11:

4:00PM—JH Girls BB @ NPMS

5:00PM--Res. B&G BB vs. Gothenburg

Tuesday, December 12:

4:30PM—JV & V G&B BB vs. Ogallala

Wednesday, December 13:

4:00PM—JH Girls BB vs. NPMS

Thursday, December 14:

4:30PM—JV/V G&B BB @ Gothenburg

Friday, December 15:

10:00AM—WR @ Sutherland

Saturday, December 16:

9:00AM—JH G&B BB vs. Hershey

Monday, December 18:

6:30PM--St. Pat's JH/HS Christmas Concert



It's the holiday season....

We hope you will add the North Platte Catholic Schools to your Christmas list this year! There are many ways to support St. Patrick's, McDaid, and Little Leprechaun Preschool during the holidays and at year-end... We hope you'll prayerfully consider one, or each of them!

*** SCRIP for holiday shopping and gifting!**

Purchase SCRIP gift cards make excellent gifts, with many retailers available in smaller (stocking-stuffer) dominations. Purchase at the Endowment (601 S .Tabor Ave) office Monday-Friday 8:00-4:00, call 308-534-5939, or visit www.raiseright.com.

*** Year-End Donation**

Be sure to maximize your tax benefits by contributing to the NPCS Endowment before the year's end. Gifts to the Endowment are 100% tax deductible, and are put to immediate use for our students and faculty. *The Endowment's **Annual Fund** supports the general operations of the North Platte Catholic Schools by providing nearly 1/3 of the school's annual operating budget (roughly \$600,000). Annual Fund donations are vital to sustaining NPCS on a yearly basis. Give online at: apps.npcschoools.org/donate-now, mail to PO Box 57, North Platte, NE 69103, or stop by the Endowment office at 601 S. Tabor Ave.

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***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: 308-520-2184

Knights of Columbus: Doug Wenz -308.530.8507

doug.shpro@yahoo.com 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: Cutoff for bulletin information is Tuesday at 10:30 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.

What's Happening Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all who are celebrating in December.
'Theology on Tap is meeting Sunday December 10th at 6:00. Young adults ages 21-40 are invited to listen to Deacon Dixon Powers while enjoying food, drinks, and fellowship. Our event will be hosted at Peg Leg Brewing.'

Father Sagar's Letter

Dear Parishioners,
Advent is the most vibrant season of the year. This season causes us to think of many unfortunate people around us who are unable to celebrate this season in a more dignified way. God gave His son as the ultimate gift to the world and we think of being part of that in our own ways. That is why we call this season a "season of giving".

Your generous donations here at Holy Spirit would help us to undertake God's work in a more significant way. Could you think of our parish community as part of your giving this year?

Your financial gift during this Christmas season will offset some of the larger annual bills that we incur.

- 1) Priest Health Insurance \$19,890.84
- 2) Facility Insurance \$17,714.00 (up from 12,970.00)

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

- ◇ Kids playground (project in progress, (estimated at \$30,000)
- ◇ Cathedraticum (tax due to the diocese)
- ◇ Maintenance -we have had and will be having higher than normal maintenance expenses, replacing sanctuary carpet, repairs on interior lighting and the roof of the church will be needing repairs and possibly replaced,
- ◇ NPC's Financial Obligations
- ◇ Payroll and Office Supplies

Our monthly collections have so far been able to keep up with most of the day-today church operations even though last year we were \$30000 under budget in our weekly offerings. Your 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.

Big shout out to you all for your generous donations toward the parking lot.... hurray

Much appreciated.

Thanking you,

Yours lovingly,

Fr. Sagar



With the unrest in the Holy Land Fr. Rand invites all to consider a spiritual pilgrimage to Italy for April 9, 2024 for 11 days with roundtrip flights from Omaha. Visit the sites of Eucharistic miracles, Rome and the Vatican, Assisi (St Francis and St Clare), Orvieto, Cascia (St Rita), Lancia-no, San Giovanni Rotunda (Padre Pio), Grotto of St Michael the Archangel, Holy Veil of Manoppello and so much more. Check out the website tektionministries.org and look for pilgrimages and scroll down to April 9 Italy out of Omaha and read the online brochure, pricing and/or to register online. This is an opportunity that will enrich anyone's spiritual life and is open to anyone Catholic or not

Fr. Rand St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton

Green Thumb Ministry

WE NEED HELP

We are looking for parishioners who have Green Thumbs to take care of the flora and fauna in the church. We especially need help at Advent and Easter taking care of the flowers



HOLY SPIRIT LADIES 50th JUBILEE CHRISTMAS PARTY

"PARTY LIKE IT'S 1973"

Tuesday, December 12 at 5:45pm in
Nelson Hall

- ⇒ Potluck – bring a favorite dish to share
 - ⇒ Dress in the 70's decade fashion (awards given for best dressed)
 - ⇒ Christmas caroling with
Father Sagar and Joe Ruhlman
 - ⇒ 70's Decade Trivia, games and more
- ALL ladies of the parish are invited to come celebrate! You don't want to miss this one!
Mary Derickson, HSCCW President

Bulletin Dates and cut off times.

