

Saint George Church Morse Bluff

260 Short Street
Weekend Masses: Saturday @ 6:00 p.m.
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays @ 8:00 a.m.
Coffee and rolls: 1st Sunday of the month

Third Sunday of Advent December 16, 2018

To Know, Love, and Serve God

Sacred Heart Church Cedar Hill

2750 County Road 27
Sunday Masses:
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays @ 8:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.
Coffee and rolls: 2nd Sunday of the month

PASTOR: Fr. Dennis Hunt, e-mail: dhunt@gtmc.net, st.gmb@nntc.net and cell phone: (402) 694-8582
RECTORY: 260 Short Street (68648-4884), P.O. Box 98, Morse Bluff, NE 68648-0098, 402-666-5280

LITURGY SCHEDULE:

MASS INTENTIONS:

FEAST DAY:

Monday	17 Dec	6:00 p.m.	St. George	+Peggy Havener	
Tuesday	18 Dec	7:00 a.m.	St. George	+Elisabeth Wyar	
Wednesday	19 Dec	7:00 a.m.	St. George	+Wilma Vlcek	
Thursday	20 Dec	7:00 a.m.	St. George	+Ed & Dorothy Vitek	
Friday	21 Dec	7:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart	+Adolph Nemec	
Saturday	22 Dec	8:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart	New Evangelization	
		6:00 p.m.	St. George	+Lorin, Nadine & Larry Racek, and Lorna Pelan	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday	23 Dec	8:00 a.m.	St. George	For our parishioners (Missa pro populo)	
		10:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart	Aged and Homebound Members <i>SH</i>	

Parish Confession Schedule: Confessions usually heard 30 minutes before all weekend Masses, ending 5-10 minutes before Mass. (Confessions before the 10:00 a.m. Mass may be shortened because of priest's travel time between parishes.)

Please indicate -Bulletin- in the Subject line to: dhunt@gtmc.net, st.gmb@nntc.net

Mass Times for USA parishes: <http://www.masstimes.org/>

Parishes: <http://stgmbne.com>



SUNDAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS/SERVERS:

St. George			Reader	Acolyte	Server(s)
Saturday	15 Dec	6:00 pm	Mike Brabec		
Sunday	16 Dec	8:00 am	Galen Johnson	Dan Bauer	
Sacred Heart					
Sunday	16 Dec	10:00 am	Jim Nemec	Jeff Bauer	

Christmas Masses

St. George Church

Monday ... 24 Dec. ... 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday ... 25 Dec. ... 9:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Church

Monday ... 24 Dec. ... Midnight.
Christmas Hymns at 11:30 pm

Deanery Advent Penance Service Schedule:

Multiple Priests at each Penance Service

Sunday, December 16th:

2:00 pm Davey, Colon, Mead
4:00 pm Weston, Prague, Morse Bluff
5:30 pm Ashland, Valparaiso

Monday, December 17th:

7:00 pm Wahoo
7:00 pm North Bend

Announcements

Bishop Thanks You For Supporting The Appeal For Vocations

May the peace of Christ be with you! I would like to thank you for your generous effort in supporting the formation of future priest through the Bishop's Appeal for Vocations. (*We achieved our goals.*) I appreciate the prayers, effort and the generosity of your parishioners. Please pass on my gratitude to them.

It is my hope that the Lincoln Diocese will surpass our goal of \$800,000 to meet the approximate cost of \$1,500,000 for our 42 seminarians. You may continue to send in any donations until January 31st, 2019.

Before our Lord ordained the Apostles, He prayed saying, "Father, they are your gift to me" (Jn 17:24). You personally and the priesthood working through you is a gift to the diocese, your parishioners and to me. How shall I thank you for all the good they you have done? "I will call on the name of the Lord" (Psalm 1116:13) by remembering you in my prayers before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

With my heartfelt gratitude for your prayerful support, I remain Sincerely yours in Christ, *Bishop James D. Conley, Bishop of Lincoln*

Update: Pro-Life Collection for those in Need – new pamphlets with revised & updated information are in the back of each Church. This includes updated info on the St. Mother Teresa Homeless Center at CSS. Contact Lynn Nemec (402-666-0799) or Patrice Hines (402-666-9292) is questions. Also, some member of the Sacred Heart Altar Society are making a special effort to assemble "care-packages" for the homeless, there is a round basket in back of Sacred Heart Church if you would like to donate supplies for care-packages (suggestions for care packages items are included in the new Pamphlets.)