Bulletin information for December 17th is due by 10:30am December 8th.

Bulletin information for December 24th is due by 10:30 am December 14th.

Bulletin information for December 31st is due by 10:30 am December 21st.

Bulletin information for January 7, 2024 is due December 29th by 10:30 am.

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 gift card, or financial gift please place it in a card or envelope and write Father Sagar's Gift on the outside of the envelope. You can drop it off at the office or mail it to **Holy Spirit, 2801 West E Street, North Platte, NE 69101**. Make sure to write at the bottom of the mailing envelope **ATTN: Father's Gift** so I can place it in the basket.

Thank you so much for your gifts during the 50th Jubilee of Holy Spirit Catholic Church and the 20th anniversary of Father Sagar's Ordination to the Priesthood.

Kelsey Schlichenmayer Parish Secretary

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who attended the lasagna dinner and Father Sagar's talk about India. A special thank you to Kelly Stahl and the parish council, the HSCCW and especially the St. Theresa Sister of Service Circle led by Vicky Smith and Jenifer Fowler for organizing the delicious dinner. Thank you to Father Sagar for sharing his home parish and village with us!

The HSCCW are still collecting donations for India if you would like to donate. Checks may be written to HSCCW and turned in to the office or placed in an envelope marked "India" and put in the collection basket. We will present Father with all funds collected prior to his trip to India this coming January. Thank you to all who have donated, Father will see that it is used wisely in India, and it is much appreciated.

Mary Derickson, HSCCW President



**HAPPY 94th BIRTHDAY
Dorothy "Dot" Koubek
December 13th**

December 10 (II Sunday of Advent):

7:30 a.m. Mass

No mass at 11:00 am, Instead we will have 50th jubilee mass and reception at 4:00 p.m.

December 17 (Sun): 3:00 p.m.:

Communal Penance for both the parishes at St. Pat's

Christmas Schedule:

December 24 (Sunday): Vigil celebrations

- 7:30 a.m.: Sunday Mass Obligation only- (Does not count for Christmas Mass Obligation)
- **NO 11:00 a.m. MASS**
- 4:00 p.m.: Children's Mass
- 6:30 p.m.: Candle light Christmas Caroling
- 7:00 p.m.: Christmas Vigil Mass

December 25 (Monday): Obligation

- 7:30 a.m.: Christmas Day Mass
- 11:00 a.m.: Christmas Day Mass

January 01/2024 (Monday): 11:00 a.m.

**New Year Mass
(Day of Obligation)**

Merry Christmas and a

Blessed

New Year



**50th Jubilee Wrap-Up Celebration
Sunday, December 10, 2023**

4:00 PM Mass With Bishop Hanefeldt
Reception Immediately following in
Nelson Hall

Everyone Is Invited!



**Minister List For December 16th & 17th
5:00 p.m.**

Rosary: Jim Petersen
Eucharist: Rich & Chris Reinert,
Noah Henderson, Kasey Schroeder
Greeters: Joe & Kasia Wiezorek
Lector: Steve Westling
Servers: Natalia & Oliwia Wiezorek

7:30 a.m.

Rosary: Jake McFadden
Eucharist: Deacon Davis, Brian Pieper,
Cheri & Jake McFadden
Greeters: Aaron & Jobeth Halling
Lector: Marty Troshynski
Servers: Kenny Johnson

11:00 a.m.

Rosary: Cheri Thalken
Eucharist: Brad Brauer, Janel Foust,
Patricia Williams, Cheri Thalken
Greeters: The Pagel Family
Lector: Charlie Burwick
Servers: Rachel Simonson & Silas Holmes



During the month of December 2023,
the members of the St. Theresa
group may be called upon to provide food or
serve for a funeral or other event. Thank you.

Tithes and offerings

December 3, 2023

Adult	\$14,178.00
Children's	\$59.00
Misc. Collections	\$673.00



Mass Intentions

Monday NO MASS	December 11 NO MASS
Tuesday 5:15 p.m.	December 12 Dot Koubek
Wednesday 7:30 a.m.	December 13 Alumni and benefactors listed in the NPCS Endowment Book of Memories
Thursday 7:30 a.m.	December 14 +Mary Roggow
Friday 9:30 a.m.	December 15 +Kathie Schinzel (at Centennial for residents only)
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	December 16 +Mary Roberts
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	December 17 Holy Spirit Homebound Parishioners
11:00 a.m.	+Virgil Hastings

Homebound Holy Communion

December 10
Bill O'Malley

Holy Spirit Parish/North Platte		
Parish Goal:	\$52,321.00	
Total Raised:	\$32,114.00	
Donor Goal:	112	
Current No. of Donors	64	

Urgent need for Eucharistic Ministers for
11:00 a.m. Sunday morning Masses.
We have had some ministers move. Please
contact Emma Penkava 785-285-0434 or by
email ejboltz@sbcglobal.net if you would be
willing to be a part of this Ministry.

Anyone who has been
confirmed is welcomed to be
a part of this very special
ministry.

Emma Penkava



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