Additional Confession Times	St. George	Sacred Heart
Mon Dec 17 – Thr, Dec 20	6:30 am	
Friday, Dec 21		6:30 am
Saturday, Dec 22	4:00 pm	7:30 - 8:45 am
Monday, Dec 24	Noon, 3:00 pm	

Class in the Catholic Faith – Symbolon (Formed.org)

Monday: December 17, 6:45 – 8:00 pm **Catholic Social Teaching – Building a Civilization of Love**

Catholic social teaching affects the way we act every day in our families, our places of work, our communities, and ultimately in the entire world. What's more, Catholic social teaching isn't just for Catholics. It embodies Christ's message to serve and is meant for the entire world. It is the love of neighbor in concrete action, united to build a civilization of love.

• *How the Church's social teaching helps us love one another as Christ loves us*



Healing Mass at SS Cyril & Methodius Church

The Holy Spirit moves very well in times of trouble in the Church. At SS. Cyril and Methodius, we are specially inviting those who are in need of any kind of healing. What is it like to be healed of your pain? Jesus is the great healer. There will be a healing Mass held on **Thursday, December 20, 2018, at 7:00 pm** at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, Clarkson, NE. Confessions will be heard at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend this healing Mass. The Holy Spirit provides this loving time of healing for us. Any need for healing, we pray for in this healing service. Any questions call Fr. Rod at 402-892-3464

St. Luke's Czech Catholic Shrine Mass Sun, Dec 16, at 4:00.
Ostry family will sing Czech Christmas carols beginning at 3:30.

The Catholic Coffee House an adult faith formation series held at Gianna Java and Gelato, 2241 O Street, Lincoln, NE from 7-8:30pm. The theme for this year is “Navigating the Church Now.” The December presentation (**December 16**) is entitled “Relationship, Transparency and Obedience” by Fr. Sean Kilcawley. This series is oriented towards being in the church in the current climate of scandal. Each session includes prayer, a presentation, and Q&A. There is no fee or registration. Please call 402-473-0619 for questions

The Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents - celebrated on **Friday, December 28th**. All are invited to attend this Memorial Mass, especially those families who have suffered the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion. Reading of names will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Mass at 7:00 p.m. at John XXIII Diocesan Center Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln. If you would like your child's name to be remembered & placed on the banner for this year, please call the Office of Family Life at 473-0620 before 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 19th. If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.

Please pray for: *Santiago Jose Izquierdo, St. Gregory the Great Seminary, College 4, 1B, Ricardo & Melania Izquierdo, born: 7/22/96*

Praying For Our Priests prayingforourpriests.org/free-prayer-resources
“The priest is a gift from the Heart of Christ: a gift for the Church and for the world.” - Pope Benedict XVI at the close of the Year for Priests

Marriage Encounter Weekend at Lied Center Nebraska City, **Feb. 15-17** contact Pat & Janelle Benson, Pat 308-940-0670, Janelle 308-940-1105, pjbjben@yahoo.com, Call 30 days ahead to reserve facilities. Accepting all reservations If have questions: Fr. Mark Pfeiffer- fr.markpfeiffer@gmail.com

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the program being offered **Feb 15- 17, 2019**, in Schuyler, Nebraska call 1-800-470 -2230 or check the web site www.retrouvaille.org. Feb 5th is the last day to sign up for Retrouvaille.

What Do We Do?: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Third Sunday of Advent; *Zephaniah 3:14–18; Isaiah 12:2–6; Philippians 4:4–7; Luke 3:10–18*

The people in today's Gospel are “filled with expectation.” They believe John the Baptist might be the Messiah they've been waiting for. Three times we hear their question: “What then should we do?”

The Messiah's coming requires every man and woman to choose—to “repent” or not. That's John's message and it will be Jesus' too (see Luke 3:3; 5:32; 24:47).

“Repentance” translates a Greek word, *metanoia* (literally, “change of mind”). In the Scriptures, repentance is presented as a two-fold “turning”—away from sin (see Ezekiel 3:19; 18:30) and toward God (see Sirach 17:20–21; Hosea 6:1).

This “turning” is more than attitude adjustment. It means a radical life-change. It requires “good fruits as evidence of your repentance” (see Luke 3:8). That's why John tells the crowds, soldiers and tax collectors they must prove their faith through works of charity, honesty and social justice.

In today's Liturgy, each of us is being called to stand in that crowd and hear the “good news” of John's call to repentance. We should examine our lives, ask from our hearts as they did: “What should we do?” Our repentance should spring, not from our fear of coming wrath (see Luke 3:7–9), but from a joyful sense of the nearness of our saving God.

This theme resounds through today's readings: “Rejoice!... The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all,” we hear in today's Epistle.

In today's Responsorial, we hear again the call to be joyful, unafraid at the Lord's coming among us.

In today's First Reading, we hear echoes of the angel's Annunciation to Mary. The prophet's words are very close to the angel's greeting (compare Luke 1:28–31). Mary is the Daughter Zion—the favored one of God, told not to fear but to rejoice that the Lord is with her, “a mighty Savior.”

She is the cause of our joy. For in her draws near the Messiah, as John had promised: “One mightier than I is coming.”

Encounter Jesus

Creighton Model NFP Introductory Sessions held throughout the Diocese. Single women, engaged or married couples are welcome to attend to learn more about this revolutionary form of women's health tracking and natural family planning. Sessions meet Diocesan requirements for marriage prep. For more information visit www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline We can all help prevent suicide. The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

1-800-273-8255 --- <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

We Are Created for Joy

User's Guide to Sunday, Dec. 16, By Claire Dwyer, Sunday, Dec. 16, is the Third Sunday of Advent. Mass Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18A; Isaiah 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18.

On the Third Sunday of Advent in 1944, a young priest painfully wrote, while handcuffed, a smuggled reflection from his prison cell in Berlin. It would be Father Alfred Delp's final Advent. Just months later, he was executed for his faithfulness to the Church and his opposition to Nazism.

Even while in solitary confinement, under the threat of death, this priest found joy as he reflected on Gaudete Sunday.

“Man should take joy as seriously as he takes himself,” he wrote.

“And he should believe in himself, believe in his heart and in his Lord God, even through darkness and distress, that he is created for joy. ... We are created for a life that knows itself to be blessed, sent and touched at its deepest center by God himself.”

This week, in the midst of a penitential season, the Church lights a rose candle — symbolizing joy — and gives us a burst of exuberant expectation in the readings.

We have a God whose word is true, and we have every reason to rejoice in the fulfillment of all his promises beyond all our hopes: “Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has removed the judgment against you; he has turned away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you have no further misfortune to fear.”

The enemies crushed by Christ are spiritual ones: Sin and death cannot stand against him. What he came to claim for us are eternal victories. And this is the secret of Father Delp: that while earthly enemies may take even our lives, they need not steal our joy and our hope in God. We have been released from the chains that keep us from eternity. God's gift to us, by removing his judgment through the sacrifice of Jesus, is his mercy.

This “good news” is proclaimed by John the Baptist in the Gospel. The crowds, “filled with expectation,” instinctively know that a response was required of them. They ask him, “Teacher, what should we do?” Three times the question is asked — a number in Scripture that always underscores the importance of something and which suggests we pay close attention to the answer.

In this case, John is clear: Detachment from the things of this world, in the form best suited to one's station of life, is necessary to receive the One who is coming, who will come to baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Those who have plenty, John says, must share with those who do not. Tax collectors must stop cheating the people, and soldiers must deal honestly with others and be satisfied with what they have. Only by releasing our grasp on the world's excesses and our insatiable desire for more can we be emptied enough to receive the gift of the King who emptied himself of heaven itself to be one with us.

What it comes down to is this: True joy is not found in anything of the earth. No money, no connections, no power, no pleasure, no position, no worldly sense of freedom can take the place of the happiness of knowing God. “Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7). This was the secret joy that enveloped Father Delp — and it is the joy we celebrate this week. *Claire Dwyer blogs about saints, spirituality and the sacred everyday. She is editor of SpiritualDirection.com and coordinates adult faith formation at her parish in Phoenix, where she lives with her husband and their six children.*